

San Diego State Aztecs

2016 Record: 2-0, 0-0 MW
Six Straight Bowl Game Appearances
20-Time Conference Champions



Jeff Horton

Assoc. HC/Off. Coordinator/RB's Coach

- Second season as offensive coordinator (sixth year at SDSU overall)
- Spent the final five games of 2011 as the interim head coach at Minnesota
- Also has head coaching stints at UNLV (1994-98) & Nevada (1993)
- Coached four years in the NFL (2006-08 at St. Louis, 2009 at Detroit)
- Started coaching career in 1984 as a GA at Minnesota under Lou Holtz

LEFT TACKLE

75 Kwayde Miller

6-7 • 315 • Sr.-1L CGP: 19; CGS: 16
Ramona, Calif. (Ramona HS)

TOP NOTE: Started all 14 games last year after playing in just three games total from 2012-14.

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Pronounced: KWAYD ... Big, tall lineman who took over the blind spot last year from two-time all-MW pick & 2015 NFL fourth-round draftee Terry Poul. Started 16 consecutive games ... CFF graded him out as second most effective lineman on team last week ... Started all 14 games last season ... Logged his 1st career snaps in the 2014 opener vs. NAU ... Also played off the bench vs. FS & SIS ... Redshirted in 2012 ... Switched to offensive line from tight end during his junior year at Ramona HS ... Was a 3-star recruit by Rivals, Scout & ESPN ... Also played basketball & was on the T&E team at Ramona HS ... A social science major.

BACKUP

74 Tyler Roemer

6-7 • 305 • Fr.-HS CGP: 0; CGS: 0
Fernley, Nev. (Fernley HS)

Notes: One of only two true freshmen on the offensive two-deep (also LG Keith Ismael) ... Was all-league and all-state at both offensive and defensive line at Fernley HS in Nevada ... Also played two years of basketball.

FULLBACK

15 Nick Bawden

6-3 • 240 • Jr.-1L CGP: 15; CGS: 2
Los Gatos, Calif. (Los Gatos HS)

Former QB, who moved to FB in the fall of 2015 ... Put on 20 pounds of muscle since switching positions ... Coach Long called him the most improved player in the spring ... DNP vs. UNH, off bench vs. Cal ... Played in 9 games in 2015 ... Was 13-for-38 (34.2 pct.) with a TD & 2 INTs in 2014 ... Was a 3-star QB out of Los Gatos HS by ESPN, Scout & 247Sports.

FULLBACK

4 Dakota Turner

6-3 • 250 • Jr.-2L CGP: 20; CGS: 2
Mililani, Hawaii (Mililani HS)

Moved to FB in the fall after playing regularly as a backup O-lineman each of the past 2 years ... Started vs. UNH, Cal ... Is coming off a torn ACL in his left knee ... Was leading tackler off the bench on the 16 (113) in 6 games before injuring knee at Hawaii ... Had 18 stops in 12 games in 2014 ... Redshirted in 2013 ... 1st-team all-state at Mililani HS in Hawaii in 2012 ... A bus. admin. major.

No. 3 RUNNING BACK

29 Juwan Washington

5-7 • 190 • Fr.-RS CGP: 2; CGS: 0
Kennedale, Texas (Kennedale HS)

Notes: Has a great blend of speed and power ... Carried eight times for 37 yards (4.6 avg.) this season ... Redshirted his first season at SDSU in 2015 ... Rushed for 5,139 yards & 75 TDs, averaging 9.5 yards per carry at Kennedale HS ... Had 5 3,000-yard games in HS.

Z RECEIVER

6 Mikah Holder

6-0 • 180 • Jr.-2L CGP: 26; CGS: 13
Oceanside, Calif. (Oceanside HS)

TOP NOTE: Brother, King, lettered at SDSU from 2011-13 at cornerback, starting during the 2013 season.

2016 Stats:
GP GS Rec. Yds. Avg. Long TD
2 2 6 175 29.2 86 2

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Had 4 catches for 160 yds & 2 TD vs. UNH, the most yds by an Aztec since Ezell Ruffin had 165 on Nov. 2, 2013 ... Included in 160 yds was an 86-yd TD ... Career: 25 rec, 667 yds, 8 TDs ... Had 24 catches for a team-high 439 yards (18.3 avg.) & 6 TD in 2015 ... His 6 TD were the most by an Aztec WR since Colin Lockett had 6 in 2011 ... Played in final 10 games in 2014 as a TR-Fresh ... Had 3 rec. for 33 yds (11.0 avg.) in 1st career game vs. UNLV ... Was a 3-star recruit from all the major recruiting services out of nearby Oceanside HS ... Had 41 rec. for 1,229 yds & 11 TD on a Sr. ... A social science major.

BACKUP

5 Chase Favreau

6-1 • 200 • Jr.-2L CGP: 25; CGS: 3
Huntington Beach, Ca (Edison HS)

Notes: Switched from quarterback in fall 2014 ... Has 5 career receptions for 79 yards, including an 8-yard grab in 2016 ... Had 2 catches each in 2014 & 2015 ... Led Edison High to undefeated 2012 season ... A communication major.

