Duke University
Opponent Quotes
December 5, 2018 – vs. Hartford

HEAD COACH JOHN GALLAGHER

Opening Statement
"First off, I thought for 30 minutes, we competed at a really high level. Duke is the best team in the country, in my opinion. Going forward, for our program, we can only benefit from an experience like that. That's what I just told the team. Can we play in a game in March where it's a Duke or a Kansas or a Gonzaga and can we get ourselves in a situation where we are the American East champion? I think tonight only can help us. Looking at the game, there were too many live ball turnovers in that last 10-minute segment. It was a six-point game and we were doing some things that I liked. Overall, I'm proud of the players we have in our program and how we competed."

On playing Duke close:
"There's opportunities that we had that I think we will look back in this game and we may not have capitalized on. You have to give credit to [Duke]. They have so many players and trying to figure out as a coach where you go, who you go at, who you are trying to exploit, every time out you are trying to win a chess match against the best coach in college basketball history. It is a lot easier said than done."

On leaving John Carroll in when he was in foul trouble:
"When you're in a situation where it is a five or six-point game and you're at Duke, do you take arguably the best player in the [American East] out or do you ride him? [John Carroll] had a roll going. You have to be a gambler, or you are not a gambler. Maybe we're a little gamblers."

On the team's mentality after the game:
"This has to propel us forward. That's the message. As I said, I can't lie to them. We missed an opportunity with the things we did. Again, does this prepare us? John Chaney's great line was, 'they don't hand out any NCAA watches in November or December.' The NCAA watches start in January and February. What can we do for January 9th against UMBC? This is the Duke world and we are thinking about how to get ready for conference play. That's what we are doing."