

San Diego State Aztecs

2017 Record: 10-2, 6-2 MW
Eight Straight Bowl Game Appearances
MW Champions: 2012, 2015, 2016 | 21-Time Conference Champions



Jeff Horton

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

- Third season as offensive coordinator (seventh 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

74 Tyler Roemer

6-7 • 305 • Fr.-RS CGP: 12; CGS: 12
Fernley, Nevada (Fernley HS)

TOP NOTE: Named a USA Today Freshman All-American and second-team All-Mountain West Conference

Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Pronunciation: *ROM-er* ... 1 of 2 redshirt freshmen (C Keith Ismael) ... The offensive line that made his college debut in the 2017 opener ... Has played the 3rd-most snaps (796) on the team ... Arguably OI's most consistent performer ... Took over for 2-year starter Kwadwo Miller ... Backed up Miller last year but did not see the field & was able to maintain his redshirt ... Last season was 1 of 1 only 2 true freshmen on the offensive 2-deep (also then LG Keith Ismael) ... Was all-league & all-state at both offensive & defensive line at Fernley HS in Nevada ... Also played 2 years of basketball & a year of wrestling & swimming ... A business administration major.

BACKUP

71 Kyle Spalding

6-6 • 300 • Fr.-RS CGP: 3; CGS: 0
McKinleyville, Calif. (McKinleyville HS)

Came to SDSU as a tight end, but moved to offensive line in the fall ... Played in three of last four games (44 snaps) ... RS in 2016 ... Was a QB at McKinleyville HS, throwing for 5,103 yards & 54 TD, while adding 22 rush TDs.

LEFT GUARD

79 Daishawn Dixon

6-5 • 320 • So.-1L CGP: 26; CGS: 12
San Antonio, Texas (Wm. Howard Taft HS)

TOP NOTE: Has played the most snaps (797) on the team, along with C/RG Keith Ismael.

Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Pronunciation: *DAY-shawn* ... Started all 12 games this year ... According to Pro Football Focus he is coming off his three best games of his career ... After spring, was listed as the backup at RG but moved into the No. 1 spot at LG ... Took over for Nico Siragusa (Baltimore Ravens), who started the final 41 games of his career ... According to PFF, he logged 34 offensive snaps last season, the most among o-line reserves ... Redshirted during the 2015 campaign ... Represented the U.S. National Select Team in a 20-15 victory over the IFAF World Team on Jan. 31, 2015 at AT&T Stadium in Arlington, Texas ... Played basketball as a soph. in HS ... Born in Phoenix, Ariz., graduated HS in San Antonio.

BACKUP

76 Zachary Thomas

6-5 • 285 • Fr.-RS CGP: 12; CGS: 0
Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad HS)

Local lineman, who serves on the PAT and FG unit this year ... Played on OL late two road games ... Redshirted in 2016 ... Played in Alex Spoons All-Star Football Classic ... First-team all-CF San Diego Section ... Born in San Diego.

CENTER

56 Dominic Gudino

6-3 • 300 • Fr.-HS CGP: 7; CGS: 6
Chula Vista, Calif. (Olympian High)

TOP NOTE: First true freshman to start for SDSU since current fullback Nick Bowden started at quarterback in 2014.

Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Pronunciation: *GOO-deen-oh* ... Has started six games so far ... Started in 600 in seven ... Earned his first career game as a true FR, who started the game vs. Northern Illinois ... Started the last five (Fresno, Hawaii, SJSU, Nevada, UNM) at center ... Coming off highest career grade ... Earned three letters at local Olympian High School in Chula Vista, capturing two seasons ... Played on both sides of the line ... Was a first-team all-league & first-team all-CF selection ... Was a Blue-Gray All-American ... Also a three-time Union-Tribune all-academic pick ... A three-star recruit by ESPN, 247Sports & Scout ... Also threw the shot put & discus on the track & field team ... Is majoring in kinesiology ... Is 18 years old.

BACKUP

52 Nick Gerhard

6-5 • 300 • So.-SQ CGP: 9; CGS: 0
Arlington, Texas (Mansfield Timberview HS)

Pronunciation: *GAIH-hard* ... Has logged 31 snaps this season ... In seven career games, has never recorded a negative game grade ... Recorded 24 snaps in 2016 ... RS his 1st year at SDSU in 2015 ... Was a 1st-team all-state pick at Mansfield Timberview HS in Arlington, TX.

RIGHT GUARD

60 Keith Ismael

6-3 • 310 • Fr.-RS CGP: 11; CGS: 11
Oakland, Calif. (Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep)

TOP NOTE: The aerospace engineering major is tied for the most snaps on the team this season (797).

Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Pronunciation: *IZ-male* ... Named second-team all-MW ... Started all 12 games this season (first seven at C, last five at RG) ... Took over the center position to open the season from Arthur Flores, who started the previous 28 games ... 1 of 2 redshirt freshmen (LT Tyler Roemer) who made their 1st career start in the opener & 1 of 4 on the line overall who made their 1st start ... Was on the depth chart last season at left guard, but did not play & was able to maintain his redshirt ... 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 Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep ... An aerospace engineering major.

