

# SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

**POSTGAME NOTES** ♦ San Diego State 34, California 0 ♦ Sept. 20, 2025 ♦ Snapdragon Stadium (San Diego, Calif.)



FINAL SCORE	34	0
Time Spent in the Lead ( <i>Tied 18:18</i> )	41:42	0:00
Total Plays-Yards	53-321	72-289
Plus Territory: Plays-Yards	18-74	27-21
Drives with Plays in Plus Territory	5 of 11	5 of 12
First Down Plays-Yards	26-200	28-86
Average on First Down	7.69	3.07
Rushes-Yards (Avg.)	19-80 (4.2)	13-45 (3.5)
Passes-Yards (Avg.)	7-120 (17.1)	15-41 (2.7)
First Down Sacked (goes down as a rush)	0-0	0-0
First Down Penalties by Opponents-Yards	1-5	0-0
First Down Penalties by Offense-Yards	3-30	1-10
First Downs Made	7	2
First Down Turnovers	0	3
First Down Touchdowns	1	0
Third Down Efficiency (Pct.)	3-11 (27.3)	6-17 (36.3)
Rushing (Pct.)	2-7 (28.6)	1-4 (25.0)
Passing (Pct.)	1-4 (33.3)	5-13 (38.5)
Third Down Sacked (goes down as a rush)	0-0	3-(-14)
Conversion by Penalties	0	1
Third Down Penalties by Opponents-Yards	0-0	1-15
Third Down Penalties by Offense-Yards	0-0	3-15
Average Yards to Go (All)	8.4	7.4
Yards Gained	43	83
Average Yards Gained/Att.	3.91	4.88
3rd & Long (9 or more)	0-4	1-6
3rd & Short (4 or less)	2-2	3-6
Third Down Turnovers	0	0
Third Down Touchdowns	0	0
Fourth Down Efficiency (Yards)	0-0 (0)	2-4 (-8)
Total Possessions/Average Field Position	11/SDSU31	12/CAL23
First Half	5/SDSU25	4/CAL27
Second Half	6/SDSU37	8/CAL20
Drives Started Inside/At Own 25	4/0	4/5
Points Scored (Touchdowns/Field Goals)	14 (2/0)	0 (0/0)
Drives Started in Plus Territory/Attempted to Score	2/2	0/0
Points Scored (Touchdowns/Field Goals)	3 (0/1)	0 (0/0)
Three and Outs or Less (must not have earned 1st D or scored)	5	4
Opponent Turnovers (Points)	3 (14)	0 (0)
Scores-Times in the Red Zone (Points)	4-4 (20)	0-3 (0)
Plays-Yards	8-10	13-9
Third Down Efficiency	0-0	0-3
Scores-Times in the Goal to Go (Points)	2-2 (14)	0-1 (0)
Plays-Yards	3-13	4-7
Explosive Plays (20-plus Yards)	2	5
Rushing	0	0
Passing	2	5
Yards by Quarter:		
First	21	73
Second	186	61
Third	38	127
Fourth	76	28

## BIG NOTES

- SDSU recorded its largest margin of victory (34 points) against a team from a Power 5 conference in its Division I history (since 1969).
- San Diego State's 34-point victory is tied for the fourth-most lopsided shutout by a non-Power 5 conference team against a power conference team since 2000, trailing only a 59-0 victory by Brigham Young over UCLA in 2008, a 45-0 win by South Florida over Syracuse in 2023 and a 38-0 win by East Carolina vs. Duke in 2000.
- The Aztecs recorded their first shutout against a current team from a Power 5 conference since beating Oregon State, 25-0, on Sept. 13, 1975.
- SDSU has home consecutive shutouts to start a season for the first time in its Division I history (since 1969).
- Cal, which came into the game averaging 32.0 points, was shut out for the first time since Oct. 26, 2019 at No. 12 Utah and the first time against an unranked team since Oct. 22, 1994 at USC.
- San Diego State handed California its first loss of the season. Entering tonight, the Bears had outscored the opposition, 96-32, over their 3-0 start.
- The Aztecs won their first game against a team from the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC). SDSU was 0-3 against the ACC entering the game with two losses to North Carolina (20-13 in the 1998 Las Vegas Bowl and 31-27 at UNC on Sept. 6, 2014), and a loss last year at California (31-10 on Sept. 14, 2024).
- San Diego State snapped a six-game losing streak against teams with at least a 2-0 record. The Aztecs' last win against team with at least a 2-0 record was Sept. 15, 2018 vs. No. 23/25 Arizona State. The Sun Devils were 2-0 and SDSU won, 28-21.
- Not that we look at this stuff, but San Diego State entered the game as 14-point underdogs. It is tied for the third-most points SDSU has been an underdog and won outright since records have been kept since 1999.
- San Diego State did not record a turnover for a fifth consecutive game dating back to last season, extending its Division I record (since 1969). The streak is also the longest active streak in FBS play.
- The Aztecs even their record in the series with California at 5-5. The home team has won all 10 games in the contest.
- Dwayne McDougale scored on a 35-yard fumble return in the third quarter and Chris Johnson then had a 97-yard interception return for a touchdown later in the quarter. It was the second time the Aztecs had multiple defensive touchdowns in the same game in the Sean Lewis era (15 games) (also vs. Texas A&M-Commerce on Aug. 31, 2024). The last time SDSU had multiple touchdowns in the same game prior to this stretch was Nov. 5, 2016 vs. Hawai'i.
- It was the 15th and 16th non-offensive touchdowns for the Aztecs since the start of the 2021 season and the 19th and 20th since the start of 2020.
- Chris Johnson's 97-yard interception return was tied for the fifth longest in SDSU program history.
- San Diego State finished with a +3 turnover margin. The Aztecs are now 78-6 in their DI history when owning at least a +3 turnover margin.
- SDSU won its 35th consecutive game when forcing three or more turnovers.

