



Mike Krzyzewski Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. NW Missouri State



October 27, 2017 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski:

Opening Statement:

“Overall tonight was good. We beat a really good team. There’s a reason they were National Champions last year and they have a chance to do it again this year. Their offense is so well conceived. They move you around, and for our big guys early on that was a big challenge because you are accustomed to playing somebody in the post and all of a sudden you’re chasing a 3-point shooter and their center is like a second point guard. That was a good offense for us to try to defend. Initially we didn’t defensive rebound very well, but then after 10 minutes we did. We have seven freshmen, they’re nervous, some of them. Trevon (Duval) had a terrific game. He made some really simple, great passes and then guarding their best player, who is good, and he did a good job on him. Gary (Trent Jr.) and Grayson (Allen) form a really good team on the perimeter. Overall, I’m pleased. We’re going to come back tomorrow morning and watch tape early at 10:00 and then practice and try to simulate what we will do those first two games when we start the season. Younger guys, even older guys, you play one night and you have to be ready to play the next day, so we’ll see how our practice is tomorrow.”

On wearing equality t-shirts:

“There are a lot of mixed messages about standing before the game. All of our guys, all of our guys want to stand. Not everybody wants to put their hand over their heart and they don’t have to do that. Some guys put their heads down because they are praying. Some people put their hands on the side or in the back. But then we wanted to make sure that basically the equality of the shirt stood for “one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” Does that sound familiar? It’s part of the Pledge of Allegiance and it’s basically what our program and our school is about. That’s what we want our country to be. That’s why we stand in reverence to the men and women who served our country, who have protected those rights, but also for every race, every gender, every religion. That’s what our country is about and that’s what we said. We wanted to initially let everyone know, when we stand, that’s what we stand for and we don’t have to wear it all the time, but tonight we did because it was the first time that this group stood together.”

On what he learned about his team tonight:

“I learned that the freshmen were much more talented than that first recruiting class that I had. No, I learned that they play hard, just like that first recruiting class did, and they want to win. They got good experience tonight. We’re real young and we just have to keep playing and hopefully keep getting better and not get injured.”

On adjustments during the game against Justin Pitts:

“Trevon is a great athlete. He not only pressured him, but he made it hard for him to get the ball back. When he did get the ball back, he had to work during that time and then he didn’t get it back necessarily in his normal area of deployment, he was 6 to 8 feet further from the bucket than he would have been and then he had a guy who was playing him hard. In other words, there was constant, hard work done against him. That’s to Trevon’s credit, and Jordan (Goldwire) did a good job of that. He got sloppy at the end with a couple, but Goldwire did a good job. But Trevon was very good and the bigs did a good job making sure he didn’t go all the way to the bucket and how they defended the ball screen was pretty good.”

On areas of improvement:

“Everything. We’re a work in progress, but a good work in progress. Just keep learning, they’ll learn a lot from watching tape tomorrow. We will watch right now and pick out themes, where they are not just watching game footage, but you do maybe six themes, fast break, defensive rebounding, whatever it is, and you watch five or six things so they can visualize it. They need to see, that’s one thing I’ve learned about this group. The more they can see, the better. They like it, and then they respond. They have a lot of learning to do, but they want to learn. Tonight was good, that was a good start.”