BACKUP

67 Antonio Rosales

6-4 • 305 • Sr.-2L CGP: 27; CGS: 20
Tucson, Ariz. (Tucson Magnet HS)

Pronunciation: *row-ZAL-is* ... Started 18 straight games, before missing NIU w/ ankle injury ... Started 6 of 12 this year, played one snap since Oct. 14 ... PFF graded him as the 10th-best player in FBS last year in 14 starts ... Teammates call him "Chief"

RIGHT TACKLE

77 Ryan Pope

6-7 • 315 • Jr.-1L CGP: 26; CGS: 10
Long Beach, Calif. (Lakewood HS/LBCC)

TOP NOTE: At 6-7, he is tied for the tallest player on the team (also: Tyler Roemer & Jose Salcedo).

Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Slated to play in his 25th consecutive game in the Armed Forces Bowl ... PFF has his season grade as the highest on the offense (higher than Penny) ... Started 10 games this season (1st of career), but only played on special teams at UNLV with a hand injury & 33 snaps vs. BSU ... Started last five weeks ... Was just the 3rd Aztec to start at right tackle since the start of 2014 (Daniel Brunsick - 14 games, Pearce Slater - 27 games) ... Missed 12 games of 2016 with a chest injury, but saw action in the final 2 games of the season ... Redshirted during the 2015 campaign ... Led Long Beach City College to a 9-2 record in 2014 ... Played FB & basketball at Lakewood HS ... A social science major.

BACKUP

78 Joe Salcedo

6-7 • 300 • Jr.-1L CGP: 22; CGS: 2
Santa Barbara, Calif. (Bishop Diego HS)

Pronunciation: *sal-SAY-do* ... 1st career starts at UNLV & vs. BSU ... Played last 8 games ... Played in 14 games in 2015 but missed 2016 with an off-field knee injury in fall camp ... Earned SDSU offensive co-scout player of the year (2014).

FULLBACK

15 Nick Bowden

6-3 • 245 • Sr.-2L CGP: 38; CGS: 24
Los Gatos, Calif. (Los Gatos HS)

TOP NOTE: Former quarterback (two starts in 2014) who was named a first-team All-American by Pro Football Focus last season.

2017 Stats:
Rushing: GP 65, Att. 475, Yds. 100+, No. Yds. Avg. TD, Lg. 100+ ... 12 12 275 2,027 74 19 95 10 18 142 7.9 2 33
Receiving: GP 65, Att. 475, Yds. 100+, No. Yds. Avg. TD, Lg. 100+ ... 12 12 275 2,027 74 19 95 10 18 142 7.9 2 33
Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Former QB, who moved to FB in the fall of 2015 & is now considered an NFL prospect at his position ... Put on 20 pounds of muscle since switching positions ... PFF ranks him as 2nd best blocking FB in the nation ... Played the second most snaps of FB (560), despite missing the UNLV game with an injury in the country this season ... 8-yd TD catch (1st of career) at SDSU ... In 2016, was graded as the top blocking FB in the nation by Pro Football Focus & the No. 4 overall FB ... Has 29 career catches for 228 yards (8.2 avg.) & a TD ... Played in 9 games in 2015 ... Was 13-for-38 (34.2 pct) with TD pass & 2 INT as TR-Fr. on offense in 2014 ... Was a 3-star quarterback out of Los Gatos HS by ESPN, Scout & 247Sports ... Is majoring in business administration with a concentration as a management entrepreneur.

RUNNING BACK

20 Rashaad Penny

5-11 • 220 • Sr.-3L CGP: 53; CGS: 17
Norwalk, Calif. (Norwalk HS)

TOP NOTE: Became SDSU's third ever consensus first-team All-American (Marshall Faulk, Kyle Turley); Leads nation in rushing and all-purpose yards.

2017 Stats:
Rushing: GP 65, Att. 475, Yds. 100+, No. Yds. Avg. TD, Lg. 100+ ... 12 12 275 2,027 74 19 95 10 18 142 7.9 2 33
Receiving: GP 65, Att. 475, Yds. 100+, No. Yds. Avg. TD, Lg. 100+ ... 12 12 275 2,027 74 19 95 10 18 142 7.9 2 33
Total FBS record for most KOR TD (7) and total KR TD (8) needs 200+ rushing yds. in bowl game to tie record for most consecutive 200-yd. rushing games (currently has four) ... FBS ranks: 1st in rush yds (2,027) & AP yds (2,698), 2nd in TD (24) & 1-3rd in rush TD (19) ... 1st player to be named MW OFP in 4 straight weeks ... WC NFL Off. PostW at ASU (353 AP yds, 3 TD) ... CH 253 yds, 2 TD at UH ... 234 yds, 3 TD at SDSU ... WC NFL Off. PostW vs. Nev (429 AP yds, 7 9th in FBS history), 4 TD ... Rushed for 1,018 yds, w/ 47.5 avg & 11 TD last yr behind NCAA all-time leader Daniel Humphrey ... 2-time MW ST PostW ... 2016: rush - 136-1,018-11; rec - 15-224-3; KR - 20-624-2 ... Career TD: 48 (34 rush, 7 KOR, 6 rec., 1 PR); 3,435 rush yds, 484 rec. yds, & 2,387 KR yds ... Had 2,504 rush yds & 41 TD as HS Sr. ... Brother, Elijah, led Idaho in rushing.

