



# SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS

## 2021 Spring Volleyball Weekly Notes

**Jim Solien (Primary Contact)**  
 Assistant Media Relations Director  
**Office Phone Number:** (619) 594-2576  
**E-Mail Address:** jsolien@sdsu.edu  
**News Release Date:** Feb. 11, 2021

**SDSU Official Athletics Website:** goaztecs.com  
**SDSU Official Athletics Twitter:** @GoAztecs  
**SDSU Official Athletics Instagram:** @GoAztecs  
**SDSU Official Athletics Facebook:** facebook.com/goaztecs  
**SDSU Official Athletics YouTube:** youtube.com/goaztecs.com

### 2021 AZTEC SPRING VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Day/Date	Opponent	Time
Thursday, Feb. 4	at UNLV* (MWN)	L, 0-3
Friday, Feb. 5	at UNLV* (MWN)	L, 1-3
<b>Friday, Feb. 12</b>	<b>Fresno State*</b> (MWN)	<b>5 p.m. PT</b>
<b>Saturday, Feb. 13</b>	<b>Fresno State*</b>	<b>2 p.m. PT</b>
Friday, Feb. 19	vs. New Mexico*	Site/Time TBA
Saturday, Feb. 20	vs. New Mexico*	Site/Time TBA
<b>Friday, Feb. 26</b>	<b>Nevada*</b>	<b>6 p.m. PT</b>
<b>Saturday, Feb. 27</b>	<b>Nevada*</b> (MWN)	<b>3 p.m. PT</b>
Friday, March 5	at Wyoming* (MWN)	6 p.m. MT
Saturday, March 6	at Wyoming* (MWN)	Noon MT
<b>Friday, March 12</b>	<b>Utah State*</b> (MWN)	<b>6 p.m. PT</b>
<b>Saturday, March 13</b>	<b>Utah State*</b> (MWN)	<b>3 p.m. PT</b>
Saturday, March 20	at Boise State (MWN)	Noon MT
Saturday, March 27	at San José State*	TBA
<b>Thursday, April 1</b>	<b>Air Force*</b> (MWN)	<b>6 p.m. PT</b>
<b>Saturday, April 3</b>	<b>Colorado State*</b> (MWN)	<b>1 p.m. PT</b>

\* - Mountain West match

#### Socially

Twitter: @SDSUVolleyball

Instagram: @SDSUVolleyball

### Match Week Preview

Fresno State (0-0, 0-0 MW) at San Diego State (0-2, 0-2 MW)

Friday, Feb. 12 | 5 p.m. PT

Live Stats | MW Network

Saturday, Feb. 13 | 2 p.m. PT

Live Stats | Streaming Video

Series Record: SDSU leads 32-14



#### AZTECS SET TO BATTLE FRESNO STATE FOR TWO MATCHES

- > The San Diego State volleyball team opens the home portion of its 2021 spring schedule this weekend when it plays host to Fresno State for two matches on consecutive days, Feb. 12-13, at Aztec Court in Peterson Gym.
- > Friday's clash is set to get underway at 5 p.m. PT and will be streamed live via the Mountain West Network on GoAztecs.com. Meanwhile, Saturday's contest is slated for a 2 p.m. start and will feature a live stream on a non-MWN platform, with a link also available on GoAztecs.com.
- > At this time, spectators will not be allowed to attend matches this spring inside Peterson Gym due to health and safety protocols.
- > SDSU will be looking for its first victory of the season after dropping a pair of matches last weekend at UNLV, suffering a 3-0 defeat in the opener (22-25, 21-25, 10-25) on Feb. 4, before experiencing 3-1 setback the following night (25-19, 18-25, 19-25, 15-25).
- > With an uneven 11 schools sponsoring volleyball in the Mountain West, the Bulldogs were lone team to remain idle during the conference opening weekend. Fresno State last played on Nov. 23, 2019, posting a 3-0 sweep at Utah State.
- > San Diego State is under the direction of first-year head coach Brent Hilliard, who arrived on The Mesa in January 2020 after a successful 19-year tenure as an assistant at the University of San Diego, where he served as the Toreros' associate head coach from 2007-19.
- > Hilliard hired the legendary Steve Timmons to his staff as an assistant coach. Timmons was the first American male to win three Olympic medals in indoor volleyball, leading the U.S. national team to gold medals at the 1984 and 1988 Summer Games, as well as a bronze in 1992.

#### 2021 MOUNTAIN WEST SPRING VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

- > The Mountain West has adopted a 16-match conference-only schedule for the 2021 spring volleyball season taking place over nine weeks (Feb. 4-April 3).
- > Each institution will play six opponents twice and four opponents once.
- > Using a hybrid scheduling format, the first seven weeks will feature teams facing the same opponent twice in one weekend at one site. Travel partners will play the final two weeks of the season.
- > The regular-season champion will be the Mountain West's NCAA tournament automatic qualifier.

#### CATCH AZTEC VOLLEYBALL ON THE MOUNTAIN WEST NETWORK

- > As of Feb. 3, the Mountain West Network is scheduled to stream 11 of the Aztecs' 16 matches during the 2021 spring campaign. A link to MWN matches will be available on GoAztecs.com.
- > SDSU is slated to live stream six home matches on the MWN this spring, including the first Fresno State clash (Feb. 12), followed by Nevada (Feb. 27), Utah State (March 12-13), Air Force (April 1) and Colorado State (April 3).
- > Five of the Aztecs road contests are also scheduled to be streamed on the MWN, including UNLV (Feb. 4-5), Wyoming (March 5-6) and Boise State (March 20).