85 Quest Truxton

6-0 • 180 • Jr.-2L CGP: 2; CGS: 0
Newport Harbor, Ca (NH HS/Golden West College)

Notes: All-purpose transfer who can play WR, PR & KR ... Returned 6 punts for 62 yds & had a 14-yd catch vs. UNH ... All-region 1st team at Golden West College ... Sunset League Off. PoY at Newport Harbor HS.

LEFT GUARD

56 Nico Siragusa

6-5 • 335 • Sr.-3L CGP: 42; CGS: 30
Chula Vista, Calif. (Mater Dei Catholic HS)

TOP NOTE: Is the only Aztec on the O-line who has at least one start over four years (2013-16).

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Pronounced: nico-SIRAGUZA ... On the Outland Trophy Watch List (outstanding interior lineman) ... Has almost as many career starts (30) as the rest of the SDSU offensive line combined (36) ... Graded out as top run and top pass blocker last week by CFE ... Is a preseason 2nd-team All-American by Phil Steele Magazine ... Was a 1st-team all-MW pick last year ... Career starts: 1 at LG in 2016, 14 at LG in 2015, 13 at LG in 2014, 1 at RG in 2013 ... Was the only SDSU Fresh (RS or true) to start 2013 opener ... RS in 2012 ... Was an all-CIF first-team selection & a 1st-team all-state pick at local Mater Dei HS in Chula Vista, Calif. ... A social science major.

BACKUP

60 Keith Ismael

6-3 • 310 • Fr.-HS CGP: 0; CGS: 0
Daly City, Calif. (Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep)

Notes: Joins backup LT Tyler Roemer as the only 2-true freshmen on the offensive 2-deep ... Was a 1st-team all-league pick & a 2nd-team all-Metro selection as a senior at Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep ... Also played lax at SHCP.

RUNNING BACK

19 Donnel Pumphrey

5-9 • 180 • Sr.-3L CGP: 42; CGS: 30
Las Vegas, Nev. (Canyon Springs HS)

TOP NOTE: Currently leads the nation in rushing (1,659 yds) and is the active career rushing leader (39th all-time) with 4,891 yards.

2016 Stats:

GP	GS	Att.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	100+	Rushing		Receiving			
							No.	Yds.	Av.	Td.	Lg.	
2	2	50	379	7.6	4	57	0	0	8	70	8	26

On Walter Camp, Maxwell & Doak Walker Award Watch Lists: ... Is the pre-MW Off. PoY ... His 281 rushing yards against Cal UN are the most by any player in the country this year ... Is also 2nd all-time at SDSU in overall TDs (54), rush TDs (49) & all-purpose yds (5,594) ... Was 1 of 4 in FBS last year to lead team in rushing & receptions ... Named a SI HM AA & the MW Off. PoY ... 2014 FBS ranks: 4th in RYPC (43.6), 8th in APYPC (155.9), 9th in rush TDs (20) & RYPC (6.8) & 1st-team all-MW ... Had 7.52 yds & 8 TD vs. TR-Fr. in 2013 ... First SDSU Fresh with 100+ yds in 3 straight games since Marshall Faulk in 1991 ... **Nev. Outland PoY at SHS in 2012 ... Had 4,152 yds & 49 TDs over HS career ... Comm. major.**

BACKUP

20 Rashaad Penny

5-11 • 220 • Jr.-2L CGP: 29; CGS: 4
Norwalk, Calif. (Norwalk HS)

Notes: Returned KO 100 yds. against Cal (4th career KOR for TD) ... Is 2nd among active FBS leaders in KR avg. (31.2) ... Named pre-MW ST PoY & 2nd-MW AA by 2 publications ... Was MW ST PoY last year, ranking 2nd in KR avg. (33.5) & 2nd in KR TDs (3) ... 2015 rec - 8-120 (15.0); KR - 24-804 (33.5) ... Had 2,504 rush yds & 41 TDs as HS Sr. ... Brother, Elijah, led Idaho in rushing.

X RECEIVER

81 Eric Judge

6-1 • 190 • Sr.-3L CGP: 41; CGS: 10
San Diego, Calif. (San Diego HS)

TOP NOTE: Has the third-highest career reception average (17.8) by an Aztec since 1996 (min. 20 rec.).

2016 Stats:

GP	GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	Notes: '16; Career; Personal	
							100+	Yds.
2	2	9	61	11.2	16	0		

Notes: Big-play receiver with excellent speed ... Has been a starter throughout his career when healthy ... Has seven career touchdown receptions, second most of any current Aztec ... 2015: Had 15 catches for 296 yards (19.7 avg.) and two touchdowns ... 2014: Led SDSU in receiving yards (471) and reception avg. (19.6), adding 24 catches ... The 19.6 YPC was second best at SDSU since 1996 (min. 20 rec.) ... 2013: 21 catches and three touchdowns in 13 games ... 2012: Redshirt ... Played locally at SHS ... Had three games with 100-plus yards ... A social science major.

