

2008 Aztec Football



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

Welcome to San Diego State football!

No matter if you are a longtime member of the San Diego State community or if you are just beginning to discover our University, I am sure you will be as impressed as I am with all that it has to offer.

My staff and I are committed to coaching a team this community can be proud of as we return to the winning tradition of Aztec Football.

I truly believe there will be cause for much celebration in the very near future.

Our quest for a football championship continues.

2008 SAN DIEGO STATE SCHEDULE

AUG. 30 - SAN DIEGO 6:30 p.m. PT • Ch. 4 SD		CAL POLY
SEPT. 6 - NOTRE DAME 12:30 p.m. PT • NBC		at NOTRE DAME
SEPT. 13 - SAN JOSE 5 p.m. PT		at SAN JOSE ST.
SEPT. 27 - SAN DIEGO 5 p.m. PT		IDAHO
OCT. 4 - FORT WORTH 3 p.m. PT • The Mtn.		at TCU
OCT. 11 - SAN DIEGO 6:30 p.m. PT • The Mtn.		AIR FORCE
OCT. 18 - ALBUQUERQUE 3 p.m. PT • The Mtn.		at NEW MEXICO
OCT. 25 - SAN DIEGO 6:30 p.m. PT • The Mtn.		COLORADO ST.
NOV. 1 - LARAMIE 11 a.m. PT • The Mtn.		at WYOMING
NOV. 8 - PROVO 11 a.m. PT • The Mtn.		at BYU
NOV. 15 - SAN DIEGO 5 p.m. PT • The Mtn.		UTAH
NOV. 22 - SAN DIEGO 5 p.m. PT • CBS College Sports Network		UNLV



Table of Contents



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL



2008 SDSU Football Media Guide

The 2008 San Diego State University Football Media Guide is a publication of the San Diego State University athletic media relations office. The publication was written, edited and designed by assistant athletic director and media relations director Mike May, assistant media relations directors Peggy Curtin, Dave Kuhn, Jamie McConeghy, Darin Wong, media relations assistants Andrea Ohta and Jim Solien, administrative assistant Andrea Rogers and student assistant Christina Ross. Additional assistance was provided by Tom Ables and Frank Aronoff.

Photography

Stan Liu Photography, Ernie Anderson, Ken Jacques, Betsy McCallum, Joel Zwink, Oklahoma, Iowa, UCLA and Iowa State media relations, football clubs of the National Football League, Fox Sports, Peggy Curtin, Jim Solien and Bre White.

Printing

Atlas Lithograph (San Diego, Calif.)

INTRODUCTION

Table of Contents 2 • Quick Facts 3 • Media Information 4 • San Diego Map/Qualcomm Map 6 • Media Outlets 7 • Radio/Television 8

2008 SEASON

Season Outlook 10 • Roster 14 • Preseason Depth Chart 15 • At a Glance 17

THIS IS SDSU FOOTBALL

Chuck Long 20 • Coaching Staff 22 • Aztec Tradition 24 • Aztecs in the NFL 26 • Molding Talent 28 • Gameday at the Q 30 • National Attention 32 • Strength and Conditioning 34 • Academics 36 • Community Service 38 • SDSU 40 • Facilities 42 • Aztec Excellence 44 • America's Finest City 46 • Coryell Locker Room 48

COACHES AND STAFF

Chuck Long 50 • Bob Elliott 54 • Del Miller 55 • Chris Ash 56 • Jonathan Himebauch 57 • Larry Holton 58 • LeCharls McDaniel 59 • Toby Neinas 60 • Mike Nelson 61 • Brian Stark 62 • Bob Lopez 63 • Linder/Vandermade 64 • Support Staff 65

PLAYERS

Returning Players 68 • 2008 Signing Class 96

REVIEW

Season Recap 100 • 2007 Results and Statistics 101 • MWC Review 106 • Recaps 109

OPPONENTS

Opponent Information 116 • Series Results 119

RECORDS

Rushing 122 • Passing 127 • Receiving 131 • Total Offense 137 • All-Purpose 139 • Scoring 140 • Defense 143 • Punt Returns 149 • Kickoff Returns 150 • Punting 151 • Miscellaneous Records 152 • Longest Plays 153 • Attendance/Home Record 154

HISTORY

Year-By-Year 156 • Coaching History 160 • Bowl History 162 • All-Americans 164 • National Honors 166 • All-Conference 168 • Team Honors 170 • All-Star Appearances 172 • NFL Draft 173 • Aztecs in the NFL 175 • Letterwinners 177 • All-Time Scores 182 • Year-By-Year Records • Series Records 191 • Historical Venues 192

UNIVERSITY

SDSU 194 • Prominent Alumni 198 • Aztec Culture 199 • SDSU President 200 • Director of Athletics 201 • Hall of Fame 202 • Directory 204 • Compliance 205 • MWC 206 • Composite Schedule 208



SDSU Quick Facts



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Name: San Diego State University
 Location: San Diego, Calif.
 Founded: 1897
 Enrollment: 35,887
 Nickname: Aztecs
 School Colors: Scarlet (PMS 185) and Black
 Stadium (Cap.): Qualcomm Stadium (54,000)
 Surface: Natural Grass
 Conference: Mountain West
 President: Dr. Stephen Weber
 Alma Mater: Bowling Green '64
 Director of Athletics: Jeff Schemmel
 Alma Mater: Kansas State '76
 Athletics Department Phone: 619-594-3019
 Ticket Office Phone: 619-283-SDSU (7378)
 School Website: sdsu.edu
 Athletics Website: goaztecs.com
 Conference Website: themwc.com

TEAM INFORMATION

2007 Record: 4-8
 Conference/Finish: 3-5/6th
 Starters Returning/Lost: 12/14
 Offense/Defense/Kickers Returning: 4/8/0
 Lettermen Returning/Lost: 38/22
 Offensive System: Multiple
 Defensive System: Multiple

COACHES AND STAFF

Head Coach: Chuck Long
 Alma Mater: Iowa '85
 Record at School (Years): 7-17/Two Years
 Career Record (Years): Same
 Football Office: 619-594-6769
 Football Fax: 619-594-4775
 Best Time to Contact Long: Contact SID Office
 Assistant Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator/ILBs: Bob Elliott
 Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks: Del Miller
 Defensive Line: Mike Nelson
 Offensive Line: Jonathan Himebauch
 Running Backs: Larry Holton
 Outside Linebackers/Special Teams: Toby Neinas
 Defensive Backs/Recruiting Coordinator: Chris Ash
 Receivers: LeCharls McDaniel
 Tight Ends: Brian Stark
 Graduate Assistant (Offense): Lenny Vandermade
 Graduate Assistant (Defense): Nick Linder
 Director Of Football Operations: Bob Lopez
 Administrative Assistant: Meghan Cowen
 Cowen Office Phone: (619) 594-7197
 Administrative Assistant: Leah Owczarczak
 Owczarczak Office Phone: (619) 594-7198
 Student Administrative Asst.: Doreen Buttery, Lindsay Long, Nina McKnight
 Student Office Phone: (619) 594-6769

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

San Diego State Department of Athletics: 619-594-3019
 San Diego State Football Office: 619-594-6769
 San Diego State Athletic Media Relations: 619-594-5547
 Qualcomm Stadium Press Box: 619-281-0405
 Mountain West Conference: 719-488-4040

FOOTBALL HISTORY

Seasons of Football: Entering 76th
 First Year of Football: 1921
 All-Time Record: 469-367-32
 Bowl Games: 8 (4-4)
 Division I Seasons: Entering 40th
 Division I Record: 237-204-8
 Bowl Games: 4 (1-3)
 Last Bowl: Las Vegas Bowl, 1998
 Last Bowl Result: North Carolina 20, SDSU 13

MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICE

SID Main Office Number: 619-594-5547
 SID Fax Number: 619-582-6541
 Assistant AD/Media Relations Director: Mike May*
 Mobile Number: 619-957-8372
 E-Mail: mmay@mail.sdsu.edu
 Assistant Media Relations Director: Peggy Curtin*
 Mobile Number: 619-540-6146
 E-Mail: mcurtin@mail.sdsu.edu
 Assistant Media Relations Director: Dave Kuhn
 Assistant Media Relations Director: Jamie McConeghy
 Assistant Media Relations Director: Darin Wong
 Media Relations Assistant: Andrea Ohta
 Coordinator of Multimedia Productions: Dave Berry
 Administrative Assistant: Andrea Rogers
 Address: SDSU Department of Athletics
 Aztec Athletics Center, Suite 3014
 5302 55th Street, San Diego, CA 92182-4309

* - primary football contacts

RADIO INFORMATION

Radio Station: AM 600 KOGO
 Play-By-Play Announcer: Ted Leitner
 Analyst: Chris Ello
 Sideline Reporter: Mike Costa
 Pregame & Postgame: TBD

VIDEO INFORMATION

Video Footage Contact: Brian Murphy
 Contact Murphy: 619-594-7617

2007 SCHEDULE/RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Broadcast
Sept. 8	at Washington St.^	L	17-45	
Sept. 15	at Arizona State	L	13-34	FSN Arizona
Sept. 22	Portland State	W	52-17	The Mtn.
Sept. 29	Cincinnati	L	23-52	VERSUS
Oct. 6	at Colorado State*	W	24-20	The Mtn.
Oct. 13	at Utah*	L	7-23	Channel 4 SD
Oct. 20	New Mexico*	L	17-20	CSTV
Nov. 3	Wyoming*	W	27-24	The Mtn.
Nov. 10	at UNLV*	W	38-30	CSTV
Nov. 17	at Air Force*	L	23-55	
Nov. 24	TCU*	L	33-45	
Dec. 1	BYU*	L	27-48	The Mtn.

* - Mountain West Conference game ^ - Played in Seattle, Wash.



SDSU Media Relations



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

SDSU MEDIA RELATIONS ◀ 2008 SEASON

	<p>Mike May* Assistant Athletic Director for Media Relations Office: (619) 594-5547 Mobile: (619) 957-8372 mmay@mail.sdsu.edu Home: (619) 644-1767</p>
	<p>Peggy Curtin* Assistant Media Relations Director Office: (619) 594-5547 Mobile: (619) 540-6146 mcurtin@mail.sdsu.edu</p>
	<p>Dave Kuhn Assistant Media Relations Director Office: (619) 594-5547 Mobile: (619) 957-8371 dkuhn@mail.sdsu.edu</p>
	<p>Jamie McConeghy Assistant Media Relations Director Office: (619) 594-5547 Mobile: (607) 435-5577 jmcconeg@mail.sdsu.edu</p>
	<p>Darin Wong Assistant Media Relations Director Office: (619) 594-5547 Mobile: (310) 489-2378 dwong@mail.sdsu.edu</p>
	<p>Andrea Ohta Media Relations Assistant Office: (619) 594-5547 Mobile: (562) 544-4785 aohta@projects.sdsu.edu</p>
	<p>Dave Berry Coordinator of Multimedia Productions Office: (619) 594-2428 dberry@mail.sdsu.edu</p>
	<p>Andrea Rogers Administrative Assistant Office: (619) 594-5547 arogers@mail.sdsu.edu</p>

* - indicates primary football contacts.

SAN DIEGO STATE MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICE

Media Relations Main Line (619) 594-5547
Media Relations Fax (619) 582-6541

Overnight Address San Diego State University
Department of Athletics
Aztec Athletics Center, Suite 3014
3302 55th Street
San Diego, CA 92182-4309

goaztecs.com

The official website of SDSU athletics, goaztecs.com, is the place for official information on the 2008 San Diego State Aztec football team. Game notes, releases, statistics, schedules, press conferences and quotes are all available on the website.

Thank you for your interest in San Diego State. The Aztec media relations staff has produced the 2008 media guide to assist in your coverage of SDSU football. Please contact a member of the staff with any questions, concerns or requests.

CREDENTIALS

All requests for press and photo credentials should be submitted to the media relations office on official letterhead at least one week in advance of the game. Requests should be directed to Mike May and should be submitted by the sports editor or sports director of the media outlet.

Priority is given to daily newspapers, television stations and radio stations with sports programming.

If approved, credentials will be mailed only when specifically requested, and at the risk of the applicant. Those not delivered by mail, in person, or through the visiting director of media relations, will be left at the Qualcomm Stadium Press Entrance (Gate H) and will be available beginning two hours prior to kickoff.

Credentials will be issued to working media only. Family and friends are not allowed in the press area.

SEASON CREDENTIALS

A season credential form will be sent out in July to outlets which cover SDSU athletics on a regular basis. This season, any individual seeking a season credential will need to submit a photo for the credential.