#### SERIES RECORD VS. FRESNO STATE

- > Since the first varsity meeting between the two sides back in 1980, the Aztecs lead the all-time series against the Bulldogs 32-14.
- > The Aztecs are 17-4 against Fresno State in San Diego all-time, including a 3-0 sweep (25-15, 27-25, 25-13) in the last encounter on Nov. 12, 2019. That match was contested at San Diego City College due to a power outage that affected the SDSU campus and surrounding areas, while star outside hitter Hannah Turnlund, who has since graduated, sat out with an injury.
- > Despite the adversity, the Aztecs rose to the occasion, as Victoria O'Sullivan blasted 15 kills and hit .423 to help fuel the victory.
- > Seeing her first extended action of the year, true freshman Nya Blair came off the bench and launched seven non-returnables of her own, while Andrea Walker finished with five kills and four block assists.
- > As a team, SDSU equaled their highest collective hitting percentage of the year at .337 and benefited from 22 attack errors, as Fresno State finished with just a .109 clip.
- > The Aztecs also played solid defense for the most part, maintaining a hefty 40-25 advantage in digs, as well as a 9-6 edge in team blocks.
- > Earlier in the season, SDSU experienced the opposite fate with a three-set loss (24-26, 22-25, 19-25) at Save Mart Center in Fresno.
- > Playing their third road match in a five-day span, the Aztecs knocked down almost as many kills as the Bulldogs (46-44) and maintained a sizable advantage in digs (43-29). However, SDSU was plagued by eight more attack errors (18-9) and finished with far fewer team blocks (9.5-2.0).

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Location ..... San Diego, Calif.  
 Founded ..... 1897  
 Enrollment ..... 33,870  
 Nickname ..... Aztecs  
 Colors ..... Scarlet and Black (Pantone 187)  
 Conference ..... Mountain West  
 Affiliation ..... Division I  
 President ..... Dr. Adela de la Torre  
 Director of Athletics ..... John David Wicker  
 Faculty Representative ..... Patrick Papin  
 Home Facility ..... Aztec Court at Peterson Gym (2,000)

**TEAM INFORMATION**

Head Coach ..... Brent Hilliard  
 Alma Mater ..... Long Beach State '93  
 Record at SDSU ..... 0-2 (First year)  
 Career Record ..... 54-13 (Third year)  
 E-Mail ..... bhilliard@sdsu.edu  
 Volleyball Office Phone ..... (619) 594-5064  
 Volleyball Office Fax ..... (619) 594-1674  
 Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator ..... Melanie Greene  
 Assistant Coach ..... Steve Timmons  
 Volleyball Operations Assistant ..... Kara Barkdoll  
 2019 Record ..... 15-14  
 2019 Conference Record ..... 8-10 (Fifth)  
 2019 Home Record ..... 8-5  
 2019 Road Record ..... 3-9  
 2019 Neutral Record ..... 4-0  
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost ..... 9/6  
 Starters Returning/Lost ..... 4/2 + libero

**PROGRAM HISTORY**

First Year of Volleyball ..... 1976  
 Overall Record ..... 880-612 (.591)  
 NCAA Appearances ..... 14  
 Last Postseason Appearance ..... 2012  
 NCAA Postseason Record ..... 15-14

**MEDIA RELATIONS**

Assistant Media Relations Director ..... Jim Solien  
 E-Mail ..... jsolien@sdsu.edu  
 SID Office Phone ..... (619) 594-2576  
 SID Office Fax ..... (619) 582-6541  
 Official Athletic Website ..... www.GoAztecs.com

**SPRING 2021 AZTEC VOLLEYBALL  
 STATISTICAL LEADERS**

Hitting Percentage ..... (.333) ..... Kennedy Feuerborn  
 Kills ..... 24 ..... Victoria O'Sullivan  
 Kills per set ..... 3.43 ..... Victoria O'Sullivan  
 Assists ..... 33 ..... Kennedy Feuerborn  
 Assists per set ..... 4.71 ..... Kennedy Feuerborn  
 Digs ..... 21 ..... Lee/Tautua'a  
 Digs per set ..... 3.00 ..... Lee/Tautua'a  
 Blocks ..... 5 ..... Andrea Walker  
 Blocks per set ..... 0.71 ..... Andrea Walker  
 Service Aces ..... 1 ..... Gillcrist, Hodson, Tautua'a  
 Service Aces per set ..... 0.33 ..... Serena Hodson

