



Mike Krzyzewski Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. Furman



November 20, 2017 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski:

Opening Statement:

"We beat a good team tonight. I really respect what their program has done. They know how to play. They are a very difficult team to defend and those three seniors have really played a lot of ball together. (John) Davis is a tough out at the guard spot and (Devin) Sibley and (Daniel) Fowler as well. I like their team a lot and I thought we played well defensively and taking away their three until we went zone. But overall, our kids followed the game plan really well and I thought we played hard and very well together. Our matchup with [Marvin Bagley and Wendell Carter], (Furman) doesn't have the big guys and as strong as they are, they are not as tall. Marvin and Wendell really did a good job. Trevon (Duval) got them the ball and so did Grayson (Allen). A good win. We practiced better these last two days. We practiced so of course we practiced better. And it showed. We go to class tomorrow, have a short practice and then we have the long trip to Portland. So, we are excited to do that."

On Furman's early paint scoring and the adjustments Duke made:

"We gave up the lane a little bit more because with our help side defense, instead of pulling it over we wanted to stay with their shooters. Davis did a great job of penetration. [Furman is] more of a right handed driving team and it looked like we were forcing them right instead of forcing them left. So we made some adjustments there. But we did take away the three. They only had 11 in the first half and only made two. We felt we needed to do that even though they might get by us a few players."

On this being a "statement game" after the game against Southern:

"I don't know if it's a statement...It is more like 'play like we are supposed to play.' [The game against Southern] was not just them on Friday. That was all of us. And just a whole circumstance that we weren't able to handle given two days off. It shows that you can be really bad when you don't do it. But tonight, we were a good. And we can be better. We've kept Grayson out for a couple of days of practice. He is a little bit banged up so he has not had the reps. But I thought today, even though he wasn't shooting, he was really handling the ball and didn't really force things. He led us in assists. It's a long season so hopefully there are more ups and the downs don't go too down. But especially with a young group, it's tough to maintain the consistently high level. Even during a game, it is tough to do that. But I thought we played hard. When we went to Marvin for four straight exchanges in the first half, he scored on all of them and that broke the game. It broke the game open. I think we beat a good team tonight. I think they are very good and they are going to beat a lot of people."

On the key to Bagley and Carter's success:

"Well they are pretty good to begin with. Each of them individually are really good players. They're not 'big men'. They are basketball players who are big. They possess not just a low post skill, they have a great feel for the game and they can shoot. They have good hands. Both of them, and it doesn't happen very often, are big guys who can pass. Both of them can really pass and they like it. They are keep growing together. Those two guys with Grayson from the outside and then Trevon just being that point guard and Gary playing off of those guys is a really good starting five. And Marques (Bolden) and Javin (DeLaurier) have been very good. Alex (O'Connell) has come on. Alex has given us a lot of energy and we just have to keep building the team that way."

On the play of Javin DeLaurier:

"He's been consistent. He has what we call a 'motor'. He has got a good motor. At 6'9", he is a superb athlete who is becoming a really good basketball player. He doesn't let some of the things he can't do now get in the way of his motor and his defense and rebounding. He picks us up all the time. Every once in a while, he will do something crazy but he's been a big plus. He only played 12 games last year. I love when a kid at some time in his career has 'DNPs', 'did not play,' and stays with it and they become better. This kid has done that and he won't have any DNPs anymore. He is a really important part of our team."