

This Is San Diego State



► 2008 SAN DIEGO STATE FOOTBALL



Siaso Fifita is one of 18 seniors on this year's Aztec roster.

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Head Coach Chuck Long



When San Diego State hired Chuck Long to be its new head football coach, there was an immediate feeling of excitement surrounding the program.

And for good reason.

People within the college football ranks know and respect Long and have nothing but praises for SDSU's 16th head coach.

He is the ultimate winner going back to his collegiate days at Iowa where he guided the Hawkeyes to a No. 1 national ranking during the 1985 season, which culminated in a Big Ten title and a berth in the Rose Bowl. That same season he won the Maxwell and O'Brien trophies and finished second in the Heisman Trophy voting.

Long later was picked by the Detroit Lions with the 12th selection in the first round of the 1986 NFL Draft. He spent eight seasons in the NFL with the Lions and the Los Angeles Rams before focusing his sights on coaching.

In 1995, he was added to Hayden Fry's staff at Iowa where victories followed. In four years under Fry and one under Kirk Ferentz, the Hawkeyes went to three bowl games before Long was hired in December of 1999 at Oklahoma.

His tenure in Norman produced more of the same as he helped guide the Sooners to six straight bowl appearances and a national championship in 2000.

Not only did he help Oklahoma win as a team, he guided his players to numerous national accolades, including Jason White's Heisman Trophy in 2003.

If history repeats itself, good things are in store for Aztec Football on Montezuma Mesa.

Quotes on Coach Long

"Chuck Long has been incredible for our program. Look at the accomplishments under his tutelage. Look what Josh Heupel has done. Look what Jason White did. Look at Nate Hybl, MVP of the Rose Bowl and a Big 12 championship quarterback. Look at what he has done in one year just working with (freshman quarterback) Rhett (Bomar)... I think he's done a fantastic job. I'm excited for him."

- Bob Stoops, head coach, University of Oklahoma

"San Diego State got a super, super coach in Chuck Long. Chuck has had opportunities and he has been waiting for the right opportunity and found it in San Diego State. I recruited him out of high school and he was a great player for us. He had the opportunity to leave for the NFL after his junior year but returned to school and led us to the Big Ten championship and a trip to the Rose Bowl. That shows the type of character he has... He will be a great head coach. He has experience coaching on both sides of the ball. He has always been a great leader and a winner. San Diego State made an absolute great choice."

- Hall of Fame Coach Hayden Fry, former coach at the University of Iowa

"I think he will make a great head coach. He has played the game recently and has played it at all levels. He understands the highs and lows of the game and helps you deal with them and improve. I loved playing for him. I know from how he ran the offense at Oklahoma and with his organizational abilities, he will easily make the transition to head coach... As a player he helped me develop immensely. He came in at the end of my freshman year and I could tell the difference in two weeks, learning football the way he learned it. After teaching me the fundamentals, he taught me what it takes to become a great player. He knows how to get players to respond... San Diego State has got a great coach in Coach Long."

- Jason White, 2003 Heisman Trophy Winner and former Oklahoma All-American quarterback

"I think the most important thing is that San Diego State is getting a quality individual who will be a great mentor for student-athletes. He will do a great job as head coach. He will run a very disciplined program that will represent the university the right way on and off the field... He came in after my junior year, right before we made the national championship run, and helped me develop as a quarterback. He understands and knows how to communicate the fundamentals and expanded my knowledge of the game and what it takes to succeed... I think he is someone who will have a clear vision of what he wants for the program. With all of the success he has had as player and a coach he knows how to get the most out of players... He is a quality individual who cares about them as student-athletes and about his players after they graduate. He stays in touch with his former players."

- Josh Heupel, 2000 AP Player of the Year and former Oklahoma All-American quarterback

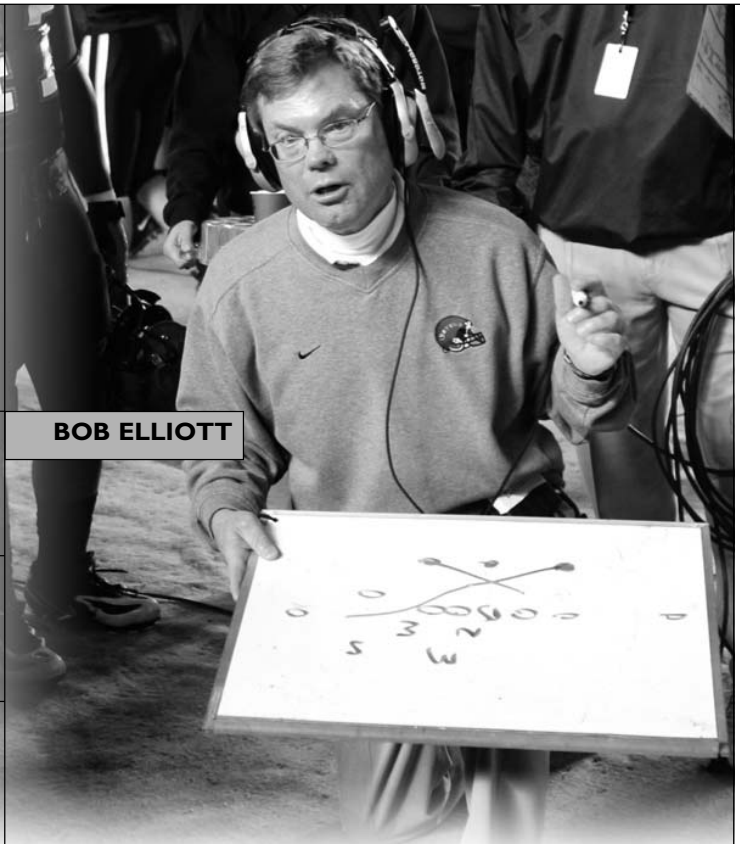
2	Chuck Long has coached two players who received Big 12 Conference Player of the Year honors during his tenure as an assistant at Oklahoma.
15	Total number of bowl games Chuck Long has appeared in as a player or coach.
24	Oklahoma played 24 games without committing a turnover during Chuck Long's four years as the Sooners' offensive coordinator.
74	Chuck Long set a Big Ten Conference record throwing 74 touchdown passes during his collegiate playing career at Iowa.
601	During Chuck Long's second season as offensive coordinator in 2003, Oklahoma set a team record by exploding for 601 points.



SDSU Coaching Staff

Aztec head coach Chuck Long has put together one of the most experienced coaching staffs in the nation and their credentials back it up. Between the 10 members on the staff, they have a total of 1,090 victories in 188 years of coaching experience at the major college level. In addition, they have made 69 appearances in bowl games and won 13 conference titles over the course of their careers. Not only do they produce results, they produce NFL-ready players as 94 of their student-athletes have been drafted by NFL clubs.

Team and individual accolades aside, Long's coaching staff has a history of recruiting well, winning championships at the college level and preparing them for life after college.



BOB ELLIOTT



BOB ELLIOTT

Asst. Head Coach, Def. Coordinator/ILBs



DEL MILLER

Offensive Coordinator, Quarterbacks



CHRIS ASH

Assistant Coach, Defensive Backs



JONATHAN HIMEBAUCH

Assistant Coach, Offensive Line



LARRY HOLTON

Assistant Coach, Running Backs



LECHARLS MCDANIEL

Assistant Coach, Wide Receivers



TOBY NEINAS

Assistant Coach, OLBs, Special Teams



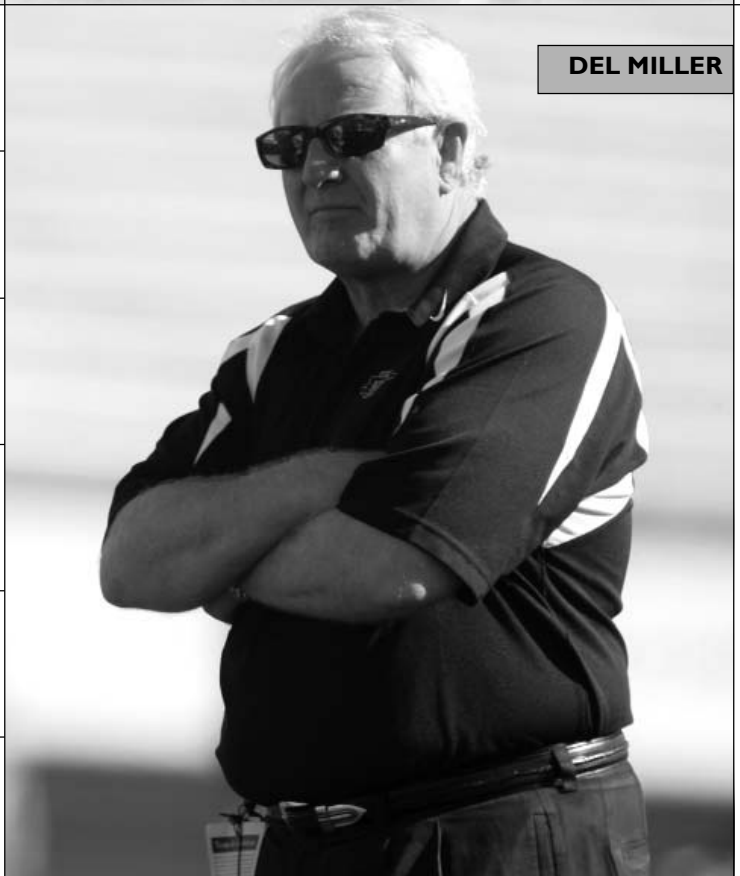
MIKE NELSON

Assistant Coach, Defensive Line



BRIAN STARK

Assistant Coach, Tight Ends



DEL MILLER

JONATHAN HIMEBAUCH



13	The San Diego State coaching staff has won 13 conference titles during its combined coaching career.	
69	In all, the Aztec coaching staff has made 69 appearances in bowl games.	
94	During their careers, the SDSU staff has coached 94 players who have been drafted by NFL clubs.	
188	The San Diego State staff has 188 years of coaching experience at the major college level.	
1090	In their 188 combined years of coaching, the Aztec staff has recorded 1,090 victories.	

Aztec Football Tradition



San Diego State football has one of the richest football traditions in America from the "Air Coryell" days under legendary head coach Don Coryell to the 1986 WAC Championship team to the Marshall Faulk era. Many have left Montezuma Mesa and done spectacular things at the next level, such as coach and play in the NFL, and there certainly will be plenty more in the future.

