



# AZTEC FOOTBALL

2024 NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

## 2024 Football Class

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Name	Position	Height	Weight	Fall '24 Class	Hometown (High School/Previous School)
Arthur Ban	Tight End	6-5	205	Freshman	Vancouver, Wash. (Evergreen High)
Nate Bennett	Wide Receiver	6-3	195	Senior	Simi Valley, Calif. (Grace Brethern High/Portland State)
Tayten Beyer	Cornerback	5-11	170	Freshman	Corona, Calif. (Centennial High)
Louis Brown IV	Wide Receiver	6-1	190	Junior	South Los Angeles, Calif. (Inglewood High/Colorado State)
Brayden Bryant	Offensive Line	6-2	305	*Senior	Ardmore, Okla. (Ardmore High/North Dakota)
Isaiah Buxton	Cornerback	6-0	165	Freshman	San Diego, Calif. (Mater Dei Catholic High)
Owen Chambliss	Linebacker	6-3	230	Junior	Corona, Calif. (Centennial High/Utah)
Will Cianfrini	Wide Receiver	6-4	180	Freshman	Galveston, Texas (Carlsbad High (CA))
Kodi Cornelius	Defensive Tackle	6-1	290	Freshman	Petaluma, Calif. (Casa Grande High)
AJ Duffy	Quarterback	6-2	215	Sophomore	Inland Empire, Calif. (Rancho Verde High/Florida State)
Saipale Fuimaono	Offensive Line	6-3	300	Junior	Auto, American Samoa (Fagaitua High/Allan Hancock College)
Ryan Gaea	Defensive End	6-4	220	Freshman	Stockton, Calif. (St. Mary's High)
Gabe Garretson	Tight End	6-3	245	Sophomore	Chico, Calif. (Pleasant Valley High/Butte College)
Kai Holec	Offensive Line	6-8	300	Freshman	Seattle, Wash. (O'Dea High)
Tano Letuli	Linebacker	6-1	240	Junior	San Diego, Calif. (Cathedral Catholic High/Army)
Marlem Louis	Defensive Line	6-3	250	^Senior	Venice, Fla. (Venice High/Richmond)
Brandon McElroy	Defensive Line	6-5	310	Senior	Pasadena, Calif. (John Muir High/Marshall)
Jerry McClure	Wide Receiver	6-2	200	Sophomore	Coronado, Calif. (Mater Dei High/UCLA)
Tyler McMahan	Offensive Line	6-6	290	Junior	Sutter Creek, Calif. (Amador High/Modesto Junior College)
Anthony McMillian Jr.	Running Back	6-0	225	Freshman	Chula Vista, Calif. (Mater Dei Catholic High)
Heath McRee	Wide Receiver	6-0	170	Freshman	Austin, Texas (Westlake High)
Jason Mitchell II	Defensive Back	6-3	185	Freshman	Los Angeles, Calif. (St. John Bosco High)
William Nimmo Jr.	Safety	6-1	200	^Senior	Corona, Calif. (Mater Dei High/UCLA)
Danny Niu	Linebacker	6-0	220	Freshman	East Palo Alto, Calif. (Serra High)
Danny O'Neil	Quarterback	6-0	185	Freshman	Indianapolis, Ind. (Cathedral High)
Tyler Pastula	Punter	6-3	215	Senior	Easton, Pa. (Easton Area High/UAlbany)
Bryce Phillips	Cornerback	6-1	195	Senior	Long Beach, Calif. (La Habra High/Tennessee State)
Ja'Shaun Poke	Wide Receiver	5-10	175	Senior	Hampton, Ga. (Dutchtown High/West Virginia)
Cincere Rhaney	Running Back	5-10	200	Freshman	Los Angeles, Calif. (Junipero Serra High)
Ben Scolari	Wide Receiver	6-3	185	Freshman	Reno, Nev. (Bishop Manogue High)
Dalesean Staley	Safety	6-1	180	Junior	Kansas City, Mo. (Blue Springs High/Northern Iowa)
Bennett Walker	Defensive Back	6-0	190	Senior	San Diego, Calif. (Henry High/Eastern Michigan)
Nate Williams	Offensive Line	6-6	300	Senior	Utica, Ohio (Newark Catholic High/Akron)
Prince Williams	Defensive Back	6-2	175	Freshman	Westlake Village, Calif. (Oaks Christian High)
Jude Wolfe	Tight End	6-5	240	^Senior	Laguna Hills, Calif. (St. John Bosco/USC)
Ryan Wolfer	Tight End	6-5	230	Freshman	Peoria, Ariz. (Liberty High)

^ Utilizing COVID-19 season as awarded by the NCAA; \* has extra year of eligibility after 2024 for COVID-19 season



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**For Immediate Release**  
Feb. 7, 2024

**Contact:** SDSU Media Relations

## **Aztec Football Adds Two to 2024 Signing Class**

*With the addition of two February signees, SDSU totals 36 commitments in the first full class of the Sean Lewis era.*

**SAN DIEGO** -- San Diego State football head coach Sean Lewis announced the addition of two more signees, Tyler McMahan (Sutter Creek, Calif./Modesto Junior College and Heath McRee (Austin, Texas/Westlake High), on Wednesday's start of the regular signing period. Between the early signing period, winter transfers, and the addition of these two signees, the Aztecs have 36 student-athletes signed to either National Letters of Intent or Grant-in-Aids in Sean Lewis' first recruiting class as the SDSU head coach.

