

## **Postgame Quotes at Duke**

### **Head coach Tony Bennett**

#### ***On last three minutes:***

"I can't remember when Kihei (Clark) hit the three, that was a big hit. They switched everything and ball screens, off-ball screens, so you had to make some plays with the floorspace, and we were unaware of the shot clock at times and that was frustrating. The last play, they missed that free throw, it was broken, and we were like, 'if they miss it attack, get to the rim.' We were in the bonus and I was hoping we could get into the lane, and either get one up and rebound, flip it to Sam (Hauser) or someone trailing. No, we didn't get great, they stepped up their defense. It comes down a lot of times to making plays late. You have to be able to bounce up, hit a shot. Casey missed that separate shot, he had (Matthew) Hurt on him. He hit a couple of those, I think that was an okay shot. They just were skin-tight, and there wasn't a, I'll look at the film, I wish we could have gotten a couple better looks and cleaned up some of the turnovers or the block shots. There's just sometimes it's drawing and kicking and making the decision but to not score last few minutes was tough. I thought Jay (Huff), when he got the rebound, I thought there was one where he could have gone back up. I think he kicked it out. Because shots were hard to come by late."

#### ***On Duke guarding Trey Murphy III:***

"This was a game that wasn't create, catch and shoot, they stayed at home, so you had to make some plays off the dribble, kind of similar to Florida State in some ways, but it was good to see Jay and Sam get some touches. Early they played Mark Williams and then they subbed him, and they pretty much went interchangeable and small, and Sam and Jay got some shots. Jay in the post, Sam had to move and hit some tough shots. Kihei had to attack, but they were pretty tight on Trey and he wasn't able to, we tried to move him and get some screens and then we tried to use him to screen at times and flash and slip but that's something he's got to keep adding to his game. We have to keep trying to figure out ways to get him shots, where he can either bounce and rise up, but right now, he really, if he's got space he'll catch and shoot, we get back doors, maybe one dribbles, and we just we needed everything down the stretch. You look at some of the breakdowns here. You could have had that one, but you got to move on."

#### ***On message after losing two games in a row:***

"I didn't like our first half, for the most part, offensively we got good looks. I thought defensively, I don't know, at times, we have to be so good in the important areas. We've talked about this, Hurt can shoot. We were kind of there, and they were tough shots, but in the second half we were really there, and he still hit a couple, but he didn't hit as many. That has to be the moment that ball tips. We were back more in the second half in transition. The first half, there's just were some breakdowns that are going to happen, but those in tight games you can't afford, and I think it was pretty easy for them to score on us in the first half. Then we were better in the second half but keep fighting. I said it after Florida State, 'All right, you hit some adversity, what are we going to learn and grow, are we going to grow from it and be ready to play, ready to practice on Monday, ready to play on Wednesday.'"

**Redshirt Senior Guard Sam Hauser**

***On final three minutes:***

"We had one shot going in-and-out, a couple of iffy plays that we got to be more sharp on offense, just execute better at the end of the day. I think that's what it comes down to."

***On if this was a game you should have won:***

"Duke played great tonight. They kicked our butts in the first half for sure. And they made timely plays and winning plays at the right time. Hats off to them they played well tonight".

***On final possession:***

"We said try to attack the rim if it's there. Kihei felt maybe he could get a shot off. Something that, we maybe look at and film and maybe draw something up for that type of situation."

***On losing two games in a row:***

"You have to learn from it, you have to grow from it. Obviously watch some film on it and see where we broke down or had some breakdowns. Overall, we just have to stay together. This, it happens, you're not going win every game so just have to stay together, fight through this and like coach Bennett says, you dust yourself off and that's the beauty basket you get to come back at it."

**Redshirt Senior Forward Jay Huff**

***On emotions after game like this:***

"It's a tough one. It's one of those that could have gone either way, we can make a few plays, they don't make a few plays. It's definitely our game. We've been in that situation before, it happens. I think we'll be better off for it."

***On scoring more inside:***

"They switched on defense on to me, which made it hard on ball screens, but sometimes that happens. I definitely just, after that, I tried to get offensive rebounds and tried to establish myself in the paint."

***On progress of team being in a game like that and exerting their will at the end:***

"I think we can, I think we certainly have the capability. It's just a few plays here and there. That is what it is. I think that, we know we have to do, and we know just, small things we had to tighten up, it's not anything major. Obviously, the Florida State game was major. I feel like we needed to just do a lot differently after that game, and this game was just a few minor tweaks here and there, and we would have been good. But it is what it is, it's basketball. They put a heck of a game."

***On message to guys coming off two loses:***

"You basically put words in my mouth there, but 'Welcome to the ACC'. I mean, that is what it is here. It's always been that way. Florida state's always been that type of team that can give anybody a game, same with Duke. They've made some changes this year and they made some

changes to the way they played us last year even, they definitely switched a lot more. So it's just, the ACC is like that and I think that we can get back on track, and we'll be fine."