SUPER BOWL AZTECS

Super Bowl XLI continued a long line of San Diego State Aztecs in the NFL's biggest game. In 2007, the AFC representative, Indianapolis, included former Aztec linebacker Freddy Keiaho, who capped off his rookie season in style as the Colts pulled away for a 29-17 victory over the Chicago Bears. Keiaho joined 21 other players and four coaches from San Diego State who have participated in the festivities of the largest spectacle in sports. Overall, an Aztec has been involved in over half of the Super Bowls, beginning with legendary Don Horn in Green Bay's victory in Super Bowl II.

Joe Gibbs, who played at SDSU from 1961-63 and then coached on The Mesa three more seasons, has been the Aztec with the greatest influence on the Super Bowl. Gibbs won three of the four games he participated in with the Redskins, beginning with a 27-17 triumph over Miami in 1983, and finishing with a 37-24 victory over Buffalo in 1992.

Gibbs wasn't the first former Aztec to lead his team to victory. Oakland Raiders head coach John Madden won Super Bowl XI over Minnesota in 1977, only 11 years after leaving the staff of SDSU. Brian Billick is another former Aztec staffer to serve as a Super Bowl coach, leading Baltimore to a 34-7 triumph over the Giants in 2001.

In 2004, the Carolina Panthers, coached by former SDSU player John Fox, gave the New England Patriots all they could handle before falling in a 32-29 nail-biter. Fox earned two letters playing in the defensive backfield on Montezuma Mesa in 1975-76 and later served as a graduate assistant in 1978. One of Fox's former Aztec teammates and a current peer in the NFL coaching ranks, has Super Bowl experience as a player. Current Kansas City Chiefs head coach Herman Edwards played in the same SDSU secondary as Fox in 1976. Edwards then went on to start in the Philadelphia Eagles' first Super Bowl, a 27-10 loss to the Raiders in 1981.

Of course the most famous Aztec in recent years, Marshall Faulk, has made an impact in the big game, teaming with former SDSU wide receiver Az Hakim in two Super Bowls. Faulk totaled 117 yards to lead the St. Louis Rams to a 23-16 victory over Tennessee in 2000. The two Aztecs combined for 225 yards as the leading rusher and receiver in the Rams' 20-17 loss at the hands of New England in 2002.

Several Aztecs have been key to multiple Super Bowl appearances. Tight end Don Warren was a starter for four games, teaming with Joe Gibbs in each of the Redskins' Super Bowl appearances, while Nate Wright started in three for Minnesota from 1974-77, but was never able to hoist the trophy.

Of all the Aztec greats to participate in the Super Bowl, only one has ever been able to reach the end zone. Ronnie Smith, SDSU's leading receiver in 1976, hauled in a 24-yard touchdown strike to give the L.A. Rams a 19-13 third-quarter lead over Pittsburgh in 1980. However, former SDSU defensive end Fred Dryer and the Ram defense could not stop the Steelers from scoring two unanswered touchdowns as they earned a 31-19 victory.

San Diego State's former offensive line coach, Ed White, played in four Super Bowls in the 1960s and 1970s for Bud Grant's Minnesota Vikings.



FREDDY KEIAHO

DARNAY SCOTT



RECEIVER U.

There is little argument that if you're looking for future pros, record-setting collegians or just old-fashioned playmakers, San Diego State's receiving corps, past, present and future, might be a good place to start.

With the Aztecs' tradition of attacking through the air, igniting scoreboards and sending players to the next level of football, receiver has become a position of glory and notoriety at San Diego State. Below is a look at just some of the standout pass catchers who have worn the Red and Black:

Sunday Sightings

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Will Blackwell | Dwight McDonald | Ronnie Smith |
| Ken Burrow | Haven Moses | Webster Slaughter |
| Isaac Curtis | Kassim Osgood | J.R. Tolver |
| Gary Garrison | Darnay Scott | Jeff Webb |

SDSU RETIRED JERSEYS

Willie Buchanon - #28

Legendary Willie Buchanon is not only a member of the Aztec Hall of Fame, he has also been inducted into the Green Bay Packers Hall of Fame and is a member of the San Diego Hall of Champions. He was a consensus All-American at San Diego State and was a cornerback on *The Sporting News* all-time college football team. He was a first-round draft pick of the Packers and went on to earn defensive rookie of the year honors. He spent seven seasons in the NFL.

Haven Moses - #25

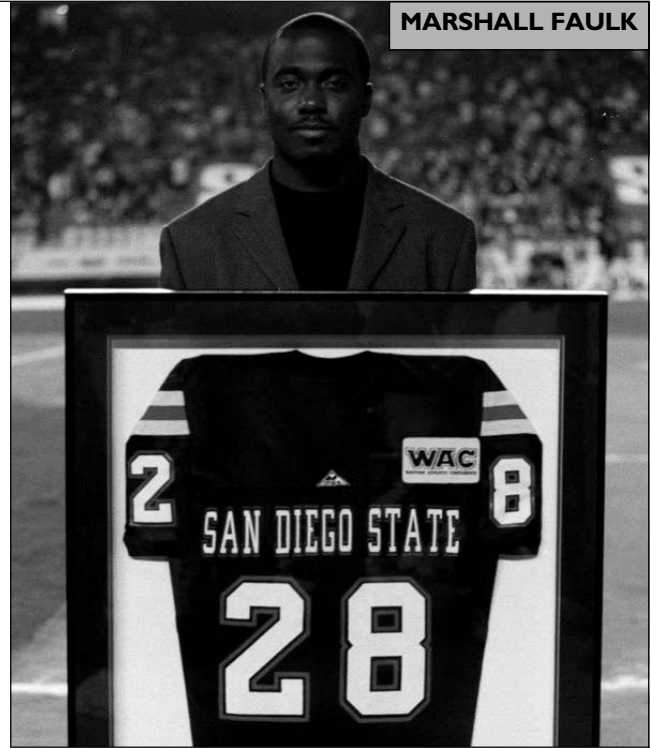
A charter member of the Aztec Hall of Fame and an inductee into the Denver Broncos' Ring of Fame after spending 10 NFL seasons in the Mile High City, Moses was named All-American in 1967 by *Time* and *The Sporting News*. His two-year career on Montezuma Mesa saw the Aztecs go 19-1. He caught 54 passes for 958 yards during his senior season and he had over 2,100 receiving yards in two seasons. He was a first-round draft pick of the Buffalo Bills.

Todd Santos - #8

At a school with a quarterback tradition second to none, Todd Santos may have been the Aztecs' best ever. He led the Aztecs to their lone Holiday Bowl appearance in 1986, and ended his career as State's all-time leader in total offense, passing yards, completions and touchdown passes. He still holds the school record for single-season total offense, passing yards and completions. He was the WAC's offensive MVP in 1987.

Marshall Faulk - #28

From the opening moments of his career, Marshall Faulk was on his way to legendary status at State. He was a three-time All-American and a Heisman Trophy runner-up in 1992. He led the nation in rushing in 1991 and 1992 and is still among the top 30 rushers in NCAA history, despite playing just three years of college football. He scored an astounding 57 touchdowns and is still first in NCAA career history with an average of 12.1 points per game. His NFL career was just as successful with seven selections to the Pro Bowl and he was the NFL's Most Valuable Player in 2000.



CORYELL COACHING TREE

Don Coryell's legacy began in the 1960s at San Diego State and now stretches into a new century and crosses the professional and collegiate ranks. The heart and soul of the old Aztec air attacks have since become known as the "West Coast Offense." Below are just some of the coaches connected to, or sprung from, the Don Coryell Coaching Tree.

1960s

- Sid Gillman
- Vince Lombardi
- Ara Parseghian
- Norm Van Brocklin
- Al Davis
- George Allen

1970s

- John Madden
- Chuck Noll
- Bum Phillips
- Dick Vermeil
- Tom Bass

1980s

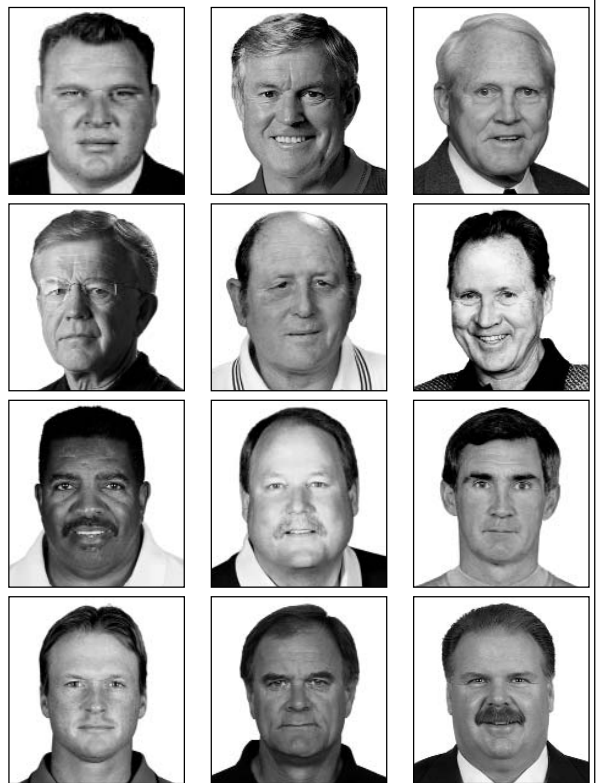
- Bill Walsh
- Joe Gibbs
- Jim Hanifan
- Ernie Zampese
- Dan Henning
- Rod Dowhower
- Sam Wyche
- Al Saunders

1990s

- George Seifert
- Dennis Green
- Mike Holmgren
- Mike Shanahan
- Jeff Fisher
- Norv Turner
- Ray Rhodes
- Marty Mornhinweg
- Sherman Lewis
- Paul Hackett

2000s

- Steve Mariucci
- Tony Dungy
- Jon Gruden
- Brian Billick
- Andy Reid
- Mike Martz
- John Fox



Aztecs in the NFL

San Diego State has a storied history of sending its players to the National Football League. Over the years, the Aztecs have had 141 players selected in the NFL Draft, which ranks second in the Mountain West Conference. Of its overall total, 51 have been picked within the first 100 selections.

In 2008, SDSU had four players picked in the NFL Draft, its highest number of players selected since 1997, when four Aztecs were also chosen.

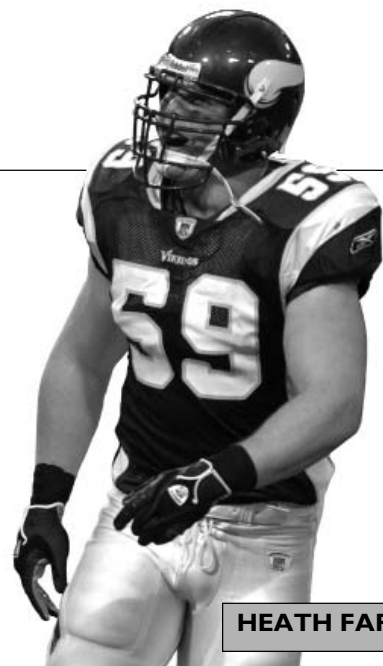
Quarterback Kevin O'Connell was the 31st pick in the third round and 94th selection overall, going to the New England Patriots. Long snapper Tyler Schmitt was a sixth-round choice of the Seattle Seahawks, while wide receivers Brett Swain and Chaz Schilens were seventh-round selections of the Green Bay Packers and Oakland Raiders, respectively.

