

#### BYU FOOTBALL ANNOUNCES SIX NEW RECRUITS ON WEDNESDAY

PROVO, Utah (Feb. 2, 2022) — BYU head coach Kalani Sitake announced six additional signees to his program's 2022 recruiting class during Wednesday's National Signing Day.

"I am really pleased to add these players to our recruiting class," Sitake said. "This group will be a great fit for the university and for the needs of our team. They have a lot of athleticism and will help our depth and competitiveness with their size and speed. We are looking forward to having them be a part of our family here at BYU."

The six new members of the BYU football program include four defensive backs, one defensive lineman and one offensive lineman.

The lone offensive addition is Lisala Tai, a 6-foot-7, 336-pound offensive lineman from Snow College. Tai, from Inglewood, California, played tackle at Snow for two seasons, helping the Badgers to a 15-2 record over two seasons that featured a national runner-up finish followed by a bid to the first-ever NJCAA playoffs last year.

Zoom Esplin, a long edge-rusher at 6-foot-8, 250 pounds from Encinitas, California, is one of five players joining the program on the defensive side of the ball. Esplin played at La Costa Canyon High School where he was a multi-sport athlete who contributed on the offensive and defensive lines.

Four defensive backs signed on Wednesday, including three from California and one prospect from Oklahoma. Zion Allen (6-1, 150, Manteca HS), Nathaniel Gillis (6-1, 174, Steele Canyon HS) and Evan Johnson (6-1, 175, Stevenson HS) join the program from California while Tulsa, Oklahoma, product Korbyn Green (6-0, 175, Owasso HS) bolsters the position group as a 10.7 100-meter speedster.

They join the 19 signees from December's early signing period that featured 10 offensive players and nine on defense with several signees who could play multiple positions on either side of the ball.

BYU also added two mid-year graduate transfers to the offense with tailback Christopher Brooks out of Cal and fullback Houston Heimuli from Stanford.

In all, the 27 newcomers include 13 offensive players and 14 defenders. Offensively, six linemen, four receivers, two running backs and one tight end join the program while the defensive recruits include six defensive backs, five linemen and three linebackers.

Headlining a talented group of offensive new additions in December were Oregon offensive line transfer Kingsley Suamataia (6-6, 330, Orem HS) and Corner Canyon High School receiver Cody Hagen, the 2021 Utah Gatorade Player of the Year. Suamataia was the Utah 5A MVP as a senior in 2020 and was rated a five-star recruit considered one of the top offensive tackles in the country in class of 2021: No. 5 (Rivals), No. 6 (247Sports), No. 11 (ESPN).

Hagen (6-1, 180, Corner Canyon HS), the top receiver recruit in Utah, leads a fleet-footed receiver group that also includes Dominique McKenzie (6-0, 165, Pine View HS), Parker Kingston (6-0, 175, Roy HS) and Jarinn Kalama (6-3, 195, Wasatch HS). Hagen amassed 201 receptions for 3,927 yards and 51 touchdowns during his prep career, including 89 receptions for 1,805 yards (129/game) and 23 touchdowns in 2021. Meanwhile, tight end signee Noah Moeaki (6-3, 220, American Fork HS) adds another strong pass-catching threat to the Cougar arsenal.

The two graduate transfer backs, Brooks (6-1, 235, Cal), and Heimuli (5-11, 265, Stanford) joined the program in January and are expected to be contributors in the backfield right away.

Newcomers joining the offensive and defensive lines make up nearly half of those who signed. In addition to Suamataia, BYU's offensive line signees in December included Peter Falaniko (6-3, 315, Pine View HS), Trevin Ostler (6-6, 260, Bountiful HS), Vae Soifua (6-4, 290, Orem HS) and Talin Togiai (6-5, 291, Rigby HS).

BYU's defensive front was bolstered in December by four-star prospect Aisea Moa (6-3, 245, Weber HS), Utah's top defensive line prospect, who totaled 73 tackles, 10.5 sacks, two interceptions and a defensive touchdown in 2021. Fellow Utah-native Kaden Chidester (6-8, 240, Richfield HS) and Arizona products Cooper Ross (6-5, 245, Heritage Academy) and Brooks Jones (6-6, 190, American Leadership Academy), brother of BYU defensive back Dean Jones, also joined the class in December.

Linebackers signing with the Cougars in December included Maika Kaufusi (6-4, 185, Alta HS), Liutai Kinikini (6-3, 195, West HS) and Micah Wilson (6-3, 215, Corner Canyon HS). Wilson, the younger brother of All-American quarterback Zach Wilson, will join his brother Josh in the BYU linebacker room, while Kaufusi, the brother of former linebacker star Isaiah Kaufusi, also joins his brother Jackson on the linebacker roster.

The BYU secondary received official commitments in December from cornerbacks Cannon DeVries (6-0, 165, Weber HS) and Marcus McKenzie (6-0, 165, Pine View HS). McKenzie and his brother, receiver signee, Dominique, are twin sons of former BYU running back Brian McKenzie (1996-97) and former Cougar track athlete Salote O'Reilly (1996-2000).

