

**2011 General Shale Brick
Atlantic Sun Men's Basketball Championship
University Center: March 3, 2011**



Quote Sheet: No. 5 Mercer 73, No. 4 Lipscomb 63

MERCER:

Head Coach Bob Hoffman - *Opening statement*

"Just an amazing effort by all our guys and these two seniors has been incredible through this run. I am just so proud of how we continue to attack. I called less offense tonight, than I have in a long time because they were finding each other and making plays, so that was exciting for me. But really it was just defense that got us over the hump. Team defense was tremendous, it was just fun watching these guys enjoy each other on the floor and in the locker room."

On upcoming game against Belmont

"We just have to play with the same intensity. Rest is going to be huge. That's what I just told them in the locker room. They are going to bring it and they are so deep, we are going to have to fight as hard or harder than we did tonight to have a chance to get it done. But I believe these guys can get it done. I know they think it."

Mark Hall - *On tonight's atmosphere*

"Tourney time is always a different atmosphere. I tried to describe it to the freshman, but you can't really describe it until you get out there and the lights are on. And especially with this group of guys it's always fun to get out on the court. It's always great to play with guys you love to be around because the chemistry is just beautiful and you see that in our game. Since the injuries we thrive on big games, every game has been a playoff game and we have just stepped up to the occasion and it's nothing new."

Brian Mills - *On Belmont tomorrow night*

"Obviously, they came in the first meeting and they rolled us up there. Even here we knew we were going to need a better effort and they still came in and we were down seven and then in a flash we were down 20. That's how quickly they can get up on you because how well they can shoot the three pointer. Their bigs work hard and bang the whole time, they are relentless. They bring a lot of depth and fresh legs and they shoot it well, so we know a monumental effort and if there is any team, I think this group of guys can pull together enough energy to get it done tomorrow night."

LIPSCOMB:

Head Coach Scott Sanderson - *Opening statement*

"I just felt like our guys battled the whole time. The end of the first half really hurt us. We never could get it back, we got it back to seven one time and we gave up an offensive rebound and they made a three and we couldn't get it down to a workable margin they kept us at bay by making all their free throws down the stretch of the game."

On the first half deficit

"It's hard to play from a deficit. Those last two minutes of the first half, got us down eleven and we never could just get to workable margin. Late in the game it's much easier to play with a 10-11-point lead than it is playing with a six-point lead and we never could get it to that mark."

Josh Slater - *On tonight's game from Saturday's*

"Felt like the exact same game. We just didn't execute and they did, that's the bottom line. They played a very good game. We missed 10 free throws from the line. If you are going to win in the conference tournament, you can't shoot 63 percent from the line like we did. And also they out-rebounded us by seven. You aren't going to win, especially on the home court if you don't control those two stats."