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MICHAEL CARRIZOSA
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Michael Carrizosa has experienced more in his 22 years than most people have in a lifetime.

From discovering football, to almost giving up on the game, to earning first-string status, finding out your mother has cancer, to All-America accolades, to having your world collapse around you, to picking up the pieces, he again is one of the best punters in the country. In a nutshell, that's his life before today's game.

Soccer was his first sport, but football was in his blood. Kicking a 38-yard field goal as a sixth grader was he first sign he could be someone special in the game. A student at Palma High School in Salinas, he credits math teacher Doug Saucedo, who was a punter in his playing days, for believing he could succeed at the college level.

“T he took me under his wing my freshman year and taught me the fundamentals. He gave me the confidence I needed to kick and spent time with me after school to get better. He believed in me when others had doubts and is practically family. I am very blessed to have him in my life.”

Four games into senior season, Carrizosa dislocated his knee playing defense. His chances for playing at the next level looked bleak.

“I did not think after the injury that I would ever play again. I had no film to show coaches for recruiting. I applied to schools, but did not know what would happen… I kept working out with Coach Saucedo, and he kept making calls to schools because he believed in my talent.”

Former San José State assistant coach Terry Malley passed along one of those calls to current quality control coach Fred Guidici. He saw Carrizosa kick and offered him a walk-on spot.

MOM IS ALL THE MOTIVATION ONE NEEDS

Amy Rodriguez, Carrizosa's mom, would give all the motivation he needed for his football career. Before the first game of his freshman year, he won the SJSU starting punting job. Halfway into the season, the former police detective told her son that she had cervical cancer. She was pregnant, too, at the time and that is how the cancer was found.

“T hey immediately when you hear cancer, you think of death. But I knew she was a fighter. After my sister was born, she had surgery and the doctors were positive they got it out and diagnosed her as cancer free.”

After her cancer-free diagnosis, Carrizosa got into shape, lost more than 20 pounds and kept working with Saucedo on his punting. But he still struggled mentally with not getting a scholarship and leaned on his family for support. The scholarship would come in May 2016.

SPECIAL SEASON IN 2015

Heading into his sophomore year, Carrizosa got into the best shape of his life. He had the kind year that most players dream of – a school record for yards per punt at 47.5, third nationally in punting average, first team All-Mountain West honors, a Ray Guy Award finalist as the best punter in college football, and being named a second team All-America.

(CARRIZOSA continued on page 4)
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Michael Carrizosa

(CARRIZOSA continued from page 1)

“Austin Lopez told me I could be recognized for my punting... him believing in my abilities showed me that I should start believing in myself more and holding myself to a higher standard. I worked hard, was focused and had a mission, to make my mom proud.”

Behind the scenes, he was still dealing with his mother’s condition, as the family found out that the cancer had returned that summer and had spread. Treatments were not working.

His most memorable game that season was the Cure Bowl. The game highlighted breast cancer survivors. Carrizosa and his mother were featured prominently on national television.

“I was able to put her on the pedestal she deserved and tell her story. It was tough telling it. I still cannot watch the CBS interview we did. Me playing good and being recognized made her feel happy. It was nice to be able to do that for her.”

Rodriguez lost her battle with cancer and passed away on April 4, 2016.

HELPING HANDS

Besides Lopez, Carrizosa credits former teammate and long snapper Ryan DiSalvo and athletic performance head coach Gary Uribe with being there for him when he needed support.

“Coach Uribe gave me a ‘Renew Your Mind’ bracelet to remind me to stay in the moment and not worry about what I can’t control. He helped me realize what I can do with my life and my potential.”

Carrizosa is one of the busiest special teams players on this year’s team. He is in his second season handling kickoffs and his first holding on extra points and field goals.

If you get the chance, take a special look at #17 tonight. Michael Carrizosa has persevered through many highs and lows. His humble attitude makes him worthy of a Spartan salute.

--Amy Villa is the SJSU Associate Director for Athletics Media Relations.

In January 2016, Carrizosa became the first Spartan invited to the prestigious Walter Camp All-America Football Weekend celebration in New Haven, Connecticut.

Rodriguez celebrated her son’s successes in Atlanta at the Home Depot Awards Show as one of three finalists for the Ray Guy Award, attending the bowl game, and flying to Connecticut for the Walter Camp All-America football weekend celebration.

“I think she used her last bits of energy to go on those two trips. She even went out with me in Connecticut to a pizza place/club and got out on the dance floor with me. It amazes me that she was out there.

“I want to go back and win it (Ray Guy Award) for her. I remember mom sitting next to me at the awards show. She was crying because I didn’t win, and I couldn’t handle that. I owe it to her to do it against and to recognize her.”

Schedule & Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>TV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUG. 26</td>
<td>USF (CBS Sports Network)</td>
<td>L, 42-22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEPT. 2</td>
<td>CAL POLY</td>
<td></td>
<td>W, 34-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 9</td>
<td>at Texas (Longhorn Network)</td>
<td>L, 56-0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 16</td>
<td>at Utah (ESPN2)</td>
<td>L, 54-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEPT. 23</td>
<td>UTAH STATE* (Facebook)</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>at UNLV* (ESPN Networks)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCT. 7</td>
<td>FRESCO STATE* (Homecoming) (ESPN3)</td>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>at Hawai’i*</td>
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<td>Oct. 28</td>
<td>at BYU</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOV. 4</td>
<td>SAN DIEGO STATE* (ESPN Networks)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 11</td>
<td>at Nevada* (ESPN Networks)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 18</td>
<td>at Colorado State* (CBS Sports Network)</td>
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<td>NOV. 25</td>
<td>WYOMING* (ESPN Networks)</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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</table>

* -Mountain West game
Game times are local to the site.
Games can be heard on KLIV (1590 AM, San Jose), KION (1460 AM & 101.1 FM, Salinas), KTRB (910 AM, San Francisco)
Live broadcasts are also available on www.sjsuspartans.com

Spartan Gameday

Contributors: Lawrence Fan, Steve Gracio, Brock Hart, Richard Stern, Dominic Urrutia, Amy Villa
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Brent Brennan returned to San José State University on December 8, 2016, as the Spartans’ new head football coach.