**2021 AZTEC SPRING VOLLEYBALL ROSTER**

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Last School)
1	Nya Blair	OH	5-11	So.	Grand Prairie, Texas (Martin HS)
2	Heipua Tautua'a	OH	6-2	Fr.	Wai'anae, Hawai'i (Wai'ane HS)
3	Andrea Walker	MB	6-0	R-Jr.	Fairfield, Calif. (Vanden HS)
4	Kennedy Feuerborn	S	6-3	Fr.	Overland Park, Kan. (Blue Valley North HS)
5	Serena Hodson	MB	6-2	R-So.	Mission Viejo, Calif. (Trabuco Hills HS)
7	Ashley Vanderpan	S	6-1	R-So.	Elk Grove, Calif. (Syracuse)
8	Lauren Lee	DS/L	5-0	Sr.	Coppell, Texas (Rice Univ.)
10	Camryn Machado	S	5-9	R-Jr.	Cardiff-by-the-Sea, Calif. (Utah)
11	Brooklynn Hill	DS/L	5-8	Jr.	Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Penn State)
12	Erin Gillcrist	RS	6-1	Sr.	Lakewood, Colo. (Lakewood HS)
13	Elise Park	DS/L	5-7	R-Fr.	Columbia, Md. (Atholton HS)
14	Gabriella Spaethling	RS	6-1	R-Fr.	Larkspur, Calif. (Redwood HS)
15	Abby Pugh	MB	6-3	R-Sr.	Brenham, Texas (Wichita State)
16	Alexis Durand	DS/L	5-7	So.	Long Beach, Calif. (Long Beach Poly HS)
17	Nadia Barclay	DS/L	5-2	Fr.	Foster City, Calif. (Hillsdale HS)
19	Maddie Lenn	OH	5-10	Jr.	San Francisco, Calif. (Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep)
21	Victoria O'Sullivan	OH	6-0	Jr.	Albany, Calif. (St. Mary's HS)

**Head Coach:** Brent Hilliard (Long Beach State, 1993), First season at SDSU  
**Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator:** Melanie Greene (San Diego State, 2007), 10th season at SDSU  
**Assistant Coach:** Steve Timmons (Southern California), First season at SDSU  
**Volleyball Operations Assistant:** Kara Barkdoll (Cal State San Marcos, 2015), Third season at SDSU  
**Volunteer Assistant Coach:** Yasser Aguila Todd (Trident University, 2009, 2014), Second season at SDSU

**Pronunciations**

#1 NYA Blair HIGH-ah  
 #2 HEIPIUA TAUTUA'A HIGH-poo-ah TAO-too-ah-AY  
 #4 KENNEDY FEUERBORN FEWER-born



**OPPONENT COMPARISON (ALL MATCHES)**

2021 Overall Stats	SDSU	MW Rank	OPP	MW Rank	FS*	MW Rank*	OPP*	MW Rank*
Hitting Percentage	.194	9	.295	10	.171	9	.194	4
Kills per set	11.00	9	14.14	10	12.45	8	11.80	N/A
Assists per set	10.57	8	13.14	9	11.82	6	11.00	N/A
Digs per set	13.14	8	13.86	5	14.12	5	14.12	N/A
Blocks per set	1.29	9	2.14	9	2.04	8	2.69	N/A
Service Aces per set	0.43	10	2.57	8	1.83	2	1.21	N/A

\* - 2019 figures

**SCOUTING THE OPPOSITION**

> Idle during the first week of spring matches, Fresno State posted a 14-16 overall record and a 7-11 mark in the Mountain West during the 2019 fall campaign, tying Nevada for sixth place in the conference race one match behind fifth-place San Diego State. The Bulldogs were picked sixth in the MW preseason coaches poll, garnering 48 points, well behind the Aztecs, who received 70 points and one first-place vote. Fresno State returns four starters and its libero from last year's squad, including senior Desiree Sukhov, an all conference selection who was named the league's Newcomer of the Year in the fall of 2019 after transferring from CSU Bakersfield. An outside hitter, Sukhov led the MW last season with 3.95 kills per set, which was good for 53rd in the country, while ranking second in the conference and 45th nationally with 4.57 points per set. She also occupied the second spot on the team with 2.52 digs per set and racked up 20 double-doubles (kills-digs). In addition, the Bulldogs welcome back senior libero Reagan Leonard, another all-conference selection from a year ago who ranked second in the conference with 4.47 digs per set, finishing 92nd nationally in that category, to go with 87 assists and 18 service aces overall. Also back in the mix are senior outside hitter Amilya Thompson, who occupied the second spot on the team in 2019 with 2.72 kills per set, and sophomore middle blocker Grace Doyle (1.38 kills/set), who ranked seventh in the MW with 32 service aces and 12th with 0.91 blocks per set. Collectively, Fresno State was second in the conference with 190 service aces last year, which ranked 32nd in the country, and wound up fifth in the MW with 14.12 digs per set. However, The Bulldogs are under the direction of third-year head coach Jonathan Winder, who was a four-time All-American and the 2007 national player of the year for the men's team at Pepperdine, where he led the Waves to the NCAA finals as a senior in 2008.

**WEEKLY WRAP**

> Playing its first intercollegiate match in over 14 months, San Diego State dropped a three-set decision on the road to UNLV (22-25, 21-25, 10-25) in the 2021 spring opener for both teams on Feb. 4.  
 > The Rebels out-hit the Aztecs .310 to .147, maintaining a 44-30 advantage in kills and a 44-34 edge in digs to spoil the debut of first-year SDSU head coach Brent Hilliard.  
 > Victoria O'Sullivan paced the Scarlet and Black with 11 kills, hitting .300 for the night on 30 attempts with just two errors, while Heipua Tautua'a launched a six non-returnables of her own to go with a team-high 10 digs.  
 > In addition, SDSU received four kills apiece from Erin Gillcrist (3 blocks) and Kennedy Feuerborn (6 assists), while Ashley Vanderpan handed out 11 assists in her first Aztec appearance.

