



Coaches Quotes

Florida State 98, Southern Miss 45

Thursday, December 21, 2017

Donald L. Tucker Center, Tallahassee, Fla.

Southern Miss Head Coach Doc Sadler

Opening statement

"I seems like just a little over a year ago I was in the same kind of situation. I told y'all I would probably never be back, but I can promise you I won't be after this. Leonard's got such a good basketball team and where we're at, it's just too tough for us. Everybody's going to look at this score and everything and think that really they're a good offense team, and they are don't get me wrong, but the thing that separates them is their defense. They just make everything so difficult. You think you've got some good looks but the fact of the matter is every shot that's challenged by a hand that we can't simulate, that's what affects our game. He's done an unbelievable job and they've got a great team. You can tell they like each other. I guess for a coach, for only thing positive I can take away from here is to see their bench get so excited for the guys that don't get to play very much. That's special. You've got guys over there in the last two or three minutes and their teammates are really cheering them on because those guys don't get to play much. That tells me they've got unbelievable culture, they pull for each other, and as a coach that was kind of neat. I don't like being on that end of it don't get me wrong, but to see their teammates pull for those guys that was kind of neat. I wish it was a closer game then they wouldn't have been in the game, but it wasn't, and I thought that was the most positive thing to be honest with you. That's what I am going to take away from this game and try to set on my team. To be a good basketball team, and I think were better than what we played today. Thank god we don't have to play them all the time. But we've only been turning the ball over 7 or 8 times a game, and when you do that for ten games that gives you an idea. And we've played some good teams. But then you come in here and turn it over 20 times, it's just a different ball game."

On Defending Florida State's 3-Pointers

"Going into the game, you've got to do one of two things. You have to decide if you're going to give up the paint or if you're going to give up the perimeter. You can do both. You can take away the perimeter and not expect to give up the paint points. In the first half, I believe they got 21 points in the paint and they had 27 I think from the 3-point line. You're giving up both and that's not what we want to do. They're a great shooting team especially when it's a 20, 30, 40, 50-point ball game and there's no pressure on you, you're going to shoot it even better. We had this same kind of game a couple weeks ago against Troy. We couldn't miss a shot. And everybody after the game is like man y'all are so much better and you know you leave today and think were not as bad as we really looked, in my opinion. Nor were we as good as against Troy. But what we try to do is understand that we don't want people scoring in the paint and obviously they did. We gave up both."

On how Florida State's team has changed

"This team (Florida State) here is much better. This team is so good defensively. They are really, really good. (Reporter asked, "better than last year?"). Well you're asking a guy that just got beat by 50 so of course I think they're pretty good. Yes, much more. They contained the dribble better than they did a year ago. I don't see any weaknesses that they got. I mean obviously last weekend they got beat by Oklahoma State but they missed some shots. But if they're shooting the basketball and you put (Phil) Cofer out there at the four then you've got some miss matches."