

LEONARD HAMILTON QUOTES

1/13/16 – Florida State 85, NC State 78

PNC Arena – Raleigh, N.C.

Opening Statement:

“We were very fortunate to come away with a victory tonight. We haven’t been shooting the ball very well but our guys shot from the perimeter tonight, especially from the 3. Our improved shooting gave us more of an opportunity to win after coming off of games like Miami where we shot 2-for-19. We’ve been a pretty good shooting team but some of these kids are putting a lot of pressure on themselves, which has made things challenging for us offensively and defensively. The importance of this game and the respect we have for NC State created a sense of urgency tonight. NC State is a very good rebounding team with three guys that are very difficult to defend. We were able make enough offensive plays and get enough stops to keep the team at bay. We knew those guys would make a run but we were fortunate to get a couple of easy shots in and baskets in transitions in the latter part of the game. NC State is a very good basketball team, possibly the best 0-4 team in the nation, but that’s the way the ACC is now. On any given night any team is capable of a win and you have to be your very best every night if you’re going to be successful in this league. Every game is a challenge whether you’re home or on the road.”

On the zone offense and offensive plan:

“They didn’t play that much zone, maybe seven or eight possessions. I thought our guys just moved the ball, made the extra pass and created the opportunities for those high-percentage shots through ball movement. We’ve had a tendency to let the ball stick and not move the ball as crisp as we did tonight. We had our moments where I thought we tried to attack on the first or second pass but for the most part I thought we did a very good job of executing the play.

“In regards to the plan on offensive being man-to-man or zone, if you move the ball and get the highest percentage shots available that normally is the best way to approach it and I thought our kids did that tonight.”