The 44-year old Brennan was an assistant coach with the Spartans during the 2005 through 2010 seasons under head coaches Dick Tomey and Mike MacIntyre.

From 2011 through 2016, he coached receivers at Oregon State. The Beavers played Texas in the 2012 Alamo Bowl and won the 2013 Hawaii Bowl over Boise State. Oregon State had one of the best passing offenses in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) ranking in the top-20 in 2011 (19th), 2012 (20th) and 2013 (3rd).

At Oregon State, he coached All-American wide receivers Brandin Cooks and Markus Wheaton and former school career pass receiving leader James Rodgers. Cooks, the 2013 Biletnikoff Award winner signifying the nation’s top wide receivers, completed three prolific seasons with the New Orleans Saints and signed with the New England Patriots during player free agency.

Brennan first joined the Spartans in January 2005 after being named San Diego State’s quarterbacks coach. He had a variety of duties at San Jose State. Brennan coached wide receivers, tight ends and offensive tackles, was a special teams coordinator and recruiting coordinator.

“Brent has high energy, cares about young men, is an excellent recruiter and has great football knowledge. San José State got the right coach.”

Former San José State and current University of Colorado head football coach Mike MacIntyre

Five wide receivers he recruited or coached are among the Spartans’ top-10 career pass receiving leaders with 146 or more receptions. Brennan coached San Jose State’s only two players with at least 200 career receptions and 3,000 career receiving yards, Noel Grigsby and Chandler Jones. He also coached Ryan Otten, the Spartans’ career leader for receptions, receiving yards and touchdown catches by a tight end.

As the special teams coordinator, the 2008 Spartans were 20th nationally in kickoff returns and the 2007 team was ninth in punt returns.
Head Coach Brent Brennan

A native of San Jose, Brennan began his coaching career at Woodside (Calif.) High School in 1996. He served as a graduate assistant at the University of Hawaii in 1998, at the University of Washington in 1999 and at the University of Arizona in 2000. From 2001 through 2004, he was the receivers coach and recruiting coordinator at Cal Poly.

“Brent is an excellent choice as head football coach for the Spartans. He prepared well for this opportunity and will bring rare energy and ability to connect to the job. His Spartan roots through his deceased dad, Steve, and mom, Beth, run deep and swell with pride at this moment!!“

Former San José State head football coach Dick Tomey

As a college player, Brennan was a wide receiver for the 1991 through 1995 UCLA teams and lettered on the Bruins’ 1993 Rose Bowl Squad. He majored in history and graduated from UCLA in 1996.

Brennan is a second-generation Spartan. His dad, the late Steve Brennan, was an end who lettered in the 1967 season. Brent and his wife, Courtney, have two daughters, Blake and Casey, and a son, Scott.
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The Spartans

MONTEL AARON
Quarterback

ETHAN AGUAYO
Linebacker

NICO AIMONETTI
Defensive Line

JERRELL ALBERTY
Running Back

CAMERON ALEXANDER
Defensive End

SAM ALLEN
Quarterback

SINJUN ASTANI
Defensive End

ANTWAUN AYERS
Wide Receiver

JOHNNY BALDERAS
Cornerback

TREVON BIERRIA
Safety

JaQUAN BLACKWELL
Wide Receiver

CHRIS BRADBERRY
Offensive Line

BRYSON BRIDGES
Defensive Line

JACKSON BURRILL
Linebacker

DEVON CALLOWAY
Linebacker

MICHAEL CARRILLO
Quarterback

MICHAEL CARRIZOSA
Punter

TERRELL CARTER
Quarterback

ANDRE CHACHERE
Cornerback

JESSE CHAMBERLAIN
Offensive Guard

GURDEEP CHOPRA
Defensive End

JAKE COLMAN
Offensive Line

THAI COTTRELL
Wide Receiver

ROBERT CRANDALL
Offensive Line

BRYCE CRAWFORD
Kicker
The Spartans

HADARI DARDEN
Linebacker

JALEND DINWIDDIE
Safety

BRANDON EZELL
Cornerback

NOAH FAILAUGA
Linebacker

BRETT FOLEY
Linebacker

DOMINIC FREDERICKSON
Offensive Guard

BAILEY GAITHER
Wide Receiver

CHRIS GALLETA
Offensive Line

FRANK GINDA
Linebacker

CHRIS GONZALEZ
Offensive Guard

JAMAAR HARDY
Defensive End

TRE HARTLEY
Wide Receiver

CHANDLER HAWKINS
Safety

MALIK HAYES
Linebacker

HARRISON HOFFMAN
Long Snapper

JUSTIN HOLMES
Wide Receiver

KYLE HOPPE
Center

STEVEN HOUSTON
Wide Receiver

BILLY HUMPHREYS
Tight End

RYAN JENKINS
Defensive Back

CHRISTIAN JOHNSON
Defensive End

RAHSHEAD JOHNSON
Wide Receiver

RYAN JOHNSON
Quarterback

JEREMY KELLY
Wide Receiver

JERMAINE KELLY
Cornerback

CHRISTIAN JOHNSON
Defensive End

RAHSHEAD JOHNSON
Wide Receiver

RYAN JOHNSON
Quarterback

JEREMY KELLY
Wide Receiver

JERMAINE KELLY
Cornerback
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The Spartans

JEREMIAH KOLONE
Offensive Guard

TROY KOWALSKI
Offensive Tackle

JAKE LANSKI
Kicker

SAILOSI LATU
Nose Tackle

JONATHAN LENARD, JR.
Safety

RICKY LEUNG-WAI
Defensive Tackle

AUSTIN LILES
Wide Receiver

JOSH LOVE
Quarterback

DAVID MARTINEZ
Wide Receiver

ALII MATAU
Linebacker

MAURICE McKNIGHT
Safety

CHAD MILLER
Safety

BRANDON MITCHELL
Wide Receiver

BRANDON MONROE
Running Back

DAKARI MONROE
Cornerback

DEANO MOTES
Nose Tackle

CHARLES NELSON
Offensive Guard

TYLER NEVENS
Running Back

NNAEMEKA NADOZIE
Linebacker

JOSH OLIVER
Tight End

ISAIAH OSSAI
Linebacker

WILLIAM OSSAI
Linebacker

JESSE OSUNA
Linebacker

MATO PACHECO
Cornerback

DeJON PACKER
Running Back
Hey Spartans
Are you ready for some tacos?

