

Coaches Quotes
Florida State 60, Wake Forest 68
Saturday, February 5, 2022
Donald L. Tucker Center
Tallahassee, Fla.

Florida State Head Coach Leonard Hamilton

Opening Statement

"This was a game that was very important to us. Our guys played with a sense of urgency. I have never seen us have so many open looks in the first half. That comes as a result of them putting too much pressure on themselves and realizing that we were shorthanded. I thought they put a lot of pressure on themselves to go out and perform well. They might have been a little tired in terms of finishing their plays and knocking down the open looks. On the defensive end, we were able to get deflections and steals. We were still aggressive and created opportunities. Unfortunately, we were a little tight on the offensive end and we did not finish some of those great plays. I thought we executed well offensively and defensively. They made us play for every open look that we gave them in the second half, which was the biggest difference of the game. We gave ourselves a chance, but unfortunately, came up short tonight. We forced turnovers and were aggressive on the defensive end. On the offensive end, we were still aggressive, but did not relax enough to make some of those plays."

What prevented John Butler that prevented him from returning to the game?

"He sprained his ankle. It's unusual that you have this many injuries back-to-back-to-back. But, this will give some of our younger players the opportunity to step up and to fill in. I thought everyone stepped up a little with their energy."

What did you think of Harrison's double-double performance with 26 minutes?

"Harrison is always ready. Even though he has not really played, he does a lot of extra running. He's often on the green team. It shows how savvy he is. He has been here for a while and he understands what we need. He had 13 rebounds, out jumping everyone, and was putting himself in the right positions. It shows how much he has learned and grown."

With all the injuries, what does that tell you about the guys you have that are able to play?

"That means that we are staying focused and not giving in to having a pity party. We have a lot of talent. We still have life in us. We just have to stay positive and not allow the challenges of the injuries to become a negative."

Talk about moving forward...

"We have eight conference games left. In order for us to have a post-season life ahead of us, we have to win our share of games and go into the ACC tournament and be productive. The only thing we can do is take it one game at a time. We have to evaluate today's game where we came up short. We have to go back to the drawing board and pull out some victories here in our remaining eight games."