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Brigham Young University at San Diego State Postgame Quotes

San Diego State 82, Brigham Young 75

Steve Fisher Court at Viejas Arena | San Diego, Calif. | November 11, 2022

San Diego State Head Coach Brian Dutcher

Opening Statement:

"It was hard fought. I thought that was the best part of the game. Both teams fought like crazy. We're going to be as good as we are connected, personally and professionally. Well, personally, we're connected because I got a bunch of guys that pull for one another, play hard together, do all the right things, be supportive of one another, even when they're disappointed, they're not in all the time. But professionally, we're not connected yet. That's execution. That's knowing each other's strengths. I've got so many good offensive players; they just want to play good offense immediately. They all want to get it and go to the basket. They want to shoot it; they want to do things in a hurry. But that will come, that's the hard part. That's the timing part. Like Nate said, learning where his sweet spot is learning how to play with one another, you know at times don't be so anxious, they will come back to you. So that's all part of coaching and getting better. But the best part is they're personally connected, they pull from one another, they want to do the right things. That means they're coachable and teachable moments and so we will learn from this, and we will continue to grow at both ends on the floor. But this team plays hard. We play hard and so does BYU. I don't know if it was poetry, but it was hard fought basketball. I know that much."

On advantages in the BYU rivalry:

"We've had some big teams you know, thinking back to when they had a really good team, beat us twice in the regular season, but we had Billy White, and we had Malcolm Thomas and Carwell and Tim Shelton. We've had some big guys, they've had big guys too, but this year maybe they're not quite as big as they've been in the past. You know, and when you throw a guy like Jaedon Ledee out there and Nate and you bring AG and Keshad and I got a lot of big bodies and a lot of depth at that position. And I think we've worn teams down over the first couple of games. We had eight turnovers in the first half and only two in the second half and I don't know what they had but they ended up with 20 turnovers. So, I think our defensive pressure was good and we continued to play hard even though we don't play great all the time. We played hard and we just made enough plays to get a win today. I don't know if we would have won in Provo. You know, I think our crowd kind of motivated us down the stretch, got behind us, and we built on that momentum. If we were in Provo, it might be a whole different story. So, we were fortunate to be at home the way we were playing, and the home crowd was instrumental to us getting this win"

On how it felt to see more free throws made:

"We're aggressive to the basket. I thought Matt took the ball aggressively, he just didn't get to the line. So he attacks aggressively. We have a lot of guys that are strong and go to the basket. That makes it hard on the defense. Hopefully we'll

continue to encourage that kind of play where we can get to the foul line and try to get there and make them like we did. I thought we shot a pretty good percentage."

On Matt Bradley:

"I'm not worried about Matt, Matt can score the ball, I see in practice every day. You have to realize that people are paying attention to Matt, he's probably preseason MVP of the conference in my opinion. They're devoting a lot of their defense to him and that's why other players are open and able to create because they won't leave Matt. They want to stay on Matt all the time because they know how good he is."

On preparation and recovery until Tuesday:

"Well, we'll go tomorrow, they'll lift weights at noon, and we'll practice at one and we won't keep them on the floor for a long time. But this is the classroom tomorrow. We'll put a game plan in; every game is different and so every game plan is different. And we'll use the next two or three days to get ready for Stanford and we won't do too much, but we'll do enough where we feel prepared."

San Diego State Senior Forward Jaedon LeeDee

On Nathan's Block:

"Yeah, I went in on the tip as well. I saw 45, he's really fast too so he was gone. The next thing I saw was Nate down there blocking a dunk, but I'm used to it. That's the type of play he makes all the time; I see it in practice all the time, so it wasn't a surprise to me."

On huddle after BYU took lead (61-60):

"We were cool, five minutes left and everything about our team has heart. So, I think that's just our identity, that we are going to play hard until the end of the game"

On the team's mentality to keep fighting and pushing after falling back:

"I think the same thing. We just worked out. It's a really long game. They stayed on top of us for most of it but when it was time to lock in, we played our best basketball."

San Diego State Senior Forward Nathan Mensah

On his block:

"So, at that point, I knew they were going to cave in at one point, with the crowd chanting after each basket. I was able to go fast and chase him down, making a play on the basket."

On the team's mentality to keep fighting and pushing after falling back:

"Obviously like I said growth pays dividends. We all know who we are. What we are capable of. And we stayed closer and closer to them. We just went all the time."

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Brigham Young Head Coach Mark Pope

On tonight's contest:

"Congratulations to San Diego State, I thought they played great. I thought we were attacking and transitioning really well, and I thought we were holding our own on the glass. It kind of got away from us in the last ten minutes."

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