Only those outlets which routinely cover Aztec practices and media conferences are eligible for season credentials.

SINGLE-GAME CREDENTIALS

Requests should be made for single-game credentials at least one week prior to the game. Any organization that requests a single-game credential and does not use it, may not be granted another pass for the remainder of the season. No credentials will be granted after Thursday of game week.

QUALCOMM STADIUM

Qualcomm Stadium is the home of the SDSU Aztecs and the San Diego Chargers, as well as the site of the Holiday Bowl and the Poinsettia Bowl. The stadium is located off Interstate 8, just west of Interstate 15. Enter from the north off of Friars Road.

The media entrance and media will call are at Gate H. The open-air press box can be reached by taking Elevator 4 (elevator closest to the press gate) to stadium level 2A.

GAME PARKING

Parking passes at Qualcomm Stadium are limited and will be prioritized similar to the

way credentials are issued. Media parking is in the H1 lot and game credentials can be used to access the lot. Visiting media parking should be requested through the opponent's media relations office.

PRESS BOX SERVICES

Working media will be provided with pregame notes, a game program, flip card, and quarterly and final statistics, including postgame notes and quotes. An in-house television system provides updates and replays during the game. Video and audio of Chuck Long's postgame news conference will also be available. Pregame meals are available through the stadium food service in the media's working area. There is a charge for the meal. Postgame notes and final stats will also be available on goaztecs.com following the game.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Only accredited photographers on assignment will be issued sideline credentials for Aztec home games — per NCAA guidelines. The NCAA also specifies that photo shooting must take place outside the restraining line that encircles the playing field and outside of the team areas (25-yard line to 25-yard line).

TELEPHONES, FAXING AND INTERNET

The media relations office will provide four charge-per-call phones in the visiting media's section of the press box for all home games. The phones are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Media requiring special service are urged to order individual phone lines through Gary Brashear at Qualcomm Stadium, (619) 281-1500. Those requiring their own phone instruments should make arrangements through their local AT&T representative. Phone lines for originating radio stations, as designated by the opposing athletic department, will be provided through the MWC co-op agreement.

Postgame faxing service is also available to the media by contacting a member of the media relations office.

Wireless Internet is available, free of charge, in the main area of the press box.

POSTGAME POLICY

The Aztec locker room is closed. Head coach Chuck Long and selected players will be available at a postgame news conference in the interview room located just down the hall from the Aztec locker room. Video and audio from that news conference will be available in the press box. There is no formal postgame format involving the visiting coaches or players.

No postgame interviews will take place on the field without the prior approval of the media relations office.

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

Media Information



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

For postgame purposes, the Aztec and visiting team locker rooms, and the postgame interview room at Qualcomm Stadium are located at the B2 level of the facility. That level can be reached via the press elevator and heading left.

INTERVIEW REQUESTS

For interviews with a member of the San Diego State football staff, including head coach Chuck Long, contact assistant athletic director for media relations Mike May or assistant media relations director Peggy Curtin at (619) 594-5547. For video or phone needs, please contact Mike May.

LONG MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES

Coach Chuck Long will have a weekly gathering with the media each Sunday afternoon (of game weeks) during the season with the exact time to be determined. He is also available on the MWC coaches' teleconference on Tuesday mornings, at his weekly Tuesday media luncheon, and daily after practices. His radio show (time still TBD) will air weekly on KOGO (600 AM). The best time to contact the head coach is weekday mornings before noon. All interviews with coach Long or any member of the football staff should be arranged through the media relations office.

TUESDAY LUNCHEONS

This fall, SDSU will once again play host to a Tuesday media luncheon with head coach Chuck Long and requested players. The location will be the second floor of the Aztec Athletics Center.

Lunch is scheduled to begin at 11:40 a.m., with Coach Long addressing the media at noon, followed by student-athletes. Defensive coordinator Bob Elliott and offensive coordinator Del Miller are also available if requested in advance.

Player requests for the press conference should be made by noon on Monday.

A transcript of the weekly media luncheon is

posted on goaztecs.com. Contact the media relations office for additional details.

AZTEC ATHLETICS CENTER

The Aztec Athletics Center is the home of SDSU athletics. The four-story facility is located at 5302 55th Street in San Diego, just west of Cox Arena and adjacent to the football practice facility and Tony Gwynn Stadium. The football offices are located on the second floor and the media relations office is on third floor in suite 3014. Usually, major news conferences take place in the first-floor auditorium. Most of Long's media gatherings will be on the second floor.

CAMPUS PARKING

Media wishing to attend Aztec workouts during the week will need to obtain a special parking permit from the media relations office, located in suite 3014 of the Aztec Athletics Center. The permit is good for parking in Parking Structure 5, just south of the AAC at the corner of Montezuma Road and 55th Street.

SDSU PRACTICES

San Diego State practices are closed to the public, but will be open to members of the media who routinely cover SDSU athletics. Members of the media wishing to attend practice should contact the media relations office for approval and to confirm practice schedules. Photographers are generally allowed to shoot footage during practice, but are asked to confirm that with the media relations a day in advance of coming out to shoot.

Pending schedules, San Diego State players and coaches will be available for interviews following practice (please refer to the SDSU in-season weekly schedule below).

WEEKLY RELEASE

The media relations office will once again e-

mail its weekly football releases this season. The updates will be sent via fax only when specifically requested. The release will be posted at www.goaztecs.com in both text and Adobe Acrobat formats. To receive the weekly release via e-mail, please contact Mike May at mmay@mail.sdsu.edu.

COLLEGEPRESSBOX.COM

CollegePressBox.com is the official media website for Mountain West Conference football. Access and download weekly game notes, statistics, media guides and more for the conference and each of its nine member schools throughout the season. Login information will be distributed by the conference office to accredited media or you can apply for a password by sending an e-mail to password@collegepressbox.com.

MWC TELECONFERENCE

Interviews with San Diego State head coach Chuck Long, as well as the other eight Mountain West Conference coaches, are available each Tuesday during the season on the league's teleconference. Contact the MWC office at (719) 488-4040 for more information.

Below is the tentative call schedule for the 2008 season (All times Pacific):

Time	Schedule
9:00 a.m.	Moderator opens call
9:02 a.m.	Kyle Whittingham - Utah
9:12 a.m.	Troy Calhoun - Air Force
9:22 a.m.	Chuck Long - SDSU
9:32 a.m.	Mike Sanford - UNLV
9:42 a.m.	Gary Patterson - TCU
9:52 a.m.	Rocky Long - New Mexico
10:02 a.m.	Steve Fairchild - Colorado St.
10:12 a.m.	Bronco Mendenhall - BYU
10:22 a.m.	Joe Glenn - Wyoming
10:32 a.m.	Craig Thompson - MWC

SDSU In-Season Weekly Schedule

A look at San Diego State's typical game week schedule. Please contact the media relations office if you have any questions.

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice, reporters and videographers contact MRD to attend Coach Long and coordinators available Sunday afternoon (contact MRD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No practice No availability for players or coaches unless previously arranged by media relations department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coach Long available on the MWC conference call at 9:22 a.m. PT SDSU media luncheon beginning at 11:40 a.m., featuring coach Long, selected players and both coordinators (contact MRD) Practice, reporters and videographers contact MRD to attend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice, reporters and videographers contact MRD to attend Coach Long and staff available following practice (limited player availability) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coach Long has limited availability following practice due to radio show Practice, reporters and videographers contact MRD to attend Coach Long radio show on KOGO AM-600 (time TBD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No availability for coach Long, players or coaches unless previously arranged by media relations department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Postgame availability only. The San Diego State locker room is closed at all times for both home and road games. For home games, all interviews will take place in the postgame interview room. For road games, the interviews will take place at a designated area adjacent to the locker room.

Maps and Directions



▶ 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

MAPS AND DIRECTIONS ◀ 2008 SEASON

QUALCOMM STADIUM

Qualcomm Stadium is located at 9449 Friars Road

From Lindbergh Field, exit airport on Harbor Drive South. Turn left onto Grape St. and then right on to I-5 South. Exit Hwy 163 North to Friars Road and turn right (east). Go approximately two miles and stadium will be on your right.

From I-5 (Heading south), exit 805 south to Hwy 163 south. Go to Friars Road and head east for two miles and stadium will be on your right.

From I-15 (Heading south), exit Friars Road and turn right (west). Go to Stadium exit and turn left into stadium at top of off-ramp.

From I-8 (Heading west), exit I-15 north. Follow to Friars Road exit and head west to stadium exit. Turn left at top of off-ramp into stadium.

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY

San Diego State is located at 5500 Campanile Dr.

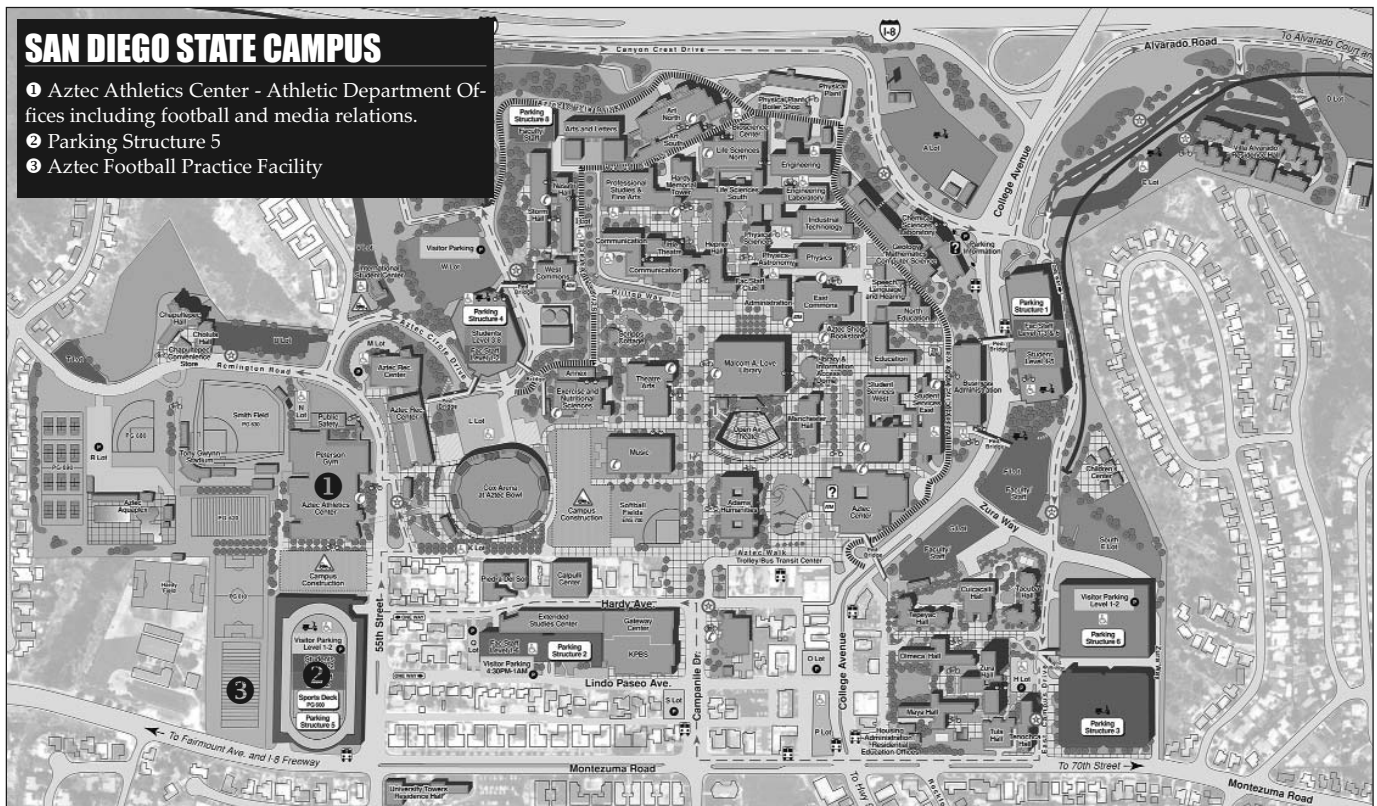
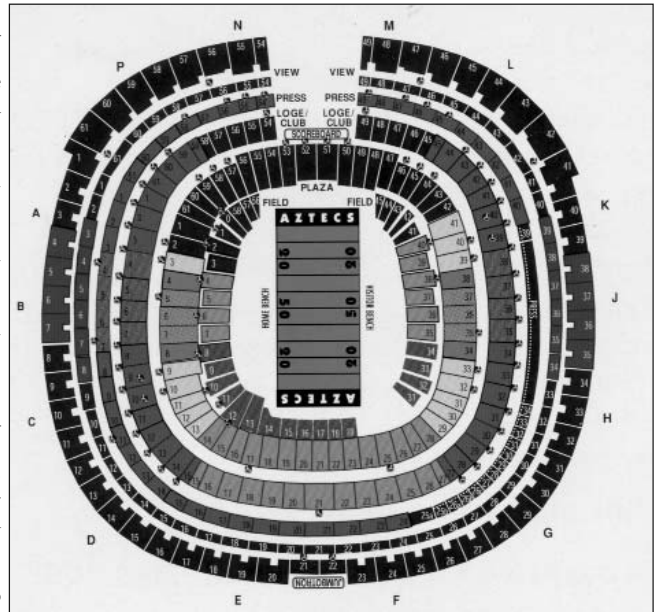
From Lindbergh Field, turn left onto N. Harbor Dr. Turn left onto W. Grape St. Merge onto I-5 South. Merge onto Hwy 163 North. Merge onto I-8 East. From I-8, take College Avenue exit and go south. San Diego State University will be on your right.

