



Alphabetical Index

100 Point Games	121	NCAA Tournament History	183
1,000 Point Scorers	168	Opponent Directory	202
All Opponents, vs.	156	Player Bios	58
Assistant Coaches	52	Preview, 2005 06 Season	6
Athletic Director Jeff Schemmel	195	Overtime Games	120
Athletic Directory	208	Postseason Tournaments	182
Attendance/Home Court Record	187	Recaps, 2004 05 Game	105
Basketball Support Staff	56	Results, 2004 05 Season	92
Cox Arena at Aztec Bowl	206	Results, All Time	140
Cox Arena Records	137	Roster, Broadcast	14
Division I Era Statistical Leaders	181	Roster, 2005 06	4
Double Doubles	125	San Diego State University	190
Fisher, Bio Steve	40	Schedule, 2005 06	5
Freshmen Season Records	134	Series, All Time	157
Letterwinners	176	Series Superlatives	164
Media Information	200	Single Game Performances, Individual	124
Media Outlets	204	Specialty Games	151
MWC Records	135	Statistics, Division I Era Career	178
MWC Tournaments	185	Statistics, 2004 05 Season	93

Table of Contents



SAN DIEGO STATE BASKETBALL

INTRODUCTION



The 2005-06 SDSU Men's Basketball Media Guide

The 2005-06 San Diego State University Basketball Media Guide is a publication of the San Diego State University athletic media relations office. The publication was written, edited and designed by assistant athletic director and media relations director Mike May.

Assistance was provided by media relations assistant Darin Wong, assistant media relations directors Dave Kuhn and Peggy Curtin, media relations assistants Jamie McConeghy, Jim Solien, Richard Groves and Dan Gisel, media relations student assistants Lesley Fong, Keith Kawamura, Clay Spiegel, Marc Feller, Courtney Bylund, Karen Lynch and Cody Jenkins.

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Introduction

Index 1 • Table of Contents 2 • Quick Facts 3 • Rosters 4 • Schedule 5 • 2006 Season Preview 6 • Broadcast Roster 14

This is SDSU Basketball

Steve Fisher 16 • Fisher's Men in the NBA 18 • Cox Arena 20 • Gameday at Cox Arena 22 • Facilities 24 • Big Games 26 • Media Exposure 28 • Community Service 30 • Academics 31 • San Diego State University 32 • City of San Diego 34 • San Diego State Athletics 36 • Mountain West Conference 38



Coaches and Staff

Steve Fisher 40 • Brian Dutcher 52 • Gregg Gottlieb 53 • Mark Hughes 54 • Mark Fisher 55 • Support Staff 56



Players

Mohamed Abukar 58 • Mohamed Camara 60 • Trimaime Davis 62 • Brandon Heath 66 • John Sharper 71 • Marcus Slaughter 76 • Matt Thomas 81 • Brett Hoerner/Chris Lamb 84 • Tim McGrath/Kyle Spain 85 • Richie Williams 86 • Lorenzo Wade 87 • Career Stats vs. MWC 88



2004-05 Review

2004-05 Notes 90 • Results 92 • Game By Game Statistics 94 • Miscellaneous Statistics 101 • Departed Letterwinners 102 • Box Scores and Recaps 105 • MWC Statistics 115



Records

Team 118 • Team Season 120 • Individual Game 122 • Top Game Performances 124 • Individual Season 128 • Individual Career 131 • Freshmen Records 134 • MWC Records 135 • Cox Arena Records 137

History

Year By Year Results 140 • Year By Year Summary 152 • Statistical History 154 • vs. All Opponents 156 • All Time Series 157 • Jersey Numbers 165 • Awards and Honors 166 • 1,000 Point Scorers 168 • Annual Statistical Leaders 172 • Letterwinners 176 • Individual Div. I Stats 178 • National Postseason 182 • Conference Tournaments 185 • Attendance/Home Record 187 • MWC Series 188



University

San Diego State 190 • Dr. Stephen Weber 194 • Jeff Schemmel 195 • Support Staff 196 • Media Information 200 • Opponent Directory 202 • Media Outlets 204 • Broadcast Information 205 • Cox Arena 206 • Directory 208

Media Information



SAN DIEGO STATE BASKETBALL

General Information

Location San Diego, Calif., 92182
 Founded 1897
 Enrollment 34,174
 Nickname Aztecs
 Colors Scarlet and Black
 PMS Color 185
 Arena Cox Arena at Aztec Bowl
 Opened 1997
 Capacity 12,414
 Affiliation NCAA Division I
 Conference Mountain West
 President Dr. Stephen Weber
 Alma Mater (Year) Bowling Green (1964)
 Athletics Director Jeff Schemmel
 Alma Mater (Year) Kansas State (1976)
 Athletic Department Phone 619 594 3019
 Ticket Office Phone 619 283 7378
 or 619 283 SDSU

History

Seasons of Basketball Entering 85th
 First Season of Basketball 1921 22
 All Time Record 1,138 990
 NCAA Tournament Appearances 7
 Seasons of Div. I Basketball Entering 36th
 First Season of Div. I Basketball 1970 71
 All Time Div. I Record 449 544
 NCAA Div. I Tournament Appearances 4
 Last NCAA Appearance 2002
 NIT Appearances 2
 Last NIT Appearance 2003

Media Relations

Assistant AD/MBB Mike May
 SID Main Office Number 619 594 5547
 May Cell Phone 619 957 8372
 SID Fax Number 619 582 6541
 May E mail mmay@mail.sdsu.edu
 SID Mailing Address Aztec Media Relations
 3014 Aztec Athletics Center
 5302 55th Street
 San Diego State University
 San Diego, CA 92182

Basketball Staff

Head Coach Steve Fisher
 Alma Mater (Year) Illinois State (1967)
 Record at SDSU (Years) 81 97 (6)
 Record Overall (Years) 265 179 (14 full)
 Basketball Office Phone 619 594 6249
 Best Time to Contact Fisher Contact May
 Assistant Head Coach Brian Dutcher
 Alma Mater (Year) Minnesota (1982)
 Assistant Coach Gregg Gottlieb
 Alma Mater (Year) UCLA (1995)
 Assistant Coach Mark Hughes
 Alma Mater Michigan (1989)
 Director of Basketball Operations .Mark Fisher
 Alma Mater (Year) Michigan (2001)
 Director of Player Development Matt Soria
 Alma Mater (Year) San Diego State (2002)
 Basketball Trainer Mark Haines
 Alma Mater (Year) Metropolitan State (1987)
 Administrative Assistant Marty Malano

Team Information

	Total	Home	Away	Neu.
2004 05 Record	11 18	7 9	3 8	1 1
2004 05 MWC Record	4 10	2 5	2 5	
Mountain West Finish	.6th			
MWC Tournament	.Semifinals (1 1)			
Postseason	.none			
Starters Returning/Lost	.4/1			
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	.6/6			

