



# Duke University

## Head Coach Mike Krzyzewski Quotes

*February 5, 2019 – vs. Boston College*

### **HEAD COACH MIKE KRZYZEWSKI**

#### **Opening Statement**

"[Boston College] played really well against us and outplayed us in the first half. I thought their zone really messed us up. We played pretty good defense to hold them to 30 points at halftime, and obviously we played really good defense the whole game to hold them to 55. Thank goodness we were doing that because we were completely out of sync. Our defense kept us in the ball game, but we didn't communicate well. No one was talking, even when we said something to run on offense, we didn't run it. We were kind of fortunate to be only down two at half. Then in the second half we were great, not good. We outscored them by 27 points. We did a really good job on a kid that I think is one of the best players in the league, [Ky] Bowman. For him to only score 11 points on 17 shots was good. It wasn't just Tre [Jones], it was our big guys up there. They were moving their feet, and our defensive rebounding was outstanding. As a result of our defensive rebounds, we got runs. We got fouled a lot in transition, but it started with our defensive rebounds. I think they only had one [in the second half]? Anyway... we were very good in that, whatever the exact stat is. Cam [Reddish] played a great game, not just on offense, but how he was moving defensively was just beautiful. Again, we're pleased with our eighth win [ACC] and 20<sup>th</sup> on the year. The other thing is, ever since we beat St. John's, the only thing you see on ESPN is our game against Virginia. Nothing was said about this game in all the shows and everything. That's the world that these guys live in. I told them, 'Look, you've got to play this game.' So, I don't know if that was part of it. Again, we're a young team, so we can fall prey to that. Thank goodness we didn't for 40 minutes."

#### **On Cam's defense:**

"It was beautiful what he was doing. We gave him a tough defensive assignment in [Jordan] Chatman, and Chatman actually scored half of his points when someone else was guarding. But if you watched a tape of the game and watched how Cam was running through screens, from side to side... I'm not saying he is Grant [Hill] but he reminded me of Grant. He's 6'8, and his arms are so long. It was beautiful! It was absolutely beautiful what he was doing, and I think that helped him offensively, because you're moving strong and playing strong. That translates to other aspects of your game. He played an outstanding game for us."

#### **On taking Zion [Williamson] out after his missed dunk:**

"We had decided we were going to sub. We didn't sub him for that. Look, he's a human being, he's going to miss. It was pretty hot in here too, and I just think he was sweating a lot. We're okay with him and his 17 rebounds, so I guess he wasn't sweating that much."

#### **On Cam's big play to end the half, lifting them into halftime:**

"It was a big play. But that didn't give our players a lift. That was a good play, but our players needed a lot more than that play. But they were lifted. They lifted one another. They just needed to work on moving the ball. Coaches around the country watching us attack the zone are going to say, 'Man, I'm not buying his zone offense book.' Not that I have one. We pretty much matched up where they were. We weren't moving. And Zion, he was in the corner a lot. Anyway, we had some outliers in the first half. In the second half, we didn't. We had good stuff against man and zone and scored 52 points. I think we shot 64% or 63% the second half."

#### **On how RJ [Barrett] handled his foul trouble:**

"He handled it well. His first two fouls were fouls he can't commit. He put his hand out and pushed, like in the second one he did. He's playing well, but he's not playing as well as he wants to play. He's such a competitor, sometimes he puts too much on himself. He doesn't get tight or anything, he never gets that, but he may be trying a little bit harder. I think after the foul trouble, he slowed down, made some good plays. He played well. He played well. Obviously, he's going to play better than that. Our guys did a good job, because they had momentum. Bowman can control a game. He's so strong with his dribble. Good player."

#### **On the challenge of keeping the guys from watching mock drafts:**

"Challenges are people who are sick and have to get healthy. We have no challenges. We have all opportunities. That's just part of the game. People play all those games. They play games with coaches, they play games with players, mock drafts, 'Who do you like better today? Vote!', you forget about that vote, because it's another day. You can't get caught up in all that stuff."

#### **On [Marques] Bolden's improvement and movement:**

"He's not just improving, he's playing great. He's healthy. He's been healthy for now six weeks. There's the expression, 'trust your work.' Well, if you're not healthy or can't get to practice, there's no work to trust. You're not developing the habits. Marques has been really healthy, and he's been working on his therapy to stay healthy. He's made a greater investment. His footwork is tremendous. You saw it offensively, but more so defensively. We actually switch him on a guard. He's guarding Bowman and did a good job. He's a key guy for us. And Javin [DeLaurier] has played well now a few days in a row. We're getting a little bit better."

#### **On Coach Jim Christian's comments on how hard Zion works:**

"A lot of things make him special. The fact that he's a competitor, and he's tough. He's never looking for a call. He just plays so hard. Jim is right. We're lucky to have him. We're lucky to be watching him. He's a very, very special guy who's going to continue to get better."