A complete list of Aztecs drafted and those who played in the NFL can be found on pages 173-176.

ALL-TIME NFL DRAFT PICKS BY MWC SCHOOLS

School	Draft Picks
TCU	165
San Diego State	141
Brigham Young	133
Utah	125
Colorado State	94
Wyoming	76
New Mexico	61
UNLV	42
Air Force	7

Source - DraftHistory.com



HEATH FARWELL



MARSHALL FAULK

- * Super Bowl XXXIV Champion
- * AP Most Valuable Player (2000)
- * AP Offensive Player of the Year (1999-01)
- * AP Offensive Rookie of the Year (1994)
- * All-American (1991-93)
- * Heisman Trophy Runner-Up (1992)
- * NCAA Rushing Champion (1991-92)
- * Second runner ever to gain 3,000 yards in first two collegiate seasons (1991-92)



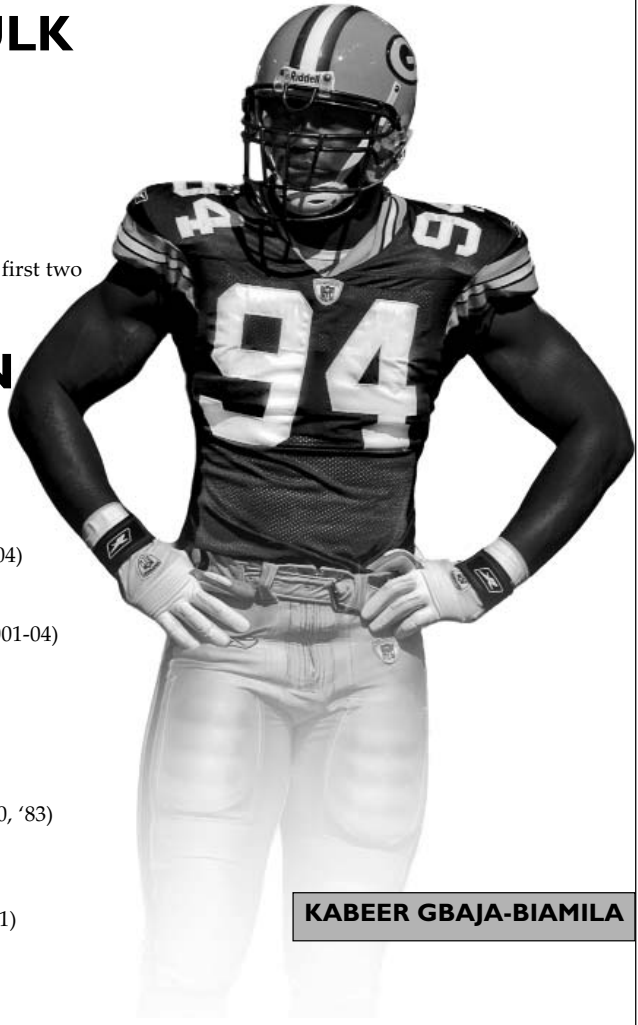
KIRK MORRISON

- * Drafted by Oakland Raiders (2005)
- * Started 15 games as a rookie (2005)
- * Led all rookie defenders in tackles (2005)
- * Team leader in tackles (2006 and 2007)
- * All-American (2003-04)
- * MWC Defensive Player of the Year (2003-04)
- * All-Mountain West Conference (2002-04)
- * Butkus Award semifinalist (2004)
- * SDSU second all-time leader in tackles (2001-04)



BRIAN SIPE

- * Drafted by Cleveland Browns (1972)
- * AP Most Valuable Player (1980)
- * Led AFC in passing touchdowns (1979, '80, '83)
- * Led AFC in passing (1980)
- * All-American (1971)
- * NCAA Passing Champion (1971)
- * All-Pacific Coast Athletic Association (1971)



KABEER GBAJA-BIAMILA

Aztecs Drafted Since 2004



KEVIN O'CONNELL
2008 Third Round - New England Patriots



TYLER SCHMITT
2008 Sixth Round - Seattle Seahawks



BRETT SWAIN
2008 Seventh Round - Green Bay Packers



CHAZ SCHILENS
2008 Seventh Round - Oakland Raiders

KEVIN O'CONNELL



The Aztecs have had 51 players taken within the first 100 selections in the history of the National Football League draft, including four in the last three years.



FREDDY KEIAHO
2006 Third Round - Indianapolis Colts



JEFF WEBB
2006 Sixth Round - Kansas City Chiefs



MATT MCCOY
2005 Second Round - Philadelphia Eagles



KIRK MORRISON
2005 Third Round - Oakland Raiders

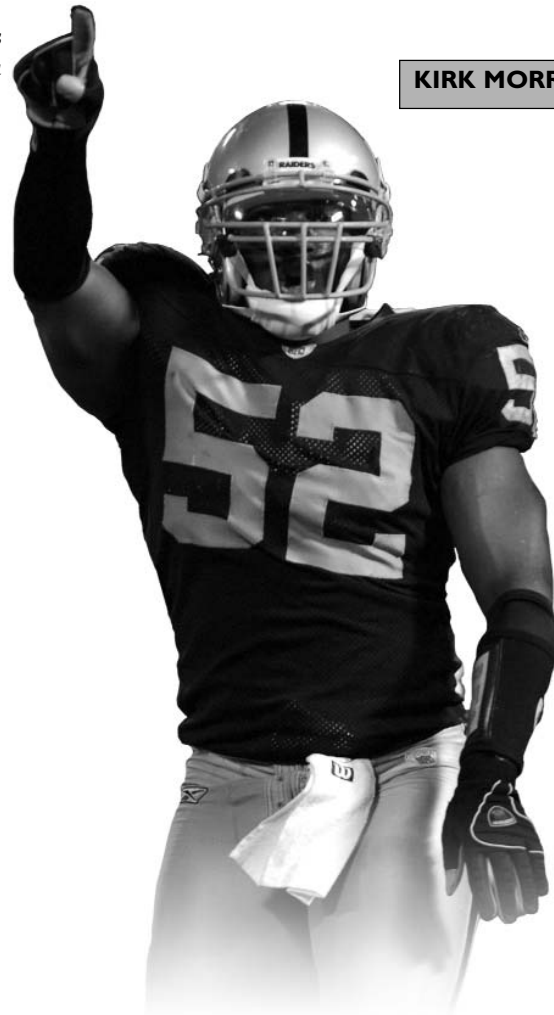


MARVIEL UNDERWOOD
2005 Fourth Round - Green Bay Packers



JEFF SHOATE
2004 Fifth Round - Denver Broncos

KIRK MORRISON



Molding Talent

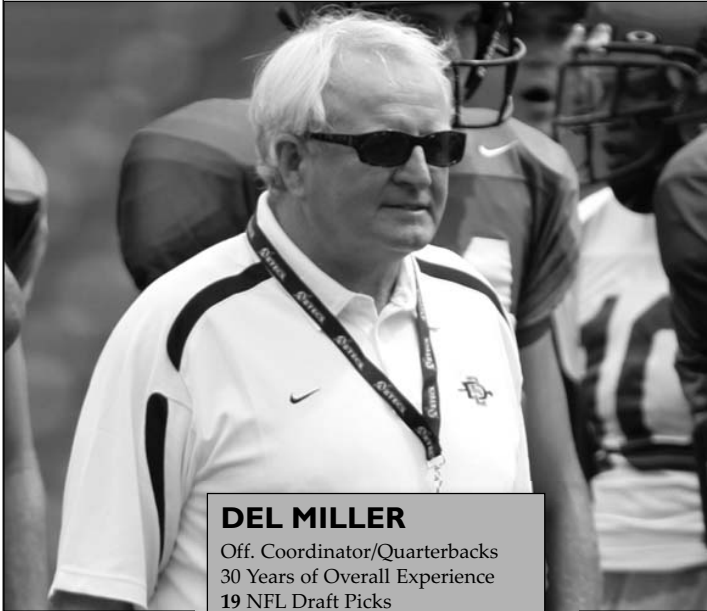
When it comes to molding talent, the SDSU coaching staff is no stranger. Between the 10 coaches, the staff is responsible for more than 90 NFL Draft choices in 188 combined years of coaching at the major collegiate level. Equally impressive is that three relative newcomers to the coaching community, Jonathan Himebauch, Chris Ash and Brian Stark, have added to the total.

Regardless of experience, the staff undoubtedly recognizes talent and prepares their players for the professional ranks by making sure they are ready for every game while at San Diego State.

The numbers do not lie.

Since the 2003 draft, the current Aztec coaching staff has had 32 players selected by NFL clubs and 42 since 2000.

With everything San Diego State has to offer, the list is sure to grow.