From I-5 (Heading South), merge onto I-8 East, take College Avenue exit and go south. San Diego State University will be on your right.

From I-15 (Heading South), merge onto I-8 East, take College Avenue exit and go south. San Diego State University will be on your right.

From I-8 (Heading West), take College Avenue exit and go south. San Diego State University will be on your right.

Proceed past Canyon Crest Drive through (the first stoplight) then make an immediate right turn to the green information booth for parking information. Ask the parking guard for directions as to where you may park.



AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

Media Information



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

PRINT MEDIA

San Diego Union-Tribune

PO Box 120191
San Diego, CA 92112
News Desk: (619) 293-1341
Fax: (619) 260-5078
Website: signonsandiego.com
E-Mail: sports@uniontrib.com
Doug Williams, Sports Editor .(619) 293-1817
Mick McGrane, Beat Writer . . .(619) 293-1850
Nick Canepa, Columnist(619) 293-1397
Tim Sullivan, Columnist(619) 293-1033

North County Times

207 Pennsylvania Ave.
Escondido, CA 92025
News Desk: (800) 200-1601
Fax: (760) 740-5045
Website: nctimes.com
E-Mail: sports@nctimes.com
Loren Nelson, Sports Editor . . .(760) 740-3551
Scott Bair, Beat Writer(760) 739-6642

Daily Aztec

San Diego State University, BAM-2
San Diego, CA 92182-4591
Phone: (619) 594-7817
Fax: (619) 594-7277
Website: thedailyaztec.com
Email: sportseditor@thedailyaztec.com
Edward Lewis, Sports Editor

WIRE SERVICE

Associated Press

PO Box 191
San Diego, CA 92112
News Desk: (619) 231-9365
Fax: (619) 291-2098
Email: sandiego@ap.org
Bernie Wilson, Sports Editor

TELEVISION STATIONS

Channel 4 San Diego

350 10th Avenue, Suite 500
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone: (619) 876-4817
Fax: (619) 595-0168
Jason Bott, Sports Producer . . .(619) 876-4817
Jenny Cavnar, Sports(619) 876-4859
Steve Quis, Sports(619) 876-4833
John Weisbarth, Sports(619) 876-4845

XETV (FOX) Channel 6

8253 Ronson Road
San Diego, CA 92111
News Desk: (858) 650-5401
Fax: (858) 279-0061
C.S. Keys, Sports Director(858) 650-5482
Andrea Nakano, Sports(858) 650-5492
Mike Lamar, Producer(858) 650-5489

KNSD (NBC) Channel 7/39

225 Broadway
San Diego, CA 92101
News Desk: (619) 578-0201
Fax: (619) 578-0202
Jim Laslavic, Sports Director . .(619) 578-0226
Jim Stone, Sports(619) 578-0227
Derek Togerson, Sports(619) 578-0215
Dave Smith, Photographer(619) 578-0243

KFMB (CBS) Channel 8

PO Box 85888
San Diego, CA 92186
News Desk: (858) 495-7587
Fax: (858) 560-0627
Kyle Kraska, Sports Director . .(858) 495-7588
John Howard, Sports(858) 495-7586
Dan Roger, Producer(858) 472-3589

KGTV (ABC) Channel 10

4600 Air Way
San Diego, CA 92102
News Desk: (619) 237-6380
Fax: (619) 527-0369
Ben Higgins, Sports Director . .(619) 237-6372
Steve Smith, Sports(619) 237-6314
Jeff LeValley, Chief Photog. . . .(619) 237-6316

KUSI (IND) Channel 9/51

PO Box 719051
San Diego, CA 92171-9051
News Desk: (858) 505-5014
Fax: (858) 576-9317
Paul Rudy, Sports Director . . .(858) 505-5042
Rick Willis, Sports(858) 505-5032

RADIO STATIONS

KOGO (600 AM)

9660 Granite Ridge Drive
San Diego, CA 92123-2657
News Desk: (858) 560-6671
Fax: (858) 715-3363; (858) 715-3364
Jim Charvet, Sports: (858) 715-3394
Phil Farrar, Sports: (858) 715-3628
Ted Leitner, SDSU Football Play-By-Play
Chris Ello, SDSU Football Analyst
Mike Costa, SDSU Sidelines
TBD, Pregame/Postgame Show

XTRA Sports (1360 AM)

9660 Granite Ridge Drive
San Diego, CA 92123-2657
News Desk: (858) 715-3367
Fax: (858) 715-3363; (858) 715-3364

KFMB Radio (760 AM)

7677 Engineer Road
San Diego, CA 92111
Phone: (858) 292-7600
Fax: (858) 279-7676

XPRS Sports Radio (1090 AM)

3655 Nobel Drive, #470
San Diego, CA 92122
Phone: (858) 453-9153
Fax: (858) 453-9157

ESPN Radio (800 AM)

1027 10th Avenue, Suite C
San Diego, CA 92101
Phone: (619) 330-5000
Fax: (619) 330-5013

SAN DIEGO AREA HOTELS

Best Western Seven Seas

411 Hotel Circle South
San Diego, CA 92108
Ph: (619) 291-1300

Courtyard by Marriott

8651 Spectrum Center Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92123
Ph: (858) 573-0700

Mission Valley Hilton

901 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
Ph: (619) 543-9000

Mission Valley Sheraton

1433 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
Ph: (619) 260-0111

Residence Inn by Marriott – San Diego Central

5400 Kearny Mesa Road
San Diego, CA 92111
Ph: (858) 278-2100

Town & Country Hotel

500 Hotel Circle North
San Diego, CA 92108
Ph: (619) 312-4748

2009 NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sept. 5	at UCLA
Sept. 12	Southern Utah
Sept. 19	at Idaho
Oct. 3	New Mexico State

2008 SEASON ► MEDIA INFORMATION AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

Radio and Television



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

AM 600 KOGO

In 2007, San Diego State football had a new home, AM 600 KOGO, the highest rated AM station in the San Diego market.

Aztec Sports Properties, a property of Learfield Sports that holds multi-media rights for San Diego State University Athletics, signed a five-year agreement in late March 2007 that made Clear Channel Broadcasting in San Diego and AM 600 KOGO the radio home of Aztec athletics beginning with the 2007-08 academic year.

The station is serving as the flagship for San Diego State football and men's basketball broadcasts both on the road and at home, and also features a variety of other Aztec programming, including coaches shows and other live events.

KOGO's signal stretches from north of Santa Barbara to south of Tijuana. In addition, Clear Channel will showcase 15 additional live sporting events, including baseball and women's basketball games.

"We are pleased that Learfield Sports has been able to put together a new radio deal for San Diego State," San Diego State Athletic Director Jeff Schemmel said. "Having our football and men's basketball games and coaches shows all on one station and to have that be the highest rated AM station in the market gives us a great opportunity to better serve our Aztec fan base. In addition, Clear Channel's commitment to provide

coverage to additional sports, as well as its ability to help promote San Diego State athletics to a variety of demographics, will help our entire athletic program grow."

San Diego State has partnered with Clear Channel the past four years to play host to the annual KGB SkyShow event in conjunction with an Aztec football game. The results have been successful as the SkyShow event has averaged crowds of 54,997 in its previous four contests.

KOGO, San Diego's News and Talk Station, is owned by Clear Channel Communications. Clear Channel Communications is a global leader in out-of-home advertising and entertainment.

"We are proud and privileged to be the new home of the Aztecs and begin a strong new partnership with SDSU," Clear Channel Vice President and Marketing Manager Bob Bolinger said. "We know the Aztecs are committed to a winning program and we are committed to providing the best college sports broadcast in the country for the fans, the alumni and the community."

The company owns radio and television stations, outdoor advertising displays, produces live entertainment productions and owns venues in 65 countries, including throughout the United States. In San Diego, Clear Channel owns a total of six radio stations in addition to AM 600 KOGO: KGB-FM (101.5), KIOZ-FM (Rock 105.3), KMYI-

FM (STAR 94.1), KHTS-FM (Channel 933), KUSS-FM (US 95.7 FM) and KLSD-AM (AM 1360).

"Clear Channel has been an outstanding radio partner for the Aztec fans as it has led to a 70 percent increase in our game coverage," said Diane Penny, general manager of Aztec Sports Properties. "We continue to be pleased with this radio partnership, which definitely allows more Aztec fans to hear more games broadcast over the airwaves, and we're certainly proud to be associated with the No. 1 AM station in the San Diego market."



CBS College Sports Network, VERSUS and The Mtn.

On Aug. 26, 2004, College Sports Television (CSTV) and the Mountain West Conference announced a visionary partnership that revolutionized the college sports landscape. The landmark agreement was the first NCAA Division I football and men's basketball conference-wide deal for CSTV and provided the network exclusive rights to all Conference events, including cable and satellite television coverage, national over-the-air and satellite radio, video-on-demand and online broadcast rights.

A succession of events since the fall of 2004 has improved the television model, including CSTV's merger with Comcast SportsNet to create The Mtn. – MountainWest Sports Network and CBS Corporation's purchase of CSTV. CBS acquired CSTV in January 2006, and on Feb. 12, 2008 incorporated CSTV's cable, broadcast and online activities into its world-famous brand as the CBS College Sports Network (CBS C). The Mtn. is co-owned by CBS College Sports Network and Comcast SportNet.

The relationship with Comcast SportNet also delivered a new national broadcast partner in VERSUS. The MWC was the first exclusive college programming provider for the Comcast-owned entity, with football and both men's and women's basketball games. The CBS C/MWC partnership has guaranteed greater levels of television exposure for all league sports and has re-

soundingly met the fundamental goals of more exposure and preferred start times and dates.

In the summer of 2006, the centerpiece of this historic relationship was realized with the launch of The Mtn. – the first sports network dedicated to serving a single collegiate athletic conference. The Mtn. provides sports fans blanket coverage of MWC athletics across multiple sports, including football, men's and women's basketball, and men's and women's Olympic sports. The Mtn. features more than just live games and has added its own original programming. Fans get a comprehensive array of news, features and analysis about their favorite MWC teams and players. In 2007-08, more than 250 MWC events were shown live on The Mtn., CBS C and VERSUS. CBS C is currently available in over 65 million homes, while VERSUS is in more than 73 million households.

The MWC television package will reach a national audience in 2008-09 through a combination of telecasts on The MountainWest Sports Network (The Mtn.), CBS College Sports Network (formerly CSTV) and VERSUS. The Mtn. has been available to cable subscribers in the MWC footprint since it first aired in 2006-07 and will be available nationally on DIRECTV starting August 27, 2008.

The MWC has remained steadfast in its mission to promote the league's athletic events to na-

tional and regional television audiences and will continue to grow its new TV model. Previously, ESPN served as the league's inaugural official television partner, while in-house productions guaranteed coverage for several MWC Olympic sports. Through the league's first nine years, excluding institutional local packages, 1,200 football, volleyball, men's basketball and women's basketball events have aired on television, with 178 football games and over 159 men's basketball contests broadcast nationally.



2008 Season



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL



Senior Russell Allen has started 31 career games at linebacker .

Inside:

Season Outlook	10
Roster	14
Pronunciation Guide	15
Two-Deep	16
Aztecs At A Glance	17

2008 Season Outlook



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

2008 SEASON OUTLOOK ◀ 2008 SEASON

As San Diego State enters the 2008 campaign, its third under head coach Chuck Long, you can begin to see the ground work of the master plan come together.

There is the commitment to the strength and conditioning program, good nutrition, voluntary workouts and the belief by those in and around the program that sustained success in football is right around the corner.