BACKUP

29 Juwan Washington

5-7 • 190 • So.-1L CGP: 26; CGS: 4
Kennedale, Texas (Kennedale HS)

Quick first step ... Has 715 rush yds on 122 att. w/ 7 TD & 10 KR for 193 yds in 11 games ... MW ST PostW w/ 96-yd KR vs. NIU ... 16 att, 134 yds, 2 TD @ SDSU ... Career rushing: 177 carries, 1,156 yds, 6.5 avg, 13 TDs (16 total TDs) ... 2016: 10 KR for 293 yds (29.3 avg), 1 TD ... RS in 2015 ... Rushed for 5,139 yds & 75 TD, averaging 9.5 YPC at Kennedale HS, w/ 5,300-yd games.

QUARTERBACK

10 Christian Chapman

6-0 • 200 • Jr.-2L CGP: 35; CGS: 28
Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad HS)

TOP NOTE: IS 23-5 as a starting QB, including wins in back-to-back bowl games (Howard & Las Vegas); T-for most QB wins in DI school history.

2017 Stats:
GP 65, Cmp. Att. Pct. Int. TD Yds. Rtg. ... 12 12 140 233 60.1 9 13 1,848 142.55
Notes: *'17; Career; Personal*
Mobile, accurate QB with a quick release ... His 821 career QB with pct. is best in SDSU DI history ... He is the only active QB since 2012 to post a perfect record in postseason games (min. 2 championship games, & 2 bowl games) ... CH 76.2 pct., 220 yds & 2 TD vs. UCD in opener ... 4-for-5, 47 yds, TD on GW drive vs. Stanford ... Career: 35 TD, 10 INT ... 9 GP with multiple TD, 0 with 2+ INT ... 2016: 1,994 yds, 20 TD, 6 INT ... 2015: Posted the 2nd-best pass off. (209.7) among QBs making their Aztec debut in MW Championship vs. ARA (9-for-14, 4 TD, 0 INT) on route to being named the game's off. MVP ... Was 1-of-3 true freshmen QBs on the depth chart in 2014 & traveled to every road contest, but redshirted ... 3-star recruit by Rivals, Scout & ESPN at local Carlsbad HS ... 2-time all-Awards League selection, passing for 1,986 yds & 23 TDs as a Sr.

BACKUP

9 Ryan Agnew

6-0 • 190 • So.-1L CGP: 15; CGS: 0
Southlake, Texas (Carroll HS)

Athletic, mobile quarterback with an accurate arm ... Is 4-for-7 for 47 yards in 7 GP ... Was 2-for-2 for 29 yds & rushed 4 times for 32 yds last year ... Redshirt in 2015, where he was named the team's offensive scout player of the year ... Passed for 6,967 yds & 56 TD over 3 years at Carroll HS in Southlake, Texas ... Also rushed for 2,286 yds & 38 TDs.

Offensive Tidbits

- Associate head coach and running backs coach Jeff Horton is in his third year as offensive coordinator at SDSU. In his seventh year overall at San Diego State, Horton has head coaching stints at Minnesota (interim in 2011), UNLV (1994-98) and Nevada (1993).
- Since Jeff Horton took over as offensive coordinator prior to the 2015 campaign, San Diego State is 10th nationally in rushing yards per game (249.3), 14th in rushing touchdowns (95) and 15th in rushing yards per carry (5.3).
- San Diego State has won 39 consecutive games when rushing for at least 200 yards (last loss: Sept. 22, 2012 vs. San José State).
- San Diego State has scored a point in 16 consecutive quarters. That is the third longest active streak nationally, trailing only Louisville (21) and Memphis (17).
- San Diego State has scored 30 or more points in 24 of their last 34 games (1,167 points total, 34.3 ppg).
- The Aztecs are 33-2 the last 35 times they have scored at least 30 points and 45-7 in the Rocky Long era when scoring 30-plus points.
- Since Oct. 3, 2015, San Diego State is 30-3 when scoring at least 20 points.
- Since the beginning of 2014, SDSU is 33-5 when committing one turnover or less and 6-9 when having two or more turnovers in the game. San Diego State has one turnover or less in 31 of the 40 games since the start of the 2015 campaign.
- San Diego State has one turnover or less in 10 of its last 11 games.
- SDSU is 26-2 in the last 28 games when owning an edge in time of possession.
- The Aztec offense has the second-fewest interceptions this season (3) in the nation.
- San Diego State has a 100-yard rusher in 10 of 12 games this season (11, 100-yard rushers total), 21 of 26 games since 2016 (28, 100-yard rushers total) and 30 of the 40 games since Jeff Horton took over as the offensive coordinator in 2015 (40, 100-yard rushers total). Since Horton arrived as the running back coach in 2011, SDSU has a 100-yard rusher in 66 of the 92 games and 80, 100-yard rushers overall.

Z RECEIVER

89 Fred Trevillion

6-2 • 200 • Jr.-Tr. CGP: 24; CGS: 2
Brookhaven, Miss. (Brookhaven HS/Southwest Miss. CC)

2017 Stats:
GP 65, Rec. Yds. Avg. Long TD ... 11 2 9 293 32.6 89 2
Team's most athletic wideout ... Caught a pass in CH 3 str. gms. ... 1st start vs. Stanford ... 2 ... 128 yds, 1 TD vs. BSU, inc. 89-yd TD (4th longest in SDSU history) ... Played in 12 games on offense in 2014 before returning to SDSU this past spring ... Played at Southwest Miss. CC last year ... An offensive line major.

