



**SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS MEDIA RELATIONS**  
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**For Immediate Release**  
Dec. 21, 2022

**Contact:** SDSU Media Relations

## **San Diego State Football Announces 2022 Early Signing Class** *SDSU receives 18 commitments in early signing period*

**HONOLULU** -- San Diego State football head coach Brady Hoke has announced that 18 student-athletes have signed either National Letters of Intent or Grant-in-Aids on the first day of early signing period on Wednesday.

The NCAA approved the early signing period in 2017, which runs this year from Dec. 21-23. The mid-year 2-4 (junior college) transfer signing period also commenced today and lasts through Jan. 15, 2023, while the regular signing period is slated for Feb. 1-April 1, 2023.

The Aztecs' early signing class features eight on offense and 10 on defense. The 18-player class also has 11 from the state of California, three from Texas, two from Hawaii, and one each from Florida and Pennsylvania. Additionally, 14 of are joining SDSU out of high school and four are college transfers (one FCS, three junior college).

Additional signees could be added in the coming days.

Of the eight signees on offense, four are offensive linemen - Briley Barron (Texarkana, Texas/Texas High), Jonah Rodriguez (San Diego/Madison High), Ryan Silver (San Francisco/Junipero Serra High) and Kyle Stanback (Inland Empire, Calif./Newbury Park High/Ventura College) - and three are wide receivers - Tyson Berry (Tyler, Texas/Chapel Hill High), Baylin Brooks (Pasadena, Calif./Pasadena High) and Raphael Williams Jr. (Ft. Lauderdale, Fla./Dillard High/Western Carolina). San Diego State also picked up one quarterback in Javance Tupou'ata-Johnson (Oakland, Calif./Chaminade High).

On the defensive side of the ball, three are defensive linemen - Tupu Alualo (Honolulu/Moanalua High/Mt. SAC), Sinn Brennan (Honolulu/Los Alamitos High (Calif.)) and Brady Nassar (Pleasanton, Calif.) - and safeties - Jelani McLaughlin (San Jacinto, Calif./Citrus Valley High), Jordan Napier (Fontana, Calif./Jurupa Hills High) and Marcus Ratcliffe (Chula Vista, Calif./Cathedral Catholic High). Two linebackers are also now Aztecs in Chris Fewell (San Diego/Lincoln High) and Caleb Otlewski (Melissa, Texas/Melissa High), while Sam Dunnell (San Juan Capistrano, Calif./St. Margaret's Episcopal School) is listed as a defensive back.

San Diego State (7-5) will play Middle Tennessee State (7-5) in the 2022 EasyPost Hawai'i Bowl on Saturday, Dec. 24 at 3 p.m. HST (5 p.m. PST). The Aztecs are in a bowl game for the 12th time in the last 13 seasons after withdrawing from consideration in the shortened 2020 COVID season.

**-SDSU-**



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

## 2023 Football Class

Wednesday, Dec. 21

Name	Position	Height	Weight	Fall '23 Class	Hometown (High School/Previous School)
Tupu Alualo	Defensive Line	6-1	285	Junior	Honolulu, Hawaii (Moanalua High/Mt. SAC)
Briley Barron	Offensive Line	6-4	310	Freshman	Texarkana, Texas (Texas High)
Tyson Berry	Wide Receiver	5-8	170	Freshman	Tyler, Texas (Chapel Hill High)
Sinn Brennan	Defensive Line	6-5	215	Freshman	Honolulu, Hawaii (Los Alamitos High (Calif.))
Baylin Brooks	Wide Receiver	6-2	195	Freshman	Pasadena, Calif. (Pasadena High)
Sam Dunnell	Defensive Back	6-4	195	Freshman	San Juan Capistrano, Calif. (St. Margaret's Episcopal School)
Chris Fewell	Linebacker	6-2	195	Freshman	San Diego, Calif. (Lincoln High)
Javance Tupou'ata-Johnson	Quarterback	6-4	205	Freshman	Oakland, Calif. (Chaminade High)
Jelani McLaughlin	Safety	6-0	190	Freshman	San Jacinto, Calif. (Citrus Valley High)
Jordan Napier	Safety	6-1	195	Freshman	Fontana, Calif. (Jurupa Hills High)
Brady Nassar	Defensive Line	6-5	240	Freshman	Pleasanton, Calif. (Amador Valley High)
Caleb Otlewski	Linebacker/Edge	6-4	225	Freshman	Melissa, Texas (Melissa High)
Marcus Ratcliffe	Safety	6-3	190	Freshman	Chula Vista, Calif. (Cathedral Catholic High)
Jonah Rodriguez	Offensive Line	6-4	275	Freshman	San Diego, Calif. (Madison High)
Talib Salahuddin	Defensive Line	6-5	235	Junior	Philadelphia, Pa. (Chaminade College Prep/Riverside City College)
Ryan Silver	Offensive Line	6-4	290	Freshman	San Francisco, Calif. (Junipero Serra High)
Kyle Stanback	Offensive Line	6-7	265	Junior	Inland Empire, Calif. (Newbury Park High/Ventura College)
Raphael Williams Jr.	Wide Receiver	5-10	165	Junior	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (Dillard High/Western Carolina)



