



Mike Krzyzewski Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. NC State



January 6, 2018 // PNC Arena // Raleigh, N.C.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski:

Opening Statement:

"Congratulations to Kevin (Keatts), his staff and his team and the fans. They played great from the start. To come back, after I know they had two disappointing performances, and I know they really played with an incredible verve and experience. It started with their big guys. Their big guys were very strong. Physical in a really good way. Their veterans on the perimeter, (Torin) Dorn and (Allerik) Freeman, played like men which they are. We played young, which we are. I thought they played with a lot of poise. We started out well, we had an 11-point lead and we started to just take jump shots and made some really foolish mistakes and all of a sudden lost the lead. The same thing happened against Florida State but we were able to come back from it. We did not play with much poise. I thought we were frantic. They made us that way. They deserved to win. My hats off to them for turning that around."

On gap between games:

"We haven't played much in this last month. A BC loss and they were very good. All of a sudden then there's an exam break. A game against Evansville and then there's a Christmas break. We played very well against Florida State, but basically we played three games in a month. The reality of the continuity that you have to bring every day, it's not there yet, it's not there. We've had one job a week, three jobs in a month. You have to come to work every day. If you're an injury-riddled team, that's a good thing. But if you're trying to develop toughness and togetherness, it's not a good formula. It showed tonight. I'm disappointed in all of us. Me, my staff and the team in not figuring that out yet. We have to figure that out."

Hat

On NC State defensive rebounding:

"I just think they were persistent. We may have won the first couple rounds, but they were still fighting. Look, they've gone through a lot those big guys. If they see us getting a little bit tired or not approaching it for an amount of time, they're going to take advantage of it. They did. That's where our guys have to understand. They're 18, 19 years old but they're playing against guys who have played, have lost, have won, have been hurt and we're their opportunity. They've never experienced anything like that. Where a team that you see on tape isn't the team that shows up against you. We have to be able to handle that. State was really good. They were really good. We weren't able to handle that."

On NC State big men:

"It's good. He (Keatts) has developed a good rotation there. We're trying to do that with Marquis (Bolden). All three of his guys played well tonight, I mean really well. They outplayed us."

On NC State's press:

"When we broke the press, we didn't have poise and finishing. The turnovers hardly ever occurred at the initial point of their press. The turnovers occurred in the half court. Normally we would want someone to speed us up because we can score. But our decision making after we broke it was not good and that was what produced the turnovers. Again, poise at that time. We turned it over a lot."