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Postgame Football Quotes – San Diego State vs. Towson

Sept. 25, 2021

Dignity Health Sports Park | Carson, Calif.

San Diego State Head Coach Brady Hoke

Opening statement:

"It is always good to win a football game. The players put a ton of energy and work in the weight room and everything else to have these limited opportunities. We have talked about that all season so far, taking advantage of those opportunities, and we did that today.

When you look at Towson, they are a good football team, they have very good players, and they are well-coached. They came to play. We were a little sluggish to start the football game, but I like how we responded, and I am happy with the outcome."

On true freshman cornerback Noah Avinger's performance:

"Noah is a guy who has done a nice job practice-wise. He is very competitive and a highly recruited young man who is gifted. He has done a great job. Coach Sumler has done a great job in how he handles him and coaches him."

On the running back depth:

"Those guys are so competitive, but they have so much respect for each other. Coach Horton does a tremendous job with them. It is great to see how they come to work every day and how they believe in each other. They are excited for the guy who is either playing ahead of him or playing behind him on the sideline. In that room, we have very physical guys, and we have guys in there who can do a lot of different things."

On RB Greg Bell going back in the game after a visit to the injury tent:

"It is important for his teammates to see him and his desire to get back out there and help them win."

On the playing time up and down the roster:

"Anytime you have a chance, particularly with some of the young guys that we have on our football team, guys who are new to the program, a guy like quarterback Will Haskell, for him to gain experience is important. Another player is safety CJ Baskerville, he came in for training, and it was good for him to get playing time."

On goals for the bye week:

"The goal is always to get healthy and to continue to develop depth. We got to play some different guys today, and we have good game film. We will have the opportunity to correct them, for them to see and get better. From that standpoint, the bye week will be good for us. In the middle of next week, we will look at New Mexico and start getting ready for that ballgame."

San Diego State RB Chance Bell

On his thoughts on the Aztec offense:

"We have a great offensive line. They work hard throughout the week to make sure they are getting the job done. Everything starts with them because we need to win the line of scrimmage, that's something we emphasize every week. We are really deep at the receiver position; we have lots of athletes out there. Obviously, Lucas Johnson is an athlete that makes plays for us and same with the running back group, we are really deep there."

On the team's depth at running back:

"We have a lot of love for each other. We go out there and we compete every day and we don't have any jealous or envy and I feel like it really shows."

On his 61-yard run:

"Using patience on that backside cut and then I saw a hole open up because of great blocking again by the linemen. After that, just running and doing my job. Afterwards, I told [Jordan] Byrd that I need to borrow a little bit of speed from him. But we punched it in on the next play so it's all good."

San Diego State Safety Patrick McMorris

On his thoughts on the Aztec offense:

"I thought we came out a little slow, but played like Aztecs in the second half, played physical, played fast, got to the QB and were breaking up passes."

On the secondary's performance without Tayler Hawkins:

"Not having [Hawkins] definitely hurts the team a bit, but I thought Noah Avinger and Noah Tumblin came out and did what they were supposed to do. Noah Avinger had a great pick at a crucial time, and I felt as a DB room we came in and played fast."

Towson Head Coach Rob Ambrose

On the team's struggles in the third quarter:

"We cannot give good football teams extra possessions. Every time you get a kick blocked, the percentages of winning the football game go down drastically. They came out better in the third quarter than we did."

On what he plans to take away from this game and bring to CAA competition:

"It truly is just about us. If we do the things we are supposed to do, the way we are supposed to do them, even against great competition like this, we can be very successful. After the roughness of last week, to fly all the way out here, and to be down a score at halftime, that shows these kids are never going to quit-- they are never going to quit, but there is confidence to be gained from knowing that you can do that we can be down by just a touchdown at half against a (future) ranked team, a (future) bowl team. I would like to get the third quarter back, but this game was a confidence builder in a lot of different ways."

On how he views FBS matchups and if they are useful in preparation for conference play each year:

"It's a challenge because you never know how tough, how strong you can play until you play against someone who is supposedly bigger, faster, and stronger than you and has more members on their team. It is a measuring stick of how far you can go in a year, and I think our guys got a good feeling after this game, but we have to keep it about us and take care of the little things."

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