



# Joanne P. McCallie Postgame Quotes

## Duke vs. Wake Forest



February 7, 2018 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

**Duke head coach Joanne P. McCallie:**

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

"I'm just really proud of our team. You had to really play hard in that game. Wake is playing well, well coached and has a great player in 41, [Elisa] Penna, because we certainly tried to stop her. Really proud of the team. Really proud of the effort. Just a blue-collar game, there's nothing exciting about that. I know it wasn't really a fan game, but it was really important to us to finish that and to finish it aggressively. I thought Sofia [Roma], just really happy for her, she's been working very hard it's been a long road back. She was definitely a difference maker and gave the team great energy. Becca's [Greenwell] rebounding, Becca's attack, the minutes she's playing is really incredible considering some of the things she has to manage. And Lexie [Brown], one turnover in 39 minutes, and just pleased about the way she handled the situation out there. It was a lot of pressure, a lot of just, very physical game. So, you had to be sharp with it. So, we learned from it, we got better from it, and definitely moving on to next."

### ***On the early timeout:***

"Oh, awful. Six points, giving up shot contesting immediately when that was a focus of the game. Sadly, it was one person, so she got the brunt of it, sorry. But, that's the way it went. But, it just wasn't right. It didn't look right, it didn't feel right, and to the team's credit they took care of things. They got busy doing the right things. You know, we're trying to play better, and we're trying to attack more and execute on defense and on offense, so I thought that was appropriate. I had something to express."

### ***On struggling to find a lineup that meshes:***

"Still working on it. I wish we could say we're totally fluid. You know you've got some people rising like Sofia, so you're trying to work someone who's rising into playing time. Obviously losing players, our message is very, very clear that if you want to be a great team or a great player you find a way to get past any adversity. You know you just transcend it, that's the whole deal. And I have to be honest with you, I don't think we've been doing that. I think we've been privately kind of "Oh, this is too bad." You know we lost Kyra [Lambert], we lost Mikayla [Boykin], we lost Haley [Gorecki], there's no pity parties here. This is basketball and we've got to play. And that's what I loved about our team and I thought Becca really represents that because she never changes her face, and she plays so hard, and that kind of mentality is really, really important. So, I think we're getting into our groove. I know that we're not as seasoned as some be may be as fluid. But, I think that's fine. I think we might find some surprises that help our team even further."

### ***What has been seen differently defensively as of late:***

"Defensively I see us just kind of growing actually we're moving people around in different spaces. I see us getting better. They shot less than 30 percent from the floor. I think that's incredibly outstanding because they have a player like Penna on their team, and 14 [Alex] Sharp is terrific as well as a shooter, and number 2, I think she's a fantastic player, [Amber] Campbell. So, I think that we're just diversifying our defense as we played a lot of different things today. The team responded well and we're just going to keep working on it. But, to hold a team to 51 points, an ACC team, that's very good and has competed in every game they've played, and under 30 percent I think is fantastic. We could improve, we're only at 43%, we could improve that, we're missing some things that we could finish and put in. And I love the fact that we're at the free-throw line. I don't like the percentage, but I like being there 21 times, and that's a start, we've got to keep doing that."

### ***On points in the paint:***

"Points in the paint are so important because first of all, it's a higher probability shot, it's probably an over 50% shot in the lane. The second piece of it is it insures that you move the ball and get it inside and out. So, it helps your shooters. If you don't get paint points, then we're always playing to the outside and that's the first thing I look at. Because basically, if you win the paint battle you usually win. No matter what happens in the situation. So, pleased about that, hope to grow that further. Again, people can play better we didn't have the A game from everybody here. It's quite clear that there were some A games missing. But, there were enough A games and some B games, and certainly enough A effort and that's what carries you at this point."

### ***On the team fighting so hard after the Notre Dame game:***

"It means a great deal, very proud, it shows character, it shows fight. And as Becca said, focusing on things that we can control. I want to keep reminding them, if you're a great player you find a way. You know, if you're a great team you find a way. It might not be pretty, it might not be exactly what you want, but you find a way to get it done. To me, this was my most favorite game of the year, because of that fight."

### ***On concerns approaching the post-season:***

"Nope. Just got to keep battling. We've got a game on Sunday, we've got to take advantage of every game we have. We've basically got six games to concern ourselves with and then we can take it from there. We've got to get better in every game, it doesn't matter who we play, it doesn't matter where we play, we've got to find a way."