

**2025 Southern Conference Men's Basketball Tournament**  
**Game 7 – Furman vs. Chattanooga**

**Furman**

**Head coach Bob Richey** – What a game and credit to Chattanooga. Dan (Earl) does a tremendous job with that group and that program. I've got a lot of respect for him. They went on a 12-game winning streak and were the hottest team in the league. Won the regular season outright. ... One of us had to lose today, and fortunately, it wasn't us. ... Play after play, punch after punch, response after response, it was an unbelievable basketball game that you got five extra minutes of. ... We had a tough day in this building a year ago in a lot of ways. And you know, this will be the third championship we've played for in four years, but we had a lot of things that we went through as a program the last 12 months. The same locker room that we had a year ago is the same one we entered into today. Sometimes life is challenging, and you got to endure and you got to push through. This team has been written off time and time again. ... Nobody had us winning this game. But then you look at the little thing to the left, and it says 24-8, and then today it says (25-8 after today), which means no team in the Southern Conference has as many wins as this group. But everybody wants to talk about everybody else for some reason, and that's fine, but this team has embraced that, and the reason they've embraced that is because of the hard we went through.

**Student-athlete Nick Anderson** – Yeah, Ben (VanderWal) is a leader on the team. He leads by example. That's what he does. He's out there playing as hard as he is it just pumps everybody else up. We joke around with him that he does all the things that I don't want to do. We wouldn't be here without him.

**Student-athlete PJay Smith Jr.** – Yeah, I agree. We wouldn't be here without (Ben). He plays extremely hard, and he does everything. Everybody needs somebody like that on the team, especially on a good team, and he accepted his role.

**Chattanooga**

**Head coach Dan Earl** – Give credit to Furman, Coach Richey and what they've done over the last two days and this season. They are a very good basketball team. Obviously, (PJay) Smith and (Nick) Anderson are unbelievable players, but they're a team, and they know their roles and they play the right way. So hats off to them. I think we are also a great team. I'm proud of our guys. I thought we fought throughout. This was not a lack of being competitive or fighting. We just picked a bad day to not have our best game. But our guys should hold their heads high. We'll play further on, but unfortunately, the Southern Conference tournament is over, and obviously the NCAA tournament (is over).

**Student-athlete Trey Bonham** – (Honor Huff) is my brother. It's hard. Like coach said, we've probably got more basketball, but the ultimate goal we fell short. But I wouldn't trade the experience and the memories with (Honor) for anything. He's going to be my brother until the day I die.

**Student-athlete Honor Huff** – To be completely honest. I mean, I can't even be mad at the game. I look around the locker room ... and then I look to my right, that's my guy (Trey Bonham). I mean, I love him to death. So to not get it done for him, that hurts more than anything, honestly.

**Student-athlete Bash Wieland** – It's been such a blessing. It hurts a lot, but just on the bright side, we got more basketball to play, so I'm just going to try to soak it in and enjoy every single second of that. Coach Earl has been a fantastic coach, and like Honor said, just the 13, 14, 15 guys that I get to play with, it's been amazing.