2021 MOUNTAIN WEST SPRING STANDINGS (As of Feb. 11)

Team	---Conference---			-----Overall-----			Strk
	W	L	Pct	W	L	Pct.	
Boise State	2	0	1.000	2	0	1.000	W2
New Mexico	2	0	1.000	2	0	.000	W2
UNLV	2	0	1.000	2	0	1.000	W2
Wyoming	2	0	1.000	2	0	1.000	W2
Air Force	1	1	.500	1	1	.500	W1
Colorado State	1	1	.500	1	1	.500	L1
Fresno State	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	--
<b>San Diego State</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>.000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>.000</b>	<b>L2</b>
Nevada	0	2	.000	0	2	.000	L2
San José State	0	2	.000	0	2	.000	L2
Utah State	0	2	.000	0	2	.000	L2

Upcoming Matches in the MW

**Friday, Feb. 12**

Fresno State at San Diego State, 5 p.m. PT  
 Colorado State at Nevada, 6 p.m. PT  
 New Mexico at Wyoming, 6 p.m. MT  
 San José State at Air Force, 6 p.m. MT  
 Utah State at Boise State, 6 p.m. MT

**Saturday, Feb. 13**

Fresno State at San Diego State, 2 p.m. PT  
 Utah State at Boise State, 2 p.m. MT  
 New Mexico at Wyoming, 5 p.m. MT  
 San José State at Air Force, 6 p.m. MT  
 Colorado State at Nevada, 6 p.m. PT

**Tuesday, Feb. 16**

San José State at Fresno State, 6 p.m. PT

**Wednesday, Feb. 17**

San José State at Fresno State, 6 p.m. PT

**Thursday, Feb. 18**

UNLV at Colorado State, 7 p.m. MT

**Friday, Feb. 19**

San Diego State vs. New Mexico, TBA  
 Wyoming at Boise State, Noon MT  
 Air Force at Nevada, 1 p.m. PT

**Saturday, Feb. 20**

San Diego State vs. New Mexico, TBA  
 UNLV at Colorado State, Noon. MT  
 Wyoming at Boise State, 1 p.m. MT  
 Air Force at Nevada, 1 p.m. PT



- > The Aztecs were unable to maintain a hot start the next night vs. UNLV, falling in four sets (25-19, 18-25, 19-25, 15-25).
- > The Aztecs outthit the Rebels .452 to .242 in the opening frame, knocking down 15 kills with just one error in 31 attempts. However, SDSU stumbled to a .163 clip the rest of way, while UNLV posted a .296 attack percentage during that span, including a .361 pace in the final set.
- > In all, the Rebels served up 12 aces and maintained the advantage in kills (55-47) and total blocks (7.0-3.0) to help fuel their victory. Conversely, the Aztecs held a slight edge in digs (58-55) but were plagued by eight errant serves.
- > Individually, SDSU was paced by Victoria O'Sullivan, who launched 13 kills and hit .333 for the match, committing just two errors in 33 swings, while Andrea Walker (.316) blasted nine put-aways of her own and contributed two block assists.
- > The Aztec cause was also aided by Erin Gillcrist, who totaled eight kills and a service ace, while Kennedy Feuerborn displayed her versatility with six kills, 27 assists and a solo block.
- > Not to be outdone, Maddie Lenn anchored the back row with a career-high 18 digs, while Lauren Lee reached double digits as well with 13 scoops of her own.

**NOTHIN' LIKE HOME COOKIN'**

- > Since the beginning of the 2009 campaign, the Aztecs have amassed a 104-51 (.650) record at home, highlighted by a 14-0 mark during the 2012 season when SDSU captured the Mountain West championship.

**O'SULLIVAN AMONG MW LEADERS**

- > Entering this weekend, Victoria O'Sullivan ranks ninth in the Mountain West with an average of 3.43 kills per set (24 overall)
- > The Aztec junior was the lone SDSU player to record double-digit kills in both matches at UNLV, finishing with a .317 hitting percentage for the weekend after launching team-highs of 13 and 11 put-aways, respectively.
- > Since the beginning of the 2019 campaign, O'Sullivan has notched double-digit kills in 23 of her last 31 starts.

**SETTING THE STAGE**

- > With the loss of 2019 all-Mountain West honoree Camryn Machado to a season-ending knee injury, the Aztecs utilized two setters for their first two matches at UNLV, Kennedy Feuerborn and Ashley Vanderpan.
- > A prep star in her home state of Kansas, Feuerborn appeared in all seven sets vs. the Rebels, racking up 33 assists (4.71/set), 10 kills (1.43/set) and four digs while hitting at a team-high .333 clip.
- > Vanderpan, who was inactive the last two years at Syracuse and SDSU, respectively, finally saw her first collegiate action last weekend, totaling 19 assists (3.80/set), three digs, two kills and a block assist in five sets played.

