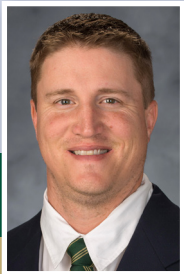




THE COACHES



ANDY THOMPSON

Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator | Second Year | Montana, '04

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Andy Thompson was named the 12th head coach in Sacramento State history on Dec. 13, 2022. Thompson had served as the Hornets' defensive coordinator and linebackers since January of 2019.
- In his first season as head coach, Thompson guided the Hornets to the second round of the NCAA FCS Playoffs and earned the team's first Div. I postseason road victory. His eight wins were the second most by a first-year head coach in program history and the season was highlighted by a 30-23 win at Stanford.
- Eleven players earned all-Big Sky honors, including linebacker Armon Bailey, safety Cameron Broussard, tight end Marshel Martin IV and tackle Jackson Slater who were all first team selections.
- Thompson saw the defense make significant improvements from the prior year as the team allowed 132 less yards per game, led the Big Sky in defensive pass efficiency and red zone defense and the team recorded 44 sacks for the second most in program history.
- Individually, defensive end George Obinna earned FCS All-America honors from multiple outlets after he set the Sacramento State single-season (14.0) and career (33.5) record for sacks.
- Defensive tackle Dariyn Choates, cornerback Daron Bland and Obinna were each named to the all-Big Sky first team.
- Linebackers Marcus Bruce and Marcus Hawkins and safety Caelan Barnes were all second team selections.
- The 2021 season proved to be just as successful as the team went undefeated in conference play and earned a second FCS Playoffs appearance.
- Josiah Erickson was named first team all-Big Sky and was an FCS All-American after recording 16.5 tackles-for-loss.
- Linebacker Marcus Hawkins, nickelback Marte Mapu and cornerback Munchie Filer III were each named to the second team.
- In 2022, Mapu became just the second player to earn Big Sky Defensive Player of the Year in school history and earned first team All-America honors from the Associated Press. Mapu also became the highest drafted player in school history as he was selected by the New England Patriots in the third round of the NFL Draft.

- The Hornet defense allowed 21.8 points per game through the regular season and helped the team to an undefeated record through its first 12 games by recording stops on potential game-winning or tying drives in the final two minutes of four contests.
- Along with Mapu, linebacker Armon Bailey was named to the all-Big Sky first team after leading the Hornets with 88 total tackles, including a team-high 12.5 for loss and six sacks. Defensive tackle Jett Stanley and cornerback Caleb Nelson were on the second team while defensive end Killian Rosko was a third-team selection.

AT NORTHERN ARIZONA

- Thompson spent 13 seasons at Northern Arizona.
- He started his coaching career with the Lumberjacks directing the running backs for two years. He then coached linebackers for two seasons before becoming the defensive coordinator for 10 years.
- Thompson coached more than 60 all-Big Sky selections during his time in Flagstaff, Ariz.
- In 2018, NAU ranked third in the Big Sky in total defense after allowing a Big Sky best 1,797 passing yards along with 17 interceptions.
- The Lumberjacks also ranked first in the Big Sky in pass defense in 2014 (177.2) and opponents third





down percentage (.333), second in scoring defense (25.7), pass defense efficiency (122.2) and opponent first downs (19.2).

- That season, six NAU defensive players earned all-Big Sky honors, including cornerback Marcus Alford who was an All-American.
- In 2013, his defense led the FCS with eight touchdowns en route to a playoff appearance.
- Ten Lumberjacks were named all-Big Sky with Lucky Dozier also taking home Associated Press All-America honors.
- That year, NAU finished first in total defense (348.3), pass defense (190.8), pass defense efficiency (107.7), opponent first downs (17.7), opponent third-down conversions (34.9) and opponent fourth-down conversions (29.4). NAU was also second in scoring defense (22.0) and tallied 21 sacks on the season.
- Thompson helped make an immediate impact on defense during the 2008 season as Northern Arizona ranked second nationally with just 59.8 rushing yards allowed per game.

EARLY CAREER

- Coached at Eastern Oregon in 2004 under current assistant Travis Baker.
- At EOU, he tutored Nick Hannaw, a linebacker who signed as a free agent with the Indianapolis Colts.
- His special teams' punt and kickoff return units both ranked among the NAIA top 10.

AS A PLAYER

- A native of Walla Walla, Wash., Thompson played for Montana for four seasons (1999, 2001-03).
- Helped the Grizzlies to five Big Sky championships and one national championship (2001) during his five-year career in Missoula.
- Played in 44 career games with 103 total tackles, including 8.5 tackles for loss.

PERSONAL

- Thompson graduated with a degree in health enhancement from Montana in May 2004.
- He married the former Mikal Mickleson in the summer of 2008. They have three sons, Mac, Austin, and Teague.

HOMETOWN

Walla Walla, Wash.