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San José State University, Silicon Valley’s metropolitan university, is preeminent in broadly educating leaders and professionals for an increasingly complex and global society.

Located in the heart of the Silicon Valley, the university has aided the development of the computer industry and the resulting technological advances in our nation by providing the largest source of engineering, science and business graduates to Silicon Valley companies.

Graduating about 7,000 students annually, San José State University also provides the professional infrastructure for the region – from teachers to social workers to artists to law enforcement officers to nurses.

The terms, “leaders and professionals,” describe not just the types of graduates who earn their degrees, but also the roles they assume in their communities and in their fields of endeavor.

San José State University’s place in history is well-established. Founded in 1857, it was the first public institution of higher education on the West Coast. From its humble beginnings as a normal school to train teachers for the developing frontier, it has matured into a master’s university offering 191 bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

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DirecTV (Channel 698)
Dish (Channel 438)
AT&T U-Verse (Channel 767)
As he plays through his final football season at San José State, senior linebacker William Ossai has a lot to be proud of.

He has already completed a bachelor’s degree in sociology and is currently in his first semester of graduate school.

He is a staple in the starting defensive lineup for the Spartans. Ossai leads the team, is third in the Mountain West and is 34th nationally averaging 1.6 tackles for loss per game. He is one of two players on the defense with a tackle for loss in each of the first four games. That’s being a menace and he serves as a mentor to his younger brother, Isaiah, who is a freshman linebacker on the team.

But nothing gives William more pride than his Nigerian heritage, which played a significant role in his path to becoming a Spartan.

“Being Nigerian is everything to me,” Ossai said. “I would say that being Nigerian means you are hard working and always find a way to get things done. We believe that family, education, and God are the main priorities.”

William says his father, Joe, has always been his biggest role model. Joe has exemplified the characteristics of being Nigerian which Will believes in. It was Joe who, after coming to SJSU to earn a master’s degree, started a San José State pipeline for the Ossai family.

The journey started in a small Nigerian village where Joe relentlessly searched for an opportunity to come to America.

“My dad tried countless times to get to the United States,” William said. “He never gave up, no matter how many times things didn’t work out. He knew it would be the best thing for his family, so he made it happen.”

The break came when Joe was accepted at Arkansas State University-Beebe. After earning his degree, Joe moved west to get his master’s degree at San José State. After graduating for the second time and getting a job with IBM, Joe was able to move his wife, Winifred, from Nigeria to San Jose.

William was born and raised in south San Jose and is one of five children. He went to Nigeria when he was 10 years old to visit the village from where his parents journey began. Many members of his family still live there, including both of his grandmothers, a few aunts and uncles and a handful of cousins.

“After growing up in San Jose it was so interesting to see where my parents grew up,” William said. “It was definitely a culture shock for me when I got to see the farm my dad worked on and the university that my mom attended. It was a beautiful thing, but I didn’t really understand it at the time, since I was so young.”

In attending San José State, William’s older brother Onyeka was the first to follow in Joe’s footsteps. Like William, he was also a linebacker for the Spartans from the 2001 through 2003 seasons.

After lettering in football, basketball and track and field at San Jose’s Oak Grove High School, William was contemplating attending junior college after graduation. But, thanks to his father and former San José State assistant football coach and recruiting coordinator Terry Malley, William kept the Ossai pipeline to San José State flowing.

“I was telling my parents I wanted to go the junior college route and we were definitely butting heads on that issue,” Ossai said. “Then there was a San José State assistant at the time, Coach Malley, who really believed in me. I thought if someone believed in me that much then I couldn’t pass it up.”

Ossai says that coming to San José State has ended up being one of the best decisions he could have made. The biggest reward of that decision was the day he graduated in front of his mom and dad.
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# San José State Spartans Alphabetical Roster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Pos.</th>
<th>Ht.</th>
<th>Wt.</th>
<th>Class</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Joe Bernardi</td>
<td>LB</td>
<td>6-1</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>SR</td>
<td>San Jose, Calif.</td>
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<td>Alonzo Carter</td>
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<td>CB</td>
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<td>JR</td>
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**Head Coach:** Brent Brennan  
**Assistant Coaches:** Joe Bernardi, Alonzo Carter, Kevin Cummings, Bojay Filimoeatu, Ryan Gunderson, Will Harris, Derrick Odum, Joe Seumalo, Andrew Sowder  
**Graduate Assistants:** Matt Adkins, Josh Irvin, Jamar Johnson, Chandler Jones  
**Quality Control Coach:** Fred Guidici
San José State Spartans
Possible Starters

**OFFENSE**

WR  84  Bailey Gaither
LT  79  Troy Kowalski
LG  62  Jeremiah Kolone
C   68  Keoni Taylor
RG  74  Chris Gonzalez
RT  75  Nate Velichko
TE  89  Josh Oliver
QB  12  Josh Love
RB  34  Zamore Zigler
WR  11  JaQuan Blackwell
WR  15  Tre Hartley