Media Information

Radio Station XPRS AM 1090
 Play By Play Announcer Ted Leitner
 PBP Phone Number 858 453 9153
 Radio Analyst John Kentera
 Analyst Phone Number 858 453 9153
 Video Footage Contact Brian Murphy
 VFC Phone Number 619 594 7617
 Beat Writer Ed Graney
 San Diego Union Tribune
 619 293 2203
 Beat Writer Mike Sullivan
 North County Times
 760 739 6645

Media Services

SID Office Phone 619 594 5547
 SID Office Fax 619 582 6541
 Cox Arena Press Row 619 265 5853
 SDSU Athletics Website www.goaztecs.com

2005-06 Roster Breakdown

Starters Returning (4)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Mohamed Camara	6 10	245	Sr.	C	2.4	3.8
Brandon Heath	6 4	198	Jr.	G	18.3	3.7*
John Sharper	6 0	190	Sr.	G	6.0	1.3*
Marcus Slaughter	6 9	220	Jr.	F	17.8	9.0

Total Letterwinners Returning (6)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Mohamed Camara	6 10	245	Sr.	C	2.4	3.8
Trimaïne Davis	6 7	235	Sr.	F	5.2	2.3
Brandon Heath	6 4	198	Jr.	G	18.3	3.7*
John Sharper	6 0	190	Sr.	G	6.0	1.3*
Marcus Slaughter	6 9	220	Jr.	F	7.9	6.8
Matt Thomas	6 3	200	So.	G	6.1	3.4

Other Returning Players (2)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.
Chris Lamb	6 10	231	Fr.	RS F
Tim McGrath	6 5	187	Fr.	RS F

Newcomers (4)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.
Mohamed Abukar	6 10	216	Jr.**	F
Brett Hoerner	6 11	206	Fr.	F
Kyle Spain	6 5	218	Fr.	F
Richie Williams	5 9	158	Fr.	G

Starters Lost (1)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Chris Walton	6 8	234	Exp.	F	6.3	2.6

Total Letterwinners Lost (6)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Travis Hanour	6 6	202	Exp.	G	1.0	1.0
Jared Ines	6 7	234	Exp.	F	1.6	0.0
Tommy Johnson	6 3	186	Exp.	G	1.0	0.8
Chris Manker	7 0	225	Exp.	C	6.8	2.7
Tyler Smith	6 2	208	So.	G	2.2	1.6
Chris Walton	6 8	234	Exp.	F	6.3	2.6

Honors Candidates
 M. Slaughter MWC Player of the Year, All Region
 B. Heath MWC Player of the Year, All Region
 M. Abukar MWC Newcomer of the Year

* Indicates assists per game.
 ** Eligible for competition in mid December

INTRODUCTION

2005-06 San Diego State Alphabetical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Most Recent Div. I Season			Hometown (High School/Previous School)
							PPG	RPG	APG	
34	Mohamed Abukar	F	6 10	216	Jr.	Tr.	5.0	1.4	0.6	San Diego, Calif. (Rancho Bernardo High/Univ. of Florida)
50	Mohamed Camara	C	6 10	245	Sr.	1L	2.4	3.8	0.5	Conakry, Guinea (Moore (Ky.) High/Riverside (Calif.) College)
20	Trimaine Davis	C	6 7	235	Sr.	2L	5.2	2.3	0.2	West Pittsburg, Calif. (Pittsburg High)
1	Brandon Heath	G	6 4	198	Jr.	2L	18.3	3.5	3.7	Los Angeles, Calif. (Westchester High)
00	Brett Hoerner	F	6 11	206	Fr.	HS				Fullerton, Calif. (Fullerton High)
30	Chris Lamb	F	6 10	231	Fr.	RS				Louisville, Colo. (Monarch High)
24	Tim McGrath	F	6 5	187	Fr.	RS				Santa Monica, Calif. (Santa Monica High)
15	John Sharper	G	6 0	190	Sr.	3L	6.0	1.1	1.3	Oakland, Calif. (St. Mary s High)
42	Marcus Slaughter	F	6 9	220	Jr.	2L	17.8	9.0	1.3	Riverside, Calif. (J.W. North High)
33	Kyle Spain	F	6 5	218	Fr.	HS				Newark, Calif. (Newark Memorial High)
21	Matt Thomas	G	6 3	200	So.	1L	6.1	3.4	1.5	Riverside, Calif. (Martin Luther King High)
3	Richie Williams	G	5 9	158	Fr.	HS				Spring Valley, Calif. (Steele Canyon High)

2005-06 San Diego State Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Most Recent Div. I Season			Hometown (High School/Previous School)
							PPG	RPG	APG	
00	Brett Hoerner	F	6 11	206	Fr.	HS				Fullerton, Calif. (Fullerton High)
1	Brandon Heath	G	6 4	198	Jr.	2L	18.3	3.5	3.7	Los Angeles, Calif. (Westchester High)
3	Richie Williams	G	5 9	158	Fr.	HS				Spring Valley, Calif. (Steele Canyon High)
15	John Sharper	G	6 0	190	Sr.	3L	6.0	1.1	1.3	Oakland, Calif. (St. Mary s High)
20	Trimaine Davis	C	6 7	235	Sr.	2L	5.2	2.3	0.2	West Pittsburg, Calif. (Pittsburg High)
21	Matt Thomas	G	6 3	200	So.	1L	6.1	3.4	1.5	Riverside, Calif. (Martin Luther King High)
24	Tim McGrath	F	6 5	187	Fr.	RS				Santa Monica, Calif. (Santa Monica High)
30	Chris Lamb	F	6 10	231	Fr.	RS				Louisville, Colo. (Monarch High)
33	Kyle Spain	F	6 5	218	Fr.	HS				Newark, Calif. (Newark Memorial High)
34	Mohamed Abukar	F	6 10	216	Jr.	Tr.	5.0	1.4	0.6	San Diego, Calif. (Rancho Bernardo High/Univ. of Florida)
42	Marcus Slaughter	F	6 9	220	Jr.	2L	17.8	9.0	1.3	Riverside, Calif. (J.W. North High)
50	Mohamed Camara	C	6 10	245	Sr.	1L	2.4	3.8	0.5	Conakry, Guinea (Moore (Ky.) High/Riverside (Calif.) College)

Head Coach: Steve Fisher (Illinois State, 1967)
Assistant Head Coach: Brian Dutcher (Minnesota, 1982)
Assistant Coaches: Gregg Gottlieb (UCLA, 1995), Mark Hughes (Michigan, 1989)
Director of Operations: Mark Fisher (Michigan, 2001)
Dir. of Player Development: Matt Soria (San Diego State, 2001)
Athletic Trainer: Mark Haines (Metropolitan State College, 1987)

Eligible in 2006-07 Season

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.	Exp.	Most Recent Div. I Season			Hometown (High School/Previous School)
							PPG	RPG	APG	
32	Lorenzo Wade	F	6 6	212	So.	TR	3.9	1.7	0.2	Las Vegas, Nev. (Hargrave Academy/Univ. of Louisville)

