



Duke University

Postgame Quotes

Monday, January 29, 2024 (at Virginia Tech)

DUKE HEAD COACH JON SCHEYER

Opening Statement:

"Really good road win. A lot of respect for Virginia Tech and what they're capable of doing and the team that they have. They return a lot of the team that beat us here last year. And shoot, [Hunter] Cattoor, we've played against him a lot. I just thought our team had great togetherness, some timely threes and some guys stepped up in key moments. I thought Ryan Young, just in his 14 minutes, was terrific. His three offensive rebounds - probably one of the best plays of the game was he switched out to Cattoor, then came back in for the block. Which is just a huge play at a big time. I think it was our defense - to hold this team to six threes is not easy. I can promise you. Especially on one-day prep. They run so many tough actions, misdirections. You have to have great communication. We did that. I thought our guards really controlled the game and then [Kyle Filipowski] came through down the stretch, just playing through him a little bit. Proud of this win. You get a chance to play two games in three days, and to win both of them is really good. Looking forward to building from here."

On Duke's defensive efforts and what they did well:

"They're difficult to guard because of how well they shoot the three. You have to pick your poison a little bit. Our thing was try to take away threes as much as possible. Because of that, we gave up some drives and they got to the paint a little easier. Probably had some breakdowns guarding the ball, talking on switches, but I thought our communication for 40 minutes against these guys, one-day prep, was terrific. It was as good of a turnaround that we've had, playing them in that situation. And then, we had resistance at our basket. They only got four offensive rebounds. To out-rebound them 38-20, I think that speaks to the level of fight and resistance that we played with. I think our versatility too, Mark [Mitchell] switching onto everybody, Flip did a good job besides the fouls and our guards, they really bust their butts. Jared McCain comes up with 10 rebounds."

On Jared McCain's effort on both ends of the floor:

"Jared, he's such a good shooter, but he's really just a winner. Last game against Clemson, it was his two steals that got us back in the game. This game, it's 10 rebounds. He had some great passes. He had three assists and no turnovers, but I thought he had a couple more that he started the domino. That's who he is. Whatever the game requires, he's going to answer the bell. And tonight was no exception with his rebounds, defense and playmaking."

On winning the rebounding battle and what it says about the toughness of the team:

"It says a lot. I think, no matter what, you have a core group returning from last year, this season it's still an evolution. It's still a process of figuring out how this team needs to be successful. This team, they always respond. In-game, but also after the Clemson game - it's a great win and it's exciting, but you have to move on really quickly and learn from it. Some of the plays in traffic - we emphasize guard rebounding, and we had that tonight. It translates into some transition baskets and obviously eliminating some easy ones for them."

On preparing to play in a hostile environment on a quick turnaround:

"This team has been in a lot of unique environments already. Ton of respect for Virginia Tech. Ton of respect for the environment here. I think our guys - this is the reason you come to Duke. To play in environments like this. They were ready to play. I thought they did a great job focusing on what you can control. So often you can worry about a crowd, you can worry about what people are saying, and for our guys, they were just locked in on the game and the job that needed to be done. I'm proud of them for that."

SOPHOMORE GUARD TYRESE PROCTOR

On picking up the win on the road:

"Coming in, we all knew that it was one of the toughest road games in our conference. And our history hasn't been good here. But I think our mental preparation, obviously, we couldn't do a lot because we had a game on [Saturday], but just flushing that win against Clemson, that was a real nail-biter and coming out here and just competing every possession. I thought we did a great job on a scout and just guarded and rebounded and just pushed and played offense."

On the defensive effort against a good offensive team:

"I think communication was the biggest thing. [Cattoor] is a really good shooter and coming in, I did a good job last year. I just tried to do the same thing this year and just try to impact him as much as I could and just chase him over every screen. He's a great player moving off the ball and I got back-cut a couple of times just because of his positioning. But, just trying to lock in and do my job and just trusting one another. Trusting that help is going to come."

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SENIOR GUARD JEREMY ROACH

On playing well while limited in practice:

"Just trying to find a rhythm. Obviously, had the injury last week, but no excuses. I saw some shots go through and I know that feeling last year that we had in Blacksburg, walking off this floor, just wanted to do anything I could to get the win. Doesn't matter how I was feeling or anything like that, but just wanted to come out here with a win."

On the team's perimeter defense:

"It's been a huge factor. I mean, since I've been here, ACC Championship - [Hunter] Cattoor had seven threes. Last year, Cattoor had five three. That has been a big thing, just trying to limit their threes. They're a great shooting team, like you said, they have [Sean] Pedulla, [MJ] Collins was hitting tonight, Cattoor obviously. Guys like [Tyler] Nickel too, so it just kind of makes it tough to guard. And their offense is great. The pace that they run in, it makes it difficult. I think the switching that we had kind of messed them up a little bit. But a good overall effort tonight."

On winning the rebounding battle:

"I mean, really shout out to Ryan Young. Obviously, Jared [McCain] had 10 rebounds too, but I mean, that's been a big thing. Wanting to rebound. We're not the biggest team out there, but rebounding is all about effort. If we're winning the rebound battle, we most likely should win the game. It was kind of a different story on Saturday, we got out-rebounded, but ended up winning the game. That's always the focus coming into a game, winning the turnover, rebound and free-throw battles."

SOPHOMORE FORWARD KYLE FILIPOWSKI

On playing well, while limited in practice:

"Yeah, we've been a little inconsistent with the rebounding the last few games. Some we're doing great, and some we're not. We just keep needing those reminders. Every team is different and there's going to be some games where maybe me and Mark [Mitchell] aren't getting as many rebounds or Ryan [Young] where we've got to worry about boxing our guys out more and then the guards can come down and crash. It's just a lot of communication on our end with that."

On responding to Virginia Tech's scoring runs:

"It was incredible. Especially with the last game against Clemson, with that being a battle. I don't really think we're getting nervous. We're staying poised pretty well when we're in situations like this. I mean, that's just credit to us for staying together, coming together during these hard moments and just pushing through."

On Roach's three-pointer right before halftime:

"That was huge. Sean [Stewart] tipping it to me and getting it out to Jeremy for that three was probably one of the biggest plays of the game. Going up six rather than being up three at halftime, kind of giving their team a little more doubt in their minds, I'd say."