In addition to McMahan and McRee, Lewis and staff added eight transfers since the early signing period in December. They are Louis Brown IV (South Los Angeles, Calif./Colorado State), Owen Chambliss (Corona, Calif./Utah), Tano Letuli (San Diego, Calif./Army), Brandon McElroy (Pasadena, Calif./Marshall), Jerry McClure (Coronado, Calif./UCLA), Tyler Pastula (Easton, Pa./UAlbany), Dalesean Staley (Kansas City, Mo./Northern Iowa), Bennett Walker (San Diego, Calif./Eastern Michigan) and Jude Wolfe (Laguna Hills, Calif./USC).

San Diego State's full 2024 recruiting class features 20 on offense and 16 on defense. The 36-player class also has 22 from the state of California, two each from Texas and Washington, and one apiece from the states of Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. Additionally, one signee is from American Samoa. Of the 36 signees, 16 are joining the Aztecs out of high school, while 20 are college transfers, including six from Power 5 institutions and five from Group of 5 programs along with six from the FCS level and three junior college products.

Additional signees could be added in the coming days.

For information on the signees from the early signing period, click [here](#).

The NCAA approved the early signing period in 2017, which runs this year from Dec. 20-22. The mid-year 2-4 (junior college) transfer signing period also commenced today and lasts through Jan. 15, 2024, while the regular signing period is slated for Feb. 7-April 1, 2024.

**-SDSU-**



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## 2024 Football Class

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### Arthur Ban

**Tight End**

**6-5, 205**

**Vancouver, Wash. (Evergreen High)**

Prepped at Evergreen High School in Seattle ... Was a first-team all-league selection ... Also played basketball as a power forward ... Ranked as a three-star recruit by 247 Sports and On3 ... Considered the 87th tight end prospect nationally and No. 2 in Washington by 247 Sports Composite ... Chose the Aztecs over Air Force, Army, Colorado State, Idaho and UNLV.

Academic All-District ... Lettered in football three times at Grace Brethren High School in Simi Valley, California ... Helped his team to a CIF championship and state regional championship in his junior year ... Also was CIF runner-up as a senior ... Was named first-team all-league, first-team all-county and Wide Receiver of the Year as a senior ... Earned his first all-league first team selection as a junior ... In his senior season, caught 56 passes for 1,180 yards and 12 touchdowns ... Also made 108 tackles and four interceptions on defense ... As a junior, caught 21 passes for 558 yards and five touchdowns.

### Nate Bennett

**Wide Receiver**

**6-3, 195**

**Simi Valley, Calif. (Grace Brethren High/Portland State)**

Returns to his home state after beginning his collegiate career at Portland State (2020-23) ... Finished 19th on the ballot for the Jerry Rice Award Watch List for national freshman of the year in 2021 ... With the Warriors, played 33 career games from 2020-23 ... Reeled in 110 catches in that span for 1,291 yards and four touchdowns ... In 2022, led the team with 47 receptions and ranked second with 517 receiving yards ... Started all 11 games as a freshman in 2021, making 50 catches for 616 yards ... A three-time Academic All-Big Sky recipient and 2022 CSC

### Tayten Beyer

**Cornerback**

**5-11, 170**

**Corona, Calif. (Centennial HS)**

Prepped at Centennial High School in Corona, California ... Helped the Huskies to back-to-back nine-win seasons as a junior and senior ... Was named the 2023 Big West Specialist of the Year ... According to MaxPreps, totaled 68 tackles across his final two seasons along with four interceptions and seven pass deflections ... Also ran track as a sprinter ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... According to On3, chose the Aztecs over Washington State, Boston College, Boise State, Fresno State, UNLV and Utah State.



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## Louis Brown IV

**Wide Receiver**

**6-1, 190**

**South LA, Calif. (Inglewood High/Colorado State)**

Began his collegiate career at Colorado State, spending two years with the Rams (2022-23) ... Had a breakout season in 2023, recording 47 catches for 481 yards and five touchdowns ... Recorded his first career 100-yard game against Colorado, going for 131 yards on 10 catches with a touchdown ... Had a receiving touchdown in three of the final four games of the season ... Played a role in kick returns as well, totaling nine returns for 173 yards with a long of 32 ... As a true freshman, recorded 12 receptions for 98 yards with a long of 24 ... Prepped at Inglewood High School ... As a senior in 2021, had 36 catches for 400 yards and 14 touchdowns ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247 Sports.

## Brayden Bryant

**Offensive Line**

**6-2, 305**

**Ardmore, Okla. (Ardmore High/North Dakota)**

Spent two years at the University of North Dakota (2022-23), redshirting last season with just four games played ... In 2022, played 11 games, including starts at left guard in the final 10 contests of the season ... Protected his quarterback on the way to a 67.1 completion percentage (No. 11 nationally) ... While on the line, UND ranked No. 6 nationally in red zone scoring and No. 8 in time of posses-

sion ... Named to the Missouri Valley Football Conference All-Newcomer Team ... Began his collegiate career at Butler Community College in Kansas ... Named second team all-conference as a true freshman in the summer of 2021 ... Prepped at Ardmore High School in Ardmore, Oklahoma, earning four letters ... Earned all-state honors as both a junior and senior ... Named his district's offensive lineman of the year ... Also competed in track and field, winning two state titles in shot put.

