

#91 JUSTUS TAVAI (tuh-VIE)

Defensive Line • 6-3 • 295 • Manhattan Beach, Calif. • Hawai'i

- **At San Diego State:** Joined the Aztecs in January for the 2022 spring season ... Big body with five years of collegiate experience, including four at the FBS level ... Younger brother, Jonah, was a fellow senior defensive lineman with the program.
- **2022 (^Senior):** Was named to the Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award ... Also is listed as the "top newcomer" by Lindy's Sports and a "key transfer" by Athlon Sports ... Is listed as "SDSU's No. 7 player" by Athlon Sports and a "SDSU player to watch" by Lindy's Sports ... Had 38 tackles (17 solo), including 3.5 sacks, five tackles for loss, an interception, a pass breakup and a quarterback hurry in 13 starts ... Came up with five tackles (two solo), including a 6-yard sack (and TFL), in his first start as an Aztec against Arizona on Sept. 3, in 53 snaps ... Had an assisted tackle and a quarterback hurry in another start vs. Idaho State on Sept. 10 across 46 snaps ... Came up with five tackles (four solo) in 47 snaps in a start at No. 14/15 Utah on Sept. 17 ... Made a solo stop in 55 snaps vs. Toledo on Sept. 24 ... Did not record a stat in 12 snaps in a start at Boise State, exiting early with an injury ... Logged four tackles (one solo) against his former team, Hawai'i, on Oct. 8 in a start across 36 snaps ... Recorded his first career interception and added a pass breakup in a start and 39 snaps at Nevada on Oct. 22 ... Had a pair of tackles (one solo), including 0.5 sacks (and 0.5 TFL), in a start and 51 snaps at Fresno State on Oct. 29 ... Had a pair of tackles (one solo) in 41 snaps vs. UNLV on Nov. 5 ... Registered three tackles (two solo) in 37 defensive snaps against San José State on Nov. 12 ... Had five tackles (two solo) with an 11-yard sack and a career-high 2.5 tackles for loss in a start and 36 snaps at New Mexico on Nov. 18 ... The five tackles matched a season high ... Had five tackles (one solo) in a start and 59 snaps vs. Air Force on Nov. 26, matching a season high for a second straight game ... Came up with five tackles (two solo), including a 6-yard sack (and TFL), in a start and 61 snaps vs. Middle Tennessee in the Hawai'i Bowl on Dec. 24.
- **At Hawai'i (2019-21):** Appeared in 25 games at Hawai'i from 2019-21, logging 18 starts after redshirting the 2018 campaign ... Totaled 72 tackles (40 solo), including 10 tackles for loss and four sacks, along with three pass breakups, three fumble recoveries and a forced fumble ... Had 34 tackles (19 solo) last year, playing all 13 games with 11 starts, while adding five tackles for loss, a sack, three quarterback hurries, two fumble recoveries and a pass breakup ... Had 35 tackles (18 solo) in 2020, starting seven times and playing in all nine games, while adding four tackles for loss, two sacks, two PBUs, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery ... Played in three games off the bench in 2019, making two tackles with a sack ... Redshirted his first year with the Rainbow Warriors in 2018.
- **At El Camino College (2017):** Played one season at El Camino College in Torrance, Calif. ... Played all 11 games, earning second-team all-league honors after recording 41 tackles (26 solo), 2.5 sacks and a forced fumble, leading ECC to a win over Palomar College in the Beach Bowl.
- **High School:** Prepped at Mira Costa High School in Manhattan Beach, Calif., where he earned three letters ... Amassed 83 tackles, 10 tackles for loss and five sacks as a senior in 2016 ... Tallied 72 tackles and two sacks in eight games as a junior ... Also was a standout rugby player, helping MCHS to a pair of league titles and a spot in the 2016 national championship in Charlotte, N.C. ... Was a member of the 2015 USA Rugby team that competed in France and Belgium ... Was a two-star recruit by Rivals.
- **Personal:** Son of William and Nafuana Tavai ... Brother, Jonah, is a two-time all-Mountain West defensive tackle at San Diego State ... Has three other brothers that also played Division I football, including Jahlani (Hawai'i, now with New England Patriots), Jordan (Kansas) and J.R. (USC, once played for Tennessee Titans).