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

## 2023 Football Class

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022

### **Tupu Alualu**

**Defensive Line**

**6-1, 285**

**Honolulu, Hawai'i (Moanalua High/Mt. SAC)**

Played one season at Mt. San Antonio College in 2021, starting at defensive line for the Mounties ... Had 46 total tackles (29 solo) and 5.5 sacks during the 2021 season ... Had eight or more total tackles three times during the 2021 season and had two games with two-plus sacks ... In a 45-21 win over Bakersfield CC had five solo tackles, a season-high 2.5 sacks and five tackles for loss ... Posted a season-high nine tackles - four solo - and 2.5 tackles for loss in a 30-24 loss to El Camino College early in the season ... In the Mounties' season finale 34-28 win over Fullerton CC, he had two sacks, two tackles for loss and four solo tackles.

### **Briley Barron**

**Offensive Line**

**6-4, 310**

**Texarkana, Texas (Texas High)**

Played at Texas High School in Texarkana, Texas ... Helped the Tigers post a 37-11 record (.771) over his four years at Texas HS ... Played everywhere along the offensive line throughout high school, making appearances at

center, guard and tackle showing off his versatility ... During his time with the Tigers was named offensive lineman of the year, was an academic all-state honoree in the classroom, and played basketball, baseball, ran track and powerlifted in high school.

### **Tyson Berry**

**Wide Receiver**

**5-8, 170**

**Tyler, Texas (Chapel Hill High)**

Starred at Chapel Hill High School in Tyler, Texas ... Helped lead the Bulldogs to a 12-3 record in 2022 and a Texas Conference 4A Division I state semifinal appearance ... Also helped lead Chapel Hill HS to the Texas Conference 4A Division I state semifinals and an overall 11-4 record in his junior season ... Was a three-time all-district honoree, the teams' newcomer of the year in 2019 and 2020, and was a two-time all-East Texas wide receiver ... According to MaxPreps, amassed 149 catches, 2,112 receiving yards and 24 touchdowns over his four years as a starter on the varsity team ... During his senior season he caught 34 passes for 411 yards over nine games, and rushed for another 158 yards and four touchdowns ... In his junior season he hauled in 46 passes for 850 yards and nine touchdowns ... Had a season-high 144 yards and a touchdown in a 57-21 over Athens HS ... Also played both baseball and ran track in high school ... Was an A/B honor roll student through-



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

out high school ... Is a three-star recruit according to 247sports and a two-star prospect according to Rivals ... Picked the Aztecs over offers from Houston Christian University and Texas Southern, and received interest from Arkansas, Kansas State, Lamar, Louisiana Tech, Sam Houston and UTSA.

## Sinn Brennan

**Defensive Line**

**6-5, 215**

**Honolulu, Hawai'i (Los Alamitos High (Calif.))**

Prepped at Los Alamitos High School in Los Alamitos, California ... Helped lead the Griffons to three consecutive undefeated Sunset League seasons, going 15-0 in league play, and helped the team to a 24-5 overall record (.828) ... According to MaxPreps, appeared in 29 games, recording 15 sacks, 84 solo tackles, 27.0 tackles for loss and 134 total tackles during his three years as a varsity player ... Also scored four rushing touchdowns on offense ... During his senior season in 2022, he had 13.0 tackles for loss, 38 solo tackles and seven sacks in 12 games ... Also added two offensive rushing touchdowns ... Earned all-Sunset League honors for his performance his senior season ... Appeared in 11 games his junior season and made 29 solo tackles, eight tackles for loss and two sacks ... During the COVID-shortened 2020 season he appeared in six games, making 17 solo tackles, six tackles for loss, six sacks and 30 total tackles ... Also played basketball throughout high school ... Picked SDSU over offers from Colorado State, Nevada and San Jose State ... Plans to major in business/entrepreneurship.