There is tangible evidence available as well, from the bigger linemen, to the increased success last season in year two of a new offensive system, to first- and second-year players who were recruited by Long and his staff, getting on the field and playing a more significant role.

From the increased win total to being more competitive in defeat, the evidence is there that better days are closer than many realize.

The turnaround at SDSU is well on its way.

THE AZTEC OFFENSE

Few teams in the country can boast of a more improved offense than what San Diego State accomplished from Chuck Long's first season in 2006, to his second season in 2007.

The Aztecs, who suffered through a rash of injuries in 2006, benefited from a healthier group last season and another year under the Long and (offensive coordinator) Del Miller system, to average 122 more passing yards and 101 more total yards per contest. The result was an increase in scoring of nearly 11 points per game.

That offense, which hit its stride in the middle of the year and ended the campaign scoring 27 or more points in four of the final five games, placed three players in the NFL Draft. Kevin O'Connell, the leading rushing quarterback in school history, who started 33 games and passed for 7,689 yards, was selected in the third round by the New England Patriots. A pair of receivers, Brett Swain, who led the team in receptions and receiving yardage each of the past two seasons, and Chaz Schilens, who tallied 1,603 career yards receiving, were seventh-round selections by the Green Bay Packers and Oakland Raiders, respectively.

The challenge this season will be to keep that momentum moving forward while returning just four starters, two of whom are sophomores.

What fans will likely see is the first glimpse of Long and Miller's master plan. That is, an offensive line that will allow SDSU to have a running game to compliment its historically impressive passing game. Although the offensive line is remarkably young (six freshmen and two juniors who have yet to see game action in the top 10 are on the two-deep), only one player entering fall camp on the o-line as a starter or backup tips the scale at less than 305 pounds. Compare that to four players who weighed less than 300 pounds on Long's first 2006 fall two-deep. That should aide a running game that has produced only two 1,000-yard rushers in the past nine seasons.

"This group is ahead of the previous year's group in some areas because they have been in the system," Long said. "We are getting them in our program from day one, which makes a dif-

ference. They know what to expect and get better when they hear the same emphasis year-to-year."

If the Aztecs can push through the initial growing pains of having to play so much young talent, Aztec fans could be in for some heavy fireworks down the road. SDSU will open fall camp with more freshmen projected starters (3.5) and as many sophomore starters (3) as they have senior starters (3), making this the first of several seasons with the core unit intact.

QUARTERBACKS

Returning players with starting experience: None

The only quarterback on the San Diego State roster to ever start a collegiate game at the position is wideout Darren Mougey, making this one of the most inexperienced groups of signal callers in school history.

That being said, the potential at quarterback is as great as any position in the lineup. Following a competitive spring, Long named redshirt freshman Ryan Lindley the heir apparent to Kevin O'Connell's four-year run as a starter. Lindley, a native of nearby Alpine, Calif., drew national attention as a prep player by throwing for more than 3,500 yards as a senior and being named one of the top 35 quarterbacks nationally by one prep recruiting service.

"Ryan Lindley is one of the most mature freshmen that I have ever been around at that position, with his strong leadership style and capabilities," Long said. "In addition to maturity, he already has a really good feel for the game. There's growth for him out there still, but he fits well into our spread style of offense. He is a good decision maker for a freshman, which you rarely see."

Lindley is more of a traditional drop-back passer than what San Diego State has fielded at the position in recent years. He has tremendous arm strength and having earned an advantage in spring ball, will get the bulk of reps this fall.

If Lindley gets the call in the opener, he will be just the second freshman in school history to start a season opener. The other was All-American Todd Santos, who started in 22 victories, the most of any Aztec signal caller in the Division I era.

Behind Lindley is junior Drew Westling. A transfer from Southwestern College, Westling earned respect in spring ball with his work ethic and results.

"Drew is everything we imagined he would be and more," Long said. "There is no one who out-works him. He is another good leader for us and comes from a strong football background."

The only returning player at the position is Kelsey Sokoloski, a third-year sophomore, who played as a reserve in four games last season. He was 10-of-15 for 119 yards and one touchdown. A native of Greenwood Village, Colo., Sokoloski is the best dual-threat quarterback for the Aztecs.

"Kelsey brings that experience and he has obviously been in the program longer than the other two guys," Long said. "We feel good about where he is with our system."

Last season, O'Connell owned a 15-to-8 touch-

down-to-interception ratio and guided the Aztec offense to just 16 turnovers in 12 games. Keeping that number low with inexperience at the quarterback position will go a long way in determining San Diego State's success in 2008.

"They don't have Division I experience, but we like what we have there," Long said. "They are excellent leaders and are all very smart. They do everything necessary to play that position and because it's such a good battle there, it's made each one of them better in a short amount of time."

RUNNING BACKS

Returning players with starting experience: Atiyyah Henderson, Brandon Sullivan

SDSU returns two players with starting experience in the backfield and a third who the staff believes could have a breakout senior season.

"As a group we feel good about our depth," Long states. "Their speed and power is impressive. They all have good hands and as a group, they catch the ball pretty well. If they all deserve to play, then we will put them in, but you would like to get down to that one-two punch. Depending on the personnel, you will see all the guys get some time."

Tyler Campbell enters fall camp listed No. 1 at fullback. He has played in all 24 games the past two seasons, but his presence has been primarily felt on special teams. Originally known for being the son of 1977 Heisman Trophy winner and Pro Football Hall of Famer Earl Campbell, Tyler is recognized as one of the team's hardest workers. He has carried the ball just 13 times in his career, but that could change this season.

"Tyler Campbell is the leader in this group," Long said. "He has had a terrific spring and will have a very big year for us."

The leader at the tailback position entering the fall is sophomore Brandon Sullivan. Rated as a top 50 running back as a prep, the Poway High alum started three games as a redshirt freshman last season. Getting limited carries (58), Sullivan rushed for 220 yards, the most among the returnees, while adding 18 catches for 119 yards.

"Brandon Sullivan has the complete package," Long said. "He has speed, power, has good hands and is effective in multiple schemes."

Right behind Sullivan is junior Atiyyah Henderson. Henderson, who led SDSU in rushing in 2006 with 764 yards, enters his junior campaign just 53 yards short of 1,000 for his career. Like Sullivan, Henderson is a double threat out of the backfield with 44 catches in his first two seasons.

"Out of the backfield group, Atiyyah probably has the most experience and strength," Long said. "He is quick and is hard to defend in space."

Listed on the same tailback line as Henderson is sophomore Davon Brown. As a redshirt freshman last season, Brown played in nine games, carrying 12 times for 20 yards.

"Davon is probably the fastest guy on our team and we would like to find a way to get him the football," Long said. "He may be someone coming from the backfield or from a slot position, but look for him to be on the field."

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

2008 Season Outlook



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL



Running Back
Atiyah
Henderson

WIDE RECEIVERS

Returning players with starting experience: Vincent Brown, Darren Mougey, Mekell Wesley, Roberto Wallace

How deep is the talent pool at wide receiver?

One could make the case that San Diego State is better at the wideout positions this season than they were a year ago when the Aztecs featured a pair of future NFL Draft picks and a group that produced the 28th-most passing yards nationally.

The reasons for optimism start with returning starters senior Darren Mougey and sophomore Vincent Brown, giving the Aztecs two talented receivers who could not be more different.

Mougey, a converted quarterback, has a 6-6, 230-pound frame that can be difficult to defend and nearly impossible to bring down once he has caught the ball. Last season, he hauled in 32 passes for 368 yards in 10 games in his first role as a receiver since his junior year of high school.

"Darren is big and strong," Long said. "He has some power that he can use to get open. He is still learning the fine art of route running. It's a big camp for Darren, because as he continues to get better running routes, he is going to be more difficult to stop."

Vincent Brown exploded on to the scene a year ago as both a receiver and a return man as a true freshman. In a group loaded with NFL talent, he caught 31 passes for 349 yards and two touchdowns. He also showed overall speed, averaging 21.9 yards per kickoff return and breaking free for a 49-yard return against Portland State.

"Vincent has great hands and works hard all the time," Long said. "He is an excellent route runner and has been very well coached in that department. He went up another level with the experience he got last season and it will be interesting to see how that helps him this year."

The talent surrounding the two returning starters is equally impressive. Junior Mekell Wesley has played in 20 career games, including all 12 last season. Junior Roberto Wallace made a start in nine games last season and caught six passes. The most intriguing player in the group might be junior DeMarco Sampson, who played in all 12 games last year, but drew oohs and ahhs from spectators at spring practice for his ability to make defenders miss after catches.

"Mekell has the speed for the position," Long said. "He has really come on as a complete wide receiver. Both Roberto and DeMarco are big play receivers. Roberto was hurt during the spring but is a big (6-4) receiver who can get off the line of scrimmage and go up and get the ball. DeMarco is similar to Roberto. He has the ability to go up in a crowd and come away with the ball."

In all, this could be the strongest group of receivers on The Mesa in a number of years.

"This group is solid, but they have some youth to them, besides Darren," Long said. "All of those guys will have a chance to play in a position with our spread offense, but to get on the field, they have to know what they are doing. It is more of a learning situation for them this camp, but they all have a chance to play."

The continued development of talent by the youngsters at the position, as well as quality depth at the position will certainly go a long way toward helping a new quarterback.

"We have potential to have some big-play threats there," Long added. "They each bring something a little different to the table. Our job as a staff is to slot them correctly. Part of the learning for a receiver is knowing all the positions and getting to see the whole picture. It's one position we feel we are in pretty good shape."

TIGHT ENDS

Returning players with starting experience: Matthew Kawulok, Eric Miclot

Don't be surprised if members of the tight end core are keeping an eye out. In Chuck Long's two seasons on The Mesa, no position has been as devastated by injuries as the tight end spot. In 2006, Eric Miclot and Lance Louis suffered season ending injuries before the first game. Miclot has yet to return to the field and Louis is looking for playing time as an offensive lineman.

Last season, the Aztecs were still trying to recover from the injuries to their two all-conference caliber tight ends. Departed senior Steve Schmidt started all 12 games.

This season, San Diego State finally appears to be back to full strength at the position. There is enough talent entering the fall that for the first time, the Aztecs are listing two tight end positions on the depth chart.

"We feel good about all of them," Long said. "It's a position that will be a revolving situation and we will use all of them based on our personnel groups. We have pretty good experience in terms of guys who have been on the field."

Junior Matthew Kawulok is back with 19 games and seven starts to his credit. A scholar-

athlete off the field, the Boulder, Colo., native has six career catches.

"Matt has put on good weight during his time here and has an excellent understanding of the offense," Long said.

Another junior two-year letterwinner at tight end is Waika Spencer, who has played in 17 games the past two seasons, including 10 in 2007. In addition to seeing action at tight end, he has also played on special teams for the Aztecs.

Two other players who will see time at the position in 2008 are junior Tony DeMartinis and sophomore Alston Umuolo.

DeMartinis, a junior from Sun Valley, Calif., played 22 games on the defensive line before switching to tight end prior to spring drills. The staff has kept the option open to play him at both tight end and defensive end in 2008.

Umuolo, a sophomore from Phoenix, was one of five true freshmen to see action in 2007. He played in 11 contests for the Aztecs and caught six passes for 67 yards and a touchdown.

"Alston can really get out in space and run," Long said. "We are looking for things like that to keep us in a spread formation."

"We feel we have the makings of a solid group," Long said. "We have more depth and want to play more tight ends in a nontraditional look."

OFFENSIVE LINE

Returning players with starting experience: Trask Iosefa, Lance Louis, Mike Schmidt

San Diego State will start the 2008 season with an influx of big, young offensive linemen. On the post-spring depth chart, six of the 10 offensive linemen are redshirt freshmen, who have yet to see game action. Two others are junior transfers who are yet to play in a Division I game, leaving senior left guard Mike Schmidt and sophomore center Trask Iosefa as the only returning letterwinners with a wealth of experience.

What the Aztecs lack for experience, they make up for in size. The six redshirt freshmen on the line range in size between 280 and 330, and the best part is they will have four years to develop in the offensive system.

"This is a young group, but with good size," Long said. "We don't have as much experience up front so it will become a crucial camp for them. The offensive line is wide open."

The one spot that does appear to be relatively solid entering fall camp is at left guard. Mike Schmidt, who has played in 26 games and made 14 starts (both are highs among offensive players) returns for his senior season.

"Mike is our most experienced player and he will be a three-year starter for us," Long said. "He has by far the most experience up front and has been a good leader and will need to continue to fill that role."

The other returning starter on the front line is Trask Iosefa. The sophomore started all 12 games for the Aztecs a year ago at center.

