



**General Information**

Media Information/Quick Facts .....2  
 Primary Media Outlets .....3  
 NCAA Tournament Information .....3  
 Aztec Broadcast Information .....4

**2004-05 Season Preview**

2004-05 Preview .....6-8  
 2004-05 Roster .....9  
 2004-05 Schedule .....10  
 2004-05 Roster Breakdown .....10

**Coaching Staff**

Head Coach Jim Tomey .....12-14  
 Q&A With Coach Tomey .....14  
 Assistant Coach Fentriss Winn .....15  
 Assistant Coach Krista Poehler .....16  
 Assistant Coach Dustin Finley .....17  
 Support Staff .....18



**Player Profiles**

Lindsey Casey .....20-21  
 Veronica Shaw .....22-23  
 Michelle Strawberry .....24  
 Michelle Elliott .....25  
 Courtney Fritz .....26  
 Jessica Huettl .....27  
 Erin Jackson .....28  
 Jordie Smith .....29  
 Ashley Cheesman .....29  
 Shanna Demus .....30  
 Kate Eveland .....30  
 Marin McCue .....30

**2003-04 Season Review**

2003-04 Season Review Notes .....32  
 2003-04 Results .....33  
 2003-04 Stats .....34  
 2003-04 Game-By-Game Stats .....35-36  
 2003-04 Superlatives .....37  
 2003-04 Box Scores .....38-42  
 2003-04 MWC Review .....43-44



**2004-05 SDSU Women's Basketball Media Guide**

Aztec Media Relations Office  
 San Diego St. University - Dept. of Athletics  
 Aztec Athletics Center, Suite 3014  
 5302 55th Street  
 San Diego, CA 92182-4309  
**Office Phone:** .....(619) 594-5547  
**Office Fax:** .....(619) 582-6541  
**Press Row:** .....(619) 265-5853  
**Web Site:** .....www.goaztecs.com

**Media Guide Credits**

**Editor:** .....Peggy Curtin  
**Editorial Assistance:** ..Cody Jenkins, Keith Kawamura, Kevin Klintworth, Karen Lynch and Jamie McConeghy  
**Photography:** ..Ernie Anderson, Colorado State Media Relations, Paula and Richard Davila, Ken Jacques Photography, Dan Lawton, Stan Liu Photography and the Mountain West Conference  
**Layout and Design:** .....Peggy Curtin  
**Cover Design:** .....Richard Groves  
**Printing:** .....MultiAd Sports (Peoria, Ill.)

**Aztecs On The Web**

All SDSU releases, results, statistics, schedules, rosters and coach and player information are available on the Internet at [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com). Recaps and statistics are available following each contest.

**CSU Commitment**

The California State University is committed to providing equal opportunities to men and women CSU students in all campus programs, including intercollegiate athletics.

**On The Cover**

Michelle Strawberry and Michelle Elliott appear on this year's media guide cover.



**2004-05 Opponents**

Opponent Information .....46-52  
 Series Records Vs. Opponents .....53  
 Series Records By Conference .....54  
 Series History .....55-58

**Aztec Records**

Team Records .....60  
 Individual Records .....61  
 Single-Game Bests .....62  
 Single-Season Leaders .....63  
 Career Leaders .....64  
 Annual Leaders .....65  
 Annual Team Stats .....66



**Aztec History**

Coaching History .....68  
 Year-By-Year Results .....69-73  
 Postseason History .....74  
 All-Time Letterwinners .....75  
 Honors and Awards .....76  
 1,000-Point Scorers .....77  
 Aztec Hall of Fame Members .....78



