

FINAL EDITION Postgame Football Notes – San Diego State at Arizona

Sept. 11, 2021 | Arizona Stadium | Tucson, Ariz.

Records: San Diego State (2-0, 0-0 Mountain West); Arizona (0-2; 0-0 Pac-12)

SDSU Next Game: Sat., Sept. 18 | vs. No. 21/18 Utah | Carson, Calif. | 4 p.m. PT | CBS Sports Network | 101 KBG, XTRA 1360 San Diego

<u>The Big Notes</u>

- San Diego State improved to 2-0 for the third consecutive season. The last time the Aztecs started 2-0 in three consecutive seasons was 1975-77.
- SDSU snapped a four-game losing streak against the Wildcats. It was San Diego State's first win against Arizona since Nov. 10, 1979.
- The Aztecs improved to 6-2 against members of the Pac-12 Conference since the start of the 2016 campaign. That is the best nonconference record compiled by any FBS team (Power 5 or Group of 5) against the Pac-12 in that time (Notre Dame is second at 5-3). *Minimum five games played*
- SDSU's 6-2 mark against the Pac-12 since the start of the 2016 season is the third-best record non-conference record by any FBS team against any Power 5 league, trailing only Georgia vs. the ACC (5-1) and Clemson vs. the SEC (10-3). *Minimum five games played and does not include Notre Dame vs. the ACC*
- The Aztecs improved to 49-2 the last 51 games they have rushed for at least 200 yards.
- The last 16 times SDSU has been an underdog, it has won the game outright 10 times (10-6).
- TE **Daniel Bellinger** broke 100 yards receiving in the first half and became the first Aztec tight end with at least 100 yards receiving in a game since Gavin Escobar had 108 vs. UNLV on Oct. 27, 2012. Bellinger's 73-yard reception was the longest by an Aztec tight end since at least the 1996 season.
- RB Greg Bell broke 100 yards rushing for the seventh time of his career in just 13 games, including six times at San Diego State in nine games.

The Arizona Series

- After today's Aztec win, Arizona leads the all-time series 10-6.
- The teams will meet again on Sept. 3, 2022 in SDSU's inaugural event at the new Aztec Stadium (located in Mission Valley near the site of the old SDCCU Stadium).
- San Diego State improved to 3-7 all-time in games played at Arizona Stadium. The Aztec wins have come in 1931, 1977 and 2021.
- As previously noted, SDSU snapped a four-game losing streak to Arizona in the series. This is San Diego State's first victory in the series since Nov. 10, 1979 (the No. 1 song on that day was "Heartache Tonight" by the Eagles).

More vs. The Pac-12

- San Diego State is 3-2 in its last five road games against Pac-12 teams with wins at Arizona State, UCLA and Arizona. Since 2017, Pac-12 teams Arizona (4-12), Colorado (4-12), Oregon State (4-12) and UCLA (4-13) have only one more Pac-12 road win than the Aztecs.
- This is just SDSU's fourth Division I era road victory over a Pac-12/10/8 team. The Aztecs accomplished it in 1975 at Oregon State, 2017 at Arizona State, 2019 at UCLA and today at Arizona.
- With the victory, San Diego State is 4-30 in its Division I history in road games at Pac-12/10/8 opponents. The Aztecs have now won three of their last five road games at Pac-12 schools.

Winning On The Road

- San Diego State is 10-2 the last 12 times it has played in the Mountain Time Zone (11 of those games were road games; one was a neutral site game).
- Since the start of the 2019 season, the Aztecs are 7-4 in all road games. SDSU entered the day tied for 16th nationally in road wins since 2019.

Look Ahead

• San Diego State will attempt to start 3-0 for the fourth time in the last 10 seasons (2016, 2017 and 2019). Each of the last three 3-0 starts have resulted in double-digit win seasons (11-3 in 2016, 10-3 in 2017 and 10-3 in 2019).

<u>Team Notes</u>

- San Diego State improved to 15-1 in all games played in September since the start of the 2016 campaign.
- San Diego State won its 15th straight game when leading after three quarters.
- The Aztecs improved to 41-1 the last 42 times they have led by at least 14 points in a game.
- SDSU held Arizona to just one third-down conversion in 13 chances, tied for the fourth-lowest third-down conversion percentage (.077) in recorded history. Brady Hoke-coached teams now have three of the six lowest third-down conversion percentages in recorded history.
- San Diego State recorded its 12th-highest pass efficiency (213.15) in a game in its Division I history (since 1969) (min. 15 attempts).
- The Aztecs allowed just nine first downs, tied for the 15th fewest allowed in a game in SDSU's Division I era (since 1969).

<u>Trends</u>

- San Diego State started with the ball for the 100th time over the last 120 games.
- The Aztecs held their opponent scoreless on their opening possession for the 57th time since 2015 (77 games).
- San Diego State has outscored the opposition, 80-30, in the first quarter since the start of the 2020 season.
- The Aztecs won their 15th straight game when leading after three quarters and are now 17-3 under head coach Brady Hoke when leading after three quarters.
- SDSU won its fourth straight game when totaling at least 400 offensive yards.
- San Diego State won its fourth straight game when not committing a turnover and are now 6-0 in the Brady Hoke era when not committing a turnover.

Player Notes

- * Greg Bell, Sr., RB (17 att., 125 yds., 1 TD)
 - Broke 100 yards for the seventh time of his career in just 13 games, including six times at San Diego State in nine games.
 - Recorded his second rushing touchdown of the season and eighth of his career.
 - Recorded his second overall touchdown of the year and ninth of his career.

- * Daniel Bellinger, Sr., TE (3 rec., 113 yds., 1 TD)
 - Became the first Aztec tight end to break 100 receiving yards since Gavin Escobar had 108 vs. UNLV on Oct. 27, 2012.
 - He had the most receiving yards by an Aztec tight end since Escobar had 117 against North Dakota on Sept. 15, 2021.
 - Had a career-long 73-yard catch, which the longest by an Aztec tight end since at least the 1996 season.
 - The 73-yard reception was the longest by an Aztec since Ryan Agnew connected on a 74-yarder to Jesse Matthews in the 2019 New Mexico Bowl.
 - Recorded his first touchdown catch of the season and fourth of his career.

* Jordon Brookshire, Sr., QB (10-for-14, 183 yds., 2 TD, 0 INT | 8 att., 7 yds., 1 TD)

- Improved to 3-1 as SDSU's starting quarterback.
- Recorded his first game with multiple touchdown passes.
- Also added a rushing touchdown, his second straight game with one.

* Ethan Dedeaux, Sr., WR (2 rec., 43 yds., 1 TD)

• Recorded his first touchdown of the season and third of his career.

* Cameron Thomas, Jr., DE (4 tackles (4 solo), 1.0 sack, 1.0 TFL)

- Had his first sack of the season.
- Over his last five games, he has totaled 37 tackles (26 solo), 12 tackles for loss and 3.5 sacks.

Other Notes

- TE Daniel Bellinger, LB Caden McDonald and LT Zachary Thomas all started for the 19th consecutive game, the longest streak on the team (offense/defense).
- CB Tayler Hawkins played in his 46th straight game, the longest streak on the team.
- Hawkins also played in his 46th career game, the most on the team.
- CB Noah Tumblin made his first career start.
- S Patrick McMorris recorded his first career interception.
- Tonight's attendance: 39,097

-SDSU-