

SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

POSTGAME NOTES ♦ SAN DIEGO STATE 48, TOWSON 21 ♦ Sat., Sept. 25, 2021 ♦ Dignity Health Sports Park (Carson, Calif.)



FINAL SCORE	48	21
Time Spent in the Lead (<i>Tied 16:42</i>)	37:56	5:22
Total Plays-Yards	73-450	56-228
Plus Territory: Plays-Yards	30-175	8-62
Drives with Plays in Plus Territory	7 of 12	2 of 13
First Down Plays/Yards	32/156	24/39
Average on First Down	4.88	1.63
Rushes-Yards (Avg.)	19-67 (3.5)	12-4 (0.3)
Passes-Yards (Avg.)	12-89 (7.4)	11-35 (3.2)
First Down Sacked (goes down as a rush)	1-(-9)	1-(-4)
First Down Penalties by Opponents-Yards	2-20	0-0
First Down Penalties by Offense-Yards	0-0	1-15
First Downs Made	7	1
First Down Turnovers	0	1
First Down Touchdowns	2	1
Third Down Efficiency (Pct.)	8-15 (53.3)	4-12 (33.3)
Rushing (Pct.)	6-10 (60.0)	1-1 (10.00)
Passing (Pct.)	2-5 (40.0)	3-10 (30.0)
Third Down Sacked (goes down as a rush)	0-(0)	1-(-10)
Conversion by Penalties	2	1
Third Down Penalties by Opponents-Yards	2-10	1-5
Third Down Penalties by Offense-Yards	0-0	3-20
Average Yards to Go (All)	7.4	7.8
Yards Gained	189	44
Average Yards Gained/Att.	12.60	3.67
3rd & Long (9 or more)	0-4	0-5
3rd & Short (4 or less)	4-4	3-4
Third Down Turnovers	1	0
Third Down Touchdowns	1	0
Fourth Down Efficiency (Yards)	1-1 (100.0)	0-0 (0.00)
Total Possessions/Average Field Position	13/TOWSON26	12/SDSU34
First Half	7/TOWSON20	7/SDSU32
Second Half	6/TOWSON34	6/SDSU37
Drives Started Inside/At Own 25	6 (2/4)	10 (4/6)
Points Scored (Touchdowns/Field Goals)	10 (1/1)	14 (2/0)
Drives Started in Plus Territory/Attempted to Score	2/2	1/1
Points Scored (Touchdowns/Field Goals)	10 (1/1)	7 (1/0)
Three and Outs or Less (must not have earned 1st D or scored)	3	7
Opponent Turnovers (Points)	2 (14)	1 (7)
Scores-Times in the Red Zone (Points)	5-6 (31)	3-3 (21)
Plays-Yards	14-52	3-24
Third Down Efficiency	1-2	0-0
Scores-Times in the Goal to Go (Points)	2-2 (14)	1-1 (7)
Plays-Yards	4-10	1-4
Explosive Plays (20-plus Yards)	4	2
Rushing	3	0
Passing	1	2
Yards by Quarter:		
First	51	115
Second	143	100
Third	162	4
Fourth	94	9
Longest Drive (Plays)	17 (11th, 3 pts.)	11 (7th, 7 pts.)
Shortest Drive (Plays)	3 (4 times)	3 (7 times)
Long Drive (Yards)	90 (5th, 7 pts.)	80 (7th, 7 pts.)
Shortest Drive (Yards)	-5 (3rd, 0 pts.)	-1 (8th, 0 pts.)
Longest Drive (TOP)	10:31 (11th, 3 pts.)	3:28 (1st, 0 pts.)
Shortest Drive (TOP)	0:55 (7th, 0 pts.)	0:58 (8th, 0 pts.)