DEL MILLER

Off. Coordinator/Quarterbacks
30 Years of Overall Experience
19 NFL Draft Picks

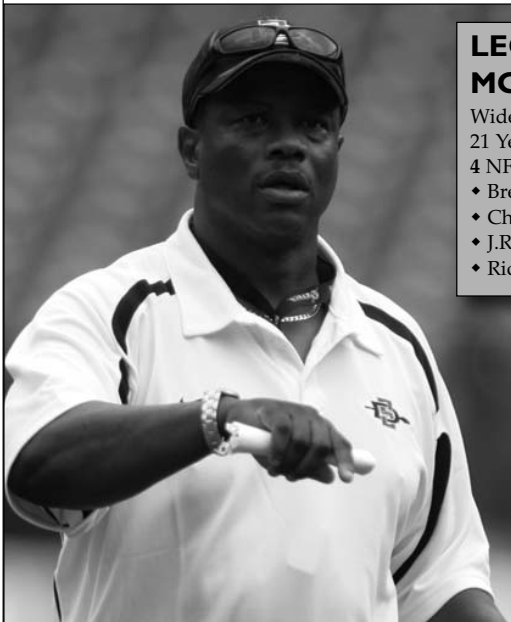
- ◆ Kevin O'Connell
- ◆ Darren Sproles
- ◆ Chuck Long



CHUCK LONG

Head Coach
13 Years of Overall Experience
20 NFL Draft Picks

- ◆ 13 selections in last four years
- ◆ Kevin O'Connell
- ◆ Tyler Schmitt
- ◆ Brett Swain
- ◆ Chaz Schilens



LECHARLS MCDANIEL

Wide Receivers
21 Years of Overall Experience
4 NFL Draft Picks

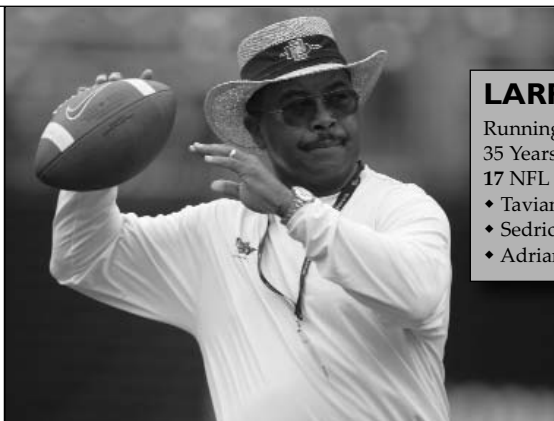
- ◆ Brett Swain
- ◆ Chaz Schilens
- ◆ J.R. Tolver
- ◆ Ricky Parker



BRIAN STARK

Tight Ends
4 Years of Overall Experience
4 NFL Draft Picks

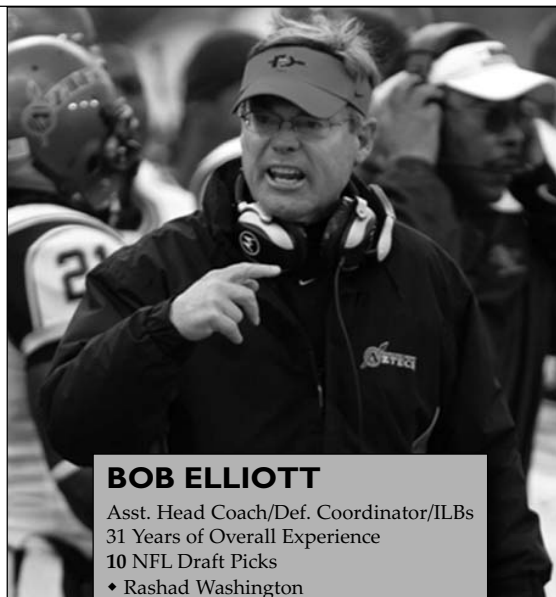
- ◆ Jeff Webb
- ◆ Kevin O'Connell
- ◆ Brett Swain
- ◆ Chaz Schilens



LARRY HOLTON

Running Backs
35 Years of Overall Experience
17 NFL Draft Picks

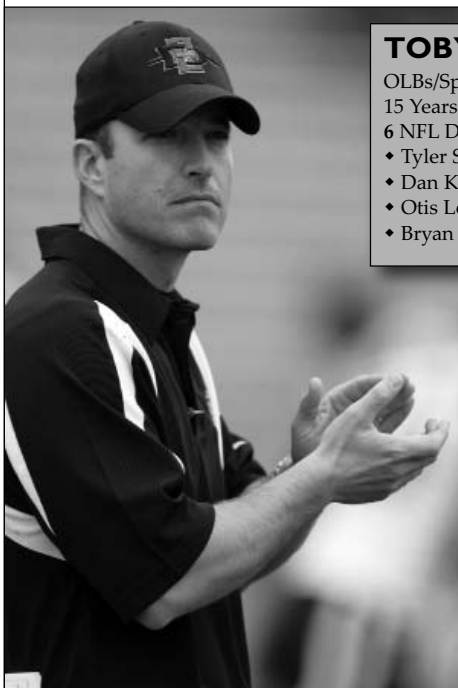
- ◆ Tavian Banks
- ◆ Sedrick Shaw
- ◆ Adrian Murrell



BOB ELLIOTT

Asst. Head Coach/Def. Coordinator/ILBs
31 Years of Overall Experience
10 NFL Draft Picks

- ◆ Rashad Washington
- ◆ Terrance Newman
- ◆ Tom Knight



TOBY NEINAS

OLBs/Special Teams
15 Years of Overall Experience
6 NFL Draft Picks

- ◆ Tyler Schmitt
- ◆ Dan Klecko
- ◆ Otis Leverette
- ◆ Bryan Thomas



JONATHAN HIMEBAUCH

Offensive Line
5 Years of Overall Experience
Notable Players Coached

- ◆ Steven Morley
- ◆ Joe Critchfield
- ◆ Will Robinson



CHRIS ASH

Defensive Backs
11 Years of Overall Experience
Notable Players Coached

- ◆ Ellis Hobbs
- ◆ LaMarcus Hicks
- ◆ JaMaine Billups



MIKE NELSON

Defensive Line
34 Years of Overall Experience
13 NFL Draft Picks

- ◆ Reggie Hayward
- ◆ Jason Fisk
- ◆ Tony Blount
- ◆ Leroy Jones

Game Day at the Q

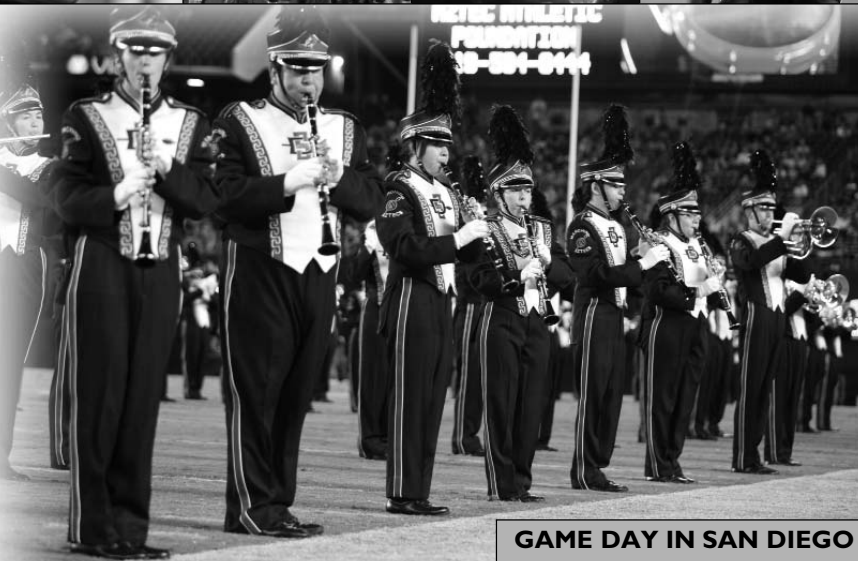
GAME DAY AT THE Q ◀ THIS IS SAN DIEGO STATE



Game day at San Diego State is a mixture of big-city sophistication, college football at its highest level, the best climate in America and a fan base that is accustomed to points and victories in bunches. The ingredients come together in an NFL stadium that has hosted three Super Bowls and seen its share of dramatics over the years.

SDSU football has grown up with the city of San Diego. Since the Aztecs began playing their home games in Mission Valley in the 1960s under the direction of Don Coryell, the traditions of night football and all-black uniforms have become important in the San Diego lifestyle.

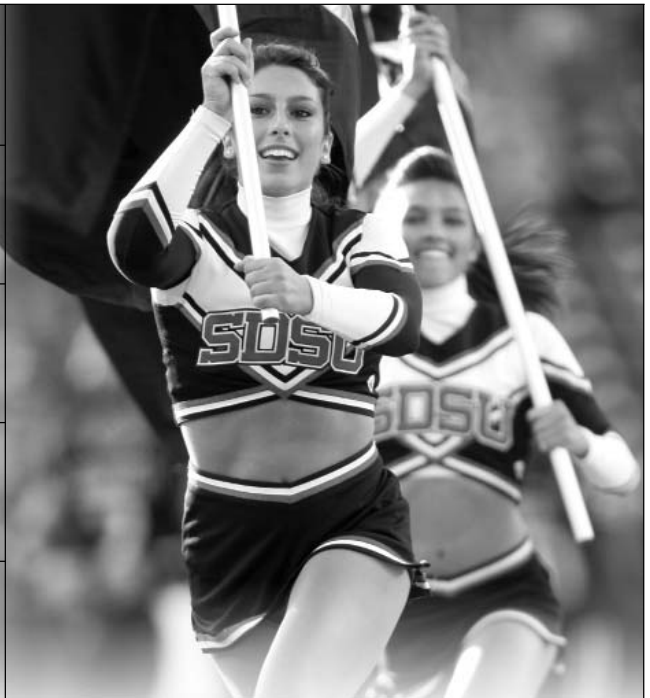
Part of that lifestyle can be found leading up to the game. Many can be found in the Qualcomm Stadium parking lot throwing a football around and barbecuing in their red and black enjoying a perfect Southern California afternoon. Aztec football is just not a game, it is a ritual in San Diego.



GAME DAY IN SAN DIEGO

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

1	San Diego State is the only school in the Mountain West Conference to play all its home games in an NFL stadium.
5	Four of the eight largest crowds in San Diego State history have occurred this decade.
42	This season marks the 42nd year SDSU has played its home games at Qualcomm Stadium.
55	San Diego State has played on network and national cable television 55 times since 1990.
165	The Aztecs have won 165 games in their 41 years of playing at Qualcomm Stadium, meaning SDSU has won nearly 70 percent of its home games at the Q.



KGB SKYSHOW

Aztec football along with the KGB SkyShow have generated four of the top eight all-time home crowds in each of the last four years.



National Attention

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Perfect solution?



The Aztecs have faded since 1992 when they tied USC. (Getty Images)

In a city so nice that it is a distraction as much as a recruiting attraction, San Diego State signals with its latest coaching hire, Chuck Long, that it plans to move beyond football mediocrity, **Dennis Dodd** says. [Full story](#)

Related Links:

- [Aztecs team page](#) | [Photos](#) | [Draft journals: Olson](#) | [Wright](#) | [Hey Dennis!](#)

In the nation's eighth-largest city, San Diego State football is recognized at a national level. The media spotlight has always been on Montezuma Mesa and is even more so with a new coaching staff and a renewed excitement surrounding the program.

The Aztecs have always been an attractive option for the network and cable television networks as they have broadcasted SDSU games 55 times since 1990.

This season will be no different as 10 games, with the possibility of all 12, can be seen nationally or on a regional basis.

Not only does San Diego State receive coverage locally and regionally, it is common for national and out-of-market writers and broadcasters to cover SDSU football.

