



Coaches Quotes

Florida State (96) vs. Loyola (Md.) 71

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

Donald L. Tucker Center, Tallahassee, Fla.

Loyola Head Coach G.G. Smith

Opening Statement

"I thought our guys played hard, Florida State is just a tough matchup for us physically, athletically; they are quicker and stronger than us. We knew that coming in, we saw the game against Florida in which they looked really, really good in the first half. We watched the first half as a team and I was like, 'Whoa.' So, we knew it was going to be a big challenge for us. I've known Coach (Leonard) Hamilton for a long time and he always does a great job. They're always physical and always play good defense. You know, give them a lot of credit, the tale was they made a bunch of 3's and we didn't. They were 10-15 (from 3) for a little bit and ended up 11-24. We only made three 3's and it's kind of tough to win on the road when you can't make open shots. Open shots and open 3-pointers. But you know, I thought the guys played hard, Florida State is just a tough match-up for us."

Are you surprised that you couldn't catch them early on and ride that wave after the Florida win?

"Well you know, it was a quick turn around for them. I just thought that we would get off to a good start. I thought we would be OK but they came out 10-4 to start the game and they're just a tough match-up for us. I mean, (Terance) Mann and (CJ) Walker and those guys, they really are just great players. Really, once they got that start and we couldn't get that start, we were already down 10 to 12 on the road against an ACC team, it's really tough for us to come back. I think from the jump, right away, we just couldn't do it. I thought with the quick turn around of them coming back from Florida, I thought maybe somehow not overlook us; not be ready to play against a team from the Patriot League. But they were ready to go and they beat us up pretty good today."