



**SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS**  
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## **Head Coach Stacie Terry-Hutson:**

### **Opening Statement:**

“We’re excited about where we are in the season thus far. We’ve had some really good moments as a unit and we’re still trying to improve each game and that’s been our focus: making sure that we’re getting better every time we’re together. Excited about where we are as far as our defensive presence, and we’ve done some really nice things defensively, that’s been a focus for us. And the addition to our team this year has really helped there, so excited about where we are. Still always wanting to get ready and improve, but looking forward to this week, we have two great teams on our schedule and we’re just trying to get better over time.”

### **On the upcoming schedule:**

“A lot of road games, so that’d be a good challenge for us. But this group has done a lot so far, so our emphasis is really just to keep them healthy. We’re a little banged up right now and making sure that we can get our full unit on the floor together. We haven’t done that yet. Continuing to grow defensively, like I said before, but also, I think we can do a little bit more offensively as well. We’ve had some shots not go our way and just continuing to clean up and fine tune some things so we can be better for conference play at the end of December.”

### **On team depth:**

“We have a lot of kids on our team that could start for us. We spend a lot of time talking to them about sacrifice and really giving to the team. We labeled the kids coming off the bench as our game changers because that’s really who they are. Because like I said, we have a really great group of kids and being so deep this year has been our superpower. We can go eight to ten deep and that’s really been beneficial for us so far.”

### **On building the program for the last nine years:**

“Getting the right people on the right seats on the bus. We’ve done a really good job in recruiting and being able to take advantage of that this year has been fun to watch. Obviously, it’s taken us longer than we wanted to, but we’re really excited about where we are and really looking forward to the future. These kids that we brought in this year have really elevated our program. They’re experienced, they’re hard working, tough kids. You can see that on the floor, and it definitely has reflected in our record.”

### **On if the transfer portal is important in women’s collegiate basketball:**

“It is. If you look at our team and the number of fifth year seniors we have, a lot of our kids have transferred from other universities. It’s been very beneficial for us and with the addition of the COVID year you’ll see a much better brand of basketball just because we’re older. Not just in San Diego State, but across the country. The transfer portal has been a big deal for us, and I think it will continue to be. It’s a good balance of bringing great freshmen in and four-year girls

that can really grow with your program and trying to balance that. I thought we did a good job this season.

**On the NIL's presence in women's collegiate basketball:**

"It is. Not as big for us yet as it is in other sports. But it's definitely a part of what we're doing, and we'll continue to evolve as we have more information on it. Some of our young ladies have some information with some small-time deals but we're really looking to grow that because that's going to be a big piece of college basketball as we move forward."

**On a recruiting pitch to transfers:**

"Opportunity, opportunity to play their game. A lot of our young ladies didn't have the opportunities that they wanted, and they wanted more. And that's really what we're selling and we're selling San Diego. I mean it's just a beautiful place to play basketball and finish up their academic careers as well. So, you know, we have everything we need here at San Diego State. Our resources are phenomenal. We have a great group as far as our administration that are really pushing women's athletics and that helps. So they see that you know, although we're in the Mountain West, which is a phenomenal league, but not in the power five quite yet. We have all the resources and tools to be very successful here. So once people get on campus, they really believe that they can be great and that's what we're selling."

**On the defensive side of the team:**

"Very pleased. That has to be who we are. We talk about it all the time and defense travels, sometimes the offense is not going to, so we have to rely on our defense and it starts with our fifth year guys and obviously Asia who is a defensive little dynamo. Our kids have really bought into that side of the floor. And we're just a tough team. We have kids that are willing to sacrifice and give up their body to take charges. I think we've taken more charges this year than we have in the nine other seasons that I've been here. So, we just have the right kids, really focused and dedicated to winning and you're going to win more games when you're a player led team than a coach led team and we have great leadership on our team and looking forward to seeing what they do."

**On what it is like for Yummy to get acclimated to new teammates quickly:**

**Yummy:** "I'm a flight for one like I started. I chose San Diego because one, the coaching staff is very inviting. I've always wanted to have a best friend as a coach. And the girls were just so nice, and the girls just opened their arms up and allowed me to come in and lead them and allow me to come in and show them the right things to do and to work hard and to show up unconditionally every single day for each other. I feel like when you have people that do want to get led and they want to get better and they want to win, that's when you have a great atmosphere and we have created and are still creating a great atmosphere within our team."

**Coach:** "We've talked a lot about sacrifice. I mentioned it earlier any of these young women could be starting, scoring a lot of points in any different program. But they're all here for the same thing. And it's really about winning. I mean, there's no individual goals with this team. They really just want to win. And it's been fun to watch."

**Yummy:** "Yeah, just to add on to that I know I've talked a lot about it doesn't matter about how many points you have. It doesn't matter about how many rebounds you get like the stats don't really matter. Who is going to make the extra pass, who's going to give up their body like we've been doing, who's going to ask you to cheer on the bench and not pout on the bench for playing time. Like we just want to see each other succeed."

### **On the need for size in college basketball**

"It's a great question. And yes, so we're very lucky that we have a post player, the game is going away from that so even the tall kids want to be guards. So, it's been fun to have a presence in the paint and yes, it's probably our biggest challenge. There's just not a lot of post players out there. And oftentimes post players get over recruited because there's so few. So, we're very lucky that we have quite a few on our roster this year that can really expand our offensive repertoire because we can actually throw the ball in and go inside out and you know, we've just touched a lot of things that we haven't been able to do in the past."

### **Senior Forward Yummy Morris**

#### **On team depth:**

"I feel like it's really nice to know that everybody on my team is a weapon, from our starting five all the way down to our bench, they are game changers. It's really nice to know that everybody on the team can score and that's what's important. We have players, we have ballers that want to get out and want to give the extra pass and want to get their assists up and want to take charges for example. So, it's just really nice to be able to play with a group of girls that love each other, care about each other, and want to see everybody be successful."

#### **On Yummy going from Arkansas to San Diego:**

"I ask myself that all the time. Five, six years from now I would not have thought I'd be in California. San Diego State of all places. It's beautiful here, the weather's nice. The people are so inviting. I started from not a whole bunch, and I've moved up to a lot of opportunities that life keeps on providing for me and I'm really grateful for a lot of the people that also opened the doors for me and allowed me to walk through them."