



Duke Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. Notre Dame



January 29, 2018 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski

Opening Statement:

"You have to admire Mike's (Brey) team. The injuries that they have had, just how hard they play and how well. He's such a good coach. They have a program and that's what we told our guys. Forget about a couple guys being out, even though they're terrific guys being out. They're a program with character and they'll come and they're going to play every second against you, and if you don't, they're going to beat you. They're going to beat you because they're winners, and that's how I thought they played until we kind of, boom, we stopped giving up offensive boards and turning it over and for a while there we were just so efficient. We did a couple good things against the zone. I thought Grayson (Allen), that was his best game for a while, not just scoring but his presence out there. Gary (Trent Jr.) was spectacular with his shots. And Jack (White), what a great thing. You don't get a chance to see that very much. We saw it when that Grayson Allen kid was a freshman in the National Championship game, where somebody you don't expect all of a sudden not only plays well, but he sparks you and how happy our guys were for him. Look, Saturday was a tough loss for us. We felt that we could've won that game. We can talk about a whole bunch of stuff, but we missed free throws and turned it over; self-inflicted stuff, it wasn't something that was done, and that hurt. I'm not saying Virginia wasn't worthy of winning, but we had a great shot of winning that game. And you worry about a hangover, where you're still thinking about that and that's what we've tried to address for the last couple days and I thought our team did that, so I'm proud of them, that showed a lot of maturity in doing that. And just in case you were wondering why (Jon) Scheyer left, it wasn't because I wasn't listening to him, but his wife is having a baby right now, a little girl, about 12 days early. She went into labor this afternoon and the doctors said it would be a long time, you know how those doctors are, they're not right all the time, so we said, look, whenever. And he said, "Coach, I got to go," and I said, "Damn right you got to go. Get out of here." So, that's a cool thing. So hopefully Marcelle and John are expecting a little girl and I haven't gotten an update yet. Anyway, I'm a happy guy because my young squad really responded and we beat a really good program tonight. God bless them and hopefully they're healthy real quick."

On quick turnaround after loss:

"I agree mostly with that, but this has happened sometimes in a huge Carolina game. I remember last year we won and then we had to play Clemson two days later. Clemson's good, but it's difficult. Again, it's good now that we won and now we can move on. We'll give them tomorrow off and get therapy. But it's a long season and there are different times, different days, different is the norm. So far we've been pretty consistent with a young group in that regard."

On team's response to Marvin Bagley III's performance:

"Look, in that first part of the game, we left a lot of points on the floor. Missed dunks, it had to be very frustrating for Marvin (Bagley III). Marvin had one sequence where he had three, where one of them had to go in and none of them did. A reverse dunk and then Wendell (Carter Jr.) missed. We got off to a great start, but it didn't show up on the scoreboard. I'm glad that they stayed in it, but I don't think they can play harder but those things will usually go in for us. Even as Marvin moves around against the zone, it was just one of those nights for him. But, look, I'll take him. I thought he played well, he didn't play great, and we've been accustomed to great, but it was close is what I'm saying, it's right there."

On Grayson's leadership and performance tonight:

"It's evolving his role. You're the only senior, you're trying to be a leader, that's not what you've been your whole career. You've been a big-time scorer and a big-time player. I think tonight, I actually saw it at Wake, I didn't think he played well against Virginia, where he was more instinctive. We did a little thing against the zone where Trevon (Duval) had it and once he hit he cut through and then putting Grayson at the top of the zone kind of opened up a side gap for Trevon to drive and it gave us more of a threat, although really maybe the biggest shot of the game was Trevon's three because it was six and there was a lot of game pressure on us at that time. That was a big play. And then Gary's been so patient, he's so effective. I'm surprised he had 16 shots because he wasn't hunting, he just played and all of a sudden they were there. It's nice to see those guys, those two guys 9-16 from three, we haven't had that for a while."

On using quick turnaround to prepare for the NCAA tournament play:

"Well, in the NCAA we wouldn't be coming off of a tough loss, we'd be on a bus going somewhere, but you'd be coming off a really tough game, an emotional game. And having gone through this, we can reference that. What we did in the day between, we couldn't really practice on Sunday."