

2019 Ingles Southern Conference Basketball Championships presented by General Shale



No. 3 Furman 85, No. 6 Mercer 74
March 9, 2019

Furman Paladins

Head Coach Bob Richey

Opening statement

"Great effort by our guys, especially in the second half. I felt that offensively, we were pretty clean (in the first half). I don't think we played with the edge and intensity we like to play with on defense, but I thought we came out of the locker room in the second half and got back to what we do. We started having a little fun. Our spirit got up, our energy got up. A lot of praise to go around to our group."

On how this game was different from the regular season meetings against Mercer

"It's March and they've got March Madness logos around here for a reason. Anything you did before, it all goes out when you get into tournament play. Everybody's got new life."

On starting forward Matt Rafferty's condition after falling on his hand during the game

"We're getting that evaluated currently. He's one of the toughest human beings I've ever been around. I would expect him to play tomorrow night."

Junior guard Jordan Lyons

On his and Furman's scoring runs in the second half

"Like coach said, it's March. Basketball's a game of runs. We're going to go on runs, they're going to go on runs. A good thing about this team is throughout the whole year, we've been battling through the other team's runs and staying together through the highs and lows of the game. We just have a 'stay together' mentality through all the low moments and all the high moments."

On the team's 25 assists (seven different players with at least two assists)

"This is the most connected team I've ever been on. We're a very unselfish group and that's what makes this team so special. We don't care who gets the shot, as long as we think we're getting the best one."

Senior guard Andrew Brown

On providing a spark off the bench

"I felt like I needed to bring in some energy. We had a couple lulls in the first half and the beginning of the second half. We weren't playing as well as we should be, so I just tried to come in and give a spark, make hustle plays and do what I could to help us win."

Mercer Bears

Head coach Bob Hoffman

Opening statement

"Our guys played their tails off. They gave everything they had tonight against a fantastic team that's well coached and they understand what they do and they do it well. I thought for a little while we had them off balance and had them thinking a little bit which is good with a team that is well schooled in what they do as they are. Coach Richey has done a great job all year with them and the energy and effort that our guys gave tonight they walked off that floor giving everything they had."

On his seniors

"They're amazing young men. I'm grateful and thankful that I've gotten to coach them for four years. It's been a blessing, a ton of blessings. And they're going to be successful at everything that they do."

Senior guard Jaylen Stowe

On his performance tonight

"I just tried to leave it all out there tonight. These kinds of games you play as hard as you can and live with the results. I feel like I did that tonight."

Senior forward Cory Kilby

On playing his last game

"It felt really good to be back out there with the guys those games I sat out, it was tough not being out there with them but in the tournament we know it's win or go home and the stakes are high and we just want to go out and compete and I feel like we did that."