



# Duke Postgame Quotes

## Duke vs. Evansville



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

### Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski

#### *Opening Statement:*

"We played really hard tonight. They are undermanned and have a couple kids out. They didn't have all the ballhandlers that they can have. The fact is we played hard. I thought we played really good defense. Our goal was to limit [Noah] Frederking and [Blake] Simmons, two really good shooters. [Head coach] Marty [Simmons] played for coach [Bobby] Knight and Jimmy Crews and they run what is still a good offense because they are 10-2 coming in here. A motion offense. So you know you're going to play and have to defend a number of passes every possession. I thought our guys did a really good job of that. They were leading the nation in three-point shooting. A couple of their stats are really amazing in how efficient they are. In the last four or five games they've made 24 threes and shot 53 percent. Their opponents have made 29 but have taken 80 more. They are just really efficient and a really good free throw shooting team. They are very well coached, but we are more athletic and played hard, but I like what they are doing. When they get all their guys back and hopefully they get them back quickly because they start league play Saturday afternoon. But our guys played hard. Thirty-two assists on 39 buckets. Good stuff. We worked hard in the time we had during exams. I wish we could continue to work, but we believe in giving our guys the opportunity to go home for Christmas and be with their families."

#### *On what they have done on defense coming into tonight's game:*

"We've had practice and we didn't have away games. The stretch we had was uncommon. I don't know how we don't have that every year. Exams at this school are big time. You can't play games and the week before is tough. And then there's Christmas. We played all those games and only two or three in December. I don't know how to get around that without telling our school will you exempt us from exams, putting Christmas in July or whatever. It takes its toll. So there is going to be inconsistency. There has to be. We had some good practices so we looked better defensively and hopefully we will continue to do that. Once we get back we have a tough game, but we'll have more continuity. And that's what this group needs, a young group especially needs the continuity."

#### *On Wendell Carter Jr.'s performance:*

"He's a good shooter and we work on those shots every day. Yesterday and today, coach [Jeff] Capel was working with the big guys on threes and if you didn't feel comfortable with it what you do afterwards. Whether it be a DHO or a dribble handoff or hit and follow with a wing ball screen, just so our guys are comfortable with the ball. He's a good basketball player. What I liked was when he was hitting, our guys kept wanting him to shoot. You could see there was a lot of joy there. That was good and he had a really good performance. The thing I'm most impressed with is how we shared it and how we defended it. That was very good."

#### *On what Justin Robinson has done to earn his minutes:*

"Not for the week, but for the years he has been here. He's getting better and Javin [DeLaurier] is out. Javin was out the last two practices because of a really tight hamstring, so we wanted to give him some time. J-Rob did a good job. J-Rob is as smart a player as we have and when he's on the blue team he helps us get prepared because he knows what the opponent is doing. He's one of those force multipliers in a unit. They add much more than stats show. He did a good job tonight. And he can hit that, obviously. When he's in the game, we want him to take that shot. When he was at my camp and he was a little guy he would come with David and Valerie, his parents and he could shoot. David said he was going to grow as big as him and I'm waiting for that to happen. He's got a couple more years to make that happen and hopefully he fulfills that promise."