



Florida 73 (16-8, 7-4 SEC) vs. **LSU 64** (13-10, 4-7 SEC)

Feb. 7, 2018 | Game 23 | Gainesville, Fla.

Postgame Quotes

LSU Head Coach

Will Wade

On opening statement

"I thought our guys played extremely hard, we just didn't play smart. Hudson took over down the stretch, made some big time plays, big time shots. Chiozza really controlled the game and did a nice job. Give Florida a lot of credit. They played well. They are a very good team and they are going to finish strong."

On Waters [Tremont] turnovers

"I think he forced some things and tried to make some things happen that were not there. He wasn't himself tonight."

On Florida getting into the paint

"The way we were defending them, they really tried to take away the three's, so we were kind of spread to take away the three. What killed us was the turnovers. That's where we lost it."

NEXT OPPONENT

Who: South Carolina

When: Sat., Feb. 10 | 12 p.m.

Where: Columbia, S.C.

TV: CBS



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Mike White Quotes

On the offense's performance

"Some of it was plays, some of it was just guys playing, and some of it was just taking advantage of some mismatches. [LSU] did a really good job of keeping us off-balance, they switched a ton, they had the film from the last go round of course and they showed some majority man and jumped into some 1-3-1, they spread us out a little bit, we made a couple of poor decisions there in the second half a little bit later down the stretch. We had good ball movement, I thought Keith [Stone] was really good, kind of set the tone in that regard attacking close outs, playing off a two feed, did a better job of searching and cutting when guys came to jump stops, valued the ball at a pretty high level, got decent inside out action, more so than most games this season. Didn't get a lot out of ball screen action with them switching so much. Sometimes we got a little stagnant off of trying to exploit some mismatches off of those switches, but I thought we were at our best when the ball moved."

On the team driving more to the basket

"Some of it is us and some of it is the defense, too, just tinkering runs off the line. We did a better job of cutting after guys drove and when Chris Chiozza and KeVaughn Allen drive in and come to jump stops and play under control and then we stand, obviously you get nothing and teams are going to scout you, which they extend you and try to run you off the line. We drove through contact a little bit better, got to the foul line, earned the right to get to the foul line a little bit better. We still didn't convert, I don't know how many we missed, but there was a bunch of point-blank stuff in the paint that we've got to find a way to get better at, we've got to finish those. Because at the end of the day, if needed a KeVaughn step back 17-footer, and a Mike Okauru hard runner going left, we've got to finish the easier ones. We also had some open threes that we've got to take advantage of, these games are all really, really hard. LSU was terrific, they hit some really timely shots, my goodness they hit some big ones. I thought we did a good job on [Tremont] Waters, Chris was great, all of the guys were great, KeVaughn expended a lot of energy on Waters as well. I thought [Duop] Reath was one of the toughest covers in the league on the block, Kevarrius played with a ton of energy, thank goodness he only got eight, but Brandon Sampson, wow, he was really good, Daryl Edwards stepped up and hit a couple of big ones as well."



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Florida Players

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Junior Forward Jalen Hudson

On offensive mindset tonight:

“We wanted to make other teams guard us. In the past we have shot the ball quick whether it be a good or bad shot. We were focusing on taking great shots tonight to do that we had to share the ball and pass up good shots in order to get great shots and it really paid off for us tonight.”

On moving forward:

“We have to build on this game. We don’t want to celebrate this. We have to keep the fire and edge that we played with today. At the end of the day, this is only one win so we have to sustain this and do this every day in practice. We have to get better and build on it.”

On defensive stops late:

“It was energy for us. We were trying to play with that fire and keep that energy. We focused on that and we were able to make some plays.”

Sophomore Forward Keith Stone

On getting back into scoring...

“It is just depending on defense.”

On the defensive game plan in the second half...

“Play smart and don’t get any silly fouls. Just stay in front of your man and box out.”

On a change in the offense throughout the season...

“Dudes are taking better shots and trying to make better passes. Just playing smart basketball.”

Junior Forward Kevarrus Hayes

On losing the lead in the second half but coming back to win it...

“It’s all about poise. Sometimes we have a habit of freaking out and thinking now we have to go score, score, score, but its more about doing things you can control. You can’t control whether the ball is going in or not but you can control how much energy you put on defense, and I think tonight we put a lot and everyone was talking the whole night, and that was a big difference.”

On not panicking...

“I feel like we did a lot better at picking good shots. The first one may not be the best one, especially when there may be 10 seconds on the shot clock. We have to make them play as hard as we play. So we can make them guard a little more and make them have their mistakes exposed and we can keep playing off of that.”

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On the communications tonight, especially in the second half...

"I feel like you get more when you give and everybody tonight was giving a lot of energy. Everybody was talking."

On making that energy the norm every game...

"Just keep the fire, you know coming off of the tough games we came out here to make it a point like we know we're capable, and we can keep doing this every night because we can control how much energy and effort we put into a game."

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Junior Forward Mike Okauru

On 2nd half adjustments:

"Coach White told us to stay focused. In other games, we have come out and started the second half slow and he told us to stay focused and play the full 40 minutes."

On performance:

"I was aggressive on offensive and played pretty well defensively. I stayed aggressive and tried to help the team in any way I could. We got the win and that's all that matters so I'm happy about that. This was a good stepping stone and we have to come out and continue to play hard and get some more wins."