



Duke University

Duke Player Quotes

January 10, 2019 – Florida State Preview

JUNIOR JAVIN DeLAURIER

On countering FSU's size

"Playing physical, gang rebounding and making sure that everyone is boxing out. They (FSU) are a team that crashes the o-boards especially hard, so it's going to take a group effort."

On Duke's shot blocking

"It's just something we've naturally been inclined to do. Coach has stressed the importance of protecting our rim, whether that be through blocking shots or taking charges. The guys have really gotten behind that and done a good job, so hopefully we'll continue to do so."

What does FSU do well defensively

"They're really trying to control the tempo of the game, trying to speed guys up. So it's going to be very important that we're strong with the ball and that we don't turn it over, and don't let them get out in transition because they're dangerous out there."

On Duke's foul trouble

"We have struggled with guys getting into foul trouble. But at the same time, it has allowed us to grow up in a way. Pretty early this year, we've had key guys in foul trouble in close games, and they found a way to play smart and finish the game out a lot of times. That was big problem against Texas Tech, but guys did a good job of making adjustments and staying in the game."

Tough stretch to open ACC play

"It's a really quick turnaround - that's something that's going to be different for a lot of our guys. We played in the Maui Invitational, where we played some back-to-back games. But in terms of league play, and what a grind it is, it's so different. We had some time off over the holidays, but now it's four games in nine days. Or something like that. It's really just telling the young guys the importance of recovery, treating your body right and making sure you're fueled the right way because it's a long conference season."

JUNIOR CENTER MARQUES BOLDEN

On this stretch of two games in three days, and about playing Florida State

"Florida State has played us tough over the years. Every time you play Florida State you have to be ready for a battle, especially going down to Tallahassee. It's something we're looking forward to. As far as two games in three days, that's something this group has done before. We played three games in three days, so that Maui tournament really set up well for the stretch we're about to have in conference."

On the effectiveness of transition game

"Our transition game has grown because of the leadership we have at the point guard position. For Tre (Jones) to be doing what he's doing in his first year of college basketball is great. We just have to go out and play our game. That's the most important thing."

On improvements in his game

"I've been working on being more active, to guard and switch and play against anybody. For me to have a high motor is important for this group."

On slow starts offensively

"We get things started defensively we all the turnovers we force. So we just need to make sure we start with high intensity on the defensive end - that's what's important."

On Duke's shot blocking

"That is something that has evolved. We have a lot of great athletes, as you can tell by watching us play. For us to protect the rim and lock down on the defensive end is key."