Ju. Tavai's Career Statistics ^ at Hawai'i

Season	GP	GS	UA	A	TT	TFL	Sk	Int.	PBU	FF	FR
2019^	3	0	2	0	2	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0
2020^	9	7	18	17	35	4.0	2.0	0	2	1	1
2021^	13	11	19	15	34	5.0	1.0	0	1	0	2
2022	13	13	17	21	38	5.0	3.5	1	1	0	0
Career	38	31	56	53	109	15.0	7.5	1	4	1	3

Career Highs: Tackles: 7 vs. San Diego State (11/6/21); Tackles For Loss: 2.5 at New Mexico (11/18/22); Sacks: 1.0, six times; Interceptions: 1 at Nevada (10/22/22); Pass Breakups: 1, four times; Forced Fumbles: 1 vs. New Mexico (11/7/20); Fumble Recoveries: 1 vs. Colorado State (11/20/21), at Oregon State (9/11/21), vs. UNLV (12/12/20).

2022 Highs: Tackles: 5, five times; Tackles For Loss: 1.5 at New Mexico (11/18/22); Sacks: 2.5 at New Mexico (11/18/22); Interceptions: 1 at Nevada (10/22/22); Pass Breakups: 1 at Nevada (10/22/22).

Ju. Tavai's Career Game-by-Game (Games Played Only)

Date	Opponent	GP	GS	UA	A	TT	TFL	Sk.	Int.	PBU	FF	FR
S.21.19	Central Arkansas	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.21.19	at Nevada*	1	0	2	0	2	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0
O.26.19	at New Mexico*	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.24.20	at Fresno State*	1	1	1	2	3	1.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.30.20	at Wyoming*	1	1	2	4	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.7.20	New Mexico*	1	0	2	0	2	0.0	0.0	0	1	0	0
N.14.20	at San Diego State*	1	1	3	3	6	1.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.21.20	Boise State*	1	1	5	1	6	1.0	1.0	0	0	1	0
N.28.20	Nevada*	1	1	1	0	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
D.5.20	San José State*	1	1	1	5	6	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
D.12.20	UNLV*	1	0	2	1	3	1.0	1.0	0	1	0	1
D.24.20	vs. Houston~	1	1	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
A.28.21	at UCLA	1	1	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.4.21	Portland State	1	1	3	3	6	1.5	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.11.21	at Oregon State	1	1	1	0	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	1
S.18.21	San José State*	1	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.25.21	at New Mexico State	1	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.2.21	Fresno State*	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.16.21	at Nevada*	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.23.21	New Mexico State*	1	1	2	1	3	1.0	0.0	0	1	0	0
O.30.21	at Utah State*	1	1	3	3	6	0.5	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.6.21	San Diego State*	1	1	4	3	7	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.13.21	at UNLV*	1	1	1	3	4	1.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.20.21	Colorado State*	1	1	2	0	2	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	1
N.27.21	at Wyoming*	1	1	3	1	4	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.3.22	Arizona	1	1	2	3	5	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0
S.10.22	Idaho State	1	1	0	1	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.17.22	at No. 14/15 Utah	1	1	4	1	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
S.24.22	Toledo	1	1	1	0	1	0.0	0.0	0	0	1	0
S.30.22	at Boise State*	1	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.8.22	Hawai'i*	1	1	1	3	4	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
O.22.22	at Nevada*	1	1	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	1	1	0	0
O.29.22	at Fresno State*	1	1	1	1	2	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0
N.5.22	UNLV*	1	1	1	1	2	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.12.22	San José State*	1	1	2	1	3	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
N.18.22	at New Mexico*	1	1	2	3	5	2.5	1.0	0	0	0	0
N.26.22	Air Force*	1	1	1	4	5	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0
D.24.22	vs. Middle Tennessee^	1	1	2	3	5	1.0	1.0	0	0	0	0

*Bold indicates season high. * - Mountain West game. ~ - 2020 New Mexico Bowl (Toyota Stadium; Frisco, Texas). ^ - 2022 EasyPost Hawai'i Bowl (Clarence T.C. Ching Athletics Complex; Honolulu, Hawaii).*