

2019 Ingles Southern Conference Basketball Championships presented by General Shale



No. 1 Mercer69, No. 5 Wofford 51
March 8, 2019

Mercer Bears

Head coach Susie Gardner

Opening statement

"Give a lot of credit to Wofford. They played us close both times (in the regular season) and we knew it would be a battle. I'm so happy for this crew to be back in the championship game."

On Shannon Titus's performance (29 points, five rebounds, six blocked shots)

"Shannon's got a lot of gifts in terms of being an athlete. She's long, she's got intelligence, she did an amazing job on defense. On offense, Shannon was hitting key shots at important times."

On team effort

"We can talk about Shannon, and we should. But this was a total team effort."

On large fan contingent at tournament

"They're loud! This is an arena where we can hear them. We are so appreciative of our fans who come up to Asheville and really, really cheer us on."

Senior forward Amanda Thompson

On Mercer's fourth trip to the championship game

"This is super exciting. It's always an exciting couple days preparing for the championship. What more do you want, this is the best time of year. It's so much fun."

Sophomore guard/forward Shannon Titus

On her performance after not playing in last year's tournament

"In the second half, when my team needed me to step up and hit shots, I did. (My teammates) told me to keep shooting, to keep being aggressive."

Wofford Terriers

Head coach Jimmy Garrity

Opening statement

"First of all, I want to congratulate Mercer. They were really good today, especially in the second half. They're a team that is well coached. They are hard to guard. They do an unbelievable job of making shots in critical situations. And for the most part, I thought our defense was fairly good. We missed a couple of assignments but at the end of the day, they were better than we were today. But having said that, I couldn't be more proud of this team and this program and the direction that this program is headed."

On the difficulty keeping up in the third against Mercer's shooting

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"They're hard to guard. They've got their starting five and what we want to do is try and get to their bench, 'cause their starting five is really good. They're all averaging double digits. Three all-conference players on their team. They're long, they're tough, they can play in transition and they can play in the half court, so playing in postseason play and playing these different paces is good. It's what you need."

On Mercer's Shannon Titus' length on defending Chloe Wanink

"Titus' length is challenging for Chloe. I think there were some opportunities that were passed on. As good as she is defensively, she made the all-defensive team, denying Chloe, it gets to you a little bit. Am I open? Am I not open? So her length would bother her and then they would switch. So nothing's easy. And when you play and started 39 minutes yesterday and again today, your legs go a little bit and you don't have as much lift. But they were good defensively."

Sophomore guard Da'Ja Green

On their confidence against Mercer

"I don't think anything really changed. We really wanted this win. It's almost like we psyched ourselves out a little bit but to take down the No. 1 team would've been a huge accomplishment for us. We all had our minds on that goal. I think we had a couple of mental lapses during the game but other than that, the mindset didn't change from game one, two or three."