



## SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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### Long Beach State at San Diego State Postgame Quotes

San Diego State 72, Long Beach State 47

Steve Fisher Court at Viejas Arena | San Diego, Calif.

Nov. 30, 2021

### San Diego State Head Coach Brian Dutcher

#### Opening Statement:

"It was nice to have a little breathing room today. We created a lead, maintained it, built on it, so we weren't playing in a nail-biter like we've played in the last couple of games. It was good to get out on the break; we worked hard on that. I told the guys if we got stops and rebounds, we'd have the opportunity to run. We've been getting stops, but we haven't been rebounding. We did a little better job of rebounding until the very end, and that allowed us to get out on the fast break. This is as many dunks as we've had in a long time. I think it was six or seven dunks tonight. That always energizes the crowd. (The fans) are always great here. The student section was great, The Show, they were on the other team at the very end, you know, at the foul line. It's always fun to watch them and see how creative they are and how much they help the team. We had good performances from most everyone on the team. We have areas we have to grow in. We have to do a better job of not getting back cut so much, and this game kind of exposed that. You get exposed at something almost every game, and then you go back and work on that. We have to learn our lessons in victory and defeat and try to get better. I liked the way we shared the ball. We had 15 assists. I wasn't happy with nine turnovers at halftime, but we ended up with 14 for the game. So we ended up doing a better job of taking care of the ball in the second half, and overall I was pretty pleased with our performance."

#### On Keith Dinwiddie Jr.:

"I mean, Keith's got to shoot the ball for us to be good. He's guarding now. As a freshman, he had a hard time guarding, and now he's guarding at a better level. He made some shots today. Every time Keith shoots the ball, I think it's going in, but he missed some wide open ones. As he continues to grow in his confidence and his percentage rises on threes, we'll be a more dangerous team at the offensive end. He made some today, he's a good offensive player, and now he just has to grow in confidence and build on what he did and try and do better against Michigan on Saturday."

#### On the importance of dunks energizing the home crowd:

"Yeah, I ran the first play of the game and tried to get a dunk to Keshad (Johnson), and it wasn't until the very end of the game where we finally got one for him. I like the dunk; it gets the crowd into the game. It's two points, but it's two points with an emphasis. I like the dunk; I think it gets everyone energized."

#### On getting an extra day of practice heading into the Michigan game:

"It's good. I told our guys I'd like to give them the day off, but we're not going to. Michigan plays tomorrow (Wednesday), so we have an extra prep day, and we have to take advantage of that. I told them we won't tax your legs; it might be more mental. But we have to prep for Michigan tomorrow because we have one more day to get ready than they have. They're traveling right now; they're playing in North Carolina tomorrow. All their focus is on North Carolina. Our focus right now is on Michigan. We'll start getting ready. I have not watched one game they've played, so I have no opinion on how they're playing (or) what they're doing. Our assistants have, so I'll get up to speed tomorrow."

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## **San Diego State Senior Guard Trey Pulliam**

### **On what this game does for the team's confidence going into Michigan:**

"I think this definitely boosts our confidence. Going into a situation like that, and an environment like Michigan, you want to feel good about yourself. So hopefully all the guys feel good about the win and can use this as momentum to help get the win in Ann Arbor. When our confidence is there I think we've got a chance to be a really good team. So hopefully we can just stay confident."

### **On the preparation in this game defensively and offensively:**

"We always try to use preparation to take away what (the opponent) does best. Closing out strong on them and not giving them open shots. Listening to the coaches and trying to perfect it on the court. Offensively, hopefully we can use this confidence and keep it going into Michigan."

### **On what an extra day of rest will mean going into the Michigan game:**

"It definitely helps us get a chance to watch them (play at North Carolina on Wednesday). I don't think any of us really had the chance to see a full game, so hopefully we are able to watch the full game and be able to see what they do and allow ourselves the chance to prepare for personal production."

### **On having a comfortable win and control of the game:**

"Oh, yeah, definitely. Specially to keep our foot on the pedal and to keep pushing to extend the lead. I think that the biggest thing is not taking our foot off the pedal."

### **On how he views Keith Dinwiddie's progression:**

"He's in (the gym) early everyday working on his craft. He hasn't given up, so that's the biggest thing. The biggest thing is him recognizing and then the confidence will come along."

## **San Diego State Sophomore Guard Keith Dinwiddie Jr.**

### **On making shots tonight:**

"I really think it was just doing good in practice. I took practice shooting a lot more seriously. I just really like being locked in and focused on making shots all throughout the week."

### **On taking on Adam Seiko's role while he is out and this being an opportunity to show what he can do:**

"Yeah, most definitely. If I don't use this opportunity and don't come in and produce, it's just going to be the next man up. I'm just trying to take the most advantage of this opportunity."

### **On playing good defense when he's not making shots:**

"There is so much more to the game than just offense. I've got to be able to guard, take a charge, get deflections and rebounds. It's a lot more to it than just offense."