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[7] San Diego State vs. [10] San Jose State Postgame Quotes

San Diego State 72, San Jose State 51

Thomas & Mack Center | Las Vegas, Nev. | March 10, 2024

Head Coach Stacie Terry-Hutson

Opening Statement:

"I was really proud of our defensive effort tonight. These last two games, the regular season finale against Wyoming and tonight, I thought they were locked into the game plan defensively, and that's really what we need in March, so I'm really proud of that. The way that we shared the ball, we ended up with 19 assists, which is always good for us when we're sharing. I thought the preparation was great. I want to talk a little bit about our bench because I think that was a big difference in today's game and that is going to be a necessity for us moving forward. Their great play today started in practice this week, and we were so excited for that, so it was really exciting to see that. I put a lot of emphasis on what we call the game changers, the eight that come off the bench, and they really did a great job today. I'm just excited for the opportunity to keep playing. We're going to prepare for New Mexico."

On how difficult it is to beat a team three times in a season:

"People say that, but it's a new season. Postseason is the third part of the season, so we just wanted to break it down and give them individual goals of what we were trying to do. We talked about the post play, defending their post play, and limiting the threes. But, again, I just think San Jose is the most underrated team in our league. They've lost some close games and had so many injuries. They have great players on their team. They're young, and when they grow up, they're going to be really good. We did not want to overlook them, and we talked about being the underdog. That's been us for a while, and they had nothing to lose. I knew they were going to come out and throw some punches. I thought we withstood some of those and were able to get the lead and play from that. That's a lot of maturity that we are still learning, and it was fun to see them have some success with what we had set out to do. They teased me because they always say I say there's separation in the preparation, and I thought we had a great week of preparation."

On how the team is preparing for New Mexico:

"We're two good teams. I like Coach Bradbury a lot. I like what he is doing and I thought he had a great season. They have two really good dynamic guards that can get downhill whenever they want to. We're going to have our work set out for us to stay in front of them. They have shooters on the perimeter as well. We're going to have to really lock in defensively, and then we have to see that ball go in the basket. We have to get out and run and take care of the ball."

Senior Guard Abby Prohaska

On how San Diego State spread the ball around:

"I think that's our bread and butter. We always say it in the locker room before we go out that our priority should be sharing the ball. We play better when every single person on the court touches it. Like we just talked about, 19 assists. That's what we talked about going in, making sure everybody had a hand in what we were doing, and I think we stuck to the game plan."

On the team's approach to the second half:

"I mean, it's postseason. Anything can happen. We watched games before our game even started and saw some upsets. You just have to know that you have to stay locked in for 40 minutes. It doesn't matter what the score is. Every single time you come out after halftime, it's 0-0, no matter what. If you are up 20 or down 20. It's a dog-eat-dog world when you're in postseason, so you have to come out and be ready to execute and finish and do the game plan."

Senior Forward Kim Villalobos

On the team's approach to the second half:

"We wanted to stay poised. Everyone was on the same page with that telling each other 'Stay poised, stay poised.' We have a lot of games left to play. That's our mindset here."

Senior Forward Meghan Fiso

On drawing two charges in the first quarter:

"I think we're learning that defense is what fuels us. Getting those two charges, I knew that my team was going to be super excited for me, excited that we can have another opportunity on the offensive end."

On the team's approach to the second half:

"I think something that we emphasized in the locker room with just the team is there are no do-overs in March. It's really one and done, so we were really emphasizing, like they said, like executing and discipline. Those are the things that are the most important for us right now."

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