BACKUP

97 Curtis Anderson III

6-3 • 200 • Sr.-1L CGP: 9; CGS: 1
Palmdale, Calif. (Pete Knight HS/Antelope Valley College)

Notes: Played in five consecutive games ... Caught a pass in each of the first two games ... Battled injuries last year in his 1st season at SDSU ... Had a 6-yd catch at Hawai'i & started at San Jose State ... Played 2 years at AVC, combining for 34 rec., 387 yds & 4 TDs ... A social science major.

CENTER

70 Arthur Flores

6-5 • 305 • Sr.-1L CGP: 16; CGS: 16
Denver, Colo. (J.K. Mullen HS)

TOP NOTE: Was the only Aztec on offense who started the 2015 opener having never played in a collegiate game.

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Pronounced: Arthur Flores (most outstanding center) ... Athletic lineman who will make his 17th straight start Saturday ... Moved to center in spring 2015 after playing guard his first 3 years at SDSU ... From the same high school (J.K. Mullen) as former 2-time all-MW 2nd-team center Alec Johnson (2011-12) ... Did not play in a in 2013 or 2014 ... Redshirted his 1st year at SDSU in 2012 ... Was the 9th-ranked HS recruit out of Colorado, earning 1st-team all-state & all-conference as a senior in 2011 ... A 3-star recruit by ESPN & Scout ... Helped J.K. Mullen to 3 state titles ... Also was all-state in track & field.

BACKUP

62 Nick Gerhard

6-5 • 300 • Fr.-RS CGP: 0; CGS: 0
Arlington, TX (Mansfield Timberview HS)

Notes: Pronounced GAHR-hard ... On the two-deep in his first official playing season ... Redshirted his first year at SDSU in 2015 ... Was a first-team all-district & all-state pick at Mansfield Timberview HS in Arlington, Texas.

QUARTERBACK

10 Christian Chapman

6-0 • 200 • So.-1L CGP: 11; CGS: 4
Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad HS)

TOP NOTE: Is 4-0 as a starting quarterback and looking to become the first Aztec QB to start career 5-0 since David Lowery was 6-0 in 1991.

2016 Stats:

GP	GS	Att.	Comp.	Pct.	Int.	TD	Yds.	Rtg.	Notes: '16; Career; Personal	
									100+	Yds.
2	2	48	30	62.5	1	3	412	151.06		

Notes: Mobile, accurate quarterback with a quick release ... Has a ton of potential ... Was the 7th-best pass off. rating in FBS since Nov. 28, 2015 (Chapman became No. 1 QB) (161.4, min. 80 att., 3 gms.) ... Career highs of 283 yards & 2 TD vs. UNH ... Threw for 436 yards last year with no interceptions over his final 39 attempts ... Posted the 2nd-best pass off. (209.7) among QBs making their Aztec debut in MW Championship vs. AFA (for-14, 1 TD, INT) en route to being named the game's off. MVP ... Was 1 of 3 true freshmen QBs on the depth chart in 2014 & traveled to a very road contest, but ended up redshirting ... Was a 3-star recruit by Rivals, Scout & ESPN at local Carlsbad High School ... Was a 2-time all-Avalon League selection, passing for 1,986 yards & 23 TDs as a senior.

BACKUP

9 Ryan Agnew

6-0 • 185 • Fr.-RS CGP: 1; CGS: 0
Southlake, Texas (Carroll HS)

Notes: Athletic, mobile quarterback with an accurate arm ... Was 1-for-1 for 8 yards vs. UNH ... RS in 2015, where he was named the team's off. MVP on Sept. 11 ... Passed for 6,967 yards & 56 touchdowns over three years at Carroll High in Southlake, Texas ... Also rushed for 2,286 yards & 38 TDs.

TIGHT END

88 David Wells

6-5 • 255 • Jr.-2L CGP: 28; CGS: 2
Clovis, Calif. (Clovis North HS)

TOP NOTE: Made first career starts this season after playing first 26 games off the bench.

2016 Stats:

GP	GS	Rec.	Yds.	Avg.	Long	TD	Notes: '16; Career; Personal	
							100+	Yds.
2	2	2	14	7.0	8	0		

Notes: Tall, big body with great hands ... Made an 8-yard catch in first career start vs. UNH ... Caught a pass in first two games (never caught a pass in three str.) ... Had 4 catches for 22 yards (5.5 avg.) last year ... Played final 12 games in 2014, mostly on ST ... Former QB, who converted to TE late in prep career at Clovis North HS ... 1st-team all-league & all-Valley at OHS ... 3-star recruit by Rivals.

BACKUP

84 Darryl Richardson

6-6 • 285 • Fr.-SQ CGP: 5; CGS: 0
Seffner, FL (Armwood HS)

Notes: Big, athletic TE who played QB in HS ... Played in 5 games in 2015 ... DNP in 2014 ... RS in 2013 ... Led Armwood HS to a state title ... Was a 4-star recruit as a dual-threat QB by ESPN ... Majoring in social science.

87 Kahale Warring

6-4 • 285 • Fr.-RS CGP: 2; CGS: 0
Sonoma, Calif. (Sonoma HS)

Notes: Has shown dramatic improvement in 1 year at SDSU, putting on 25 lbs. ... RS in 2015 ... Played just 1 year of football in HS, while also excelling in basketball & water polo ... Full name: Kahale Kaiu Kani Michael Wadehouse Warring.