## Isaiah Buxton

**Cornerback**

**6-0, 165**

**San Diego, Calif. (Mater Dei Catholic)**

A local product, prepped at Mater Dei Catholic in Chula Vista, California ... Helped the Crusaders to back-to-back Division 2-AA state championships with 13 wins in 2021 and 11 in 2022 ... MDCHS reached the playoffs thanks to a six-game win streak with all six victories coming via shutout ... Led Mater Dei Catholic to the quarterfinals of the state championship bracket in 2023 ... Recorded 88 tackles and 10 interceptions, along with five pass deflections, three tackles for loss and two sacks (according to MaxPreps) ... A two-way player, totaled 688 all-purpose yards in his career ... As a senior, recorded 346 yards and two touchdowns on 13 receptions ... Also competed in track and field ... Rated as a high three-star athlete by 247 Sports, and three-star cornerback recruit by On3, Rivals and ESPN ... Chose the Aztecs over other offers from Arizona, BYU, California, Colorado, Colorado State, Penn State, San Jose State, Syracuse, Washington, and Washington State.



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## Owen Chambliss

**Linebacker**

**6-3, 230**

**Corona, Calif. (Centennial High/Utah)**

Started his collegiate career at the University of Utah, spending his true freshman season with the Utes (2023) ... Played in four games, making one special teams tackle ... Prepped at Centennial High School in Corona, Calif. ... Helped his team to a CIF Championship in 2021 ... Named first team All-CIF, league MVP, first team all-section, and second team LA Times ... As a senior, made 43 tackles (3.0 TFL, 2.0 sacks), five interceptions, two passes defended, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery as well as a pick-six ... As a junior, recorded 27 tackles (1.0 TFL), an interception, and three passes defended ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247Sports and Rivals out of high school.

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## Will Cianfrini

**Wide Receiver**

**6-4, 180**

**Galveston, Texas (Carlsbad High (CA))**

Played his senior season at Carlsbad High School in nearby Carlsbad, California, after two years at Ball High School in Galveston, Texas ... Helped CHS to a 10-1 record, falling in the first round of the CIF Championship ... Participated in the Nike Elite 11 Finals showcase the summer of his junior year, earning all-tourney team honors ... In his lone season at Carlsbad, according to MaxPreps, caught 24 catches for 425 yards (17.7 avg) and five touchdowns ...

In two seasons at Ball High School, totaled 55 catches for 1,011 yards and seven touchdowns, and rushed for 193 yards and four touchdowns ... Also starred on the basketball team at Ball High School, earning Texas District 18-5A first team honors and a scholarship offer from Longwood University ... Rated as a high three-star recruit by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... Ranked No. 83 wide-out recruit in the country by 247sports ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from California, UTSA and Texas State, and numerous FCS schools.

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## Kodi Cornelius

**Defensive Line**

**6-1, 290**

**Petaluma, Calif. (Casa Grande High)**

A three-year letterwinner, prepped at Casa Grande High School in Petaluma, California ... Helped his team to three straight Division 3 North Coast Section playoff appearances ... As a senior, the Gauchos went 9-2 overall and 6-0 in league play to win the Vine Valley title ... According to MaxPreps, made 157 tackles, including 25 TFLs and 20.5 sacks in his three years on varsity ... Also forced three fumbles, recorded one, and blocked three kicks (two punts, one FG) ... In just five games as a senior, made 37 tackles (14.0 TFL), including 11.5 sacks for 79 total loss of yards ... Rated as a three-star prospect by 247sports, On3 and ESPN, and a two-star recruit by Rivals ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Washington State, Air Force, Nevada, Army West Point and Eastern Michigan, and some FCS schools.

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## AJ Duffy

**Quarterback**

**6-2, 215**

**Inland Empire, Calif. (Rancho Verde High/Florida State)**

Returns to his home state after two years at ACC power Florida State ... Played in four games total ... Completed two passes for 26 yards and one touchdown in addition to 5-yard rush as a true freshman ... Made the ACC Honor Roll and was a Seminole Scholar ... Prepped at IMG Academy during his senior year after COVID wiped out his junior year ... Attended Rancho Verde High School prior to the transfer ... Led the Mustangs to an 11-1 record and the quarterfinal round of the CIF Division 2 Southern Section Championships as a sophomore ... In his freshman season, helped take RVHS to a 13-win season and CIF Division 2 Southern Section Championship appearance ... Selected for the Under Armour All-America Game and Elite 11 Finals showcase ... According to MaxPreps, was 348-of-495 (70.3%) for 5,552 yards and 66 touchdowns in his two seasons at Rancho Verde HS ... Threw for nearly 3,000 yards as a freshman with 40 passing touchdowns ... Also totaled 817 rushing yards and eight touchdowns on the ground in his two seasons ... A consensus four-star prospect ... Tabbed 39th in ESPN300 and ranked No. 3 nationally among quarterbacks (No. 7 in Florida) by ESPN ... Rated as the nation's No. 8 quarterback prospect, No. 17 overall in Florida and No. 120 overall nationally by 247 Composite ... Ranked No. 9 at his position and No. 20 in his state by Rivals ... 247sports ranked him as the nation's 14th best quarterback and No. 27 overall prospect in the state of Florida ... Had offers from Arizona State, Arkansas, Auburn, Boston College, BYU, California, Colorado, Colorado State, Kansas, Louisville, LSU, Miami, Michigan State, NC State, Nebraska, Oklahoma State, Ole Miss,

Oregon, Oregon State, Penn State, Stanford, USC, Utah, Washington State, and West Virginia.