► Pronunciations

Mohamed Abukar
 Mohamed AH boo kar
 Mohamed Camara
 Mohamed kuh MAR uh
 Brett Hoerner
 Brett HORN er

► By Class

Seniors (3)
 Mohamed Camara,
 Trimaine Davis, John
 Sharper
Juniors (3)
 Mohamed Abukar,
 Brandon Heath, Marcus
 Slaughter

Sophomores (1)

Matt Thomas

Freshmen (5)

Brett Hoerner, Chris Lamb,
 Tim McGrath, Kyle Spain,
 Richie Williams

► By Position

Guards (4)

Brandon Heath, John
 Sharper, Matt Thomas,
 Richie Williams

Forwards (6)

Mohamed Abukar, Brett
 Hoerner, Chris Lamb, Tim
 McGrath, Marcus
 Slaughter, Kyle Spain

Centers (2)

Mohamed Camara,
 Trimaine Davis

2005 06 Schedule



SAN DIEGO STATE BASKETBALL

Date	Day	Opponent	Site	Time	TV
Exhibition Game					
Nov. 3	Thur.	ST. XAVIER	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	
Top of the World Classic (Carlson Center; Fairbanks, Alaska)					
Nov. 17	Thu.	at Alaska Fairbanks	Fairbanks, Alaska	6:00 p.m. AST	
Nov. 19	Sat.	vs. Illinois Chicago/Montana State		Noon AST	
Nov. 20	Sun.	vs. Denver/Kennesaw St./Lamar/Southern Mississippi		TBA	
Nov. 26	Sat.	ALBANY	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Nov. 30	Wed.	at San Diego	San Diego, Calif.	7:00 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Dec. 3	Sat.	POINT LOMA NAZARENE	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	
Dec. 6	Tue.	at California	Berkeley, Calif.	7:30 p.m. PST	
San Diego SLAM (Cox Arena; San Diego, Calif.)					
Dec. 10	Sat.	San Diego vs. Fresno State	Cox Arena	5:30 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Dec. 10	Sat.	SDSU vs. Washington State	Cox Arena	8:00 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Dec. 17	Sat.	UC SANTA BARBARA	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Dec. 20	Tue.	^UMBC	Cox Arena	8:00 p.m. PST	
Dec. 27	Tue.	at Providence	Providence, R.I.	7:30 p.m. EST	
Dec. 31	Sat.	LOYOLA MARYMOUNT	Cox Arena	Noon PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Jan. 4	Wed.	*COLORADO STATE	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Jan. 7	Sat.	*at Air Force	Colorado Springs, Colo.	7:05 p.m. MST	
Jan. 11	Wed.	*at Utah	Salt Lake City, Utah	7:00 p.m. MST	
Jan. 14	Sat.	*UNLV	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	SportsWest
Jan. 18	Wed.	*at TCU	Fort Worth, Texas	7:00 p.m. CST	
Jan. 21	Sat.	*BRIGHAM YOUNG	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	SportsWest
Jan. 25	Wed.	*NEW MEXICO	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	SportsWest
Jan. 28	Sat.	*at Wyoming	Laramie, Wyo.	2:00 p.m. MST	
Feb. 4	Sat.	*at Colorado State	Fort Collins, Colo.	7:00 p.m. MST	
Feb. 8	Wed.	*AIR FORCE	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Feb. 11	Sat.	*UTAH	Cox Arena	Noon PST	ESPN+Plus
Feb. 16	Thur.	*at UNLV	Las Vegas, Nev.	7:00 p.m. PST	ESPN2
Feb. 18	Sat.	*TCU	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Feb. 22	Wed.	*at Brigham Young	Provo, Utah	7:00 p.m. MST	SportsWest
Feb. 25	Sat.	*at New Mexico	Albuquerque, N.M.	1:00 p.m. MST	ESPN+Plus
Mar. 1	Wed.	*WYOMING	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	SportsWest
Mar. 3	Fri.	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	Cox Arena	7:05 p.m. PST	Channel 4 San Diego
Mar. 7-11	Tue. Sat.	at Mountain West Conference Basketball Tournament (Pepsi Center; Denver, Colo.)			

All ESPN+Plus and SportsWest televised games will air locally on Channel 4 San Diego

* Indicates Mountain West Conference game. ^ Indicates doubleheader with SDSU women's basketball team.

Aztecs Travel Plans

► Hotel information on page 204.

Top of the World Classic

► Depart: Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 a.m. on Alaska Airlines #545, through Seattle, arriving in Fairbanks at 4:15 p.m.
 ► Return: Monday, Nov. 21 at 1:30 a.m. on Alaska Airlines #739, through Seattle, arriving in San Diego at 9:26 a.m.

California

► Depart: Monday, Dec. 5 at 3:35 p.m. on Southwest Airlines #751, arriving in Oakland at 5:05 p.m.
 ► Return: Wednesday, Dec. 7 at 10:30 a.m. on Southwest Airlines #1371, arriving in San Diego at 11:55 a.m.

Providence

► Depart: Monday, Dec. 26 at 7:40 a.m. on Southwest Airlines #1546, through Baltimore, arriving in Providence at 5:30 p.m.
 ► Return: Wednesday, Dec. 28 at 7:30 a.m. on Southwest Airlines #341, through Baltimore, arriving in San Diego at 12:40 p.m.

Air Force

► Depart: Friday, Jan. 6 at 2:05 p.m. on United Airlines #726, arriving in Denver at 5:15 p.m.
 ► Return: Sunday, Jan. 8 at 11:39 a.m. on United Airlines #1183, arriving in San Diego at 12:57 p.m.

Utah

► Depart: Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 4:50 p.m. on Delta #374, arriving in Salt Lake City at 7:42 p.m.
 ► Return: Thursday, Jan. 12 at 11:11 on Delta #1749, arriving in San Diego at 12:04 p.m.

TCU

► Depart: Tuesday, Jan. 17 at 2:04 p.m. on American Airlines #1102, arriving in Fort Worth at 7:04 p.m.
 ► Return: Thursday, Jan. 19 at 10:58 a.m. on American Airlines #465, arriving in San Diego at 11:59 a.m.

Wyoming

► Depart: Friday, Jan. 27 at 2:15 p.m. on United Airlines #368, arriving in Denver at 5:19 p.m.
 ► Return: Sunday, Jan. 29 at 11:30 a.m. on United Airlines #1183, arriving in San Diego at 12:46 p.m.

Colorado State

► Depart: Friday, Feb. 3 at 2:15 p.m. on United Airlines #368, arriving in Denver at 5:19 p.m.
 ► Return: Sunday, Feb. 5 at 11:30 a.m. on United Airlines #1183, arriving in San Diego at 12:46 p.m.

UNLV

► Depart: Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 3:45 p.m. on America West Airlines #6297, arriving in Las Vegas at 5:19 p.m.
 ► Return: Friday, Feb. 17 at 11:59 p.m. on America West Airlines #730, arriving in San Diego at 1:02 a.m.

