



SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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San Diego State at Air Force Postgame Quotes Clune Arena | Colorado Springs, Colo. February 8, 2020

San Diego State Head Coach Brian Dutcher

Opening statement:

"It wasn't easy. They put up a heck of a battle and shot a high percentage against us; probably the highest of anybody this year. But we played great offensively and probably shot our highest (percentage) for the season. We were at 55 percent for the game. We shared the ball with 14 assists and only six turnovers. I thought we played the right way, like we always do on offense. We shared the ball, a lot of players scored at a high level and we escaped here with a victory."

On the game being closer than the score indicated:

"Until Matt Mitchell hit that unbelievable three in the corner it was a game. I mean it was tight. With two seconds on the shot clock Matt went into the corner, caught it, jacked it up and made it and it started the run. Then Malachi (Flynn) hit some threes. We were 14-of-27 on threes. If you don't win shooting that percentage, something is wrong."

On the play of the team's defense:

"I don't want to make excuses, but I've been here enough to know that the altitude affects us. (Air Force) plays a good style for being at altitude. They keep you on defense a long time and make you move. They play a lot of one-on-one, and usually where we are solid in our help spots, we were a step off our help position. All of a sudden they are getting to the basket because our help isn't there and that is something they have always taken advantage of."

San Diego State Senior Guard KJ Feagin

On the difficulty of playing at Air Force:

"You have a real issue with shortness of breath. In the second half, after I hit back to back threes, it was the right time to pull me because I was really, really tired and wasn't getting a lot of lift on my shots after that. It's a shortness of breath thing and it just hits you and have to work through it. They rested me at the right time, and it allowed me to come back in and hit a dagger three."

"They are an Academy team and they are drilled to perfection. We knew we were going to have to work for 40 minutes on both ends of the court. They are a well-coached team and a tough team, as well. Whoever comes in here is in for a tough game."

San Diego State Junior Guard Malachi Flynn

On the difficulty of playing at Air Force:

"With altitude, their offense with all the cuts, back cuts and constant movement it makes them tough to guard."

On if, when he has missed some shots, does he think about continuing to shoot or pass:

"It's both. I'm never going to stop being aggressive, that's who I am. I know shots are going to fall at some point. That is just how it goes. But if my teammate are rolling, I'll find them too. If I stop being aggressive, I think I'm doing a disservice to the team because that is when I am at my best."

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