## Saipale Fuimaono

**Offensive Line**

**6-3, 300**

**Auto, American Samoa (Fagaitua High/Allan Hancock College)**

Began his collegiate career at Allan Hancock College in California (2022-23) ... Helped the Bulldogs to back-to-back shares of the National Northern League Championship ... Made two SCFA bowl game appearances, including a 2022 Strawberry Bowl victory ... Tabbed a first-team all-state selection as a true freshman ... A two-time first team all-league selection ... Totaled 18 career games with the Bulldogs.

## Ryan Gaea

**Defensive End**

**6-4, 220**

**Stockton, Calif. (St. Mary's High)**

A three-year letterwinner at St. Mary's High in Stockton, California ... Helped the Rams to the 2023 Division 2 CIF Sac-Joaquin Section finals, finishing the year 11-2 overall and 5-0 in league ... Also reached the 2021 Division I CIF Sac-Joaquin Section semifinals and 2022 Division I CIF Sac-Joaquin Section quarterfinals ... Named the 2023 Tri-City Athletic League Defensive Lineman of the Year ... In his three seasons on varsity, the Rams went 31-6 overall and a





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perfect 15-0 in league play ... According to MaxPreps, recorded 120 tackles, 16 tackles for loss and 12 sacks in his three varsity seasons ... Recorded 92 of his tackles across his junior and senior seasons ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247sports, On3 and ESPN, and a two-star recruit by Rivals ... Chose the Aztecs over an offer from Nevada,

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## Gabe Garretson

**Tight End**

**6-4, 245**

**Chico, Calif. (Pleasant Valley High/Butte College)**

Played his true freshman season at Butte College (2023) in Oroville, California ... Had four catches for 64 yards in five games ... Made his first collegiate catch in the season opener at Sequoias ... Had his longest catch for 25 yards in a 51-0 victory over Diablo Valley ... Recorded two catches for 38 yards in a 56-6 win at Sierra College ... A two-year letterwinner, prepped at Pleasant Valley High School in Chico, California, playing primarily fullback and outside linebacker ... According to MaxPreps, in his senior year he had 32 carries for 200 yards and two touchdowns as well as 77 tackles on defense ... Also lettered all four years in basketball ... Has an older brother Grant, a junior OLB at UC Davis, and a younger brother Gavin, a junior DE/TE at Pleasant Valley High.

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## Kai Holec

**Offensive Line**

**6-8, 300**

**Seattle, Wash. (O'Dea High)**

Prepped at O'Dea High School in Seattle ... Helped the Fighting Irish to three consecutive Division 3A State playoff appearances, including back-to-back semifinals as a junior and senior ... His Fighting Irish team sported a 34-8 record in his four seasons with 21 of those wins coming in his final two years ... Was a two-time first-team all-Metro selection (2022-23) ... Also played rugby, wrestling and lacrosse in high school ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... 247sports Composite ranks him as the No. 22 offensive line prospect in Washington ... Chose the Aztecs over Louisville, and some FCS programs.

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## Tano Letuli

**Linebacker**

**6-1, 240**

**San Diego, Calif. (Cathedral Catholic High/Army)**

Comes to San Diego State after spending two seasons at Army West Point ... Made 12 tackles in nine games for the Black Knights as a true freshman in 2022 ... A three-year letterwinner at Cathedral Catholic High School in San Diego ... Played running back with the Dons, totaling 259 yards in 16 games with five touchdowns according to MaxPreps ... Rated as a three-star prospect by 247 Sports ... Ranked No. 149 in the state of California.

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## Marlem Louis

**Defensive Line**

**6-3, 250**

**Venice, Fla. (Venice High/Richmond)**

Joins the Aztecs as a grad transfer after spending five seasons at Richmond (2019-23) ... Helped the Spiders earn a share of the 2023 Coast Athletic Association title ... Made back-to-back FCS playoff appearances ... A 2022 first-team all-CAA selection and a third-team honoree this past season ... In his Richmond career, accumulated 110 tackles, including 30 tackles for loss and 16 sacks, as well as seven forced fumbles, three fumble recoveries and three pass breakups ... Led the team with 12.0 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks in 2023 as part of a 44-tackle season ... Ranked third in the CAA with 8.5 sacks and fifth in average TFL per game with 1.27 during the 2022 campaign, totaling 35 tackles ... Had 26 tackles in 2021 ... Prepped at Venice High in Venice, Florida, earning three letters ... Guided his team to a 12-2 record as a senior, falling in the 7A state playoffs ... Helped Venice win the 2017 Florida 7A State Championship to close out a 14-1 season ... Was a first-team all-area selection ... Named Venice High Defensive MVP in his senior year ... Finished his career with 172 tackles, including 22 TFLs and 13 sacks, and four forced fumbles ... As a senior, recorded 93 tackles, 17 TFLs, eight sacks and three forced fumbles.

