

# AZTEC FOOTBALL

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## Rocky Long Year-By-Year

*A Look at Long's Head Coaching and San Diego State Accomplishments*

**2010 - San Diego State (9-4; 5-3, T-3rd place, Mountain West Conference) Poinsettia Bowl Defensive Coordinator**

**National Ranking:** RV (28th) in AP, RV (28th) in Coaches Poll

**Defensive All-MWC Selections (5) - First Team:** LB Miles Burris, DB Leon McFadden; **Honorable Mention:** DL Ernie Lawson, DB Jose Perez, DB Andrew Preston

Helped San Diego State finish with a 9-4 record, the school's most wins in a campaign since the 1977 squad went 10-1... The Aztecs posted their first winning season in 12 years (since going 7-5 in 1998)... Helped lead SDSU to its first bowl game appearance since 1998... San Diego State won its first bowl game since 1969... The Aztecs finished in a tie for third place in the Mountain West Conference, their best finish since also tying for third in 2002... The five MWC wins were SDSU's most in the 12-year history of the league... San Diego State finished just outside of the top 25 in both the AP poll (28th, 52 votes) and Coaches' poll (28th, 36 votes)... The Aztecs were receiving votes in each poll earlier in the season, the first time that has happened since 2004... Helped SDSU improve from 2009 in all seven major defensive categories, including top-20 finishes in tackles for loss (13th) and pass efficiency defense (20th).

**2009 - San Diego State (4-8; 2-6, 7th place, Mountain West Conference) Defensive Coordinator**

**Defensive All-MWC Selections (1) - Honorable Mention:** LB Jerry Milling

Helped the Aztecs double their win total from the previous year, carrying postseason hopes late into the year... SDSU improved its national rankings in all seven major defensive categories from 2008, including rush defense (85th from 118th), pass efficiency defense (62nd from 112th), total defense (74th from 113th), scoring defense (98th from 113th), pass defense (53rd from 68th), sacks (89th from 108th) and tackles for loss (80th from 100th).

**2008 - New Mexico (4-8, 2-6, T-6th place, Mountain West Conference) Head Coach**

**All-Americans (1) - KR Ian Clark** (*CollegeFootballNews.com* Honorable Mention)

**Freshman All-Americans (2) - K James Aho** (Second Team), OL Byron Bell (Honorable Mention)

**Academic All-Americans (1) - LB Zach Arnett** (CoSida First Team)

**All-MWC Selections (6) - First Team:** DB Glover Quin; **Second Team:** RB Rodney Ferguson, OL Erik Cook, DB DeAndre Wright; **Honorable Mention:** LB Zach Arnett; LB Herbert Felder, Sr.

Led New Mexico past Arizona, a team that went on to defeat Brigham Young in the Las Vegas Bowl, for the second consecutive year... Tied a MWC record with eight rushing touchdowns in a 70-7 win over San Diego State... Had a 1,000-yard rusher (Rodney Ferguson) for the seventh straight year.

**2007 - New Mexico (9-4, 5-3, T-3rd place, Mountain West Conference) New Mexico Bowl Head Coach**

**All-Americans (1) - K John Sullivan** (Consensus)

**Freshman All-Americans (1) - CB Jerome Jenkins** (Honorable Mention)

**Academic All-Americans (2) - LB Cody Kase** (CoSida First Team), OL Vince Natali (CoSida Second Team)

**All-MWC Selections (10) - First Team:** WR Travis Brown, WR Marcus Smith, RB Rodney Ferguson, OL Devin Clark, OL Vince Natali, K John Sullivan; **Second Team:** DL Michael Tuohy; **Honorable Mention:** DB Glover Quin, P Jordan Scott, DB O.J. Swift

Became just the fourth New Mexico team in 109 seasons to win nine games... Downed Nevada, 23-0, in the New Mexico Bowl for the program's first bowl victory since 1961... It was the first time Nevada had been shut out in 329 games - spanning 27 seasons - for the longest streak in the NCAA and the second-longest all-time... Coached a school-record eight Lobos to the all-Mountain West Conference first team... The eight first-team honorees were the most in the conference since 2001... Kicker John Sullivan was named a consensus All-American after leading the nation with 29 field goals... UNM was also just one of three Football Bowl Subdivision schools to produce a 3,000-yard passer (Donovan Porterie), a 1,000-yard rusher (Rodney Ferguson) and two 1,000-yard receivers (Marcus Smith and Travis Brown)... The defense was 13th-best in the nation, allowing just 320 yards a game... A 29-27 win at Arizona was the Lobos' first Pac-10 road win since 1979.

