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Postgame Football Quotes – San Diego State vs. Fresno State

Saturday, November 25, 2023

Snapdragon Stadium | San Diego, Calif.

San Diego State Head Coach Brady Hoke

Opening statement:

“It was really fun to watch our team play. It is great to have the oil can back. I’m very excited about that and how we played together. It’s nice to see the defense have many three-and-outs. They did a nice job there. Offensively, running the football, time of possession ... Garret [Fountain] said it was 42 minutes. We talked about before the game, when we kickoff we are going to make a statement. Those guys on the kickoff team – I want to go back and watch every one of them – because they went down the field and they made a statement. They made a statement for our football team that we were going to be tough and do everything that we could as a team to get that oil can back. The other thing is for the seniors. That is always, as much as anything, important to me. The seniors because of what they’ve been through – the conditionings, the spring balls, the summers, the grinds in the weight room, and January at 6 a.m. Those are the guys who have been through it. They are the ones who understand, so it’s great to get the win for them and get the oil can back to San Diego.

On Kurt Mattix and his game plan tonight:

“They are not a team that throws the ball down the field as much. Tonight, they didn’t have as much play-action as they had with max protection. We tried to take away the quick game as much as we could. We thought that was one way to get off the field. We always want to take the run away, and we did okay. They had one long run that was 62 yards. Overall, we did a pretty good job. Kurt’s a great coach. He does a nice job. I don’t know if there’s anybody who works harder at it. He’s done a great job.”

On converting on all three fourth downs by running the ball:

“For us, I thought we could run the ball. We proved it a week ago. They did a nice job. I have a lot of faith in them. There was a lot of faith in Jack [Browning] also.

On wrapping up his career at SDSU with a win:

“You always want to win. We go out every game and try to win. It’s great to win. We don’t like losing.”

San Diego State Quarterback Jalen Maiden

On getting in their own way in the past:

“I can't look back at a team that has truly stopped us. It's always stopping ourselves and it does feel good to come out with that victory and put that senior season to an end.”

On the game plan tonight:

“The game plan was pretty much the same. It's always been our execution. It's never been play-calling. There's been times where the play is set up perfectly, and I just don't get the ball there. I'm pleased tonight, and it's the outcome we wanted.”

San Diego State Defensive Lineman Garret Fountain

On regrouping and getting control defensively:

“We get that first play of the game jitters out. There were little mistakes here and there. Then we got back to the sideline, regrouped, got a plan together, and got back onto the game plan, and you're like, “Alright, let's go.””

On defense holding offense in check compared to last week's one TFL game:

“We came to play today, and guys were doing their job, and we preached it this week to do your 1-11. Everybody did that. The linebackers, safeties, and corners all came downhill really well today. They made plays happen and got the ball out. It was nice because we weren't on the field as much tonight. The offense was just tearing it up. We were having fun rooting them on from the side.”

On winning for the seniors and Brady Hoke's last game:

“All we wanted to do was get that win tonight for Coach Hoke and let him go out the right way, as well as the seniors. Our fellow seniors that are on this team really just had a bad taste in our mouth this year. Games that we made some mistakes and we should have won. Tonight, we just put it together in all three phases. Like Coach said, the kickoff team played a heck of a game, and I'm super proud of those guys. It was just a real fun night because everybody was clicking, and everybody was going on for coach and the seniors.”

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