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## Brandon McElroy

**Defensive Line**

**6-5, 310**

**Pasadena, Calif. (John Muir High/Marshall)**

Joins the Aztecs for his final collegiate season with experience at Marshall, Arizona State, and Glendale Community College ... Made 11 tackles, including 1.5 tackles for loss and 0.5 sacks for the Herd last season ... Did not playing football until joining the team at Glendale CC, where he earned All-Metro League honors as a sophomore ... Totaled 28 tackles and two tackles for loss in his JuCo career ... Rated as a three-star prospect by Rivals ... Also had offers from Alabama-Birmingham and UNLV ... Played basketball at John Muir High School.

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## Jerry McClure

**Wide Receiver**

**6-2, 200**

**Coronado, Calif. (Mater Dei High/UCLA)**

Comes to San Diego State with four years of eligibility after utilizing his redshirt season in his first at UCLA ... Played in two games during the 2023 season ... In high school, helped his Mater Dei team win back-to-back Division 2-AA state titles in 2021 and 2022 ... According to MaxPreps, in his 20 games on varsity, he recorded 98 catches for 1,964 yards and 22 touchdowns ... Had a 1,000-yard season as a senior with 14 touchdowns ... Averaged almost 100 yards per game as a junior at 95.8 with eight touchdowns ... Four-star recruit according to ESPN in 2022 ... Three-star recruit according to 247Sports and Rivals ... Ranked No. 198 overall by ESPN ... No. 61 wide receiver by 247Sports ... No. 37 prospect in state of California by





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247Sports ... No. 23 wide receiver by ESPN ... No. 23 prospect in West region by ESPN ... No. 15 prospect in state of California by ESPN.

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## **Tyler McMahan**

**Offensive Live**

**6-6, 290**

**Sutter Creek, Calif. (Amador High/Modesto Junior College)**

Joins the Aztecs after two years at Modesto Junior College (2022-23) ... Helped his team to back-to-back Valley Conference Championships ... His Pirates team went a perfect 5-0 in 2023 reaching the CCCAA Northern Region semifinals ... The Pirate offense averaged 32.7 points per game 445.5 yards per game in 2023 ... Named First Team All-American and earned All-Valley Conference honors ... Owns a 3.4 GPA.

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## **Anthony McMillian Jr.**

**Running Back**

**6-0, 225**

**Chula Vista, Calif. (Mater Dei High)**

Prepped at Mater Dei Catholic High School in nearby Chula Vista, California, playing three years on varsity ... Helped the Crusaders to back-to-back Division 2-AA state championships with 13 wins in 2021 and 11 in 2022 ... The Crusaders reached the playoffs thanks to a six-game win streak that saw them outscore their opponents, 281-0, following an 0-4 start ... As a senior, helped his team reached

the quarterfinals of the state championship bracket ... According to MaxPreps, ran for 2,551 yards with 29 touchdowns in his three years ... As a junior, ran for 1,270 on 187 carries (6.79 avg) with 12 touchdowns ... Over the Crusaders' six-game win streak to reach the CIF playoffs, totaled 346 yards and three touchdowns on just 16 carries (21.63 avg) ... Also played as a linebacker and edge rusher on the defensive side of the ball, totaling 97 tackles ... Ran track as well ... Rated as three-star recruit by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... 247sports Composite ranks him the No. 73 prospect in California and No. 77 running back in the nation ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Arizona, Colorado, Washington, Colorado State, Nevada, San Jose State and Utah State.

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## **Heath McRee**

**Wide Receiver**

**6-0, 170**

**Austin, Texas (Westlake High)**

A two-year letter winner at Westlake High in Austin, Texas ... Helped his team to a 28-2 combined record and two 6A Region IV District Championships in his two varsity seasons ... The Chaparrals posted a 14-1 record in 2023 finishing as the No. 10 ranked team in the state of Texas ... In 13 career games, recorded 35 catches, 718 receiving yards, and nine touchdowns ... As a senior, had 28 catches for 503 yards and six touchdowns ... Also recorded 10 kickoff returns for 259 yards and 15 punt returns for 389 yards ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247Sports ... Ranked as the No. 155 wide receiver in the country and the No. 177 overall prospect out of Texas ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from James Madison, Nevada, UTEP, North Texas, Air Force, Army, Boston College, Colorado State, Incarnate



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Word, Marshall, Texas State, Texas-Rio Grande Valley, and UNLV ... Also competed in track and field.