**DEFENSE**

DE  8  Owen Roberts
NT  96  Sailosi Latu
DE  9  Bryson Bridges
LB  11  William Ossai
LB  5  Frank Ginda
LB  31  Ethan Aguayo
LB  42  Jamal Scott
CB  21  Andre Chachere
CB  3  Jermaine Kelly
CB  23  Trevor Bierria
FS  10  Maurice McKnight

**Numerical Roster**

1  Jeremy Kelly, WR
2  Terrell Carter, QB
3  John Toussaint, CB
4  Jermaine Kelly, CB
5  Antwaun Ayers, WR
6  Frank Ginda, LB
7  Johnny Balderas, CB
8  Montel Aaron, QB
9  David Williams, LB
8  Rashhead Johnson, WR
8  Owen Roberts, DL
9  Bryson Bridges, DL
9  Justin Holmes, WR
10 Maurice McKnight, S
10  Tre Walker, WR
11  JaQuan Blackwell, WR
11  William Ossai, LB
12  Brandon Ezell, CB
12  Josh Love, QB
13  Sam Allen, QB
14  Michael Carrillo, QB
15  Tre Hartley, WR
15  Chad Miller, S
16  Ryan Johnson, QB
16  Rico Tolefree, LB
17  Michael Carrizosa, P
18  Austin Liles, WR
19  Dakari Monroe, CB
20  Malik Roberson, RB
20  Tre White, CB
21  Andre Chachere, CB
22  Thai Cottrell, WR
22  Ryan Jenkins, DB
23  Trevon Bierria, S
23  Tyler Nevens, RB
24  Jerrell Alberty, RB
25  Chandler Hawkins, S
26  Tre Webb, CB
27  Jonathan Lenard, Jr., S
28  Tysyn Parker, LB
29  Cameron Smith, CB
30  Jackson Burrill, RB
31  Ethan Aguayo, LB
32  Brandon Monroe, RB
33  Jesse Osuna, LB
33  Jamar Williams, RB
34  Jalend Dinwiddie, S
34  Zamore Zigler, RB
35  Jake Lanski, PK
35  DeJon Packer, RB
36  Malik Hayes, LB
37  David Martinez, WR

37  Isaiah Ossai, LB
38  Bryce Crawford, PK
38  Mato Pacheco, CB
39  Francois Sims, II, RB
39  David Taylor, DB
40  Sage Ritchie, RB
41  Hadari Darden, LB
41  Steven Houston, WR
42  Jamal Scott, LB
42  Justin Parcells, LB
45  Noah Failauga, LB
46  Sean Pinson, RB
46  Cameron Woodard, DE
48  Gurdeep Chopra, DE
49  Brian Papazian, P
50  Harrison Hoffman, LS
51  Devon Caylor, LB
53  Alii Mau, LB
54  Charles Nelson, OL
55  Brett Foley, LB
55  Jackson Snyder, OT
56  Kyle Hoppe, C
57  Trevor Robbins, C
60  Chris Galleta, OL
62  Jeremiah Kolone, OL
64  Chris Bradberry, OL
65  Robert Crandall, OL
66  Dominic Fredrickson, OG
67  Nico Aimonetti, DL
68  Keoni Taylor, C
70  Tyler Stevens, OG
72  Jake Colman, OL
74  Chris Gonzalez, OG
75  Nate Velichko, OT
77  Jamaar Hardy, DE
78  Jesse Chamberlain, OG
78  Deano Motes, NT
79  Troy Kowalski, OT
80  Ray Surry, WR
81  Billy Humphreys, TE
82  Brandon Mitchell, WR
83  Emoni Karriem, WR
84  Bailey Gaither, WR
88  Jackson Parks, TE
89  Josh Oliver, TE
90  Je’Von Taylor, DE
91  Ricky Leung-Wai, NT
93  Sinjun Astani, DE
95  Cameron Alexander, DE
96  Sailosi Latu, NT
97  Christian Johnson, DE
98  Terrell Townsend, DE

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San Jose, CA 95110
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Utah State Aggies
Possible Starters

OFFENSE
DE 19 Ian Togiai
WR 1 Ron’quavion Tarver
LT 76 Roman Andrus
LG 68 Moroni Iniguez
C 51 Quin Ficklin
RG 70 Rob Castaneda
RT 52 Sean Taylor
TE 87 Dax Raymond
QB 2 Kent Myers
RB 21 Lajuan Hunt
WR 5 Jaren Colston-Green
WR 16 Jordan Nathan

DEFENSE
NG 56 Gasetoto Schuster
DE 93 Jacoby Wildman
LB 44 Louy Compton
LB 42 Suli Tamaivena
LB 48 Chase Christiansen
LB 51 Justus Tē’i
CB 13 Jalen Davis
CB 36 Ja’Marcus Ingram
S 2 Dallin Leavitt
S 28 Aaron Wade

Numerical Roster

1 Ron’quavion Tarver, WR
2 Dallin Leavitt, S
2 Kent Myers, QB
3 Henry Colomb, QB
4 Jontrell Rocquemore, S
4 Tony Lindsay, Jr., RB
5 Jaren Colston-Green, WR
6 Cameron Haney, CB
7 Alex Byers, WR
8 Wesley Bailey, CB
9 David Woodward, LB
10 Chasen Andersen, LB
10 Jordan Love, QB
11 Damion Hobbs, TE
12 Alex Huerta, LB
13 Jalen Davis, CB
14 Chad Artist, WR
15 Baron Gajkowski, S
15 Zach Larson, QB
16 Jordan Nathan, WR
17 Zach Van Leeuwen, WR
18 Jamaal Evans, LB
18 DJ Nelson, QB
19 Ian Togiai, DE
20 Tre Miller, RB
20 Patrick Lee Miranda, LB
21 Lajuan Hunt, RB
22 Eltoro Allen, RB
23 Gaje Ferguson, S
24 Dalton Baker, LB
25 Gerold Bright, WR
26 Chase Nelson, S
27 Deante Fortenberry, CB
28 Aaron Wade, S
29 Zach Svenson, S
29 Morian Walker, Jr., RB
30 Andre Grayson, CB
31 Zahodri Jackson, CB
31 Chance Parker, S
32 Tywayne Adams, RB
32 Braxton Gunther, S
33 Kevin Meitzenheimer, LB
34 Justen Hervey, RB
36 Ja’Marcus Ingram, CB
37 Jarrod Green, CB
38 Mason Gajkowski, LB
39 Malika Magalei, LB
39 Connor McGuire, WR
40 Ofa Lahi, LB
41 Stegan Garner, CB
42 Suli Tamaivena, LB
43 Sialoa Mobjley, LB
44 Louy Compton, LB