## Baylin Brooks

**Wide Receiver**

**6-2, 195**

**Pasadena, Calif. (Pasadena High)**

Starred at Pasadena High School in Pasadena, California ... Helped the Bulldogs to a 9-2 record during the 2022 campaign ... Earned offensive league MVP honors for his standout performance as a senior ... According to MaxPreps, as a senior he totaled 1,283 all-purpose yards, including 903 receiving yards, 194 return yards and 141 rushing yards ... Totaled 13 touchdowns during his senior campaign, including 11 touchdown catches, one rushing and another passing touchdown ... Averaged 90.3 receiving yards per game and a whopping 10.8 yards per carry rushing the ball ... Had six games with at least 100 receiving yards, including a season-high 128 yards on five catches and three touchdowns in a 51-7 win over Arcadia HS ... Had three touchdown catches in the Bulldogs' 47-0 win over Muir HS, a game in which he had five catches for 118 yards ... As a junior at Loyola High School in Los Angeles, he played in 12 games, catching 39 passes for 549 yards and seven touchdowns ... In the classroom, he earned honor roll status while also playing baseball throughout high school ... Ranked by 247sports as a three-star recruit with a scout grade of 86 ... Also ranked by ESPN as a three-star recruit with a scout grade of 76, and earned two stars from Rivals ... Picked the Aztecs over offers from Arizona, Nevada, Portland State and San Jose State.



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

## Sam Dunnell

**Defensive Back**

**6-4, 195**

**San Juan Capistrano, Calif. (St. Margaret's Episcopal School)**

Prepped at St. Margaret's Episcopal School in San Juan Capistrano, California ... Also played on the basketball team at SMES ... Was labeled an "athlete" by 247sports in the recruiting process ... Picked San Diego State over offers from Oregon State and Washington State.

## Chris Fewell

**Linebacker**

**6-2, 195**

**San Diego, Calif. (Lincoln High)**

Prepped locally at Lincoln High School in San Diego ... Helped lead the Hornets to a 13-1 record in 2022 and a California Division 1-AA state championship ... Lincoln High School finished third in the final MaxPreps state rankings ... Earned all-Western League honors and third team all-CIF during his junior season (2021) ... According to MaxPreps, he recorded 92 total tackles in his high school career (60 solo), including 7.5 sacks and 21 tackles for loss ... This past season (2022) recorded 25 solo tackles, 6.5 sacks and nine tackles for loss over 12 games played ... During his junior campaign (2021) he played in nine contests, logging 50 total tackles (30 solo), nine tackles for loss and three interceptions ... Returned all three of his interceptions for touchdowns during the 2021 season for a total

of 128 yards and three scores ... Is a three-star recruit by 247sports, and received two stars from both ESPN and Rivals ... Picked the Aztecs over offers from Colorado, Colorado State, Utah State, Montana State and New Mexico State ... Earned principals honor roll for his work in the classroom and played basketball throughout high school.

## Jelani McLaughlin

**Safety**

**6-0, 190**

**San Jacinto, Calif. (Citrus Valley High)**

Lettered four years at Citrus Valley High School in Redlands, California ... Led the Blackhawks to a 30-11 record over his four years, including a 9-3 mark in 2022 and 4-1 record in Citrus Belt League play ... Was the co-defensive player of the league and a first-team pick as a senior ... Also garnered all-Inland Empire honors multiple years ... According to MaxPreps, totaled 287 tackles over his four years (192 solo), including 19 tackles for loss, eight interceptions, 13 pass deflections, three forced fumbles and a blocked kick ... Also was used in the return game with 11 career kick returns for 268 yards (24.4 avg.) and two punt returns for 20 yards (10.0 avg.) ... Logged 87 tackles as a senior in 2022 and 92 as a junior in 2021 ... Also played basketball at CVHS ... Is a consensus three-star recruit by 247sports, Rivals and ESPN ... Owns a 247sports composite rating of 83.67 ... Received a scout grade of 83 from 247sports and 73 from ESPN ... Picked San Diego State over offers from Washington, Oregon State, Washington State, Arizona, Colorado, Utah State, UNLV, New Mexico and many FCS schools.