- Is the seat of Walla Walla County.
- Is four hours from Portland and 4.5 from Seattle.
- Was established in 1818 with Fort Nez Perce.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Head Coach (2023-pres.)
Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers (2019-pres.)
- **Northern Arizona**
Defensive Coordinator/Linebackers (2009-18)
Linebackers (2007-08)
Running Backs (2005-06)
- **Eastern Oregon**
Linebackers/Special Teams (2004)

MILESTONE VICTORIES

- **1st Win**
Aug 31, 2023 - at Nicholls (38-24)
- **1st Big Sky Conference Win**
Sept. 30, 2023 - vs. Northern Arizona (31-30)
- **1st NCAA FCS Postseason Win**
Nov. 25, 2023 - at #12 North Dakota (42-35)



KRIS RICHARDSON

Associated Head Coach/Run Game Coord./Off. Line | Sixth Year | Chico State, '94

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Kris Richardson was hired as Sacramento State's Assistant Head Coach and Offensive Line Coach in January of 2019. He was elevated to Associate Head Coach/Run Game Coordinator in December of 2022.
- During Richardson's first season, the Hornets went 9-4 overall, earned a share of the Big Sky Conference title and advanced to the FCS Playoffs for the first time in school history.
- His offensive line was led by Wyatt Ming and Nick Bianco who both earned all-conference honors. Ming, who was a first team selection at center, went on to play in the Hula Bowl All-Star Game.
- The unit surrendered just 16 sacks during the season and ranked among the top 10 in the FCS in sacks allowed per pass attempt. Additionally, the team rushed for 2,201 yards and amassed 6,033 yards of total offense.
- In 2021, the line was anchored by center Thomas Parker who was a first team all-Big Sky selection and earned All-America honors.
- Kooper Richardson (Kris' son) and Brandon Weldon also earned second team all-Big Sky.
- In 2022, Richardson's offensive line had four players earn all-Big Sky accolades with guards Jackson Slater and Weldon being named to the first team and tackle Troy Stiefel and center Nathan Mejia landing on the second team.
- The unit featured six different starters and paved the way to the team being the seventh-ranked rushing offense in the FCS and ranked third in total offense.
- Sacramento State averaged 5.41 yards per rush during the year and set the school record in rushing yards in a season with 3,163 yards while allowing just 16 sacks in 13 games.
- The following year, Richardson coached three offensive linemen to all-Big Sky honors. Slater returned to the first team and joined Jon Osterhout (1998-99) as the only offensive linemen in school history to earn the honor in consecutive years. Left tackle Ivan Garza and center Nathan Mejia each earned honorable mention.
- Despite starting eight players on the line during the year, the unit combined to surrender just 16 sacks in 13 games.

AT FOLSOM HS

- Richardson came to the Hornets after serving on the Folsom High School staff for 24 years, including his final 14 as the varsity head coach.
- The Bulldogs posted a 162-27-1 record under his leadership and became one of the most dominant programs in area history.
- From 2010-18, Folsom went 127-10 with nine league titles, seven Sac-Joaquin Section Championships and four state crowns.
- His teams won the CIF Div. 1-AA titles in 2017 and 2018.
- Following the 2017 season, Richardson was named the Cal-Hi Football Coach of the Year.
- Folsom sent over 30 players to NCAA Div. I schools during his tenure including quarterbacks Jake Browning (Washington) and Dano Graves (Cal Poly), safety Jordan Richards (Stanford/New England Patriots/Atlanta Falcons), offensive lineman Jonah Williams (Alabama/Cincinnati Bengals) and wide receiver Joe Ngata (Clemson).
- The Bulldogs also set the CIF state record for points as well as recording the most passing yards in a year in four consecutive seasons.
- In 2017, Folsom finished the year ranked 18th in the MaxPreps national poll. The Bulldogs were 16-0 and outscored their opponents 770-301.
- In 2018, Folsom retained its CIF Div. 1-AA crown with a 21-14 overtime win over Cathedral Catholic.
- The team started the season with a 14-0 loss at De La Salle but won its final 14 games and finished the year ranked 17th nationally by MaxPreps.
- The Bulldogs averaged 55.4 points per game during the win streak while holding opponents to 13.9 ppg.
- The team advanced to the state championship with an 84-46 win over previously unbeaten Central HS of Fresno.

PERSONAL

- Richardson and his wife, Kelly, have three children: Kooper, Kaden and Katie. Kooper played for the Hornets and Kaden is a current offensive lineman on the team.

HONORS

- Cal-Hi Football Coach of the Year (2017)

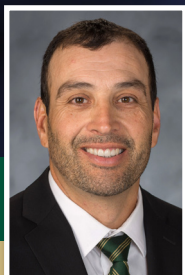
HOMETOWN

Pacheco, Calif.