RIGHT GUARD

67 Antonio Rosales

6-4 • 295 • Jr.-1L CGP: 8; CGS: 2
Tucson, Ariz. (Tucson Magnet HS)

TOP NOTE: Earned his first career start in the 2016 opener at right guard against New Hampshire.

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Physical, offensive lineman who continues to get bigger ... Was listed as the co-starter with Dashawn Dixon heading into the opener with New Hampshire, but earned the start for the first time of his career ... Played in six games off the bench in 2015 ... Made his first collegiate appearance vs. Fresno State ... Also saw time vs. Utah State, at Colorado State, against Wyoming, at UNLV and vs. Nevada ... Did not see any action in 2014 ... Redshirted in 2013 ... A three-star recruit by ESPN and 247Sports at Tucson Magnet HS ... Also spent time on the defensive line ... A social science major.

BACKUP

79 Daishawn Dixon

6-5 • 340 • Fr.-RS CGP: 2; CGS: 0
San Antonio, TX (William Howard Taft HS)

Notes: Big body who saw first action of career vs. UNH, Cal. ... Redshirted last season ... Played for the U.S. National Select Team in a 20-15 win over the IFAF World Team at AT&T Stadium in Jan. 2015 ... A business admin. major.

BACKUP

72 Derrick Achayo

6-4 • 285 • Jr.-TR CGP: 0; CGS: 0
Roseville, Ca (Oakmont HS/Sierra College)

Notes: Pronounced ah-CHAY-oh ... Joined SDSU in the spring out of Sierra College ... Was all-American Community College player at Sierra, as well as a first-team all-region performer ... All-league at Oakmont High.

RIGHT TACKLE

71 Daniel Brunskill

6-5 • 260 • Sr.-3L CGP: 42; CGS: 30
Valley Center, Calif. (Valley Center HS)

TOP NOTE: Moved to right tackle after being named a Pro Football Focus HM All-American last year at tight end.

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
On the Wuerffel Trophy Watch List (top community service) ... Was listed as the co-starter with Dashawn Dixon heading into the fall with injuries to the offensive line ... Started for first time at RT vs. UNH ... Was named an all-MW HM pick by the MW coaches & media in 2016 ... Has 3 career TD catches & 15 receptions overall ... 2015: Started all 14 games, making 10 catches with 2 TD ... 2014: Started 4 games & played in all 13, making 5 catches with a TD ... 2013: Played in all 13 games ... 2012: Redshirt ... First-team all-CIF all-league and all-county as a senior at Valley Center HS ... Majoring in civil engineering.

Offensive Tidbits

- Several of the Aztec offensive players are on watch lists for the nation's top player at their position, including TE (now RT) Daniel Brunskill (Wuerffel), C Arthur Flores (Rimington), RB Donnel Pumphrey (Walter Camp, Maxwell, Doak Walker) and RG Nico Siragusa (Outland).
- Associate head coach and running backs coach Jeff Horton is in his second year as offensive coordinator at SDSU. In his sixth year overall at San Diego State, Horton has head coaching stints at Minnesota (interim in 2011), UNLV (1994-98) and Nevada (1993).
- SDSU is 44-11 in the Rocky Long era when scoring just 20 or more points.
- The Aztecs had a school-record 3,266 rushing yards last season (previous best was 2,869 in 2012).
- SDSU has a 1,000-yard rusher in six straight seasons for the first time in program history. Donnel Pumphrey (1,653) and Chase Price (1,008) gave San Diego State multiple 1,000-yard rushers for the first time in school history in 2015.
- The Aztecs have won 24 straight games when rushing for at least 200 yards (32-2 in the Rocky Long era).
- San Diego State had 200-plus rushing yards in 10 straight games last year in the same season for the first time in Division I history (since 1969).

- SDSU has a 100-yard rusher in 28 of its past 37 games and has a total of 32, 100-yard rushers during that span.

- San Diego State is 20-1 in program history when it has two, 100-yard rushers, including three times last year - Oct. 3 vs. Fresno State, Nov. 14 vs. Wyoming and Nov. 28 vs. Nevada.

- The Aztecs have just one interception (last week vs. California) since Sept. 13, 2015, the fewest in the country over that span (Navy is second with two).

- San Diego State had gone 13 games without throwing an interception until last week vs. California, which was the longest streak in terms of games played in at least 20 years (since 1996).