BACKUP

8 Quest Truxton

6-0 • 185 • Sr.-1L CGP: 26; CGS: 1
Newport Beach, Calif. (Newport Harbor HS/Golden West Coll.)

11 rec., 116 yds in 12 GP ... Also 23 PR for 194 yds. ... Caught 11 passes for 156 yds & 3 TD in 2016 ... Led MW in PR avg. (9.0) ... GWC transfer.

BACKUP

92 Isiah Macklin

6-5 • 200 • Fr.-RS CGP: 12; CGS: 2
Las Vegas, Nev. (Green Valley HS)

At 6-5, the tallest SDSU receiver ... 17-yd grab in 1st career GS & GP vs. UCD ... RS in 2016 ... Rated as the top TE in Nevada as a prep player ... Turned 19 on Sept. 17.

X RECEIVER

6 Mikah Holder

6-0 • 185 • Sr.-3L CGP: 49; CGS: 33
Oceanside, Calif. (Oceanside HS)

2017 Stats:
GP 65, Rec. Yds. Avg. Long TD ... 12 9 43 602 140 31 2
Leads SDSU with 43 rec. & 602 rec. yds. ... 7 rec., 85 yds. vs. Stanford ... CH 9 rec. (also 144 yds in 4th Q) ... Has the 2nd-highest career YPC avg. (16.9) for any Aztec player in the last 20 years (min. 20 rec.) ... Career: 99 rec., 1,675 yds, 13 TD ... Played twin brother, Alijah, a CB at Stanford.

BACKUP

93 Tim Wilson, Jr.

6-4 • 205 • Fr.-RS CGP: 11; CGS: 1
Plano, Texas (Plano East HS)

Has 6 rec. for 89 yds (14.8 avg.) in 11 GP & 65 ... RS in 2016 ... Prepped at Plano East HS in Plano, Texas ... Majoring in construction engineering.

BACKUP

81 Collin Andrews

6-3 • 185 • Fr.-RS CGP: 7; CGS: 1
Chula Vista, Calif. (Olympian HS)

Joined program in spring 2017 ... Excellent blocker ... 1st start & catch vs. NIU ... Lindy named him top SDSU newcomer ... Local product out of Olympian HS.

TIGHT END

88 David Wells

6-5 • 255 • Sr.-3L CGP: 51; CGS: 23
Clovis, Calif. (Clovis North HS)

2017 Stats:
GP 65, Rec. Yds. Avg. Long TD ... 11 9 9 133 14.8 30 2
Mackey, Wuerfel not 1 watch lists ... Second-team all-MWC ... 40 straight GP unless missing 2017 opener w/ injury ... GW TD catch at Stanford ... 28-yd TD in 4th Q at ARA ... Was 2nd-team all-MWC in 2016 w/ 25 rec in 2016, 21 more than he had his 1st year ... 6 of 5 catches & 62 yds, & 1st career TD vs. SDSU ... Played final 12 games in 2014, mostly on ST ... RS in 2013 ... Prepped at Clovis North HS ... Was a 2015 MW Fall All-Academic pick ... Working on masters.

BACKUP

82 Parker Houston

6-3 • 280 • So.-1L CGP: 22; CGS: 11
Sparks, Nev. (Edward C. Reed HS)

Physical TE ... Started 6 of 12 games w/ 6 rec. for 56 yds ... 5 rec. for 32 yds & 1 TD as a true freshman last year ... SDSU Co-Freshman of the Year (also Juwan Washington) ... Led Edward C. Reed HS to a 24-5 record (.828) over his final 2 yrs, including a 13-1 mark in 2015 ... Criminal justice major.

ALSO

87 Kahale Warring

6-6 • 250 • So.-SQ CGP: 16; CGS: 3
Santona, Calif. (Santona HS)

Pronunciation: *Kah-HALL-yeh WARR-ing* ... Pat on 30 lbs. since arriving in 2015 ... Has 18 rec., 248 yds & 3 TD ... 2 rec., 17 yds & 2 TD in 2016 before practice injury sidelined him for year ... RS in 2015 ... Played just 1 year of football in HS ... Full name: Kahaleo Kaio Kahani Michael Wohelhouse Warring

SPECIALISTS

- PAT'S/FG'S:** 29 John Barron II, 5-11, 190, Jr.-1L
- FG/FGA:** 12-for-15 (80%) Long 43 PAT's 47-for-47 (1,000)
- Punts:** 59 Brandon Heiklen, 6-0, 180, So.-Tr
- Punts:** 57 | Avg.: 38.4 | Long: 51 | TB: 3 | TD: 18 | 50+ : 3
- Kickoffs:** 29 John Barron II, 5-11, 190, Jr.-1L
- KO:** 71 | Avg.: 63.2 | TB: 31 | 0B: 0 | Avg. Opp. Start: 24
- Short Snapper:** 82 Parker Houston, 6-3, 240, So.-1L
- Long Snapper:** 50 Turner Bernard, 6-1, 210, Fr.-RS
- Holder:** 6 Mikah Holder, 6-0, 185, Sr.-3L
- Kick Returns:** 20 Rashaad Penny & 29 Juwan Washington
- Penny - KR:** 15 | Yds: 459 | Avg.: 30.6 | TD: 2 | Long: 100
- Washington - KR:** 10 | Yds: 193 | Avg.: 19.3 | TD: 1 | Long: 96
- Punt Returns:** 8 Quest Truxton & 20 Rashaad Penny
- Truxton - PR:** 23 | Yds: 194 | Avg.: 8.4 | TD: 0 | Long: 37
- Penny - PR:** 2 | Yds: 70 | Avg.: 35.0 | TD: 1 | Long: 70