"Trask is a guy who needs to grow another level and be a leader for us," Long said. "He

2008 Season Outlook



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

2008 SEASON OUTLOOK ◀ 2008 SEASON

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

learned a lot in the course of the year, made good calls and has the intelligence you want at center. He has to be able to make the calls to help the guards and the people around him. He has done a nice job of that. His snaps were consistent all year. It is very rare that freshmen can be in a starting lineup, let alone center."

Two other experienced players who have made the transition to the offensive line are senior Lance Louis and junior Peter Nelson. Louis was a tight end his first two seasons on campus before sitting out 2006 due to knee surgery. He returned last year at right guard and played in all 12 games as a reserve. Joining Louis as a transplanted offensive lineman is Nelson. The junior has played in 13 career games, including 11 last season at defensive tackle. The coaching staff is hopeful that Louis and Nelson can give some upperclassmen assistance up front.

"Lance has a chance to have a big year," Long said. "We are not sure entering camp whether he will play the guard or tackle positions. We brought Peter over just because he's got that on-field experience and we think this is a natural position for him. We are excited about that. He will provide leadership and experience out there."

The rest of the group is made up of first-year players. Two redshirt freshmen are on the top line at left tackle in Mike Matamua and Kurtis Gunther. Behind Schmidt at left guard are redshirt freshman Emilio Rivera and sophomore Tom Rische.

Battling Iosefa at center are redshirt freshman Tommie Draheim and redshirt junior Damian Shankle. At right guard, junior Ikaika Aken-Moleta, who saw action in four games a year ago, has the edge over Louis and redshirt freshman Leo Grassilli. Two redshirt freshmen are challenging for the starting position at right tackle in Gunther and Kellen Farr.

The coaching staff plans to use fall camp to find the top five linemen, but all of the candidates will have a chance to earn playing time this fall.

"We are finally getting some size in the front line," Long said. "We are starting to see those 300-pounders across the board instead of those 270 or 280-pound frames. That has been a significant difference."

THE AZTEC DEFENSE

Last season Chuck Long and defensive coordinator Bob Elliott were dealt an inexperienced hand. Only four starters returned from the 2006 unit which held nine of 12 opponents to 19 points or less. That included allowing a grand total of 31 points in the final three games of Long's inaugural year. The result was a young unit that struggled at times en route to gaining experience.

Last season's growing pains have led the way to an experienced unit this season. The Aztecs return nine starters and 21 letterwinners on defense. San Diego State returns three starters from the defensive line, all three linebackers from possibly the best unit in the Mountain West Conference and three of the four in the secondary.

In 2007, many of the defensive players saw

their first significant playing time. The result was baptism by fire. The defense had positives, like 16 interceptions and 22 forced turnovers to help SDSU post its best turnover margin this decade. But the Aztecs also struggled at times, allowing a 46.9 percent third-down conversation rate.

"What I like about our coaches is they have stayed consistent," Long said. "They haven't revamped or reshaped anything after last year. I noticed a difference this spring because we got better. When coaches tinker too much and go from one to another, that's when things get crazy. These players have heard the same thing over and over again. When you have that, it helps. They have a better understanding of our system."

San Diego State's defensive two-deep has a combined 117 starts, with 11 different players having started at least one game. Last year at this time, only four Aztec players on the defensive side of the ball had started a game. Despite the wealth of experience on defense, SDSU is still only slated to start four seniors, meaning that like so many other positions on the roster, the core group will be together for years to come.

The strength of the defense can be found in a linebacker and safety group that return nearly unchanged from a year ago. San Diego State, which is quickly becoming synonymous as Linebacker U. by producing four NFL players (Heath Farwell, Matt McCoy, Kirk Morrison and Freddy Keiaho) at the position this decade, is loaded with talent again. The Mountain West Conference's leading tackler a year ago, senior Russell Allen returns as do five of the top six tackle leaders off last season's team.

"I feel good about this unit," Long said. "It's the defense that needs to keep us in games. They have gotten better and have some pride going. We have some strong leaders in that group."

Don't be surprised if at the end of the season, you see the Aztec defensive unit be one of the most improved in the nation.

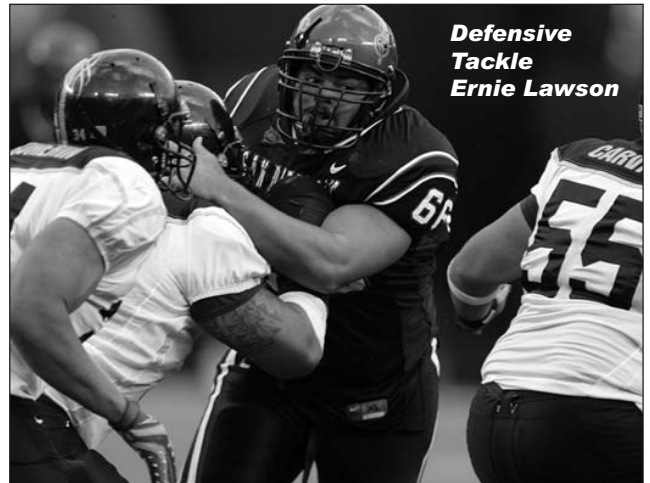
DEFENSIVE LINE

Returning players with starting experience: Siaosi Fifita, Jonathan Soto, Neil Spencer, B.J. Williams

Similar to the offensive line, one can start to see the commitment to the strength and conditioning program on the defensive line. Gone are the days when the Aztec line was in the 250-pound range. That is replaced by a front line made up mostly of 270- to 300-pounders.

"This is a good group with solid speed," Long said. "Plus, we are starting to get some needed size up front."

Three of the four line spots feature returning starters. Senior Siaosi Fifita has 35 games and 10



Defensive Tackle Ernie Lawson

starts to his credit. This season the Van Nuys, Calif., native, is moving from end to his more natural spot at tackle.

Joining Fifita at tackle will be sophomores Ernie Lawson and Neil Spencer and junior Avery Williams. Spencer and Lawson both saw significant action last season, while Williams will likely see his role increase in 2008.

"Ernie is one of our good young leaders on our football team," Long said. "We expect a big year out of him. This will be an important camp for Avery as he was hurt late in the spring and we were not able to see as much as we would have liked."

The Aztecs have quality depth at the end positions, led by returning starters Jonathan Soto and B.J. Williams.

Soto, a junior from West Covina, Calif., has played in 22 games with eight career starts, including seven starts in 2007. Last season, he recorded 35 tackles and added 4.5 tackles for loss, while placing third on the team with three sacks.

"We want to work Jonathan Soto outside as defensive end," Long said. "We think it's a more natural position for him although he can play the three-technique."

Williams, a sophomore who played in 12 games last season, starting eight times, is slotted for the other end position. A gifted athlete, the Aurora, Colo., native turned heads by recording seven tackles in his first collegiate game against Washington State. He ended his freshman campaign with 45 tackles.

"B.J. is everything you want in a football player," Long said. "He really loves to play hard and practice hard. He has excellent explosion off the line and can really run."

Sophomore Eric Ikonne played just one game in 2007, but the coaching staff believes he is ready to contribute this year. Also at the end position is Ohio State transfer Ryan Williams. Both players should receive time this year as the Aztecs will look to use quality depth to their advantage.

"As a group they are going to be rotating in and out to keep them fresh and they are all going to get some time," Long said. "Our plan last year was growing them up together. We feel pretty

2008 Season Outlook



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

good about our depth at defensive end, as they all had a good spring."

LINEBACKERS

Returning players with starting experience: Russell Allen, Luke Laolagi, Andrew Preston

If you are grading out the best linebacker units in the Mountain West Conference, it might be hard to find an overall group better than what the Aztecs have returning this season.

Take the top tackler in the league, strong-side linebacker Russell Allen, who broke the school record with 22 stops against Utah last season, and add Luke Laolagi, who started all 12 games a year ago at middle linebacker for the Aztecs. Add sophomore Andrew Preston, who was one of the top defensive freshmen in the league in 2007, and you can see why SDSU is confident.

"We have quality personnel who all have the ability to get to the ball," Long said. "We are gaining more size inside, which we thought was vital. We like how this group plays and you will see a lot of them on special teams. It's important that we stay fresh as well. This is a good, deep group and we will need that in a 12-game season."

With O'Connell moving to the league that plays on Sundays, Allen has become the face of Aztec football. With 36 career games, including 31 starts, he is the team leader in not only both of those categories, but more importantly, off the field. Allen led the team in tackles after finishing second on the squad as a sophomore. In 2007, he posted 119 stops, 5.5 tackles for loss and showed his diversity by breaking up six passes.

"Simply put, he is a great leader for us," Long said. "We put him at the strong-side position, out in space and he makes plays. You try to put your best athletes, your best players in space there, because you have to make those one-on-one tackles. He does that."

Laolagi and Preston both made strides during spring ball following impressive 2007 campaigns. Laolagi was third on the team with 94 tackles, including six tackles for a loss. Preston had 72 tackles, including seven stops behind the line of scrimmage.

"Both Luke and Andrew had very nice springs," Long said. "They are starting to feel more comfortable as a group in what they are doing. Bob Elliott is coaching the inside linebackers and that has been a positive for us."

To show the quality of depth, one of the players who enjoyed a breakout spring, redshirt freshman Miles Burris, is just getting mentioned. Burris, along with Jerry Milling and Marcus Yarbrough are all expected to see the field.

"Miles was all over the field during the spring," Long said. "For him, it is all about learning the system. Once he gets it all down he's going to be maybe as good as San Diego State has ever had here. Jerry is a force. He just loves to hit and plays extremely hard. Yarbrough has the size you are looking for in a linebacker."

Senior Zach Clarke and redshirt freshman Logan Ketchum are also on the depth chart at linebacker.

SECONDARY

Returning players with starting experience: Corey Boudreaux, Vonnie Holmes, T.J. McKay, Aaron Moore

Although the linebacking core may disagree, no place has better depth on either side of the football than the secondary. The group that lived through highs and lows is now a seasoned bunch. The Aztec secondary includes four seniors, two juniors and an eye-catching nine returning letter-winners.

"As a group, they have good speed and can run," Long said. "We feel good about our corner position which is a rare thing. We are trying to find our best regular package. This is the strongest this unit has been since we have been here and we have been able to address the depth issue. We have some good young players coming up."

The corner position is in good hands, with junior Aaron Moore and senior Vonnie Holmes. Moore intercepted four passes and broke up seven more last season in addition to getting in on 59 tackles. Holmes picked off a pass in each of the Aztecs' first four games and added a fumble recovery to go along with 26 stops.

"Aaron has good experience and is playing well," Long said. "He gained a lot of confidence since we threw him in against San Jose State as a freshman. It seems like a long time ago, as he has shown tremendous growth. Vonnie had a good spring after a tough fall at times. He really hunkered down during the spring and made tremendous progress."

Backing up the two corners and someone who will certainly be on the field in certain packages is sophomore Jose Perez. Drafted by the New York Yankees in 2003, Perez returned to SDSU in 2006 and has made the adjustment back to football.

"He is someone we are really anxious to see this year," Long said. "He has come on and is ready to make an impact. The nice thing is he still has three years left in the program."

Corey Boudreaux, who came on to have an exceptional campaign last year, was granted an extra year of eligibility and will return this fall. A native of Orange, Calif., Boudreaux had played in only two games prior to starting all 12 contests in 2007. He ended the season fourth in the team in tackles (84) and had three interceptions.

At the strong safety position, sophomore Martrell Fantroy and senior T.J. McKay are listed as co-No. 1s on the depth chart entering fall camp. Fantroy, a native of Las Vegas, played in all 12 games last season, while McKay, a Palmdale, Calif. native, has 30 career games and five starts to his credit. Regardless of the outcome of the battle in camp, both will see playing time.

"Martrell really got serious and started playing some good football at the end of last year," Long said. "T.J. has emerged as one of our leaders and has been in the program a long time."

SPECIAL TEAMS

Returning players with starting experience: Davon Brown, Mekell Wesley

One of the breakthrough areas for San Diego State in 2007 was the play of its special teams. From punting, to kick coverage, to the return game, SDSU had its best overall special teams unit in years.

Unfortunately for the Aztecs, they start 2008 having to replace a punter, place-kicker and long snapper.

"The big three are up in the air at this point," Long said. "We are going to have some healthy competition going into the fall. We have tried to recruit some walk-ons for that. Our return game has become an important factor for us because we are breaking in a new punter. It is important that we work hard with all our teams but especially on our return game."

The Aztecs will look to true freshman Brian Stahovich for the punting chores and redshirt sophomore Bryan Shields for the place-kicking assignments.

"With competition, they will have to come front and center," Long said. "These are the two guys who we are counting on. That is going to be a big focus of training camp."