SPECIALISTS

PAT'S/FG'S: 29 John Baran II, 5-11, 190, So.-SQ
FG/FGA: 2-for-2 (1.000) | Long: 39 | PAT's: 10-for-10 (1.000)
Punts: 91 Tammer Blain, 6-0, 205, Sr.-1L

Kickoffs: 29 John Baran II, 5-11, 190, So.-SQ
KO: 14 | Avg.: 56.8 | TB: 7 | OB: 0 | Avg. Opp. Start: 27.1
Long Snapper: 50 Turner Bernard, 6-1, 200, Fr.-HS

Holder: 91 Tammer Blain, 6-0, 205, Sr.-1L
Kick Returns: 20 Rashaad Penny & 85 Quest Truxton
Penny - KR: 1 | Yds: 100 | Avg.: 100.0 | TD: 0 | Long: 0
Punt Returns: 85 Quest Truxton
PR: 6 | Yds: 62 | Avg.: 10.3 | TD: 0 | Long: 25

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Rocky Long
Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator

- Three-Time Mountain West Coach of the Year
All-time winningest coach in Mountain West history
Has led San Diego State to 20 come-from-behind victories
Defensive unit ranked in top 10 in all four major categories in 2016
12 players selected in the NFL Draft in his five seasons as head coach

DEFENSIVE END

59 Kyle Kelley

6-3 • 260 • Sr.-1L CGP: 28; CGS: 4
Irvine, Calif. (Woodbridge HS/Saddleback College)

TOP NOTE: Had a Hawai'i Bowl-record 3.5 sacks vs. Cincinnati on Dec. 24, 2015, in just his second career start.
Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Excellent pass rusher who has gotten better each game ... 2nd year at SDSU after playing the 2014 season at Saddleback College & 2013 at Arizona ... Has 5 tackles, 2.5 TFL, a sack & 4 QBH ... Led SDSU in QBH (8) last year & ranked 2nd in sacks (1.5), despite starting just 2 times ... His 3.5 sacks in the Hawai'i Bowl were tied for the 3rd most in a game in program history ... First 10 games last year: 8 tackles, 2 TFL, 1.0 sack & 1 PBU. Final 4 games: 16 tackles, 7 TFL, 6.5 sacks & 1 FF ... Earned 1st career start against Air Force in the MW Championship ... Had 46 tackles, 9.5 sacks & 13 TFL in 2014 at Saddleback College ... Played 12 games in 2013 at Arizona with 1 stop ... KS in 2012 ... A 4-star recruit out of Woodbridge HS, where he was a PrepStar & Parade All-American ... Is majoring in social science.

BACKUP

45 Fred Melifonwu

6-5 • 250 • Jr.-1L CGP: 16; CGS: 0
San Diego, Calif. (Lincoln HS)

Notes: Originally a DE in high school, who moved to LB when he arrived at SDSU, before moving back to DE in the fall ... Only played in 1 game last year ... Had 6 tackles, 2.5 TFL & 2 sacks in all 13 games in 2014 ... Redshirted in 2013 ... Local product out of Lincoln HS ... A social science major.

LINEBACKER

54 Calvin Munson

6-1 • 245 • Sr.-3L CGP: 40; CGS: 29
St. Charles, Mo. (Francis Howell HS)

TOP NOTE: His three career interceptions returned for a touchdown are tied for the most in SDSU history with Ricky Parker (1996-99).
Notes: '16; Career; Personal
On a 4th pre-season watch list (Nagurski, Bednarik, Burkus & Lett IMPACT) ... Also is a pass all-MW pick ... 25 tackles, 3.5 TFL, 4 QBH in 2016 ... Was a 1st-team all-MW selection last year, totaling 98 tackles, 15.0 TFL, 9.5 sacks, 2 INT (both for TD), 2 FF & 2 FR ... Named SDSU Co-Def. POW in 2014 ... Formed national Def. POW honors (Walker Camp & Lett IMPACT) & MW POW accolades after posting 10 tackles, w/ 2 INT returns for TD & a FR vs. USD ... 2014 MW all-MW ... Avg. 36.5 yds per INT return in 2014, which ranked 3rd in FB5 ... Named SDSU Def. POW in 2013, 4 tackles on ST ... Career: 210 tackles, 29 TFL, 14.5 sacks, 6 INT, 4 FF, 2 FR, 2 PBU ... A health center major ... Father, Kurt, was on DL at Oregon St. ... Drafted in 31st round of 2013 MLB Draft by STL ... Also pitched on SDSU baseball team in 2015.

BACKUP

44 Kyahva /Key-AH-va/ Tezino /tah-ZEENO/

6-0 • 230 • Fr.-RS CGP: 2; CGS: 0
Los Angeles, Calif. (Salesian HS)

Notes: Explosive athlete who is expected to log key snaps this year in his redshirt freshman year ... Redshirted 2015, where he was named the team's defensive scout player of the year ... Rushed for 1,704 yards & 13 TDs on offense & made 343 tackles at Salesian HS ... A 4-star recruit.

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

95 Noble Hall /nobel/

6-3 • 265 • So.-1L CGP: 13; CGS: 5
Las Vegas, Nev. (Valley High)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Athletic, mobile defensive lineman ... Started 3 times & played in 11 games as a redshirt freshman last year ... 2 tackles & 2 QBH in 2 starts this year ... Had 20 tackles in 2015, including 6 TFL, 0.5 sacks, a FF & a PBU ... Starts came in the 1st 3 games vs. San Diego, California & South Alabama ... 2014 SDSU Defensive Scout Team Player of the Year, while redshirting ... Received 3 stars from both ESPN & 24/7sports out of HS ... A 3-time letterwinner & a 3-time captain at Valley High in Las Vegas ... Also earned 3 letters in basketball ... Previously known as Eric Burrell, but legally changed his name to honor his father, who was shot and killed before he was born.