In all, BYU will add 16 players from Utah along with six from California, two from Arizona one each from Hawai'i, Idaho and Oklahoma.

In addition to mid-year enrollees Brooks, Heimuli, Suamataia, and Moa, four previously signed recruits also enrolled at BYU for winter semester to join the program after serving as missionaries for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. All from Utah, defensive linemen Logan Fano (6-4, 225, Timpview HS), Brooks Maile (6-4, 285, Pine View HS) and Bruce Mitchell (6-4, 265, South Summit HS) have returned as well as defensive back Isaiah Glasker (6-5, 205, Bingham HS) after signing in previous classes.

| BYU FOOTBALL SIGNEES (Feb. 2, 2022) |      |     |     |                      |                         |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|------|-----|-----|----------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Name                                | Pos. | Ht. | Wt. | Hometown             | High School/Last School |  |  |
| Zion Allen                          | DB   | 6-1 | 150 | Stockton, California | Manteca HS              |  |  |
| Zoom Esplin                         | DF   | 6-8 | 250 | Encinitas California | La Costa Canyon HS      |  |  |

| Zoom Esplin      | DE | 6-8 | 250 | Encinitas, California | La Costa Canyon HS |
|------------------|----|-----|-----|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Nathaniel Gillis | DB | 6-1 | 174 | San Diego, California | Steele Canyon HS   |
| Korbyn Green     | DB | 6-0 | 175 | Tulsa, Oklahoma       | Owasso HS          |
| Evan Johnson     | DB | 6-1 | 175 | Monterey, California  | Stevenson HS       |

Lisala Tai OL 6-7 336 Inglewood, California Hawthorne HS/Snow College

# **BYU FOOTBALL SIGNEES (Dec. 15, 2021)**

| Name               | Pos.  | Ht. | Wt. | Hometown                 | High School/Last School       |
|--------------------|-------|-----|-----|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Kaden Chidester    | DL    | 6-8 | 240 | Richfield, Utah          | Richfield HS                  |
| Cannon DeVries     | CB    | 6-0 | 165 | North Ogden, Utah        | Weber HS                      |
| Peter Falaniko     | OL    | 6-3 | 315 | St. George, Utah         | Pine View HS                  |
| Cody Hagen         | WR    | 6-1 | 180 | Draper, Utah             | Corner Canyon HS              |
| Brooks Jones       | DL    | 6-6 | 190 | Queen Creek, Arizona     | American Leadership Academy   |
| Jarinn Kalama      | WR    | 6-3 | 195 | Honolulu, Hawaii         | Wasatch HS (Heber City, Utah) |
| Maika Kaufusi      | LB    | 6-4 | 185 | Cottonwood Heights, Utah | Alta HS                       |
| Parker Kingston    | WR    | 6-0 | 175 | Layton, Utah             | Roy HS                        |
| Liutai Kinikini    | LB/DB | 6-3 | 195 | Herriman, Utah           | West HS                       |
| Dominique McKenzie | WR/DB | 6-0 | 165 | St. George, Utah         | Pine View HS                  |
| Marcus McKenzie    | DB/WR | 6-0 | 165 | St. George, Utah         | Pine View HS                  |
| Aisea Moa          | DL    | 6-3 | 245 | North Ogden, Utah        | Weber HS                      |
| Noah Moeaki        | TE    | 6-3 | 220 | American Fork, Utah      | American Fork HS              |
| Trevin Ostler      | OL    | 6-6 | 260 | Bountiful, Utah          | Bountiful HS                  |
| Cooper Ross        | DL    | 6-5 | 245 | Mesa, Arizona            | Heritage Academy              |
| Vae Soifua         | OL    | 6-4 | 290 | Orem, Utah               | Orem HS                       |
| Kingsley Suamataia | OL    | 6-6 | 330 | Orem, Utah               | Orem HS/Oregon                |
| Talin Togiai       | OL    | 6-5 | 291 | Rigby, Idaho             | Rigby HS                      |
| Micah Wilson       | LB    | 6-3 | 215 | Draper, Utah             | Corner Canyon HS              |

## BYU FOOTBALL GRADUATE TRANSFER MID-YEAR ENROLLEES (Jan. 5, 2021)

| Name            | Pos. | Ht.  | Wt. | Hometown              | High School/Last School |
|-----------------|------|------|-----|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Chris Brooks    | RB   | 6-1  | 235 | Oceanside, California | El Camino HS/California |
| Houston Heimuli | FB   | 5-11 | 265 | Bountiful. Utah       | Bountiful HS/Stanford   |