Rocky Long

Head Coach

- Three-Time Mountain West Coach of the Year
- All-time winningest coach in Mountain West history
- SDSU finished 25th in both national polls last year
- Defense ranked 11th last year and 17th in scoring defense
- 15 players selected in the NFL Draft in his six seasons as head coach



Danny Gonzales

DC/Safeties Coach

- Named defensive coordinator in March 2017
- Is in his seventh season at SDSU coaching safeties
- SDSU's 62 interceptions from 2015-17 are most in FBS
- Aztecs led nation with 26 interceptions last year
- Has spent 15 years working/playing with Coach Long

DEFENSIVE END

55 Chibu Onyuekwu

/chee-boo-/
/on-you-kuw/

6-4 • 255 • Jr.-RS CGP: 12; CGS: 3
Pittsburg, Calif. (Deer Valley HS/Contra Costa College)

TOP NOTE: Has started each of the past three games (the first three of his career) after playing the first nine off the bench.

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

Athletic defensive end, who has three years of collegiate experience (2014-15 with Contra Costa College and redshirting last year at SDSU) ... Expected to make third career start Saturday vs. Army West Point ... Has 18 tackles (10 solo) in 12 games, including five tackles for loss, 4.5 sacks and two quarterback hurries ... Ranks in a tie for 10th in the MW with 4.5 sacks, despite only starting three times on the season ... Had first two tackles, 1.5 sacks and 1.5 TFL in second game at Arizona State ... Career-high three tackles, two sacks and two TFL vs. Hawai'i ... Won two Pacific 7 titles at Contra Costa College, along with his brother, Chimo, who now is playing at Washington State ... Led 2015 team with eight sacks & 12 TFL ... Prepped at Deer Valley HS ... Full name is Chibueze Onyuekwu ... Majoring in sociology.

BACKUP

95 Noble Hall

/nobel/

6-3 • 265 • Jr.-2L CGP: 36; CGS: 26
Las Vegas, Nev. (Valley High)

Notes: Has 37 tackles, 8.5 TFL, 3.5 sacks & 2 FF in 9 games ... MW Def. Pk at ASU (5 tackles, 2.5 TFL, 1.5 SCK, 2 FF) ... 2016: 26 tackles, 6.0 TFL, 3 SCK ... 2015: 20 tackles, 6.0 TFL, 0.5 SCK, 2 FF ... 2014 SDSU Def. Scout Team Pk at White HS ... Career: 82 tackles, 20.5 TFL, 7.0 SCK 3 FF ... Previously known as Eric Burrell.

LINEBACKER

39 Ronley Lakalaka

/ron-lee-/
/lakalaka/lock-ah-look-ah/

6-0 • 225 • Jr.-2L CGP: 35; CGS: 23
Kalihi, Hawaii (Punahou HS)

TOP NOTE: His 73 tackles last year were the third most by an Aztec underclassman in the Rocky Long defensive coordinator era (since 2009).

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

2nd-team all-MW ... Physical run-stopping linebacker who has become one of the leaders on defense ... Moved into the two-deep for the South Alabama game as a true freshman in 2015 with Jake Fey injured & stayed there for the rest of the season, before starting 13 of 14 games last year ... His 67 tackles (1st on team), 4.5 TFL, 3 sacks & 3 QBH this year ... Had 73 tackles (2nd on team) last year with 3.0 TFL, an 8-yd sack, 2 INT's for 20 yards & a TD, a PBU & 5 QBH ... Was 1 of 2 true freshmen on the depth chart in either side of the ball in 2015 (also safety Parker Baldwin), making 11 tackles as Ronley Sounnontiaese Leokalo Lakalaka ... Was 2-time all-state 1st-team selection at Punahou HS ... Older brother, Steven, played RB at Hawai'i, while younger brother, Seydick, is a true freshman LB at SDSU ... Is majoring in social science.

BACKUP

44 Kyahva Tezino

/Key-AH-va-/
/tah-ZEENO/

6-0 • 230 • So.-1L CGP: 21; CGS: 4
Los Angeles, Calif. (Salesian HS)

Notes: Has 29 tackles over his last 4 games (all starts) entered game with 8 tackles in 17 career games ... CH 14 stops vs. UNM ... 2016: 5 tackles (1.5 sacks) in 11 GP ... 2015: RS as team's def. scout Pk ... Rushed for 1,704 yards & 13 TD on offense & made 343 tackles at Salesian HS ... A 4-star recruit.