65 Sergio Phillips

6-2 • 295 • Jr.-2L CGP: 17; CGS: 0
DeSoto, Texas (DeSoto HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Was recruited on offensive line, but played defensive line in 2014, offensive line in 2015 and back to defensive line since the Air Force game last year in the MW Championship game ... Has one tackle in each game this season ... Played in eight games last year (six on OL, two on DL), including being the only substitute at the MW Championship game ... Had five tackles, 2.0 TFL & a sack in 2014 ... Was a three-star recruit out of DeSoto High School in Texas ... Was an all-state selection as a senior ... Led DeSoto to a 14-1 record and 7-0 mark in league play as a senior ... A criminal justice major.

LINEBACKER

40 Randy Ricks

6-5 • 230 • Sr.-1L CGP: 11; CGS: 4
Las Vegas, Nev. (Legacy HS/Arizona Western College)

TOP NOTE: Ranked fourth on the team in quarterback burts last year, despite playing in only one of the 14 games (two starts).
Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Big body who has experience playing both linebacker & at defensive line ... Originally signed with the Aztecs in 2012, but didn't join SDSU until the fall of 2015 ... Has 8 tackles, 2.0 TFL, a sack, 2 QBU & a PBU this year ... Played in 9 games with 2 starts last year, missing 4 games with a toe injury ... Had 22 tackles, 5.0 TFL, 2.5 sacks, 4 PBU & 2 FF in 2015 ... Spent 2 seasons at Arizona Western College ... Posted 43 tackles, 8.5 sacks & 3 FF in 2014, helping the Matadors to a 11-1 overall record ... In 2013, made 36 tackles, 16 TFL, 3 FF, 2 FR & 3 PBU ... Was named the defensive MVP at the El Toro Bowl, recording 3 sacks, 5 tackles & a FF ... Played both defensive line & linebacker at Legacy High in Las Vegas, where he was a 2-time all-league pick ... Also played basketball & competed in track & field.

BACKUP

57 Ryan Dunn

6-3 • 230 • Jr.-1L CGP: 15; CGS: 13
Alamo, CA (San Ramon Valley HS/Univ. of Arizona)

Notes: Started all 13 games he played in last year ... Had 40 tackles and 4.5 tackles for loss ... Sat out in 2014 after transferring from Arizona, where he redshirted in 2013 ... Prepped at San Ramon Valley HS ... A consensus 3-star recruit who played in the BMW West Coast Bowl & Cal State All-Star Game.

DEFENSIVE END

58 Alex Barrett /bear-it/

6-3 • 255 • Sr.-3L CGP: 38; CGS: 26
Mesa, Ariz. (Desert Ridge HS)

TOP NOTE: Last year became SDSU's first defensive lineman to earn first-team all-MW honors since 2006 (Antwan Applewhite).
Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Is a pre-season 1st-team all-MW selection by all the major publications & the MW media ... Has 9 tackles, 3.0 sacks, 3.0 TFL, 4 PBU & 3 QBH ... 4 PBU vs. UNH were tied for 5th most-ever by an Aztec ... Has the most TFL (30) & tied for most sacks (14.5) of any current Aztec, despite starting just 26 times ... Career: 171 tackles, 29.0 TFL, 13.5 sacks, 2 INT (1 TD), 8 PBU, 2 FF ... Was a 1st-team all-MW pick last year ... Had 62 tackles in 2014 to go along with 13 TFL, 5.5 sacks, 2 interceptions, 2 forced fumbles & a PBU ... Named 2014 MW honorable mention as a sophomore, despite missing the final 3 games due to injury (foot) ... Earned team's defensive lineman of the year ... Was a 2-time 1st-team all-state at Desert Ridge HS ... Also played OL & lettered in track & field ... Criminal justice major.

BACKUP

90 Julian Rochelin

6-5 • 245 • So.-1L CGP: 15; CGS: 0
Woodland Hills, Calif. (El Camino Real HS)

Notes: Athletic body, who comes from a basketball background ... Is an 2-deep for 6th straight game ... 1st 2 career tackles, sack & TFL at UNH ... Redshirted the 2014 season ... Was MW Def. Player of the Year in 2013 with 114 tackles, 8 sacks, 2 FF & 2 FR ... A business management major.

LINEBACKER

39 Ronley /ron-lee/ Lalakala /lock-ah-lock-ah/

6-0 • 235 • So.-1L CGP: 13; CGS: 1
Kalihi, Hawaii (Punahou HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Physical linebacker who has a ton of potential ... 1 of 2 players on the team from Hawaii (also fullback Dakota Turner) ... Started opener vs. UNH, making a career-high 5 tackles ... Followed with 4 stops & a 9-yard INT return for a TD vs. Cal ... Has played in 13 straight games (starting with Penn State on Sept. 26, 2015) ... Was 1 of 2 true freshmen on the depth chart in either side of the ball last season (also safety Parker Baldwin) ... Had 11 tackles ... Middle name is Saunamniafae (68 points in Scrabble (includes 50 points for using all tiles)) ... A business admin. major ... Was two-time all-state first-team selection at Punahou High.

