



Duke University

Postgame Quotes

Wednesday, November 29, 2023 (at Arkansas)

DUKE HEAD COACH JON SCHEYER

Opening Statement:

"First of all, congrats to Arkansas. They played a really good game. We knew they would be incredibly hungry - desperate for this game. They had a couple of tough losses, and we have a lot of respect for their talents and coaching and what they do. Even with [Tramon] Mark being out, we knew it'd be an incredibly difficult game. With that said, we expected to win, so the loss is disappointing. The beginning of the second half was key and we came out and just gave up a bunch of layups. We mixed up our defense a little bit and played some zone, played some man. Bought us some time with [Kyle Filipowski] being out, so we're thinking, down one at half, we feel pretty good. And then we get [Filipowski] back, but it wasn't the collective toughness that you have to have on the road, with some of those stops and some of those rebounds. And credit them, they play a different kind of defense, they really can muck it up. We call it 'hitting,' but they're hitting and doubling off of Mark [Mitchell], doubling off of different guys. It makes you have to make plays, and we didn't make enough of them. At the end, I thought we showed a lot of heart. I know I have a locker room full of guys that are competitors and winners. A lot of people would have been run out of the gym at that point. I don't know exactly what it was, 10, 11, with a couple minutes to go and you're two free throws away. All you have to do is get one stop and you've got a chance there at the end. I think that's a credit to our guys with what they have inside of them. We just have to do that all the time."

On what can spark the defensive effort:

"There's just a resistance you have to have. We have a lot of guys that are capable of having big nights offensively and scoring. But whether their shots are going in or not, you have to be the same way all the time on that end. I thought our offense right away affected our defense. The resistance on the ball, our second level defense, our protection coming over on the weak side, it wasn't there for us to the level that it needs to be. Bottom line. There's some plays, as you look around, it's just a couple of loose balls. They out-rebound us by six, but they only had five offensive rebounds. I thought there were a couple of key ones here and there in the first half. [Chandler] Lawson got a couple, one led to [Filipowski's] second foul. Those plays are big."

On the quick turnaround for the Georgia Tech game:

"This would have been win or lose - you have to have quick, short memory. [Georgia Tech] played last night, I didn't watch the game, but it looks like they played great against Mississippi State. They're at home resting today. They weren't on the road. They're at home. For us, we're going to get back as soon as possible; whenever that is, and really have a day and a half to prepare. Then it's an early game on Saturday. So, to me, it's a mental game. It's a mental toughness game. We have to have great focus, short memories. But also, you have to learn. We're going to watch film and I think the thing we're going to see is giving up layups. Giving up our paint too easily. I'm sure there will be other things that I'll have to watch the film and process to see. But for me, it's the defense and the collective effort on that end."

SENIOR GUARD JEREMY ROACH

On the slow start to the second half:

"We came out flat in the second half. First four minutes of the second half, those are crucial moments in the game. And that's when they kind of went on their run. I think they went up eight at that point. And then we were scratching and clawing, trying to get back in the game. But the first four minutes are the most crucial point in the game. It determines wins and losses, and it did tonight."