



Head Coach Jim Tomey,
Sophomore Guard
Michelle Elliott





Head Coach Jim Tomey: Up For The Challenge

The 2004-05 season marks the third year of the Jim Tomey era at San Diego State and some of the challenges of building a program into an annual conference title contender still remain.

But Tomey has never been one to shy away from a challenge. In fact, the 20-year San Diego resident has built his career by embracing them.

"I see this as a great opportunity," Tomey said. "To become a Division I head coach in a city that I've called home for 20 years and to do it at a great university like San Diego State is a huge honor. But it will continue to take a lot of work to build a program here. It is something that I've been through before and have enjoyed the challenge."

In his sophomore campaign, SDSU experienced its fair share of growing pains with just three letterwinners returning and eight newcomers. The team started off strong by winning three of its first four contests. A victory over Pac-10 Conference member Washington State and a dominating performance against Texas Pan-American highlighted the Aztecs' remaining non-conference schedule. The MWC season saw the Aztecs upset Colorado State for the second straight year, while a wire-to-wire battle with eventual conference champion New Mexico in the home finale showed signs of the team's progress.

In his first year as the Aztecs' head coach,

Tomey directed an SDSU squad, which included seven freshmen, to a 9-18 overall record. Two players earned all-conference honors and senior Jamey Cox became the school's all-time career three-point leader. SDSU also boasted the league's leader in rebounds and double-doubles.

When San Diego State was searching for a head coach to restore the winning tradi-



tion of Aztec women's basketball, the University set out to secure an individual with a track record as both a proven winner and a program builder. Mission accomplished.

California high school coaching legend and SDSU men's assistant coach Tomey was named the Aztecs' seventh women's basketball coach on April 9, 2002.

With a resume that included a winning percentage of 75 percent as a head coach, and tenure as an assistant on the men's side at SDSU that helped usher in one of college basketball's greatest recent turn-arounds, Tomey was a perfect fit for the position.

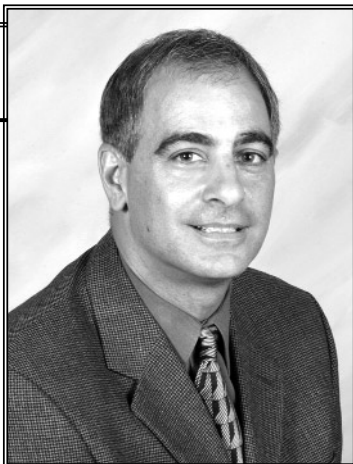
Before accepting the women's head coaching job at SDSU, Tomey took a leap of faith in leaving a secure winning program at University of San Diego High School (USDHS), which appeared to be on auto-pilot as it cruised to CIF title after CIF title. Tomey left to join Steve Fisher's staff with the SDSU men in September of 1999.

Many pondered why a man who had built a struggling boys basketball team into a state powerhouse would trade it all in to try and help resurrect a collegiate program that had posted just one winning season in the previous 14 years.

But that is the nature of Tomey, a man who thrives on beating the odds and one who has been a winner on both the high school and college levels.

Head Coach Jim Tomey

Third Season ♦ Michigan, 1981



In his first season with the Aztecs, the men's team finished with a disappointing 5-23 overall record. Just a year later, the team almost tripled its number of wins, pulling to an even 14-14, including a 12-5 mark at home, the most victories by a SDSU squad since 1984-85.

"I see this as a great opportunity. To become a Division I head coach in a city that I've called home for 20 years and to do it at a great university like San Diego State is a huge honor."

The improvements didn't stop there either, as San Diego State, with Tomey's help, pulled off the ultimate turnaround in 2001-02. Not only did the team finish with a 21-12 record, the fifth-seeded Aztecs claimed their first Mountain West Conference Tournament championship in dramatic fashion, defeating the No. 4 and No. 1 seeds, before securing the title in the final seconds of a 78-75 win over UNLV.

With the win, SDSU earned an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, its first trip to

the NAAs since 1985.