**Aztec Experience**

San Diego State .....80-82  
 Aztec Heritage .....82-83  
 City of San Diego .....84-85  
 Aztec Academic Commitment .....86-87  
 Aztec Excellence .....88-89  
 Cox Arena .....90-91  
 Aztec Athletics Center .....92-93  
 Athletic Facilities .....94  
 Jim Tomey Basketball Camps .....95  
 Athletic Sports Medicine .....96  
 Strength and Conditioning .....96  
 Media Exposure .....97  
 Life Skills .....97  
 University President .....98  
 Athletic Director .....99  
 Athletic Support Staff .....100  
 Mountain West Conference .....101  
 Winning: It's What We Do .....102-03  
 TV/Radio Roster .....104

The 2004-05 San Diego State women's basketball media guide has been prepared to assist media members in their coverage of the Aztecs. Additional information, including media releases and photographs, may be obtained by contacting assistant media relations director Peggy Curtin in the Aztec media relations office at 619-594-2576.

### Credentials

All requests for working credentials (press, radio, television, scouting) should be directed to Peggy Curtin at least 24 hours prior to tip-off. Faxed inquiries may be sent to 619-582-6541. Credentials will be mailed, time permitting, or they may be picked up at the media entrance at Cox Arena (lower level) two hours prior to the start of all home games.

### Campus Parking

Media desiring to cover Aztec practices on campus can park in the Cox Arena lot L and obtain a special parking pass at the Cox Arena office. Media parking will be provided for all home games in parking structure IV, adjacent to Cox Arena.

### Directions To Cox Arena

Take I-8 East to the College Avenue exit. Take College Avenue south towards SDSU. Turn right on Montezuma Road. Turn right on 55th Street. Cox Arena is on the right-hand side.

### Practice And Interviews

Practices are open to the media. Head coach Jim Tomey and the players are available to meet with media representatives following each workout, as requested. Coaches and players are also available to conduct television and radio interviews, as requested through the media relations office at 619-594-2576, either before or after practice. Please request all interviews with a minimum of 24 hours notice. San Diego State players will not be available for interviews on game days until postgame.

### Game-Day Services

The Aztec media relations office furnishes game programs, pre-game notes and media guides prior to each game in the media room at Cox Arena. Play-by-play accounts, halftime and final statistics and shot charts are also provided. Several phones are available in the press room and press row phones can be ordered. Contact Peggy Curtin in the Aztec media relations office for more information on phone-line installation.

### Weekly Press Release

Weekly San Diego State women's basketball releases in pdf format (Acrobat) are available for download from the women's basketball page at [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com) or via e-mail. Please contact assistant media relations director Peggy Curtin if you would like to be placed on SDSU's weekly women's basketball e-mail list.

### General Information

Location: San Diego, Calif., 92182  
 Founded: 1897  
 Enrollment: 32,936  
 Nickname: Aztecs  
 Mascot: The Aztec Warrior  
 Colors: Scarlet & Black  
 Affiliation: NCAA Division I  
 Conference: Mountain West  
 Home Arena: Cox Arena at Aztec Bowl  
 Arena Capacity: 12,414  
 University President: Dr. Stephen L. Weber  
 Director of Athletics: Mike Bohn  
 Faculty Athletic Rep.: Dr. Roger Caves  
 Senior Woman Admin.: Kathy Van Wyk

### Aztec Basketball Staff

Head Coach: Jim Tomey (Michigan, 1981)  
 Career Record/Years:  
 17-38 (.309)/Two Seasons  
 Record at SDSU/Years:  
 17-38 (.309)/Two Seasons  
 Best Time to Call: Contact SID  
 Basketball Office Phone: 619-594-4095  
 Basketball Office Fax: 619-594-8057  
 Assistant Coaches: Fentriss Winn (Art Institute of California, 2002), Krista Poehler (UC San Diego, 1998), Dustin Finley (UC Davis, 2002)  
 Administrative Assistant: Paula Davila  
 Athletic Trainer: Sara Williamson  
 Academic Advisor: Bre White  
 Strength & Conditioning: Jon Francis

