EARLY EDITION Postgame Football Notes – San Diego State at Air Force

**Records:** No. 22/21 San Diego State (7-0, 3-0 Mountain West); No. rv/rv Air Force (6-2; 3-2 Mountain West)
**Next Game:** Sat., Oct. 30 | Fresno State | Dignity Health Sports Park | Carson, Calif. | 7:30 p.m. PT | CBSSN | 101.5 KGB, XTRA 1360

**The Big Notes**
- San Diego State improved to 7-0 for the first time since 1975 (Gerald Ford was President and “Bad Blood” by Neil Sadaka was the No. 1 song).
- This marks the fourth 7-0 start for the Aztecs in the Division I era (1969, 1970, 1975 and 2021).
- This is the second 7-0 start as a head coach for Brady Hoke (2008 Ball State started 12-0).
- San Diego State’s seven-game win streak is its longest since an eight-game win streak in the 2016-17 seasons (final two games of 2016 and first six games of 2017).
- This marks the first time San Diego State has won seven consecutive games inside a single season since the Aztecs won their final seven games of the 1977 campaign. SDSU was an independent at that time.
- San Diego State defeated Air Force for the ninth consecutive time. That matches the longest win streak for either team in the series (37 total games).
- San Diego State entered the day as one of only 10 unbeaten teams in the nation.
- San Diego State has won consecutive games as a nationally ranked team for the first time since 2017.
- The Aztecs have won their last four road games as a nationally ranked team (two in 2017 and two in 2021). In all games since 1996, that is tied for the eight-longest active streak in the country.

**The Series**
- San Diego State closes the all-time series deficit to 19-18.
- This is the closest the Aztecs-Falcons series has been since the Academy led, 2-1, following the 1982 meeting.
- The Aztecs won for the fourth consecutive time at Falcon Stadium. Prior to the start of this stretch, San Diego State was 4-11 lifetime at Air Force.
- San Diego State is 2-0 all-time vs. Air Force when nationally ranked. In both games (2017 and 2021), the Aztecs were ranked No. 22 in the AP Top 25 Poll entering the game.

**Team Notes**
- The Aztecs held their 29th straight opponent to fewer than 450 yards of total offense. That is the longest active streak in the nation.
- San Diego State is 3-0 outright as an underdog this season. The Aztecs are 12-6 straight-up as an underdog since Oct. 17, 2015
- San Diego State is 17-7 in road games since claiming the Mountain West championship at Wyoming in 2016. That is the eighth-best record nationally over that span.
- San Diego State is 9-1 in its last 10 games on exactly eight days between games (the Aztecs last game was Fri., Oct. 15 at San José State).
- Streaks extended with the win:
  - 7-game overall winning streak
- 9-game winning streak against Air Force
- 4-game Mountain West win streak
- 3-game road winning streak

- San Diego State improved to 3-0 in Mountain West play, its best start to a league campaign since the 2018 squad opened 3-0.
- San Diego State improved to 15-2 in its last 17 games played against a team from the state of Colorado.
- San Diego State improved to 7-1 in its last eight games played inside the state of Colorado.
- San Diego State improved to 11-2 in its last 13 games played in the Mountain Time Zone.
- San Diego State snapped Air Force’s four-game win streak. The Aztecs improved to 8-3 since 2011 when facing teams that entered the game with at least a four-game winning streak.
- The last time the Aztecs won a road game against an opponent that carried a four-game winning streak or longer into the contest was Nov. 9, 2013, when the Aztecs won at San Jose State, 34-30.
- San Diego State has forced at least one turnover in 20 consecutive games.
- The Aztecs allowed a rushing touchdown with 3:59 left in the fourth quarter, the first one given up by SDSU this season in regulation. San Diego State had gone 33 quarters without allowing a rushing touchdown until that score.
- The Aztecs won their 20th straight game when leading after three quarters and are now 22-3 under head coach Brady Hoke when leading after three quarters.
- SDSU has won 11 consecutive games when the opposition passer rating is below 100.
- Since Brady Hoke returned as head coach, San Diego State has outscored the opposition, 243-128, in the nine Mountain West games.
- The Aztecs didn’t have a turnover for the second time this season. SDSU is 2-0 when not committing a turnover and 7-0 in the Brady Hoke era.
- San Diego State won its seventh straight game when committing fewer turnovers than its opponent. SDSU is 11-2 in the Brady Hoke era when committing fewer turnovers.

