



SAN DIEGO STATE COMMUNICATIONS

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Postgame Football Quotes – San Diego State vs. Oregon State Sept. 7, 2024 Snapdragon Stadium | San Diego, Calif.

San Diego State Head Coach Sean Lewis

Opening statement:

“Tonight was not near good enough. We need to do a much better job in our club and get the guys where they need to be for a quality opponent that we had tonight in Oregon State. I wear the loss completely. We need to do a much better job. We need to have a much better week of preparation moving forward for a really good, talented Cal-Berkeley team, who went down to SEC country today and got a big win; they'll be riding high. We have to do a great job bouncing back. I told the guys, “Every opportunity, you're either going to win, or we're going to learn.” We have to learn lessons as we move through this thing, and the adversity that we faced tonight is a part of it. We can grow, and we can become closer and tighter through that. I'm looking forward to that next step in this process as we move forward collectively as a team.”

On the effect of the offensive penalties on their rhythm:

“We have those self-inflicted wounds that really hurt. The Aztecs beat the Aztecs in a lot of areas tonight, including those penalties. It puts you behind the chain, a little off schedule against a quality team and quality opponent. Our opponent can sit back, rally, and gain momentum. That comes back to us doing a great job as a staff, me in particular, making sure that we're putting our guys in the best position to be successful and doing the things that they do best. Play in and play out.”

On the team's resilience:

“The Aztecs don't quit. That was an unbelievable effort. At no point in time did I see anyone hanging their heads. They're going to fight, they're going to be resilient, and we chose to respond, and they've done that in each asset and each facet of the game. Now, we need to do it at a higher level. There's a desire to compete; they're a connected group, and I look forward to seeing that bond grow. Great bonds are formed under heat and pressure. We're feeling a little bit of heat and pressure for the first time. Let's embrace that, and let's come together as a unit, as a team, through this adversity, through trials and tribulations. Looking forward to the way that we respond. We've shown week after week that we have a good response that we will bounce back. We'll

learn from these hard lessons. Unfortunately, it's part of this deal. As you go, as you step into the arena, there are going to be moments.

On what the team needs to do to be efficient against programs like Oregon State:

If we're able to operate to the efficiency that I know that we're capable of because of the plan that we put in place, we can play the game our way. It comes down to our execution and understanding of the plan. Let's put together a great plan for the kids to be successful, and then go out and execute that play after play after play to have sustained success.

San Diego State Senior Tight End Jude Wolfe

On the offense as a whole:

"It was subpar. We didn't perform to the level that we can. We had pre-snap penalties, and other mistakes we have control over. We can't keep making those mistakes and then not executing when we have opportunities. We had some good shots there, but we just have to capitalize on it overall. We have to play a better game.

On how to help the team to be resilient:

"We need to have better leadership from us older guys. When adversity hits, you can see at points guys on the sideline have their heads down. It's on us as the leaders to try to inspire and rally the troops, to keep things going, and to keep our heads up regardless of what just happened to us.

On Oregon State's offense controlling the ball for a long period of time:

"As far as getting into the groove of things, it's certainly frustrating that Oregon State had the ball for such a long time. It's tough to get a real rhythm when you're off the field for so long. But there's no excuse for the way the offense performed today. We had plenty of opportunities and didn't capitalize."

San Diego State Junior Cornerback Chris Johnson

On motivation for next week against Cal:

"Every game is an opportunity to learn, and there's a lot of lessons in this game, whether it's about being disciplined or doing a job. The times we did execute, we looked very good as a team; we can be a real competitor against teams like Oregon State."

On Oregon State's running game being tough to stop:

"They have a few great runners. It's always hard to stop a great runner, and then it's matched with a great offensive line. We matched up with the running backs perfectly. We have a great interior, exterior, secondary, and all that. Obviously, they just executed more times, and they were able to make bigger plays than we did."

On flipping the page and focusing on the next game:

"Tomorrow, we're right back at it, going over the tape, practicing, getting all the bumps and bruises out, and we'll be done with this game after tomorrow. Some of those parts

aren't very pretty. We have to get through it."

Oregon State Head Coach Trent Bray

On a shutout and the defensive performance:

"I am impressed. They did a great job making [the Aztecs] earn everything and keeping the ball in front of us. That's what happens when you make people have to earn it; eventually, we'll get off the field. We did a great job."

On Trent Walker's bounce back after a significant drop:

"I love the way [Trent] bounced back from the one drop he had, but he came back and was money the rest of the game. He had some nice catches to help us extend drives late in the game, so that was great to see him respond."

On the first road win:

"It's good, because we talk about great teams travel. If we want to do what we're going to do this year, then we have to win on the road. This was a good start."

Oregon State Junior Wide Receiver Trent Walker

On the Aztec defense limiting the big plays:

"As a receiver, you always want a big play, but at the end of the day, we just want to win, so if dink and dunk is what's going to get it done, then we're all in."

On the defense as the game went on:

"The [Aztec] safeties were flying down. They were kind of wearing me out, too. They're a good team, very talented, hardworking, and physical."

On his teammates supporting him after the drop:

"[QB] Gevani [McCoy] came over, and he said, 'I'm coming right back to you, so flush it out.'" All the receivers trusted me. That was not the best play, but I'm glad those guys have my back."

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