- Located in Contra Costa County in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- Is 19 miles northeast of Oakland and 27 miles northeast of San Francisco.
- Was founded in 1857.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Assistant Head Coach/Off. Line (2019-pres.)
- **Folsom HS**
Co-Head Coach (2002-04; 2012-15)
Head Coach (2005-11, 2016-18)



BOBBY FRESQUES

Associate Head Coach/Off. Coordinator/QBs | Sixth Year | Sacramento State, '92

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Bobby Fresques was promoted to associate head coach and offensive coordinator at Sacramento State in December of 2023. Fresques remains the team's quarterbacks coach, a position he has held since January of 2019.
- In 2023, coordinated a Hornet offense which averaged 420.8 yards and 30.5 points per game. The team started three quarterbacks during the season and the trio combined to throw for 242.9 yards per game with 23 touchdowns and 11 interceptions.
- Helped take the offense to new heights during the 2019 season as Sacramento State set school single-season records for points scored (464), touchdowns (63), first downs (326), plays (995), total yards (6,033), pass attempts (524), and passing yards (3,832).
- Kevin Thomson was named the Big Sky Offensive Player of the Year and was one of four finalists for the Walter Payton Award after recording 3,835 yards of total offense in 12 games for an average of 319.6 yards.
- In 2021, the team utilized a two-quarterback system with Jake Dunniway and Asher O'Hara splitting time. Dunniway was named third team all-Big Sky at quarterback while O'Hara was a unanimous first team choice as an all-purpose player.
- The pair combined to throw for 3,475 yards and 19 touchdowns and rushed for 713 yards and nine TDs.
- The duo returned in 2022 and produced 4,220 yards of total offense while accounting for 49 touchdowns. Sacramento State finished the season with a 12-1 overall record and went undefeated through conference play for the second straight season. O'Hara took home his second first team all-Big Sky all-purpose honor while Dunniway was named to the third team.

AT FOLSOM HS

- Joined the Folsom staff in 2010.
- The Bulldogs went 138-12 during his tenure and won nine league titles, six Sac-Joaquin Section championships and three state crowns.
- Folsom claimed the CIF Div. 1-AA titles in both 2017 and 2018.
- The team also appeared in a pair of Northern California Open Division finals but fell to powerhouse De

La Salle in 2012 and 2013.

- Quarterback Kaiden Bennett was named to the MaxPreps Junior All-America first team in 2017 and the Bulldogs had the highest QBR in state of California in 2018.

EARLY CAREER

- Began his coaching career at Sacramento City College in 1996.
- The following year, he moved to Sacramento State where he was the wide receivers coach.
- Fresques was hired at Cal in 1998. As the offensive assistant, he worked closely with the wide receivers and also served as a recruiting specialist.
- The next year, he took over as the head coach at Christian Brothers HS and remained with the Falcons through the 2004 season.
- During the same period, he also was the Sacramento Regional Director of The NFL Junior Player Development program (2005-07) and led the NorCal Passing Academy (2009-18).

AS A PLAYER

- Started his collegiate career at Wyoming.
- He was part of two Western Athletic Conference championship teams during his time at Wyoming.
- Was the Sacramento State QB from 1990-92.
- Left the Hornets ranked fourth in school history with 3,757 career passing yards and was second with 27 career touchdown passes.
- Improved his output each season, throwing for 462 yards and four touchdowns in 1990, then 1,280 yards and eight touchdowns and concluding with 2,015 yards and 15 touchdowns as a senior.
- Played professionally with the Munich Cowboys and San Jose Sabercats,

PERSONAL

- Graduated with a bachelor's degree in communication studies from Sacramento State in 1992.
- He added his single subject teaching credential from National University in 2006.
- He and his wife, Wendy (who is also a Sacramento State graduate and former Hornet cheerleader) are the parents of three daughters: Ashlynn, Presley and Havannah.

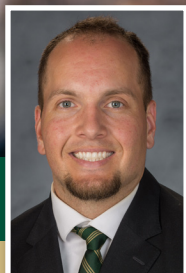
HOMETOWN

La Verne, Calif.

- Located 32 miles east of Los Angeles.
- Incorporated in 1906.
- Is home to the University of La Verne.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
 - Offensive Coordinator (2023-pres.)
 - Quarterbacks (2019-pres.)
 - Wide Receivers (1997)
- **Folsom HS**
 - Quarterbacks (2010-18)
- **Christian Brothers HS**
 - Head Coach (1999-2004)
- **Cal**
 - Offensive Assistant (1998)
- **Sacramento City College**
 - Assistant Coach (1996)



JEREMY LAPAN

Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends | Sixth Year | Montana, '11