BYU/New Mexico

► Depart: Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 4:50 p.m. on Southwest Airlines #374, arriving in Salt Lake City at 7:42 p.m.
 ► Depart: Thursday, Feb. 23 at 1:15 p.m. on Delta #3980, arriving in Albuquerque, N.M. at 2:48 p.m.
 ► Return: Saturday, Feb. 25 at 6:30 p.m. on Southwest Airlines #291, arriving in San Diego at 7:25 p.m.

2006 NCAA Div. I Men's Basketball Championship Dates and Sites

Opening Round

Univ. of Dayton Arena
Dayton, Ohio
Dayton, host
March 14

Veterans Memorial Arena
Jacksonville, Fla.
Jacksonville University, host
March 16 and 18

American Airlines Center
Dallas, Texas
Big 12 Conference, host
March 17 and 19

MCI Center
Washington, D.C.
Georgetown University, host
March 24 and 26

First/Second Rounds

Cox Arena
San Diego, Calif.
San Diego State, host
March 16 and 18

Jon M. Huntsman Center
Salt Lake City, Utah
University of Utah, host
March 16 and 18

Palace of Auburn Hills
Auburn Hills, Mich.
Oakland University, host
March 17 and 19

Hubert H. Humphrey
Metrodome
Minneapolis, Minn.
University of Minnesota,
Twin Cities, host
March 24 and 26

Greensboro Coliseum
Greensboro, N.C.
Atlantic Coast Conference,
host
March 16 and 18

Univ. of Dayton Arena
Dayton, Ohio
Dayton, host
March 17 and 19

Regionals

Georgia Dome
Atlanta, Georgia
Georgia Institute of
Technology, host
March 23 and 25

Final Four

RCA Dome
Indianapolis, Ind.
Butler University and
Horizon League, hosts
April 1 and 3

Wachovia Center
Philadelphia, Pa.
Atlantic 10 Conference, host
March 17 and 19

Oakland Arena
Oakland, Calif.
Univ. of San Francisco, host
March 23 and 25

The 2005 06 Season Outlook



Six times in Steve Fisher's remarkable coaching career he has returned at least four starters off a team he coached the previous season. And all six times he has taken those teams to the post season. That's just one reason that the national media look at the four returning starters and six returning letterwinners, and believe that San Diego State is the team to beat in the Mountain West Conference and can return to the postseason for the third time in five seasons.

Playing Favorite

Percentage Returning in '05-06

Category	Pct.	Back
Points	79.7	
Field Goals	78.6	
Three Point FGs	63.4	
Free Throws	89.2	
Rebounds	77.3	
Assists	70.5	
Blocks	75.6	
Steals	82.2	
Minutes	72.7	

Career Games Played/Started

Player	GP	GS
John Sharper	86	25
Trimaine Davis	70	6
Brandon Heath	59	54
Marcus Slaughter	57	45
Mohamed Abukar	37	0
Mohamed Camara	29	21
Matt Thomas	29	11

It hasn't been easy. Nothing worth while ever is. And it didn't happen overnight, building something from nothing doesn't occur overnight.

But now as head coach Steve Fisher enters his seventh season on The Mesa, what seemed to be impossible when he took the job in 1999 is now happening.

San Diego State is picked to win the Mountain West Conference.

Flanked by juniors Marcus Slaughter and Brandon Heath, both of whom earned multiple preseason conference player of the year honors

this summer, along with fellow returning starters John Sharper and Mohamed Camara, team captain Trimaine Davis and MWC preseason newcomer of the year Mohamed Abukar, the Aztecs are ready to make a run at their third post season appearance in the last five seasons.

And although it is easy to look ahead with anticipation for the future Louisville transfer Lorenzo Wade will be a sophomore when he become eligible in 2006 07 and the Aztecs are on the verge of signing yet another nationally ranked recruiting class Aztec fans are not talking about

the future but are instead looking forward to this season.

This is the team that showed just how close to greatness the program was last season and is now ready to take the next step.

A team that features one of the top scoring duos in the country and a Division I transfer expected to make a major impact.

A team that features six returning letterwinners all of whom started at least six games a year ago.

And a team that features a coach who is 6 for 6 in taking teams with at least four returning starters to the postseason.



Postseason Play, Guaranteed

Steve Fisher has guided every team in which he returned at least four starters off a squad he coached the previous season, to postseason play. That bodes well for the Aztecs who return four starters in Mohamed Camara, Brandon Heath, John Sharper and Marcus Slaughter. Below is a look at the phenomenal success Fisher has enjoyed when returning three or more starters, including a perfect 6-for-6 mark taking those teams with at least four returning starters to postseason play.

Starters Returning	Years	Times	Avg. W	NCAA	NIT	none
Five	93	1	31.0	1	0	0
Four	90, 92, 94, 97, 02	5	23.4	4	1	0
When Returning 4 or More Starters		6	24.7	5	1	0
Three	95, 03, 05	3	14.3	1	1	1
When Returning 3 or More Starters		9	21.3	6	2	1



Team Breakdown

2004 05 Record	11 18
MWC Record	4 10
MWC Finish	6th
MWC Tournament	1 1

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Mohamed Camara	6 10	245	Sr.	C	2.4	3.8
Brandon Heath	6 4	198	Jr.	G	18.3	3.7*
John Sharper	6 0	190	Sr.	G	6.0	1.3*
Marcus Slaughter	6 9	220	Jr.	F	17.8	9.0

Total Letterwinners Returning (6)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Mohamed Camara	6 10	245	Sr.	C	2.4	3.8
Trimaine Davis	6 7	235	Sr.	F	5.2	2.3
Brandon Heath	6 4	198	Jr.	G	18.3	3.7*
John Sharper	6 0	190	Sr.	G	6.0	1.3*
Marcus Slaughter	6 9	220	Jr.	F	7.9	6.8
Matt Thomas	6 3	200	So.	G	6.1	3.4

Other Returning Players (2)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.
Chris Lamb	6 10	231	Fr.	RS F
Tim McGrath	6 5	187	Fr.	RS F

Newcomers (4)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.
Mohamed Abukar	6 10	216	Jr.**	F
Brett Hoerner	6 11	206	Fr.	F
Kyle Spain	6 5	218	Fr.	F
Richie Williams	5 9	158	Fr.	G

Starters Lost (1)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl.	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Chris Walton	6 8	234	Exp.	F	6.3	2.6

Total Letterwinners Lost (6)

Player	Ht	Wt	Cl	Pos.	PPG	RPG
Travis Hanour	6 6	202	Exp.	G	1.0	1.0
Jared Ines	6 7	234	Exp.	F	1.6	0.0
Tommy Johnson	6 3	186	Exp.	G	1.0	0.8
Chris Manker	7 0	225	Exp.	C	6.8	2.7
Tyler Smith	6 2	208	So.	G	2.2	1.6
Chris Walton	6 8	234	Exp.	F	6.3	2.6

Only one player in San Diego State history with at least 68 field goal attempts owns a higher field goal percentage than Trimaine Davis' 57.5 career percentage.

