



# Duke Pregame Quotes

## Duke vs. Virginia Tech



February 14, 2018 // Cameron Indoor Stadium // Durham, N.C.

**Duke freshman forward Wendell Carter, Jr. (February 13, 2018)**

***On changes when Grayson Allen is running the point:***

"Last year he had to do it for Duke. He's known for being a great shooter. Putting him at the point guard position, he has to make sure everyone's doing what they're supposed to do. Being here for four years, he knows the system, he knows what we need to do on the offensive and defensive end. I think it's definitely a good thing for us. He plays off of us, he gets us open shots."

***On playing without Marvin Bagley Jr.:***

"Marvin's a phenomenal player and with him not being out there, it puts a lot of attention on the other players out there. We just have to step up. He comes and plays hard every day, every game. Marvin plays well on the offensive and defensive end so we just have to pick up that slack since he's not out there with us,"

***On how Grayson has helped lead the team during ACC play:***

"Like I said, being here for four years, he knows the ropes. He knows what's going to happen and the teams we're playing. He just tries to prepare us mentally and emotionally. Share emotions with each other and play as hard as you can because every team is coming out to get our number. Just because we have Duke across our chest, we automatically have that target on our back. He's just tried to help us be prepared for that situation."

***On key against Virginia Tech:***

"To play hard for 40 minutes. Recently, we've been playing very well in the first half, but something's not there for us in the second half. As long as we come out and play hard for 40 minutes, I believe we'll come out with a victory. They play very hard. They beat Virginia, who's also a very good team. They play hard and play for each other."

**Duke freshman guard Gary Trent, Jr. (February 13, 2018)**

***On what has led to hot shooting last nine games:***

"Getting into a rhythm. Having confidence in myself and letting it fly. Playing as hard as I can, finding open spots in the opposing team's defense and it's working out for me. I'm going to continue to play hard and try to play at a high level."

***On change in the release of his shot:***

"Earlier in the year, I was getting the ball off kind of slow and Coach told me if I wanted to be successful, I needed to get it off a little bit faster. I just practiced reps of getting my release quicker and it came to me. That's all I keep doing, keep working on my craft."

***On handling Virginia Tech's backcourt:***

"They're a great team and well coached. They have some phenomenal players. We're going to go out there and play hard. If we play our basketball and play Duke basketball and do what we came to do, we should be successful. They're deep. They have great players and a great coach and we have to come ready. It should be a great game tomorrow night."

***On takeaway from North Carolina and Georgia Tech games:***

"We've got to communicate. That's what it's been all year and that's one of the biggest keys for us as a team. It's something we always need to improve upon and just get better on. On the defensive end, just with one another on the court, communication."

***On Grayson running the point:***

"G got everyone into their spots. He's great at that spot. He had some nice little lobs to Wendell. Putting us in our spots and running the offense, he did a great job at that."