



Duke University

Postgame Quotes

Saturday, February 3, 2024 (at North Carolina)

DUKE HEAD COACH JON SCHEYER

Opening Statement:

"First, you have to congratulate North Carolina. They played a great game. The game that [Harrison] Ingram and [Armando] Bacot had, 46 points and 23 rebounds between the two of them, they were great. Thought their defense bothered us in the first half. The main story for me was the loose balls. As you look throughout the game, they were hungrier to get them. And it turned into - I'll have to go back and watch the film to see - but I bet close to 15, maybe even 20, points. You have to give them credit for that. They have a really good team. They play really well together. Their defense is terrific. And still, we score 84 points. We can score. Our thing was getting stops tonight, which we just could not do. In transition, they push it hard, we probably had some miscommunication there and I just wasn't happy with the way we competed. That's disappointing for me. You can play really well and compete your butt off and still lose to them. Because they're a really good team. But we didn't compete to the level that you need to, to have a chance to beat this team tonight. That's what I'm disappointed about. Hats off to them, they were terrific, they're really good. I think they're as good as anybody. We have to learn from this quickly, make no excuses, get back to work. And now there's the second half of ACC play to go. But tonight was not good enough for me, for our program, for our team."

On what caused the lack of effort:

"I don't know. If I knew right now, I would've done something about it. We just didn't come out - look, in this game, in any game when you play on the road, you're playing a really good team - you can make some mistakes. You can be a little tight at times and both teams have seen that for 15 years in this game. All that is normal. But what's not normal is to not lay it all on the line the way that you need to. So, for me as a coach, I want to watch the film and digest and get some answers. But I can promise you, this isn't going to be a thing that we continue to do. This is going to be a one-time thing for me. Get back to it on Monday, practice, and get ready for our game on Wednesday and compete our butts off."

On what he needs to do as a coach to address the lack of effort:

"I have to be on them and get back to it on Monday. End of the day, when I say this, this is my responsibility. This is our responsibility. But you have to compete. You still have to bring it. For us, we have to get back to work in practice on Monday. I know the teams I've played on, coached on, the team last year and a half - we compete. We show up. Tonight wasn't the level that it should be. We've got to learn from it like we do every game. Take responsibility. That includes coaches, that includes players and get back to work on Monday. It takes what it takes. You've got to put the work in. You've got to get back to it. That's it."

On what he saw from Jared McCain:

"Jared is an absolute warrior, man. Jared McCain competes every single play. Did he make mistakes out there? Sure. That's the game of basketball, you make mistakes. He just competes every play. He leads us in rebounding, leads us in scoring, which is great. For me, it's not about the scoring, though. It's about his competitive nature. It's about how he's always talking. He's always upbeat and trying to make plays. He didn't show me anything new, in that sense tonight, it's just who he is. All the time. Every single day in practice. Every single day. After every game, he comes back and shoots. In the mornings, he comes in. After practice, he has a routine, every day he does. So, he's the same way every time. The same way. Jared laid it on the line tonight, and that's what you want."

On what made Ingram such a tough matchup for the Duke defense:

"He was relentless. Just the loose balls that I'm talking about, he got a lot of them. I don't know how many, but he got a lot. He played with a great energy. A great physicality. He's relentless going after the ball and when he's shooting the way he did tonight, it's a really good player, bottom line."

On the belief he has for Tyrese Proctor and the team:

"We need him to be really good. He is really good. One, he did a really good job guarding [RJ] Davis, and that can wear you out. That's part of it. And for me, knowing Tyrese, he's going to bounce back on Wednesday. That's what he's made out of. It's what he's shown for a year-and-a-half. He didn't have his best game tonight. I believe in him. And I really believe in this team. The thing that I've said, throughout this year, this group hasn't gotten it perfect all the time. The core group is back from last year, they always respond. They always respond. I'm looking forward to seeing how we respond on Monday. Practice on Tuesday. And then, getting ready for our game on Wednesday. That's what this is about for me."

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SENIOR GUARD JEREMY ROACH

On the defensive effort by North Carolina:

"Carolina played a great game. They played a [heck] of a defensive game. Just have got to be better."

On the message to the team post-game and how to respond from the loss:

"We just got out-competed, out-toughed. It's very tough, especially in the rivalry. We've got to come back Wednesday and get the win."

FRESHMAN GUARD JARED MCCAIN

On what he saw from North Carolina:

"They out-competed us, for sure. They got those 50-50 balls and it translated. [Cormac] Ryan hit the three in the corner, it felt like they hit a three every time we didn't get a loose ball. We didn't compete. That's what it came down to."

On how much of a gut-check a loss like this is to the team:

"It hurts, man. It hurts. This is the game, when you commit to Duke, it's the big game you look forward to. It's crazy to think that we don't come out with energy and go play as hard as we can. So, it sucks."