San Diego State lost four overtime games, eight games in which it led in the final 10 minutes and five games in which it led 20 minutes or more last season.

In large part, that led to San Diego State's 11-18 overall record and 4-10 mark in the Mountain West Conference. Despite that record, there were glimpses of what could be. For the first time in school history San Diego State recorded road victories at UNLV and at Brigham Young in the same season and made some noise late by upsetting Air Force in the quarterfinals of the Mountain West Conference Championship in Denver.

Despite a number of impressive victories, the close defeats kept San Diego State out of the postseason for a second consecutive year. Fisher hopes that four returning starters will tip the scales in San Diego State's favor.

The issue of concern will be is that experience enough to turn close losses into close victories. More than any season in my career, we had games last year that fell into that category but we were unable to win, Fisher said. We need to change that and experience should be a great asset to help change that. We are excited to have all of those components returning as a good avenue to help jump start the 2005-06 season.

Gone from last season's squad are multiple letterwinners Travis Hanour, Tommy Johnson, Chris Manker and Chris Walton. And although all four of those players had productive careers, the Aztec senior class missed 65 games last season due to illness, injury and suspension.

What remained was a total of 32 starts from the seven departed players from last season, including just 14 from the trio of Hanour, Walton and Wesley Stokes, all of whom were projected as starters during the off season.

This season's Aztec squad should benefit from the playing time they received last year.

The Aztecs return six letterwinners from last season, four of them were starters and all six started at least six games.

There are a trio of experienced bodies in the backcourt, starting with the league's leading returning scorer in junior Brandon Heath. He is joined by senior sharpshooter John Sharper and sophomore Matt Thomas, who started 11 games a year ago at the

point guard position.

The frontcourt is equally experienced, starting with Mountain West Conference preseason player of the year candidate, junior Marcus Slaughter. Joining him in the frontcourt is senior Mohamed Camara, who started 21 games a year ago, and senior captain Trimaine Davis, the heart and soul of the Aztecs.

Experience is always a welcomed commodity and we obviously have that starting with our top two returning scorers Brandon Heath and Marcus Slaughter, Fisher said.

Both of them are very talented and both have started a great part of their two seasons here. Then, you throw in Matt Thomas and John Sharper and you have guys that have playing experience, much of which is from a starting category. That bodes well for us.

The following is a position by position breakdown of the Aztecs as they head into the 2005-2006 season.

Point Guard

For the first time in many seasons, San Diego State will have multiple options at the point guard position without having to dip into the shooting guard position.

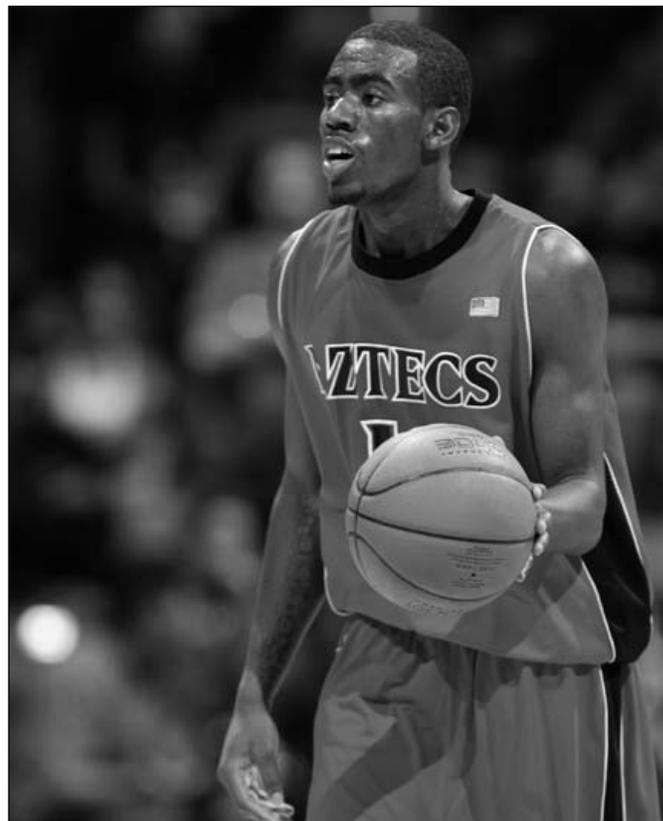
Sophomore Matt Thomas is the incumbent after being thrown into the position as a true freshman last season. The 6-3 guard played in all 29 contests last season, made 11 starts, and proved to be one of the quickest guards in the league.

He had a baptism by fire last year, Fisher said. He became the starting point guard and had various games where he played very well. He is a big guard who has the ability to get to the rim. Matt needs to continue to work on penetrating not only for himself but also for others. He made wonderful progress and I think that year of experience will be immensely helpful as he starts his sophomore year with more confidence.

Thomas last season became the only freshman in the school's Division I history to record 40 assists, 90 rebounds and 30 steals.

He will get quite a battle at the position from true freshman Richie Williams.

Williams, 5-9 from Steele Canyon High in nearby Spring Valley, Calif., will give San Diego State speed at the point position and will aid San Diego State's transition game. He is easily the fastest point guard Steve Fisher has had during his Aztec



With 945 career points, junior Brandon Heath has the most points by any Aztec player following their sophomore campaign in school history.

tenure.

Richie brings what you don't teach and that is blazing speed and quickness, Fisher said. He will be by far the quickest player we have had in the program since I have been here. He is an electrifying and exciting player to watch. He will challenge for playing time. He is not only a point guard but also a scoring guard.

The Aztecs always have the option of utilizing Brandon Heath, the team leader in assists last season, or John Sharper, who has averaged just one turnover every 22.4 minutes in his career, at point guard. Although both will see the bulk of their time at the off guard or wing position, they do possess the ability to play the point.

Shooting Guard

San Diego State is deep in the off guard position and could easily field a small lineup at times that features two players from this category.

Junior Brandon Heath, the leading returning scorer in the Mountain West Conference, averaged 18.3 points as a sophomore last season.

