



**SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS**  
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## **Postgame Football Notes – No. 19/19 San Diego State vs. Utah State** **Dec. 4, 2021 | Dignity Health Sports Park | Carson, Calif.**

**Records:** No. 19 San Diego State (11-2); Utah State (10-3)

**Next Game:** Bowl Game (TBA)

### **Team Notes**

- SDSU dropped to 2-1 in MW championship games.
- San Diego State finished its season with a 6-2 “home” record and finished 9-3 at Dignity Health Sports Park (116 miles away) over the last two years.
- The Aztecs had held their opponents to 35 points or less in 46 straight games prior to today, which was the longest active streak in the country.
- SDSU had 120 penalty yards, its most since recording 125 at No. 10 Stanford on Aug. 31, 2018 and its eighth most in a game since at least 1996.
- Utah State’s average field position (USU 40) was the best against the Aztecs since Brigham Young started on its own 44-yard line on Dec. 20, 2012 in the Poinsettia Bowl.
- SDSU has had a worse average field position in only two of the past 10 games and San Diego State lost both games.

### **The Series**

- San Diego State dropped to 13-3 all-time against Utah State.
- The Aztecs’ only losses in the series are 1967 at San Diego Stadium (L, 31-25), 2019 at SDCCU Stadium (L, 23-17) and 2021 at Dignity Health Sports Park (L, 46-13)
- SDSU is now 8-3 against the Aggies at home.

### **Trends**

- The Aztecs lost the coin toss for the seventh time this season in 13 games.
- SDSU started with the ball for the 104th time in the last 131 games.
- San Diego State held its opponent scoreless on its opening possession for the 12th time in the last 13 games, including 10, three-and-outs or less over that span.
- The Aztecs forced three-and-outs on Utah State’s first three drives of the game.

### **Player Notes**

**\* Jesse Matthews, Jr., WR (8 rec., 82 yds., 1 TD)**

Caught his fifth touchdown in the past three games, seventh of the season and 10th of his career . . . Over the last three games, he has 26 catches for 290 yards and five touchdowns.

**\* Jalen Mayden, So., QB (5-for-6, 50 yds., 1 TD, 0 INT | 4 att., 36 yds.)**

Threw his first touchdown pass in his first appearance of the season (fourth game overall, previous three at Mississippi State).

**\* Greg Bell, Sr., RB (11 att., 50 yds.)**

Now has 990 rushing yards for the season... Has 1,627 rushing yards for his career in just 19 games, which ranks 20th in program history.

**\* Matt Araiza, Jr., K/P (1-for-1 PAT | 2-for-3 FG, 36 LG | 3 P, 49.0 avg., 57 LG | 4 KO, 66.8 avg., 3 TB)**

Now has multiple field goals in six games this season and 17 for his career... With a 57-yard punt, extended his NCAA records for 50-yard punts (39) in a season... Is still pace to break the FBS punting average record and is at 51.37 (record is 50.98)... Also kicked off four times with three going for touchbacks, setting a career high with a 66.8 average (SDSU had to kick on its own 20-yard line because of a penalty).

**\* CJ Baskerville, TR-Fr., S (8 tackles (7 solo), 2 PBU)**

Led the team in tackles for the first time of his career in just his third career start... The eight tackles and two pass breakups each were career highs.

**\* Jonah Tavai, Sr., DT (4 tackles (3 solo), 1.0 sack, 1.5 TFL)**

Now has 7.5 sacks for the season (12.5 for his career) and 12 tackles for loss for the year (20 for his career)... Over the last two games, has recorded four sacks and five tackles for loss.

**\* Keshawn Banks, Sr., DT (4 tackles (2 solo), 1.0 sack, 2.0 TFL)**

Now has four sacks for the season (8.5 for his career) and 10 tackles for loss for the year (29.5 for his career).

**\* Cameron Thomas, Jr., DE (2 tackles, 0.5 TFL)**

Had his streak snapped at seven straight games with at least one sack... Now has 20.5 tackles for loss on the season, which has tied a Mountain West record and is seventh in SDSU single-season history... His 39 tackles for loss for his career is ranked 10th in program history... Over the last 16 games (three last year and 13 this year), he has totaled 95 tackles (48 solo), 28 tackles for loss and 14 sacks).

**\* Patrick McMorris, Jr., AZT (4 tackles, 1 INT)**

Had an interception, his third in the last two games and fourth of the season (and career).

#### **Other Notes**

- LB Caden McDonald started for the 30th consecutive game, the longest streak on the team (offense/defense).
- LB Caden McDonald played for the 47th straight game, the longest streak on the team.
- S Trenton Thompson and CB Tayler Hawkins each played in their 56th game of their career, the most played among current Aztecs.

*-SDSU-*