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Jeremy LaPan was named the special teams coordinator and tight ends coach at Sacramento State in January of 2019.
- In his first season with the Hornets, LaPan tutored Marshal Martin to second team all-Big Sky honors and FCS Freshman All-America accolades.
- Martin ranked third on the team with 39 receptions for 550 yards and tied the team lead with seven touchdown catches.
- On special teams, Sacramento State led the Big Sky in kickoff return coverage.
- The 2021 season saw Martin earn first team all-Big Sky honors and earn FCS All-America after leading the team with 53 receptions for 649 yards and six touchdowns in 11 games.
- Kicker Kyle Sentkowski was also an All-American and first team all-Big Sky selection in 2021. Sentkowski rewrote the school record book with 21 field goals, including 12 from 40-yards plus.
- Punter Sam Clark was named third team all-league after averaging 44.4 yards per punt.
- In 2022, Martin was named to several FCS All-America teams and earned his second straight first team all-Big Sky honor after catching 65 passes for 879 yard and 12 touchdowns to lead the team.
- Sentkowski made 17-of-20 field goals and did not miss any of his school-record 71 PATs during the season. That effort landed him on the all-Big Sky first team an earned All-America accolades.
- Cal McGough was voted to the all-Big Sky third team at punter following his freshman season. McGough averaged 40.9 yards per punt and had just one touchback during the year while placing 13 punts inside the opponent 20-yard line.
- In 2023, Martin became only the fourth player in school history to land on the all-Big Sky first team three times. He left Sacramento State ranked fifth in school history with 2,373 receiving yards, was fourth with 192 career receptions and tied for second with 27 career TD receptions.
- Sacramento State finished the season ranked 10th in the FCS in net punting at 40.34 yards per attempt. Cal McGough was named honorable mention all-Big Sky after averaging 42.9 yards per punt.
- Kicker Zach Schreiner made 14-of-19 field goals and

was a perfect 49-of-49 on extra points. Schreiner moved into a tie for third place in school history for field goals in a season and was named the Big Sky Special Teams Player of the Week after making all three of his attempts in the win at Stanford.

AT UTAH

- In 2018, he was a full-time analyst for the Utes working with special teams.
- Worked closely with the team's kickers, punters, and long snappers. Most notably kicker Matt Gay (Lou Groza Award winner - 2017 and first team all-Pac-12 - 2018), Mitch Wishnowsky (2016 Ray Guy Award winner and two-time Ray Guy Award finalist 2017-2018) and Tom Hackett (two-time Ray Guy Award winner 2014-2015).
- Was part of the Utes on-field staff from 2015-2017 where he worked closely with the linebackers, and every facet of special teams.
- Assisted Justin Ena coaching the team's linebackers which included a pair of all-Pac-12 players in 2015.
- Started his career at Utah as a coaching assistant working with the tight ends, offensive line and special teams from 2012-14.
- Also coordinated and coached the Utes annual specialists camp 2016-2018.

AS A PLAYER

- Played collegiately at Montana as an offensive tackle where he was part of the Griz' Big Sky Championship team in 2011 which advanced to the FCS semifinals.
- Began his collegiate career at Santa Ana JC.

PERSONAL

- Is married to Kenzie Lynn LaPan and the pair are parents to Jack and Harrison.
- Earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Montana in 2011 and added a master's in applied sports psychology from Utah in 2018.

HOMETOWN

Garden Grove, Calif.

- Located in northern Orange County and is 34 miles south of downtown Los Angeles.
- Founded in 1874 and incorporated in 1956.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Special Teams Coordinator/Tight Ends (2019-pres.)
- **Utah**
Special Teams Analyst (2018)
Asst. Linebackers/Special Teams (2015-17)
Asst. Tight Ends/Off. Line/Specialists (2012-14)



CHEROKEE VALERIA

Def. Passing Game Coord./Safeties | Sixth Year | Central Washington, '99

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Was hired as Sacramento State's Defensive Passing Game Coordinator and Cornerbacks coach in February of 2019.
- Team led the Big Sky in defensive pass efficiency and red zone defense in his first season.
- The Hornets more than doubled their interceptions from the previous season after recording 11 in 2019 compared to five in 2018.
- Individually, Daron Bland was named first team all-conference at cornerback and safety Caelan Barnes was a second team all-conference selection.
- Bland started every game and finished with 39 total tackles, including two for loss. He also tied for the team lead with two interceptions and led Sacramento State with eight PBUs.
- In 2021, the defense again was disruptive, combining for 16 interceptions.
- Muchie Filer III earned second team all-Big Sky honors at cornerback after tying for the team lead with four interceptions.
- That total was matched by nickelback Marte Mapu who was also named to the second team.
- In 2022, Mapu became the first defensive back in school history to be named the Big Sky Defensive MVP. The senior also claimed numerous All-America awards, was part of the NFLPA All-Star Game and the Senior Bowl before becoming the highest NFL draft pick in school history as he was selected by the New England Patriots in the third round.
- During the season, Mapu ranked second on the team with 76 total tackles (6.5 TFL) and added two interceptions, four pass breakups, two quarterback hurries and forced a fumble.
- Caleb Nelson was named second team all-Big Sky after his first year with the Hornets in 2022. He had 37 total tackles and led the team with 12 PBUs.
- In 2023, Cameron Broussard was named first team all-Big Sky and cornerback Dillon Juniel honorable mention. Broussard ranked second on the team with 73 total tackles and also had a pair of interceptions. Juniel started all 13 games and led the team with 13 pass breakups to go along with his one interception.

AT EASTERN WASH.

