



FOOTBALL

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2015 MOUNTAIN WEST FOOTBALL PRESEASON ALL-CONFERENCE TEAM

LAS VEGAS – The 2015 Preseason All-Mountain West Football Team was announced today at the league’s annual Media Days, being held at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas. The team, as selected by members of the media, features 18 student-athletes who were All-MW selections in 2014, including nine first-team honorees. The 25-member squad is comprised of 17 seniors, seven juniors and one sophomore.

Colorado State junior wide receiver **Rashard Higgins** was named Preseason MW Offensive Player of the Year, while Utah State senior linebacker **Kyler Fackrell** was selected MW Defensive Player of the Year. San Diego State senior placekicker **Donny Hageman** garnered Preseason MW Special Teams Player of the Year honors.

Higgins, a junior, was a 2014 consensus first-team All-American after leading the country with 1,750 receiving yards and 17 touchdown receptions. The native of Dallas, Texas, is one of three players nationally to be named to the 2015 Maxwell Award Watch List, Biletnikoff Award Pre-Season Watch List and the Walter Camp Player of the Year Watch List. He was one of three finalists for the Biletnikoff Award in 2014.

Fackrell is returning to the Aggies’ starting lineup after missing all but one quarter of the 2014 season following a knee injury suffered in Utah State’s season-opening game at Tennessee. In 2013, Fackrell was a 2013 All-MW second-team honoree. He was third on Utah State in tackles with 82, while his 13 tackles for loss (minus-43 yards) led the team. Fackrell recorded five sacks, forced two fumbles and came away with one interception in 2013.

In his lone season at San Diego State, Hageman converted 20-of-25 field goal attempts and was a perfect 37-for-37 on PATs in 2014. Hageman’s 80 percent accuracy on field goal kicks ranked second in the MW and tied for 30th in the FBS. He also averaged 62.7 yards per kickoff on 19 attempts (1,192 yards) with five touchbacks. From Sept. 6-Oct. 18, made eight straight field goals. His 97 points in 2014 ranked second on the team.

The 2015 Preseason All-Mountain West Football Team is listed on the following page:

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Offense

| | | | |
|----|------------------|-----|-----------------|
| QB | Chuckie Keeton | Sr. | Utah State |
| WR | Rashard Higgins* | Jr. | Colorado State |
| WR | Devonte Boyd** | So. | UNLV |
| RB | Donnel Pumphrey* | Jr. | San Diego State |
| RB | Marteze Waller** | Sr. | Fresno State |
| OL | Marcus Henry* | Sr. | Boise State |
| OL | Rees Odhiambo** | Sr. | Boise State |
| OL | Alex Fifita | Sr. | Fresno State |
| OL | Ben Clarke | Sr. | Hawai'i |
| OL | Pearce Slater | Sr. | San Diego State |
| TE | Steven Walker* | Sr. | Colorado State |

Defense

| | | | |
|----|---------------------|-----|-----------------|
| DL | Alex Hansen** | Sr. | Air Force |
| DL | Kamalei Correa* | Jr. | Boise State |
| DL | Ian Seau** | Sr. | Nevada |
| DL | Eddie Yarbrough* | Sr. | Wyoming |
| LB | Tanner Vallejo** | Jr. | Boise State |
| LB | Kyler Fackrell | Sr. | Utah State |
| LB | Nick Vigil* | Jr. | Utah State |
| DB | Weston Steelhammer* | Jr. | Air Force |
| DB | Donte Deayon** | Sr. | Boise State |
| DB | Darian Thompson* | Sr. | Boise State |
| DB | Damontae Kazez** | Jr. | San Diego State |

Specialists

| | | | |
|------|----------------|-----|-----------------|
| P | Alex Boy** | Sr. | Nevada |
| PK | Donny Hageman | Sr. | San Diego State |
| Ret. | Carlos Wiggins | Sr. | New Mexico |

Preseason Offensive Player of the Year: Rashard Higgins, Jr., WR, Colorado State

Preseason Defensive Player of the Year: Kyler Fackrell, Sr., LB, Utah State

Preseason Special Teams Player of the Year: Donny Hageman, Sr., PK, San Diego State

* - member of the 2014 All-Mountain West first team.

** - member of the 2014 All-Mountain West second team.

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