**2006 - New Mexico (6-7, 4-4, 5th place, Mountain West Conference) New Mexico Bowl Head Coach**

**All-Americans (1) - DB Quincy Black** (*CollegeFootballNews.com* Honorable Mention)

**Freshman All-Americans (1) - QB Donovan Porterie** (Honorable Mention)

**Academic All-Americans (1) - LB Cody Case** (CoSida Second Team)

**All-MWC Selections (9) - First Team:** WR Travis Brown, RB Rodney Ferguson, OL Robert Turner, K Kenny Byrd, DB Quincy Black; **Second Team:** DL Tyler Donaldson, DB DeAndre Wright; **Honorable Mention:** DB Glover Quin, WR Marcus Smith

Because of injuries, including one that sidelined third-year starting quarterback Kole McKamey on the third play of its second game, New Mexico was forced to start three different quarterbacks for the first time since 1991... Only four position senior players started for the Lobos and only nine saw significant playing time... UNM clinched its fourth bowl appearance in the past five seasons with a resounding 41-14 win over San Diego State... However, New Mexico fell to San Jose State in the inaugural New Mexico Bowl, suffering its first losing season (6-7) since 2000.

**2005 - New Mexico (6-5, 4-4, T-4th place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Head Coach**

**All-Americans (1)** - DonTrell Moore (*SI.com* Honorable Mention)

**Freshman All-Americans (2)** - S DeAndre Wright (Honorable Mention), S Blake Ligon (Honorable Mention)

**All-MWC Selections (8)** - First Team: WR Hank Baskett III, RB DonTrell Moore, OL Ryan Cook, OL Robert Turner, DL Evroy Thompson, LB Mike Mohoric, DB Gabriel Fulbright; Honorable Mention: LB Cody Kase

New Mexico was left out of a bowl game despite posting a 6-5 regular season record... Coached seven Lobos to first-team all-conference honors, including senior DonTrell Moore for the fourth consecutive season... Moore became just the sixth player in NCAA history to rush for 1,000 yards in four seasons and was named MWC Offensive Player of the Year... Hank Baskett III had 1,071 receiving yards, giving UNM its first 1,000-yard rusher and receiver in the same season... Center Ryan Cook earned all-MWC honors for the third straight year... For the third consecutive year, New Mexico set a school record for season tickets (17,404), and average attendance (38,341), including a record-44,760 against New Mexico State.

**2004 - New Mexico (7-5, 5-2, 2nd place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Emerald Bowl**

**Head Coach**

**All-Americans (2)** - DB Brandon Payne (Walter Camp Second Team, *SI.com* Honorable Mention), RB DonTrell Moore (*CollegeFootballNews.com* Honorable Mention)

**All-MWC Selections (12)** - First Team: RB DonTrell Moore, OL Ryan Cook, OL Claude Terrell, DL Marcus Parker, LB Nick Speegle, DB Brandon Payne; Second Team: DB Josh Bazinet, DB Gabriel Fulbright; Honorable Mention: WR Hank Baskett III, LB Fola Fashola, OK Robert Turner, K Wes Zunker

Overcame a 2-4 start by winning the final five games of the regular season to claim second place outright in the Mountain West Conference for the third straight year... The streak gave Long and the Lobos their third consecutive bowl appearance, a first in program history... What was even more impressive about the season was the fact that New Mexico lost 14 starters, including eight first- or second-team all-conference performers plus the school's most successful quarterback, from the previous year's Las Vegas Bowl team.

**2003 - New Mexico (8-5, 5-2, 2nd place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Las Vegas Bowl**

**Head Coach**

**All-Americans (2)** - OL Claude Terrell (Cingular/ABC Sports/Football Writers Association of America), RB DonTrell Moore (*CollegeFootballNews.com* Second Team)

**Freshman All-Americans (1)** - OL Robert Turner (First Team)

**All-MWC Selections (16)** - First Team: RB DonTrell Moore, OL Jason Lenzmeier, OL Claude Terrell, OL Ryan Cook, K Wes Zunker, DL D.J. Renteria, DB Brandon Ratcliff; Second Team: WR Dwight Counter, DL Zach Rupp, DL Daniel Kegler, LB Daniel Gawronski, LB Billy Strother, DB Gabriel Fulbright; Honorable Mention: QB Casey Keppy, LB Nick Speegle, DB Sidney Wiley

Coached 13 players to the all-conference first or second team, at the time the highest number in school history... Led UNM to its second straight bowl appearance, the first time that had happened in Albuquerque in 57 years... New Mexico finished second in conference play with a 5-2 mark... The highlight of the season was a 47-35 win at No. 23 Utah, the Lobos' first victory over a ranked team on the road in 28 years... Every attendance record was shattered at UNM and the Lobos were among the nation's leaders in offense and defense... Long's defense once again led the MWC in sacks and rushing defense... New Mexico won seven of its final eight games after starting the season with a 1-3 record... UNM also put together a four-game winning streak for the first time since 1997 and the first unbeaten October since 1959... The Lobos beat defending conference champ Colorado State for the first time in eight years and recorded their biggest win ever at Wyoming.