### Trends

- The Aztecs won the coin toss for the fourth time this season in seven games.
- SDSU did not start with the ball for just the 24th time over the last 125 games.
- San Diego State held its opponent scoreless on its opening possession for the seventh straight game (six, three-and-outs or less) and the 62nd time since 2015 (82 games).
- The Aztecs improved to 4-0 this season and 15-4 in the Brady Hoke era when scoring first.
- SDSU improved to 5-0 on the season and 21-5 in the Brady Hoke era when leading at the half.
- SDSU improved to 45-1 the last 46 times it has led by at least 14 points in a game.
- The Aztecs improved to 52-8 the last 60 times they have scored at least 20 points in a game.
- The Aztecs improved to 23-2 in the Brady Hoke era when allowing 24 points or less (6-0 this season).
- San Diego State improved to 53-5 the last 58 times it held its opponent to a third-down conversion percentage of 33.3 or less.
- The Aztecs improved to 3-0 this season in games decided by seven or less points.

### Player Notes

* Chance Bell, Sr., RB (8 att., 50 yds., 1 TD)
Scored his third rushing touchdown of the season and eighth of his career . . . Now has three overall touchdowns this year and eight for his career.

* Kaegun Williams, Sr., RB (10 att., 34 yds., 1 TD)
Scored his second rushing touchdown of the season and third of his career . . . Now has two overall touchdowns this year and four for his career.

* Matt Araiza, Jr., K/P (2-for-2 FG, 51 LG | 2-for-2 PAT | 5 P, 54.8 avg., 4 120, 81 LG | 5 KO, 65.0 avg., 5 TB)
Made a pair of field goals and now has multiple field goals in 14 of his 28 career games . . . Kicked a 51-yard field goal in the second quarter, tied for the second longest of his career . . . Is now 3-for-5 on 50-yard attempts this season . . . Had an 81-yard punt, which was his second straight game with an 80-yard punt . . . Finished with two 60-yard punts and now has 14 on the season, which is tied with Texas A&M Braden Mann (2018) for the most in a season in FBS history . . . Tied a career high with four punts inside the 20-yard line.
* Lucas Johnson, Sr., QB (11-for-13, 72 yds., 0 TD, 0 INT)
Improved to 3-0 as the starting quarterback this season ... Posted a 84.6 completion percentage, the highest mark of his career (min. 12 attempts).

* Patrick McMorris, Jr., S (7 tackles)
Tied for the team lead with seven tackles.

* Michael Shawcroft, Jr., LB (7 tackles, 1.0 TFL)
Tied for the team lead with seven tackles ... Now has 15 tackles and four tackles for loss over his last two games.

Other Notes
- TE Daniel Bellinger and LB Caden McDonald each started for the 24th consecutive game, the longest streaks on the team (offense/defense).
- LB Caden McDonald played for the 41st straight game, the longest streak on the team.
- S Trenton Thompson and CB Tayler Hawkins each played in their 50th game of their career, the most played among current Aztecs.
- LT Desmond Bessent, LB Vai Kaho and CB Dallas Branch all made their first career start today.
- CB Branch recorded his first career interception in the first quarter.
- S Trenton Thompson recorded his second career forced fumble and first since Nov. 24, 2018 against Hawai’i.
- CB Noah Avinger recovered his first career fumble.
- Tonight’s attendance was 23,887.

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