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## Jason Mitchell II

**Defensive Back**

**6-3, 185**

**Los Angeles, Calif. (St. John Bosco High)**

Lettered twice at Serra High School in Gardena, California, before transferring to St. John Bosco in Bellflower, California, for his senior season ... The Braves were 11-2 last season and 5-0 in league play to win the Trinity League and ultimately reach the CIF Southern Section Division 1 Championship game ... At Serra, led the Cavaliers to the 2021 CIF Southern Section Open Division Finals and the 2022 CIF Southern Section Division 2 quarterfinals ... Limited by injuries, played seven games for St. John Bosco in 2023, recording 28 tackles and three pass breakups ... According to MaxPreps, in his two seasons of varsity at Serra he totaled 71 tackles, nine pass breakups and an interception ... Rated as a four-star recruit by ESPN and Rivals ... Ranks as the 28th-best California prospect by ESPN, 37th by Rivals, 42nd by 247 Sports, and 53rd by On3 ... Also grades as the 19th-best safety recruit in the country by Rivals and 28th by ESPN ... Chose the Aztecs over Arizona, Arizona State, Boston College, BYU, California, Colorado State, Florida Atlantic, Hawai'i, LSU, Maryland, Missouri, Nevada, Notre Dame, Ole Miss, Oregon, UCF, UNLV, USC, Utah, Washington, and Washington State ... His father, Jason, was a wide receiver for USC and head coach Pete Carroll from 2002-04 before playing in both the NFL and CFL.

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## William Nimmo Jr.

**Safety**

**6-1, 200**

**Corona, Calif. (Mater Dei High/UCLA)**

Comes to The Mesa with five years of collegiate experience at UCLA (2019-23) ... Played 35 games in his Bruin career, totaling 37 tackles ... In his final two seasons, played 25 games with 31 tackles ... Named to the Pac-12 Fall Academic Honor Roll twice (2020-21 and 2021-22) ... Prepped at powerhouse Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana, California ... Mater Dei were high school national champions in 2017 and 2018, according to USA Today ... Helped take his team to a No. 1 California ranking as a senior ... According to MaxPreps, recorded 62 tackles and eight tackles for loss in his junior and senior seasons ... Was a three-star recruit by 247sports, Rivals and ESPN ... Ranked No. 56 on Rivals' California Top 100 prospects list and ranked as 247's No. 66 prospect in the state ... Had offers from Florida, Iowa State, Washington State, and Oregon State before choosing UCLA.

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## Danny Niu

**Linebacker**

**6-0, 220**

**East Palo Alto, Calif. (Serra High)**

A three-year letterwinner at Serra High School in San Mateo, California ... Helped take the Padres to three consecutive Open Division CIF State Championship finals from 2021-23 ... Helped Serra to a dominant, 63-27, victory to claim the 2023 Central Coast Section Championship ... Won two West Catholic League titles ... In his three years on varsity, Serra went a combined 36-4 overall and 20-1 in



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league play ... Named the 2023 West Catholic Athletic League (WCAL) Linebacker of the Year and Get Sports Focus co-Defensive Player of the Year ... A two-time WCAL first-team selection ... According to MaxPreps, registered 93 career tackles, 11 tackles for loss and four sacks, as well as two interceptions, one forced fumble and one fumble recovery ... As a junior, was very involved in the rushing game recording 382 yards and four touchdowns on 40 carries ... Rated as a three-star recruit by 247sports, On3 and ESPN ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Arizona State, Pittsburgh and UNLV.

## Danny O'Neil

**Quarterback**

**6-0, 185**

**Indianapolis, Ind. (Cathedral High)**

Prepped at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, starting at quarterback for three years ... In his first year as the starting QB, led his team to a 14-1 overall record and a Class 5A state championship ... The Fighting Irish then went 18-6 across his last two seasons, winning a regional and two sectional titles in 6A ... Competed at the 2023 Elite 11 Finals showcase ... A two-time city offensive player of the year and all-city team selection ... Named an IFCA All-State Top 50 Offensive Player for the state of Indiana as both a junior and senior ... Owns the Cathedral HS passion records in yards, touchdowns, completions and attempts ... According to MaxPreps, totaled 7,786 yards through the air in his career along with 98 touchdowns with 62.6 completion percentage while running for 1,326 yards and 27 touchdowns ... As a sophomore, was 231-of-367 for 2,956 yards and 33 touchdowns, all season-bests in his career ... Surpassed 2,000 yards and 30 touchdown passes in all

three seasons as a starter ... As a senior, ran for 722 yards on just 118 carries (6.1 avg) to go along with 2,068 yards in the air and 31 touchdowns ... Rated as a high three-star recruit by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... Ranks as the No. 12 quarterback by Rivals, No. 31 by ESPN and No. 40 by 247 Sports ... Picked San Diego State over offers from Colorado, Cincinnati, Houston, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisville, Marshall, Miami (OH), Northwestern, Ohio, Purdue, Syracuse, Toledo, Tulane, UConn, Wake Forest and Western Michigan.

## Tyler Pastula

**Punter**

**6-3, 215**

**Easton, Pa. (Easton Area High/UAlbany)**

Becomes an Aztec for his final collegiate season after two years at the University of Delaware (2020-21) and two years at the University at Albany (2022-23) ... Named 2023 All-CAA Second Team Special Teams and Phil Steele All-CAA Third Team as well as a 2021 All-CAA First Team selection ... Also named to the 2022 FCS Punter of the Year preseason watch list ... Has served as his team's primary punter all four years, including his true freshman season at Delaware ... In his career, has punted 201 times for 8,461 yards (42.09 avg) ... Owns 63 punts landing inside the 20-yard line and 35 punts of over 50 yards, including a career-long of 73 ... A Pennsylvania native, played high school at Easton Area High School, where he averaged 40 yards per punt in his career ... As a senior, he punted 34 times for 972 yards helping his team to an 8-5 record.



