



SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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Postgame Football Quotes – Hawai'i at San Diego State

Nov. 14, 2020

Dignity Health Sports Park | Carson, Calif.

San Diego State Head Coach Brady Hoke

Opening statement:

"It is always good to win. We had really great energy and I liked how we came out--we went about our business. There are always things that we must continue to improve on. We let the (Hawai'i's) quarterback get out about three or four times. We have got to do a better job there.

"We also have to tackle better. We did not tackle as well (as I would like). We did not wrap up and go all the way through with our arms and then bring our feet with us. Additionally, offensively (in the running game), we hit some big ones (long runs), but again on the second and third level(s of the game), we have got to do a good job there (as well)."

On the spark provided by the running game:

"When our offense has the juice, they do a nice job at the point of attack. Greg [Bell] made some great plays. Chance [Bell] made some good runs."

On the team's increased penalties:

"We had too many penalties. To be a good football team and to win football games, you cannot have the penalties that we had."

On struggles in the passing game:

"We have to go back to the drawing board. That is part of it. We like our quarterbacks a lot and trust them a lot. We have to go back, see what we really like, see what Carson [Baker] does well, see what Lucas [Johnson] does well in that part of the game and continue to evolve."

San Diego State running back Greg Bell

On his fourth straight 100+ yard rushing game:

"It feels good. I have to give all the credit to my O (offensive)-Line and the coaching staff for calling good plays. The O-line was blocking well, our receivers were blocking well and the tight ends were too. Without those guys, I would not be able to do that (succeed in the running game)."

On the team's running backs taking pride in providing an offensive spark:

"We are chasing each other. When Jordan [Byrd] breaks a long one, I come to the sideline and tell him 'I am going to get mine.' If I break a long one, they (Jordan Byrd, Chance Bell) come to the sideline and tell me they are going to get theirs. We try to match each other's intensity. It worked out well today."

San Diego State Linebacker Caden McDonald

On preparing for Hawai'i:

"We knew [QB Chevan] Cordeiro was a good scrambler and can really get out of the pocket well, so we put in some things (into our game plan) this week to deal with that.

"We executed (keeping Cordeiro from scrambling) really well in the first half. The coaches called the right things and the players executed (those plays) well, so we ended up stopping him a little bit."

On back-to-back games with scrambling QBs:

"Coming off San Jose with a scrambling quarterback taught us a couple of lessons. Having a full week to prepare for Hawai'i for another scrambling quarterback helped us out a lot.

On controlling the game:

"We worked hard all week long to get better and improve from last week and have a performance like we did today. We still need to get better and keep them out of the end zone, but overall, we played really well."

Hawai'i Head Coach Todd Graham

Opening statement:

"Very poor effort, very poor job coaching and (we did a very poor job) preparing our guys for this game. We were dominated. We started off the game defensively playing well, and then they [SDSU offense] had two big runs on us and that hurt us defensively. We fumbled a punt on our own 7-yard line, threw an interception for a touchdown... that right there spots them at 14 points. We just could not do anything (good). Their defense just dominated us on offense. We are proud of our guys and the fight that they showed, but we just did not play very well and not well enough to win. They were better, they played better than us... (and they) definitely outcoached us."

On SDSU's defensive play:

"They (SDSU's defense) dominated. We were getting sacked even when we have a quick passing game called. You got to give a lot of credit to their up-front guys on their defensive line, they are very athletic, very explosive, and were very disruptive today."

Hawai'i Defensive Tackle Jonah Laulu

On the team's defensive performance:

"I feel like in the first half we had some plays, two critical errors, as Coach Graham calls them that were easily fixable. In the second half, we came out and fixed some of our mental mistakes. (But in the first half) We were making critical errors that put us in a bad position. It is just the little things, but we will definitely come out next week and fix that stuff up."

On his performance:

"I did what I was supposed to do every day in practice in the game and make sure that I had my assignments down. Coach Phillips and Coach Graham are on me every day in practice and hold me to a higher standard, and that helped me with the game today."

Hawai'i Wide Receiver Calvin Turner

On offensive performance:

"We need to take ownership of our performance. Next week we have Boise (State) coming up, who is usually the best team in our conference. We are going to need to work hard this week to get things rolling on offense for our upcoming matchup. We have to take a lot of responsibility for today's loss so we can get things right for next week."