# BYU FOOTBALL PREVIOUSLY SIGNED MID-YEAR RETURNED MISSIONARY ENROLLEES (Jan. 5, 2021)

| Name           | Pos.  | Ht. | Wt. | Hometown           | High School/Last School |
|----------------|-------|-----|-----|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Logan Fano     | DE/LB | 6-4 | 225 | Spanish Fork, Utah | Timpview HS             |
| Isaiah Glasker | DB    | 6-5 | 205 | South Jordan, Utah | Bingham HS              |
| Brooks Maile   | DL    | 6-4 | 285 | St. George, Utah   | Pine View HS            |
| Bruce Mitchell | DL    | 6-4 | 265 | Kamas, Utah        | South Summit HS         |

## **KEY LINKS**

- $\bullet \ \textbf{Press conference audio/video and footage of each signee:} \ \underline{\text{https://byu.box.com/s/u65pf5vbvzby2bmfip0zkeon8mqnqihu}} \\$
- BYU 2022 Signing Class News Release & Bios: https://byucougars.com/story/football/1298800/byu-adds-six-recruits-national-signing-day

# **BREAKDOWN BY POSITION**

## Offensive

| Offensive Line (6)  |                             |  |  |   |  |
|---|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Peter Falaniko  | OL                          | 6-3  | 315  | St. George, Utah  | Pine View HS   |
| Trevin Ostler   | OL                          | 6-6  | 260  | Bountiful, Utah   | Bountiful HS   |
| Vae Soifua  | OL                          | 6-4  | 290  | Orem, Utah  | Orem HS  |
| Kingsley Suamataia  | OL                          | 6-6  | 330  | Orem, Utah  | Orem HS/Oregon   |
| Lisala Tai  | OL                          | 6-7  | 336  | Inglewood, California   | Hawthorne HS/Snow College  |
| Talin Togiai  | OL                          | 6-5  | 291  | Rigby, Idaho  | Rigby HS   |
| W(1 D : /4)   |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Wide Receiver (4)   | \A/D                        | C 1  | 400  | Duran and Hitalia   | Canada Canada IIC  |
| Cody Hagen  | WR                          | 6-1  | 180  | Draper, Utah  | Corner Canyon HS   |
| Jarinn Kalama   | WR                          | 6-3  | 195  | Honolulu, Hawaii  | Wasatch HS (Heber City, Utah)  |
| Parker Kingston   | WR                          | 6-0  | 175  | Layton, Utah  | Roy HS   |
| Dominique McKenzie  | WR/DB                       | 6-0  | 165  | St. George, Utah  | Pine View HS   |
| Running Back (2)  |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Chris Brooks  | RB                          | 6-1  | 235  | Oceanside, California   | El Camino HS/California  |
| Houston Heimuli   | FB                          | 5-11   | 265  | Bountiful, Utah   | Bountiful HS/Stanford  |
|   |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Tight End (1)   |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Noah Moeaki   | TE                          | 6-3  | 220  | American Fork, Utah   | American Fork HS   |
|   |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Defense   |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Defensive Back (6)  |                             |  |  |   |  |
| Zion Allen  | DB                          | 6-1  | 150  | Stockton, California  | Manteca HS   |
| Cannon DeVries  | СВ                          | 6-0  | 165  | North Ogden, Utah   | Weber HS   |
| Nathaniel Gillis  | DB                          |  |  | _   |  |
| Machanici Cinis   |                             | h-T  | 174  | San Diego, California   | Steele Canvon HS   |
| Korbyn Green  |                             | 6-1<br>6-0   | 174<br>175   | San Diego, California<br>Tulsa, Oklahoma  | Steele Canyon HS<br>Owasso HS  |
| Korbyn Green  | DB                          | 6-0  | 175  | Tulsa, Oklahoma   | Owasso HS  |
| Evan Johnson  | DB<br>DB                    | 6-0<br>6-1   | 175<br>175   | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California   | Owasso HS<br>Stevenson HS  |
|   | DB                          | 6-0<br>6-1   | 175  | Tulsa, Oklahoma   | Owasso HS  |
| Evan Johnson  | DB<br>DB                    | 6-0<br>6-1   | 175<br>175   | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California   | Owasso HS<br>Stevenson HS  |
| Evan Johnson<br>Marcus McKenzie   | DB<br>DB                    | 6-0<br>6-1   | 175<br>175   | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California   | Owasso HS<br>Stevenson HS<br>Pine View HS<br>Richfield HS  |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5)  | DB<br>DB<br>DB/WR           | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0                                    | 175<br>175<br>165                                    | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah   | Owasso HS<br>Stevenson HS<br>Pine View HS  |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester  | DB<br>DB<br>DB/WR           | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0                                    | 175<br>175<br>165                                    | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah<br>Richfield, Utah  | Owasso HS<br>Stevenson HS<br>Pine View HS<br>Richfield HS  |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester Zoom Esplin  | DB DB/WR DL DE              | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0<br>6-8<br>6-8                      | 175<br>175<br>165<br>240<br>250                      | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah<br>Richfield, Utah<br>Encinitas, California   | Owasso HS<br>Stevenson HS<br>Pine View HS<br>Richfield HS<br>La Costa Canyon HS  |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester Zoom Esplin Brooks Jones   | DB DB/WR DL DE DL           | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0<br>6-8<br>6-8<br>6-6               | 175<br>175<br>165<br>240<br>250<br>190               | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah<br>Richfield, Utah<br>Encinitas, California<br>Queen Creek, Arizona   | Owasso HS Stevenson HS Pine View HS  Richfield HS La Costa Canyon HS American Leadership Academy                           |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester Zoom Esplin Brooks Jones Aisea Moa Cooper Ross                               | DB DB/WR DL DE DL DL        | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0<br>6-8<br>6-8<br>6-6<br>6-3        | 175<br>175<br>165<br>240<br>250<br>190<br>245        | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah<br>Richfield, Utah<br>Encinitas, California<br>Queen Creek, Arizona<br>North Ogden, Utah                        | Owasso HS Stevenson HS Pine View HS  Richfield HS La Costa Canyon HS American Leadership Academy Weber HS                  |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester Zoom Esplin Brooks Jones Aisea Moa Cooper Ross  Linebacker (3)               | DB DB/WR  DL DE DL DL DL DL | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0<br>6-8<br>6-8<br>6-6<br>6-3<br>6-5 | 175<br>175<br>165<br>240<br>250<br>190<br>245<br>245 | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah<br>Richfield, Utah<br>Encinitas, California<br>Queen Creek, Arizona<br>North Ogden, Utah<br>Mesa, Arizona       | Owasso HS Stevenson HS Pine View HS  Richfield HS La Costa Canyon HS American Leadership Academy Weber HS Heritage Academy |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester Zoom Esplin Brooks Jones Aisea Moa Cooper Ross  Linebacker (3) Maika Kaufusi | DB DB/WR DL DE DL DL DL LB  | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0<br>6-8<br>6-8<br>6-6<br>6-3<br>6-5 | 175<br>175<br>165<br>240<br>250<br>190<br>245<br>245 | Tulsa, Oklahoma Monterey, California St. George, Utah  Richfield, Utah Encinitas, California Queen Creek, Arizona North Ogden, Utah Mesa, Arizona  Cottonwood Heights, Utah | Owasso HS Stevenson HS Pine View HS  Richfield HS La Costa Canyon HS American Leadership Academy Weber HS Heritage Academy |
| Evan Johnson Marcus McKenzie  Defensive Line (5) Kaden Chidester Zoom Esplin Brooks Jones Aisea Moa Cooper Ross  Linebacker (3)               | DB DB/WR  DL DE DL DL DL DL | 6-0<br>6-1<br>6-0<br>6-8<br>6-8<br>6-6<br>6-3<br>6-5 | 175<br>175<br>165<br>240<br>250<br>190<br>245<br>245 | Tulsa, Oklahoma<br>Monterey, California<br>St. George, Utah<br>Richfield, Utah<br>Encinitas, California<br>Queen Creek, Arizona<br>North Ogden, Utah<br>Mesa, Arizona       | Owasso HS Stevenson HS Pine View HS  Richfield HS La Costa Canyon HS American Leadership Academy Weber HS Heritage Academy |