An educator by trade, Tomey got his start in coaching at nearby Clairemont High School before spending three seasons as an assistant at USDHS. In 1989-90, he was handed the reins of the program, and what ensued over the next decade can only be described as incredible.

Taking over a team that had won a combined 14 games over the previous two seasons, Tomey put an indelible stamp on the Dons' boys' basketball program in his inaugural season, guiding the team to an 18-7 record, the San Diego Section CIF title game and the state playoffs.

Over the next nine years, USDHS would evolve into one of California's premier prep programs as the Dons would post seven 20-win seasons en route to seven San Diego Section CIF titles, three state final fours and the 1998 state championship.

Even Tomey's only losing season, in terms of wins and losses anyway, resulted in success. His 1992 squad finished with a 12-17 record, but still managed to peak at the right time, winning the CIF title and advancing to the state quarterfinals.

Overall, Tomey's tenure at USDHS would see the Dons register a cumulative record of 212-71 (.749), proving to be one of the most successful runs in the history of San Diego County boys basketball.

Tomey's program at "Uni" also produced a number of NCAA Division I student-athletes, including All-American and current Los Angeles Laker Luke Walton (Arizona), Chris Walton (SDSU), Nate Walton (Princeton), Josh Merrill (UCSB), Matt Blakley (UCSB) and David Abramowitz (SDSU).

Individually, Tomey was named the 1998 San Diego County Coach of the Year and in

The Jim Tomey File

Birthdate: March 3, 1956

Hometown: Detroit, Mich.

Education: B.S. in education (University of Michigan, 1981); M.A. in education (Azusa Pacific, 1994)

Family: Tomey and his wife of 24 years, Annemieke, have three children, Lauren (13), Madeleine (11) and Suzanna (9). They reside in Scripps Ranch.

Head Coaching Background:

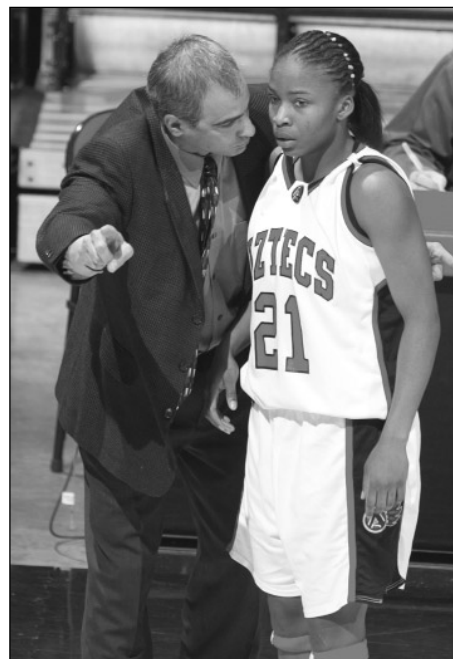
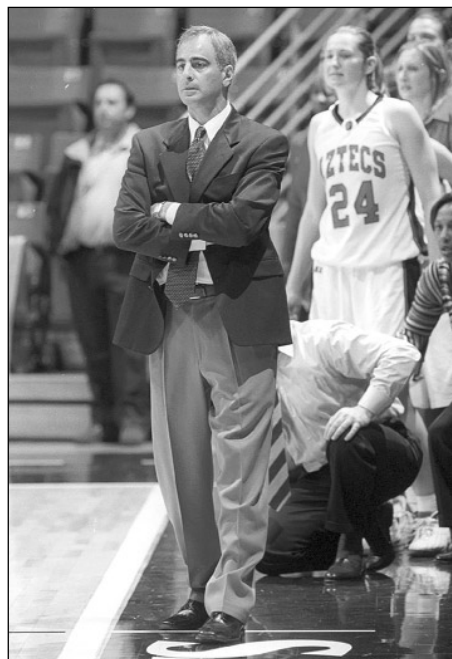
San Diego State (Head Coach - Women)

2002-03	9-18
2003-04	8-20
SDSU Total	17-38 (.309)

University of San Diego High School (Head Coach - Boys)

1989-90	18-7
1990-91	20-5
1991-92	12-17
1992-93	16-7
1993-94	28-4
1994-95	20-10
1995-96	27-3
1996-97	25-5
1997-98	26-4
1998-99	20-9
USDHS Totals	212-71 (.749)

OVERALL TOTAL 229-109 (.678)



November of 2001 was inducted into the San Diego Hall of Champions as a Coaching Legend.

