



SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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San Diego State at New Mexico Postgame Quotes Dreamstyle Arena | Albuquerque, N.M. January 29, 2020

San Diego State Head Coach Brian Dutcher

Opening Statement:

"We were outstanding. We just jumped on them from the start and that took a big part of the crowd out of the game. From there we just maintained what we were doing. We played selfless basketball. I think we had 23 assists (on 32 baskets). As coaches we are always looking for negatives. I didn't think we took care of the ball; we had 16 turnovers and gave them 17 offensive rebounds. So, we will have things to work on, but overall we played selfless basketball with a pretty good defensive effort."

On the offensive contribution of KJ Feagin:

"KJ went 5-for-7 in the first half from three and he was hitting some deep ones. We moved the ball well and everyone got good looks. They switched everything, so we tried to find the open man and maybe catch them moving slowly to a switch. We did a good job of that and were rewarded for that kind of unselfish play."

On the play of Jordan Schakel:

"He played a rounded game and that is what you have to do. You have to defend first of all to get on the floor for us. Once you play defense, we will let you on the court to play your offensive game. If you miss a couple of shots, but are playing defense, I can live with that and eventually those shots will start falling."

On the defense in the second half:

"We didn't do a very good job playing their ball screen in the second half, they got downhill on us which led to a lot of offensive rebounds. But I wanted to see if they could fix it on the court and fight their way through some of it. I wanted them to fix it themselves with out me having to switch the defense and they did a good job."

San Diego State Senior Guard KJ Feagin

On the team's defensive effort:

"From one through five we all care about defense and we take pride in that onto the floor. When we get scored on, we are upset about it. I don't think we ended the game the way we wanted to. We took our foot off the pedal a bit, so that is something we have to work on. Even though we were up by 30 we have to play to our standard, not the score, and I'm sure we will hear about that from Coach, but for the most part we had a fairly good defensive game."

On taking the toughest defensive assignment every night:

"In terms of defense and one-on-one matchups, I take a lot of pride in who I guard. I love the challenge when coach put my name up against the other team's best player. He's challenging me and I want to let him know he made the right decision. I'm willing to run through a wall and anyone I'm guarding is going to have a tough game. I'm a competitor and I like being on top and I will impose my will on anyone I'm guarding."

On the influence of Kobe Bryant on his game:

"I'm an LA kid. I grew up watching him play and you really have no choice but to be influenced by him and his mentality. It rubs off on you and prayers up to his family. We will do our best to showcase his influence on the court."

San Diego State Junior Forward Matt Mitchell

On the team's ability to make adjustments during the game:

"I think our (basketball) IQ is very high. That is one of the things some people might not see. On the defense end our scout is great. The coaches put it together and we go out and execute it. Along the way if we need to make adjustment, we can and we can do it on the floor with out the coaches help and that is because our (basketball) IQ is so high. We are a player led team and that is what has pushed us to where we are today."

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