

# SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS

# 2016 Cross Country Weekly Notes

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# Schedule/Results Overall: 0-0 | Mountain West: 0-0

#### September

3	Mark Covert Classic (5K)	9:15 a.m. PT
	Brea, Calif. (Carbon Canyon Regional Pa	rk)
17	UC Riverside Invitational (6K)	7:30 a.m. PT
	Riverside, Calif. (UCR Ag Ops Course)	
23	72nd Annual Aztec Invitational (5K)	8:30 a.m. PT
	San Diego Calif (Tecolote Shores - Missi	on Ray)

#### October

1	Capital Cross Challenge (6K)	10:05 a.m. PT	
	Sacramento, Calif. (Haggin Oaks Golf Co	mplex)	
15	Highlander Invitational (5K)	8 a.m. PT	
	Riverside, Calif. (UCR Ag Ops Course)		
21	Titan Invitational (5K)	5:15 p.m. PT	
	Fullerton, Calif. (Titan Track Complex)		
28	Mountain West Championships (6K)	TBA	
	Boise, Idaho		

#### **November**

11	NCAA West Regional (6K)	TBA
	Seattle, Wash. (TBA)	

#### Roster

Name	Year	Hometown (Last School)
Angel Bucci	Senior	Upper Darby, Pa. (UMBC)
Christian Calain	Junior	Temecula, Calif. (Arizona)
Ellison Grove	Junior	Catharpin, Va. (Battlefield HS)
Christine Kent	Senior	San Diego, Calif. (South Carolina)
Cali King	Junior	La Crescenta, Calif. (Crescenta Valley HS)
Mary Kunigan	Freshman	Rochester, N.Y. (Hilton HS)
Monique McPherson	Junior	Kingston, Jamaica (Wayland Baptist)
Elaine Ribeiro	Senior	La Mesa, Calif. (Helix HS)
Lily Seynaeve	Sophomore	Corona, Calif. (Santiago HS)
Cassidy Towner	Sophomore	Placentia, Calif. (El Dorado HS)
Angela Wilson	Junior	Lancaster, Calif. (Antelope Valley College)

Head Coach: Shelia Burrell (UCLA, 1995), eighth season

Assistant Coach: Karoly Varga (Louisiana Tech, 2005), second season

#### Meet Week Preview

San Diego State (0-0) at Mark Covert Classic Invitational (5K)
Saturday, Sept. 3 | 9:15 a.m. PT | Carbon Canyon Regional Park | Brea, Calif.

## Mark Covert Classic Preview

After winning the race a year ago, the San Diego State cross country team will look to kick off the 2016 campaign in similar fashion Saturday at Cal State Fullerton's Mark Covert Classic Invitational in Brea, Calif.

The women's 5K invitational will start at 9:15 a.m. PT and follows the men's invitational 8K, which is set for 8:30 a.m. PT. The meet will once again be held at Carbon Canyon Park (4442 Carbon Canyon Regional Park, Brea, CA 92821). Formerly the Fullerton Season Opener, it was renamed the Mark Covert Classic in 2012 in honor of the 1970 Division II champion and Cal State Fullerton alum. The course consists of multiple loops alternating between a 1K grass

inner loop in the main section of the park and a dirt trail nature loop.

The Aztecs and host Titans will be joined by squads from Loyola Marymount (LOYM), Canyons (CANS), Glendale (GCC), Hope International (INT2), La Verne (LAVE), Mt. SAC (MSAC), Palomar (PALO), San Diego (SDU), Vanguard and Whittier (WHCA). Additional track clubs that will be competing include Arc Racing Project (ARC), Cal Coast Track Club (CAL), Empire Elite (EMPI), Greater Philadelphia Track Club (GREA), In Stride (INS), New Basin Blues Running Club (NEW), So Cal Track Club (SOC), The Masters (THEM), as well as some unattached athletes.

## **2015** Recap

This year's SDSU team features 11 runners, including five transfers, who will join four returners from a 2015 squad that finished 25th at the NCAA West Regionals.

For the second consecutive season, senior Elaine Ribeiro was the team's top finisher, posting the Aztecs' best times in six of seven races last year. Ribeiro, a MW Women's Cross Country Athlete of the Week, won the individual title at the 71st Aztec Invitational, beating out 125 other entrants (18:09.74) over the 5,000-meter course. It was the first win by a SDSU runner since 2012.

San Diego State's other three returners are senior Cali King, who finished among the team's top five in five races, junior Cassidy Towner, who ran in the top three on the team in six races, including being the No. 1 runner at the MW Championships, and junior Lily Seynaeve, who was in the team's top five in all five races in which she competed.

Transfers Angel Bucci (UMBC), Christian Calain (Arizona), Christine Kent (South Carolina), Monique McPherson and Angela Wilson (Antelope Valley College), in addition to walk-on Mary Kunigan, round out the squad.

Last year at this meet, San Diego State won the meet, led by Ribeiro's second-place time of 18:05.48.

Results for the Mark Covert Classic Invitational will be posted first on finishedresults.com and later on GoAztecs.com.

#### Aztecs Release Schedule

San Diego State cross country/track and field head coach Shelia Burrell has revealed the cross country team's 2016 slate, which kicks off on Sept. 3.

The Aztecs' schedule features six regular season meets, five of which are in Southern California. SDSU will visit Riverside, Calif., twice, travels to Brea, Calif., to open the campaign and hosts the 72nd annual Aztec Invitational. A trip to California's capital also appears on San Diego State's ledger.

The Aztecs open the season on Sept. 3 with the Mark Covert Classic in Brea, Calif., hosted by Cal State Fullerton.

Next up for the Scarlet and Black is the UC Riverside Invitational, hosted by the Highlanders, on Sept. 17.

San Diego State then hosts the 72nd annual Aztec Invitational on Sept. 23. For the third consecutive year, the Aztec Invitational will take place at San Diego Mission Bay's Tecolote Shores North Park. Last season, SDSU won the five-team 5,000-meter Division I race with 41 points, defeating San Diego (46), UNLV (59), USC (93) and Pepperdine (105).

On Oct. 1, the Aztecs travel north to Sacramento for the Capital Cross Challenge. The team returns to Riverside, Calif. on Oct. 15 for the Highlander Invitational. The Scarlet and Black closes the regular season on Oct. 21 in Fullerton, Calif. for the Titan Invitational.

The Mountain West Championships will be held on Oct. 28 in Boise, Idaho. The NCAA West Regional is slated for Nov. 11 in Sacramento, Calif.