COUNTDOWN TO 21days 17hrs

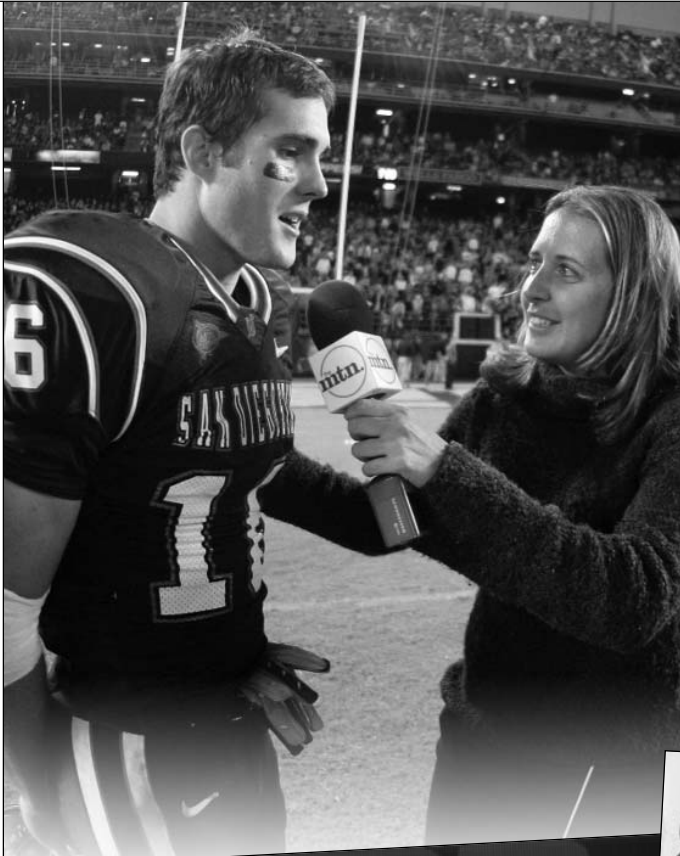
SDSU has Long w

But new coach tells Aztecs to forget usual four-year plan — 'We

Return to glory?

New Aztec coach Long expects to take the team — and right away





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Jeffrey Haderthauer/Icon SMI

San Diego State turned to Chuck Long to revive the Aztecs program.

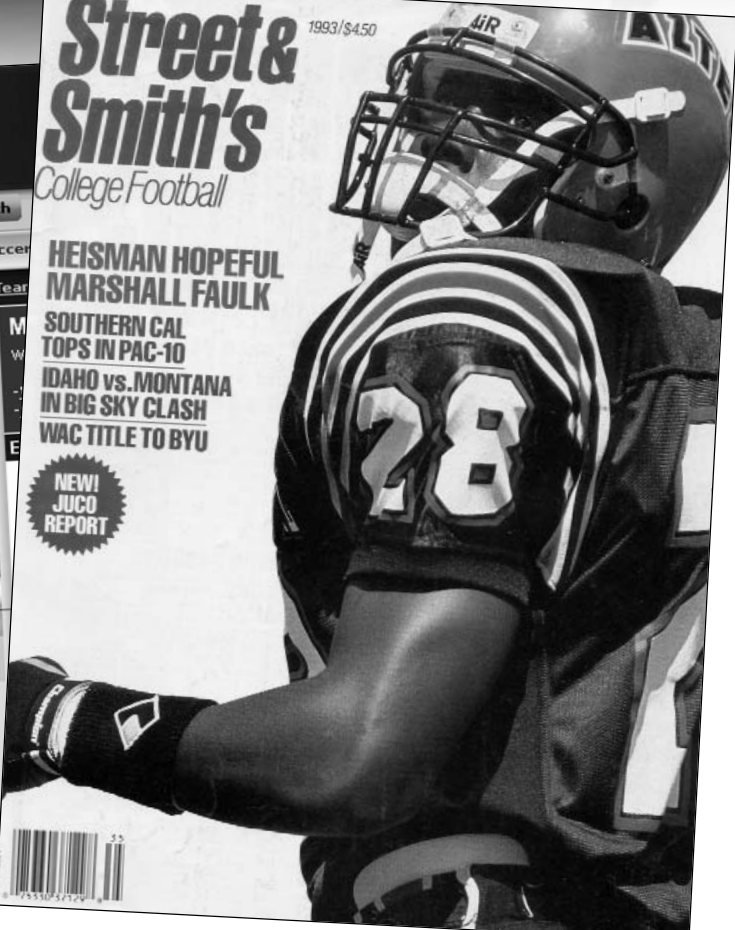
Long And Short Of It

Chuck Long helped OU win titles and post big offensive numbers. But can he awake the sleeping giant at SDSU? [Schad blog](#)

- [Feldman: Toughest rebuilding jobs](#) | [Chat: Feldman live!](#)
- [Schad Q&A: Buffalo's Turner Gill](#) | [Temple's Al Golden](#)
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College Football




HEISMAN HOPEFUL MARSHALL FAULK

SOUTHERN CAL TOPS IN PAC-10

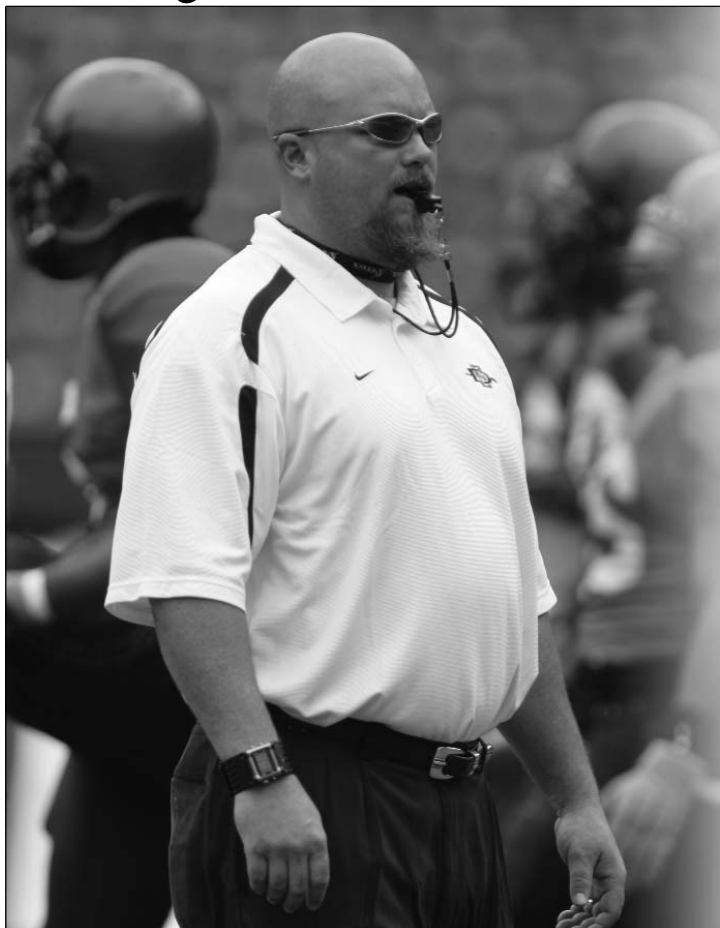
IDAHO vs. MONTANA IN BIG SKY CLASH

WAC TITLE TO BYU

NEW! JUCO REPORT



Strength & Conditioning



Jon Francis

Jon Francis is in his fifth year at San Diego State working with the Aztec football team and second as the director of strength and conditioning after spending the previous three years as head strength and conditioning coach at the University of Idaho.

Before arriving in Idaho, Francis was the assistant strength and conditioning coach at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. He worked with the University's football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, volleyball and men's soccer programs. He also served as a graduate assistant at Appalachian State.

Francis is a 1993 graduate of Appalachian State and completed his master of arts in sport management at the school in 2001. He is a member of the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association and is Strength and Conditioning Coach Certified (SCCC). He is also a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association and has earned certification from USA Weightlifting.

His wife, Joy, is San Diego State's director of athletic development.

"Our program has a run-first philosophy. If you cannot sprint, change direction and be functional on the field, then nothing we do in the weight room matters."

- Jon Francis

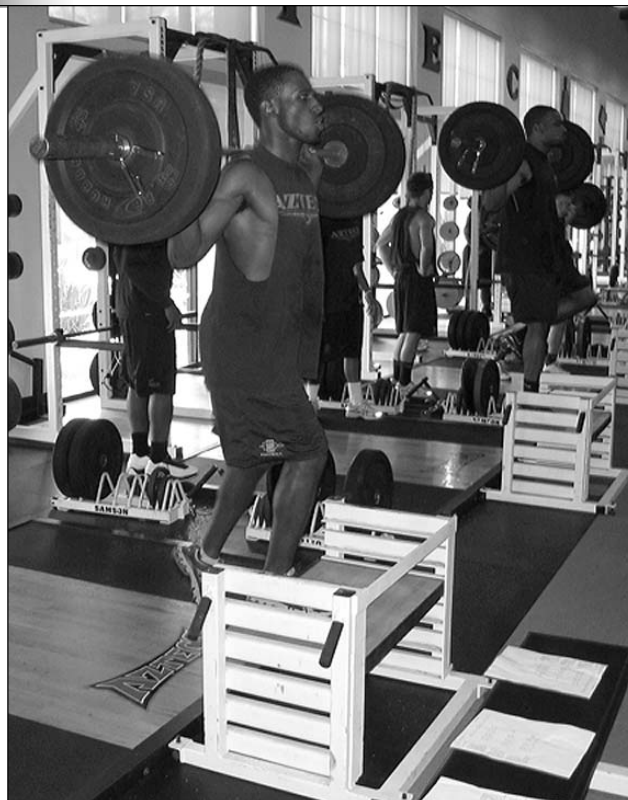
San Diego State University is home to one of the finest strength and conditioning facilities in the America. It is here that Aztecs do work. It is here that conditioning matters most.

Under the guidance of director of strength and conditioning Jon Francis and assistant strength and conditioning coach Wendell Richards, the pair trains the SDSU football team with one goal in mind - to produce results. Their goal is for Aztec football players to gain explosive, powerful, flexible hips that allow them to use their potential to the fullest on the football field. To help players reach their full potential on Saturdays, the two utilize Olympic-style lifts, plyometrics and complex training as the foundation for success.

The focus of their conditioning is running-based with sprints of 110 yards or less. The program's run-first philosophy highly emphasizes change of direction so much so that approximately 65 percent of the run training San Diego State does focuses solely on that aspect.

"Our program has a run-first philosophy," Francis said. "If you cannot sprint, change direction and be functional on the field, then nothing we do in the weight room matters."

All of SDSU's programs are power oriented and effort driven with each set, repetition and exercise implemented for a specific reason. Attention to detail in regards to the completion of every drill and movement is a common theme during workouts. When players fuse a desire for excellence with their best endeavor, it is only then that the program has succeeded.





