

Coaches Quotes

Florida State 81, Boston University 80

Donald L. Tucker Center, Tallahassee, Florida

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

Boston University Head Coach Joe Jones

Opening Statement

"I was impressed with you know the overall play of our guys, obviously, it was challenging - Florida State is a terrific basketball team. They got a lot of depth. I was just proud of the way our guys stood up and fought, and scraped, and clawed to just be in position to win the game. We felt that if we could just stick with the game plan, we knew it was going to be a game of some runs because they are so good. We just wanted to stick around, stick around, stick around and we were able to do that. We had a lead I think we were up five or six, well, four and then, we turned the ball over I think two times in a row and we gave up an offensive rebound late. You have to give Florida State credit they did what they had to do to win but I was definitely proud, and we can build off a game like this."

And speaking of being proud of the guys effort, you had told them the last two days to watch out and not lose your cool after these turnovers and obviously, Florida State was pressuring them the whole game. How pleased were you with the guys that they didn't lose their cool and lose their momentum and still stayed in it even after committing a lot of turnovers?

"You know, I thought late we were tired and probably could have burned one more time out but yes, I was impressed with our mindset, impressed with our toughness. Daman Tate was terrific and obviously Anthony Morales hit the big shot to send it to overtime. Miles (Brewster) did a good job in his minutes. We got some really good contributions from a lot of different guys. It's a shame but it's a game that you can build from. It's an L on the schedule, but I think it's a win in other ways because we proved that we can play at a level on a ACC team's floor and go toe to toe with them."

Speaking of Daman Tate, he obviously had 26 points in his first game a year ago, but tonight he made some really strong moves to the basket. How can someone like him build off tonight?

"I just met with him and told him - 'I said look, I am going to give you what you deserve and I thought early on he struggled a little bit early, but we were not going to give up on him, we kept going back to him.' Tonight, especially with some guys out we were able to go back to him and he was ready to go. These young guys are talented and as I said, we are going to be able to continue to grow because of the depth of our bench. It was great for him I was really happy that he was able to step up tonight and play the way he did."

I know, you told the broadcasters that Sukhmail Mathon has had the biggest turn around you have ever seen at BU. Tonight, he had 16 points, 12 rebounds, and four assists. What can you have to say about him?

"He was freaking terrific, he was unbelievable. Just a tough kid, a competitor, plays to win, you know just an outstanding basketball player - outstanding. I think if you are going to win our league, you've got to be good enough to play, go down to Florida State and give them a game. Hopefully you win the game but I think this bodes well for our league that we were able to play I think a top 25 team and play them to the last possession. I think that says something for us if we can just keep trying to improve."

You have been preaching about Florida State's defense tonight you scored 80 points against them. What was going right for the offense tonight?

"We were just trying to move the ball and cut. We have some guys who can score; we have some guys who can get by you. We had the ability to make some shots and make some plays. Damon (Tate) was big, Ant (Anthony Morales) was big, obviously Javonte (McCoy) had a good game and Sukhmail (Mathon) as well. We have some guys who can make some individual plays and you have to do that against them because they don't really let you run your offense smoothly. I thought we struggled to start the (second) half. We were a little fatigued, had some bad possessions to start the half and then we got going again. I thought the guys that came in off the bench really helped in that sequence."