OR

43 Austin Wyatt-Thayer

6-5 • 230 • Sr.-1L CGP: 14; CGS: 2
Paradise, Calif. (Sierra College)

Notes: Big, athletic body who is coming off another solid fall camp ... Has played in each of the last 11 games ... Made 2 tackles off the bench vs. New Hampshire & 2 in a start vs. Cal ... Made his 1st career start in the Hawai'i Bowl against Cincinnati last season ... Played in 12 games, making 11 tackles (9 solo) ... Was a two-time All-Hor-Cal League pick at Sierra College & a team captain in his final year in 2014 ... His 119 tackles in 2013 were second most in state ... Prepped at Paradise High School, earning all-Eastern Athletic League accolades on four occasions, including three as a safety & one as a wide receiver ... Is majoring in psychology.

Defensive Tidbits

- Several of the Aztec defensive players are on watch list for the nation's top player at their position, including CB Damontae Kazee (Thorpe) LB Calvin Munson (Nagurski, Burkus).
Rocky Long is serving as the team's defensive coordinator for the eighth straight season (includes all six as head coach). Since he's taken over as the defensive coordinator in 2009, SDSU's defense ranks 20th in yards allowed per rush (3.7), 25th in total defense (356.7), 30th in rushing yards allowed per game (142.4) & 33rd in points allowed per game (24.0).
San Diego State had posted two of the best defensive seasons in each of the last two seasons and is off to another good start. Below are comparisons of the past two-plus seasons and total rankings over the last two-plus years:
Scoring Total Pass. Eff. Rush Avg.
2014 13th 16th 19th 37th
2015 7th 5th 10th 5th
2016 51st 74th 52nd 32nd
2014-16 5th 8th 12th 19th
Since Oct. 3, 2014 (includes 25 SDSU games), San Diego State ranks sixth nationally in yards allowed per game (302.2).
The Aztecs have allowed just 301 points in their last 19 games (15.8 ppg) with 40 of that coming last week in a five-point win over Cal.
SDSU had the ninth-best defensive third-down conversion percentage (28.9) in FB5 last year and are ranked 13th this year (21.2).
San Diego State has held 16 straight league opponents below 400 yards of total offense, the longest active streak in FB5 (league games only).
Over the Aztecs' last 15 Mountain West contests (does not include MW Championship), opponents have scored just 15.1 points per game vs. SDSU and only 263.9 yards per game.
SDSU has forced three or more turnovers in seven of its last nine contests.
Over the last 150 offensive drives vs. SDSU (since the second half at Penn State in 2015), opponents have totaled just 157 points, 3,286 yards, 55 three and outs, 183 first downs and 4.36 yards per play (754 plays). During that span, opponents have 44-for-169 on third-down conversions (26.0 percent).

CORNERBACK

31 Derek Babiash /BAB-ish

6-1 • 190 • Jr.-1L CGP: 18; CGS: 2
Poway, CA (Poway HS/Univ. of Ariz.)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
A fantastic athlete, who also was an all-star basketball & track runner in high school ... Made 1st career start vs. UNH ... Had CHS of 8 tackles & 3 PBU in another start vs. Cal ... In his 4th season as a collegiate athlete (played 9 games as a true freshman at Arizona in 2013, SDSU redshirt in 2014), played final 7 games of 2015 campaign as a sophomore at SDSU ... Has 13 career tackles & 6 career PBUs ... Had 2 tackles in 9 games as a true-freshman at Arizona in 2013 ... A communication major.

24 Billy Vaughn, Jr.

6-1 • 190 • Jr.-2L CGP: 23; CGS: 0
Los Angeles, Calif. (Dorsey HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
An athletic playmaker ... Battled injuries in fall camp, but did play on special teams vs. New Hampshire, making one tackle ... Also played vs. Cal ... In 2015, had 11 tackles (nine on special teams) in eight games ... Had 30 tackles (19 solo), an interception and three PBU in 2014 ... Had two stops & blocked kick in 2013 opener before redshirting with an injury ... Career: 44 tackles, 1 INT & 3 PBU ... A three-star recruit by ESPN & track stand-out at Dorsey High School ... A business admin. major.

WARRIOR

12 Malik Smith /mah-LEEK/

6-0 • 190 • Sr.-3L CGP: 41; CGS: 29
Compton, Calif. (Dominguez HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Two-time all-MW honorable mention ... Has played total 41 games & started last 29 ... Has been a part of a turnover in 6 of last 9 games (5 INT, 1 FR) ... Has 5 stops & a TFL this year ... Had 77 tackles, 5.0 TFL, 5 INT, 9 PBU, a FF & a FR in 2015 ... Career-high 11 stops vs. So. Ala. (2015) ... MW Def. POW on Nov. 30, 2015 ... Earned HM all-MW honors as a TR-soph. (2014), recording 55 tackles, 3.5 TFL, 7 PBUs, 3 INT & a FR in 2014 ... Has 3 career games with 10+ tackles ... 21 stops in 2013 as true freshman ... Career: 158 tackles, 9.5 TFL, 8 INT, 16 PBU, 1 FF, 2 FR ... Quoted in an article as saying "toothball saved my life" ... A criminal justice major.