AZTEC WEIGHT ROOM



25	San Diego State has 25 football players who clean 300-plus pounds.
21	There are 21 Aztec football players who squat over 500 pounds.
5	Five SDSU football players can bench press over 400 pounds.

Wendell Richards

Wendell Richards enters his third year as an assistant strength and conditioning coach at San Diego State after nearly five years at the University of Idaho. While in Moscow, Idaho, he served as a graduate assistant from 2001-02, and an assistant strength and conditioning coach from 2002-06. He worked with the Vandals' women's basketball, women's soccer, golf, tennis, track and field and volleyball programs. In addition, Richards assisted with the football and men's basketball teams.

Prior to his stay at Idaho, the Broadalbin, N.Y., native first worked with coach Francis while he was an undergraduate at Appalachian State in Boone, N.C. As a senior, he focused primarily on men's tennis and assisted with the Mountaineers' 20 other varsity sports.

Richards, who is certified by the CSCCa, earned a bachelor's degree in exercise science from Appalachian State (2001) and a master's degree in physical education (2003) from the University of Idaho.

Aztec Academics

HEPNER HALL

The dual role of student and athlete can be a daunting challenge for any person at the Division I level. Recognizing that academic challenge, the Student Athlete Academic Support Services program has been developed at San Diego State to assist all student-athletes in achieving academic excellence.

It is a source of pride within San Diego State athletics that the department has developed one of the most comprehensive academic support programs in the country.

The Staff

The SAASS staff includes a director, a learning specialist, four academic advisors, the department's director of compliance, an eligibility coordinator, a financial aid coordinator as well as a recruitment coordinator.

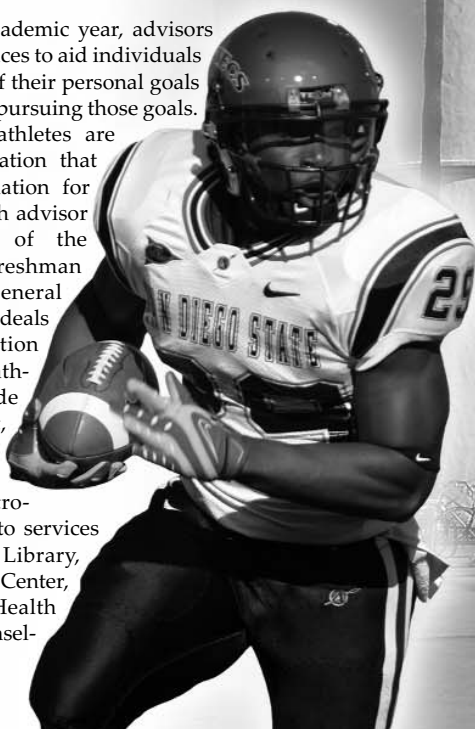
In addition to the full-time staff, the department employs more than 20 mentors and tutors.

Collectively, they operate a program that enhances each student's satisfactory progress toward graduation.

The Services

Throughout the academic year, advisors offer a variety of services to aid individuals in the development of their personal goals and the blueprint for pursuing those goals.

All new student-athletes are invited to an orientation that helps lay the foundation for future successes. Each advisor teaches a section of the University's Freshman Success course (General Studies 100), which deals with specific transition issues for student-athletes. Topics include time management, study skills and test taking. In addition, the course also introduces new students to services such as the Love Library, University Advising Center, Career Services, Health Services and the counseling center.



8	Football's Patrick Justman along with seven others were given Malik awards in 2008, which honor SDSU student-athletes with the highest semester GPAs.
78	During the 2007-08 school year, 78 San Diego State student-athletes garnered all-academic honors from the Mountain West Conference.
218	A total of 218 scholar-athletes who achieved a semester GPA of 3.2 or higher were honored at the 14th annual SDSU Scholar-Athlete Awards Banquet.



AZTEC COMPUTER LAB

Student-Athlete Academic Support Services



COLLEEN EVANS

SAASS Director



BRE WHITE

Asst. Dir., Multicultural/Community Service Programs, SAAC Co-advisor, Academic Advisor - Football, XC/Track, Tennis, Swimming



WILLIE JUDD

CHAMPS/Life Skills Coordinator, SAAC Co-advisor, Academic Advisor - Baseball, Women's Basketball, Volleyball, Men's Golf



JESSICA SIMMONS

Academic Advisor - Football, Softball, Women's Soccer, Water Polo



KRISTIE SMEDSRUD

Academic Advisor - Men's Basketball, Crew, Men's Soccer, Women's Golf



MARIA MORENO-PARDO

Learning Specialist/DSS Liaison, Mentor/Tutor Coordinator

The Resources

In the fall of 2001, the academic unit joined the rest of the athletic department in moving into the new \$30 million, 130,000-square-foot Aztec Athletics Center. The academic staff is located on the third floor of the complex and includes a new 40-station computer lab, individual study rooms and two lecture rooms.

The Commitment

San Diego State's annual Scholar-Athlete Awards Banquet honors students with a grade-point average in excess of 3.2. In 2008, 218 student-athletes, more than one-third of the student-athlete body, were honored for their work in the classroom.

A new event was launched in 2005 with the inaugural Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Awards. SDSU's student-athletes were treated to an awards banquet to recognize outstanding individual achievements throughout the athletic department.

Life Skills

To further increase the opportunities for success, San Diego State is part of the NCAA's CHAMPS/Life Skills Program. The curriculum of Aztec Pride (Promoting Responsibility, Integrity, Diversity, Education) offers a wide range of programs and activities that enhance the educational experience. Special emphasis is placed on the areas of personal development, community service and career development.

In conjunction with SAAC, the Life Skills Program represents SDSU's total commitment to enhancing the quality of each student's experience.



SCRIPPS COTTAGE

Aztecs in the Community

AZTECS IN THE COMMUNITY ◀ THIS IS SAN DIEGO STATE

At San Diego State University, community outreach is an important component of campus life. Over the years, Aztec athletes have been involved in numerous programs, including Habitat For Humanity, Special Olympics, Shop-With-A-Jock and MS Walk (Water Walkers).

Visits to Children's Hospital, local elementary schools and the Ronald McDonald House are common events for SDSU student-athletes. Over the last five years, red and black jerseys from all sports have become familiar sights at local military bases and hospitals.

San Diego State University has a partnership with Encanto Elementary School in which the Aztec athletic department provides student-athlete tutors and mentors for the school. Tickets to SDSU athletic events are rewards for outstanding academic achievement by the elementary students.

Food drives, stuffed-animal drives and Christmas gift drives are annual features at San Diego State University.

Every season for four consecutive weeks during the month of November, the Aztec swimming and diving team staffs a local shelter and soup kitchen.

In addition, the swimming and diving squad along with the crew team participate in Race for the Cure and Row for the Cure, respectively.

"The students are providing a community service," said Bre White, who is the coordinator of SDSU's community service activities. "However, I would say that often times the student-athletes may gain the most from the experience."

WILDFIRE RELIEF AT THE Q



ENCANTO SCHOOL VISIT

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

WATER WALKERS



"It is important to me that our student-athletes are great members of the community when they are here at San Diego State. One area where we concentrate our efforts is in community service. Our team looks forward to these events."

- Chuck Long

CAMPUS CLEANUP



SHOP-WITH-A-JOCK

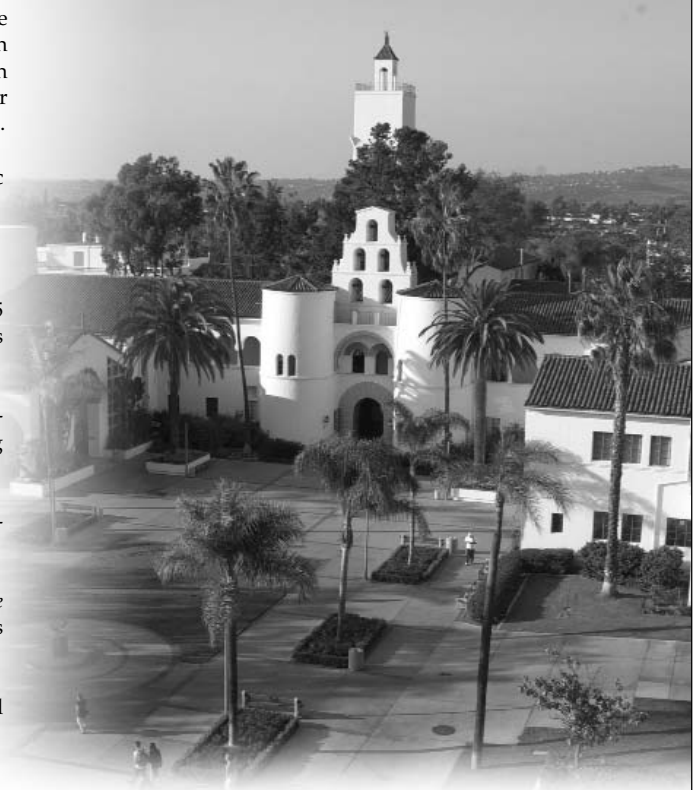


FAMILY DAY

San Diego State University

Beginning its 112th academic year in fall 2008, San Diego State University can take pride in more than a century of achievement in education, research and service. With an enrollment of more than 35,000 students, SDSU has grown into the largest institution of higher education in the San Diego region and one of the largest in California.

- San Diego State currently grants bachelor's degrees in 81 academic areas, master's degrees in 74 and doctoral degrees in 16.
- One in seven adults in San Diego holds a degree from SDSU.
- SDSU's undergraduate international business program ranks No. 15 in the nation, according to *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best-Colleges 2008 Guide."
- The international business program at SDSU is the largest undergraduate international business program in the country, serving nearly 1,100 students annually.
- SDSU is No. 10 in the nation for bachelor's degrees conferred to ethnic minorities – *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, June 2008.
- SDSU's undergraduate entrepreneur program was listed in *Fortune Magazine's* top 25 list of "America's Best Colleges for entrepreneurs in August 2007."
- SDSU received \$26 million in research funding from the National Institutes of Health alone in 2005-06, a record for the university.



CHEMICAL SCIENCES LABORATORY



Did You Know?

San Diego State has been designated a "Research University" with high research activity by the Carnegie Foundation. This designation places SDSU among the top 200 universities conducting research in the United States.

SDSU ranks No. 2 among universities of its type nationwide and No. 1 in California for students studying abroad as part of their college experience. – Institute of International Education, November 2007

SDSU faculty received more than \$110 million in grants and contracts for research and administering programs during fiscal year 2006/2007, the most of any California State University campus. SDSU faculty members have received a total of more than \$1 billion in external funding since 2000.

SDSU's MS in regulatory affairs – a key area of the biotech industry – is one of only two programs of its kind in the country and is considered the most comprehensive.