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

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## Jordan Napier

**Safety**

**6-1, 195**

**Fontana, Calif. (Jurupa Hills High)**

Was a three-year letter winner at Jurupa Hills in Fontana, California ... Led the Spartans to a 18-7 record over his three years with three league titles ... Was an all-CIF selection ... According to MaxPreps, totaled 59 tackles as a senior in 2022 (41 solo) with an interception, five pass deflections, two forced fumbles and a fumble recovery ... On the offensive side of the ball caught 30 passes for 600 yards (20.0 avg.) with 10 touchdowns, while rushing for 158 yards and five more scores on 26 carries (6.1 avg.) ... Is a consensus three-star recruit by 247sports (wide receiver), Rivals (athlete) and ESPN (athlete) ... Received a 247sports composite rating of 86.78 by 247sports ... Received a scout grade of 84 from 247sports and 76 from ESPN ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Washington, Oregon, Arkansas, Texas A&M, Colorado, San Jose State, UNLV and Nevada.

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## Brady Nassar

**Defensive Line**

**6-5, 240**

**Pleasanton Calif. (Amador Valley High)**

Starred at Amador Valley High in Pleasanton, California ... Played on both sides of the ball throughout his high school career, but focused primarily on the defensive side ...

During his junior season in 2021, he recorded 33 total tackles, 11 tackles for loss and six sacks, in addition to making 10 catches for 172 yards and a touchdown on offense ... Is a three-star recruit on 247sports, ESPN, and Rivals ... Has a scout grade of 77 from ESPN ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Arizona State Colorado, California, Oregon State, Washington, Washington State, Air Force, San Jose State, Utah State and Nevada, among others.

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## Caleb Otlewski

**Linebacker/Edge**

**6-4, 225**

**Melissa Texas (Melissa High)**

Starred at Melissa High School in Melissa, Texas ... Helped lead the Cardinals to a 11-3 record in 2022, a perfect 7-0 in district play, and quarterfinal state playoff appearance ... During his junior campaign helped Melissa to an 11-3 record and another perfect record in league play at 6-0 ... Is a three-star recruit by 247sports and ESPN, and has a scout grade of 75 by ESPN ... Is a two-star recruit by Rivals ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Nebraska, Minnesota, SMU, North Texas, Tulsa, Utah State, Jackson State among others.



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

## Marcus Ratcliffe

**Safety**

**6-3, 190**

**Chula Vista, Calif. (Cathedral Catholic High)**

Earned three letters at nearby Cathedral Catholic High School in Chula Vista, California ... Will join three current Aztecs who attended Cathedral Catholic, including offensive lineman Rambo Mageo, quarterback DJ Ralph and running back Lucky Sutton ... The Dons were 12-2 in 2021 and captured the state championship ... Was at three-time first-team all-league selection at defense and once at offense ... Also was all-CIF ... Was a 2-Way Player of the Year nominee ... Also competes on the basketball team and on the track & field squad ... Is a scholar-athlete ... A consensus three-star recruit by 247sports (safety), Rivals (defensive back) and ESPN (outside linebacker) ... Received a 247sports composite rating of 86.56 by 247sports ... Received a scout grade of 87 from 247sports and 75 from ESPN ... Selected the Aztecs over offers from Brigham Young, Arizona, California, Colorado, Air Force and Utah State.

## Jonah Rodriguez

**Offensive Line**

**6-4, 275**

**San Diego, Calif. (Madison High)**

Prepped locally at nearby Madison High School in San Diego ... Helped the Warhawks post a 27-13 record during his four years on the varsity squad ... Helped lead the team to three different high school playoff appearances in

his four years ... Is a three-star recruit by 247sports with a scout grade of 88 ... Ranked by 247sports as the 53rd-best player at his position and the 58th-best recruit in the state of California ... Is also a three-star recruit by ESPN with a scout grade of 76 ... Also had offers from Arizona, Arizona State, Boise State Colorado, Syracuse among others.

## Talib Salahuddin

**Defensive Line**

**6-5, 235**

**Philadelphia, Pa. (Chaminade College Prep/Riverside City College)**

Played two seasons at Riverside City College in Riverside, California ... Appeared in 22 games a program that went 22-4 over his two seasons ... Helped the Tigers to the 2022 CCCAA Football State Championship game as the Tigers went 12-1 ... Over his two seasons, totaled 65 tackles, 4.5 sacks and 8.5 tackles for loss ... Posted five or more total tackles in four games during the 2022 season ... Prepped at Chaminade High School in West Hills, California ... According to MaxPreps, he appeared in 27 games for the Eagles, and totaled 113 tackles (45 solo) and seven sacks ... Despite playing in just six games in his senior season in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic, he totaled 42 tackles and 7.0 tackles for loss.