# **BREAKDOWN BY STATE**

| Cooper Ross DL 6-5 245 Mesa, Arizona Heritage Academy  California (6)  |     |
|--|-----|
| • •  |     |
| • •  |     |
| Zion Allen DB 6-1 150 Stockton, California Manteca HS                  |     |
| Chris Brooks RB 6-1 235 Oceanside, California El Camino HS/California  |     |
| Zoom Esplin DE 6-8 250 Encinitas, California La Costa Canyon HS        |     |
| Nathaniel Gillis DB 6-1 174 San Diego, California Steele Canyon HS     |     |
| Evan Johnson DB 6-1 175 Monterey, California Stevenson HS              |     |
| Lisala Tai OL 6-7 336 Inglewood, California Hawthorne HS/Snow College  | е   |
| Hawaii (1)   |     |
| Jarinn Kalama WR 6-3 195 Honolulu, Hawaii Wasatch HS (Heber City, Utah | ah) |
|  | ~,  |
| Idaho (1)  |     |
| Talin Togiai OL 6-5 291 Rigby, Idaho Rigby HS                          |     |
| Ottobarra (4)  |     |
| Oklahoma (1) Korbyn Green DB 6-0 175 Tulsa. Oklahoma Owasso HS         |     |
| Korbyn Green DB 6-0 175 Tulsa, Oklahoma Owasso HS                      |     |
| Utah (16)  |     |
| Kaden Chidester DL 6-8 240 Richfield, Utah Richfield HS                |     |
| Cannon DeVries DB 6-0 165 North Ogden, Utah Weber HS                   |     |
| Peter Falaniko OL 6-3 315 St. George, Utah Pine View HS                |     |
| Cody Hagen WR 6-1 180 Draper, Utah Corner Canyon HS                    |     |
| Houston Heimuli FB 5-11 265 Bountiful, Utah Bountiful HS/Stanford      |     |
| Maika Kaufusi LB 6-4 185 Cottonwood Heights, Utah Alta HS              |     |
| Parker Kingston WR 6-0 175 Layton, Utah Roy HS                         |     |
| Liutai Kinikini LB/DB 6-3 195 Herriman, Utah West HS                   |     |
| Dominique McKenzie WR/DB 6-0 165 St. George, Utah Pine View HS         |     |
| Marcus McKenzie DB/WR 6-0 165 St. George, Utah Pine View HS            |     |
| Aisea Moa DL 6-3 245 North Ogden, Utah Weber HS                        |     |
| Noah Moeaki TE 6-3 220 American Fork, Utah American Fork HS            |     |
| Trevin Ostler OL 6-6 260 Bountiful, Utah Bountiful HS                  |     |
| Vae Soifua OL 6-4 290 Orem, Utah Orem HS                               |     |
| Kingsley Suamataia OL 6-6 330 Orem, Utah Oregon                        |     |
| Micah Wilson LB 6-3 215 Draper, Utah Corner Canyon HS                  |     |