DEFENSIVE TACKLE

65 Sergio Phillips

6-2 • 285 • Sr.-3L CGP: 41; CGS: 12
DeSoto, Texas (DeSoto HS)

TOP NOTE: Has the most career tackles (84) among current SDSU defensive linemen, despite only starting 12 games (all this year).

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

Has switched back & forth from the offensive line (2013 recruit, spring 2015) & defensive line (spring/fall 2014, fall 2015-current) ... Has 37 tackles, 1.0 TFL & three QBH in first 12 career starts this year ... Had 42 tackles (20 solo), 3.5 tackles for loss, three sacks, a forced fumble, a pass breakup and three quarterback hurries last year off the bench ... Career-high 10 stops, 1 sack in 2016 MW Championship game ... Played in eight games in 2015 (six on OL, two on DL), including being the only defensive substitute at the MW Championship game ... Had five tackles, 2.0 TFL & a sack in 2014 ... Was a three-star recruit out of DeSoto HS in Texas ... Was an all-state selection as a senior ... Led DeSoto to a 14-1 record & 7-0 mark in league play as a senior ... Majoring in social science.

BACKUP

61 Damon Moore

6-4 • 250 • Jr.-SQ CGP: 11; CGS: 0
Novato, Calif. (San Marin High)

Notes: Walk-on, who played in 1 game in 2016 after missing 2015 & the 2016 spring w/ a knee injury ... 9 tackles, 1 FR, & 1 QBH in 10 GP this year ... Had 2 tackles vs. Hawai'i in 2016 ... Missed 2015 w/ injury ... RS in 2014 ... Earned 2 letters at San Marin HS ... A business administration major.

DEFENSIVE END

41 Dakota Turner

6-3 • 250 • Jr.-1L CGP: 39; CGS: 6
Mililani, Hawaii (Mililani High)

TOP NOTE: Started for the first time of his career on defense at Hawai'i (also started first three games at fullback last year).

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

Tough, relentless defensive end who is great in pursuit ... Returned to play Sept. 3 vs. Northern Illinois after suffering extensive cartilage and ligament damage on Aug. 19 in an SDSU scrimmage ... Has recorded 13 tackles, a sack, 1.5 TFL, a FR & a PBU in last eight games played (four starts) ... Started first 3 games last year at fullback, but played final 11 at defensive end, totaling 40 tackles, five TFL, two sacks, two PBU & a fumble recovery ... 2015: 15 tackles (four TFL) before tearing an ACL at Hawai'i ... 2014: 18 tackles, 2.5 TFL & two sacks in 12 games ... 2013: Redshirted ... Career: 86 tackles, 13 TFL, five sacks, 3 PBU, 1 FF & 1 FR in 40 career games (inc. 3 off. GP) ... First-team all-state at Mililani HS ... Two-time all-league selection ... A three-star recruit ... Majoring in social science.

BACKUP

58 Myles Cheatum

6-2 • 255 • So.-SQ CGP: 15; CGS: 8
Cedar Park, Texas (Cedar Park HS)

Notes: Has 17 tackles, 3.0 TFL, 2.0 sacks & 4 QBH in 10 GP (8 GS) ... 2016: 4 tackles (3 solo) in 5 GP ... 2015: RS ... Led Cedar Park HS to a 12-4 overall record & to Conference 5A Division 2 championship game ... Also added 10 offensive TD (8 rushing, 2 receiving) ... Born in Athens, Greece. ALSO: No. 45 Anthony Lake (6-4, 260, Jr.-1L) ... GP: 12, 68.8

LINEBACKER

42 Troy Cassidy

6-3 • 215 • So.-1L CGP: 23; CGS: 7
Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad HS)

TOP NOTE: Entered fall camp third on the depth chart, but started first seven games this season; From same high school as Christian Chapman.

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

Notes: Smart, athletic player who played in 11 games as a true freshman last year ... Joins fellow starters Ronley Lakalaka (Lk) & Jay Henderson (S) as linebackers who never redshirted a season (true freshman Andrew Aleki is also on the two-deep) ... Has 25 tackles (13 solo) with 1.5 TFL, 0.5 sacks, a PBU & 4 QBH ... Played the final 11 games, mostly on special teams, making 10 tackles (four solo) with a 1-yard sack (and TFL) ... Made a career-high three stops (all solo) vs. San José State, while also recording his first sack (and TFL), going for 1-yard ... Recorded 178 tackles (119 solo) with 10 sacks over his three-year career at Carlsbad HS (same school as starting QB Christian Chapman) ... Also played tight end for the 2015 Avocado West League champ ... Is undecided on a major.

BACKUP

52 Tyler Morris

6-3 • 225 • Sr.-1L CGP: 27; CGS: 1
Las Vegas, Nev. (Foothill HS)

Notes: Veteran LB, who also is a special teams stalwart ... Has 6 tackles in 12 w/ 3 in 1st career start vs. UNM ... 2016: Missed season with 2nd team ACL ... 2015: Had 3 tackles in 14 games ... 2014: Tore ACL in opener & missed season ... 2013: Redshirt ... Working on master's in homeland security.

Defensive Tidbits

• Danny Gonzales is serving as the team's defensive coordinator for first time at SDSU, but head coach Rocky Long will still call the game. Since Long took over as the defensive coordinator in 2009, San Diego State's defense ranks 13th nationally in yards per rush allowed (3.6), 18th in yards per touch (6.3) and 19th in yards allowed per game (346.1).