SDSU is the first U.S. university to offer a transnational triple degree program in International Business. In fact, SDSU has the only two such programs in the country. Undergraduate students earn degrees from SDSU and universities in Mexico and Canada in the CaMexUs program, or degrees from SDSU, Mexico and Chile in the TransAmerica program.



Aztec Facilities

AZTEC FACILITIES ◀ THIS IS SAN DIEGO STATE



In place now on Montezuma Mesa are arguably some of the finest facilities in the United States and San Diego State is certainly among the leaders on the West Coast.

The athletic department is housed in the \$30 million, 130,000-square-foot Aztec Athletics Center. The centerpiece of the department, which was dedicated in February of 2002, is located just across the street from Cox Arena and just east of Tony Gwynn Stadium.

The four-story Athletics Center provides state-of-the-art facilities coupled with tremendous logistical advantages and a great location for studying, workouts, treatment, academic support or just stopping by between classes.

On the south, the center is buffered by the Sports Deck where both San Diego State's soccer squads compete, as well as the track and field team.

On the north side, it is connected to Peterson Gym, the home of Aztec volleyball and a part-time practice facility for the SDSU basketball teams.

The west exit of the building opens onto three 100-yard practice fields. One of the fields is natural grass and two utilize field-turf, providing San Diego State daily options for its workouts.

All of San Diego State's new facilities, including the athletics center, Cox Arena, Tony Gwynn Stadium, SDSU Sports Deck, Aztec Tennis Center, SDSU Softball Stadium and Aztec Aquaplex have opened since 1997.

The buildings are not just sparkling new, but they are already postseason tested. Cox Arena, the 12,414-seat basketball facility, has twice served as a site for the NCAA Men's Basketball Division I Championship (first and second rounds) as well as the NCAA Women's Volleyball Division I National Championship. In 2006, the venue also played host to the McDonald's High School All-American Basketball game. In addition, Cox Arena was one of 16 sites chosen for the first and second rounds of the 2009 NCAA Women's Basketball Division I Championships.

The SDSU Sports Deck welcomed the Mountain West Conference outdoor track and field championships in 2001 and 2007. Tony Gwynn Stadium was the site of the MWC baseball tournament in 2001, while SDSU Softball Stadium played host to the 2005 Mountain West Conference softball championship.

In March 2007, the two-pool Aztec Aquaplex opened, giving both the Aztec water polo and swimming and diving programs a new on-campus home. The new aquatics center served as the site for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation women's water polo championship in April of 2008.

In addition to all of the postseason events San Diego State has played host to, the facilities have also been the home to multiple in-season events. The SDSU track and field squad, along with the baseball, softball, volleyball and water polo teams all put on their own multiple-team events throughout the season. Every spring, professional football scouts and coaches gather at and utilize the Aztec weight room and then move to the practice fields for NFL Pro Timing Day to catch an up-close glimpse of SDSU graduating football seniors.

Besides all of the school's on-campus facilities, the San Diego State football team plays at Qualcomm Stadium, home of the National Football League's San Diego Chargers, in Mission Valley. Qualcomm Stadium is the host of the Holiday and Poinsettia Bowls and was the home of Super Bowl XXXVII in 2003.

Tony Gwynn Stadium, the Aztec Athletics Center and Aztec Tennis Center were constructed thanks to donations by San Diego Padres owners John and Becky Moores.



AZTEC ATHLETICS CENTER



COX ARENA AT AZTEC BOWL



AZTEC AQUAPLEX



TONY GWYNN STADIUM

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

ONE OF THREE FOOTBALL PRACTICE FIELDS

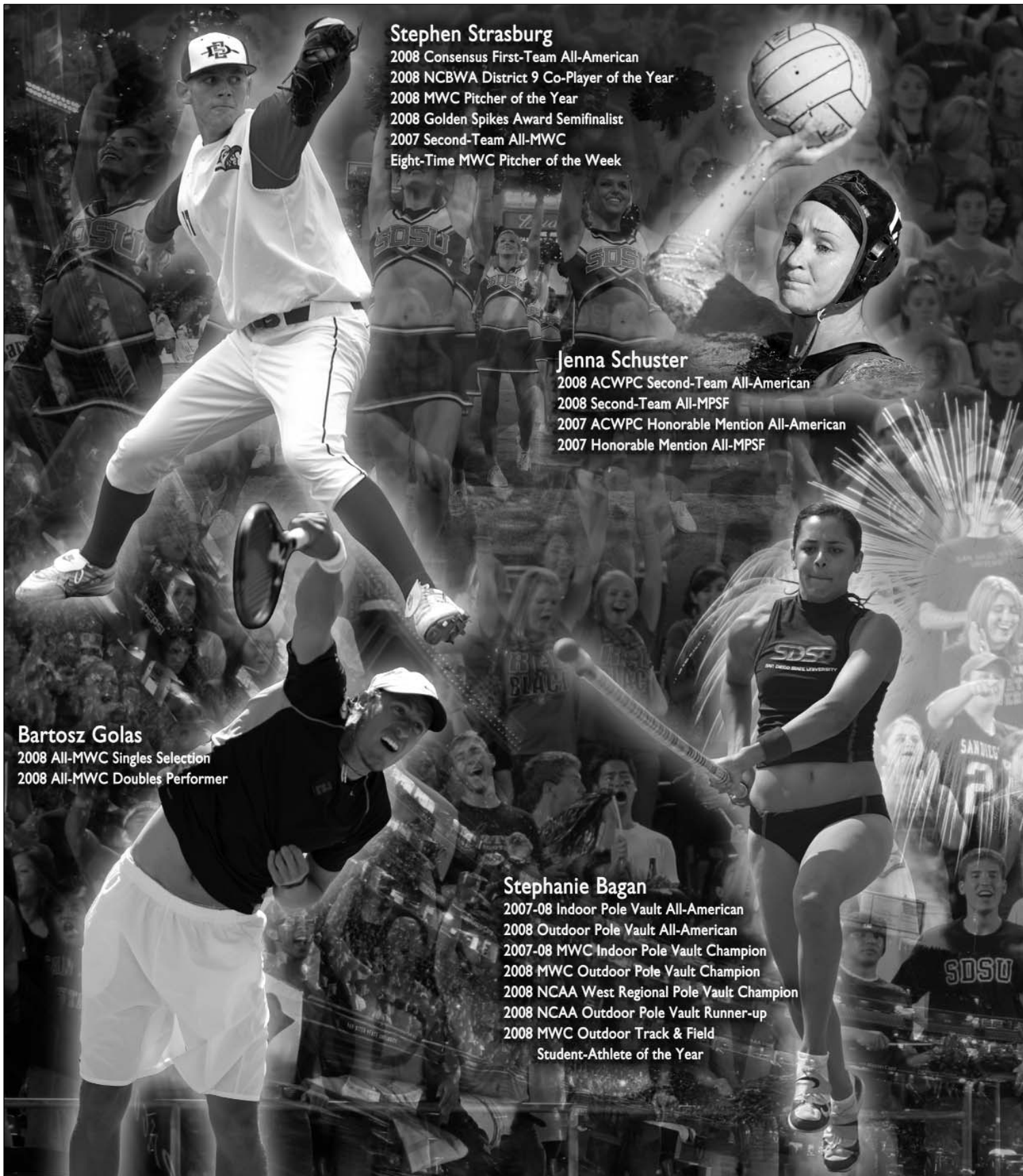


SDSU ATHLETIC FACILITIES

Aztec Excellence

AZTEC EXCELLENCE ◀ THIS IS SAN DIEGO STATE

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE



Stephen Strasburg

2008 Consensus First-Team All-American
2008 NCBWA District 9 Co-Player of the Year
2008 MWC Pitcher of the Year
2008 Golden Spikes Award Semifinalist
2007 Second-Team All-MWC
Eight-Time MWC Pitcher of the Week

Jenna Schuster

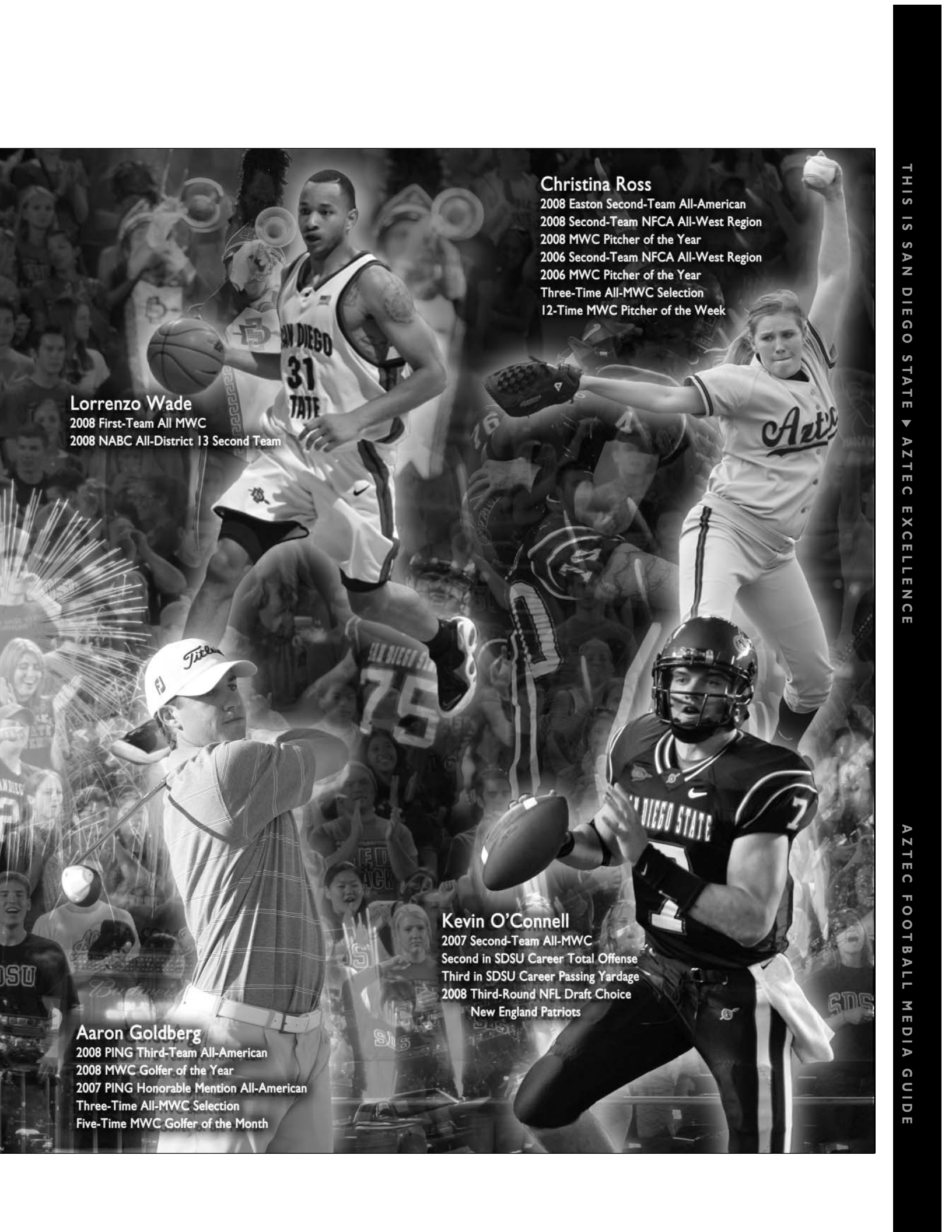
2008 ACWPC Second-Team All-American
2008 Second-Team All-MPSF
2007 ACWPC Honorable Mention All-American
2007 Honorable Mention All-MPSF