46 Mason Tobeck, LB
47 Logan Lee, DE
48 Chace Christiansen, LB
49 Derek Larsen, LB
50 Emmett Odgeard, LS
51 Quin Ficklin, OL
51 Justus Tē’i, LB
52 Sean Taylor, OL
53 Braden Harris, LB
54 Nami Tuitu’u, DL
55 Adewale Adeoye, DE
55 Andrew Chen, OL
56 Gasetoto Schuster, NG
57 Brandon Pada, LS
58 Demytrick Ali’ifua, OL
59 Connor Coles, PK
60 Michael Smith, PK
61 Wyatt O’Banion, OL
62 Dominik Eberle, PK
64 Jarom Ioane, OL
66 KJ Uluave, OL
68 Moroni Iniguez, OL
69 Jake Templeton, LS
70 Rob Castaneda, OL
72 Alfred Edwards, OL
73 Preston Brooksby, OL
74 Chandler Dolphin, OL
75 Ty Shaw, OL
76 Roman Andrus, OL
77 Viliamu McMoore, OL
78 Cody Boyer, OL
79 McCord Meyers, OL
80 Dylan Spradling, WR
81 Savon Scarver, WR
82 Preston Curtis, WR
83 Aaren Vaughns, WR
84 Taylor Compton, WR
85 Emerson Woods, TE
86 Carson Terrell, TE
87 Dax Raymond, TE
88 Braelon Roberts, WR
89 Travis Boman, TE
89 Aaron Dalton, P
90 Ritson Fata, NG
91 Devon Anderson, DE
92 Zach Lee, P
93 Jacoby Wildman, DE
94 Caden Anderson, DE
95 Tyler Thromock, TE
96 Christopher ‘Unga, NG
97 Jake Pitcher, DE
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**Head Coach:** Matt Wells  
**Assistant Coaches:** Jovon Bouknight, Julius Brown, Stacy Collins, Steve Farmer, Frank Maile, Kendrick Shaver, Mark Tommerdahl, David Yost, Luke Wells  
**Graduate Assistants:** John Cannova, Brad Kragthorpe
### Standings

#### Mountain Division

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#### West Division

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### Schedule

**Friday, September 22**
- Virginia at Boise State - 6:00 p.m. (ESPN2)

**Saturday, September 23**
- UNLV at Ohio State - 12:00 p.m. (Big-10 Network)
- New Mexico at Tulsa - 12:30 p.m. (ESPN3)
- Nevada at Washington State - 3:00 p.m. (Pac-12 Network)
- Utah State at San José State* - 4:30 p.m. (Facebook)
- San Diego State at Air Force* - 5:00 p.m. (CBS Sports)
- Hawai’i at Wyoming* - 8:15 p.m. (ESPN2)

* - Mountain West Conference Game

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The future Vermeil-Walsh Athletic Complex
“There has never been a better time to believe in Spartan Football. We have the leadership, we have the vision, and we have the desire to change lives.”

—SJSU Head Coach Brent Brennan
Thank you for your support of Spartan Athletics.

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$50,000+

Spartan Council
$25,000+

Golden Spartan
$10,000+

Golden Blazer
$5,000+

Blazer Brigade
$2,500+

Touchdown Club
$1,500

Coaches Club
$1,000

Captain's Club
$500

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William & Mary McHargue
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Carolyn Lewis
James Locke
Davy & Dolores Long
Angela Lopez
Stephen Luhrs
Michael Maggi
Roberto Maragoni
Rob Maruyama
Ron & April Mason
Bill Mazotti
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Dan Murphy
Dan Muscatell
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Bart Nielsen
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Robert Wells, Jr.
David Wheatley
Jack Woodall
Doug & Jane Yasukawa
In December 2016, Tim Crawley became the first San Jose State football player honored as a National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete and was a finalist for the Campbell Trophy — the academic equivalent to the Heisman Trophy.
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- Dwight Lowery, San Diego
- Keith Smith, Dallas
- Wes Schweitzer, Atlanta
- David Quessenberry, Houston
- Bené Benwikere, Cincinnati
- David Fales, Miami
- Tyler Ervin, Houston
- Shane Smith, New York Giants
- Akeem King, Atlanta
- Dwight Lowery, San Diego
Spartans in the NFL (as of August 1, 2017)

Peyton Thompson, Jacksonville

Isiah Irving, Chicago

Gill Byrd, Buffalo

Ken Delgado, Cleveland

Al Saunders, Cleveland

David Diaz-Infante, New York Jets

James Saxon, Pittsburgh
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**First Team**

**Lloyd Thomas**
E, 1938

**Leeroy Zimmerman**
FB, 1939

**Dave Chaney**
LB, 1971

**Charles Pauley**
KOR, 2003

**Dwight Lowery**
DB, 2006 & 2007

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**SECOND TEAM**

Louie Wright, CB, 1974
Ken Thomas, DB, 1981
Eric Richardson, WR, 1983
Guy Liggins, WR, 1987
Brian Roche, TE, 1995
Michael Carrizosa, P, 2015
Tyler Ervin, RB, 2015