#### **FEBRUARY SIGNEES RECRUIT BIOS**

#### Zion Allen (6-1, 150, DB, Stockton, California (Manteca HS)

- Multi-sport athlete in football, basketball and track
- Helped Manteca High School achieve a 10-4 record in 2021 playing defensive back and wide receiver
- Made 9 pass breakups and 15 tackles, including 13 solo tackles on defense in 2021
- Averaged 21.1 yards per catch playing receiver in 2021
- Scored four touchdowns among his nine receptions while totaling 190 yards
- Made game-winning 59-yard catch-and-run touchdown in Sac-Joaquin Section Championship game with just 22 seconds remaining
- Achieved single-game high of 116 yards and 2 touchdowns in 35-28 section championship win over Oakdale
- Coached by Mark Varnum
- Also recruited by Colorado State, Sacramento State and Idaho

## Zoom Esplin (6-8, 250, DE, Encinitas, California, La Costa Canyon HS)

- Multi-sport athlete with good size who can play both offensive and defensive line
- Invited to play in the Alex Spanos All-Star Classic, the longest running all-star game in California
- Played both tackle positions for the Maverick offense
- Named to preseason San Diego Prep Football Top 42 offensive linemen
- California Times 100 Players to Watch
- Contributed on special teams, including blocking a kick
- Threw shot put and discuss on Track and Field team
- Coached by Sean Sovacool

## Nathaniel Gillis (6-1, 174, DB, La Mesa, California, Steele Canyon HS)

- Multi-sport athlete at Steele Canyon HS participating in football, basketball and track
- First-team Grossmont All-League player as defensive back
- Led team in turnovers created with 3 interceptions and 1 forced fumble
- Totaled 44 tackles with 28 solo takedowns in 2021
- Coached by Scott Longerbone

## Korbyn Green (6-0, 175, DB, Tulsa, Oklahoma, Owasso HS)

- Multi-sport athlete at Owasso High School
- Three-year letterwinner in football and track
- Helped football achieve a 10-3 record in 2021
- Made 2 interceptions with 9 pass breakups as a senior
- Totaled 27 tackles in 2021
- Has run a 10.7 100 meters and a 4.41 40-yard dash
- Three-star prospect by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Baylor, Oklahoma and Kansas

## Evan Johnson (6-1, 175, DB, Monterey, California, Stevenson HS)

- Multi-sport athlete in football, basketball and track at Stevenson High School
- Three-year letterwinner in football and basketball and four-year varsity track athlete
- All-County football honoree and team MVP n 2021
- All-Conference selection and team MVP in 2019
- Totaled 1,276 yards receiving yards, 205 rushing yards and 23 passing yards during his prep career
- Averaged 95.7 all-purpose yards per game as receiver, runner and returner over three seasons, including 149.8 yards per game as a senior in 2021
- Responsible for 8.8 points per game over his prep career.
- Scored 25 touchdowns in three years, including 14 touchdowns as a senior in 2021
- Totaled 14 tackles with 11 solo takedowns on defense for Stevenson HS
- Season highlight included totaled 7 catches for 189 yards and 5 touchdowns and completed a pass for a touchdown in one game
- Three-star prospect by 247Sports
- Two-time first-team All-League basketball player at Stevenson HS
- Set school track record in the 100 meter dash (10.84)
- Central Coast Champion in both the 100 meters and 200 meters
- Coached in football by Kyle Cassamas
- Father Ron Johnson was an NFL wide receiver with Philadelphia Eagles
- Also recruited by Arizona State, Boston College, Colorado, Vanderbilt, Fresno State, San Jose State