San Diego State Mountain West Conference Honors

Marcus Slaughter

- * MWC Player of the Year (MWC media, *Athlon Sports*, *The Sporting News*, *Strat & Smith's*)
- * Best NBA Prospect (*The Sporting News*, *Strat & Smith's*)

Brandon Heath

- * MWC Player of the Year (CBS Sportsline.com)
- * MWC First Team (MWC media, *Athlon Sports*, *The Sporting News*)
- * Best Penetrator (*Strat & Smith's*)

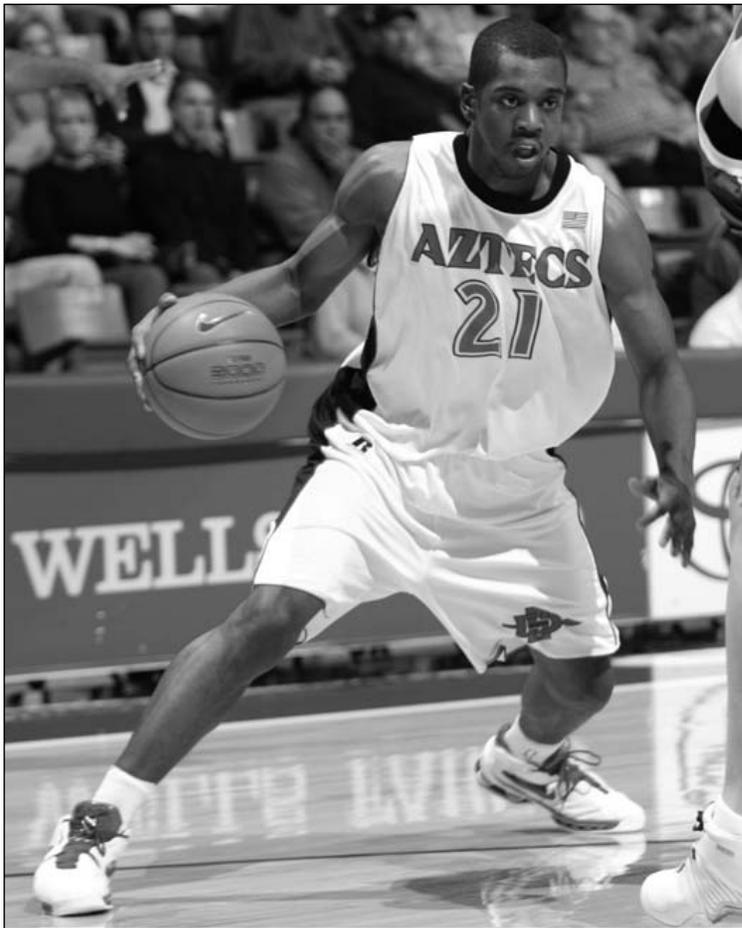
Mohamed Abukar

- * MWC Newcomer of the Year (MWC media, *The Sporting News*)
- * Best Transfer (*Strat & Smith's*)



Junior Marcus Slaughter, the preseason Mountain West Conference Player of the Year, became just the third Aztec player to score 475 points, 200 rebounds, 30 steals and 30 blocked shots in the same season.

DONOVAN'S
STEAK & CHOP HOUSE



Matt Thomas started the final eight games of his freshman season in 2004-05. During the final two months of the season, he was the third leading scorer on the team and was second in rebounding.

He is one of five players in the nation and the only sophomore to rank among the top 50 leaders in both scoring and assists.

Brandon's strength continues to be that no one competes harder, the coach said. He has a scorer's mentality. Every time he shoots it he knows it is going in and that can be a double edge sword. When he gets on streaks as we have seen over the last two seasons he is impossible to stop. He has worked extremely hard not only on his perimeter shot but also the attack off the dribble and mid range shot. He needs to continue to grow in that regard but that is a huge strength of his.

Brandon has the ability to be a lockdown defender. He is a very good one on one defender who enjoys the challenge of facing strong offensive players. He is a winner. He has won at every level he has ever played. He expects to win and that rubs off on other players.

Joining Heath, a preseason first

team all conference selection, in the talent rich backcourt is senior John Sharper. No current Aztec has been in more games than Sharper. A three point shooter, he is the only Aztec to record more three point field goals and assists than turnovers in three consecutive seasons. He has played in 52 consecutive games and has 87 career three point field goals.

But Sharper is more than just a long range threat, he is a solid ball handler, an excellent decision maker and could be the Aztecs best perimeter defender.

Arguably, John was our best on ball defender last year, Fisher said.

He is a very good catch and shoot three point player. He has worked and needs to continue to work on attacking the defense and distributing the ball. He needs to have that to complement his ability to catch and shoot to greatly enhance his game.

Sharper's all around game will make it difficult to keep him off the court.

Small Forward

Trying to break SDSU's roster into specific positions is difficult. One example of the danger in doing this can be found at the small forward position.

The two players by height definition who fall into the three spot are freshman Kyle Spain and redshirt freshman Tim McGrath.

Frequently, SDSU may go with a second shooting guard in this position, or dip into the larger wing position to go with a bigger lineup.

Nonetheless, both Spain and McGrath will see minutes this season.

At 6'5", 218 pounds, Spain looks nothing like a freshman. Likely the next great Aztec rebounder, Spain has the ability to drive through traffic and get to the rim and is relentless when it comes to hitting the glass.

Spain will give us a versatile basketball player, Fisher said. I believe he will come in as a freshman and be one of the strongest players on our team. His strength, size, athleticism and his basketball ability will allow us to play him all over the floor.

With versatility comes greater opportunity and he will have chances as a perimeter player as well as inside. He is a confident player who should have an opportunity to contribute immediately.

McGrath sat out a year ago and now looks ready to contribute. He has the ability to shoot the three and the explosiveness of a great athlete (he high jumped 6'10" in high school).

Tim is as athletic a player as we have on the team, the head coach said. He has great quick spring which means he can create his own shot. In my mind he would be termed a gym rat. He needs to work on tightening up all facets of his game. Sometimes he plays a little too loose. I think with the experience he has gained he will be much better prepared to play this year.

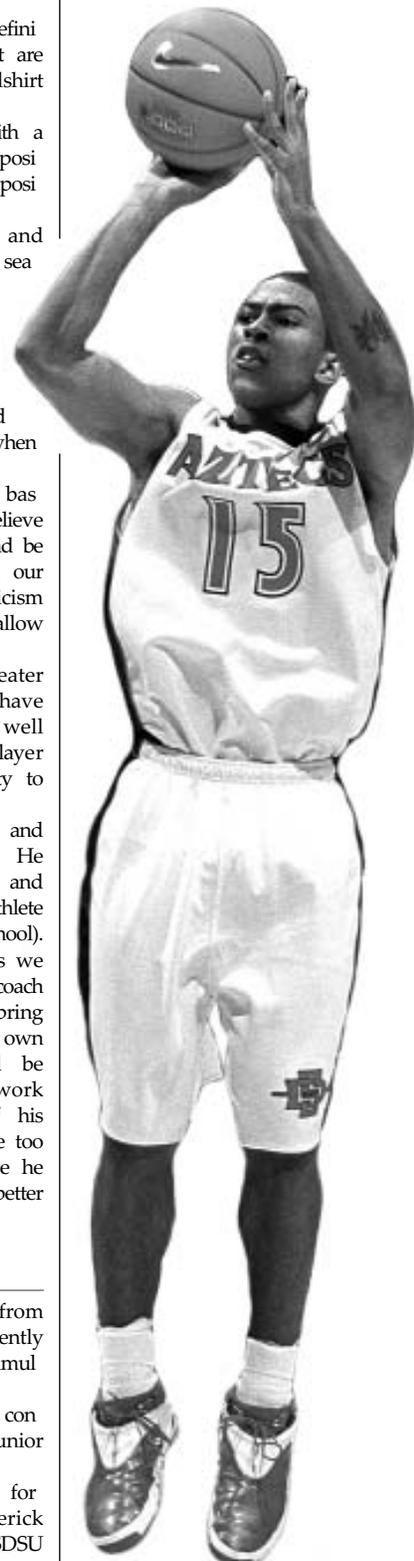
Power Forward

This is another position from which Steve Fisher will frequently pull two players from to play simultaneously.