- Joined the EWU staff in 2012 and served as the team's cornerbacks coach and was also the recruiting coordinator for his final three years (2016-18).
- Coached 10 cornerbacks to all-Big Sky honors. Among those honored were Josh Lewis (2017-18) and T.J. Lee III who was a first team all-Big Sky honors and was an FCS All-American in 2012-13.
- In 2016, EWU finished third in the FCS in turnovers gained with 31. That total included 10 takeaways by cornerbacks as his group combined for seven interceptions and three fumble recoveries.
- EWU won at least one playoff game in five seasons, advancing to the quarterfinals in 2014, the semifinals in 2012, 2013 and 2016 and the FCS Championship game in 2018.
- The 2017 recruiting class for the Eagles was ranked third in the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision by 247Sports.com (133rd overall at the Division I level), and the 2018 class was in the top 10 in FCS (136th overall).

AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

- Was an assistant coach at SEMO in 2011 when the school's defense ranked 23rd in the FCS in passing defense, allowing just 182.7 yards per game.
- Also served as assistant recruiting coordinator and was the team's pro football liaison.

AT CAL POLY

- Was the director of football operations, assisted the defensive staff and was the pro liaison in 2010.
- The Mustangs ranked 14th in the FCS in rush defense.

AT IDAHO STATE

- Mentored corners from 2007-10.
- Coached D.J. Clark to pair of all-Big Sky awards. Clark finished his career ranked third in ISU history with 15 interceptions and went on to be a member of the Carolina Panthers and Green Bay Packers.

AT CENTRAL WASH.

- Coached cornerbacks at CWU from 2005-06.
- The Wildcats won the Great Northwest Athletic Conference title during his first season with an 8-2 overall

- mark and an undefeated record in league games.
- Central Washington's defense ranked 11th nationally in turnover margin, with both of Valeria's cornerbacks (Brandon Kennedy and Josiah Wilfong) earning first team all-GNAC honors that year.

AS A PLAYER

- Was a wide receiver at Central Washington from 1993-97, and helped lead the Wildcats to the 1995 NAIA National Championship.
- That team was inducted into the CWU Hall of Fame in 2005.

PERSONAL

- Graduated from Central Washington with a degree in biology in 1999.
- He and his wife, Mindy, were married in July of 2017.
- Has two sons (Cameron and Ayosgi Uwasa) and a daughter (T'Kia Li).

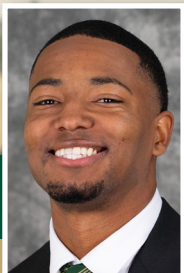
HOMETOWN

Hilo, Hawaii

- Is the seat of Hawaii County which is located on the island of Hawai'i.
- Located at the base of Mauna Loa volcano.
- Home to the University of Hawai'i at Hilo, 'Imiloa Astronomy Center and Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corporation.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Defensive Passing Game Coordinator/Secondary/Pro Liaison (2019-pres.)
- **Eastern Washington**
Cornerbacks (2012-18)
Recruiting Coordinator (2016-18)
- **Southeast Missouri**
Secondary (2011)
- **Cal Poly**
Director of Operations/Def. Asst./Pro Liaison (2010)
- **Idaho State**
Cornerbacks (2007-10)
- **Central Washington**
Cornerbacks (2005-06)



KEYSHAWN COLMON

Wide Receivers | First Year | John Carroll, '22

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Was hired to coach wide receivers in February of 2024.

AT FRESNO STATE

- Served as an offensive graduate assistant in 2023.
- Assisted with the wide receivers where four players finished the year with 500 or more yards receiving including two with 700-plus receiving yards.

AT DAYTON

- Was a graduate assistant in 2022.
- That year, the Flyers went 8-3 overall and 6-2 in the Pioneer Football League.

AS A PLAYER

- Played collegiately at John Carroll University from 2018-21, where he was a wide receiver.
- Appeared in 22 career games, with a season shortened to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Totaled 41 receptions for 624 yards and six touchdowns.

PERSONAL

- Graduated from John Carroll in 2022 with a degree in sports studies.

HOMETOWN

Youngstown, Ohio

- The 11th largest city in Ohio.
- Located 58 southeast of Cleveland and 61 miles northwest of Pittsburgh.
- Founded by John Young in 1796 and was incorporated in 1867.
- Home of Youngstown State which is the largest employer in the city.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Wide Receivers (2024)
- **Fresno State**
Graduate Assistant (2023)
- **Dayton**
Graduate Assistant (2022)



KRAIG PAULSON

Defensive Line | Sixth Year | Montana, '87

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Was hired as the Sacramento State defensive line coach in March of 2019.
- In his first season at Sacramento State, Paulson's defensive front was one of the most disruptive in the country as the Hornets amassed 44 sacks and had 110 tackles for loss.
- Defensive end George Obinna was named an FCS All-America by multiple outlets. Obinna set the Sacramento State single-season and career record for sacks.
- Obinna had 14.0 sacks in 2019 (1.08 per game) which is led the Big Sky and ranked third in the FCS. He finished the year with 46 total tackles, including 20.0 TFLs.
- Defensive tackle Dariyn Choates joined Obinna on the all-Big Sky first team after recording 52 total tackles, including 17.5 for loss and seven sacks.
- The 2021 team continued to bring the pressure led by All-American and first team all-Big Sky selection Josiah Erickson who tallied 19.5 tackle-for-loss and 10.0 sacks during the year.
- Defensive tackle Jett Stanley earned honorable mention all-Big Sky.
- The following year, Stanley was named to the all-Big Sky second team and Killian Rosko earned third team honors at defensive end.
- Stanley recorded 40 tackles, including 2.5 for loss from the interior of the line. Rosko was credited with 41 stops with 6.5 coming behind the line of scrimmage. He also forced a fumble, recovered two and had four quarterback hurries during the year.
- In 2023, Stanley returned to the all-Big Sky second team after recording 40 tackles including five for loss. Stanley was named the Big Sky Defensive Player of the Week after tallying three sacks in the team's win at Stanford.

AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

- Was the assistant head coach and defensive coordinator at Southern Illinois for three seasons (2016-18).
- Made an immediate impact with the Salukis as his defense allowed 75 fewer rushing yards and four fewer points in his first season compared to the prior year.
- SIU's 12 interceptions that season were the most for the program in five years and Southern Illinois led

the Missouri Valley Football Conference, and ranked 11th nationally, in red zone defense.

AT MONTANA

- Started his coaching career as a graduate assistant in 1987 and earned a full-time job in 1988.
- Helped Montana win a national championship in 1995, and took over as defensive coordinator in 1998, winning two more conference championships.
- Returned to Montana as defensive coordinator from 2004-09 where he helped the Griz win six-straight conference championships and advance to the national championship game three times.
- During his second stint at Montana, the Grizzlies went 71-13 overall, 34-4 in the Big Sky, and 11-6 in the playoffs.
- Earned the All-American Football Foundation Assistant Coach Award in 2006.
- Montana produced nine All-Americans under Paulson and his 2009 Montana defense led the nation in turnovers with 37, including 26 interceptions.
- That season, he coached Kroy Biermann to the Buck Buchanan Award as the FCS top defensive player. Biermann went on to be drafted by the Atlanta Falcons and enjoyed seven years in the NFL.

OTHER STOPS

- Was the defensive coordinator at Utah State from 2000-02.
- Served as the defensive coordinator, linebackers coach and assistant head coach for five seasons at UNLV from 2010-14.
- Helped the Rebels reach the 2014 Heart of Dallas Bowl before coaching at Northern State in 2015.

AS A PLAYER

- Was a fullback at Montana from 1983-86.
- Started the Griz' tradition and handing down the #37 jersey to a younger player from the state of Montana.

PERSONAL

- Graduated from Montana in 1987 with a bachelor's degree in education.
- He and his wife, Jody, have three sons: Keogh, Elias and Rokken.

HOMETOWN

Plentywood, Mont.

- Is the seat of Sheridan County.
- Had a population of 1,734 as of 2010.
- Was incorporated in 1912.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Defensive Line (2019-pres.)
- **Southern Illinois**
Asst. Head Coach/Defensive Coordinator (2016-18)
- **Northern State**
Defensive Backs (2015)
- **UNLV**
Asst. Head Coach/Outside Linebackers (2012-14)
Defensive Coordinator/Defensive Ends (2010-11)
- **Montana**
Defensive Coordinator (1998-99; 2004-09)
Defensive Line (1988-97)
Graduate Assistant (1987)
- **Utah State**
Defensive Coordinator/Secondary (2000-02)



DONNELL PUMPHREY

Running Backs | Second Year | San Diego State, '16

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Was hired as Sacramento State's running backs coach in February of 2023.
- In 2023, coached Marcus Fulcher to all-Big Sky honors. The senior led the team in rushing with 590 yards despite being limited to 10 games. Fulcher also scored a team-high eight rushing touchdowns and added two more through the air.
- Elijah Tau-Tolliver and Zeke Burnett each added a 100-yard rushing game during the year to join the two from Fulcher. Eight different Hornet backs had a carry during the season with four finding the end zone.

AS A PLAYER

- Was a standout at San Diego State from 2013-16 where he helped the Aztecs to a pair of Mountain West Conference titles and four bowl games.
- Appeared in all 54 games during his career and saw SDSU compile a 37-17 record.
- Ended his career with 6,405 career rushing yards which is the most in NCAA FBS history.
- Also ranked fifth in in all-purpose yards (7,515), tied for eighth in touchdowns scored (7,515) and ninth in rushing touchdowns (62).
- Is the player in NCAA FBS history with at least 5,000 rushing yards and 1,000 receiving yards.
- Also owns San Diego State career records in all-purpose yards (7,515), 100-yard rushing games (33), overall touchdowns (67), rushing touchdowns (62), overall points (402) and rushing attempts (1,059).
- Was a two-time Mountain West Offensive Player of the Year (2015-16), three-time first-team all-MW pick (2014-16) and three-time SDSU most valuable player (2014-16)
- As a senior in 2016, rushed for a then school-record 2,133 yards and 17 touchdowns en route to finishing in a tie for 10th in the Heisman Trophy voting.
- Was a finalist for the Doak Walk Award (top running back), semifinalist for the Maxwell Award (offensive player of the year) and Walter Camp Player of the Year, first-team All-America selection by Walter Camp and Sports Illustrated, and a second-team All-America pick by Associated Press, AFCA, USA Today and The Sporting News.