In addition to his work at USDHS, where he taught social sciences, physical education and U.S. history, and SDSU, Tomey is a popular speaker at clinics and camps. Tomey has been a camp instructor at the Nike All-American Camp, Michael Jordan Flight School, Magic Johnson and Byron Scott camps.

A native of Detroit, Tomey played college basketball at Eastern Michigan in Ypsilanti, Mich., from 1974-75. He finished work on his degree at the University of Michigan, earning a bachelor's of science degree in education in 1981. In 1994, he completed work on a master's in education at Azusa Pacific University.

Tomey and his wife of 24 years, Annemieke, have three daughters: Lauren (13), Madeleine (11) and Suzanna (9). They reside in Scripps Ranch.

COACH TOMEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 2002** Introduced as the seventh head coach in SDSU women's basketball history
- 2002** Helped the Aztec men win the Mountain West Conference Tournament, earning a bid to the NCAA championships for the first time since 1985
- 2001** Inducted into the San Diego Hall of Champions Coaching Legends wing
- 1999** Began a three-year stint as an assistant men's basketball coach at SDSU under head coach Steve Fisher. Aztecs would improve from 5-23 in 1999-2000 to 21-12 in 2001-02
- 1999** Ends tenure at University of San Diego High School (USDHS) with a career record of 212-71, including one state championship, three trips to the state final four, seven CIF San Diego Section titles and four league championships. Seven of his teams won at least 20 games
- 1998** Guides the Dons to the 1998 California high school state championship, earning San Diego County Coach of the Year honors and finishing with a 26-4 record
- 1989** Named head coach at USDHS after three years as an assistant with the Dons

Jim Tomey vs. All Foes

Air Force	4-0
American	1-0
Brigham Young	0-4
Brown	0-1
Cal State Fullerton	1-0
Cal State Northridge	1-0
Centenary	1-0
Colorado State	2-2
Creighton	0-1
Fresno State	0-1
Nevada	1-0
New Mexico	0-5
Missouri-Kansas City	1-0
Murray State	1-0
Portland State	0-1
Sacramento State	1-0
Saint Mary's	0-2
San Diego	0-2
Santa Clara	0-1
Southern Methodist	0-1
Tennessee-Martin	0-1
Texas-Pan American	1-0
UC Irvine	1-1
UNLV	0-4
Utah	0-5
Wyoming	0-4
Total	17-38

Q&A With Coach Tomey

Q: What is your coaching philosophy?

A: My coaching philosophy is what I call, simplicity in execution. I prefer to be simple in our approach and do a few things very, very well as opposed to trying to surprise with a lot of change and disrupt our opponents. My preference is to find a few things that I think our team can do well and become good at them.

I've never had difficulty in having players play hard for me. I've been able to develop a trusting relationship with my players that has allowed me to push and motivate them to overachieve.

Q: What do you look for in a potential recruit?

A: At San Diego State, we are looking for well-rounded student-athletes who exhibit people skills with their teammates and coaches, and, obviously, have a certain skill level in the game.

We're looking for student-athletes with the emphasis on the student. Potential recruits should come to San Diego State to graduate and our job as coaches is to help them accomplish that. We also want to help them become the best possible person and basketball player that they can be.

Q: What is it going to take to achieve your long-term goals and how close are you?

A: One of my immediate goals for our team is to be as competitive as we possibly can be - to have us believe that every time we take the floor we have a chance to win. If we do things the right way, if we work hard, smart and together, winning will just happen naturally.

For the program, hopefully in a short amount of time, we will

become a factor in our conference, competing for Mountain West titles and becoming a school of choice for players on the West Coast. We feel that we have a lot to offer at San Diego State.