**WELCOME BACK**

- > The Aztecs return 13 players, including nine letterwinners from last year's squad that finished with a 15-14 record overall and an 8-10 mark in the Mountain West.
- > Leading the returners is outside hitter Victoria O'Sullivan, who ranked sixth in the league with 3.20 kills per set (352 overall) and tied for the team lead with 14 solo blocks while finishing fourth with 52 stops overall. The Aztec junior is the lone veteran to have played all 110 sets in 2019, finishing with double-digit kill totals in 21 of the Aztecs' 29 matches, including 10 straight to start the season.
- > In SDSU's riveting five-set thriller over West Virginia at the Aztec Challenge in September 2019, O'Sullivan blasted a career-high 22 kills and logged a collegiate-best .487 hitting percentage, committing just three errors in 39 attempts.
- > With the graduation of Hannah Turnlund and Tamia Reeves, setter Camryn Machado is the Aztecs' lone all-Mountain West honoree to return from last year. However, the Cardiff-by-the-Sea native will miss the 2021 spring campaign after suffering a torn ACL in preseason camp.
- > In 2019, Machado ranked second in the MW with 10.62 assists per set (1,158 overall) and occupied the No. 2 spot on the team with 2.54 digs per set (277 overall).
- > Additionally Machado led the Scarlet and Black with 14 double-doubles (assists-digs), including seven vs. MW opponents, and topped the squad with 16 service aces, including a career-high three in a home sweep of Utah State.
- > Senior right-side hitter Erin Gillcrist has been selected team captain for the upcoming season. The Lakewood, Colorado, native has successfully recovered from off-season shoulder surgery and looks to build on a 2019 campaign in which she averaged 1.89 kills (144 overall) and 0.71 blocks per set (54 overall).
- > In the Aztecs' 3-1 victory over Long Beach State on Sept. 19, 2019, Gillcrist matched her career-best with a .500 attack percentage, flooring 10 balls on 16 attempts with two errors.
- > Also back in the fold is middle blocker Andrea Walker, who owns the top returning hitting percentage among Aztec regulars after finishing 10th in the Mountain West last year with a .308 clip. The Fairfield, California, product occupied the second spot on the team with an average of 0.88 blocks per set (61 overall) and ranked fifth behind Gillcrist with an average of 1.87 kills per set (129 overall).
- > Walker compiled double-digit kills on three occasions, including a career-high 13 put-aways in SDSU's 3-1 victory at Utah State on Nov. 21, 2019.

**MEET THE NEWCOMERS**

- > First-year head coach Brent Hilliard has added four newcomers to the roster, including a trio of freshmen in outside hitter Heipua Tautua'a, setter Kennedy Feuerborn and defensive specialist Nadia Barclay, along with junior defensive specialist Brooklynn Hill, a transfer from perennial national power Penn State.
- > Hill played 13 matches in two seasons with the Nittany Lions, who advanced to the NCAA regional finals in both of her years on the State College campus. A native of Southern California, Hill starred for three straight conference championship teams at Rancho Cucamonga High School from 2015-17, earning all-Baseline League honors three times to go with a trio of team MVP and Defensive Player of the Year awards.
- > A product of Wai'anae High School in Hawai'i, Tautua'a garnered first-team all-Western Division accolades from the O'ahu Inter-

scholastic Association in 2018 and landed on the AVCA Phenom Watch List. She also excelled at the junior level, collecting Most Valuable Player honors at the 2019 Girls Junior National Championships after leading her Spike and Serve Volleyball Club 16s team to the American Division title. In addition, Tautua'a earned a spot on the USA Volleyball Girls' Youth A1 National Training Team in 2018-19.

- > Feuerborn, meanwhile, arrives on The Mesa by way of Johnson County (Kan.) Community College where she enrolled for the 2019-20 academic year but did not compete in volleyball. Feuerborn earned second-team all-state honors and landed on the state Class 6A all-tournament team as a senior in 2018 at Blue Valley North High School in Overland Park, Kansas. She originally signed with Baylor as a prep but did not attend.
- > Rounding out the rookie class is Barclay, who graduated from Hillsdale High School in San Mateo, California, where she received first team all-conference recognition and team MVP accolades as a junior in 2018 after averaging 24.6 digs per match (541 total, 7.7 per set).

**PRESEASON PROGNOSTICATIONS**

- > San Diego State was picked to finish fifth this year in the Mountain West preseason coaches poll released Jan. 28. The Aztecs garnered 70 points and garnered one first-place vote.
- > In the 21-year history of the Mountain West, SDSU has finished first (2012), second (2002, 2011), fourth (2000, 2001, 2003, 2013, 2017), fifth (2005, 2015, 2019), sixth (1999, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2016), seventh (2008) and eighth (2007, 2018) in the final league standings.

**2021 Mountain West Spring Preseason Poll**

Rk.	Team (1st-place votes)	Pts.
1.	Colorado State (5)	92
2.	UNLV (4)	90
3.	Wyoming (1)	80
4.	Boise State	76
5.	San Diego State (1)	70
6.	Fresno State	48
7.	Nevada	41
8.	Air Force	33
9.	San José State	28
10.	New Mexico	25
11.	Utah State	22

