



Mike Krzyzewski Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. Opponent



November 26, 2017 // Moda Center // Portland, Ore.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski:

Opening Statement:

"Another unbelievable game. Who, even in the most creative places that Nike has, they could not have thought how good this tournament has been. It has been a privilege for us to be here and be in Portland, we've been treated unbelievably well. To play three amazing games that we've been in, and tonight being the most amazing, because I think they (Florida) can beat anybody. They're so difficult to defend, Mike's (White) done such a great job with his team. They're experienced. We played great defense in the second half and only gave up one three. I can't believe we hit more threes than they did. Our kids, we have a special group, we're so young. For Marvin, he's obviously a special player, but it's only his eighth college game, just like three of the other starters. To be in these experiences and to not give up, our guys just made a lot of plays. Marvin was great, Gary (Trent, Jr.) was unbelievable in those last couple of minutes and Trevon (Duval), who had not had a good tournament or a first half, but all of a sudden, when a player can change during a game, he's special, he's got a chance to be very, very good and Trevon did that. We played a hell of a team and I'm proud of my guys.

On anxiety during games:

"Your blood pressure is a lot higher when you don't have good players. We have very talented players. I believe in my guys, we've just had eight games, when we play Indiana, it'll be our ninth game in 20 days and five of them will be on the road so you don't have any practice time. That's what's more amazing to me, that they've been able to do these things. We aren't able to improvise much during games. It's not habitual yet. The only thing that is habitual is their will to win because they bring that to us. We have to let that go and take some slippage in X's and O's. If we can add X's and O's to the other things, we have a chance to be very good."

On the growth of the team:

"It's November, whatever happens we have to use it as the process of growth. Our goal is to keep getting better. Playing this team, this is as good a team as we'll play I think. We just have to keep learning. They learn on the fly like that. Gary made big plays, really big plays. To go up and hit those four free throws is terrific."

On the state of college basketball:

"The start of this season has been spectacular for college basketball. That Champions Classic that we were in, all of these games all over, the interest level, you guys are writing more interest pieces about the game. There's a great interest in the game because of all these tournaments, whether it's the Maui, the Barclays, we're trying to start all kinds of new things to keep up interest. That's why this tournament was a really good thing for the game. It came at an appropriate time. You had four top ten teams playing tonight, it's terrific. We're in good shape in college basketball. I like where we're at."

Marvin Bagley III:

On the three straight comebacks:

"We just have heart, that's pretty much all that is. We were down a lot and we weren't playing how we normally play. We need to figure out how to start the games the way we finish them. We got stops at the end, just to get our offense going and that got us back in the game. We just didn't give up and I'm happy to be a part of a team that fights to the end, no matter the situation. No matter if we're up, we're going to keep fighting, if we're down, we're going to keep fighting. It's a great team to be a part of."

On what turned the game around:

"We just said we needed to get stops. We came out and got stops when we needed them, very important stops, to run into our offense and get easy buckets in transition. We just started playing hard. The next step is how we can do that in the beginning so we don't have to fight back all the time because that can get stressful sometimes. We just need to continue to keep learning and getting better."