## Lisala Tai (6-7, 336, OL, Inglewood, California, Hawthorne HS/Snow College)

- Played offensive tackle at Snow for two seasons
- Helped the Badgers earn a ranking as high as No. 2 and a No. 4 final ranking while advancing to the firstever NJCAA playoff in 2021, finishing 7-1
- Helped Snow go 8-1 and finish as the NJCAA national runner-up during the COVID 2020-21 season
- A three-star recruit by ESPN and 247Sports out of Hawthorne High School who previously signing with BYU
- Played defensive line and offensive line in high school
- Also played basketball for three years at Hawthorne HS
- Coached by Zac Erekson at Snow and Donald Paysinger in High School
- Also recruited by Maryland, West Virginia, UCF, Boise State, Fresno State, UNLV, UAB, Buffalo

## JANUARY GRADUATE TRANSFER RECRUIT BIOS

## Christopher Brooks (6-1, 235, RB, Oceanside, Calif., California)

- Played in 40 games for Cal from 2018-2021
- Totaled 1,734 yards rushing with 14 touchdowns on the ground
- 50 catches for 345 receiving yards and seven touchdowns as a receiver at Cal
- Had four career 100-yard rushing games
- Led Cal in rushing as a sophomore in 2019 when he played in all 13 games, including 12 starts, and ran for 914 yards and eight touchdowns while also catching 22 passes for 166 yards and four more scores
- In 2021, Brooks averaged a 5.2 yards per carry to total a team-leading 607 rushing yards with four touchdowns, while adding 19 receptions for 131 yards and three touchdowns as a receiver
- Signed with the Golden Bears in 2018
- Amassed 3,249 yards rushing and 34 scores with 25 receptions for 260 yards during his final three seasons at El Camino High School
- He changed his last name from Brown to Brooks between the 2020 and 2021 seasons in honor of his mother by taking her maiden name

#### Houston Heimuli (5-11, 265, RB, Bountiful, Utah, Stanford)

- Selected as a team captain at Stanford in 2021
- Appeared in 11 games this past season
- Received the Outstanding Senior Award in 2021 and finished his Stanford career with seven receptions for 25 yards and one touchdown
- Key contributor as a blocking back, Heimuli redshirted in 2017 before playing in 24 games in 2018 and 2019 at fullback and special teams, including three starts in 2019
- Earned All-Pac-12 honorable mention in 2020 during a pandemic-shortened six-game schedule
- Father is former BYU running back Lakei Heimuli (1983-86)
- Two-time all-state player at Bountiful High School where he was rated the nation's second-best fullback by Scout and ESPN before signing with Stanford in 2015

#### **DECEMBER SIGNEES RECRUIT BIOS**

#### Kaden Chidester (6-8, 240, DL, Richfield, Utah, Richfield HS):

- Career 50 tackles (28 solo, 22 assist), four tackles-for-loss, three sacks
- Recorded 22 tackles and three sacks during 2021 season
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Coached by Ryan Shaddix

#### Cannon DeVries (6-0, 165, CB, North Ogden, Utah, Weber HS):

- Career 66 carries for 612 yards and seven touchdowns
- Rushed 41 times for 408 yards and six touchdowns in 2021
- Career 112 receptions for 1,892 yards and 22 touchdowns
- Caught 66 passes for 947 yards and 10 touchdowns in 2021
- Caught 25 passes for 538 yards and eight touchdowns in 2020
- Career 148 tackles and 16 interceptions five interceptions returned for touchdowns
- Recorded 85 tackles and five interceptions in 2021
- Three seasons with at least four interceptions, seven in 2020
- Career two punts returned for touchdowns, one kickoff
- As a junior in 2020, DeVries averaged 44 yards per kickoff return and 21 per punt return
- Career 3,343 all-purpose yards
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Colorado, Southern Utah and Weber State
- Helped lead Weber HS to 2021 Region 1 championship
- Helped lead Weber HS to 6A semifinals in 2021
- Named to All-6A First Team (2020)
- Coached by Jayson Anderson

## Peter Falaniko (6-3, 315, OL, St. George, Utah, Pine View HS):

- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked as a top-100 nationally among interior offensive line prospects by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Utah State, Colorado State, Nevada, Fresno State and Hawaii
- Named to All-4A First Team (2020)
- Coached by Ray Hosner

## Cody Hagen (6-1, 180, WR, Draper, Utah, Corner Canyon HS):

- Named Utah Gatorade Player of the Year (2021)
- 201 career receptions for 3,927 yards and 51 touchdowns
- 89 receptions for 1,805 yards (129/game) and 23 touchdowns in 2021
- Recorded 10 100-yard receiving games in 2021, including 221 yards off six receptions vs. Bingham (Aug. 27)
- Posted three games of three or more receiving touchdowns in 2021
- 20 career 100-yard receiving games, two of over 200-yards
- Rated a four-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked No. 4 prospect in Utah by 247Sports
- Ranked top-50 nationally among wide receiver prospects by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Michigan, Oregon, Utah, USC, Utah State and Stanford
- Helped lead Corner Canyon HS to a Region 4 championship in 2021
- Helped lead Corner Canyon HS to a 6A runner-up finish in 2021
- Led the state and 6A in receiving touchdowns with 23 (2021)
- Led the state and 6A in receiving yards with 1,805 (2021)
- No. 3 in 6A with 18 receiving touchdowns (2020)
- No. 4 in 6A with 1,183 receiving yards (2020)
- Named All-6A First Team (2020)
- Coached by Eric Kjar

