



Aztec Football 2021 Preseason Honors

as of Aug. 19

► Team Honors

► Projected Bowl

Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl (Dec. 23) vs. FIU, *Sporting News*
First Responder Bowl (Dec. 28) vs. Western Kentucky, *Athlon Sports*
First Responder Bowl (Dec. 28) vs. Western Kentucky, *247sports*
Offered Arizona Bowl (TBA) vs. Kent State, *College Football News*

► Games to Watch

Sept. 11 - San Diego State at Arizona, *Athlon Sports*
Sept. 18 - Utah at San Diego State, *Lindy's Sports*
Oct. 16 - San Diego State at San Jose State, *Athlon Sports*
Oct. 16 - San Diego State at San Jose State, *Lindy's Sports*
Oct. 16 - San Diego State at San Jose State, *College Football News*
Oct. 30 - Fresno State at San Diego State, *Athlon Sports*
Nov. 27 - Boise State at San Diego State, *Athlon Sports*

► Unit Rankings

Linebackers - second in the Mountain West (*Athlon Sports*)
Defensive Backs - third in the Mountain West (*Athlon Sports*)

► Individual Honors

Matt Araiza | Jr. | San Diego, Calif. | Kicker

All-Mountain West third team - *Athlon Sports*
"SDSU's 5th-best offensive player" - *College Football News*

Keshawn Banks | Sr. | Rio Rancho, N.M. | Defensive End

All-Mountain West second team - *Lindy's Sports*
"SDSU Player to Watch" - *Lindy's Sports*
"SDSU's 5th-best defensive player" - *College Football News*

Chance Bell | Sr. | Burbank, Calif. | Running Back

"SDSU Player to Watch" - *Lindy's Sports*

Greg Bell | Sr. | Chula Vista, Calif. | Running Back

Maxwell Award Watch List (College Player of the Year)
Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
All-Mountain West second team - *Phil Steele Magazine*
All-Mountain West second team - *Athlon Sports*
All-Mountain West second team - *Lindy's Sports*
All-Mountain West third team - *Pro Football Focus*
"SDSU Player to Watch" - *Lindy's Sports*
"SDSU's 2nd-best offensive player" - *College Football News*

Daniel Bellinger | Sr. | Las Vegas, Nev. | Tight End

Mackey Award Watch List (Outstanding Collegiate Tight End)
Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
All-Mountain West fourth team - *Phil Steele Magazine*
"SDSU's 3rd-best offensive player" - *College Football News*

Jordan Byrd | Sr. | Albuquerque, N.M. | RB/KR/PR

Paul Hornung Award Watch List (Most Versatile Player)
All-Mountain West second team (KR) - *Phil Steele Magazine*
All-Mountain West second team (KR) - *Athlon Sports*
All-Mountain West honorable mention (KR) - *Pro Football Focus*

William Dunkle | Jr. | Chula Vista, Calif. | Offensive Guard

All-Mountain West first team (Interior OL) - *Pro Football Focus*
All-Mountain West second team - *Athlon Sports*
All-Mountain West fourth team - *Phil Steele Magazine*

Taylor Hawkins | Sr. | Palm Springs, Calif. | Cornerback

Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
All-Mountain West second team - *Athlon Sports*
All-Mountain West third team - *Phil Steele Magazine*
All-Mountain West honorable mention (Flex D) - *Pro Football Focus*
"SDSU Player to Watch" - *Lindy's Sports*
"SDSU's 3rd-best defensive player" - *College Football News*

Jesse Matthews | Jr. | San Diego, Calif. | Wide Receiver/Punt Returner

All-Mountain West second team (PR) - *Phil Steele Magazine*
All-Mountain West third team (PR) - *Athlon Sports*
All-Mountain West third team (WR) - *Pro Football Focus*
All-Mountain West fourth team (WR) - *Phil Steele Magazine*
All-Mountain West honorable mention (PR) - *Pro Football Focus*
"SDSU's 4th-best offensive player" - *College Football News*
"Key San Diego State player to a successful season" - *College Football News*

Jalen Mayden | So. | Garland, Texas | Quarterback

"SDSU's top incoming transfer" - *College Football News*

Caden McDonald | Sr. | Haslet, Texas | Linebacker

Bronko Nagurski Award Watch List (Most Outstanding Defensive Player)
Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List (College Defensive Player of the Year)
Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List
All-Mountain West first team - MW Media
All-Mountain West first team - *Athlon Sports*
All-Mountain West second team - *Phil Steele Magazine*
All-Mountain West second team - *Lindy's Sports*
All-Mountain West fourth team (Edge Defender) - *Pro Football Focus*
"SDSU's best defensive player" - *College Football News*

Tyrell Shavers | Jr. | Lewisville, Texas | Wide Receiver

"SDSU's top incoming transfer" - *Lindy's Sports*

Michael Shawcroft | Jr. | San Diego, Calif. | Linebacker

All-Mountain West third team - *Pro Football Focus*

Kobe Smith | Sr. | Compton, Calif. | Wide Receiver

"SDSU Player to Watch" - *Lindy's Sports*



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as of Aug. 12

Jonah Tavai | Sr. | Manhattan Beach, Calif. | Defensive Tackle

All-Mountain West second team - *Phil Steele Magazine*

All-Mountain West second team (Interior DL) - *Pro Football Focus*

All-Mountain West fourth team - *Athlon Sports*

"SDSU's 4th-best defensive player" - *College Football News*

Cameron Thomas | Jr. | Carlsbad, Calif. | Defensive End

Bronko Nagurski Award Watch List (Most Outstanding Defensive Player)

Chuck Bednarik Award Watch List (College Defensive Player of the Year)

All-Mountain West first team - *MW Media*

All-Mountain West first team - *Phil Steele Magazine*

All-Mountain West first team - *Athlon Sports*

All-Mountain West first team - *Lindy's Sports*

All-Mountain West first team (Interior DL) - *Pro Football Focus*

"SDSU Player to Watch" - *Lindy's Sports*

"SDSU's 2nd-best defensive player" - *College Football News*

Zachary Thomas | Sr. | Carlsbad, Calif. | Offensive Tackle

Outland Trophy Award Watch List (Most Outstanding Interior Lineman)

Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

All-Mountain West first team - *MW Media*

All-Mountain West first team - *Phil Steele Magazine*

All-Mountain West first team - *Athlon Sports*

All-Mountain West first team - *Lindy's Sports*

All-Mountain West first team - *Pro Football Focus*

"SDSU's best offensive player" - *College Football News*

Trenton Thompson | Sr. | Palm Springs, Calif. | Safety

Reese's Senior Bowl Watch List

All-Mountain West second team - *Pro Football Focus*

All-Mountain West third team - *Phil Steele Magazine*

All-Mountain West fourth team - *Athlon Sports*

Alama Uluave | Sr. | Laie, Hawaii | Center

Polynesian College Football Player of the Year Award Watch List

All-Mountain West second team (Interior OL) - *Pro Football Focus*