## SERIES NOTES

- San Diego State is now 5-5 all-time against the Bears.
- The Aztecs are 5-0 vs. Cal at home.
- Neither team in the series has won more than two consecutive games.

## TEAM NOTES

- SDSU snapped a three-game losing streak when coming off an idle week. San Diego State's last win coming off an idle week was Oct. 14, 2023 at Hawai'i (W, 41-34).
- The Aztecs beat a team with at least a three-game winning streak for the first time since downing Boise State, 27-16, after its four-game winning streak on Nov. 26, 2021.
- SDSU hasn't allowed a point over its nine quarters at home dating back to last season.
- San Diego State posted an 83.3 completion percentage, tied for its fourth highest in a game in its DI history (since 1969).
- The Aztecs improved to 70-22 since 2015 when scoring just 20 or more points (2-0 this year).

- SDSU improved to 53-5 the last 58 times its has scored at least 30 points (2-0 this season).
- San Diego State improved to 39-8 since 2012 when not committing a turnover.
- The Aztecs have won 54 of their last 60 games (54-6) when committing fewer turnovers than their opponent (since 2012) and 21 of their last 25 (21-4) dating back to 2020.
- SDSU improved to 38-13 over its last 51 games when winning the field position battle.

## TRENDS

- The Aztecs lost the coin toss for the third straight game.
- SDSU started with the ball for the 123rd time over 172 games.
- SDSU held its opponent scoreless on its opening drive. It's the third time this season in three games it has held its opponent scoreless on the first drive, 10th time in the last one-plus seasons (15 games), 26th time in 40 games since 2022, 38th time in 53 games since 2021 and 92nd time since 2015 (129 games).
- San Diego State improved to 2-1 on the season and 5-3 under Sean Lewis when scoring first.
- The Aztecs did allow a first quarter touchdown for the 13th time over the last 24 games.
- SDSU has allowed seven or fewer points in 34 of the last 39 first quarters.
- San Diego State won its fourth straight game when leading at the half, and are now 2-0 this season and 4-1 in the Sean Lewis era.
- The Aztecs improved to 2-0 this season and 4-3 under Sean Lewis when leading after three quarters.

## PLAYER NOTES

### \* Jayden Denegal, Jr., QB (15-for-18, 186 yds., 1 TD, 0 INT)

Improved to 2-1 as the team's starting quarterback ... Threw his third touchdown of the season and fourth of his career ... Threw an 80-yard pass to Jordan Napier, , SDSU's longest pass since an 89-yarder from Christian Chapman to Fred Trevillion on Oct. 14, 2017 vs. Boise State ... After going 15-for-30 (50.0 pct.) in his last game at Washington State on Sept. 6, he was 15-for-18 (83.3 pct.) tonight... Has now gone 78 pass attempts to start his career without throwing an interception.

### \* Jordan Napier, So., WR (9 rec., 151 yds., 1 TD)

Recorded his first career 100-yard receiving game ... He became the 94th different Aztec with a 100-yard receiving game in SDSU's Division I history (since 1969) ... The 151 yards were the most by an Aztec since Jesse Matthews had 175 vs. UTSA in the 2021 Frisco Bowl ... Caught an 80-yard pass from Jayden Denegal, SDSU's longest pass since an 89-yarder from Christian Chapman to Fred Trevillion on Oct. 14, 2017 vs. Boise State ... His 10 catches were a career high ... Scored his first touchdown of the season and fifth of his career.

### \* Lucky Sutton, Jr., RB (12 att., 61 yds., 1 TD)

Scored his third rushing touchdown of the season and fifth of his career.

### \* Gabe Plascencia, Sr., K (2-for-2 FG, 41 LG, 4-for-4 PAT, 6 KO, 385 yds., 64.2 avg., 5 TB)

Was 2-for-2 on field goal attempts, stretching his field goal streak to 16 consecutive makes ... The 16 consecutive made field goals is SDSU's longest streak since at least the 1996 season ... He entered the weekend tied for the fifth-longest streak in the country ... Made multiple field goals for the second time this season and ninth time of his career ... Is now 21-for-22 for his career in field goal tries, which at 95.5 percent would be the highest in program history if he had enough attempts (25) to qualify.

### \* Chris Johnson, Sr., CB (7 tackles (2 solo), 0.5 TFL, 1 INT for a 97-yd TD, 1 PBU)

Recorded his first interception of the season and third of his career ... Returned the interception 97 yards for his first career touchdown ... The 97-yard return was tied for the fifth longest in program history.

### \* Dalesean Staley, Jr., S (7 tackles (6 solo), 1 FF, 1 INT, 1 PBU)

Recorded his first career forced fumble ... Had his first interception as an Aztec and fourth of his career.

### \* Dwayne McDougle, Jr., S (3 tackles, 1 FR for a TD, 2 PBUs)

Recovered his first career fumble and returned it for his first career touchdown.

## OTHER NOTES

- CB Bryce Phillips started for the 37th consecutive game, the longest streak on the team.
- Phillips' 37 career starts are also the most of any current Aztec.
- OL Christian Jones played in his 40th straight game, the longest streak on the team.
- S Deshawn McCuin and LB Mister Williams each played in their 47th career game, the most of any current SDSU player.
- Tonight's temperature was 71 degrees at kickoff.
- Tonight's attendance was 31,369.
- Tonight's Honor Warrior was Donnel Pumphrey (2013-16).
- The four captains who went out for the coin toss tonight were: CB Chris Johnson, EDGE Trey White, OL Ross Ulugalu-Maseuli & QB Jayden Denegal.
- The Aztec shield was carried by K Gabe Plascencia.