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San Diego State Men's Basketball Press Conference
November 5, 2026

Head Coach Brian Dutcher

Opening Statement:
"I'm excited to play in the Bill Walton Classic this weekend. It will be a step up in competition. Colorado has a good team. Like most teams, they had a big turnover in roster, but they have really good pieces. They're well-coached. Coach [Tad] Boyle is a friend and a very good coach. We're looking forward to the challenge of playing at Pechanga Arena against a really good Colorado team."

On his relationship with Bill Walton:
"We got great insight into who Bill [Walton] was when we recruited Chris Walton. I remember Coach Fisher and I going to their house, having dinner with him and Lori [Matsuoka], and spending time with them as our first real introduction to Bill. Then just seeing what a great supporter he was of Aztec basketball, and more importantly, the city of San Diego. I mean, how often do you get to spend time with an icon? Bill Walton was an icon, both as a player, as an announcer, and as a person."

On the keys to Saturday's game:
"We have to take care of the ball. We've dropped our turnovers, but 15 is probably still too high, so we have to continue to take good care of the ball. I like the way we rebounded the ball. We have to continue doing that. Get to the foul line. We got there and were very productive. We have to continue to do all of those things that add up to winning."

On what he was most impressed with in Tuesday's win over Cal State Fullerton:
"We shared the ball, we had a high number of assists, we got to the foul line at an elite level and we outrebounded them. Those are all things that add up to winning. I like the chemistry of the team. I think the guys that are new are getting better every day. We're on the right trajectory, but you're always one game from disaster in this business, and we have to make sure that we try to avoid that."

Senior Guard Isaiah Sy

On his first game with San Diego State:
"It was really exciting seeing the arena, the fans, the community and stuff. I got to see the whole team play together, so that

was really something that I was looking for. I feel like we did a good job rebounding. We had 50 rebounds, which was nice. We got a lot of shots, but I felt like we had too many turnovers. That's something we got to work on. I feel like we got the shots that we wanted, and we were aggressive."

On the matchup against Colorado in Pechanga Arena:
"They're definitely a physical team. Their team is going to be running, scoring in transition and play hard defense too. They're a team that is very different from what we've played before, so we have to be ready for them. It's going to be exciting to play at Pechanga Arena. Honestly, I haven't seen the arena yet, but I'm definitely looking forward to it. I feel like it's going to be a good opportunity. Hopefully, there are a lot of Aztec fans that show up."

On his nerves playing in his first real game with San Diego State:
"I was a little bit nervous for the season opener. It was my first time playing the in the arena for a regular season game. I was definitely excited. I have been looking forward to playing my first game in the arena, and I was really excited to see how the team was moving. I was really happy to see how our energy carried over into the fans and the players on the bench every time we made a dunk or a big play."

On the opportunity Saturday's game provides for San Diego State's resume:
"I feel like it's going to be a test. This is the first Big 12 team that we're going to play. That's going to be exciting, and I feel like it's going to test our rebounding ability. It will be harder to find the shots that we did on Tuesday. Hopefully, we play as hard as we did on Tuesday and continue to keep playing the way that we are right now."

Freshman Forward Luca Vincini

On Tuesday's season opener against Cal State Fullerton:
"We played a very good game. It was super exciting playing in front of our fans. I was also a little bit nervous because it was totally different from the two exhibition games. We played tough in the game, especially battling for offensive rebounds, and ran the floor very well. We followed the coaches' game plan. No surprise, but I'm very happy about what we did because it's a new team with nine new players. After the three exhibitions, we tried to create a connection with each other. Cal State Fullerton was trying to slow the pace of the game with their zone defense, but we were prepared because we have Bear [Cherry]. They were fighting in the paint, so we knew they were trying to prevent him from scoring. We prepared for that really well."

On his mindset playing with the Aztecs:
"I try my best to do what the team needs from me. On Tuesday, we needed a lot of rebounds, especially offensively, so I tried my best to be there as much as possible. I'm trying to be a good connector also. I just try to be what the team needs in that moment."

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On preparing for Colorado:
"I think that after the first win in the season opener, we are pretty excited. For sure, the game on Saturday is going to be a test because we have to prepare for a big game in a few days. During the season, we will regularly have to play two games in five days. Colorado is a big team so it will be more difficult getting offensive rebounds than it was last game when we outrebounded Cal State Fullerton by 22. Every team is different, so we've got to adjust our style every game."

On playing in front of San Diego State fans:
"It's amazing. The fans are incredible; the love they give us is fantastic. Thanks to all the Aztecs fans."

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