



Duke University

Men's Basketball Quotes

December 12, 2023 (vs. Hofstra)

DUKE HEAD COACH JON SCHEYER

Opening Statement:

"Proud of that. I thought they [Hofstra] came out and were on fire there for a bit in the first half. They are incredibly well coached, a ton of respect for Speedy [Claxton] and their staff. They run great stuff offensively. They have some dynamic scorers. [Tyler] Thomas can really score, [Darlinstone] Dubar has a big-time game with seven threes and five in the first half. Some of those were tough shots and some of those we could have done better. I just like the response from our team. I thought we had great leadership tonight. I thought Jeremy [Roach] was in great control of the game. His stats were great with 19 points and eight assists, but for me it was just his command, his poise, and the way he looked throughout: never rattled. He has really stepped-up big time for us. Then, to see Flip [Kyle Filipowski] that way, two assists away from a triple double. He is just a force and they had to double, when they didn't, he really attacked the basket hard. Mark [Mitchell] did not finish as much, but Mark had some great moments. He is close, I'm telling you, Mark is so close to having just some big-time games, and he's right there. I love what our vets did. The guard play with Caleb [Foster], Jared [McCain], Jaylen [Blakes] is a team effort. We switched a little bit how we played defense, they spread you so much that we end up switching a lot. I thought we moved our feet well, limited their threes, and to hold a team like Hofstra, who averages 80 a game, to 29 points in the second half, thought that it was really good."

On what these last two games have shown about this team:

"We have played two really good teams in Charlotte and Hofstra. We just want to take a step forward, and of course you want that to translate to winning. For me, it is not just about winning; it is about how we played, it is about how we competed, and about how we prepare. After the last game I told our team, the blueprint is set. The blueprint is set after these last two games. You have to continue to adjust and adapt to who you're playing and what the game plan is, but in terms of the preparation, the collective effort, the fight, tonight was great. We did not have it perfect for us in the first half; for them to take the lead and for us to respond, that was great. It was great for this team to go through that first half."

On the focus required to execute and defend against Hofstra:

"[Hofstra] makes you play very disciplined. If you put two on the ball at any situation - if you come over to help - they are going to find the open player, and everybody on the court, besides their bigs - [Jacco] Fritz will shoot a three, but that's not what he does - will shoot them. I thought we had great discipline starting with controlling the ball. I thought our pressure throughout, even though we did not pressure to get steals, I thought our pressure wore on them. Our four guards just continued to pick up full court and got in their legs, which is great. Then, keeping the ball front and staying discipline, knowing when to help and when to stay at home."

On the continual effort on team rebounding:

"Rebounding is all about grit. It is all about fight. It is all about doing it together. Even if you're blocking out a bigger guy, we have talked about how you do not even have to get the rebound, just block out and then your teammates are going to have your back. I have to watch the film, but I thought there may be three or four of those tonight where the guy that started the block out did not get the ball and somebody else did because he put his body on the line. That is a big thing."