The Aztecs will look to replace Seattle Seahawk draft pick Tyler Schmitt at long snapper with true freshman Aaron Brewer.

"We think Aaron is one of the best long snappers in the country, if not the best," Long said. "We believe we will have no issues at that position."

The one area that should remain strong is the return game. For the first time in recent memory, the Aztecs were a threat in the return game in 2007, averaging nearly 11 yards a punt return and more than 20 yards per kickoff return.

"Our special teams got better and better by the end of the year," Long said. "Our guys are starting to sink in with it and take a lot of pride in it. They also see a way of getting onto the field. It's an area we improved the most last year. We liked Mekell and we are going to put Jose Perez and Davon Brown in that mix to return kicks."



Kick Returner Davon Brown

Aztec Roster



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

AZTEC ROSTER ◀ 2008 SEASON

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

Alphabetical

No.	Name	Pos.
67	Aken-Moleta, Ikaika	OL
46	Allen, Russell	LB
36	Andrews, Rob	LB
26	Armstrong, Gerard	DB
49	Autele, J.J.	DE
83	Ayala, Simon	WR
61	Barksdale, Demetrius	LB
40	Boudreaux, Corey	DB
58	Brewer, Aaron	LS
30	• Brown, Davon	RB
80	Brown, Vincent	WR
9	• Burris, Miles	LB
27	Camarda, Vincent	DB
32	Campbell, Tyler	RB
54	Clarke, Zach	LB
2	• Crawford, Travis	DB
44	• Cunningham, Josh	RB
13	Davis, Brandon	DB
82	Deakin, Doug	WR
41	DeMartinis, Tony	TE/DE
60	Draheim, Tommie	OL
24	Edwards, Kwincy	DB
70	Emberate, Nik	OT
11	• Fantroy, Martrell	DB
73	Farr, Kellen	OL
92	Fifta, Siaoisi	DL
63	Finkel, Bryan	LB
75	Grassilli, Leo	OL
1	• Gregorio, Andy	DB
79	Guther, Kurtis	OL
39	Hemmings, Dey Juan	DB
6	Henderson, Atiyah	RB
7	Holmes, Ronnie	DB
44	• Horn, Romeo	DB
97	Ikonne, Eric	DE
50	Iosefa, Trask	OL
71	Johnson, Alec	OL
33	Judkins, Ramon	RB
88	Kawulok, Matthew	TE
31	Ketchum, Logan	LB
11	• Kusnir, Zack	QB
35	Laolagi, Luke	LB
99	Lawson, Ernie	DL
30	• Lewis, Darryn	DB
14	• Lindley, Ryan	QB
94	Long, Jerome	DL
59	Louis, Lance	OL
74	Matamua, Mike	OL
10	• Mauldin, Davion	DB
5	McKay, T.J.	DB
16	Miclot, Eric	TE
78	Milholland, Brian	OT
51	Miller, Jimmy	OL
34	Milling, Jerry	LB
21	• Moore, Aaron	DB
65	Morris, Shane	LB
48	Moses, Eron	DE
4	Mougey, Darren	WR
96	Nelson, Peter	OL
10	• O'Brien, Josh	QB
15	Perez, Jose	DB
22	Preston, Andrew	LB
69	Quinones, Erik	OL
72	Rische, Tom	OL
53	Rivera, Emilio	OL

Numerical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown (High School/College)
1	Andy Gregorio	DB	5-9	195	So.	SQ	Rolling Hills, Calif. (Palos Verdes High)
1	DeMarco Sampson	WR	6-2	210	Jr.	1L	Chula Vista, Calif. (Castle Park High)
2	Travis Crawford	DB	6-0	200	Sr.	1L	Chula Vista, Calif. (Chula Vista High/Southwestern College)
2	Kelsey Sokoloski	QB	6-2	195	So.	1L	Greenwood Village, Colo. (Cherry Creek High)
3	Aubrey Smith	DB	6-2	190	Fr.	RS	Mission Hills, Calif. (Chaminade Prep)
3	Mekell Wesley	WR	5-10	175	Jr.	2L	Chandler, Ariz. (Hamilton High)
4	Darren Mougey	WR	6-6	230	Sr.	3L	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Chaparral High)
5	T.J. McKay	DB	6-1	205	Sr.	3L	Palmdale, Calif. (Palmdale High)
6	Atiyah Henderson	RB	5-9	180	Jr.	2L	Rockledge, Fla. (Rockledge High)
7	Vonnie Holmes	DB	6-0	170	Sr.	1L	Palmdale, Calif. (Palmdale High/College of the Canyons)
9	Miles Burris	LB	6-2	245	Fr.	RS	Roseville, Calif. (Granite Bay High)
9	Drew Westling	QB	6-2	220	Jr.	TR	Mission Viejo, Calif. (Aliso Niguel HS/Southwestern JC)
10	Josh O'Brien	QB	6-4	210	So.	SQ	Del Mar, Calif. (Santa Fe Christian High)
10	Davion Mauldin	DB	5-10	175	Jr.	TR	Compton, Calif. (Cimarron-Memorial High/Cerritos CC)
11	Zack Kusnir	QB	6-6	215	Fr.	RS	San Diego, Calif. (Whitfield High)
11	Martrell Fantroy	DB	6-1	215	So.	1L	Las Vegas, Nev. (Bishop Gorman High)
12	Alston Umuolo	TE	6-4	240	So.	1L	Phoenix, Ariz. (Centennial High)
12	Brandon Vannoy	DB	5-11	205	Jr.	HS	Orange, Calif. (El Modena High)
13	Brandon Davis	DB	6-2	185	Fr.	RS	Oakland, Calif. (Castlemont High)
14	Ryan Lindley	QB	6-3	205	Fr.	RS	Alpine, Calif. (El Capitan High)
14	Brian Stahovich	P/K	6-0	170	Fr.	HS	Solana Beach, Calif. (Cathedral Catholic High)
15	Jose Perez	DB	6-1	180	So.	SQ	Oceanside, Calif. (Oceanside High)
16	Eric Miclot	TE	6-5	245	Sr.	2L	Oceanside, Calif. (Vista High)
17	Justin Shaw	WR	6-2	210	Sr.	SQ	Palmdale, Calif. (Palmdale High/Northern Arizona)
17	Josh Wade	DB	6-0	175	Fr.	HS	San Diego, Calif. (Point Loma High)
18	Roberto Wallace	WR	6-4	215	Jr.	1L	Oceanside, Calif. (Oceanside High)
19	Jon Toledo	WR	6-3	215	Jr.	2L	Encinitas, Calif. (La Costa Canyon High)
20	Bryan Shields	K/P	6-1	190	So.	RS	Bonita, Calif. (Bonita Vista High/Utah State)
21	Aaron Moore	DB	6-0	195	Jr.	2L	Tampa, Fla. (Jefferson High)
21	Lane Yoshida	K	5-10	195	Jr.	RS	Pinole, Calif. (Pinole Valley HS/Reedley College)
22	Andrew Preston	LB	6-1	225	So.	1L	Centennial, Colo. (Arapahoe High)
23	Brandon Sullivan	RB	5-11	205	So.	1L	Poway, Calif. (Poway High)
24	Kwincy Edwards	DB	5-11	165	Jr.	SQ	Palmdale, Calif. (Palmdale High)
26	Gerard Armstrong	DB	6-0	225	Sr.	3L	Hawthorne, Calif. (Leuzinger High)
27	Vincent Camarda	DB	6-2	195	Fr.	RS	San Diego, Calif. (Cathedral Catholic High)
29	John Rivera	RB	5-8	195	Sr.	SQ	Marina, Calif. (Seaside High/Santa Monica College)
30	Davon Brown	RB	5-9	180	So.	1L	Torrance, Calif. (South High)
30	Darryn Lewis	DB	5-9	165	So.	SQ	Elk Grove, Calif. (Franklin E.G. High)
31	Logan Ketchum	LB	6-3	215	Fr.	RS	Oak Park, Calif. (Oak Park High)
32	Tyler Campbell	RB	6-0	220	Sr.	2L	Austin, Texas (Westlake High (Texas)/Pasadena College)
33	Ramon Judkins	RB	6-0	205	Fr.	HS	Los Angeles, Calif. (Beverly Hills High)
34	Jerry Milling	LB	5-10	230	Jr.	1L	Palmdale, Calif. (Palmdale High)
35	Luke Laolagi	LB	6-1	230	Jr.	2L	Reseda, Calif. (Van Nuys Birmingham High)
36	Rob Andrews	LB	6-2	225	Fr.	HS	Pleasanton, Calif. (Foothill High)
37	Colin Shumate	LB	6-2	225	Fr.	HS	Las Vegas, Nev. (Las Vegas High)
38	Zachary Shapiro	LB	6-2	250	Jr.	TR	Claremont, Calif. (Claremont High/Nevada)
38	Josh Ulibarri	RB	6-1	240	Sr.	SQ	Hemet, Calif. (West Valley High)
39	Dey Juan Hemmings	DB	5-11	195	So.	1L	San Bernardino, Calif. (Rialto High)
40	Corey Boudreaux	DB	6-1	220	Sr.	1L	Orange, Calif. (Mater Dei High)
41	Tony DeMartinis	TE/DE	6-5	260	Jr.	2L	Sun Valley, Calif. (Notre Dame High)
42	Nick Sandford	DB	6-2	210	Jr.	2L	Orange, Calif. (El Modena High)
43	Ross Williams	OLB	6-3	200	Fr.	HS	Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif. (Mission Viejo High)
44	Josh Cunningham	RB	6-3	230	Jr.	SQ	Irvine, Calif. (University High)
44	Romeo Horn	DB	6-0	185	So.	1L	Fresno, Calif. (Edison High)
46	Russell Allen	LB	6-3	235	Sr.	3L	Oceanside, Calif. (Vista High)
48	Eron Moses	DE	6-4	250	Fr.	RS	Yorba Linda, Calif. (Esperanza High)
49	J.J. Autele	DE	6-1	240	Fr.	HS	Waipahu, Hawaii (Punahou School)
50	Trask Iosefa	OL	6-0	315	So.	1L	Ewa Beach, Hawaii (Honolulu Punahou High)
51	Jimmy Miller	OL	6-3	290	Fr.	HS	Denver, Colo. (J.K. Mullen High)
52	Marcus Yarbrough	LB	6-2	245	So.	1L	San Diego, Calif. (Eastlake High)
53	Emilio Rivera	OL	6-4	330	Fr.	RS	Sylmar, Calif. (Sylmar High)
54	Zach Clarke	LB	6-2	225	Sr.	1L	Mission Viejo, Calif. (Mission Viejo High/Saddleback College)
55	Neil Spencer	DL	6-2	295	So.	1L	Las Vegas, Nev. (Cimarron-Memorial High)
56	Jonathan Soto	DL	6-3	270	Jr.	2L	West Covina, Calif. (Bishop Amat High)
58	Aaron Brewer	LS	6-5	210	Fr.	HS	Fullerton, Calif. (Troy High)