• The Aztecs have had three of the best defensive seasons and have continued their momentum this year. Below are comparisons and total ranks of the last three seasons:

	Scoring	Total	Pass	Rush
2014	13th	6th	19th	48th
2015	7th	5th	10th	7th
2016	17th	11th	42nd	7th
2017	14th	11th	27th	9th
2014-17	7th	5th	9th	5th

• SDSU is allowing just 302.5 yards per game and 18.4 points per game this season. In their other games this season, the Aztecs' opponents are averaging 402.1 yards per game and 29.0 points per game.

• San Diego State held three straight opponents to single digits in scoring last year for the first time since a four-game stretch from Oct. 15-Nov. 5, 1977. The Aztecs have held an opponent to single digits 12 times since the beginning of the 2015 season (40 games), including two of the last four games.

• Over SDSU's last 29 Mountain West contests (does not include MW Championships), opponents have scored just 16.0 points per game vs. San Diego State and only 27.7 yards per game.

• SDSU has held seven opponents to less than 200 yards of total offense since the beginning of 2015 (40 games), including once this year.

• Since the beginning of 2015 (40 games), San Diego State's defense ranks first in interceptions (62, second is 53) and tied for second in interception TDs (10).

• Since the beginning of the 2015 campaign, the Aztec defense ranks third nationally in rushing yards allowed per game (108.2) and third in rushing yards per attempt (3.2).

• SDSU has held its opponent to seven or less points in the first half of 20 of the last 36 games.

• In 19 of its last 42 games, San Diego State has held its opponent to a passer rating of less than 100.00, including four games this year.

CORNERBACK

17 Ron Smith

6-0 • 170 • So.-1L CGP: 25; CGS: 17
Oakland, Calif. (St. Mary's HS)

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

TOP NOTE: Tied a SDSU single-season record with two interceptions returned for a touchdown last year. Good technique with a knack for coming up with the big play ... Started the final 6 games last year, recording 45 tackles, 0.5 TFL, 3 INT (2 for 6 yards), 1 PBU & a FF after what so far ... Spied for 7th in FBS (11-st. MW) in passes defended per game (1.50) ... 53 stops (38 solo) ... 2016: 16 PBU, 2.0 TFL & a FF ... Had 57 tackles, 3 INT for 77 yards & 2 TD, 3 PBU & a FF in 10 GP on the season ... Was named to the 2016-17 Associated Press & Athlon Sports all-bowl teams for his play in the Las Vegas Bowl (10 tackles, INT for a TD) ... Redshirted in 2015 as a true freshman ... A 3-star recruit by Rivals, Scout, ESPN & 247-sports ... Majoring in psychology.

BACKUP

27 Kyree Woods

6-0 • 175 • So.-1L CGP: 18; CGS: 0
Mesquite, Ariz. (Chandler HS)

Athletic, young cornerback who should increase workload this year ... 11 stops this year ... Had 1 tackle in 7 games as a true freshman last year, which went down on a 10-yard sack on Hawai'i quarterback Drew Brown on 4th & 5, keeping SDSU's 55-0 shutout intact ... Led Chandler HS to a 24-4 record over his 2 years, including a state title in 2014 ... A 3-star recruit by ESPN ... A business admin. major.

WARRIOR

14 Tariq Thompson

/tah-REEK/

6-0 • 190 • Fr.-HS CGP: 12; CGS: 12
San Diego, Calif. (St. Augustine HS)

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

TOP NOTE: Was the first Aztec true freshman to start on defense since Leon McCadden in 2009. USA Today freshman All-American & 2nd-team all-MW pick ... Athletic safety, who shows great maturity for his age (turned 18 on Aug. 9) ... Became 1st Aztec true freshman to start on defense since CB Leon McCadden started at CU on Oct. 24, 2009 & the 1st to start on an opener on defense since McCadden on Sept. 5, 2009 at UCLA (Coach Rocky Long's 1st game as SDSU's DC) ... Ended up with 4 tackles & a TFL on INT & a FF ... Added a FR at ASU ... 6 stops, 2 INT (1 for 83-yd TD) vs. NIU ... MW Def. Pk at ASU ... 2016: 2 INT, 2 PBU, 1 TFL ... Has 46 tackles (33 solo), 2 TFL, 3 INT, a FF, FR, PBU & 2 QBH ... Played both sides of the ball at local St. Augustine HS, where team was 20-6 in 2015-16 ... Was a 2-time all-CF pick.

