



## SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS

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### Postgame Football Notes – San Diego State vs. Brigham Young

Nov. 30, 2019

SDCCU Stadium | San Diego, Calif.

\*\*\* FINAL EDITION

#### Big Notes

- San Diego State improved to 9-3 on the season.
- The Aztecs have at least nine wins in four of the past five years, and five times in the Rocky Long era (since 2011).
- SDSU snapped a six-game losing streak to Brigham Young (previous win was Oct. 1, 2005).
- San Diego State is now 8-28-1 all-time against the Cougars, including a 6-12-1 record at home.
- The Aztecs finished 4-2 at home on the season and now have six straight winning seasons at home. SDSU hasn't had a losing home season since going 2-4 in 2008.
- San Diego State won on Senior Night for the eighth time in 10 seasons (exceptions were 2018 and 2016).
- The Aztecs snapped Brigham Young's five-game winning streak, its longest since the 2008 campaign.
- SDSU has gone 26 straight quarters without allowing more than one score. The last time San Diego State allowed multiple scores in a quarter was the second quarter vs. Wyoming on Oct. 12. The Aztecs have allowed just 83 points over the last 26 quarters (3.2 points per quarter).
- SDSU improved to 32-2 over its last 34 games when owning a turnover advantage.
- San Diego State held Brigham Young to three points, its fewest in a game since being shut out at No. 17 LSU on Sept. 2, 2017 and the fewest against a Group of 5 opponent since being shut out against Utah (was in the Mountain West at the time) on Sept. 22, 2003. The Cougars came into tonight averaging 30.3 points per game, including 39.8 points per game over their five-game win streak.
- Carson Baker became just the second quarterback in the Aztecs' Division I history (since 1969) to win in his starting debut having never previously thrown a collegiate pass (also Joe Davis vs. Arkansas State on Sept. 12, 1976).
- Baker became the first SDSU quarterback to start in a game having never previously thrown a pass since Ryan Lindley started on Aug. 30, 2008 vs. Cal Poly.
- Baker became the fourth straight San Diego State quarterback to win in his starting debut, joining Maxwell Smith (Aug. 30, 2015 vs. San Diego), Christian Chapman (Dec. 5, 2015 vs. Air Force in the Mountain West Championship game) and Ryan Agnew (Sept. 15, 2018 vs. No. 23/25 Arizona State).
- Aztec quarterbacks were 1-13 in the previous 14 debuts prior to this stretch.

#### Team Notes

- SDSU has won 27 of its last 39 (27-12) games, 34 of its last 48 (34-14), 47 of its last 62 (47-15) and 48 of its last 66 since the 2015 season (48-18).
- SDSU won its 24th straight game and improved to 35-5 in the Rocky Long era when forcing at least three turnovers in a game.
- SDSU improved to 7-1 this season and 52-6 in the Rocky Long era when having less turnovers than its opponent.

- San Diego State improved to 52-3 in the Rocky Long era when allowing less than 17 points.
- The Aztecs improved to 40-9 in the Rocky Long era when holding the opposition to an average field position of the 25-yard line or worse.
- SDSU improved to 9-1 on the year and 64-15 in the Rocky Long era when owning a better average fielding position.
- BYU was 1-for-3 on fourth down against SDSU tonight. Opponents are now 20-for-59 (33.9 pct.) on fourth down against the Aztecs since 2016.

### **Series Notes**

- SDSU snapped a six-game losing streak to Brigham Young (previous last win was Oct. 1, 2005).
- San Diego State is now 8-28-1 all-time against the Cougars, including a 6-12-1 record at home.
- The Aztecs beat BYU for second time in the last 10 meetings (since 2001).

### **Trends**

- San Diego State started with the ball for the 96th time in the last 109 games.
- The Aztecs held their opponents scoreless on their opening possession for the ninth time this season and 48th time since 2015 (66 games).
- San Diego State improved to 8-0 this season and 58-12 in the Rocky Long era when leading at the half.
- The Aztecs improved to 9-0 this season and 68-12 in the Rocky Long era when leading after three quarters.