**2002 - New Mexico (7-7, 5-2, 2nd place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Las Vegas Bowl**

**Head Coach**

**Coaching Honors** - Rocky Long, MWC Coach of the Year

**All-MWC Selections (10)** - First Team: RB DonTrell Moore, LB Charles Moss, DB Brandon Ratcliff; Second Team: OL Claude Terrell, OL Jason Lenzmeier, DL Daniel Kegler, DL D.J. Renteria; Honorable Mention: DL Hebrews Josue; LB Nick Speegle; LB Billy Strother

Overcame a sluggish 2-4 start by going 5-2 in league play to capture second place, only the third time in the past 30 years that had happened... New Mexico beat San Diego State in Albuquerque for the first time in 19 years, defeated Brigham Young in Provo for the first time since 1971 when Long was the Lobos' quarterback... Helped UNM play in its first bowl game since 1997.

**2001 - New Mexico (6-5, 4-3, T-3rd place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Head Coach**

**Freshman All-Americans (1)** - OG Claude Terrell (First Team)

**All-MWC Selections (11)** - First Team: K Vladimir Borombozin, DL Brian Johnson, LB Gary Davis; Second Team: OL Jeremy Sorenson, DB Stephen Persley; Honorable Mention: RB Jarrod Baxter, WR Dwight Counter, DB Scott Gerhardt, LB Mohammed Konte, OL Jason Lenzmeier, LB Charles Moss

Went 5-2 over its final seven games after starting the season 1-3... It was Long's first winning season and only the Lobos' fifth since 1979... Despite being picked for seventh in the preseason poll, UNM tied for third... The offensive averages increased by more than eight points and 110 yards a game from the previous season... The stingy defense, meanwhile, again finished in the top 20, allowing just 310.8 yards a game - 18th nationally - including a school-record-low 87.4 rushing yards a contest... New Mexico held its last five foes to less than 300 yards of offense... The Lobos won at Wyoming for the first time in 20 years, beat Air Force for the third straight year and held explosive BYU to its fewest points of the season... After falling to Colorado State, New Mexico came back the next weekend to blast in-state rival New Mexico State 53-0 and finish with a winning record... The attendance also improved in Long's fourth season by 32 percent, thanks to an expansion in the north end of the stadium, the addition of the LoboVision videoboard and some competitive football.

**2000 - New Mexico (5-7, 3-4, T-5th place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Head Coach**

**All-MWC Selections (12)** - First Team: DL Brian Johnson; Second Team: OL Jon Samuelson, LB Mike Barnett, DB Stephen Persley; Honorable Mention: RB Jarrod Baxter, DB Walter Bernard, DB Rantie Harper, LB David Mauer, P Cort Moffitt, DB Brandon Ratcliff, DL Henry Stephens, RB Holmon Wiggins

After starting the season with an 0-3 record, Long and the Lobos went 5-1 over their next six games... Late close losses to San Diego State (17-16) and UNLV (18-14) dashed any postseason hopes, however... Coached a defense, led by first-team all-MWC performer Brian Johnson, to its best showing in 38 years... The UNM 'D' allowed just 309.4 yards per game to rank 17th nationally... New Mexico led the MWC in turnover margin, rushing defense, pass efficiency defense and sacks... At one point in the season, Long's defense held five straight teams to under 300 yards of total offense, a first since the 1964 campaign.

**1999 - New Mexico (4-7, 3-4, T-5th place, Mountain West Conference)**

**Head Coach**

**All-Americans (1)** - DB Brian Urlacher (Consensus)

**All-MWC Selections (2)** - First Team: DB Brian Urlacher; Second Team: OL Jason Carson

Long's second team improved to 4-7 overall and a solid 3-4 mark in league play to tie for fifth... After winning two of its first three conference games, including its second straight win at San Diego State, UNM was just a game out of first... However, three losses followed to eliminate New Mexico from bowl contention and the conference race... The Lobos closed the year with a dramatic 33-28 triumph over Air Force... Brian Urlacher, who Long moved to free safety before the 1998 season, became the most decorated player in school history, earning consensus All-America honors... A finalist for the Jim Thorpe Award as the nation's top defensive back, Urlacher's skills were not confined to playing free safety as he caught six touchdown passes as a receiver and returned punts and kickoffs to the amazement of all who saw him play... Urlacher was a first-round selection of the Chicago Bears in 2000, and was almost immediately inducted into the Monsters-of-the-Midway pantheon alongside names like Butkus and Singletary... Shifting to middle linebacker early in the season, Urlacher was named NFC Defensive Rookie of the Year and earned a spot on the Pro Bowl roster.

**1998 - New Mexico (3-9, 1-7, 7th, WAC Pacific)**

**Head Coach**

**All-Americans (1)** - FS Brian Urlacher (The Sports Network)

**All-WAC Pacific Division Selections (5)** - First Team: QB Graham Leigh, DB Brian Urlacher; Second Team: WR Martinez Williams, OL Jason Carson, P Jason Bloom

After getting a late jump on recruiting, Long coached the young and inexperienced Lobos to a 3-9 record in its final season of the Western Athletic Conference... The record made sense when considering that New Mexico returned just two starters on defense and five on offense; in essence two-thirds of the starting lineup from the previous season's championship team... Free safety Brian Urlacher was a bright spot, earning All-America honors from The Sports Network and representing the Lobos, along with quarterback Graham Leigh, on the all-WAC Pacific Division First Team.