## Brooks Jones (6-6, 190, DL, Queen Creek, Arizona, American Leadership Academy):

- Recorded 48 tackles (13 solo, 20 assist) and 5 sacks with 7 tackles for loss, 2 QB hurries, 4 pass breakups and 1 forced fumble in 2021
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Helped ALA to 9-2 record, Arizona 4A runner-up
- Coached by former BYU and NFL quarterback, 1990 Heisman Trophy Winner Ty Detmer

## Jarinn Kalama (6-3, 200, WR, Honolulu, Hawaii, Wasatch HS (Utah)):

- 62 receptions for 779 yards and nine touchdowns during 2021
- Five 100-yard receiving games in 2021
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- 2022 Polynesian Bowl selection
- No. 3 in 5A with 12 receiving touchdowns (2020)
- Named to All-5A Second Team (2020)
- Coached by Steve Coburn

## Maika Kaufusi (6-3, 185, LB, Cottonwood Heights, Utah, Alta HS):

- Caught 25 passes for 622 yards and 10 touchdowns as a wide receiver in 2021
- 76 career tackles (42 solo, 34 assist one sack), 37 tackles (three tackles-for-loss) in 2021
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Named All-Poly MVP 2021
- Coached by Alema Te'o
- Younger brother of former BYU linebacker Isaiah Kaufusi and current BYU linebacker Jackson Kaufusi

#### Parker Kingston (6-0, 175, WR, Layton, Utah, Roy HS):

- Three-year varsity starter
- Career numbers include (passing) 187-314 for 26,49 yards, 24 TDs and 5 interceptions; (rushing) 232 carries for 2,136 yards, 33 TDs; (receiving) 34 receptions for 542 yards and 5 TDs; (kick returner) 5 kick returns for 256 yards and 2 TDs; and (punt returner) 5 punt returns for 91 yards.
- 77-of-131 (59%) for 1,088 yards, 10 touchdowns and five interceptions as a quarterback in 2021
- 124 carries for 1,129 yards and 18 touchdowns as a quarterback in 2021
- Seven 100-yard rushing games as a quarterback in 2021, three games of three touchdowns
- 2,217 yards of total offense as a quarterback in 2021
- 34 receptions for 542 yards and five touchdowns as a wide receiver in 2019
- Returned two kickoffs for touchdowns in 2021
- Averaged 51 yards per kickoff return and 18 yards per punt return in 2021
- Recorded 10.79 time in 100 meters as a junior
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Air Force, Utah, Fresno State
- Led 6A in rushing touchdowns with 18 (2021)
- No. 3 in 6A with 15 rushing touchdowns (2020)
- Coached by Fred Fernandes

## Liutai Kinikini (6-3, 195, LB/DB, Herriman, Utah, West HS):

- 27 tackles and 0.5 a sack in 2021
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Brown, Weber State, Yale
- Helped lead West HS to Region 2 championships in 2020 and 2021
- Coached by Olossa Solovi

# Dominique McKenzie (6-0, 165, WR/DB, St. George, Utah, Pine View HS):

- Career 149 receptions for 3,208 yards and 30 touchdowns
- Career average of 84 yards receiving per game
- 34 receptions for 814 yards and seven touchdowns in 2021
- 84 receptions for 1,719 yards and 20 touchdowns in 2020
- Averaged 123 yards receiving per game as a junior in 2020
- Career 19 tackles and two interceptions as a defensive back
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked No. 10 prospect in Utah by 247 Sports
- Ranked top-100 nationally among wide receiver prospects by 247 Sports
- Also recruited by Virginia, Oregon, Stanford, Pitt, Utah State, San Diego State and Arizona
- No. 3 statewide in receiving touchdowns with 20 (2020)
- No. 2 statewide in receiving yards with 1,719 (2020)
- Led 4A with 20 receiving touchdowns (2020)
- Led 4A with 1,719 receiving yards (2020)
- Named to All-4A First Team (2020)
- Coached by Ray Hosner and Gary Crowton
- Twin brother of BYU signee Marcus McKenzie
- Father, Brian, played running back for BYU (1996-97)
- Mother, Salote, competed hepathlete for BYU Track and Field (1996-2000)

## Marcus McKenzie (6-0, 170, DB/WR, St. George, Utah, Pine View HS):

- 14 receptions for 253 yards and five touchdowns as a wide receiver in 2021
- 16 tackles and an interception as a defensive back in 2021
- 62 tackles as a junior defensive back in 2020
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked No. 11 prospect in Utah by 247 Sports
- Also recruited by: Virginia, Pitt, Cal, Arizona, Colorado State and Utah State
- Coached by Ray Hosner
- Twin brother of BYU signee Dominique McKenzie
- Father, Brian, played running back for BYU (1996-97)
- Mother, Salote, competed as hepathlete for BYU Track and Field (1996-2000)

