

Paycom Wooden Legacy - Georgetown vs. San Diego State Quotes, November 25, 2021

San Diego State 73, Georgetown 56

San Diego State coach Brian Dutcher - "I thought we made a step forward as a basketball team today. I said we were going to have a good team, but how soon we would, I don't know. We're getting more comfortable. (Forward) Tahirou Diabate is getting comfortable, he was 4-5 in the first half and gave us big minutes. Matt (Bradley, guard) seems to be getting more comfortable with the way we do things and picking and choosing spots to take the game over at times and, at the same, time being a good teammate and finding open teammates. Our defense continues to anchor our program and we're getting a little bit more comfortable on the offensive end." (On closing both halves strong) "We've just been talking about the difference between being a good and a great defensive team. It's only about three or four possessions a half, but those three or four possessions are really important. We try to get as many stops as we can and the stops today led us to fast-break baskets. Sometimes we struggle on the half court, but when we get out and run like that and get baskets, it seems to open up our offense." (On guard Lamont Butler's shooting). "Lamont is like any player. When he sees that first three-ball go in, the rim gets bigger. And he made three today. When he's making the three, he's always dangerous because he's a downhill player. When he makes the three, they have to go up and guard him tight and that opens up his entire game." (On limiting Georgetown's three-point shots) "That was a big emphasis in the game. College basketball games are hard to win if you don't make the three. Our first four opponents didn't make very many and they're all good shooting teams. We're not giving up the three-point shots. If you take away the fast-breaks and you don't give up the three, all of a sudden, those layups and dunks are not enough to win games. We made a couple of timely ones and they missed a few, that was a big part of the game." (On USC) "USC is a premiere program. They returned a lot of players from an Elite 8 last year. It's the kind of game these guys come to San Diego State to play. We challenged ourselves with a really hard schedule and our intention was to come here, find a way to beat Georgetown and play USC. We'll continue to challenge ourselves and to grow as a basketball team."

San Diego State guard Matt Bradley - "I grew up 45 minutes away from Anaheim and had about 20, 25 family members in the stand between brothers, cousins, aunties and uncles. Just to be able to play in front of fans again is really nice. We really showed up for the game and played for the win. Now it's USC, another Pac-12 game and I'm really hoping we get it. That's the game we really want, we marked it on our calendar, so we're going to attack it." (On his solid offensive performance) "I think defense filled it. I stepped up defensively, our whole team did it and we were able to get up and run. Just to be able to get the rebound and push it, that's what we guys do. Once I got in to rhythm, I was able to find my groove and make plays. I died out a little bit in the second half, but my team trusted me and I was able to pick it back up."

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Georgetown coach Patrick Ewing - "We made a big run in the second half, cut it to four points, but then we couldn't make any shots after that. They got a few run-outs, fast-break points and we just didn't have enough. If we want to make shots, we need to make good passes and we only had six assists tonight. If we want to beat teams like this, we need to have more than six assists." (On guard Aminu Mohammed) "I expect Aminu to be one of our best players, he's going to have a great career here in Georgetown. But I look at everything as a whole and we didn't play particularly well tonight, we only scored 56 points. I'm happy with his effort tonight, but as a team and as a group, we didn't play the way that I would have liked us to play." (On San Diego) "They are a very good team and are well-coached. They did what they do. They play great defense, they limit you to one shot and they're relentless on the boards. That's what they hang their hat on. Tonight they shot 7-16 for three, but at the end of the day, it's the fast-break points. We gave up 17 fast-break points and that hurts." (On the low three-point shot efficiency). "They got to our shooters. They didn't give us any breathing space, we got shots but we didn't make them. They made everything tough for us. One of the things we need to keep working on is when we penetrate, we got to be able to find our shooters. We got to be able to read where the defense is and make the right play."