Bartosz Golas

2008 All-MWC Singles Selection
2008 All-MWC Doubles Performer

Stephanie Bagan

2007-08 Indoor Pole Vault All-American
2008 Outdoor Pole Vault All-American
2007-08 MWC Indoor Pole Vault Champion
2008 MWC Outdoor Pole Vault Champion
2008 NCAA West Regional Pole Vault Champion
2008 NCAA Outdoor Pole Vault Runner-up
2008 MWC Outdoor Track & Field
Student-Athlete of the Year



Lorenzo Wade
2008 First-Team All MWC
2008 NABC All-District 13 Second Team

Christina Ross
2008 Easton Second-Team All-American
2008 Second-Team NFCA All-West Region
2008 MWC Pitcher of the Year
2006 Second-Team NFCA All-West Region
2006 MWC Pitcher of the Year
Three-Time All-MWC Selection
12-Time MWC Pitcher of the Week

Aaron Goldberg
2008 PING Third-Team All-American
2008 MWC Golfer of the Year
2007 PING Honorable Mention All-American
Three-Time All-MWC Selection
Five-Time MWC Golfer of the Month

Kevin O'Connell
2007 Second-Team All-MWC
Second in SDSU Career Total Offense
Third in SDSU Career Passing Yardage
2008 Third-Round NFL Draft Choice
New England Patriots

America's Finest City

AMERICA'S FINEST CITY ◀ THIS IS SAN DIEGO STATE

AZTEC FOOTBALL MEDIA GUIDE

San Diego

AZTEC TERRITORY

Quite simply, San Diego State University and the City of San Diego, "America's Finest City," enjoy several advantages over virtually every other school in America. The climate, diversity, environment and sheer beauty of the city attracts people from all walks of life.

The City

Dubbed the "jewel" of the southern California coast, the city of San Diego has grown to surround its natural harbor and is the eighth largest city in the United States and the second largest in California.

Diversity

The rich flavors and colors of this diverse population blends all ethnic groups and all walks of life to create an amazing quality of life that makes San Diego all things to all people.

Natural Beauty

As America's eighth-largest city, San Diego also protects vast areas of open space for riding, hiking, skiing, and camping. The region also boasts more than 70 miles of beaches along its coastline. From Torrey Pines and La Costa to Aviara, Mission Bay or Singing Hills, beautiful settings offer an abundance of golf and tennis options.

The Weather

Meteorologists claim San Diego as the country's only area with a perfect climate. This year-round environment posts an average daytime temperature of 70 degrees, with an annual rainfall average of less than 10 inches.

Ideal Living

Whether watching the sun rise over the east county mountains or the sun setting over the Pacific, in San Diego, one is surrounded by natural beauty, pampered by an ideal climate, immersed in old-world traditions and able to enjoy a comfortable, friendly lifestyle that no other city offers. What a treat to live, play and study in "America's Finest City."

Places To Go

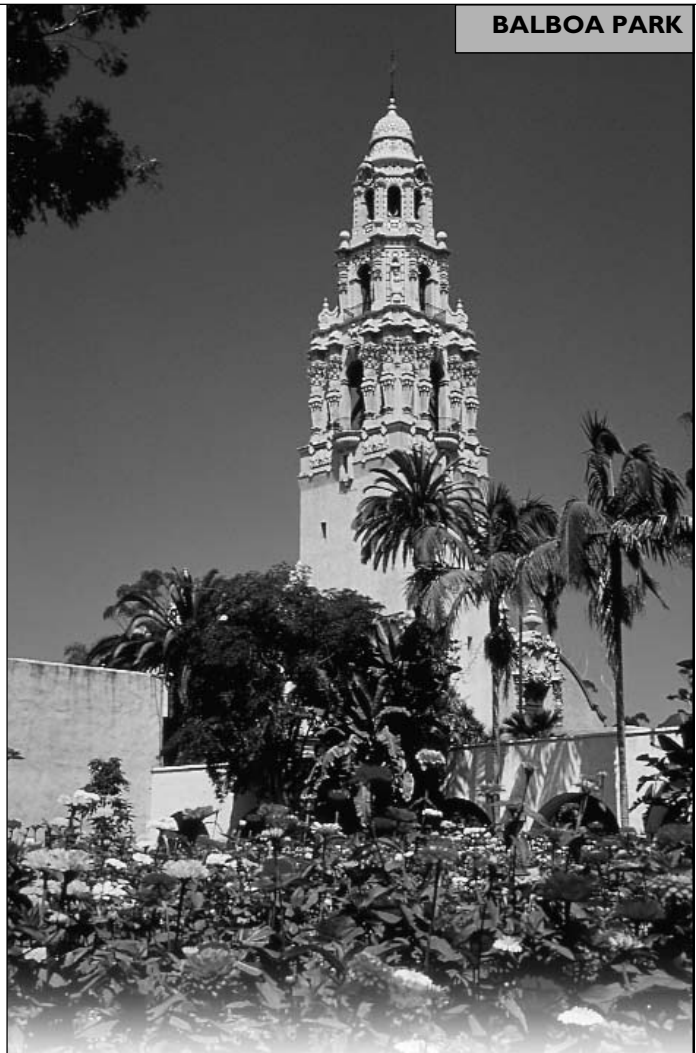
There's always something to do in San Diego. SeaWorld, the World-Famous San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park, LEGOLAND California, Balboa Park and historic Old Town are just some of the attractions San Diego has to offer.

If it's art and history you seek, you'll find it here. Did you know San Diego is the birthplace of California or that San Diego boasts the largest concentration of museums west of the Mississippi?

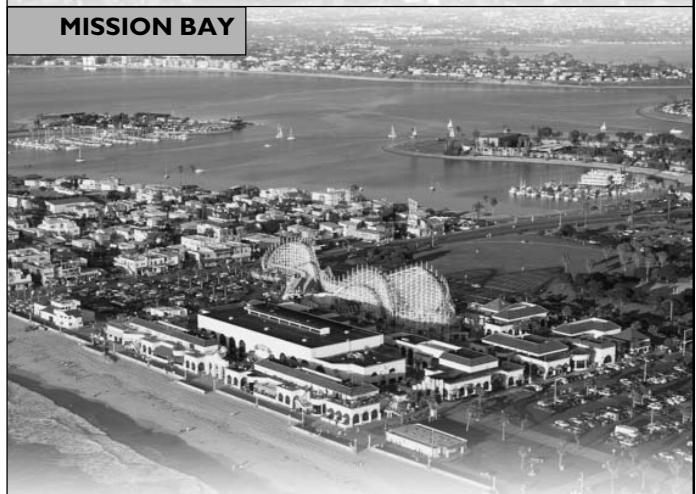
San Diego also offers Tony Award-winning theatre, opera, symphony, art galleries and performance art for the culturally curious.

For that "night on the town" San Diego's night life beckons with over 200 nightclubs that offer toe-tapping beats of everything from country western to R&B.

BALBOA PARK



MISSION BAY



1	The City of San Diego has a population of 1,266,753, and is the second-largest city in California. More than 100 languages are spoken by San Diego residents.
3	With a San Diego County population of 3,017,204, the metropolitan area ranks as the 17th-largest in the United States.
8	San Diego is the eighth-largest city in America, but has maintained its small-town feel.
10	Many claim San Diego has America's perfect climate and with an average of 10 inches of rainfall per year, it is difficult to dispute.
35	San Diego has a youthful population as approximately 56 percent of the city's residents are under 35 years of age.
70	With an average of 10 inches of rainfall a year plus an average daytime temperature of 70 degrees, San Diego has the nation's perfect climate.



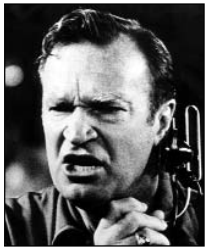
PACIFIC OCEAN



CORONADO ISLAND

Coryell Locker Room

DON CORYELL LOCKER ROOM



Don Coryell
SDSU Head Coach 1961-1972
104-19-2
.840 career winning percentage

One of the cornerstones of the Aztec Athletics Center is now named after the man many consider the cornerstone of Aztec football.

The San Diego State football team calls the Don Coryell Locker Room home. The naming rights to the locker room were purchased by former Aztec football players and boosters on behalf of the legendary Aztec coach, who went on to a standout NFL career with the Cardinals and Chargers.

The locker room is one of the largest areas in the Aztec Athletics Center. It is located on the first floor of the Aztec Athletics Center. It features oak lockers with personalized nameplates of current Aztecs, along with historic nameplates honoring past players who wore the same number.

The historic recognition comes via purchases made by former players in support of the football program, or by friends of those players, or boosters, who use the lockers as a way to recognize accomplishments by former Aztecs.

If you or someone you know is interested in purchasing the nameplate to honor a former Aztec, contact Joy Francis, director of athletic development, at 619-594-5162.

Honorary Nameplates

- #7 Kevin O'Connell
Presented by Davis Heller
- #10 Dan McGwire
- #12 Dennis Shaw
- #15 Tom Craft
- #20 Michael Franklin
- In Memory of Terrell Franklin
Presented by John & Becky Busch
- #23 Leon Parma
Presented by Jack Goodall
- #28 Marshall Faulk
- #32 Mike Ibe, Jr.
- #34 Kirk Morrison
Presented by Mike Ibe
- #35 Art Preston
Presented by Tom Pine
- #44 Herman Edwards
- #45 John Duich
Presented by Steve Duich
- #50 Jim Hight
- #68 Dennis Jenkins
Presented by Ben Bagnas
- #76 Steve Duich
- #76 Andrew Kline
- #77 Fred Dryer
- #79 Brooke Dunn
- #89 Rob Awalt
- #93 Kabeer Gbaja-Biamila