- Selected in the fourth round of the 2017 NFL Draft by the Philadelphia Eagles. The Eagles won Super Bowl LII that season over the New England Patriots.

PERSONAL

- Graduated from San Diego State with a degree in communications.
- Was the Gatorade Nevada Player of the Year in 2012 after his senior season at Canyon Springs HS.

HOMETOWN

Las Vegas, Nev.

- The most populous city in Nevada and the 25th largest in the United States.
- Name is Spanish for "The Meadows".
- Incorporated in 1911.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Running Backs (2023-pres.)
- **San Diego State**
Graduate Assistant (2022)



JASON SLOWEY

Defensive Ends | Second Year | Western Oregon, '12

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Named the team's rush ends coach in February of 2023.
- In 2023, the Hornet defensive ends combined for 106 total tackles, including 8.5 sacks. The group was led by DeShawn Lynch who had 34 tackles and tied for the team lead with 4.5 sacks.
- Sacramento State recorded a sack in 10 games with a high of six in the win at Stanford. The team also at least two TFLs in all 13 games and had five or more in eight contests.

AT WESTERN OREGON

- Served on the coaching staff at Western Oregon from 2014-22.
- With the Wolves, he was the linebackers coach from 2017-22 and also served as the Director of Operations.
- Previously coached tight ends in 2015-16 and was the assistant offensive line coach during his first season with the team.
- In 2019, Western Oregon captured a share of the Great Northwest Athletic Conference for the first time in school history after ending the year with a 5-1 league record.
- The team's linebackers played a large role in the success as Nate Proctor, Jr. (70 tackles), Jaylin Parnell (68) and Tyler Whard (60) were WOU's three leading tacklers. The trio also combined for 23 tackles-for-loss (including 13 sacks), an interception, five pass breakups and four forced fumbles. All three were named all-GNAC.
- During his final season at WOU, Parnell was named first team Div. II All-America by the AFCA and the Conference Commissioners Association. That season, he was named the Lone Star Conference Defensive Player of the Year after leading the leagues in tackles per game (8.5) and sacks per game (0.77). He finished the season with 94 total tackles, including 8.5 sacks, and added an interception, a forced fumble and blocked kick.

AS A PLAYER

- Was a two-time All-American on the offensive line for Western Oregon from 2007-11.
- Started his final four years, earning three all-GNAC honors on top of being selected all-region.
- Capped his collegiate career by being named the GNAC Offensive Lineman of the Year.
- In the spring of 2012, became the third Western Oregon player to be selected in the NFL Draft when he was picked the San Francisco 49ers in the sixth round.
- Went on to play with the Oakland Raiders and BC Lions of the CFL before retiring due to a back injury.
- Also competed in track and field while at Western Oregon where he was a four-time conference champion in the shot put and competed at six NCAA indoor and outdoor championships.
- Was a member of six WOU teams which won conference titles and was the school's Track and Field Athlete of the Year as a senior.

PERSONAL

- Earned his bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies from Western Oregon in 2012 and added a master's in education in 2016.

HOMETOWN

Medford, Ore.

- The county seat of Jackson County.
- Is the fourth largest metro area in the state of Oregon.
- Located 27 miles north of the California-Oregon border.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Defensive Ends (2023-pres.)
- **Western Oregon**
Linebackers (2017-22)
Director of Operations (2-17-22)
Tight Ends (2015-16)
Assistant Offensive Line (2014)



BRANDYN THOMPSON

Cornerbacks | First Year | Boise State, '11

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Returned to his hometown and was named the cornerbacks coach at Sacramento State in May 2024.

AT CAL POLY

- Served as the cornerbacks coach at Cal Poly during the 2023 season.
- Coached Donovan Saunders to second team all-Big Sky honors. Saunders finished the season ranked third in the conference with three interceptions and led the team with 11 pass breakups. One of Saunders' interceptions came in the game against the Hornets.

EARLY CAREER

- Spent six years at the executive director at DB Select where he trained and mentored some of the top defensive backs in the Sacramento area.
- Also served as the defensive backs coach at Sacramento City College in 2022 on the staff of former Hornet Dannie Walker.

AS A PLAYER

- Played football at Boise State from 2007-10, earning 146 total tackles (95 solo) with seven for loss in 48 games.
- Recorded 13 interceptions in his Bronco career, returning one for a touchdown in his junior season, and earned Academic All-America and all-Western Athletic Conference honors.
- During his career, Boise State posted a 47-5 overall record.
- Was selected by the Washington Redskins (now Commanders) in the seventh round of the 2011 NFL Draft.
- Moved to the CFL where he had stints with the Ottawa RedBlacks (2014-15) and Edmonton Eskimos (now Elks) (2016-17).
- Had eight interceptions in the CFL and helped Ottawa reach the Grey Cup in 2015.
- Played 19 games for the Eskimos in two seasons, recording 45 defensive tackles and one fumble return for a touchdown, adding three defensive tackles in two playoff games.