We also want to make the NCAA tournament and ultimately compete for a national title. Those are my hopes and my dreams, and we're going full speed ahead in trying to achieve them.

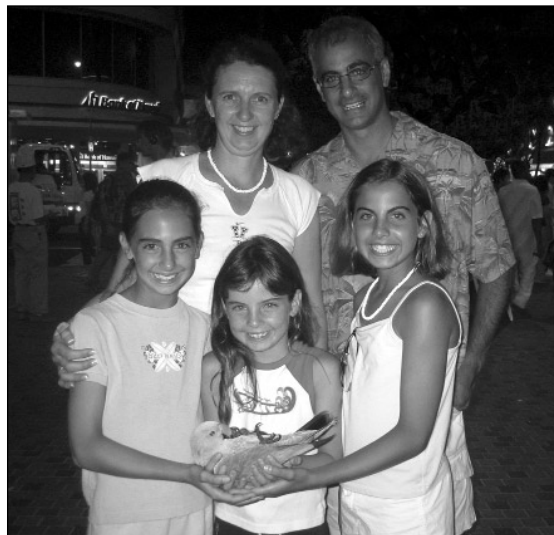
Q: What are your feelings about the Mountain West Conference?

A: I know it's a tough conference. I have five years of experience traveling to very difficult places to play. I know the coaching is terrific in this league and will provide a great challenge for us. Hopefully, we as a staff will add to the competitiveness of this league. We expect SDSU to be a factor in this conference, soon.

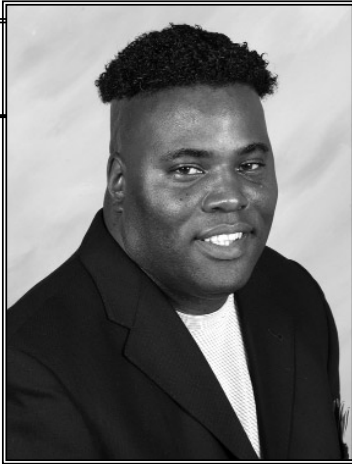
Q: What is your stance on scheduling?

A: Obviously, it's always better to play at home, because there is a certain level of comfort. On the road, however, is where you find out about your basketball team. When you go and play in a hostile environment and have to play against a team in its comfort zone and against fans who are pulling against you. You find out your team's character. Hopefully that will make you better down the road.

Overall, I think we need a good balanced schedule, which would include playing some established West Coast universities, both at home and on the road. As our program improves, our schedule needs to improve.



Tomey's family, pictured here on a recent vacation to Hawaii, includes his wife, Annemieke, and his three daughters (left to right), Madeleine, Suzanna and Lauren.



Assistant Coach Fentriss Winn

First Season ♦ Art Institute of California, 2002

More recently, Winn was the head coach at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo, Calif., from 2002-04. In two seasons, he directed the Lady Gauchos to a 49-13 record and mentored two all-state and six all-conference performers.

His first campaign at Saddleback, Winn was named the Orange Empire Conference Coach of the Year after his squad went 29-3 overall and won the league title with a perfect 14-0 mark. A year later, Saddleback was the conference runner-up and again qualified for the Southern California regional tournament, finishing with a 19-9 record.

Winn also coached the Bishop's boys basketball team from 1997-2000, leading the Knights to a pair of section titles. He was the founder and coach of the Future Stars Basketball Club, an AAU-based program for boys and girls, from 1992-2002. The last two years, Winn served a similar role with the AAU-based Top Ten Basketball club for girls.

The Los Angeles native played collegiate basketball at Mira Costa College in 1979 and 1981 and owns a bachelor's degree from the Art Institute of California in digital arts (2002).

Winn has four daughters, Brianna, Mallorie, Alonalanai and Ariel. Brianna (St. Mary's College) and Mallorie (University of Pittsburgh) both play NCAA Division I college basketball.

A Southern California coaching legend, Fentriss Winn joined the Aztec staff this past June. He serves as the team's recruiting coordinator and SDSU head coach Jim Tomey's top assistant.

