



## SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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### **San José State at San Diego State Postgame Quotes**

**San Diego State 77, San José State 55**

**Steve Fisher Court at Viejas Arena | San Diego, Calif.**

**Feb. 10, 2021**

### **San Diego State Head Coach Brian Dutcher**

#### **Opening Statement:**

"I thought it was a good game for us tonight. (San José State) played very well in the first half, they jumped it up and they had us off balance. We could not find a rhythm offensively because they were mixing man (defense), calling a 1-3-1 zone, but really dropping into a 2-3 zone and just (kept doing things) to try to get us out of rhythm. But that being said, we played solid defense again. I told the guys the teams that don't have as good a record as you usually find ways to beat you if they hit threes, and they hit 10 threes a night. They put themselves in a position to be in the game for a long time and we let a team that's shooting seven threes a game (on average) make 10 against us. That was a little concerning. There were a lot of fouls in the first half. They beat us on the foul line, which is a reverse of (what happened in) the first game, so credit to San Jose and their coaching staff. They did a good job of (making) adjustments and kept the game close. And then, like good teams do, which we have a good team, we had a spurt in the second half that kind of broke the game open, thanks to Terrell (Gomez's) aggressiveness at the offensive end, for himself, and his teammates and Jordan (Schakel's) hot shooting. They kind of gave us a spurt we needed to come out of here with a nice victory."

#### **On Lamont Butler's recent success:**

"Lamont is playing good basketball, but as a coach I have to demand he goes another level higher. He has to play a full 40 (minutes). There were a couple plays in the end (where) he had a chance to get 16 points. So Lamont is a very good freshman who continues to grow his game, take care of the ball, find his teammates and then score around the basket at a high level."

#### **On his substitution of Aguek Arop for Matt Mitchell and the effect it had on the game:**

"Matt had gone up and down (the floor); there wasn't a lot of dead balls in that stretch. The teams were going back and forth and Matt was a little tired. I think the substitution was at a good time where Matt could get a little rest and we got AG (Aguek Arop) in there. Like in the first game when he (Arop) got in the game, he got a turnover on the press (which sparked a run). He is just an energy guy. He provided good energy for us when he came in the game and we were able to spruce it up a little bit."

#### **On what the coaching staff can do when they team is enduring cold shooting streaks:**

"They just kind of have a swagger about them; good teams have confidence. You can see it in the way they walk on the floor and carry themselves on the floor. I have a confident team. Not every shot's going to go in, I understand that. But I don't want them getting tentative. I want them to be aggressive and if they get their look, I want them to take it every time they get it."

## San Diego State Senior Guard Jordan Schakel

### **On shooting yourself out of a slump:**

"You have to have confidence to play this game and I think everyone on this team has confidence. It doesn't even go through our minds. You just have to keep playing and being aggressive. If you don't have an aggressive mindset then you shouldn't be on the court. That's how I look at it. You have to keep being aggressive."

### **On making over 200 three-pointers for his career:**

"I don't really know what that means. I guess I shoot a lot of threes."

### **On the team overcoming a slow start:**

"I'm definitely proud of our team and our effort. We seemed a little bit lethargic, myself included. Just to pull yourself out of that and come up with the win. Winning is never easy no matter what, so you can always feel good about a win."

## San Diego State Senior Guard Terrell Gomez

### **On the difference tonight compared to the past few games:**

"I saw gaps (in the defense). I tried to drive as much as I could, and I tried to find shooters when I pushed the ball and the defense stopped me. I got to the line. I was just in attack mode, tried to get downhill and take open shots."

### **On missing a rare free-throw attempt:**

"I was just telling my teammates that I usually don't get to the free-throw line. So when I got up there it felt kind of foreign to me because I wasn't really used to it. It's been a while since I've shot free throws. It felt kind of weird because it's been a while since I've shot one in a game. I'm not surprised I missed it. I just have to get back to the drawing board and start my routine of trying to make my free throws."

### **On the importance of free throws:**

"I look at it as free money. I like that. I do my routine every day where I try to make swishes or 15 in a row before I leave (practice). I just try to prepare myself. Sometimes I have days where I try to make as many as I can before I miss."

### **On the most consecutive free throws he's made:**

"I've made a lot. I can't really remember. I've made a lot. Everybody misses sometimes. Definitely over 100 (straight makes)."

## San José State Head Coach Jean Prioleau

### **On the game:**

"I thought we battled and competed very well in the first half. I think we were down on the boards by one. Both teams guarded well. We had our opportunities to get a lead, but we couldn't make our free throws again. And then in the second half I think their depth took hold of the game, as well as their athleticism. They out-rebounded us, but a large part of that was because we could not make a shot. We had long stretches where we just couldn't hit a shot. Usually when that happens and you can't get an offensive rebound, the rebounding discrepancy is going to be pretty big. I'm still proud of our guys for competing and I think they learned a lot tonight about how to be a more efficient team and experienced what the top half of our league does night in and night out."

**-SDSU-**