**VOLLEYBALL LEGEND STEVE TIMMONS ADDED TO COACHING STAFF**

- > Aztec head coach Brent Hilliard served up a proverbial ace with his first staff addition after hiring the legendary Steve Timmons as an assistant coach on Feb. 15, 2020.
- > The first American male to win three Olympic medals in indoor volleyball, Timmons has worked as an elite coach since 2013 with Wave Volleyball Club based in nearby Del Mar, one of the most prestigious volleyball clubs in the country.
- > One of the sport's most potent hitters, Timmons first made his impact as a three-year letterman at USC (1980-82), where he helped the Trojans capture the 1980 NCAA Championship, earning all-tournament honors in the process. He also garnered first-team all-conference accolades to go with All-America distinction in 1982.
- > Timmons quickly rose to international stardom, winning gold medals for the U.S. Team at the Summer Olympics 1984 and 1988 to go with a bronze in 1992. He collected MVP honors for the 1984 Games, and in 1988 he was named the U.S. Olympic Committee's Male Volleyball Player of the Year. That same year, he was voted the Federation of International Volleyball's Best Blocker and received MVP recognition at the World Super Four Tournament.
- > Not to be outdone, Timmons led the U.S. Team to gold medals at the 1985 World Cup and 1986 World Championships, helping the Americans complete the first "Triple Crown" in volleyball following their triumph at the 1984 Olympics.
- > Timmons was selected to USA Volleyball's 75th anniversary All-Era team in 2003 and was ranked No. 8 on Volleyball magazine's "35 Best U.S. Players of All Time" list in 2012. In addition, he was named to the inaugural class of the Southern California Indoor Volleyball Hall of Fame in 2017.
- > Previously, Timmons was inducted into the U.S. Volleyball Association and International Volleyball Halls of Fame in 1998 while landing a spot on Volleyball magazine's all-time American Indoors first team. Additionally, he was enshrined in the Orange County Sports Hall of Fame in 1990 and the California Community College Hall of Fame in 1998 for his basketball and volleyball prowess at Orange Coast College.

**AZTEC VOLLEYBALL EARNS PUBLIC RECOGNITION AWARD FROM NCAA**

- > Last spring, the San Diego State volleyball program was publicly recognized by the NCAA for outstanding academic achievements, along with the Aztec women's golf and women's tennis teams.
- > The recognition came on the heels of the most recent multi-year Academic Progress Rates (APR) in which all three programs were among the top 10 percent of their respective sports nationally.
- > With these squads earning NCAA public recognition last season, San Diego State has now received such distinction a total of 21 times in school history, matching its record of three teams set during the 2011-12 and 2017-18 academic years.
- > The SDSU volleyball program received public recognition for the fourth straight season and fifth time overall, while the Aztec women's tennis team garnered the accolade for the third year in a row and sixth time in the last seven seasons. In addition, the San Diego State women's golf squad merited public recognition for the third time in school history.

**2021 SITUATIONAL RECORDS**

**GENERAL**

Overall.....	0-2
Mountain West.....	0-2
Home.....	0-0
Away.....	0-2
vs. Ranked Teams.....	0-0
vs. Unranked Teams.....	0-0
Matches Following a Win.....	0-0
Matches Following a Loss.....	0-1
Longest Winning Streak.....	N/A
Longest Losing Streak.....	2
Current Streak.....	Last 2

**BY SETS**

3 Sets.....	0-1
4 Sets.....	0-1
5 Sets.....	0-0
Leading After Two.....	0-0
Trailing After Two.....	0-1
Tied After Two.....	0-1
Leading 2-1.....	0-0
Trailing 2-1.....	0-1

**BY MONTH**

February.....	0-2
March.....	0-0
April.....	0-0

**BY DAY**

Thursday.....	0-1
Friday.....	0-1
Saturday.....	0-0

**BY KILLS**

Leading in Kills.....	0-0
Trailing in Kills.....	0-2
Tied in Kills.....	0-0

**BY DIGS**

Leading in Digs.....	0-1
Trailing in Digs.....	0-1
Tied in Digs.....	0-0

**BY BLOCKS**

Leading in Blocks.....	0-0
Trailing in Blocks.....	0-2
Tied in Blocks.....	0-0

**BY ATTACK PERCENTAGE**

Greater Attack Percentage.....	0-0
Lower Attack Percentage.....	0-2
Equal Attack Percentage.....	0-0
Hitting above .300.....	0-0
Hitting between .200 and .300.....	0-1
Hitting between .100 and .200.....	0-1
Hitting below .100.....	0-0
Opponent Hitting above .300.....	0-1
Opponent Hitting between .200 and .300.....	0-1
Opponent Hitting between .100 and .200.....	0-0
Opponent Hitting below .100.....	0-1

**BY INDIVIDUAL KILLS**

3+ Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-0
2 Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-0
1 Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-2
0 Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-0

## 2021 MATCH-BY-MATCH LEADERS

Date	Opponent	Kills	Hitting Pct.*	Assists	Aces	Digs	Blocks
F.4	at UNLV	O'Sullivan - 13	O'Sullivan (.300)	Vanderpan - 11	Hodson - 1 Tautua'a	Tautua'a - 10	Gillcrist - 3 Walker
F.5	at UNLV	O'Sullivan - 11	O'Sullivan (.333)	Feuerborn - 27	Gillcrist - 1	Lenn - 18	Walker - 2
F.12	Fresno State						
F.13	Fresno State						
F.19	at New Mexico						
F.20	at New Mexico						
F. 26	Nevada						
F.27	Nevada						
M.5	at Wyoming						
M.6	at Wyoming						
M.12	Utah State						
M.13	Utah State						
M.20	at Boise State						
M.27	at San Jose State						
A.1	Air Force						
A.3	Colorado State						

\* - min. 7 kills



# Brent HILLIARD

## Head Coach - First Season at San Diego State

San Diego State Director of Athletics John David Wicker ushered in a new era for the Aztec volleyball team with the hiring of Brent Hilliard as the fifth head coach in program history on Jan. 31, 2020.