BACKUP

10 Jeff Clay

6-0 • 195 • Fr.-RS CGP: 2; CGS: 0
Lancaster, Calif. (Antelope Valley HS)

A smart player, who saw first career action as a redshirt freshman at San Diego State ... Currently listed as the backup behind two-time all-Mountain West selection Malik Smith ... Redshirted in 2015 and was named SDSU special teams scout team player of the year ... Led Antelope Valley HS as a senior in passing yards and TD, rushing attempts, yards and TD ... An environmental engineering major.

AZTEC

21 Na'im McGee /nye-EEM/

6-0 • 200 • Sr.-2L CGP: 28; CGS: 26
Oakland, CA (St. Mary's HS/Diablo Valley College)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
TOP NOTE: Was the defensive most valuable player of the Mountain West Championship (15) with 10 tackles.
Plays the signature position in Rocky Long's 3-3-5 defense for third straight year (previous Aztec was current NYG Nat Berhe) ... Added 10 lbs. to his frame since 2014 ... Has nine tackles (six solo), an interception and a fumble recovery this year ... Has made at least three tackles in 23 of his 28 college games ... Career: 152 tackles, 1 INT, 1 FR ... Three career games with double-digit tackles ... Played one year at DVC, earning first-team all-conference ... A criminal justice major ... Was a two-time All-American at St. Mary's HS ... A member of the Stockton (Calif.) Athletic Hall of Fame ... A three-star recruit (Rivals.com).

BACKUP

33 Parker Baldwin

6-2 • 215 • So.-1L CGP: 16; CGS: 0
Siloam Springs, Ark. (Siloam Sprgs, HS)

Played all 14 games as a true freshman in 2015, where he was named the team's Fr. of the Yr. ... Has 3 tackles & a FR in 2016 ... Was 2nd on the team as a freshman in sacks/tackles (10) ... Only FR-Fresh to see action in 2015 opener ... Had 14 tackles, an INT & a FF ... Earned all-state accolades as a Sr. ... Scored 8 TD & had 758 rec. yds, 135 rush yds & 134 tackles in his final HS season ... Was the state champ in the 200m dash.

WARRIOR

3 Trey Lomax

5-11 • 195 • Jr.-2L CGP: 19; CGS: 15
San Diego, Calif. (Mira Mesa HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Fantastic athlete, who is coming off a pair of solid seasons ... Has 4 tackles in 2 starts this year ... Battled injuries last year & had 9 tackles & a FF in 5 games (3 GS) ... Named the team's most outstanding frosh (2014) with 63 stops & 2 FR ... Career: 76 tackles, 4 TFL, 1 sack, 3 PBU, 3 FR ... Redshirted the 2013 campaign ... Was recruited to play baseball at SDSU ... Offensive conference MVP at Mira Mesa HS ... Also hit 341 & was a 2-time 1st-team all-league baseball selection ... Is majoring criminal justice.

7 Kameron Kelly

6-2 • 195 • Jr.-2L CGP: 21; CGS: 13
Murphy, Texas (Wylie HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
Explosive speedster who saw immediate playing time as a true freshman in 2014 & started final 13 games in 2015 ... Has five tackles, two PBUs & an interception in two games off the bench ... Had 58 tackles, 3 PBU, 2 INT & 2.0 TFL in 2015 ... Played in the first six games as a true frosh in 2014 before being sidelined with an injury ... Career: 64 tackles, 3 INT ... A three-star recruit (Scout.com) ... Recorded seven interceptions on defense as a prep athlete at Wylie High ... Is majoring in kinesiology.

CORNERBACK

23 Damontae Kazee /kay-ZEE/

5-11 • 190 • Sr.-3L CGP: 41; CGS: 29
San Bernardino, Calif. (Cajon HS)

Notes: '16; Career; Personal
TOP NOTE: Pre-season MW defensive player of the year, earned pre-season league award defensive POW last season.
Following the national award watch lists: Bednarik (defensive POW) and Thorpe (top DB) ... Joins Kirk Morrison as the only Aztecs to ever be named MW defensive player of the year ... Is 1st among all active FB5 players with 11 career interceptions ... Has 10 stops, 3 PBU & an INT this year ... Started 29 consecutive games & played in 34 straight games ... Career: 184 tackles, 11 interceptions, 6 forced fumbles, 1 fumble recovery ... Ranks 16th at SDSU & 12nd in DL era (since '69) with 11 career INT ... Brother, Walter, was a 1,000-yd RB for the Aztecs from 2009-12, captaining in 2012 ... A criminal justice major.

BACKUP

22 Kalan Montgomery /KAY-len/

6-1 • 185 • Jr.-2L CGP: 29; CGS: 0
Compton, Calif. (Dominguez Hills HS)

Played in all 29 games the last two-plus seasons after earning special teams scout player of the year as a redshirt (2013) ... Has two stops this year ... Has 15 career tackles and a pass break up ... Was a prep teammate of fellow Aztec Malik Smith ... Also a high school letterwinner in track ... A social science major.