Aztec Roster



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

Numerical

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown (High School/College)
59	Lance Louis	OL	6-3	300	Sr.	3L	New Orleans, La. (Landry High)
60	Tommie Draheim	OL	6-4	285	Fr.	RS	Lakeside, Calif. (El Capitan High)
61	Demetrius Barksdale	LB	6-3	200	Fr.	RS	San Diego, Calif. (University City High)
63	Bryan Finkel	LB	6-2	225	Jr.	RS	South Tahoe, Calif. (South Tahoe High/Linfield College)
65	Shane Morris	LB	6-0	230	Sr.	SQ	Corona, Calif. (Centennial High)
66	Henry Simon	DL	6-3	275	Fr.	HS	Chula Vista, Calif. (Eastlake High)
67	Ikaika Aken-Moleta	OL	6-2	305	Jr.	SQ	Kapolei, Hawaii (Kapolei High)
68	Mike Schmidt	OL	6-2	320	Sr.	2L	San Diego, Calif. (Madison High)
69	Erik Quinones	OL	6-3	305	Fr.	HS	Canyon Lake, Calif. (Temescal Canyon High)
70	Nik Embernate	OT	6-4	285	Fr.	HS	Yucaipa, Calif. (Yucaipa High)
71	Alec Johnson	OL	6-3	310	Fr.	HS	Denver, Colo. (J.K. Mullen High)
72	Tom Rische	OL	6-4	320	So.	SQ	Fresno, Calif. (Bullard High)
73	Kellen Farr	OL	6-7	320	Fr.	RS	Mesa, Ariz. (Red Mountain High)
74	Mike Matamua	OL	6-4	305	Fr.	RS	Kapolei, Hawaii (Kapolei High)
75	Leo Grassilli	OL	6-3	280	Fr.	RS	Woodbridge, Va. (Hylton High)
76	Taylor Wallace	OT	6-5	290	Jr.	TR	Encino, Calif. (Crespi Carmelite High/El Camino CC)
77	Damian Shankle	OL	6-2	310	Jr.	RS	Laguna Niguel, Calif. (Aliso Niguel High/Saddleback College)
78	Brian Milholland	OT	6-6	300	Fr.	HS	San Diego, Calif. (Helix High)
79	Kurtis Gunther	OL	6-8	280	Fr.	RS	Camarillo, Calif. (Adolfo Camarillo High)
80	Vincent Brown	WR	6-0	185	So.	1L	Rancho Cucamonga, Calif. (Rancho Cucamonga High)
81	Dominique Sandifer	WR	6-0	180	Fr.	HS	Gardena, Calif. (Beverly Hills High)
82	Doug Deakin	WR	6-0	185	So.	SQ	Oak Park, Calif. (Oak Park High)
83	Simon Ayala	WR	6-1	195	Sr.	SQ	Oxnard, Calif. (Pacifica High/Moorpark College)
85	D.J. Shields	TE	6-4	230	Fr.	HS	Bonita, Calif. (Bonita Vista High)
86	Waika Spencer	TE	6-4	265	Jr.	2L	Honolulu, Hawaii (Kamehameha High)
88	Matthew Kawulok	TE	6-2	245	Jr.	2L	Boulder, Colo. (Monarch High)
90	B.J. Williams	DE	6-3	250	So.	1L	Aurora, Colo. (Eaglecrest High)
92	Siaosi Fifita	DL	6-4	270	Sr.	3L	Van Nuys, Calif. (Birmingham High)
93	Avery Williams	DL	6-3	280	Jr.	SQ	Livermore, Calif. (Granada High)
94	Jerome Long	DL	6-5	250	Fr.	HS	Los Osos, Calif. (Morro Bay High)
95	Michael Snead	DE	6-4	250	Fr.	RS	Oakland, Calif. (Skyline High)
96	Peter Nelson	OL	6-5	285	Jr.	1L	St. Charles, Ill. (St. Charles North High)
97	Eric Ikonne	DE	6-0	250	So.	SQ	Dallas, Texas (Newman Smith High)
98	Ryan Williams	DL	6-5	250	Jr.	SQ	Mission Viejo, Calif. (Mission Viejo High/Ohio State)
99	Ernie Lawson	DL	6-3	300	So.	1L	Vallejo, Calif. (St. Patrick-St. Vincent High)

Alphabetical

No.	Name	Pos.
29	Rivera, John	RB
1	• Sampson, DeMarco	WR
42	Sandford, Nick	DB
81	Sandifer, Dominique	WR
68	Schmidt, Mike	OL
77	Shankle, Damian	OL
38	• Shapiro, Zachary	LB
17	• Shaw, Justin	WR
20	Shields, Bryan	K/P
85	Shields, D.J.	TE
37	Shumate, Colin	LB
66	Simon, Henry	DL
3	• Smith, Aubrey	DB
95	Snead, Michael	DE
2	• Sokoloski, Kelsey	QB
56	Soto, Jonathan	DL
55	Spencer, Neil	DL
86	Spencer, Waika	TE
14	• Stahovich, Brian	P/K
23	Sullivan, Brandon	RB
19	Toledo, Jon	WR
38	• Ulibarri, Josh	RB
12	• Umuolo, Alston	TE
12	• Vannoy, Brandon	DB
17	• Wade, Josh	DB
18	Wallace, Roberto	WR
76	Wallace, Taylor	OT
3	• Wesley, Mekell	WR
9	• Westling, Drew	QB
93	Williams, Avery	DL
90	Williams, B.J.	DE
43	Williams, Ross	OLB
98	Williams, Ryan	DL
52	Yarbrough, Marcus	LB
21	• Yoshida, Lane	K

♦ - Duplicate Number

The Coaching Staff

Chuck Long (Iowa '85) Head Coach, 3rd season; **Bob Elliott** (Iowa '76) Assistant Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator/ILBs, 3rd season; **Del Miller** (Central College '72), Offensive Coordinator/Quarterbacks, 3rd season; **Chris Ash** (Drake '96) Defensive Backs/Recruiting Coordinator, 2nd season; **Jonathan Himebauch** (Southern California '98) Offensive Line, 3rd season; **Larry Holton** (Iowa State '70) Running Backs, 3rd season; **LeCharls McDaniel** (Cal Poly '81) Wide Receivers, 8th season; **Toby Neinas** (Missouri '95) Outside Linebackers/Special Teams, 3rd season; **Mike Nelson** (Dayton '69) Defensive Line, 1st/3rd season; **Brian Stark** (Colorado '97) Tight Ends, 9th season; **Bob Lopez** (Illinois State '77) Director of Football Operations, 1st season.

Pronunciation Guide

Ikaika Aken-Moleta	ee-KYE-kuh A-kin MOW-let-uh	Trask Iosefa	i-o-SEF-uh	Waika Spencer	VIE-kuh
J.J. Autele	all-tell-EE	Ramon Judkins	RAY-mun	Brian Stahovich	stuh-HOE-vitch
Davon Brown	duh-VAUGHN	Matthew Kawulok	kuh-WALL-uk	Josh Ulibarri	Yul-ih-BAR-ee
Corey Boudreaux	boo-DROW	Lance Louis	Lewis	Mekell Wesley	MUH-kell
Tony DeMartinis	dee-mar-TEE-niss	Luke Laolagi	Lao (Like now)-long-EE	Marcus Yarbrough	yar-BRO
Nik Embernate	ember-NOT-ay	Eric Miclot	MICK-low		
Siaosi Fifita	sea-AH-sea fuh-FEET-uh	Darren Mougey	MOO-gee		
Andy Gregorio	grah-gore-ee-o	Erik Quinones	KEEN-own-is		
Atiyah Henderson	uh-TEE-uh	DeMarco Sampson	duh-mark-O		
Eric Ikonne	eye-CON-ee	Kelsey Sokoloski	sock-OH-loss-key		

Aztec Two-Deep



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

AZTEC TWO-DEEP ◀ 2008 SEASON

Offense (Multiple)

Career GP GS

LT	74	Mike Matamua, 6-4, 305, Fr.-RS, Kapolei, Hawaii	0	0
OR	79	Kurtis Gunther, 6-8, 280, Fr.-RS, Camarillo, Calif.	0	0
LG	68	Mike Schmidt , 6-2, 320, Sr.-2L, San Diego, Calif.	26	14
	53	Emilio Rivera, 6-4, 330, Fr.-RS, Sylmar, Calif.	0	0
	72	Tom Rische, 6-4, 320, So.-SQ, Fresno, Calif.	0	0
C	60	Tommie Draheim, 6-4, 285, Fr.-RS, Lakeside, Calif.	0	0
	50	Trask Iosefa , 6-0, 315, So.-1L, Ewa Beach, Hawaii	12	12
OR	77	Damian Shankle, 6-2, 310, Jr.-RS, Laguna Niguel, Calif.	0	0
RG	67	Ikaika Aken-Moleta, 6-2, 305, Jr.-SQ, Kapolei, Hawaii	4	0
	59	Lance Louis, 6-3, 300, Sr.-3L, New Orleans, La.	27	8
	75	Leo Grassilli, 6-3, 280, Fr.-RS, Woodbridge, Va.	0	0
RT	79	Kurtis Gunther, 6-8, 280, Fr.-RS, Camarillo, Calif.	0	0
OR	73	Kellen Farr, 6-7, 320, Fr.-RS, Mesa, Ariz.	0	0
	76	Taylor Wallace, 6-5, 290, Jr.-TR, Encino, Calif.	0	0
TE	88	Matthew Kawulok, 6-2, 245, Jr.-2L, Boulder, Colo.	19	7
	86	Waika Spencer, 6-4, 265, Jr.-2L, Honolulu, Hawaii	17	0
TE	41	Tony DeMartinis, 6-5, 260, Jr.-2L, Sun Valley, Calif.	22	0
OR	12	Austin Umuolo, 6-4, 240, So.-1L, Phoenix, Ariz.	11	0
R	80	Vincent Brown , 6-0, 185, So.-1L, R. Cucamonga, Calif.	12	8
	17	Justin Shaw, 6-2, 210, Sr.-SQ, Palmdale, Calif.	5	0
W	4	Darren Mougey , 6-6, 230, Sr.-3L, Scottsdale, Ariz.	20	9
	19	Jon Toledo, 6-3, 215, Jr.-2L, Encinitas, Calif.	15	0
X	3	Mekell Wesley, 5-10, 175, Jr.-2L, Chandler, Ariz.	20	3
OR	18	Roberto Wallace, 6-4, 215, Jr.-1L, Oceanside, Calif.	9	1
	1	DeMarco Sampson, 6-2, 210, Jr.-1L, Chula Vista, Calif.	12	0
FB	32	Tyler Campbell, 6-0, 220, Sr.-2L, Austin, Texas	24	0
	38	Josh Ulibarri, 6-1, 240, Sr.-SQ, Hemet, Calif.	3	0
TB	23	Brandon Sullivan, 5-11, 205, So.-1L, Poway, Calif.	11	3
	6	Atiyyah Henderson, 5-9, 180, Jr.-2L, Rockledge, Fla.	22	10
OR	30	Davon Brown, 5-9, 180, So.-1L, Torrance, Calif.	9	0
QB	14	Ryan Lindley, 6-3, 205, Fr.-RS, Alpine, Calif.	0	0
	9	Drew Westling, 6-2, 220, Jr.-TR, Mission Viejo, Calif.	0	0
	2	Kelsey Sokoloski, 6-2, 195, So.-1L, G. Village, Colo.	12	0

Special Teams

P	14	Brian Stahovich, 6-0, 170, Fr.-HS, Solana Beach, Calif.	0	
PK	20	Bryan Shields, 6-1, 180, So.-RS, Bonita, Calif.	0	
RET	3	Mekell Wesley , 5-10, 175, Jr.-2L, Chandler, Ariz.	20	
	30	Davon Brown, 5-9, 175, So.-1L, Torrance, Calif.	9	
H	2	Kelsey Sokoloski , 6-2, 195, So.-1L, G. Village, Colo.	12	
LS	58	Aaron Brewer, 6-5, 210, Fr.-HS, Fullerton, Calif.	0	

Defense (Multiple)

Career GP GS

DE	56	Jonathan Soto , 6-3, 270, Jr.-2L, West Covina, Calif.	22	8
	98	Ryan Williams, 6-5, 250, Jr.-SQ, Mission Viejo, Calif.	0	0
	41	Tony DeMartinis, 6-5, 260, Jr.-2L, Sun Valley, Calif.	22	0
DT	92	Siaosi Fifita , 6-4, 270, Sr.-3L, Van Nuys, Calif.	35	10
	55	Neil Spencer, 6-2, 295, So.-1L, Las Vegas, Nev.	12	1
DT	99	Ernie Lawson, 6-3, 300, So.-1L, Vallejo, Calif.	12	0
	93	Avery Williams, 6-3, 280, Jr.-SQ, Livermore, Calif.	3	0
DE	90	B.J. Williams , 6-3, 250, So.-1L, Aurora, Colo.	12	8
OR	97	Eric Ikonne, 6-0, 250, So.-SQ, Dallas, Texas	1	0
WLB	22	Andrew Preston , 6-1, 225, So.-1L, Centennial, Colo.	11	9
OR	34	Jerry Milling, 5-10, 230, Jr.-1L, Palmdale, Calif.	14	0
MLB	35	Luke Laolagi , 6-1, 230, Jr.-2L, Reseda, Calif.	22	12
	52	Marcus Yarbrough, 6-2, 245, So.-1L, San Diego, Calif.	11	0
OR	9	Miles Burris, 6-2, 245, Fr.-RS, Roseville, Calif.	0	0
SLB	46	Russell Allen , 6-3, 235, Sr.-3L, Oceanside, Calif.	36	31
	54	Zach Clarke, 6-2, 225, Sr.-1L, Mission Viejo, Calif.	6	0
	31	Logan Ketchum, 6-3, 215, Fr.-RS, Oak Park, Calif.	0	0
CB	21	Aaron Moore , 6-0, 195, Jr.-2L, Tampa, Fla.	22	14
	44	Romeo Horn, 6-0, 185, So.-1L, Fresno, Calif.	12	0
	39	Dey Juan Hemmings, 5-11, 195, So.-1L, San Bernardino, Calif.	12	0
FS	40	Corey Boudreaux , 6-1, 220, Sr.-1L, Orange, Calif.	14	12
	42	Nick Sandford, 6-2, 210, Jr.-2L, Orange, Calif.	18	0
	3	Aubrey Smith, 6-2, 190, Fr.-RS, Mission Hills, Calif.	0	0
SS	11	Martrell Fantroy, 6-1, 215, So.-1L, Las Vegas, Nev.	12	0
OR	5	T.J. McKay, 6-1, 205, Sr.-3L, Palmdale, Calif.	30	5
	2	Travis Crawford, 6-0, 200, Sr.-1L, Chula Vista, Calif.	9	0
CB	7	Vonnie Holmes , 6-0, 170, Sr.-1L, Palmdale, Calif.	12	7
	15	Jose Perez, 6-1, 180, So.-SQ, Oceanside, Calif.	0	0

Two-deep chart at the completion of spring practice. Bold indicates player started at least six games in 2007.