**THIRD TEAM**

Frank Manumaleuga, LB, 1978
Travis Johnson, DE, 2012

**HONORABLE MENTION**

John Aimontetti, OT, 1986
Johnny Allen, E, 1939
Lynn Aplanalp, QB, 1952
Stacey Bailey, WR, 1980
Mike Barnard, OT, 1987
Keith Birlem, QB, 1938
Bill Brown, LB, 1971
Bob Bronzan, T, 1939
Gill Byrd, CB, 1980 & 1982
Jim Cadile, T, 1960
Sheldon Canley, RB, 1989
Jim Carter, OG, 1987
Dave Chaney, LB, 1970
K.C. Clark, CB, 1986
Sherman Cocroft, S, 1983
Kenny Cook, G, 1939

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**FRESHMAN ALL-AMERICANS**

**FIRST TEAM**

Vic Rakhshani, TE, 1976
Brian Lundy, WR, 1992
Keith Smith, LB, 2010
Austin Lopez, PK, 2012

**SECOND TEAM**

Noel Grigsby, WR, 2010
Harrison Waid, P, 2010

**THIRD TEAM**

Joe Nedney, PK, 1991
Vince Buhagiar, LB, 2010
Tyler Winston, WR, 2013

**HONORABLE MENTION**

Jared Strubeck, PK, 2005
Justin Cole, DE, 2006
Jabari Carr, WR, 2011
Billy Freeman, TE, 2013
Jarrod Lawson, RB, 2013
Christian Tago, LB, 2013
Marie Tuite  
Athletics Director

Steve O’Brien  
Deputy Director of Athletics

Eileen Daley  
Senior Associate AD/ SWA

Blake Sasaki  
Senior Associate AD

Mike Waller  
Senior Associate AD

Jacquelyn DuySEN  
Associate AD

Michael BeaubiEN  
Assistant AD

Mike Chisholm  
Assistant AD

Darren Coelho  
Assistant AD

Matt Miller  
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San José State Athletics Administration

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From its inception in 1999, the Mountain West (MW) has been committed to excellence in intercollegiate athletics, while promoting the academic missions of its member institutions. Progressive in its approach, the MW continues to cultivate opportunities for student-athletes to compete at the highest level, while fostering academic achievement and sportsmanship. Now in its 19th year, the MW has been assertive in its involvement in the NCAA governance structure and has taken a leadership role in the overall administration of intercollegiate athletics.

The Mountain West has marked several achievements during its first 18 years, most notably becoming the first to establish a sports television network dedicated solely to an intercollegiate athletic conference (The Mtn.). The Mountain West also was the first to experiment with the coaches’ challenge in the college football instant replay system, and was the first non-automatic-qualifying BCS conference to participate in four BCS bowl games, winning three. In the inaugural year of the new College Football Playoff system, Boise State earned the automatic slot into a New Year’s Six bowl game as the highest-ranked champion from the Group of Five 5 conferences. The Mountain West was among the first conferences to implement a league-wide state-of-the-art basketball instant replay system.

Additionally, the Mountain West was the first conference to have a member institution with No. 1 overall picks in both the NFL and NBA drafts in the same year (Utah’s Alex Smith and Andrew Bogut, respectively in 2005). With UNLV’s Anthony Bennett claiming the No. 1 pick in the 2013 NBA Draft, the Mountain West is one of three conferences to have multiple No. 1 NBA draft selections since 2000. Also, with San Diego State’s Stephen Strasburg earning the No. 1 pick in the 2009 MLB Draft, the Mountain West is one of two conferences to have the No. 1 selection in each of the NFL, NBA and MLB drafts since the MW was founded in 1999.

The Mountain West is noted for its geographic diversity. Some of the most beautiful terrain and landscapes in the nation can be found within Mountain West boundaries, including the majestic Rocky Mountain range, which borders five MW institutions (Air Force, Boise State, Colorado State, New Mexico and Utah State). The high plains of Wyoming contrast with the desert cities of Las Vegas and Reno, home to UNLV and Nevada, respectively, while Fresno State, San Diego State and San José State add a West Coast influence with their locations. The inclusion of the Hawai’i football program extends the Mountain West footprint to the beautiful islands in the Pacific Ocean.

**ACADEMICS**

From the outset, Mountain West member institutions have been committed to creating strong academic relationships, as well as athletic competition. To that end, the chief academic officers of each institution have explored academic exchange programs, library crossovers and shared research. In addition, the faculty athletics representatives routinely provide academic assistance and test-taking services for student-athletes visiting from fellow member institutions for competition.

**OPPORTUNITY**

The Mountain West provides a first-class athletic and academic experience for more than 5,100 student-athletes each year. Over the past 18 years, 42 Mountain West student-athletes have earned NCAA Postgraduate Scholarships.
Since the league’s inception in 1999, an additional 32 student-athletes have been named MW Scholar-Athlete of the Year and awarded league-sponsored postgraduate scholarships. Four Mountain West student-athletes have earned distinction as Rhodes Scholars.

Conference student-athletes are also given a voice regarding pertinent issues within the MW and NCAA governance structure through representation on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). The Mountain West SAAC consists of 23 representatives: two from each full member institution and one faculty athletics representative. The committee reviews and reacts to legislation and to other topics referred by the Conference constituent group or committees related to the student-athlete experience.

ACHIEVEMENT

The MW has produced 1,059 All-America selections among its 18 sponsored sports (men’s swimming was discontinued as a Conference sport following the 2010-11 season) in the last 18 years, including a league-record 103 All-America honorees in 2016-17. A total of 190 MW student-athletes have also earned Academic All-America accolades in that span. The Mountain West has sent at least 25 teams to NCAA postseason event in each of the past 18 years, capturing four team national championships in women’s cross country and producing 43 individual national championships in the sports of men’s golf, men’s cross country, women’s diving and men’s and women’s indoor track & field and outdoor track & field.

Since San José State joined the Mountain West in the 2013-14 school year, Spartan student-athletes have earned...

