

**2025 Southern Conference Men's Basketball Tournament**  
**Game 3 – Mercer vs. Chattanooga**

**Chattanooga**

**Head coach Dan Earl** – We certainly kept things interesting. It was a tough first half truth be told. We looked a little unsure of ourselves, so we had a couple choice words and woke up a little bit at halftime. Super proud of the response in the second half. (We) challenged some guys individually, challenged us all collectively. Makai (Richards) being one that responded and Honor Huff responded really well. I'll talk about these guys individually. How about Garrison Keesler? If you know basketball, that was a grown man's game on both sides of the floor. He certainly passed the ball and made plays on offense, but to hold down Ahmad Robinson, who is a heck of a player, and to make it difficult on him was part of the plan. We've got to learn from this and move on, but it's called survive and advance for a reason.

**Student-athlete Garrison Keesler** – We had our own talk as players (at halftime) and we knew what we needed to do. We didn't look like ourselves in the first half. We weren't moving the ball well. Our defense was solid, but honestly, like, loose balls, stuff like that that we usually get to, we weren't getting to. And so we talked about that, and then coach came in and let us have it a little bit, and it woke us up. It lit a fire inside of us. But we shouldn't need that.

**Student-athlete Bash Wieland** – I wasn't bringing much offensively, so you've got to do something else. I had a tough shooting night, but I still had the support of my teammates. Just get a stop. Get a stop. Get a stop. That's the most important thing, whether your shots are falling or not.

**Student-athlete Makai Richards** – I say every day, just be mentally ready. Get my mind right. Also locking in on the scout ... knowing the game plan. So always trying to be ready for the next move ... whatever is to come.

**Mercer**

**Head coach Ryan Ridder** – These things are never easy. I was just telling the guys that this feeling, unfortunately, is going to happen to everyone in the country – with the exception of one. Doesn't make the feeling any better. I'm unbelievably proud of our guys. I think, when you're trying to build a program, you don't know what year one is going to entail. ... Would we like to have some more wins? Would we like to have some more results? No doubt, we're competitors. But I think when you think of Mercer basketball right now, you think of grit, you think of toughness, you think of togetherness, and that's stemmed by our seniors. The wins are right around the corner.

**Student-athlete Jah Quinones** – I wouldn't go to want to go to war with anybody else. Those huddles that you get to see is just, we're not just like saying, okay, okay, okay. We are together, talking, trying to figure things out and keep our temper. That's our biggest thing.