



Duke Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. Florida State



December 30, 2017 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski

Opening Statement:

"Well, that was an amazing ACC game. It's tough to describe that game. That was an amazing game because both teams played great. We couldn't stop each other and the will to score and the will to win was evident every second by both teams. For us to win that game is sensational for our group. For those four freshmen, who are very talented, that was the first time in an ACC game in Cameron. When we get on a run and that crowd goes nuts, that's the first time they have had that. You being 18 and 19, you'd be dancing around there. It would be tough after the timeouts to get on to the next play. Stuff like that. Those are things you have to learn. The euphoria of being in that moment is incredible and they experienced that about three times today and were able to continue on and win. For me, psychologically that's a big thing. That's a huge, huge thing. The incredible individual performances, like Marvin [Bagley III] with 32 [points] and 21 [rebounds] and his teammate [Wendell Carter, Jr.] had 14 [points] and 16 [rebounds]. Those two guys outrebounded Florida State. Trevon [Duval] had a disjointed game with his fouls, but at the last three minutes he really helped win the game for us. They were doing that containment press and taking time off the clock. When we didn't have him in at times we didn't execute quick enough and the clock got to us. I told him 'Just go. We're not going to call a play, just go.' And he went and he made plays and our big guys did, too. Their guys like [Phil] Cofer, with 22 points, [Braian] Angola with shots that went right in. Those are 35-foot shots, a couple of them. They were so far out and then boom, right in. They had magnificent performances and we did, too. We were fortunate to get a charge. Wendell did a great job of getting that charge. We got a couple defensive rebounds. Trevon got a huge defensive rebound and it's like that. If it had gone a couple more minutes they could have won. Look, you all saw a really good game today. They don't get much better than the one that was played today. We just feel very fortunate to have been a part of it and win."

On if offensive rebounding was a point of emphasis heading into today:

"We are a good offensive rebounding team. Part of it is we don't make as many shots as we would like. Marvin had 11 and that's part of it. They are a good shot blocking team. In the second half they blocked one, blocked two and some kids would stop, but we continued to play. We got a few that way. Moses Malone used to do it where he missed them intentionally and got them. That's one of our strengths, rebounding and offensive boards. I thought Alex [O'Connell] came in in the second half, and I should have used him a little more in the first half, and he made a big three. But he also made as good of a pass as there was and I think it put us up 71-64. He threw it along the baseline to Grayson [Allen] for a three. And we played well through all that foul trouble. It was just a really good win. It was a sensational win for those kids."

On how the young kids play through being in foul trouble:

"You have to learn how to do it. Over the years we have not been a team that just takes a kid out with two and sit him. It seems like there's some commandment where you're supposed to do it that way and we don't do it that way. They have to learn. You're not going to win a big game without your big players. He [Trevon Duval] came in and played some in the first half with two. He played for quite a bit of time, but he played like he had two. I told him that you can't do that. We'd rather not have you in the game. So he got his third and then four and we told him that he can't play this way the last four minutes like he played the first half. You have to play like you have no fouls and be a man. Be mature. The best way to learn is through experience. You have to use the regular season to put these guys through these situations. Today, we were fortunate to win. If we had lost, still putting them in those situations is what you have to do. You cannot practice that. You can't practice it, you have to experience it, especially when it's their 14th game. For a number of them it's their 14th collegiate game."

On how it grows the team with the younger players playing in the big moments:

"It's fantastic. I also hope it shows that we believe in them and expect them to play older than they are and to handle it. Again, we had to play all zone when we had all those guys with four fouls. We did a decent job of it. Both teams were very difficult to defend because guys were on. Guys were playing hard. You all were on press row, I'm sure you could feel it."