454 Academic All-Mountain West honors
(3.0 or higher Grade Point Average)

195 Mountain West Scholar-Athlete honors
(3.5 or higher Grade Point Average)

Darcie Anderson, women’s swimming & diving
2013-14 Mountain West Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year
Mountain West NCAA Woman of the Year nominee

Ta’Rea Cunnigan, women’s basketball
2014-15 Mountain West Female Scholar-Athlete of the Year
Mountain West NCAA Woman of the Year nominee

Mountain West members have participated in 84 bowl games under the league umbrella, including four appearances in BCS games and one CFP game. The MW has earned 80 postseason bids in men’s basketball, with five Sweet 16 appearances among 44 NCAA Tournament appearances and three NIT Final Four berths. MW women’s basketball has tallied 75 postseason slots, including 36 NCAA bids, five Sweet 16 appearances and one Elite Eight berth since 2000.

Wyoming won the MW’s first WNIT championship in 2007 with a win over Wisconsin. In women’s volleyball, the MW has had 42 NCAA bids with nine Sweet 16 berths and one Elite Eight appearance. Women’s soccer has earned 31 NCAA bids since 1999, with two Sweet 16 berths and one Elite Eight appearance. MW men’s golf has had at least three representatives in NCAA Men’s Golf Regionals in each of its 17 years, while women’s golf has had at least three teams participate in NCAA Regionals 15 of the last 18 years.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Named for Sports Ethics Fellow by the Institute for International Sport in 1998, Commissioner Craig Thompson has been a driving force for sportsmanship within intercollegiate athletics. As part of its continuing growth and development, the Mountain West implemented an extensive Sportsmanship Initiative, endorsed by both the MW Joint Council and MW Board of Directors. The program is made up of several elements, which are both practical and philosophical in nature. While the MW has significant penalties in place to deal with violations, the Sportsmanship Initiative is primarily promotional and educational in nature. The goal is to develop an environment that fosters appropriate behavior from all Conference constituencies.
Meet Chris Gonzalez and he might not be what you expect of someone who battles in the trenches on Saturdays.

“I’m a very shy person,” said the cerebral senior offensive guard. “I’d consider myself more of a listener. I have no problem approaching people, but doing it wouldn’t be my first choice. However, once I get on the field, I flip a switch and it’s on. I’m ready for a fight.”

Despite his size, 6-3 and 300 pounds, Chris didn’t start out as a football player.

“I grew up playing baseball, and it’s still the sport I love the most. Until I got to seventh grade, I used to play on three travel teams at once, but by then I was over baseball. I didn’t have any weekends off and wanted to try something new.

“I tried Pop Warner Football and was actually too big to play. They have weight restrictions and I had to cut 20-to-25 pounds to play. There were weigh-ins every week. If I wanted to continue to play I had to cut weight. The day before games I wouldn’t eat…I’d just drink water. I was on the team for a year, but having to cut the weight was really hard. It wasn’t natural for me, so I stopped.”

Entering high school, Chris ended his baseball career and focused on football. “I didn’t have to cut weight any more and I wanted to see what I could do with football.

“I played offensive and defensive tackle and loved both positions. Offense is very structured. You know where you’re going and what you are trying to do. You have to accomplish your assignment or everything else collapses.”

As a senior at Salesian High School in Los Angeles, Chris was the Santa Fe League Defensive Player of the Year and earned one of his two All-CIF honors. “Defense is reacting to what you see. You get to be nastier and you have more freedom, but I prefer playing on the offensive line, having an assignment, and trying to figure out how to accomplish it.”

Coming out of high school, Chris had several Division I scholarship offers, but none of them were from San José State.

“I was a late recruit,” Chris said. “I was actually at a camp for an all-star game and one of the coaches contacted (then Spartans tight ends coach and recruiting coordinator) Terry Malley. He looked at my film and that same weekend, when I was supposed to play in the all-star game, I came on a visit to SJSU. They ended up offering me a scholarship. I was grateful for that, and accepted the offer.

“I really liked the campus, that it was Division I, and was far enough away, but still close enough to home so I can see my family on a regular basis. Before this year, they came to our home games and at least one of my parents would usually go to our away games. I have a brother who is a freshman in high school and has just started playing football, so I may be seeing a bit less of them, but my younger sister is here at SJSU.”

COLLEGE IS A STEP UP

“My freshman year, I redshirted and was a 230-pound kid on the defensive scout team going against guys like Reuben Hasani, Wes Schweitzer and Nicholas Kaspar who were 280-to-300 pounds and could move. I just tried to give them a look at what they would be facing that week and ended up earning Scout Team Player of the Year. I was trying to improve myself and get them ready for the game.”

Chris did improve and he got bigger. The Pop Warner experience was in his past and by spring practice he bulked up.

“Over the course of the season, I probably put on 15 pounds. Then over winter break another 22. It wasn’t fat…my body fat numbers were good, so I was really happy. I did it while working out and getting stronger.”

With his new size and strength, he saw action in eight games in 2014 mostly as a blocking tight end. “I was always going to be an offensive lineman, not a tight end. I was a blocking tight end and I blocked on special teams.”

In 2015, Gonzalez started all 13 games on the Spartans Cure Bowl winning team. “That was an amazing time. Just to be in Orlando with my guys at a bowl game was great.”

(GONZALEZ continued on page 48)
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See 7 reasons why TrueAlert ES can save lives, time and money.
NCAA rules for Alumni, Fans & Friends of SJSU Athletics...Boosters!

ARE YOU A BOOSTER?
You are considered a representative of SJSU's athletics interests, more commonly known as a "booster," if you:

1. Have ever made any type of financial or in-kind contribution to the SJSU Athletics Department, to a specific sport program, or to an athletics booster organization, including purchasing season tickets to athletics events.
2. Are or have been a member of any organization or agency promoting SJSU athletics.
3. Have ever assisted in any manner in the recruitment of prospective student-athletes.
4. Have ever provided benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families.
5. Have otherwise promoted the institution's athletics program.