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## Bryce Phillips

Cornerback

6-1, 195

Long Beach, Calif. (La Habra High/Tennessee State)

Joins the Aztecs with two years of Division I collegiate experience, playing 2022 and 2023 at Tennessee State in Nashville, Tennessee ... Named to the 2022 Ohio Valley Conference second team at defense and also to the all-newcomer team ... Started all 22 games in his Tiger career, recording 68 tackles, six tackles for loss and 18 pass breakups ... Led team in PBUs both seasons with his 10 in 2022 ranking second in the OVC ... Logged a career-best eight tackles in a game against UT Martin ... Prior to TSU, played one season at Santa Ana College in Santa Ana, California, where he made 19 tackles, two interceptions (including a pick-six), and seven pass breakups in nine games in 2021 ... In high school, transferred to Orange Lutheran from La Habra High School ... Helped guide his La Habra team to a 10-3 record, Freeway League title, and CIF Southern Section Division 3 semifinal game in 2019 ... Chosen for the Orange County North-South All-Star Classic ... Was a three-star recruit coming out of high school according to Rivals ... Had offers from Florida Atlantic and Morgan State ... His brother, Clark Phillips III, is currently a cornerback for the Atlanta Falcons after starring for Utah in college.

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## Ja'Shaun Poke

Wide Receiver

5-10, 175

Hampton, Ga. (Dutchtown High/West Virginia)

Has played in 37 games over his career, spanning appearances in five seasons (2019-22 at Kent State and 2023 at West Virginia) ... Has 83 catches for 1,044 yards (12.6 avg.) with five touchdowns ... Has two career 100-yard receiving games ... Also has one rushing touchdown ... Has been dynamic in the kick return game, returning 44 attempts for 1,110 yards (25.2 avg.) ... The 25.2 kick return average ranks 11th in the country over that span (1999-23, min. 40 KR) ... Transfers to San Diego State after spending one season at West Virginia ... Only played in one game at WVU in 2022 because of injuries, making two catches for 11 yards against Duquesne ... Totaled 81 catches for 1,033 yards (12.8 avg.) with five touchdowns at Kent State from 2019-22, while adding one rushing score and averaging 25.2 yards per kick return (44 KR for 1,110 yards) ... His 100-yard receiving games came at Buffalo on Nov. 18, 2020 (7 rec., 124 yds.) and vs. Eastern Michigan on Nov. 16, 2022 (6 rec., 105 yds., 1 TD) ... Had five catches for 80 yards and two touchdowns at Bowling Green on Nov. 10, 2020 ... Prepped at Dutchtown High School in Hampton, Georgia, leading the Bulldogs to a 12-1 record as a senior, including a run to the Georgia "Elite 8" ... Was a first-team all-region 4-AAAA pick at defensive back ... Also ran track in high school, winning the Georgia 5A state championship as a senior in the 400 meters ... Was a three-star recruit out of high school at cornerback by 247sports, picking Kent State over offers from Ball State, Eastern Michigan, Miami (OH), South Alabama and UAB, among others.



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## Cincere Rhaney

**Running Back**

**5-10, 200**

**Los Angeles, Calif. (Serra High)**

Comes to The Mesa after starring for three years at Serra High School in Gardena, California ... Was named the most valuable player of the Mission League as a senior ... Racked up video game numbers for his career with 4,603 rushing yards and 50 touchdowns on 558 carries (8.2 avg.), according to MaxPreps ... Has amassed 19 games with at least 100 rushing yards ... Also has caught 24 passes for 314 yards and two more scores ... Last year ran for 1,883 yards and 23 touchdowns on 199 attempts (9.5 avg.) with nine 100-yard games and five 200-yard games ... In 2022 as a junior, ran for 1,666 yards and 15 touchdowns on 224 carries (7.4 avg.) ... Ran for a career-high 275 yards with three touchdowns in a 28-14 win over Norco on Nov. 4, 2022 ... As a sophomore in 2021, ran for 1,054 yards and 12 scores on 135 rushes (7.8 avg.) ... Is listed as a three-star recruit by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... Received a scout grade of 87 by 247sports, where he is listed as the 57th-ranked running back in the country and 59th overall athlete in California ... According to 247sports, chose the Aztecs over offers from Arizona, Arizona State, Georgia, Nevada, San Jose State, UNLV, Utah and Washington..

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## Ben Scolari

**Wide Receiver**

**6-3, 185**

**Reno, Nev. (Bishop Manogue High)**

Prepped at powerhouse Bishop Manogue High School in Reno, Nevada ... Led his team to the 2023 Class 5A Division II State Championship ... Won back-to-back Class 5A Division II North championships in his junior and senior seasons ... Named the Northern Nevada 5A-II MVP in 2023 ... According to MaxPreps, totaled 2,385 receiving yards and 35 touchdowns on 101 receptions, averaging over 90 yards per game in his two varsity years ... As a senior, had 54 catches for 1,143 with 18 touchdowns ... In the 2023 state championship game, recorded nine receptions for 162 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Miners to the state title ... Also played three years of varsity basketball ... Rated as a three-star prospect by 247sports, On3, Rivals and ESPN ... Ranked as the No. 10 wide receiver in Nevada by On3 Elite ... Chose the Aztecs over Nevada and Army West Point.

