



SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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San Diego State vs. Utah State Postgame Quotes

San Diego State 63, Utah State 68

Dee Glen Smith Spectrum | Logan, Utah | February 20, 2024

Head Coach Brian Dutcher

Opening Statement:

"We haven't made enough timely plays down the stretch. That's usually what the difference is. You've got to make a timely play or two and I've watched them blow teams out in here. We fought. We held them to a pretty decent point total, 68 points when they're averaging close to 80 in here. They ran us in the first half, then they made only one fast break basket in the second half. We said rebounding was going to be a key to the game, and they didn't get any until the very end. They got four with the game on the line. That's what I'm talking about with timely plays. When you put yourself in a position to win, you've got to box out, you've got to get the ball, you can't turn it over on a set play. We're not making timely plays with the game on the line. We're playing well enough, but timely plays on the road are what it takes, and we haven't made enough timely plays."

On Jaedon LeDee looking winded:

"Well, we don't give him much of a break and I'm sure the altitude had something to do with it. We looked a half step slow at times on a few things. I thought it showed more defensively than anything else. When you're a half step slow, that's a basket and so we were a half step slow too often in the second half defensively."

On the team's record while ranked not being as good as when unranked:

"It's a byproduct of playing quad one road games. We have seven losses, all quad one and all on the road. It's not like we're being upset. Every game we've lost, I think the other team has been favored. We're in here fighting but we haven't got over the hump."

Sophomore Guard Miles Byrd

Opening Statement:

"It was a really loud gym. They hit some really important shots late such as that one play where [Darius] Brown [II] hit that three after we blocked a shot. We missed the offensive rebound and they hit a three to go up by six. Plays like that hurt. We know we didn't play our best."

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On if San Diego State plays differently on the road compared to at home:

"Everyone's gunning for us this year. We played in the national championship last year. Everybody's students section knows this, their fans know this. We definitely get everybody's best game. Other than that, it's on us. We've got to come in ready. We started off bad again in another road game. We have to come together as a team to sit down and figure out our issue."

On the frustration of losing close games:

"It's just about us coming together as a team. There's no excuse for multiple turnovers late in the game like that. It's just about coming together as a team, being behind each other and telling ourselves to calm down. It was a three-point game at one point, six-point game. We need to calm down and just execute."

On tonight being the team's last game of the season in a hostile environment:

"There's no comfort in that. Every game, we've got to go in with the same mentality. We know Fresno, we know exactly what that is going to be: a game where we're all hitting each other and getting a lot of rebounds. Last year, I think we set basketball back 15 years. They've got a lot of talent over there. We can't underestimate anybody left, San Jose State even at our spot. Those are really good teams. The whole entire league is really good. We just have to come in a lot more focused."

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