



## SAN DIEGO STATE COMMUNICATIONS

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### San Diego State Football Press Conference Aztec FAST™ Showcase April 19, 2025

#### Head Coach Sean Lewis

##### Opening Statement:

"It was a fun day and a great spring. It's been a great two phases as we've been working to prepare for the 2025 season, and I'm really pleased with the elite effort by the guys and the connection of the team. I think that really showed through today, just how much these guys like each other, how much they enjoy playing the game of football and competing with everything that they're doing. Guys made plays. I didn't realize that Kyle Crum had those ball skills. We might have to dial up some double passes here as we go forward. We learn something new each and every single day as we go. I'm excited to continue the work that needs to be done. These guys are finishing it the right way in the classroom. The staff will get on the road recruiting here in the next couple of weeks, and then we'll bring them back. We'll get rocking and rolling in the summertime for summer conditioning in phase three, to continue to prep, climb and build towards a special 2025 season."

##### On the players' energy:

"Anything that we do is important because we're doing it. Regardless of what it was, it matters a lot because we're the ones that are doing it. We talk a lot about time. Today, we invested our time in engaging with one another, and our fan base invested their time in being with us. In everything that we do, you're going to feel who we are, and you're going to feel our culture, and you're going to experience what we're about, which is that energy, the desire to be around one another, the genuine happiness to do what we get to do. That shines through, whether it's playing tic-tac-toe wearing pennies or catching punts or guys being dudes, playing a little 7-on-7 and having fun in our beautiful home here in Snapdragon Stadium and in paradise on a beautiful day. I wanted our fans to feel that regardless of what it is, it's important because we're doing it, and that's what our culture looks like. It feels like an experience. You know what the experience is, no matter what it is that we're doing."

**-more-**

**On changing the format from a traditional spring game:**

"We used to allow people to smoke on planes as well, and then time evolved, and we did things differently for the health and safety of everyone. It's my responsibility to care for the health and safety of our team. As this has become a year-round endeavor, we've got multiple touch points with the guys to go through our installations and iterations of teaching and learning in winter conditioning. We mapped out what needed to get done this spring. As we went through the spring work, I became really, really pleased with where we were at, and we're healthy to this point so we made the call that we did. I know some fans were disappointed in that. I understand that. Just because we've always done something, I don't think that's a good reason to continue to do it. You need to continue to innovate and evolve. The guys will come back, and we'll have another iteration of installations and more on the field opportunities so that the team is ready to go. We're really, really close to where we need to be but there's more work that needs to be done. We have the time to do that. I made the call with what the team needed today. The team needed to have fun, and the community had the opportunity to see everything else that they did today. They got a chance to engage and get autographs and learn who those new people are. The new guys will make a splash and the guys who have been around and have built this thing and have unfinished business are going to continue to be who they're going to be. I'm excited with the product and the team and the connection and the bond and the brotherhood that we're going to put on in the field in August, and that's what's most important for the fall."

## **Senior Quarterback Kyle Crum**

**On changing the format from a traditional spring game:**

"Coach says all the time that our practices are for us and that today is for the community. It's for us too, but it's really to put on a show, let everybody have a little bit of fun and get excited about the upcoming season. I think we got our work in during our first 14 practices, and it was cool to just come out today and have a little fun."

**On how the team is now compared to this point last season:**

I think we're a lot closer. Every Wednesday, we do non-football meetings so small groups get to talk to guys about stuff that matters off the field. I feel like that's brought us closer because I probably wouldn't have conversations with defensive lineman about their personal lives most of the time, because we're just in and out of the facility. That's one of the things. As an offense, it helps to have the returners we do have going the second year into the offense, as opposed to all brand-new installations, to be able to kind of take everything in stride, instead of starting at square one."

## **Senior Cornerback Chris Johnson**

**On changing the format from a traditional spring game:**

"I feel like it signified the work that we put in throughout the spring by making this last day a really fun day for the guys. Throughout the spring we had our own scrimmages, so it really wasn't necessary to come all the way here and just have another one. We've probably already had five or six scrimmages during spring ball. To me, coming here just shows that we proved that we came together as a team during those other four or five weeks so that we could just come here and have fun. Everybody gets to be a skill guy. The offensive guys get to have fun. Being able to do things we never normally do is a refresher and a reward for the hard work we put in."

**-more-**

**On how the team is now compared to this point last season:**

"The first thing that sticks out is our connection. I feel like what we did today is something that we wouldn't have been able to do last season because of our connection. Players wouldn't have cared as much about hyping each other up or anything. I'm not knocking last year's team because I was on it, but it definitely feels different this season, and that has to do with the brotherhood that we've created throughout the winter until now, and we're a much closer, more unified team."

**-SDSU-**