



## SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

5500 CAMPANILE DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92182 | (619) 594-5547

GOAZTECS.COM | @GOAZTECS | @AZTECSPR | #GOAZTECS

**Postgame Quotes: San José State at San Diego State  
Steve Fisher Court at Viejas Arena | San Diego, Calif.  
Friday, Feb. 25, 2022**

### **Brian Dutcher, San Diego State head coach (radio interview)**

#### **How did you win this game:**

"I put play Aztec Basketball on the board. That means guard at a high level, rebound physically, and then play smart offensively, smart aggressive, and I thought we did that. (We had) another good offensive performance. We shot 50 percent from the field, forced 19 turnovers with our pressure. We knew they were shorthanded. We tried to take advantage of that and I thought we did a good job of kind of wearing them down as the game went on."

#### **On playing better offensively:**

"They are learning how to play with each other. We are playing inside out. We make threes. We can throw it into the post and they score. Matt (Bradley) just creates his own shot and now Chad Baker-Mazara one dribble pull-up is hard to guard. He is making that at a high level. We are better offensively."

#### **On the play of Nathan Mensah:**

"He is playing better. As long as he concentrates and he is doing that at a high level, then he is a very good performer. He is dangerous at both ends of the floor, offensively and defensively."

#### **On the play of Trey Pulliam:**

"He is getting his swagger back a little bit. He scored the ball at a high level. He got his floater going and made an open three so it was a good offensive performance. Everything is keyed by our defense. The one thing I did not think we did very well was our fast break. We had too many turnovers, too many missed opportunities. That is an area we can grow our game and be better on the break and that is a challenge."

#### **On the importance of the bench playing well:**

"It means everything. Four games in nine days is not going to be easy. As much as the starters are good they are not going to be able to play those kind of minutes. You saw tonight San Jose was shorthanded and it hurt them because they played a pretty good first half but I think they just wore down. Our bench will hopefully allow us to play at a high level without wearing down."

#### **On the crowd:**

"The Show was great. The student section was full and when they are full and into the game they make it hard on the opposition. We are grateful for our fan base. They support us every game. We have one more to come and support this team against Fresno and hopefully fill this building up."

## **Brian Dutcher, San Diego State head coach (news conference)**

### **Opening statement:**

"We needed a bounce back win. The loss at Boise was extremely disappointing. We had played so well in the second half and given ourselves an opportunity to win but that is basketball. It was important to come back today and be mentally focused and ready for four games in nine days. San Jose battled us in the first half. They are competitive. We knew that they were shorthanded at guard and our pressure, I think, wore them down. It was a cumulative effect where nothing was easy."

"Obviously, another good offensive performance tonight. We shot 50 percent from the field. Everyone contributed. Defensively, we forced 19 turnovers. They are a team that makes nine threes a game and we held them to two threes."

"A good, solid performance and now in two days we are in Laramie. Just like you put a loss behind you, we have to put this win behind us and come back to work tomorrow and start getting ready for the Cowboys in Laramie on Monday."

## **Matt Bradley, San Diego State senior guard**

### **On Trey Pulliam's game:**

"He's our anchor, you know, regardless of whatever he's going through offensively. Defensively we know he's going to lead our team. He's starting to get more comfortable. He's starting to find a rhythm which really need so, you know, we know what Trey's capable of and, you know, he's our guy, so, you know, he's going to keep getting better. We're going to keep going into March."

### **On San Jose State:**

"We're not trying to run up the score on anybody. This is a game that we had a large lead, and we let the bench guys come in. They fight hard in practice, everybody competed, and I'm happy for the win and how we got it. So as far as metrics go, I don't really know about it too much, but I understand that we have to win by a certain amount."

### **On the Boise State game and the free throws:**

"I've never been in a situation where there's high expectation you know, I've always been an underdog with low expectations, especially at Cal. Maybe I felt the pressure a little bit. It's sad to say, but I think I learned a lot from that night. I'm looking forward to the next opportunity for me to shoot that free throw again."

## **Trey Pulliam, San Diego State senior guard**

### **On the loss against Boise State:**

"I feel like we played determined for sure. You know, we couldn't hang our head on the last game. It was devastating like he said, but we knew moving forward we got you know, four games ahead that we all need to win. It started with San Jose. It was big game and we locked in, and they came to battle but we know we played our game and we're looking on the Wyoming now."

### **On his big night:**

"I feel like we've been feeling a lot better on offense and just playing a lot more productively. Just knowing where guys are at and not just searching for my shot but trying to get others involved and taking what the defense gives me."

### **On if he's feeling more aggressive on the offensive side of the ball:**

"With the minutes we play, we are going get open shots. I mean, like I said, we've been playing better offensively, the balls been moving. The shots have been coming to me without me having to go out of my way to create for myself and stuff like that. So, I've just been trying to take advantage of shots like that."

**On the walk-ons getting some action:**

"If you'd ever see practice, you would see the scout team guys are skill guys, too. So, I think they just want to go out there and take advantage of the opportunity that they get. I mean, they don't get to see much court time. So, it's good to see them out there playing hard and basically just trying to come in and mimic what we do."

**Tim Miles, San José State head coach****Opening Statement:**

"There were a lot of dead-balls where we couldn't get a stop. So, you have to give credit to their defense. We played better in the second half, but they put the pressure on us to start the second half. Coming out we made a little bit of an adjustment, and I think that helped a little bit. But, I think they knew they were going to pressure us, make us shoot the three, and San Diego State did exactly that, so credit to them."

**On Chad Baker-Mazara:**

"I call him sizzle, because he's got a little sizzle to his game. He got 16 on us, and Trey Pulliam hurt us with 13 as well. They've got a lot of different guys that can hurt you. You look in the box score and you see some guys who average seven or eight points a game, and then they come out and can put up 16 or 17 points against you."

**-SDSU-**