



Duke University

Duke Player Quotes

January 19, 2019 - vs. Virginia

FRESHMAN FORWARD ZION WILLIAMSON

"It feels great to win. Coming off a loss, you always want to win, and Virginia was a great team. It was a great game. Everybody played with heart and we just got the win."

When asked if the game lived up to his expectations with all of the excitement leading up to it:

"Honestly, I wasn't worried about the atmosphere. We're not playing against the crowd; we're playing against Virginia and they're a very experienced team and the crowds usually don't bother them. You've just got to stay locked in and stay disciplined and I think we did that pretty well."

When asked at what point he felt like Duke finally had the game under control:

"I would say later, with two or three minutes left in the game. R.J. [Barrett] hit those two big layups for us and put the lead up to eight, so it was a little more difficult for them to come back."

On the aggressiveness on offense by Duke's freshmen, R.J. Barrett, Cam Reddish, and Williamson:

"Coach K [Mike Krzyzewski] gives us the freedom to be us. He just gets the ball moving, and when there's movement for us, there's no telling what we can do."

On Duke's defensive performance tonight, in particular his two-handed blocked shot against Virginia's DeAndre Hunter:

"I did block his shot but their big man blocked my shot too. Their defense was pretty good too. They don't miss assignments - I have to give them their respect for that. When there's a pick and roll, they're there. They were kind of always there. I think we just hit some tough shots."

FRESHMAN GUARD R.J. BARRETT

When asked what Duke freshman guard Tre Jones said to him before the game:

"He told me I was going to have to take over the point and to just play my game. It's very easy to play with this team. It's nothing new really. I just have to be the one bringing [the ball] up. Other than that, I was doing the same stuff."

On what Duke learned about itself tonight:

"Against an undefeated team, a very good team, we were able to bounce back with one of our main players out. So we just learned how much we love to compete. Every win is big, especially in ACC play, but definitely coming off a loss it was big."

When asked how good Duke's defense was tonight:

"Especially in the second half, we were able to switch up to the zone. That was good and helped us a lot."

On his confidence as a shooter and playmaker down the stretch in late games:

"It definitely helps when you have the greatest coach of all time telling you to keep going, keep shooting the ball. I love playing for him."

FRESHMAN GUARD CAM REDDISH

"R.J. [Barrett] and Zion [Williamson], they were going crazy so I was just doing my best to make sure we won and impact the game in other ways. Let them be them. Obviously, I was looking for my shot, but overall it was a lot of fun."

"We needed this. Obviously, Syracuse was a tough loss. We had a little complication before the game and obviously Tre [Jones] got injured. We really needed this for our confidence."

On how Duke is different without Tre Jones in the lineup:

"Obviously, Tre helps us distribute the ball but we're all pretty good distributors. We missed Tre today, obviously, but overall it was pretty normal. We trust each other. We trust what [R.J. Barrett] can do with the ball in his hands. That's just what we did today and we came out with the win. I think we can be great [when Jones returns to the lineup]. Obviously, Tre is a key piece, a huge piece, to our team. He brings everything for us and we just can't wait to have him back."