### **Player Notes**

#### **\* Carson Baker, RS-Fr., QB (19-for-24, 172 yards, 1 TD, 0 INT)**

- Was 19-for-24 for 172 yards and a touchdown without throwing an interception.
- The touchdown pass was the first of his career and was the only touchdown of the game.
- Became just the second quarterback in the Aztecs' Division I history (since 1969) to win in his starting debut having never previously thrown a collegiate pass (also Joe Davis vs. Arkansas State on Sept. 12, 1976).
- Became the first SDSU quarterback to start in a game having never previously thrown a pass since Ryan Lindley started on Aug. 30, 2008 vs. Cal Poly.
- Became the fourth straight San Diego State quarterback to win in his starting debut, joining Maxwell Smith (Aug. 30, 2015 vs. San Diego), Christian Chapman (Dec. 5, 2015 vs. Air Force in the Mountain West Championship game) and Ryan Agnew (Sept. 15, 2018 vs. No. 23/25 Arizona State).
- Aztec quarterbacks were 1-13 in the previous 14 debuts prior to this stretch.
- Had the most completions (19) by an Aztec quarterback in his starting debut since Lindley's 27 completions in the Cal Poly game on Aug. 30, 2018 and most completions in a SDSU win in his debut since Tim Gutierrez had 32 in a 48-17 win over Minnesota on Sept. 25, 1993.

#### **\* Daniel Bellinger, So., TE (1 rec., 25 yds., 1 TD)**

- Had a 25-yard touchdown catch.
- The touchdown was his third of the season (and career).

#### **\* Jesse Matthews, RS-Fr., WR (4 rec., 78 yds.)**

- Had four catches for 78 yards.
- The 78 yards were the second most of his career.
- Now has 16 catches and 229 yards (76.3) over his last three games.

- \* **Tariq Thompson, Jr., WAR (9 tackles (8 solo), 1 FF, 1 FR, 1 INT, 1.0 SCK, 1.0 TFL)**
  - Had nine tackles (eight solo), a forced fumble, fumble recovery, interception, sack and tackle for loss.
  - The nine tackles tied a career high and were his most in a game this season.
  - The forced fumble was his first of the season and fourth of his career.
  - The fumble recovery was his third of the season (T-6th in SDSU single-season history) and fifth of his career (T-5th in program history).
  - The interception was his third of the season and 10th of his career (T-10th in program history).
  - The sack was the first of his career.
  
- \* **Dwayne Johnson Jr., Jr., AZT (9 tackles, 1 INT)**
  - Had nine tackles and an interception.
  - The interception was the first of his career.
  - Led the team in tackles for the fifth time this season (and his career).
  
- \* **Trenton Thompson, Jr., WAR (9 tackles (8 solo), 1 PBU)**
  - Had nine tackles (eight solo) and a pass breakup despite not starting in the game.
  - Tied for the team lead with nine stops, his second time this season (and for his career) leading the team in tackles.
  
- \* **Matt Araiza, RS-Fr., K (2-for-2 FG, 44 long, 1-for-1 PAT)**
  - Was 2-for-2 in field goal attempts with a long of 44 yards.
  - Had multiple field goals for the seventh time this season and has a field goal in all 12 games this year.
  - Has 20 field goals on the season, tied for the second most in SDSU single-season history and one off John Baron III's record of 21 in 2016.
  - Is 20-for-24 (.833) in field goal attempts this season, the sixth-best mark in SDSU single-season history.
  
- \* **Brandon Heicklen, Sr., P (7 punts, 323 yards (46.1 avg.), 4 I20, 2 I10)**
  - Punted seven times for 323 yards (46.1 avg.) and a net average of 43.6.
  - Had four punts inside the 20-yard line, including two inside the 10 and one inside the 5
  - Out of Heicklen's last 15 punts, 11 have landed inside the 20-yard line, seven inside the 10-yard line and four inside the 5-yard line.

### **Other Notes**

- WAR Tariq Thompson started for the 38th consecutive game, the longest streak on the team (offense/defense).
- LB Troy Cassidy played in his 49th straight game, the longest streak on the team.
- Cassidy recorded his first sack of the season and now has five for his career.
- Tonight's attendance was 28,180.
- Tonight's temperature was 54 degrees, the 11th-coldest temperature for an Aztec home game in recorded history and the coldest since a 53-degree game vs. Colorado State on Nov. 26, 2016.
- Tonight's Honor Warrior was Freddie Keiaho (2002-03-04-05).