It all starts with the preseason conference player of the year, junior Marcus Slaughter.

Last season Slaughter joined former Aztecs, Michael Cage and Aeric Sanders, and became the first SDSU

John Sharper has 87 three-point field goals, 80 assists and just 69 turnovers in his career.



non senior to record 475 points, 200 rebounds, 30 steals and 30 blocked shots in the same season.

He averaged 17.8 points and 9.0 rebounds during his sophomore campaign and collected 12 double doubles in his first two seasons.

The duo of Heath and Slaughter compose one of the most explosive scoring threats in the country.

Marcus is an exceptional rebounder, Fisher said. He has a feel for the ball and has the ability to see angles where the ball is likely to come and he is quick to the ball. He has done a good job of getting to the free throw line which bodes well for him and for us. He is extremely athletic. He can get out and run the floor. He can rebound the ball, outlet and dunk going the other way.

Marcus is a guy who has grown in his ability. I think initially he wanted to fit in and now he wants to step up and accept responsibility which all good players have to do. One quality that I don't think enough

people recognize is that Marcus is a very good passer. I think that is a trait that will bode well. He is going to see double teams and he needs to recognize that and take advantage of it.

Voted the Mountain West Conference Preseason Newcomer of the Year, Mohamed Abukar will likely become a fixture in the starting lineup when he becomes eligible in mid December.

A transfer from Florida, Abukar will likely give San Diego State an added scoring threat. As an example of his scoring promise, he scored 22 points in just 18 minutes of action in a contest last season.

We have great expectations for Mohamed, Fisher said. He is a scorer. He will come in and immediately give us a third scoring option. With his size he will be a factor inside and with his skill he will be a factor outside. He shoots the ball very well from the perimeter. We expect Mohamed to be an immediate impact player when he is eligible and we are extremely excited to have him.

True freshman Brett Hoerner and red shirt freshman Chris Lamb give the Aztecs depth at the position.

Hoerner is a skilled 6'11" player who can contribute in multiple ways. He has great hands and can step out and be a threat on the perimeter.

He is a legitimate 6'11", but is pencil thin and needs to get stronger, Fisher said.

He has basketball skills. He runs, has good hands and has a good feel for the game. We are anxious to see how he will blend in. We are extremely high on what Hoerner will bring to San Diego State during his career.

Lamb worked hard in the weight room during his redshirt season and has gotten stronger. At 6'10", he has the size to be a contributor on this team.

He has gone from 205 pounds when he

walked in the door to 231 pounds now, Fisher said. He has worked extremely hard in the weight room and on the basketball floor. We need to take the next step for a guy who plays like he belongs. He needs to have confidence that he can play at this level. The strength in one year of maturity both mentally and physically will greatly enhance that opportunity.

Center

Although the Aztecs will play others at the five, San Diego State lists two centers on the roster, seniors Mohamed Camara and Trimaine Davis.

The pair both bring different skills to the position and both will see plenty of time this season.

Camara, 6'10" and 245 pounds, brings a big body to the position. He can influence the game with his defensive post ability. He has also proven to be a solid rebounder and has starting experience after earning 21 starts last season.

The experience of last year will help Mohamed this season, Fisher said. His size and strength are extremely important in a league where there are big, physical players. He has proven to be an effective defender and rebounder. Mohamed needs to continue to work and develop on an offensive game, where he can complement his defensive and rebounding abilities. He needs to become an offensive player who will demand attention when he is playing.

Trimaine Davis was named team captain minutes after San Diego State was eliminated in the semifinal round of the Mountain West Conference tournament. Davis, a fan favorite, has made a career out of bringing instant energy off the bench.

Last season as a junior, Davis averaged 5.2 points and connected on 58.6 percent of his field goal attempts. This season his role on the team will likely grow.

Trimaine is a fifth year player who brings tremendous energy to the floor, Fisher said. Whether it is the practice floor or the game floor, he gives you that same all out effort all of the time. His strength, his ability to run the floor and pursue the ball are some of his best skills. He is probably our quickest and most explosive inside player.



Senior Mohamed Camara started 21 games as a junior in his first Division I season last year. He pulled down a career-high 13 rebounds in the contest vs. Providence last season.

Preseason Notes



SAN DIEGO STATE BASKETBALL

Why Be Optimistic?

- ▶ San Diego State has the top two returning vote getters off the 2004-05 all Mountain West Conference team in juniors Marcus Slaughter and Brandon Heath.
- ▶ San Diego State returns four starters off last season's squad. Steve Fisher has returned at least four starters off a team he has coached six times, advancing to the NCAA Tournament on five occasions and winning the postseason NIT the other season.
- ▶ San Diego State returns six players that started at least six games last season.
- ▶ In December, San Diego State welcomes six 10 University of Florida transfer Mohamed Abukar to the lineup. Abukar averaged more than 10 minutes of playing time for the Gators as a sophomore last season and exploded for 22 points against Florida A&M last season.
- ▶ San Diego State's recruiting class has been referenced as a top 20 class nationally by Hoop Scoop.
- ▶ San Diego State returns 82.8 percent of its scoring, 82.8 percent of its rebounding and 80.1 percent of its assists from last season. In four of the previous six seasons that the Aztecs percentage of points, rebounds and assists added together equals 202 or higher, SDSU has advanced to the NCAA Tournament. This season, that total is 227.5, the highest figure since 2001-02 (the last time SDSU went to the NCAA Tournament).

Four Starters Returning for Fisher Equals Postseason

In his coaching history, Steve Fisher plus four or more returning starters has resulted in tremendous success. Six previous times Steve Fisher has returned four or more starters from a team he coached, with those clubs advancing to NCAA Tournament play on five occasions and winning the postseason NIT championship once. Below is a look at those clubs.

Season	Returning Starters	Final Record	Postseason (Record)
1989-90	4	23-8	NCAA Second Round (1-1)
1991-92	4	25-9	NCAA Runner Up (5-1)
1992-93	5	31-5	NCAA Runner Up (5-1)
1993-94	4	24-8	NCAA Regional Finalist (3-1)
1996-97	4	24-11	NIT Champions (5-0)
2001-02	4	21-12	NCAA First Round (0-1)
2005-06	4		

Those six teams have posted a combined 148-53 (73.6 percent) winning percentage, have never failed to win at least 21 games and have an unbelievable 19-5 (79.2 percent) record in postseason games. The only year that one of the above teams failed to win a postseason game was in 2001-02, when in just his third season at SDSU, Fisher guided the Aztecs to the NCAA Tournament, their first postseason appearance since 1985.