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## Dalesean Staley

**Safety**

**6-1, 180**

**Kansas City, Mo. (Blue Springs High/Northern Iowa)**

Comes to The Mesa with two years of collegiate experience at Northern Iowa (2022-23) ... Named a 2023 Freshman All-American First Team and an All-MVFC Fifth Team by Phil Steele ... Played 11 games last season, recording 70 tackles, eight pass breakups, and three interceptions ... Was a





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first team all-district and second team all-conference selection as a senior in high school ... Also named an all-conference honorable mention as a junior ... Finished his senior season with 72 tackles, three interceptions, and two forced fumbles ... Also played basketball and competed in track and field ... Was a four-time honor roll recipient.

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## **Bennett Walker**

**Defensive Back**

**6-0, 190**

**San Diego, Calif. (Henry High/Eastern Michigan)**

Returns to his hometown team after a year at Eastern Michigan ... Appeared in all 13 games for the Eagles totaling 23 tackles, five pass breakups, and three interceptions ... Two of his three interceptions came in a game against Massachusetts ... Played two seasons at nearby San Diego Mesa where he earned second team all-Southern honors in 2022 ... Recorded 23 tackles and an interception in his two seasons at the junior college level ... Prepped at Henry High School, earning first team all-city honors ... Rated as a three-star cornerback by On3.

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## **Nate Williams**

**Offensive Line**

**6-6, 300**

**Utica, Ohio (Newark Catholic High/Akron)**

Comes to San Diego State with four years of collegiate experience at Akron (2020-23) ... Has played in 40

games with 27 starts on the offensive line ... Logged four starts in 2021, all 12 in 2022 and all 11 he appeared in last season ... Garnered Academic All-MAC honors in 2022 ... Came to Akron as a three-year letterwinner at Newark Catholic High School in Newark, Ohio ... Was a 2019 all-Ohio AP special mention, first-team all-Advocate and first-team all-conference pick ... Garnered honorable mention all-league in 2018 ... Played both sides of the ball at Newark Catholic ... Also played baseball for two years ... Was a four-year honor roll student and a member of the National Honor Society ... Was a two-star recruit out of high school by both 247sports and Rivals ... Picked Akron over Ball State along with some FCS offers.

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## **Prince Williams**

**Defensive Back**

**6-2, 175**

**Westlake Village, Calif. (Oaks Christian High)**

Played three seasons at Oaks Christian High School in Westlake Village, California ... Helped lead the Lions to a 9-3 record a senior in 2023, including a perfect 5-0 record and Marmonte League play en route to the title ... Was named the Marmonte League Defensive Back of the Year in 2023 ... Received three stars from 247sports and two stars from Rivals ... Earned a scouting grade of 84 from 247sports ... Also received offers from FCS teams Portland State, Incarnate Word, San Diego and Stony Brook.

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## Jude Wolfe

**Tight End**

**6-5, 240**

**Laguna Hills, Calif. (St. John Bosco/USC)**

Comes to San Diego State with five years of collegiate experience (2019-23), all with USC ... As a Trojan, battled multiple injuries in his career ... Appeared in 33 games making 12 catches for 66 yards and a touchdown ... Caught his touchdown during the 2023 campaign, a three-yard reception, in a win against new Aztec Head Coach Sean Lewis and Colorado ... Was a 2018 PrepStar All-American and Tacoma News Tribune Western 100 in his senior year at St. John Bosco High School ... Recorded 24 receptions for 349 yards and 10 touchdowns in his three varsity seasons ... Also played basketball in high school ... Earned his bachelor's degree in real estate development and currently working on his master's ... His father, Mark, played football at Western Michigan (1977-80), his brother, Jakob, was a tight end at Stony Brook (2014), his sister, Jacqueline, played volleyball at Hawaii Pacific (2015), and his cousin, Ryan Gutierrez, was a safety at Cal (2001-04).

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## Ryan Wolfer

**Tight End**

**6-5, 230**

**Peoria, Ariz. (Liberty High)**

A four-year letterwinner for Liberty High School in Peoria, Arizona ... Helped the Lions claim the 2023 AIA state championship in the open division ... Made the state championship playoffs all four years, reaching the semifinals his first three seasons ... Liberty went 38-8 in his career, including 23-2 as a starter across his junior and senior sea-

sons ... A 2023 first-team all-state and first-team all-region selection ... Named 2023 BJ Media Tight End of the Year ... Converted to tight end his senior year after playing as an offensive lineman, totaling 536 receiving yards and three touchdowns on 34 catches ... Rated as a three-star tight end prospect by 247sports, On3 and ESPN, and a two-star recruit by Rivals ... Ranked as the No. 20 tight end in Arizona and No. 62 in the country by On3 ... Chose the Aztecs over offers from Air Force, Army West Point and Colorado State, along with FCS schools Idaho, Mercer and Northern Arizona.