

San Diego State vs. Wyoming Postgame Quotes No. 18 San Diego State 67, Wyoming 50 Steve Fisher Court at Viejas Arena | San Diego, Calif. | March 4, 2023

San Diego State Head Coach Brian Dutcher

Opening Statement:

"Nothing gets old about Gatorade baths. I got two over the last 10 days, one in New Mexico when we got a share of the title, and tonight when we took it out right by ourselves, and it's an incredible accomplishment for this team. Regular Season titles are always the hardest thing to get because it takes months and a lot of work and to win this conference by two games is an incredible accomplishment. And it's thanks to a great coaching staff and really good players. They care about one another, they care about winning. And I tell them, they have to tell the players coming in next year, we win titles at this university. If you leave here without one, you're one of the few so it was good to get one for Matt Bradley, Darrion, Jaedon and all the guys first time titles and guys like Adam have won five with me, five titles. So, Adam Seiko is leaving here a real winner. Now we have to continue to play March basketball which means fewer mistakes can be made. I talked about that during the game. I talked about the Marquette game today, when they put their subs in with 28 seconds to go and an 11 point lead and St John's hit a free throw to tie the game. So I want them to finish this game on a high note playing at our best. I thought for the most part we did that. So we're playing good basketball heading into March. I'm proud of this team, proud of all the accomplishments they've had together as a group and I told them the sky's the limit. We're going to continue to play our best basketball and see where it takes us."

On what makes him confident that the team can make it to the second weekend of March Madness:

"The NCAA Tournament we're talking about because the conference championship I think we played all five years for the title. And we've got some of those. So, March is the NCAA and that's all matchups, and you hopefully get a good matchup, you stay healthy and you're playing good basketball. That's what we're going to do. So, I don't worry one thing about the past games, the only one I can control is a future one and when we get our name up on that board, we'll prepare for it like crazy and try to get a win in the NCAA Tournament and then work into 2, 3, 4, 5 and trying to get to a Final Four national championship."

On enjoying the moment while cutting the net:

"I did the trust fall at the conference tournament during COVID. I kind of liked it and Nate asked me 'are you going to do the trust fall coach.' I said, 'Well, are you going to catch me.' He said, 'Yeah.' I said 'Then I'll do it.' So we did another trust fall. And like I said, your team's got to like you to do that. So, I think my team likes me. I've got a great relationship with these guys. And I trust them at no end both on and off the floor."

On how much he will lean on the seniors during the Mountain West and NCAA tournament:

"Yeah, experience is everything and we've got a lot of experience, but we can't be afraid to let someone else shine. Last year, Chad Baker-Mazara had 19 points in the first half of the NCAA Tournament game, unfortunately he is not with us this year. But those March moments are not exclusive to seniors or to someone that hasn't had a great year. You can step up and be at your best and all of a sudden be the catalyst to a deep run. So, March is for players. Hopefully we have them with a lot of swagger and they're playing with a lot of confidence."

On the night Jaedon had:

"I just think of Jaedon at the start of the year when he was pressing so hard to have success. And then he just started settling and he got comfortable. He knew his shots were coming. He's playing with great confidence now, and he's a really good player and so he's one of many players that's capable of doing a lot of special things in March for us."

San Diego State Senior Guard Matt Bradley

On his favorite moment of the night:

"I think just us recognizing everybody. It was a team effort to get all these wins. It wasn't just on us. It was the crowd, the fans,the coaches. It took everybody to get involved for us to win this game. So us all being on the court together, we all got this championship. That's what we recognized in that moment and it was really special."

On putting the Boise game behind them:

"I think we just had to look in the mirror. We had a discussion as teammates like Man, they just got the best of us in the last final minutes. And you know, we had glimpses of previous games that we've been letting up later in the game, I think that did for us right there. There was a moment today in tonight's game where they could have got going but we didn't let them do it. I think we learned from that game and rather lose then, than later in March. So we just took it as we got to get better from it and I think that's what we did."

On his personal accolades:

"To be honest, I don't think I deserve to be MVP. You know, there's some really good guys in this league. To be recognized as one of the best players in this league would be really special because there are some really good players. But there are moments where a lot of guys stepped up on this team. Micah is sometimes the best player on the team, LeDee was the best player tonight, so you know being on a team like that, personal accolades, they're nice, but I'd say coming back from last season, being first team and not winning the league, not winning the championship in Vegas, I just had to put myself to the side and realize that it's bigger than me. If they recognize me as MVP I'll take it, but if not, you know, no hard game for sure."

San Diego State Junior Forward Micah Parrish

On fans placing more emphasis on the tournament than the regular season:

"Part of the reason why I came here is because I want to win championships and things like that. But for me personally, I had a bigger goal and that was to make it far in the tournament, not just one game. I want to win multiple games at the tournament. So this is great, I'm happy to win this game. I also understand why fans want to be hard on us if we only win one game because we had a great regular season, and this program has high expectations. We just have to live up to them in March."

On Jaedon's performance lately:

"One thing I say about Jaedon, for every time we go on the bench, it's me and him and we talk. He's just so giving. Jaedon is probably one of the most talented kids on the team. He works hard, he's always in the gym early. He does what he needs to do to get better and better. It's great to see him have great games and things like that. Like Jaedon, he's so talented. I don't think people really noticed other

than we do when he did it tonight. He can do that way more often if he really wanted to, but I feel like he is just way more giving. So it just makes him one of my favorite players on the team.

On Adam's influence on the team:

"Yeah, Adam, him and AG, they're like coaches really, they've been here for so long. I can't really tell him nothing like they know what to do. They already know the player scout, they know they got to practice, they come and practice every day still, like Adam still comes in early, get shots up every morning. So it just shows how much work he put in, the dedication shows on the court now. I'm not really sure about his first couple years but now you guys can really see what Adam was capable of really because he's just put in so much work. He worked so hard. In practice with AG, they always talk and they always have something to say, always uplifting and stuff like that. So they are a really big part of this program. I think they should be standing in the Hall of Fame for sure."

Wyoming Head Coach Jeff Linder

On tonight's contest:

"That's what makes them the regular season champ. Starting five is great but they don't take a big step back when they go to their bench. They maintain a level of physicality, of skill and talent that really nobody else in the league has. I give them credit but I thought our guys really played hard."

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