#### Aisea Moa (6-3, 245, DL, North Ogden, Utah, Weber HS):

- Career 113 tackles, 15.5 sacks and two interceptions
- 73 tackles, 10.5 sacks, two interceptions and a defensive touchdown in 2021
- Rated a four-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked No. 5 prospect in Utah by 247Sports
- Ranked top-50 nationally among defensive line prospects by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Utah, Utah State, Oregon State and Colorado State
- 2022 Polynesian Bowl selection
- Helped lead Weber HS to 6A semifinals in 2021
- Top-5 in 6A with 10.5 sacks on the season (2021)
- Coached by Jayson Anderson
- Uncle, Carlos Nuno, played tight end for BYU (1997-99)

## Noah Moeaki (6-3, 225, TE, American Fork, Utah, American Fork HS):

- Career 89 receptions for 1,095 yards and 17 touchdowns
- 28 receptions for 422 yards and six touchdowns in 2021
- 37 receptions for 498 yards and 10 touchdowns in 2020
- Career 96 tackles, four sacks and four interceptions as a linebacker
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked No. 16 prospect in Utah
- Also recruited by Utah, San Diego State, Utah State and Air Force
- Helped lead American Fork HS to 6A quarterfinals in 2021
- Named to All-6A Honorable Mention Team (2020)
- Coached by Aaron Behm
- Father, John Moeaki, played linebacker for BYU (1994)
- Uncle, Larry Moeaki, played OL for BYU (1996)
- Uncle, Harvey Unga, is the RB coach at BYU

### Trevin Ostler (6-5, 240, OL, Bountiful, Utah, Bountiful HS):

- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Also recruited by UNLV
- Helped lead Bountiful to a Region 5 championship and 5A quarterfinals in 2021
- Coached by Jason Freckleton

#### Cooper Ross (6-5, 245, DL, Mesa, Arizona, Heritage Academy):

- Rated a two-star recruit by 247Sports
- Helped Heritage Academy to a 7-2 record and Section Championship in 2021
- 34 receptions for 637 yards, 15 touchdowns (2020)
- All-Arizona First Team (2019, 2020)

## Vae Soifua (6-4, 290, OL, Orem, Utah, Orem HS):

- 2022 Polynesian Bowl Selection
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Helped Orem to 5A State Championship in 2019 and 2020
- Also recruited by Utah State, Boise State, Arizona, Virginia, UNLV, Hawaii, Louisiana Tech, North Texas and Florida Atlantic
- Coached by Gabe Sewell
- Sister, Naomi, plays golf at BYU (2017-2022)

## Kingsley Suamataia (6-6, 330, OL, Orem, Utah, Oregon):

- Named 5A MVP (2020)
- Rated a five-star recruit in class of 2021
- Consensus top-40 overall prospect by Rivals (No. 23), 247Sports (No. 36)
- Ranked one of the top offensive tackles in the country in class of 2021: No. 5 (Rivals), No. 6 (247Sports),
   No. 11 (ESPN)
- Helped Orem HS win four consecutive state championships (2017-20)
- Led Orem HS to 16-0 state playoff record
- Joins former Orem HS teammates Puka Nacua, Hunter Hill, Jakob Robinson, Ethan Slade and Joshua Singh at BYU
- Also recruited by Alabama, Florida, Georgia, LSU, Miami, Michigan, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oklahoma, Utah and USC
- Played in one game for Oregon in 2021, arrives at BYU as redshirt freshman with four years of eligibility remaining

## Talin Togiai (6-5, 290, OL, Rigby, Idaho, Rigby HS):

- 2022 Polynesian Bowl Selection
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Ranked No. 4 overall prospect in Idaho by 247Sports
- Also recruited by Utah and Nebraska
- Led Rigby HS to 11-1 record, Idaho 5A State Championship
- Coached by Armando Gonzalez
- Cousin of former Ohio State and current Cleveland Browns defensive tackle Tommy Togiai
- Cousin of Philadelphia Eagles tight end Noah Togiai

## Micah Wilson (6-2, 195, LB, Draper, Utah, Corner Canyon HS):

- Career 181 tackles, two sacks, one interception and one interception returned for touchdown
- 47 tackles, 1.5 sacks, one interception in 2021
- 133 tackles as a junior in 2020
- Averaged 9.5 tackles per game in 2020
- Rated a three-star recruit by 247Sports
- Helped lead Corner Canyon HS to a Region 4 championship in 2021
- Helped lead Corner Canyon HS to a 6A runner-up finish in 2021
- No. 2 in 6A with 133 tackles (2020)
- Named to All-6A Second Team (2020)
- Coached by Eric Kjar
- Younger brother of former BYU and current New York Jets quarterback Zach Wilson and current BYU linebacker Josh Wilson.