



Duke Postgame Quotes

Duke vs. Georgia Tech



February 11, 2018 // McCamish Pavilion // Atlanta, Ga.

Duke head coach Mike Krzyzewski

Opening Statement:

"We're proud of our win. [Georgia Tech has] been hurt, and they lost their point guard [Jose Alvarado]. It actually shows the character of their program. In some respects, they played the second half better. They're an important man down, and hopefully he's going to be okay. I don't know what happened to him, but he didn't return. He's a really good kid and a really good player. I thought putting the ball in [Josh] Okogie's hand is not a bad thing to do. He's just really a good player. He gives his whole team more confidence. He played his heart out. Then a couple kids that haven't played for them came through. [Evan] Cole was so good and [Moses] Wright... They made big-time plays.

We're proud of the win and we were a man down too in [Marvin] Bagley not being able to play. We did something different in our starting lineup and playing on Sunday nights is not easy. These are the hardest games to be quite frank with you, home or away. It's the end of a normal person's energy cycle. There aren't a lot of Sunday night parties – they're on Saturday or Friday. [On] Sunday night, they're recovering. I thought we came with a lot of energy. I was proud of Wendell [Carter]. He had to shoulder a little bit more with 19 [points] and 10 [rebounds]. I thought Grayson [Allen] came through, especially on the free-throw line. For a young group, we did a good job. [Trevon] Duval also came off the bench with his best performance in a couple weeks. He really hit the biggest shot of the game because it got down to 12 a little but under seven [minutes]. We called a timeout and set something up. Grayson had a rushed shot, and he passed it up to hit him in the corner and he knocked it down. That was a big response because down to 12, the world can look like it's falling apart. We got a great response from a kid who didn't start for the first time and got the confidence from a veteran to get him the ball. We're happy with our eighth conference win."

On Duke's starting five:

"Marques [Bolden] can't play extended minutes. One, he's just a big guy. Two, he was out for five weeks and he's still not in game condition. He played 25 minutes tonight, but his best minutes were early. He should be a great sub for Wendell [Carter] and Marvin [Bagley] and play somewhere between 15 and 18 minutes and play it really hard and run and whatever."

On Georgia Tech's Moses Wright and Evan Cole:

"You're never surprised at anything in our league. That's what I'm saying about the character of their team. Although it's a great time to put them in. They're 22 points down [with] a lot of game left and, all of a sudden, it's their time. That's what happens in sport every once in a while: kids get their opportunity. Both played really well. I mean big-time plays. In this game, Josh [Pastner] probably found something. He found two kids that want to play. They're real big because [Abdoulaye] Gueye didn't have the game he usually has. Those kids stepped up for them. Whenever you have [Tadric] Jackson out there... he's a good player. I think every coach in the league would like to have Jackson on his team."

On Duke's defense:

"Overall, our defense was very good. Even in the games we've lost, people have shot under 40 percent. What's happened is we've given them second shots and we've turned it over too much. Today, we handled the ball better and we turned it over a couple times late. We still aren't where I want us to be with defensive rebounding. We're trying not to have Marques [Bolden] run all over the court in ball-screen defense, so we're able to keep it compact. Overall, we played a really good game but there were segments where we were really playing well. I'm happy with that."