



Duke Pregame Quotes

Duke vs. Wake Forest



January 13, 2018 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

Duke senior guard Grayson Allen (January 12, 2018)

On defensive communication issues:

"We're getting there. We've been practicing really hard and that's been one of our biggest focuses, along with defense because that's an important part of defense. With guys who are young, it's all about building habits. For me, I didn't have that habit coming out of high school so I had to build it here and a lot of guys don't have it coming out of high school. We're trying to build it up in practice so it becomes habit and so when the game starts, you're talking and you're in the right position."

On being a leader:

"I've had to do a lot. My leadership has been important and it's important for me to be on the same page as the coaches to help the younger guys, bring them up to speed quicker. There's a little similarity to my freshmen year, in that we ended up starting Quinn (Cook) with three freshmen and Matt (Jones) and this year it's me with four freshmen. But Amile (Jefferson) was also a pretty big leader on that team and the upperclassmen we have, they don't have much experience. A guy like Javin (DeLaurier) and Marques (Bolden), those two are playing a lot for us, they didn't get that experience last year. It's also getting them up to speed quickly, teaching them that I know that you didn't play a lot last year, but you're still one of the older guys so we need you to talk and be a leader in your own right too."

On being a leader even when shots aren't falling:

"My leadership, when Coach says I lead by example, doesn't necessarily come from me performing well or making shots in a game. Leading by example comes from my habits and how I'm acting around here, off the court. Habits in practice, getting there early, getting shots up, being sharp in practice, talking in practice. Just going through everything sharp and with a focus so the freshmen who are looking around at what to do, are looking at me to do it right. In a game, whenever I'm struggling, my voice doesn't disappear. Being a leader helps you because you can't think about what you're doing, think about your own problems, you have to think about everyone else's. So for me, I just have to be that strong face for the team, whether I'm hitting shots or not. It's keeping that strong face and bringing in guys for huddles and making sure everyone's on the same page."

On past success against Wake Forest:

"What makes them a good team, is they play with their guards and they play off dribble penetration and that's also how I like to play. They like to push the ball; I want to push the ball so maybe that flows right into it. I know that they're a very good team and their perimeter is really good this year. They're getting more experience, it's the same guys I've played for two years now. We know they have a very good perimeter team right now."

On shot selection changing because of team's outstanding offensive rebounding:

"A lot of times, for our guys out there, it's either this is going to go in or Marvin (Bagley III) or Wendell (Carter, Jr.) is going to get it right? That's what we like to think but at the same time when those guys are down there in rebounding position, they're also down there in scoring position. So our offense needs to go through them. It starts with them and what they're able to do because the duo of Marvin and Wendell is so powerful. They're extremely talented and ball friendly so they can just score off them. So just playing off them"