BIG NOTES

- San Diego State improved to 4-0 for just the second time in the last 40 seasons (also: 2017).
- The Aztecs are 4-0 for just the 15th time in 99 seasons of program existence (1930, 1936, 1937, 1951, 1964, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1972, 1975, 1981, 2017 and 2021).
- SDSU is 4-0 for just the sixth time in its Division I history (since 1969) (1969, 1970, 1972, 1975, 1981 and 2021)).
- San Diego State won today despite playing without four starters – QB Jordan Brookshire, WR Kobe Smith, MLB Andrew Aleki and CB Tayler Hawkins.
- The Aztecs improved to 3-0 at home this season and runs their “home” win streak to five games. SDSU is 6-1 in games played at Dignity Health Sports Park with four more home games scheduled this season.
- San Diego State improved to 17-1 in September games since the start of the 2016 season. During that time, the Aztecs own wins over Arizona, Arizona State (twice), California, Stanford, UCLA and Utah among others.
- SDSU’s four-game win streak is its longest contained inside a single-season since the Aztecs won four in a row in 2019. San Diego State has posted a win streak of at least four games in each of the last six seasons in which a full schedule has been played (excludes COVID shortened 2020 campaign).
- SDSU has already equaled its win total from last year’s COVID shortened eight-game season (4-4).
- The Aztecs scored their most points (48) since also scoring 48 against Central Michigan in the 2019 New Mexico Bowl.
- San Diego State had its second straight game with a blocked punt and third in four games this season.
- On the season, the Aztecs have scored four non-offensive touchdowns, including two blocked punt returns, one kickoff return and one interception return.
- The Aztecs improved to 51-2 the last 53 times they have rushed for at least 200 yards in a game.
- SDSU outscored Towson, 24-0, in the third quarter and is outscoring the opposition, 62-0, in the third quarter this season.
- San Diego State’s 24 points in the third quarter are its most in any quarter since scoring 24 in the first vs. Idaho State on Sept. 24, 2004.

TEAM NOTES

- San Diego State cleared 200 yards rushing for the fourth consecutive week, posting 281 yards on 45 carries, for the first time since the final five games of the 2017 season.
- The Aztecs scored four rushing touchdowns, their most since also having four against Army West Point in the 2017 Armed Forces Bowl on Dec. 23.
- SDSU held its fifth straight opponent to less than 100 yards rushing.
- San Diego State’s 27-point win was its largest since beating Utah State, 38-7, on Oct. 31, 2020 and largest in a non-conference game since beating Central Michigan, 48-11, in the 2019 New Mexico Bowl.
- SDSU’s 266-yard advantage on the ground is the 14th-largest difference in Division I history (since 1969).
- San Diego State is 18-0 since 1969 when owning a 250-yard advantage in rushing.
- The Aztecs were 8-for-15 (53.3 pct.) on third down today after entering the game 13-for-42 (31.0 pct.) for the season on third down.
- SDSU held Towson to just 15 rushing yards, the fewest in a game by the Tigers since they had eight against Northeastern on Oct. 24, 2009.
- San Diego State’s average fielding position (own 34-yard line) was its best of the season.
- The Aztecs had the ball for 38 minutes, 10 seconds (38:10), their most in a game since holding the ball for 38:19 against Central Michigan in the 2019 New Mexico Bowl.

TRENDS

- San Diego State started with the ball for the 101st time over the last 122 games.
- The Aztecs held their opponent scoreless on their opening possession for the 59th time since 2015 (79 games).
- SDSU has outscored the opposition, 90-44, in the first quarter since the start of the 2020 season.
- San Diego State improved to 2-0 on the season and 18-5 in the Brady Hoke era when leading

at the half.

- The Aztecs won their 17th straight game when leading after three quarters and are now 19-3 under head coach Brady Hoke when leading after three quarters.
- The Aztecs improved to 43-1 the last 44 times they have led by at least 14 points in a game.
- San Diego State improved to 50-8 the last 58 games it has scored at least 20 points in a game.
- San Diego State improved to 42-4 the last 46 times it has scored at least 30 points.
- The Aztecs won their 18th straight game when scoring at least 40 points.
- SDSU has won nine straight games when rushing for 200 yards and 10 straight in the Brady Hoke era (13-2 overall).
- San Diego State won its fifth straight game when recording at least 400 yards of total offense (13-3 in Brady Hoke era).
- The Aztecs improved to 20-2 in the Brady Hoke era when allowing 24 points or less (3-0 this season).
- SDSU improved to 13-3 in the Brady Hoke era when holding the opposing offense to less than 300 yards.
- San Diego State improved to 49-5 the last 54 times it held its opponent to a third-down conversion percentage of 33.3 or less.
- The Aztecs have one or less turnovers in three straight games.
- SDSU has won 11 consecutive games when forcing two or more turnovers.
- San Diego State is 30-7 the last 37 times it has had the ball at least 35 minutes.
- The Aztecs improved to 16-3 in the Brady Hoke era when outrushing their opponent.
- SDSU improved to 9-2 in the Brady Hoke era when committing less turnovers than its opponent, including wins in five straight games.
- San Diego State improved to 13-3 in the Brady Hoke era when owning more time of possession, and 13-2 when having more first downs and time of possession.
- The Aztecs are now 17-2 in the Brady Hoke era when having better field position than their opponent.

