



2018 Southern Conference Basketball Tournament



No. 8 The Citadel vs. No. 9 VMI

March 2, 2018

The Citadel

Coach Duggar Baucom

Opening Statement

"First of all I would like to congratulate Dan and his bunch...I'm so proud of my guys for hanging on. We probably should have made a few more free throws in the game but we made enough. I'm just very proud of our guys."

On having multiple players step up and make shots

"Our freshman really stepped up. Everyone on the floor contributed. I'm very, very pleased with the overall contributions. It was spread out pretty even."

On coming back from a double-digit deficit

"It did. Frankie Johnson, our point guard, I thought he did an amazing job at getting people the ball. Matt made one of the best passes of the game, where he had an open shot and passed it off to Quayson Williams for a better one."

On playing No. 1 seed Greensboro for the second year in a row

"We're going to get on that quickly, I have a great staff that will have us prepared. They [UNCG] are really don't have any weaknesses. We aren't afraid to play them, we are thankful for the opportunity to play them."

Junior Zane Najdawi

On The Citadel getting first round wins two years in a row

"It feels great, through all the struggles we've had this year...the ups and the downs. To get a win two years in a row, feels amazing for all the hard work we've put in."

Junior Matt Frierson

On difference in the second half

"I've missed a lot of shots this season so it didn't really bother me...they tell me to keep on shooting so that's what I did."

VMI

Coach Dan Earl

Opening statement:

"It was a hard-fought game for both teams. Unfortunately, coming out of halftime, I did not think that we did played with enough energy. Give credit to The Citadel. They played a hard-fought game all game long. They hurt us on the boards and we had too many turnovers, which are two big things for us. Unfortunately, we did not make enough shots. I am proud of our team for continuing to fight. We made it interesting at the end, but we could not make a couple more plays to finish it off. But give credit to The Citadel for a hard-fought game, and I wish them well going forward."

On the game's turning point

"Unfortunately, [going through droughts in games] has been our Achilles heel all season. Sometimes, this game comes down to missing and making shots, and unfortunately, we went through a little spell. The Citadel keeps in on you and presses and does a couple of things to cause turnovers. We hit a lull in the first half, and coming out of halftime, I did not think we had enough juice. Then we made shots and made it interesting at end. The droughts have hurt us throughout the year."