Eerie Similarities

SDSU in the MWC

MWC Media1st
 The Sporting News3rd
 Street & Smith's3rd
 Athlon Sports4th

MWC Player of the Year

Brandon Heath, CBS Sportsline.com
Marcus Slaughter, MWC Media,
 Street & Smith's, The Sporting News,
 Athlon Sports

In addition to returning four starters, there are other similarities between the Aztecs 2001-02 NCAA Tournament team and the 2005-06 squad. Both clubs returned nearly 80 percent of their production from the previous season, with the 2005-06 team set to return slightly more than the NCAA squad.

Returning percentages appears to be one of the best methods to track San Diego State's postseason chances. Since the 1972-73 season when assists started being tracked, SDSU has gone to the NCAA Tournament four of the six times when the returning percentages of points, rebounds and assists added together are higher than 202. The Aztecs are 0 for 27 in making the NCAA Tournament when that figure falls below 202.

In addition to four postseason trips in the six seasons SDSU has reached the magical 202 figure, SDSU has posted a winning record in five of the six campaigns with the lone exception being Steve Fisher's first season when the Aztecs had a return value of 229.7, and won five games.

This season that number adds up to 227.5, the fourth highest total in school history.

Below is a look at the top seven (previous top six and 2005-06) seasons with the highest percentage of points rebounds assists returning.

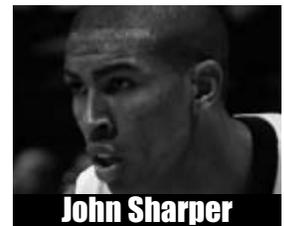
Rk.	Season	Points	Rebounds	Assists	P+R+A	Record	Postseason/Note
1.	1975-76	88.6	82.5	90.4	261.5	16-13	NCAA
2.	2001-02	78.9	79.7	76.8	235.4	21-12	NCAA
3.	1999-00	72.7	82.8	74.2	229.7	5-23	Fisher's first season
4.	2005-06	79.7	77.3	70.5	227.5		
5.	1978-79	83.6	63.3	77.6	224.5	15-12	
6.	1984-85	87.4	77.3	59.0	223.7	23-8	NCAA
7.	1974-75	52.0	71.1	79.2	202.3	14-13	NCAA



Marcus Slaughter



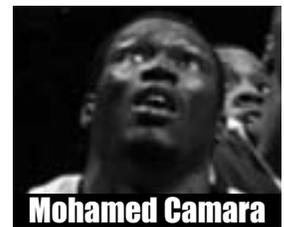
Brandon Heath



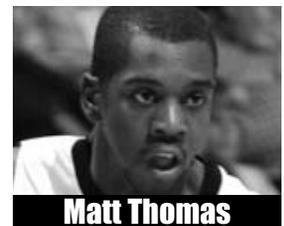
John Sharper



Trimaine Davis



Mohamed Camara



Matt Thomas

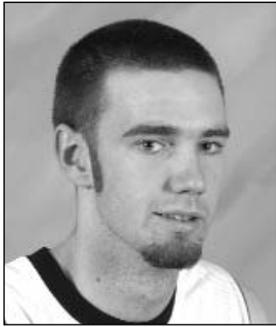
INTRODUCTION

Broadcast Roster

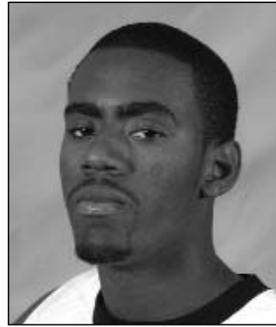


SAN DIEGO STATE BASKETBALL

INTRODUCTION



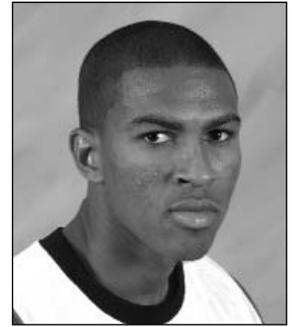
00 Brett Hoerner
Fr. • F • 6 11 • 206
Fullerton, Calif.



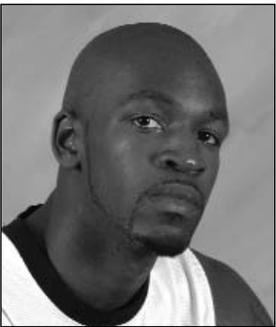
1 Brandon Heath
Jr. • G • 6 4 • 198
Los Angeles, Calif.



3 Richie Williams
Fr. • G • 5 9 • 158
Spring Valley, Calif.



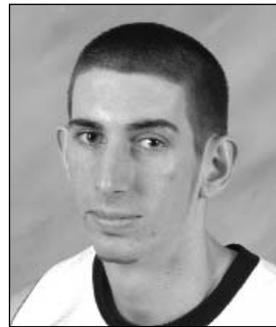
15 John Sharper
Sr. • G • 6 0 • 190
Oakland, Calif.



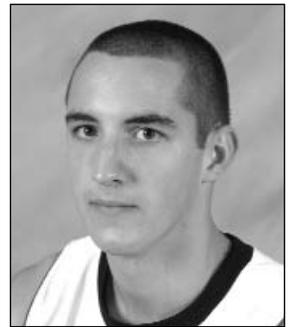
20 Trimaine Davis
Sr. • C • 6 7 • 235
West Pittsburg, Calif.



21 Matt Thomas
So. • G • 6 3 • 200
Riverside, Calif.



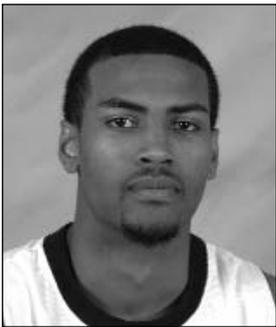
24 Tim McGrath
Fr. • F • 6 5 • 187
Santa Monica, Calif.



30 Chris Lamb
Fr. • F • 6 10 • 231
Louisville, Colo.



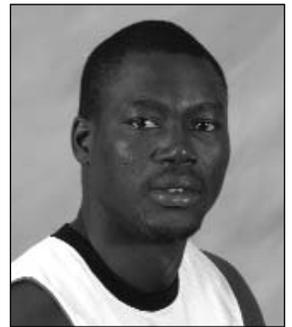
33 Kyle Spain
Fr. • F • 6 5 • 218
West Pittsburg, Calif.



34 Mohamed Abukar
Jr. • F • 6 10 • 216
San Diego, Calif.



42 Marcus Slaughter
Jr. • F • 6 9 • 220
Riverside, Calif.



50 Mohamed Camara
Sr. • C • 6 10 • 245
Louisville, Ky.



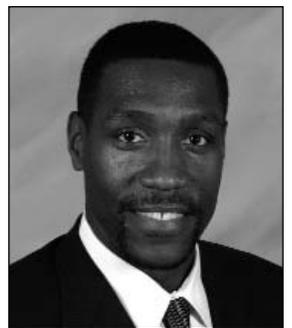
Steve Fisher
Head Coach



Brian Dutcher
Assistant Head Coach



Gregg Gottlieb
Assistant Coach



Mark Hughes
Assistant Coach