



# Duke Postgame Quotes

## Duke vs. Pitt



January 20, 2018 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

### Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski

#### ***Opening Statement:***

"We did a good job. I thought overall we played well. I think Pitt is getting better. They are better than when we played them up at Pitt. They handled the ball well together, which is a testament to Kevin (Stallings) and how good of a coach he is. When you're losing like that and your team gets better, it's pretty good. That didn't happen all the time in my first three years, as some of you who were here could attest to it. But, it was good to get Javin (DeLaurier) minutes, it was the first time he has played in a few weeks. I thought Jack (White) gave us a little bounce off the bench. I thought we played well. And that's it. Not much to elaborate on, unless you come up with some amazing questions, which would give me the opportunity to do that. So, it's on you. Usually I sing and dance up here beforehand, but now I'm going to let you do that."

#### ***On consistent defensive effort today:***

"Since the N.C. State game, we've gotten better defensively. You didn't need much to get better defensively from what we did in our first three ACC games, but we're working at it. All I'm trying to do is have our guys get better, and I think we're getting better."

#### ***On Grayson Allen's recent performance:***

"Grayson (Allen) can shoot whenever he wants, as long as they're good shots. He took good shots tonight, I thought on a couple offensive rebounds we got the ball to him and those are the momentum shots. Jack, I think, got him one, Gary (Trent Jr.) got him one, so that's good. The kid who has been unbelievable is Gary. Gary's playing like a senior; so poised, he's letting the game come to him. He's really playing well. And our big guys have continued to play well. Again, keep developing the chemistry, keep getting better, it's January 20<sup>th</sup> and let's try to keep it going."

#### ***On Gary Trent Jr.'s recent performance:***

"I think he has sped up his game. He is playing faster, and he is playing better defense. We've spent a lot of time in the last couple weeks with our foot movements on defense, every day, and our guys are getting better. And it helps on offense because as you move your feet you get wider, you get quicker, you have much better balance. For him, though, he's had two weeks, he's played well the whole year, but the last two weeks he's played outstanding basketball."

#### ***On Wendell Carter Jr.'s impact on defense:***

"Good point. Obviously at Miami, they only said he blocked four shots, that's hard for me to believe, I thought he blocked four in about the last 10 minutes. But he has protected our rim very, very well. He and Marvin (Bagley III) have learned to be in the restricted area and not to take charges but use the principle of verticality to go straight up. A lot of players never learn that, but as a freshman, Wendell has got it down, he does it really well. And if you would look at him now compared to when he got here, not that he was in bad shape, he wasn't, but he played at a higher weight and he is 12 to 15 pounds lighter, he is stronger, he is quicker, and he has been outstanding for us. He is a really outstanding player."

#### ***On Wendell Carter Jr.'s recent lack of foul trouble:***

"He is getting experience. You learn from your mistakes .... I think he was making silly mistakes, putting his hands up. He and Marvin are such good students of the game; they want to learn so much. So many of these kids when they come from high school, they haven't watched tape. They've watched tape of when they dunk or do something spectacular and they put mix tapes together and put all kinds of music, but they don't watch their foot movement, they don't watch when they commit a silly foul, they don't watch what they do on the help side on defense and so when they come here, and we're not the only program, but they have the opportunity to be educated about the game. And our two big men really want to learn about the game, and they're very, very smart. It's on them because they want to do it and they've been a joy to coach, those two guys."