### Aztec Basketball Facts

First Year of Aztec Basketball: 1976-77  
 All-Time Record: 440-376 (.539)  
 2003-04 Record: 8-20  
 2003-04 Conf. Record/Finish: 3-11/7th  
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost: 7/4  
 Starters Returning/Lost: 3/2  
 Newcomers: 4  
 Postseason App./NCAA App.: 8/6  
 Last Postseason Appearance:  
 1997 (Lost vs. Oregon, NCAA First Round)

### Aztec Media Relations

Media Contact: Peggy Curtin  
 Office Phone: 619-594-2576  
 Home Phone: 619-540-6146  
 Cell Phone: 619-200-8776  
 Fax: 619-582-6541  
 E-Mail: [mcurtin@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:mcurtin@mail.sdsu.edu)  
 Press Row Phone: 619-265-5853  
 Mailing Address:  
 Aztec Media Relations  
 Department of Athletics  
 San Diego State University  
 Aztec Athletics Center, Suite 3014  
 55th Street  
 San Diego, Calif. 92182-4309  
 Official Web Site: [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com)

### Aztec Web Casts

Aztec women's basketball fans will have an opportunity to listen to live play-by-play of all scheduled games over the internet at [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com). This season, Bill Earley and Dan Lawton will rotate play-by-play and travel duties, while former Aztec Tammy Blackburn provides analysis at home games. Blackburn and Earley are in their 11th year of covering SDSU women's basketball, while Lawton is in his 10th season with the Aztecs.


### On The Internet

Information on SDSU women's basketball is available on the Internet at [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com). Press releases, statistics and game stories are updated on a weekly basis. In addition, the basketball media guide is also located on the site and includes player profiles, school records and team history.

**Aztec Media Relations**  
**Aztec Athletics Center, Suite 3014**  
**San Diego, CA 92182-4309**  
 Phone: 619-594-5547  
 Fax: 619-582-6541  
 Press Row: 619-265-5853  
 Internet: [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com)



**Peggy Curtin**  
**Asst. Media Relations Director**  
**Women's Basketball Contact**  
 Office: 619-594-2576  
 Home: 619-540-6146  
 Mobile: 619-200-8776  
 E-Mail: [mcurtin@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:mcurtin@mail.sdsu.edu)



**Jamie McConeghy**  
**Media Relations Assistant**  
 Office: 619-594-4348  
 Home: 619-287-0763  
 E-Mail:  
[jmcconeghy@projects.sdsu.edu](mailto:jmcconeghy@projects.sdsu.edu)

## Newspapers

### San Diego Union-Tribune

PO Box 120191  
San Diego, CA 92112  
**News Desk:** (619) 293-1341  
**Fax:** (619) 260-5078  
**E-Mail:** sports@uniontrib.com  
Chuck Scott, Sports Editor: (619) 293-2203  
Nicole Vargas, Beat Writer: (619) 293-1390  
Ed Graney, Sports: (619) 293-2205  
Nick Canepa, Columnist: (619) 293-1397

### North County Times

207 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Escondido, CA 92025  
**News Desk:** (800) 200-1601  
**Fax:** (760) 740-5045  
**E-Mail:** sports@nctimes.com  
Gary Hyvonen, Sports Editor: (760) 740-3546  
Mike Sullivan, Beat Writer: (760) 739-6645  
Steve Scholfield, Columnist: (760) 433-3225

### Daily Aztec

San Diego State University, BAM-2  
San Diego, CA 92182-4591  
**Phone:** (619) 594-7817  
**Fax:** (619) 594-7277  
**Email:** sportseditor@thedailyaztec.com  
Jon Gold, Sports Editor

## Wire Service

### Associated Press

PO Box 191  
San Diego, CA 92112  
**News Desk:** (619) 231-9365  
**Fax:** (619) 291-2098  
**Email:** Sandiego@ap.org  
Bernie Wilson, Sports Editor