ONCE YOU HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A BOOSTER OF SJSU ATHLETICS, YOU WILL RETAIN THAT IDENTITY FOREVER

Student-Athlete – Is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in intercollegiate athletics. Any other student becomes a student-athlete only when the student reports for an intercollegiate squad that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department.

Prospective Student-Athlete ("prospect") – Is an individual who has started classes for the 9th grade. A student who has not started classes for the 9th grade becomes a prospect if SJSU provides the individual any benefits that SJSU does not provide to all prospective students in general. An individual remains a prospect until he/she:

- Officially registers, enrolls full-time, and attends classes during the regular academic year at SJSU;
- Participates in a regular squad practice or competition at SJSU that occurs before the beginning of any term; or
- Officially registers and enrolls and attends classes during SJSU's summer term prior to initial full-time enrollment.

TOP TEN NCAA RULES FOR BOOSTERS

10. **DON'T RECRUIT!** Only authorized SJSU coaches and staff members are permitted to contact prospects regarding the athletics program. Boosters **CANNOT** make recruiting contact with prospects or their relatives, including phone calls, letters, emails, as well as face-to-face contact on- or off-campus.

9. **NO SOCIAL MEDIA!** Boosters **CANNOT** communicate with prospects via social networking sites (e.g., Facebook, Twitter).

8. **NO PUBLICITY!** Boosters are **PROHIBITED** from contact with a prospect during his/her visit to the SJSU campus and **CANNOT** publicize a prospect's visit to campus in any way.

7. **NO INDOUCEMENTS!** Boosters are **PROHIBITED** from providing benefits of any kind (e.g., clothing, special discounts, lodging, meals, transportation, tickets, loans, etc.) to prospects or their relatives.

6. **SORRY ADIDAS!** Student-athletes **CANNOT** be involved in the advertisement, recommendation or promotion of commercial products or services. However, there are certain instances when student-athletes are permitted to be involved in charitable, educational or non-profit promotional activities. All such promotional activities must receive prior approval from the Compliance Office via a Promotional Activities Request Form.

5. **HOME MEALS!** Boosters **MAY** provide enrolled student-athletes with an occasional home meal, provided the meal takes place at your home or on campus and **NOT** at a local restaurant establishment. The meal may be catered and must be restricted to infrequent or special occasions. **All occasional meals provided to student-athletes must be approved by the Compliance Office via an Occasional Meal Approval Form BEFORE the meal takes place.**

4. **NO LOANS!** Boosters are **PROHIBITED** from providing or co-signing for any type of loan for a student-athlete or their family/friends.

3. **NO BENEFITS!** Boosters **CANNOT** provide any type of special arrangement, discount or extra benefit to a student-athlete or their relatives/friends. This includes, but is not limited to the use of a car, house, phone, boat, or the provision of tickets, entertainment, cash, gifts, services, etc.

2. **NO SPECIAL SEATING!** Boosters **CANNOT** allow student-athletes or prospects to sit in special seating areas such as box seats or reserved seating during SJSU athletics contests.

1. **EMPLOYMENT!** Boosters **MAY** employ current student-athletes provided compensation is for work actually performed and commensurate with the going rate in the locale for similar services. **All such employment arrangements must be approved by the Compliance Office BEFORE employment begins.**

HE BASIC RULE OF THUMB!
Always check with the Athletics Compliance Office before you make arrangements for any activity that involves a prospect or an enrolled student-athlete, their families or friends. **PLEASE, ASK BEFORE YOU ACT!**

Find FAQs and additional important information at [www.sjsuspartans.com/Compliance](http://www.sjsuspartans.com/Compliance)
The Spartans qualified for the Cure Bowl based in part on the team's academic success, something Chris, a three-time Academic All-Mountain West performer, has always focused on.

"Football was never a means to an end. I was going to go to college, regardless. My parents have always stressed the importance of doing well in school, but if football could help me get my education, I wasn't opposed to that either."

"I originally thought I was going to major in engineering, but that and football was a bit daunting. I changed my direction to business accounting and found that I love it. I love working with numbers and solving problems."

Chris sees similarities between football and accounting. "As an offensive lineman you are trying to solve a problem. It may be figuring out where a blitz is coming from, or which direction a defensive lineman may be trying to go by how he lines up."

And the reward for solving the problem? Forcing his will on the man across the line. "I'd say getting a pancake block, when you put someone on their back, is the thing I enjoy the most. But, I also like driving someone back five or 10 yards off the ball in a good combo block with one of my teammates. I guess I prefer the run blocking because you can get more physical and it's really a test of wills, strength and technique."

In his final season Gonzalez wants to finish with a bang. "I'm just happy to be out there with my brothers. That four of us have played together for the last three years is just amazing. Our goal is to play 13 games plus one. That's the goal." It's also all Spartans fans goal as well.

--Richard Stern is an SJSU Assistant Athletics Media Relations Director.

“Football or not, it was always the ultimate goal to go to college and graduate,” William said. “It was my mom and dad’s education that helped them get our family to where we are today and it was in the forefront of what they wanted for their kids. Walking on that stage in front of them was amazing.”

The cool thing for William is that he has every intention of walking again when he gets his master’s degree. He is currently in his first semester of San José State’s two-year interdisciplinary studies graduate program.

“I really hope I can keep playing football beyond this year,” Ossai said. “But if that doesn’t work out, I’m going to stay and finish my master’s degree and then I want to join law enforcement.”

Like his father a long time ago in the village back in Nigeria, William has a dream for his future. Inspired by his mother and father and his Nigerian pride, he will work tirelessly to make that dreams come true.

But for now, he’s not looking past the task at hand. Which for him and the Spartan football team is beating the Utah State Aggies on Saturday in front of the home crowd...something that the Spartans haven’t accomplished since the 2008 season.

--Dominic Urrutia is an SJSU Assistant Athletics Media Relations Director.
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