



# Duke University

## Head Coach Mike Krzyzewski Quotes

*January 28, 2019 - vs. Notre Dame*

### **HEAD COACH MIKE KRZYZEWSKI**

#### **Opening Statement**

"I was proud of our guys. I thought Notre Dame was ready and Mike (Brey) has a young team that's been riddled with injury. We hit them hard to begin -- not because they didn't play well but we just hit everything. I thought they played us hard the whole game by spreading us like that. We played well on defense, and I think this is the biggest improvement for them, they didn't watch a miss, they went after a miss and they got a lot of offensive rebounds and that kept them in. The two games in three days, the travel, you never know what's going to happen and our guys really handled tonight well and I am proud of them ... now we get a day off. With the scheduling the way it is in college basketball, a lot of times you do not get a Sunday off and that can take its toll and we won't have one next week either. Even though we will give them off tomorrow we won't get back - hopefully we will get back safe - to go to school tomorrow so it is not really getting away, so especially with a young group we are trying to take that into consideration and make sure that we stay fresh but our guys did a good job tonight."

#### **On different approach this game as opposed to the last few games:**

"We just keep working it and we are trying to play hard defensively. When we lost Tre for three games, whatever habits we had before then, they are not solid yet and when you adjust and adapt with him not being in there. But now he is back and the kids are working at it and they took good shots tonight. It was nice to see the ball go in but there will be inconsistencies with individual performance especially from role players and we have to be careful our regular guys don't get too tired. But as a group we should be consistent in our effort and our defense and so far they've done that, a really good job of that. Alex (O'Connell) played better, Javin (DeLaurier) played better, Jack (White) rebounded better in the second half and we saw some good things and we are moving up a little bit.

#### **On staying focused and not playing outside themselves:**

"I think that is a really good observation and that is the way they are. They just want to win and they are really happy for one another. It is quite obvious that Zion (Williamson) makes spectacular plays on both ends of the court. Sometimes his defense is overshadowed by some of the dunks he has but they want him to be good and he wants the other guys to be good. RJ (Barrett) has been a warrior for us and late in the game we went to Cam (Reddish) a little bit more. They are in it for the four letters on the front of their jerseys there is no question.

#### **On Zion's defensive play:**

"Well he can guard anybody. He is a world class athlete and can guard any position."

#### **On Marques being back in the starting lineup and playing well:**

"Health, he has been able to work where he hasn't had the foot problem. There is the expression trust your work and if you haven't been able to work then you don't have anything to trust and he's worked and he trusts his work. He has been much more vocal and what we do defensively, three of our last four games when we switch, he's on a guard. That works really well because he can defend that."