PERSONAL

- Graduated from Boise State with a degree in XXXXX in XXXX.
- An alum of Franklin High School in Elk Grove(2007), lettering in football, basketball and track.
- Was an all-league and all-area defensive back and wide receiver.
- Thompson and his wife are the parents to two children.

HOMETOWN

Elk Grove, Calif.

- A suburb located south of Sacramento.
- Incorporated in 2000.
- Largest employer is Apple Inc.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Cornerbacks (2024-pres.)
- **Cal Poly**
Cornerbacks (2023)
- **Sacramento City College**
Defensive Backs (2022)



MISI TUPE

Linebackers | First Year | Texas A&M, '08

AT SACRAMENTO STATE

- Named the team's linebackers coach in December of 2023.

AT UTAH TECH

- Completed five seasons in his second stint at Utah Tech. He spent his final two years as the team's co-defensive coordinator as well as linebackers coach.
- In 2023, coached Will Leota to second team all-United Athletic Conference honors. Leota led the Trailblazers with 76 total tackles in 10 games and had three games with double digit stops.
- The year prior, Malaki Malaki earned first team all-Western Athletic Conference honors and Leota was named to the second team. Malaki tallied at least five tackles in 10 of the team's 11 games and had his season highlighted by 12 tackles against Sam Houston and 10 at Stephen F. Austin to earn WAC Defensive Player of the Week.
- Leota earned second team all-WAC honors for the second consecutive year. He led Utah Tech with 84 total stops and had double digit tackles against Stephen F. Austin, Northern Iowa, Tarleton and BYU.
- Tupe led a dominant group of linebackers in 2019, as four of the Trailblazers' top seven tacklers were linebackers. Two linebackers earned All-Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference honors.

SNOW COLLEGE

- Was on the defensive staff at Snow College from 2016-18. He joined the staff in 2016 as linebackers and secondary coach, before being promoted to associate head coach and defensive coordinator in 2017.
- In 2018, Tupe remained as defensive coordinator and again assumed the role of linebackers coach.
- The Badgers posted a 26-5 record in Tupe's three seasons on the sidelines and claimed victory in the 2017 El Toro Bowl.
- Tupe coached five All-WSFL honorees and two All-Americans, including the 2017 NJCAA Defensive Player of the Year.

EARLY CAREER

- Coached linebackers at Utah Tech (then Dixie State) from 2008-12.
- Served as linebackers coach at Snow Canyon HS in 2014 and Pine View HS the following year.

AS A PLAYER

- Played his freshman and sophomore (2004-05) seasons at then-Dixie State in its final years as a junior college, earning first team All-WSFL and NJCAA All-Region honors.
- Was a finalist for the 2005 NJCAA National Player of the Year award.
- Played two seasons (2006-07) at Texas A&M, where he finished with 151 tackles, 8.5 tackles for loss, 2.0 sacks, and one interception.
- Earned Big XII Defensive Newcomer of the Year honors in 2006 and Team Defensive MVP honors in 2007.

PERSONAL

- Earned a bachelor's degree from Texas A&M in 2008.
- Misi and his wife, Whitnee, who currently serves as an assistant coach for the Utah Tech volleyball program, are the parents of four daughters and two sons.

HOMETOWN

Boise, Idaho

- Is the capital and most populous city in Idaho.
- The Boise metro area is referred to as the Treasure Valley.
- Was incorporated in 1864.

COACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Sacramento State**
Linebackers (2024-pres.)
- **Utah Tech**
Co-Defensive Coordinator (2022-23)
Linebackers (2019-23)
Linebackers (2008-12)
- **Snow College**
Linebackers/Secondary (2016-18)
Assoc. Head Coach/Def. Coordinator (2017-18)
- **Snow Canyon High School**
Linebackers (2014)
- **Pine View High School**
Linebackers (2014)



SUPPORT STAFF



CHRIS PARRY

Dir. of Recruiting & Player Personnel
Sixth Year
Cal Poly, '88



JEFFREY GOLDSMITH

Dir. of Football Operations
Fifth Year
Mississippi College, '12



JUSTIN LANTZ

Video Coordinator/Defensive Analyst
10th Year
Glenville State, '11



NICK SCIACQUA

Special Teams Assistant
First Year
UC Davis, '21



JUSTIN HOULIHAN

Offensive Graduate Assistant
Second Year
Sacramento State, '22



TAYLOR POWELL

Defensive Graduate Assistant
First Year
Northern Arizona, '21



GREG FONG

Offensive Assistant - Recruiting
Fourth Year



WESLEY WILLIAMS

Offensive Assistant - Recruiting
Fourth Year



LEIF SCHANCHE

Recruiting Assistant
Third Year



NATHAN MORRIS

Assistant AD/Sports Performance
Second Year
South Alabama, '16



KENNY MACKLIN

Football Operations Assistant
Fourth Year
San Francisco State, '20