A 2018 inductee to the Southern California Indoor Volleyball Hall of Fame, Hilliard arrives at SDSU with a wealth of experience after achieving 19 years of unparalleled success as an assistant coach at the University of San Diego, where he served as the Toreros' associate head coach since 2007.

"Brent Hilliard's presence in San Diego County volleyball is far reaching," Wicker said. "Through the club volleyball teams he coached, his 19 years at USD, the time and relationships with the Olympics, Coach Hilliard will be able to hit the ground running for San Diego State. In addition to his San Diego ties, Brent also has what we need in the next leader to graduate the women in the volleyball program, lead them to compete for championships and prepare them for a successful life after sport. He is known for his coaching tenacity in the gym, and at the same time, people of all ages told us how much they enjoyed him as a person."

During his fruitful tenure, the Toreros qualified for the NCAA Tournament in all but one of his 19 seasons, advancing to the Sweet 16 in 2004, 2006, 2013 and 2018. In addition, Hilliard helped guide the Toreros to nine West Coast Conference championships while his players earned six All-America awards, 12 All-America honorable mentions, 44 all-WCC accolades and 15 freshman all-conference certificates.

Hilliard twice assumed the reins of the USD program on an interim basis while head coach Jennifer Petrie was absent on maternity leave. In 2006, Hilliard was honored as WCC Coach of the Year after guiding the Toreros to a conference championship and a Sweet 16 appearance in the NCAA Tournament. That season, he coached five all-conference honorees, including WCC Player of the Year Kristen Carlson, as USD finished 14th in the final USA Today/Coaches Poll.

The Toreros also flourished under Hilliard's guidance in 2011, racing to a 13-0 start en route a program-best 28-5 record, highlighted by a spot in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Throughout his stint, USD was consistently ranked among the nation's top 25, climbing to as high as No. 2 during the 2013 campaign and rising to No. 5 in 2016.

"I would like to thank John David Wicker, Jenny Bramer, Dr. Adela de la Torre and the rest of the SDSU search committee for making me feel so welcome during the interview process," Hilliard said. "To be the head coach of such a remarkable women's volleyball program in my family's hometown is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity."

"We are fully committed to work tirelessly to elevate this program back to an elite status on the college volleyball landscape, one that the student body, faculty, community, alumni and, of course, all future Aztecs will take great pride in."

Hilliard played collegiately at Long Beach State, earning All-America honors in each of his four years from 1990-93, including first-team recognition over his final three seasons. A right-side hitter for the 49ers, Hilliard was named the NCAA Men's Volleyball Player of the Year as a junior in 1992 after leading LBSU to a 31-1 record.

In 1991, Hilliard and the 49ers captured the NCAA Championship with a 3-1 victory over USC in the finals, avenging a loss to the Trojans in the title match the year before. He finished his career as the NCAA all-time leader with 3,034 kills.

Additionally, Hilliard was selected to play for Team USA in the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, where he helped the Americans capture the bronze medal. The following year, he won a silver medal at the 1993 Pan American Games in Argentina and also owns a bronze medal from the 1991 World Cup.

After receiving his undergraduate degree in 1993 from Long Beach State in political science, Hilliard continued his volleyball career as a professional in Europe from 1995-98, playing two seasons in Belgium and another in the Netherlands. In 1996, Hilliard and the Masiek Volleyball Club captured the Belgian national championship and competed in the European Champions League.

In addition to his collegiate experience, which included a stint as head coach at nearby Cuyamaca College in 1999 and 2000, Hilliard has also coached for the past 10 years at Wave Volleyball Club in Del Mar, the premier volleyball club in San Diego County.

"Our priority at SDSU will be to engage, attract and secure exceptional student-athletes that strive for both academic and athletic excellence in their everyday lives," Hilliard added. "From day one, we will set expectations high and build from there. I am incredibly excited to get started and I look forward to the bright future ahead."

### HILLIARD'S COLLEGIATE COACHING LEDGER (As an Assistant at USD)

Year	Overall Record	WCC Record (Finish)	Postseason
2001	22-9	10-4 (3rd)	NCAA Second Round
2002	25-8	10-4 (3rd)	NCAA First Round
2003	17-13	6-8 (T-5th)	NCAA First Round
2004	24-5	14-0 (1st)	NCAA Sweet 16
2005	23-6	10-4 (T-2nd)	NCAA Second Round
2006*	26-6	13-1 (1st)	NCAA Sweet 16
2007	21-8	11-3 (1st)	NCAA First Round
2008	23-5	12-2 (1st)	NCAA First Round
2009	18-7	10-4 (2nd)	None
2010	24-8	13-1 (1st)	NCAA Second Round
2011*	28-5	12-4 (2nd)	NCAA Second Round
2012	21-7	13-3 (T-1st)	NCAA First Round
2013	26-4	16-2 (1st)	NCAA Sweet 16
2014	19-12	12-6 (T-3rd)	NCAA First Round
2015	22-10	14-4 (2nd)	NCAA Second Round
2016	24-6	15-3 (2nd)	NCAA First Round
2017	25-5	17-1 (T-1st)	NCAA Second Round
2018	18-13	13-5 (3rd)	NCAA Sweet 16
2019	25-6	17-1 (1st)	NCAA Second Round

**Overall Total** 431-143 (.751)

**WCC Total** 238-60 (.799)

#### Notes

- \* - Served as interim head coach during the 2006 and 2011 seasons
- > Qualified for the NCAA Tournament in 18 of his 19 seasons at USD
- > Reached the NCAA Sweet 16 four times in 2004, 2006, 2013 and 2018
- > Won nine West Coast Conference championships

