



**SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS**  
5500 CAMPANILE DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92182 | (619) 594-5547

**GOAZTECS.COM | @GOAZTECS | #GOAZTECS**

**San Diego State Scrimmage Quotes**  
**Aug. 20, 2022**  
**Bashor Field at Snapdragon Stadium**

**Head Coach Brady Hoke**

**On the scrimmage as a whole:**

"It was good to get out of here and get acclimated to where you are at and the different things. And it's a great venue, obviously. It was good to be here, nice to have families in attendance. I know our guys really enjoyed that part of it. I thought we had some really good energy out there. In the first half we brought the energy. Go to the second half, and you get not quite the same energy that we did in the first half."

**On the quarterback play and the line play:**

"They are improving every time they get out. That, in my opinion, probably is the hardest position to play in game of football, because of what's asked of you, and so I think they did a great job. I think they're coming along. When you're a young football team you look at who's next, and who can bring a different impact."

**On what needs to be cleaned up before the first game:**

"One thing I think we were a little better at was we didn't have a whole lot of penalties. That drives me crazy, because I had to deal with that at the championship game and we played poorly and gave away a ton of penalties. We've stressed that we need to clean things up, and the guys know that and so today that was a positive for us."

**Senior wide Receiver Jesse Matthews**

**On finally getting to play in Snapdragon:**

"It's all so surreal. I was talking to some other guys, and I said that I can't believe that we're actually back here in this community as well. Just to be back home and see the fans here and the atmosphere. This is a beautiful stadium that we have. It's really exciting."

**On his connection with quarterback Braxton Burmeister:**

"...I texted him as soon as he transferred over here and we got to work together starting in January. We've been building that chemistry from that point on, and he's been my lifting partner ever since he arrived on campus. Just building that friendship, as well, has really helped our chemistry. I think we're going to keep growing. There's still some room for improvement, but I think we're off to a good start so far."

**Senior defensive tackle Jonah Tavai**

**On the offensive line:**

"They've become a good side for us. They're going to do big things for us. Everything is coming together for us. We play all day, every day. Sometimes before practice, sometimes after practice just trying to get in and out. All of it to get better. So far, even today throughout the game, their ability has definitely shown, whether it's just the ones in or the twos, they're working on getting better."

**On playing with his brother Justus Tavai:**

"I know my family's really proud of us coming together just to play our senior year together. I think both of us will prosper. As kids, we were really competitive. If I see him make a play, I'm going to be happy for him but I'm going to be mad too and vice versa. Out there, even today, I made a play right before he did. Instead of cheering me on, he put me on my head and screamed at me a bit, just things like that. He pushes me forward and I'm excited to see what we do this year."

**-SDSU-**