



Duke University

Opponent Quotes

February 5, 2019 - vs. Boston College

HEAD COACH JIM CHRISTIAN

On if he believed Duke's game plan was to stop Ky Bowman in the second half:

"I thought they did the same thing, switched on him and made him hit tough shots. I thought he over-penetrated a little bit. They were collapsing on him, so he probably needed to kick some of those balls out, but they ramped it up all over the floor. That's what they do. We knew that, we needed to meet their intensity, I thought the first five minutes in the second half, all the things that we did really, really well in the first half, we didn't do well in the second half on the defensive end of the ball, and that's how they got going."

On if Ky Bowman's injury in the second half was just a battle wound:

"Yes, I guess. He's tough as nails. I knew he'd go right back. I went out to check on him and I just asked him if he was okay and he said, 'I'm fine.'"

On the biggest difference between the first and second half:

"Again, the first five minutes. In the first half, we got every 50-50 ball. We outrebounded them. Except for a couple of careless turnovers, we played hard. In the second half, they beat us to all the loose balls. They outrebounded us. We just got away from what was winning and that's the message I just gave my team. These are 40-minute games, and these are fantastic teams. If the formula is working for what you're doing, you have to stick with it, so I'm disappointed defensively what we did. But they're a high-powered team. I knew they were going to make some threes, but those really weren't the ones that were going to beat us tonight. It was going to be the 50-50 loose balls, offensive rebounding, and then the scrum balls that they just keep coming up with. Zion Williamson, for all the things said about him, seeing him live, because I'm watching film, it's different, he just plays so dang hard. He plays so hard. His second effort to get balls is unlike anybody I've ever seen. Forget all the other great stuff that he does, that effort right there that he did today, getting those type of balls, I thought changed the whole game. I thought it changed the whole game. He comes up with more balls in the scrum than anybody I've ever seen and that's just straight effort. For anybody who likes basketball, forget about all the other stuff that he does, to me, that's a straight winner, that's what it is. That's a straight winner."