2021 San Diego State Spring Volleyball  
San Diego State Overall Individual Statistics (as of Feb 05, 2021)  
All matches

Overall record: 0-2 Conf: 0-2 Home: 0-0 Away: 0-2 Neutral: 0-0

##	Player	sp	mp-ms	Attack					Set		Serve				
				k	k/s	e	ta	pct	a	a/s	sa	sa/s	se	ta	pct
21	O'SULLIVAN, Victoria	7	2-2	24	3.43	4	63	.317	2	0.29	0	0.00	0	4	1.00
3	WALKER, Andrea	7	2-2	12	1.71	6	33	.182	1	0.14	0	0.00	0	0	.000
12	GILLCRIST, Erin	7	2-1	12	1.71	5	28	.250	2	0.29	1	0.14	2	11	.818
2	TAUTUA'A, Heipua	7	2-2	11	1.57	9	53	.038	5	0.71	1	0.14	3	25	.880
4	FEUERBORN, Kennedy	7	2-2	10	1.43	3	21	.333	33	4.71	0	0.00	2	8	.750
1	BLAIR, Nya	4	1-0	5	1.25	3	17	.118	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	12	.917
7	VANDERPAN, Ashley	5	2-0	2	0.40	0	9	.222	19	3.80	0	0.00	0	13	1.00
15	PUGH, Abby	3	1-1	1	0.33	1	3	.000	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	5	1.00
19	LENN, Maddie	7	2-1	0	0.00	0	4	.000	3	0.43	0	0.00	1	3	.667
8	LEE, Lauren	7	2-0	0	0.00	0	3	.000	5	0.71	0	0.00	2	33	.939
11	HILL, Brooklynn	7	2-1	0	0.00	0	1	.000	4	0.57	0	0.00	2	15	.867
5	HODSON, Serena	3	1-0	0	0.00	0	2	.000	0	0.00	1	0.33	1	4	.750
SAN DIEGO STATE		7	2-2	77	11.0	31	237	.194	74	10.5	3	0.43	14	133	.895
Opponents		7	2-2	99	14.1	28	241	.295	92	13.1	18	2.57	18	166	.892

##	Player	sp	Recept			Dig		Blocking					
			re	ta	pct	dig	dig/s	bs	ba	total	blk/s	be	bhe
21	O'SULLIVAN, Victoria	7	1	10	.900	4	0.57	0	1	1	0.14	0	0
3	WALKER, Andrea	7	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	5	5	0.71	0	0
12	GILLCRIST, Erin	7	0	0	.000	4	0.57	1	2	3	0.43	0	0
2	TAUTUA'A, Heipua	7	5	28	.821	21	3.00	1	0	1	0.14	2	1
4	FEUERBORN, Kennedy	7	0	0	.000	4	0.57	1	1	2	0.29	0	0
1	BLAIR, Nya	4	0	1	1.000	4	1.00	0	1	1	0.25	0	0
7	VANDERPAN, Ashley	5	0	0	.000	3	0.60	0	1	1	0.20	0	1
15	PUGH, Abby	3	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	1	1	0.33	0	0
19	LENN, Maddie	7	3	21	.857	20	2.86	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
8	LEE, Lauren	7	5	48	.896	21	3.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
5	HODSON, Serena	3	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0
11	HILL, Brooklynn	7	4	30	.867	11	1.57	0	0	0	0.00	0	1
SAN DIEGO STATE.....		7	18	138	.870	92	13.14	3	12	9.0	1.29	2	3
Opponents.....		7	3	117	.974	97	13.86	2	26	15.0	2.14	4	1

2021 San Diego State Spring Volleyball  
 San Diego State Overall Team Statistics (as of Feb 05, 2021)  
 All matches

Overall record: 0-2 Conf: 0-2 Home: 0-0 Away: 0-2 Neutral: 0-0

Team Statistics	SDSU	OPP
<b>ATTACK</b>		
Kills	77	99
Errors	31	28
Total Attacks	237	241
Attack Pct	.194	.295
Kills/Set	11.0	14.1
<b>SET</b>		
Assists	74	92
Assists/Set	10.6	13.1
<b>SERVE</b>		
Aces	3	18
Errors	14	18
Attempts	133	166
Serve Pct	.895	.892
Aces/Set	0.4	2.6
<b>SERVE RECEPTIONS</b>		
Errors	18	3
Errors/Set	2.6	0.4
Attempts	138	117
Reception Pct	.870	.974
<b>DEFENSE</b>		
Digs	92	97
Digs/Set	13.1	13.9
<b>BLOCKING</b>		
Block Solo	3	2
Block Assist	12	26
Total Blocks	9.0	15.0
Blocks/Set	1.3	2.1
Block Errors	2	4
Ball handling errors	3	1
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
Total	0	0
Dates/Avg Per Date	0/0	2/0
Neutral site #/Avg	0/0	
Current win streak	0	-
Home win streak	0	-

Match wins by #sets	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
San Diego State	0	0	0	0	0	0
Opponents	0	0	1	1	0	2

Sets won by set	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
San Diego State	1	0	0	0	0	1
Opponents	1	2	2	1	0	6

Points by set	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total
San Diego State	47	39	29	15	0	130
Opponents	44	50	50	25	0	169