



Duke University

Head Coach Mike Krzyzewski Quotes

March 2, 2019 - vs. Miami

HEAD COACH MIKE KRZYZEWSKI

Opening Statement

"Our guys played really well today. They responded to the practice we finally had. We had two really good days of practice. Especially our defense; our defense was outstanding. I'm proud of them. Everyone helped us today. To single out one guy would be hard. However, Tre [Jones]'s defense on [Chris] Lykes was the starting point. Our big guys are playing well. Marques [Bolden] had another really good game, as did Javin [DeLaurier]. They're playing really well. Alex [O'Connell] did another good job. Good job. Good job by our team. We'll get back at it at our final Tuesday game. It's hard to believe it's our final home game. We're just trying to keep getting better."

On the balanced effort:

"I think we scored on defense. I think we had transition. We had 10 assists in the first half. I don't know what we had for the game. We didn't have as many in the second half. It lent itself to other guys getting shots. Offensively, we had some time to practice, so we did a couple things for now, that would be good for this team without Zion [Williamson]. Our guys scored from it. We had that one thing with RJ [Barrett] and Marques a few times in the first half, and then we incorporated Cam [Reddish] and scored six or seven times. Again, to be able to have a little bit of time to personalize the offense for them helped out. But overall it was the defense that set the tone."

On Jack [White] breaking the streak:

"You'd have to ask Jack [how important of a moment it was]. Ask Jack about moments for Jack, because I'd rather have him speak to it. He's working hard. Nate [James], the last two days, has really worked hard with him after practice. We tell our guys all the time, 'trust your work. If you've been working, doing the things you're supposed to do, then when you get to a game, trust what you've been working at.' So, he's worked really hard at it. Obviously, the crowd was good, and his teammates were good. He doesn't want to be identified as somebody who hasn't hit, and now he's hit. He wants to be identified as a really good player, which he is. And today he was."

On designing practices for when Zion comes back:

"We'll welcome that when he does come back. Most of the season has been with Zion, so it'd be like reacquainting yourself with the way we've played. We've had a lot of interruption because we had three games where Tre (Jones) didn't play, and now we've had four [without Zion] because Zion didn't really play in the Carolina game either. You don't lose an integral part of your team where it doesn't have an effect on you. We'd like to get the band together at some time, without putting any pressure on him. He's getting better. There's no time pressure on him. We'll just see where it goes. But he's getting better."

On Cam exploring more offensive options in Zion's absence:

"He's been able to explore everything with or without Zion. I just think he's getting better. We're trying to have him drive the ball more, not just shoot it, because then he can get foul. When he gets fouled, he's usually a really good free-throw shooter."

On feeling relaxed this year:

"I think it's because I'm old. I'm even more excited, but my movements are so slow that you really have to have a camera speed up in order to see how nervous I really am. I like my team a lot. They're fun to be with. I'd like to see them all healthy and back together. They're really a great group of guys."

On an update on Zion:

"He hasn't done anything with contact, but he's moving really well. Contact makes you do things you don't think about. You have to pass that phase. We're not in any hurry or whatever. The other thing with Zion is that he's an exquisite athlete, not like there aren't people like him athletically. He has to be 100% because his body has always responded instinctively to what his mind and heart feel. You've seen it. You can't put him out there with any less than that. You cannot, and we won't. But it's getting better."