**Cornerback
Vonnie Holmes**

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

Aztecs At A Glance



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

AZTECS BY CLASS

Personnel listed with eligibility as it will be entering the 2008 season.

SENIORS (18)

LB Russell Allen, DB Gerard Armstrong, WR Simon Ayala, DB Corey Boudreaux, RB Tyler Campbell, LB Zach Clarke, DB Travis Crawford, DL Siao Si Fifita, DB Vonnie Holmes, OL Lance Louis, DB T.J. McKay, TE Eric Miclot, LB Shane Morris, WR Darren Mougey, RB John Rivera, OL Mike Schmidt, WR Justin Shaw, RB Josh Ulibarri

JUNIORS (27)

OL Ikaika Aken-Moleta, RB Josh Cunningham, TE/DE Tony DeMartinis, DB Kwincy Edwards, LB Bryan Finkel, RB Atiyah Henderson, TE Matthew Kawulok, LB Luke Laolagi, DB Davion Mauldin, LB Jerry Milling, DB Aaron Moore, OL Peter Nelson, WR DeMarco Sampson, DB Nick Sandford, OL Damian Shankle, LB Zachary Shapiro, DL Jonathan Soto, TE Waika Spencer, WR Jon Toledo, DB Brandon Vannoy, WR Roberto Wallace, OT Taylor Wallace, WR Mekell Wesley, QB Drew Westling, DL Avery Williams, DL Ryan Williams, K Lane Yoshida

SOPHOMORES (22)

RB Davon Brown, WR Vincent Brown, WR Doug Deakin, DB Martrell Fantroy, DB Andy Gregorio, DB Dey Juan Hemmings, DB Romeo Horn, DE Eric Ikonne, OL Trask Iosefa, DL Ernie Lawson, DB Darryn Lewis, QB Josh O'Brien, DB Jose Perez, LB Andrew Preston, OL Tom Rische, K/P Bryan Shields, QB Kelsey Sokoloski, DL Neil Spencer, RB Brandon Sullivan, TE Alston Umuolo, DL B.J. Williams, LB Marcus Yarbrough

REDSHIRT FRESHMEN (16)

LB Demetrius Barksdale, LB Miles Burris, DB Vincent Camarda, DB Brandon Davis, OL Tommie Draheim, OL Kellen Farr, OL Leo Grassilli, OL Kurtis Gunther, LB Logan Ketchum, QB Zack Kusnir, QB Ryan Lindley, OL Mike Matamua, DE Eron Moses, OL Emilio Rivera, DB Aubrey Smith, DE Michael Snead

TRUE FRESHMEN (17)

LB Rob Andrews, DE J.J. Autele, LS Aaron Brewer, OT Nik Embernate, OL Alec Johnson, RB Ramon Judkins, DL Jerome Long, OT Brian Millholland, OL Jimmy Miller, OL Erik Quinones, WR Dominique Sandifer, TE D.J. Shields, LB Colin Shumate, DL Henry Simon, P/K Brian Stahovich, DB Josh Wade, OLB Ross Williams

WHAT RETURNS

By percentage, what returns from last season.

	Pct.
OFFENSE	
Rushing Yards	.38.2
Passing Yards	.6.4
Receiving Yards	.37.1
Scoring	.25.9
DEFENSE	
Tackles	.74.7
Tackles For Loss	.76.9
Sacks	.73.3
Forced Fumbles	.71.4
Fumble Recoveries	.66.7
Interceptions	.93.8
SPECIAL TEAMS	
Field Goals	.0.0
Punting Yards	.0.0
Punt Return Yards	.26.7
Kickoff Return Yards	.100.0

STARTERS RETURNING & LOST

OFFENSIVE STARTERS RETURNING (4)

Pos.	Name	Career Starts
WR	Vincent Brown	.8
WR	Darren Mougey	.9
C	Trask Iosefa	.12
OL	Mike Schmidt	.13
	TOTAL	.42

OFFENSIVE STARTERS LOST (9)

Pos.	Name	Career Starts
OL	Fred Amano	.6
RB	Brandon Bornes	.22
OL	Brandyn Dombrowski	.35
OL	Mike Kravetz	.34
QB	Kevin O'Connell	.33
OL	Will Robinson	.38
WR	Chaz Schilens	.25
TE	Steve Schmidt	.11
WR	Brett Swain	.26
	TOTAL	.230

DEFENSIVE STARTERS RETURNING (8)

Pos.	Name	Career Starts
LB	Russell Allen	.31
DB	Corey Boudreaux	.12
DB	Vonnie Holmes	.7
LB	Luke Laolagi	.12
DB	Aaron Moore	.14
LB	Andrew Preston	.9
DL	Jonathan Soto	.8
DL	B.J. Williams	.8
	TOTAL	.101

DEFENSIVE STARTERS LOST (3)

Pos.	Name	Career Starts
DB	Ray Bass	.18
DL	Ornan Nwansi	.21
DL	Nick Osborn	.36
	TOTAL	.75

SPECIALISTS RETURNING (1)

Pos.	Name
H	Kelsey Sokoloski

SPECIALISTS LOST (3)

Pos.	Name
P	Michael Hughes
K	Garrett Palmer
LS	Tyler Schmitt

Aztecs At A Glance



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL

RETURNING STATISTICAL LEADERS

Rushing	Brandon Sullivan (58 att., 220 yds., 2 TDs)
Passing	Kelsey Sokoloski (10-15-1, 119 yds., 1 TD)
Receiving	Darren Mougey (32 rec., 368 yds., 2 TDs)
Total Offense	Brandon Sullivan (58 plays, 220 yards)
All-Purpose	Vincent Brown (904 yards)
Punt Returns	Mekell Wesley (2 ret., 21.5 ypr.)
Kickoff Returns	Mekell Wesley (26 ret., 21.8 ypr., 1 TD)
Field Goals	none
Scoring	Four players (12 points)
Tackles	Russell Allen (119)
Tackles For Loss	Andrew Preston (7.0-23 yards)
Sacks	Jonathan Soto, Siaoisi Fifita (3.0)
Interceptions	Vonnie Holmes, Aaron Moore (4)
Punting Average	none

LOST STATISTICAL LEADERS

Rushing	Kevin O'Connell (135 att., 408 yds.)
Passing	Kevin O'Connell (237-439-8, 3,063 yards, 15 TDs)
Receiving	Brett Swain (58 rec., 973 yds., 5 TDs)
Total Offense	Kevin O'Connell (574 plays, 3,471 yds.)
All-Purpose	Brett Swain (1,064 yds.)
Punt Returns	Brett Swain (10 ret., 8.8 ypr)
Kickoff Returns	none
Field Goals	Garrett Palmer (13-for-15)
Scoring	Garrett Palmer (73 points)
Tackles	Ray Bass (103)
Tackles For Loss	Nick Osborn (8.5-33 yards)
Sacks	Nick Osborn (4.0-24 yards)
Interceptions	Marc Hull (1)
Punting Average	Michael Hughes (43.9 avg.)

GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN

Current Aztecs by home state or country.

CALIFORNIA (74)

LB Russell Allen, LB Rob Andrews, DB Gerard Armstrong, WR Simon Ayala, LB Demetrius Barksdale, DB Corey Boudreaux, LS Aaron Brewer, RB Davon Brown, WR Vincent Brown, LB Miles Burris, DB Vincent Camarda, LB Zach Clarke, DB Travis Crawford, RB Josh Cunningham, DB Brandon Davis, WR Doug Deakin, TE/DE Tony DeMartinis, OL Tommie Draheim, DB Kwincy Edwards, OT Nik Embernate, DL Siaoisi Fifita, LB Bryan Finkel, DB Andy Gregorio, OL Kurtis Gunther, DB Dey Juan Hemmings, DB Vonnie Holmes, RB Ramon Judkins, LB Logan Ketchum, QB Zack Kusnir, LB Luke Laolagi, DL Ernie Lawson, DB Darryn Lewis, QB Ryan Lindley, DL Jerome Long, DB Davion Mauldin, DB T.J. McKay, TE Eric Micolot, OT Brian Milholland, LB Jerry Milling, LB Shane Morris, DE Eron Moses, QB Josh O'Brien, DB Jose Perez, OL Erik Quinones, OL Tom Rische, OL Emilio Rivera, RB John Rivera, WR DeMarco Sampson, DB Nick Sandford, WR Dominique Sandifer, OL Mike Schmidt, OL Damian Shankle, LB Zachary Shapiro, WR Justin Shaw, K/P Bryan Shields, TE D.J. Shields, DL Henry Simon, DB Aubrey Smith, DE Michael Snead, DL Jonathan Soto, P/K Brian Stahovich, RB Brandon Sullivan, WR Jon Toledo, RB Josh Ulibarri, DB Brandon Vannoy, DB Josh Wade, WR Roberto Wallace, OT Taylor Wallace, QB Drew Westling, DL Avery Williams, OLB Ross Williams, DL Ryan Williams, LB Marcus Yarbrough, K Lane Yoshida

COLORADO (6)

TE Matthew Kawulok, OL Alec Johnson, OL Jimmy Miller, LB Andrew Preston, QB Kelsey Sokoloski, DE B.J. Williams

HAWAII (5)

OL Ikaika Aken-Moleta, DE J.J. Autele, OL Trask Iosefa, OL Mike Matamua, TE Waika Spencer

ARIZONA (4)

OL Kellen Farr, WR Darren Mougey, TE Alston Umuolo, WR Mekell Wesley

NEVADA (3)

DB Martrell Fantroy, LB Colin Shumate, DL Neil Spencer

FLORIDA (2)

RB Atiyah Henderson, DB Aaron Moore

TEXAS (2)

RB Tyler Campbell, DE Eric Ikonne

ILLINOIS (1)

OL Peter Nelson

LOUISIANA (1)

TE Lance Louis

VIRGINIA (1)

OL Leo Grassilli

2008 SIGNING CLASS

Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Hometown
Juan Bolanos	OL	6-7	310	San Diego, Calif.
Rob Andrews	LB	6-2	225	Pleasanton, Calif.
J.J. Autele	DE	6-1	240	Waipahu, Hawaii
Aaron Brewer	LS	6-5	210	Fullerton, Calif.
Nik Embernate	OT	6-4	285	Yucaipa, Calif.
Alec Johnson	OL	6-3	310	Denver, Colo.
Ramon Judkins	RB	6-0	205	Los Angeles, Calif.
Jerome Long	DL	6-5	250	Los Osos, Calif.
Davion Mauldin#	DB	5-10	175	Compton, Calif.
Brian Milholland	OT	6-6	300	San Diego, Calif.
Jimmy Miller	OL	6-3	290	Denver, Colo.
Erik Quinones	OL	6-3	305	Canyon Lake, Calif.
Dominique Sandifer	WR	6-0	180	Gardena, Calif.
D.J. Shields	TE	6-4	230	Bonita, Calif.
Colin Shumate	LB	6-2	225	Las Vegas, Nev.
Henry Simon	DL	6-3	275	Chula Vista, Calif.
Brian Stahovich	P/K	6-0	170	Solana Beach, Calif.
Josh Wade	DB	6-0	175	San Diego, Calif.
Taylor Wallace#	OT	6-5	290	Encino, Calif.
Drew Westling#^	QB	6-2	220	Mission Viejo, Calif.
Ross Williams	OLB	6-3	200	R. Santa Margarita, Calif.

^ = Enrolled in classes spring 2008

= Junior college transfer

RIVALS 2008 MWC TOP RECRUITING CLASSES

Rk.	School
1.	Utah
2.	San Diego State
3.	BYU
4.	Colorado State
5.	New Mexico
6.	Wyoming
7.	TCU
8.	Air Force
9.	UNLV