"Coach Winn adds a local flavor to our staff," Tomey said. "He brings a wealth of experience and a winning attitude. He will be great with our players and pivotal in our recruiting. I look forward to building this program with him at my side."

Winn's on-court duties include working with the post players and playing a big part in devising the team's defensive scheme.

Winn compiled a 217-56 record in nine seasons (1993-2002) as the head girls basketball coach at The Bishop's School in La Jolla, Calif. During his tenure, Bishop's won the 2001 state title, claimed six straight CIF section championships and made five consecutive regional final appearances.



The Aztec coaching staff includes (left to right): Assistant coaches Fentriss Winn, Dustin Finley and Krista Poehler, and head coach Jim Tomey.

The Fentriss Winn File

Birthdate:

February 1, 1961

Hometown:

Los Angeles, Calif.

Education:

B.A. in digital arts
Art Institute of California, 2002

Playing Experience:

Mira Costa College, 1979 and 1981

Family:

Winn has four daughters Brianna, Mallorie, Alonalanai and Ariel.

Coaching Background:

Saddleback College (Head Coach - Women)

2002-03	29-3	(.906)
2003-04	19-9	(.679)

The Bishop's School (Head Coach - Girls)

1993-2002	217-56	(.795)
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The Bishop's School (Head Coach - Boys)

1996-2000

Coaching Honors:

At Saddleback College

2002-03 - Orange Empire Conference
Coach of the Year

At The Bishop's School

2002 - San Diego County Coach of the
Year (*San Diego Union-Tribune*)

2001 - California State Coach of the Year
(Cal Hi Sports)

Five-Time Girls Basketball Coach of the
Year (San Diego County Coaches
Association)



Assistant Coach Dustin Finley

First Season ♦ UC Davis, 2002

The Dustin Finley File

Birthdate:

December 1, 1979

Hometown:

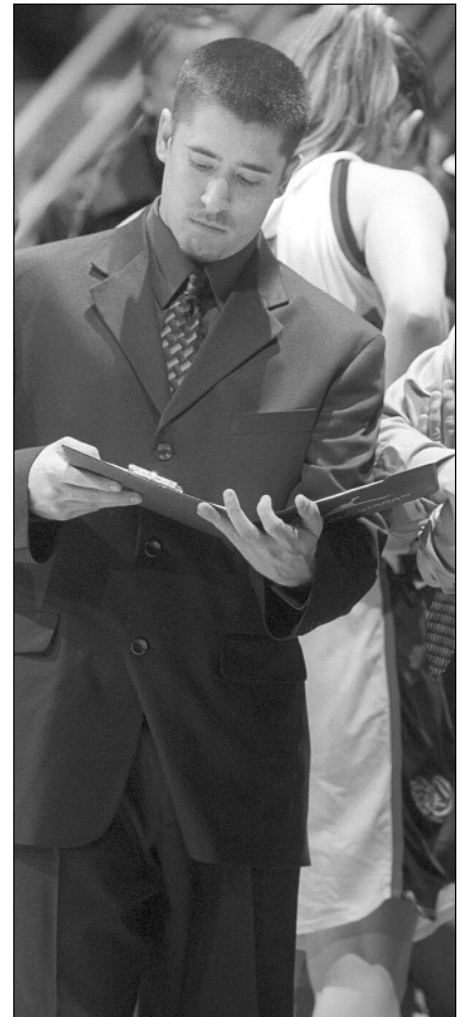
Fairfield, Calif.

College:

B.S. in exercise science
UC Davis, 2002

Previous Background:

San Diego State
(Head Manager - Women)
2002-04



Dustin Finley enters his third season with the Aztecs and his first as an assistant coach. Finley's major duties include film exchange, video editing and team equipment. He is also in charge of team scheduling for the 2004-05 campaign.

As the team's head manager from 2002-04, Finley was in charge of the video editing and assisted with travel, equipment and camps. He also helped with practice set-up and oversaw the team's student managers.