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

## Ryan Silver

**Offensive Line**

**6-4, 290**

**San Francisco, Calif. (Junipero Serra High)**

Played at Junipero Serra High School in San Mateo, California ... Helped lead the Padres to a 13-1 record in 2022 and a spot in the California Open Division championship game ... Serra finished the 2022 season as the seventh-best team in California according to MaxPreps ... Was a three-year starter for the Padres and helped the team to a 29-3 record (.906) over his three years ... Had a 3.0 GPA or better in all four years of high school, while also playing rugby in addition to football ... Is a three-star recruit according to 247sports and ESPN with a scout grade of 75, and a two-star recruit by Rivals ... Picked SDSU over offers from Army, Colorado State, Fresno State, Nevada, San Jose State, and UNLV.

## Kyle Stanback

**Offensive Line**

**6-7, 265**

**Pasadena, Calif. (Newbury Park High/Ventura College)**

Spent the 2021 season at Ventura College ... Had 19 tackles in six games, including three tackles for loss, a ½ sack and a forced fumble ... Earned second-team all-conference honors ... Moved to offensive line late in his playing career ... Enters 2023 with two seasons of eligibility remaining ... Spent 2019 at North Carolina AT&T, but did not play ...

Lettered four years at Newbury Park High School ... Garnered all-Marmonte League accolades ... Also competed on the basketball team at NPHS and the track & field squad ... Was a scholar-athlete.

## Javance Tupou'ata-Johnson

**Quarterback**

**6-4, 205**

**Oakland, Calif. (Chaminade High)**

Prepped at Chaminade College Prep in West Hills, California ... Led the Eagles to a 10-3 record this past season and a California Division 2 semifinal playoff run ... Chaminade finished 19th in the state in the final MaxPreps rankings ... Captured first-team all-Mission League honors as a senior ... According to MaxPreps, he threw for 1,679 yards and 15 touchdown passes, and rushed for 803 yards and 13 touchdowns in his senior campaign ... Had four games with at least two touchdown passes and another four games of at least two rushing touchdowns in his senior season ... Threw for 280 yards and rushed for a score in the Eagles 59-7 win over Crespi HS early in the 2022 season ... Threw for a season-high 292 yards, rushed for 111 yards, and totaled five touchdowns, four passing and one rushing, in a 65-34 win over Notre Dame HS midway through the 2022 season ... In the 2022 California Division 2 state semifinal he was 10-for-15 passing, and rushed for an additional 170 yards and three touchdowns in a 41-38 loss ... Earned honor roll recognition for his work in the classroom ... Also played basketball in high school ... Spent his first three years of high school at Notre Dame High in Sherman Oaks, California ... Is a three-star recruit by 247sports with a scout grade of 77 ... Ranked by ESPN as the 16th-best





# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2023 EARLY NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

dual threat quarterback in his class in the country, and the 79th best player from California with a scout grade of 77 ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Arizona State, BYU, Florida State, Kansas, Oregon, Pittsburgh, Nevada, and San Jose State.

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## Raphael Williams Jr.

**Wide Receiver**

**5-10, 165**

**Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (Dillard HS/Western Carolina)**

Comes to The Mesa with two years of collegiate eligibility remaining ... Played two seasons at FCS program Western Carolina, logging 120 catches for 1,617 yards (13.5 avg.) and 15 touchdowns ... Had eight 100-yard games at WCU (and another 99-yard game) and four games with at least 10 catches ... Came up with 47 receptions for 658 yards (14.0 avg.) and six touchdowns in 2022 ... Best game in 2022 was a 10-catch, 112-yard, 1-touchdown effort in the opener vs. Charleston Southern on Sept. 3 ... Was named a first-team all-Southern Conference selection in 2021 by both the league's head coaches and SoCon Sports Media Association ... Also was tabbed the SoCon Freshman of the Year by Phil Steele ... Was named a Freshman All-America selection by both HERO Sports and Phil Steele ... Had five 100-yard games in 2021 with a massive 16-catch, 177-yard, 2-touchdown outing at Wofford on Oct. 30 ... Joined Western Carolina after a season at Division II Tusculum in the 2021 spring season, when he caught 13 passes for 194 yards and a touchdown in five games ... Was a first-team all-Broward selection and a second-team all-state honoree in high school ... Was considered one of the best route run-

ners in South Florida ... Selected to the Broward all-star team ... Named his high school's team MVP ... Had 31 catches for 800 yards and 12 touchdowns in his senior campaign ... Also was an honors student.

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