BACKUP

48 Israel Cabrera

5-10 • 180 • So.-1L CGP: 22; CGS: 0
Canyon Country, Calif. (Canyon HS)

Speedy DB with good technique ... SDSU's Special Teams Player of the Year with team-high nine special teams tackles in 12 games ... Also leads team with 8 KR stops ... Played 11 games as special teams last year with 1 tackle ... RS in 2015 ... Foothill League Defensive Pk at Canyon HS in 2014 ... Had 188 stops, 8.5 TFL, 14 INT, 14 PBU, 3 FF & 3 FR for HS career ... Twin brother, Liam, also on SDSU at WR. **HS:** No. 18 Trenton Thompson (6-2, 190, So.-1L) ... GP: 11, 61.8

AZTEC

33 Parker Baldwin

6-2 • 215 • Jr.-2L CGP: 49; CGS: 20
Siloam Springs, Ark. (Siloam Springs HS)

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

TOP NOTE: Ranked third on the team in tackles last year (66), despite coming off the bench the first six games. HM all-MW ... Big-time playmaker, who did not start at Hawai'i (knee) after starting 17 straight at the signature Aztec spot in Rocky Long's 3-3-5 defense ... Has 65 tackles (2nd on team), an INT, 2 PBU & 0.5 TFL ... Had 24 tackles in 2 games stretch this year, including CH 13 at AFA ... Had 66 tackles (37 solo), 3 TFL, 2 INT, a FF, FR & 7 PBU last year ... Was 2nd on the team in special teams tackles (10) as a true freshman in 2015 ... Had 14 tackles, an INT & a FF, being named team's Freshman of the Year ... 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 200m state champ ... A communication major.

BACKUP

37 Dwayne Johnson, Jr.

6-2 • 190 • Fr.-RS CGP: 15; CGS: 1
Murrieta, Calif. (Vista Murrieta HS)

Hard-hitting safety, who is still learning the defense ... Logged 14 tackles & a TFL in his 11th career games this year ... Earned 1st career start at Hawai'i ... Redshirted the 2016 campaign ... Led Vista Murrieta HS to a 35-7 (833) record & 15-0 in league play over his 3 seasons ... Had 207 tackles & 8 interceptions over his final 2 years ... No relation to Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.

WARRIOR

3 Trey Lomax

5-11 • 195 • Sr.-3L CGP: 43; CGS: 37
San Diego, Calif. (Mira Mesa HS)

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

TOP NOTE: Has the most starts (37) among any active Aztec on either the offensive or defensive side of the ball. Reads plays exceptionally well ... Has the most tackles (167) among any current Aztec ... 3-3rd on team w/ 62 stops ... 2016: 33 tackles, 1.5 TFL, 1 INT & 5 PBU in 14 GP (13 GS) ... 2015: Bad-feld injuries to finish w/9 tackles, 1.0 TFL & 1 FR in 5 GP (2 GS) ... 2014: Had most tackles (63) by an Aztec fresh in the Rocky Long DC era (since 2009) ... Named the team's most out. fresh (2014) w/ 2 FR as well ... Career: 167 tackles, 8 TFL, 1 sack, 3 INT, 11 PBU, 3 FR ... 2013: RS ... Also was recruited to play baseball at SDSU ... Off. conference MVP at Mira Mesa HS ... Also hit .341 & was 2-time 1st-team all-league baseball pick ... Earned bachelor's in criminal justice & working on master's in homeland security.

BACKUP

23 Darren Hall

6-0 • 170 • Fr.-HS CGP: 2; CGS: 0
Pasadena, Calif. (Rancho Cucamonga HS)

Ball hawk, who saw action in the opener vs. UC Davis, making two tackles ... One of three true freshmen on the defensive side of the depth chart (also Lechon Andrew Aleki and WAR Taylor Thompson) ... Led Rancho Cucamonga HS to a 12-1 record last year, earning first-team all-league honors ... Was a consensus three-star recruit ... Prepped with fellow true freshman Tayari Venable ... Majoring in communication.

CORNERBACK

7 Kameron Kelly

6-2 • 200 • Sr.-3L CGP: 45; CGS: 28
Murphy, Texas (Wylie HS)

Notes: '17; Career; Personal

TOP NOTE: Recorded two interceptions against Houston in the 2016 Las Vegas Bowl game. 1st-team all-MW in 1st season at CB after spending 1st 3 years at Warrior ... Has 62 tackles (50 solo), 4.0 TFL, 2.0 sacks, 8 PBU, 3 INT & 2 FF ... Bronko Nagarski's Nat'l & MW Def. Pk at W. Shatt-ward ... 6 tackles, 2 sacks, a FF & an INT ... Had 38 tackles, 5 INT & 6 PBU last year ... Started 13 times in 2015 at Warrior, making 58 tackles, 3 TFL, 3 PBU & 2 INT ... Logged time in 6 games as a true freshman in 2014 w/ 1 tackle & a blocked punt before having surgery on a leg for compartment syndrome ... Career: 159 tackles, 7.0 TFL, 2.0 sacks, 10 INT (11th in SDSU history), 17 PBU, 2 FF ... The 4A Region II District 13 Pk after ranking up 4,000 all-purpose yds at Wylie HS in Texas ... A social science major.

BACKUP

32 Tayler Hawkins

6-1 • 200 • Fr.-RS CGP: 9; CGS: 0
Palm Springs, Calif. (Palm Springs HS)

Hard-hitting athlete, who has played last nine games for first time of his career ... Missed first three games this year, recovering from an injury ... Has five tackles on special teams ... Redshirted last year ... Four-year letterwinner at Palm Springs HS with fellow DB Trenton Thompson ... Led Indians to 24-3 record over final two seasons ... Excelled as WR, DB & P ... Consensus 3-star recruit ... Business admin. major. **HS:** No. 30 Garrett Binkley (5-9, 170, So.-SD) ... GP: 3, 6.6