

1/20/18 - UNM v SDSU Quotes

Head Coach Paul Weir:

“(This team) defies a lot of logic and I am just really proud to be a part of them right now. We’ve bottled something pretty cool.”

“I don’t know how long it’s going to keep going, but we are just going to keep grinding and keep working right now.”

“The only bad news from this game is that we are going right back to practice tomorrow morning because that’s how we got here.”

“I’ve been really happy for them these last few games because they finally got a reward for all of their work.”

“When I got here, that was one of the things that we talked about; we want to finish. Finish games, finish possessions, finish everything. We, fortunately, have been able to do that.”

“I think now, whether it’s our conditioning, whether it’s our chemistry, whether it’s whatever, it’s just kind of starting to come together.”

“We unfortunately didn’t have a great first half here at all tonight, worst defensive half in a while, and then quite honestly, it was probably one of our best defensive halves of the season.”

“I’m really thankful to the 11,000+ that came out, they were awesome tonight. It was the loudest it’s been since I’ve been here.”

“Our defense in the second half was terrific because guys came in (the locker room) and said, ‘we’ve got to find a way to get better.’ We did the same thing against Wyoming, we just had a much better second half, but the crowd was a big part of it. They were amazing tonight.”

“It’s the highest it’s been since I’ve been here (the team’s confidence), I don’t think there’s any doubt about it.”

“(Jackson) had zero turnovers tonight, which to me is more important than anything else on the stat sheet and I’m just really lucky to have him on the team.”

“I think there is no question that we are evolving together, I have been open-minded with them, they have been open-minded with me, and now we are able to beat teams that we are theoretically not supposed to be beating.”

“The adversity (of close scoring games) is really good for us, it builds our toughness. Eight-minute mark to four-minute mark we weren’t very tough. We missed some free throws, we did some things we shouldn’t have done, but I thought down that stretch, it was very Vegas-ish in the sense that we just locked in and we all just felt like we were going to win this game.”

Antino Jackson:

“On offense, I’m trying to take advantage of the freedom Coach Weir has given me to make plays, be efficient, and to be the best I can be.”

“At the end of the games we push through because of what we’re doing throughout the week. I don’t think anyone in the nation practices how we practice and does what we do.”

“Our defense was kind of questionable in the first half, so our biggest thing coming into the second half was that we had to make shots, play better defense and get rebounds. And I think that’s what we did. We made the adjustments, and that was the biggest thing.”

Anthony Mathis:

“It’s been two years that I’ve been waiting for this feeling, and I’m just embracing it as much as I can, just looking around and embracing the moment. I look around at the amazing fans we have, everybody cheering and screaming, and all the players just truly appreciate that.”

“The players that are playing right now have amazing courage. We’re sticking together and playing our hearts out, every single one of us. I know I can speak for myself, I’m exhausted, and like Coach Weir says, after every game, you should be exhausted and dead tired, and that’s what I am now for sure.”

“(Coach) does a great job of keeping us composed. Sometimes, I get so wild and so into the games, I want to win so badly. But that’s what great guards do, they keep it within themselves and keep composed and that’s what (Coach) helps us do.”