PLAYER NOTES

* Jordan Byrd, Sr., RB/KR/PR (7 att., 79 yds., 2 TD | 3 PR, 31 yds.)

Had his most rushing yards in a game since having 139 against Central Michigan in the 2019 New Mexico Bowl ... Had two rushing touchdowns for the second time of his career (also Sept. 14, 2019 at New Mexico State) ... The two touchdowns also matched a career high (same NMSU game) ... Now has three rushing touchdowns this season and nine for his career ... Also has four overall touchdowns on the season and 11 for his career.

* Kaegun Williams, Sr., RB (10 att., 76 yds., 1 TD | 1 rec., 9 yds. | 1 KR, 16 yds.)

Had a season high in rushing yards ... Recorded his first rushing touchdown of the season and second of his career (also at No. 14/16 Brigham Young on Dec. 12, 2021) ... The touchdown was his first overall score this year and third of his career.

* Chance Bell, Sr., RB (7 att., 79 yds., 1 TD)

Had his most rushing yards since running for 98 at Utah State on Oct. 31, 2020 ... Scored his first rushing touchdown of the season and sixth of his career.

* Lucas Johnson, Sr., QB (16-for-25, 149 yds., 1 TD, 1 INT)

Improved to 2-1 as SDSU's starting quarterback ... Threw his second touchdown pass of the season and fourth of his career ... Threw an interception in the first quarter, the first of his Aztec career ... His interception came on his 48th attempt as an Aztec ... The 149 passing yards were the second most of his career ... Threw a completion to nine different receivers.

* Elijah Kothe, Sr., WR (1 rec., 16 yds., 1 TD)

Recorded his first receiving touchdown of the season and second of his career (also at No. 14/16 Brigham Young on Dec. 12, 2021).

* Matt Araiza, Jr., K/P (2-for-2 FG, 48 long | 3 P, 197 yds. (65.7 avg.), 72 long | 8 KO, 64.9 avg., 6 TB)

Made both of his field goal attempts, including a long of 48 yards ... Now has multiple field goals in 12 of his 25 career games ... The 65.7 punt average on three punts easily eclipsed his school-record average of 56.8 against New Mexico State on Sept. 4, 2021, but he didn't reach the minimum (4 punts) allowed to count for the record ... The 65.7 punt average is the highest in an FBS game since at least 1996 (min. 3 punts) ... As of 5:15 p.m. PT, he has the top-two punt averages in a game this season (65.7 today and 56 vs. New Mexico State) ... Recorded his fourth straight game with at least a 50-yard punt average ... Also kicked off eight times with six going for touchbacks.

* Brionne Penny, So., WR (4 rec., 55 yds.)

Had his first four catches of his career, leading the team in receptions (4) and receiving yards (55).

* Patrick McMorris, Jr., AZT (8 tackles, 1 PBU)

Had his most rushing yards since running for 98 at Utah State on Oct. 31, 2020 ... Scored his first rushing touchdown of the season and sixth of his career.

OTHER NOTES

- TE Daniel Bellinger, LB Caden McDonald and LT Zachary Thomas all started for the 21st consecutive game, the longest streaks on the team (offense/defense).
- CB Tayler Hawkins did not play, snapping his SDSU-long 47-game playing streak. LB Caden McDonald now has the longest streak on the team at 38 straight games played.
- S Trenton Thompson played in the 47th game of his career, tying Hawkins for the most played among current Aztecs.
- WR Mekhi Shaw logged his first career start and had his first career catch.
- WR Tyrell Shavers made his first start as an Aztec (second of his career) ... Blocked his second punt of the season, both over his last two games.
- CB Noah Avinger recorded his first career interception.
- LB Garret Fountain recovered his first career fumble.
- Trenton Thompson recorded his second career blocked punt return for a touchdown.
- Today's temperature: 76 degrees