## Television Stations

### Channel 4 San Diego

1370 India Street  
San Diego, CA 92101  
**Phone:** (619) 266-5236  
**Fax:** (619) 595-0168  
Jason Bott, Sports Producer: (619) 266-5236  
Argy Stathopoulos, Sports: (619) 266-5024  
John Weisbarth, Sports: (619) 994-2101

### KFMB (CBS) Channel 8

PO Box 85888  
San Diego, CA 92186  
**News Desk:** (858) 495-7587  
**Fax:** (858) 560-0627  
Kyle Kraska, Sports Director: (858) 495-7588  
John Howard, Sports: (858) 495-7586  
Jaymee Sire, Sports: (858) 472-4306  
Todd Villalobos, Producer: (858) 472-3589

### KGTV (ABC) Channel 10

PO Box 85347  
San Diego, CA 92186  
**News Desk:** (619) 237-6380  
**Fax:** (619) 527-0369  
Jeff Cawley, Sports Director: (619) 237-6324  
Ben Higgins, Sports: (619) 237-6372  
Todd Salkowski, Sports: (619) 237-6314  
Jeff LeValley, Photographer: (619) 237-6316

### KNSD (NBC) Channel 7/39

225 Broadway  
San Diego, CA 92101  
**News Desk:** (619) 578-0201  
**Fax:** (619) 578-0202  
Jim Laslavic, Sports Director: (619) 578-0226  
Jim Stone, Sports: (619) 578-0227  
Dave Smith, Photographer: (619) 578-0243

### KSWB (WB) Channel 5

7191 Engineer Road  
San Diego, CA 92111  
**News Desk:** (858) 573-6500  
**Fax:** (858) 573-6600  
Troy Hirsch, Sports Director: (858) 573-6528  
Ryan Yamamoto, Sports: (858) 573-6529

### KUSI (IND) Channel 51/9

PO Box 719051  
San Diego, CA 92171-9051  
**News Desk:** (858) 505-5014  
**Fax:** (858) 576-9317  
Paul Rudy, Sports Director: (858) 505-5047  
Steve Quis, Sports: (858) 505-5033  
Rick Willis, Sports: (858) 505-5032

### XETV (FOX) Channel 6

8253 Ronson Road  
San Diego, CA 92111  
**News Desk:** (858) 650-5401  
**Fax:** (858) 279-0061  
C.S. Keys, Sports: (858) 650-5491  
Katy Temple, Sports: (858) 650-5492  
Mike Lamar, Sports: (858) 650-5489

## Radio Stations

### "The Mighty 1090" (1090 AM)

3655 Nobel Drive, #470  
San Diego, CA 92122  
**News Desk:** (858) 453-9153  
**Fax:** (858) 453-9157  
Joe Tutino, Exec. Producer: (858) 535-2517

### KFMB Radio (760 AM)

7677 Engineer Road  
San Diego, CA 92111  
**Phone:** (858) 292-7600  
**Fax:** (858) 279-7676

### KOGO (600 AM)

9660 Granite Ridge Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123-2657  
**News Desk:** (858) 560-6671  
**Fax:** (858) 715-3363; (858) 715-3364  
Jim Charvet, Sports: (858) 715-3394  
Phil Farrar, Sports: (858) 715-3628

### ESPN Radio (800 AM)

1027 10th Avenue, Suite C  
San Diego, CA 92101  
**Phone:** (619) 696-9902  
Dave Palet, Sports

### XTRA Radio (690 AM)

9660 Granite Ridge Drive  
San Diego, CA 92123-2657  
**Phone:** (858) 296-1690  
**Fax:** (858) 291-5622  
Lee Hamilton, Sports: (858) 522-5454



## NCAA FIRST & SECOND ROUNDS

### March 19 and 21

Bank of America Arena (Seattle, Wash.)  
Reunion Arena (Dallas, Texas)  
Save Mart Center (Fresno, Calif.)  
Williams Arena (Minneapolis, Minn.)

