

AZTEC BASKETBALL

2007 NIT, 2006 NCAA TOURNAMENT, 2003 NIT, 2002 NCAA TOURNAMENT



Postgame Quotes

Wyoming at San Diego State ► Jan. 19, 2008

SDSU Head Coach Steve Fisher

From Postgame Radio Interview

On SDSU's play in the first half:

"We knew (Wyoming) was coming in here desperate for a win. I thought we did a wonderful job of getting out of the gate and that can break a team mentally. We didn't give them anything easy, just free-throws. And they didn't particularly do a great job of making their free-throws in the first half. We made it hard for them to get lay-ups and second chance opportunities."

On SDSU playing well as a team:

"It was nice to get contributions from everybody and it was a good team victory. It's nice to be undefeated in conference play, but now we have to get ready for a tough BYU team."

On SDSU's defense on Wyoming guards Brad Jones and Brandon Ewing:

"We really did a nice job on both Jones and Ewing. Jones had a lot of free-throws against us in our last meeting and he didn't get (to the line) too many times tonight. He is tough to guard and is good off the dribble. I think Ewing is one of the premier guards out there. We made him take tough shots and tried to get a hand in his face."

On SDSU's next game at Brigham Young:

"We need to enjoy this win and get back after it tomorrow. We'll watch some film and start preparing. It will be a major challenge going to Provo to play a good BYU team. If we can go there and play good basketball then we will have a chance to win."

From Postgame Press Conference

General Comments:

"I did not think it would be quite that easy. We got off to a great start and took the spirit away from them with a 19-0 lead. We did that by guarding hard and not giving them anything easy, which is what we talked about. We made it hard for them to get second-chance points and that will win most of the time. It was a collective team effort. I thought Lorenzo (Wade) facilitated and moved the ball out of the gate. He didn't look to get points in the first half and then things came to him in the second half. He had a career-high 13 rebounds. It was a good team victory, one that keeps us one rung ahead of the rest of them. It was good to see (a victory) and good to not feel quite so much stress the last couple minutes of the game. It was a nice win for the Aztecs."

On the effort the guards gave:

"Our guards did a wonderful job of making it hard for both (Brandon) Ewing and (Brad) Jones to get easy (shots). Jones is such an aggressive penetrator. He shot eight free throws. Brandon Ewing was 2 for 14 from the field, so we challenged shots. We didn't give them anything to the rim; we didn't give them any unguarded shots. Sometimes when you have a hard time making a shot, if you don't give them an easy shot it remains hard all game long."

On not giving up the deficit at half:

"We talked about the last time we played a 13-point (lead) in the first half, we had a team immediately come back and cut it to seven and had to fight for our lives (to keep the lead). We learned from it. I was very pleased to see the way we responded in the second half. We did not let off the pedal with the effort."

SDSU Players

Junior forward Kyle Spain

On San Diego State's defensive efforts:

"We made it a big point to come out and play as hard as we could because records don't mean anything. You can get beat on any given night by any team. We took that into consideration and we played our hardest tonight."

On the play of the Aztecs' point guards:

"We always expect great defense out of D.J. Gay and Matt Thomas. Matt Thomas has probably the best defense on this team. He has great lateral movement and keeps people in front of him. He is a great player. So, both Matt and D.J. did an extremely great job against (Wyoming guards) Brandon Ewing and Brad Johnson tonight."

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Junior forward Lorenzo Wade

On San Diego State's efforts against Wyoming's guards:

"(Brad Johnson and Brandon Ewing) are very difficult to guard. They are very aggressive and low to the ground too. Especially with us having bigger guards, it is hard to catch up with them after they make their first step. But, we did a great job against them defensively. D.J. Gay did an excellent job of containing Brandon Ewing. I tried to make it a point to back off of Brandon Jones because he is so quick and likes to get to the basket. All in all, we did a good job of containing them. Ewing finished with eight points and Jones with six, so I know Coach (Steve Fisher) will be happy about that."

On going into halftime with a 22-point lead:

"It is a great feeling. Coming in to the Mountain West Conference, you expect every game to go down to the wire. When you can squeeze one out, especially like this on your home court, it is good for your body and team morale. It also sends a message to the conference that we are a team capable of winning big. But, we don't want to take anything away from Wyoming. They came in and played really well. They had some good shots but they just didn't fall. I don't expect that to happen to them again this year."

Junior forward Ryan Amoroso

On his confidence level:

"At this point, I give all the credit to my teammates because they have been doing a great job of finding me in spots where I can succeed. I also give a lot of credit to our head manager Michael Bynum who has really sacrificed his own personal time to meet me in the gym early to get some extra shots."

Wyoming Head Coach Heath Schroyer

General Comments:

"We had pretty good shots early but we just had a hard time making baskets. We got to the free throw line 31 times, which was our goal, but when you shoot 28% from the floor, 14% from the three point line, and 48% from the free throw line, it's hard to overcome that deficit, especially against what may be the best team in the conference. "

On San Diego State:

"(San Diego State) is very good. Their length really bothered us. They're as good 1 through 8 as I've seen. They're long athletic and they caused us some problems."

On the problems in the game:

"I thought we had some pretty good looks. We had four layups in the first six minutes (of the game) but we just didn't knock them down. We had great focus. I thought we had good preparation. (San Diego State) is a really good team and we're just fighting and clawing. We need to shoot the ball better; we need to spend more time shooting. We can't go on the road and shoot like we did tonight and think that we're going to win against the people we have to play."