"Coach Finley has been with me for our first two seasons and has a great understanding of our structure and overall philosophy," SDSU head coach Jim Tomey said. "He brings a great energy and passion for the game to our staff."

Finley, 24, is a 2002 graduate of UC Davis with a bachelor of science degree in exer-

cise science. He worked for five years (1998-2003) at the University of Arizona's men's basketball camp under legendary coach Lute Olson.

The Fairfield, Calif., native graduated from Justin-Siena High School in Napa, Calif., in 1997, where he played soccer and ran track. Finley continued his soccer career at Napa Valley College from 1997-98, earning all-Bay Valley Conference honors twice as the team's captain.

Paula Davila

► Administrative Assistant

Paula Davila is in her seventh season as the administrative assistant for the Aztec women's basketball program and 10th as a member of the San Diego State University athletic department staff.

Davila joined the administrative staff in SDSU's athletic business office in the spring of 1995. She went on to work for three seasons as an administrative assistant for football prior to joining the women's basketball staff.

Davila was on staff with Price Club/Costco for nine years in the accounting department before being hired at San Diego State.

Davila and her husband of 35 years, Richard, are natives of San Diego. They have two sons, Richard and Robert, a daughter, Jennifer, and four grandchildren.



Bre White

► Asst. Director of Academic Services

Bre White enters her fifth year at SDSU and her third year as the academic advisor for women's basketball. White also works with the Aztec football, women's tennis and women's track and field teams and helps with the department's multicultural and community service programs.

Prior to coming to San Diego State, White was an academic coordinator at her alma mater, Utah State University, for seven years (1993-2000). With the Aggies, she served as an advisor for the football, men's basketball, women's soccer, women's volleyball, men's golf, softball and men's and women's tennis and track and field teams.

White earned her first degree from Utah State in liberal arts and science, and later went on to earn a second bachelor's degree in business.

Born in Weathersfield, England, White enjoys boxing, crocheting and scrapbooking. She also is a member of the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletics.



Jon Francis

► Strength and Conditioning

Jon Francis is in his first year as the strength and conditioning coach of the Aztec women's basketball team after spending the past three years as head strength and conditioning coach at the University of Idaho.

Francis' philosophy includes "run first" sprint-oriented programs that emphasize change-in-direction and position-specific training.

Before arriving in Idaho, Francis was the assistant strength and conditioning coach at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. He worked with the university's football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, volleyball and men's soccer programs.

He also served as a graduate assistant at Appalachian State and worked as a special education teacher and head strength and conditioning coach at Foard High School in Hickory, N.C.

Francis is a 1993 graduate of Appalachian State and completed his master of arts in sport management at the school in 2001. He is a member of the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association and is Strength and Conditioning Coach Certified (SCCC). He is also a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association and has earned certification from the USA Weightlifting Club.

Francis and his wife, Joy, who also works at SDSU, reside in Oceanside.



Sara Williamson

► Athletic Trainer

Sara Williamson is in her seventh year as an athletic trainer at SDSU, where her primary responsibility is women's basketball. She is also the supervising athletic trainer for the cross country, track and field and women's golf teams.

In addition to sport coverage, Williamson is active in the athletic training community. She is a co-supervisor for the student athletic training club and also serves on the Women in Athletic Training committee for the state of California.

Williamson came to SDSU after working at Escondido High School, where she taught health education and was the head athletic trainer for the high school's sports program in 1997. Prior to her arrival in the Golden State, Williamson served as an assistant athletic trainer at the University of Nebraska, working primarily with track and field and supervising all Olympic sports.

A native of northern New Jersey, Williamson earned her bachelor's degree in movement and exercise science from East Stroudsburg in 1992. In 1994, she completed a master's degree in health sciences while serving as a graduate assistant trainer at James Madison. She is also certified by the NATA and is a CPR and first-aid instructor.

Williamson and her husband, John, reside in Rancho Penasquitos.



Nicki Rodriguez

► Head Student Manager



Kate Rosenberg

► Student Manager