### March 20 and 22

Comcast Center (College Park, M.D.)  
Dean E. Smith Center (Chapel Hill, N.C.)  
Harry A. Gampel Pavilion (Storrs, Conn.)  
Thompson-Boling Arena (Knoxville, Tenn.)

## NCAA REGIONALS

### Chattanooga Regional - March 26 and 28

McKenzie Arena (12,000)  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
**Host:** University of Tennessee-Chattanooga and the Chattanooga Sports and Events Commission

### Tempe Regional - March 26 and 28

Wells Fargo Arena (14,184)  
Tempe, Ariz.  
**Host:** Arizona State University

### Kansas City Regional - March 27 and 29

Municipal Coliseum (9,827)  
Kansas City, Mo.  
**Host:** University of Missouri, Kansas City and the Kansas City Sports Commission

### Philadelphia Regional - March 27 and 29

The Liacouras Center (10,206)  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
**Host:** Temple University

## NCAA Final Four

### April 3 and 5

RCA Dome (37,263)  
Indianapolis, Ind.  
**Host:** Butler University and Horizon League

## San Diego State Basketball Network

For the fourth straight year, Aztec women's basketball fans will have an opportunity to listen to live play-by-play of all scheduled games over the internet at [www.goaztecs.com](http://www.goaztecs.com).

This season, Bill Earley and Dan Lawton will rotate play-by-play and travel duties, while former Aztec Tammy Blackburn provides analysis at home games. Blackburn and Earley are in their 11th year of covering SDSU women's basketball, while Lawton is in his 10th season with the Aztecs.

Blackburn earned four letters in basketball at San Diego State from 1991-1994, helping the Aztecs to a 26-5 record and an NCAA tournament bid her senior season. Along with her radio duties at SDSU, she is in her 10th year with Fox Sports, serving as a color commentator for Pac-10 Conference women's basketball games. Blackburn is currently an associate director for the SDSU Alumni Association.

Earley, a native San Diegan and SDSU graduate, begins his 11th season as one of the voices of the Aztecs' women's basketball team. Earley began his broadcast work as a student on KCR - SDSU's campus radio station. After returning to San Diego following law school, Earley produced (along with SDSU Alumni Executive Director Jim Herrick) SDSU women's basketball and became the original voice of the Aztecs a decade ago. Earley has been heard on several local radio stations broadcasting Aztec football, men's and women's basketball, as well as co-hosting a comedy call-in show.

Earley has also ventured into television in San Diego (Channel 4 San Diego, XETV) and Arizona. A partner specializing in employment law at San Diego's law firm of Luce Forward, he resides in Point Loma.

Lawton got his start in sports broadcasting at WSND-AM and -FM, the on-campus radio station at his alma mater, the University of Notre Dame, where he broadcast Fighting Irish football and basketball and hosted a morning show. Since then, he has been broadcasting Aztec women's basketball on KFMB, KCBQ, KPOP and goaztecs.com. Lawton also worked as co-host and writer of "Bring It On," a Sunday afternoon comedy/sports talk show which aired on KCEO-AM radio from 1998-99.

Lawton plays host to 20 children and their family members from the St. Vincent de Paul Village in San Diego at each Aztec home game. Lawton is a lawyer with his own practice in downtown San Diego. He resides in Pacific Beach.

## Aztecs Sports Weekly



For the sixth consecutive year, San Diego State University will join forces with Channel 4 San Diego to produce Aztecs Sports Weekly.

The 30-minute magazine show will highlight the week in San Diego State athletics with action footage, interviews and features. The winter and spring telecasts place an emphasis on the Aztec basketball season.

Each week head coach Jim Tomey and one of the team's 12 players preview the upcoming game and review the previous week's action.

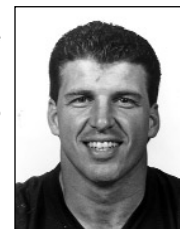
The show is hosted by Billy Ray Smith. The former Arkansas Razorback is well known in Southern California for his broadcasting work as well as his days as a member of the San Diego Chargers.

The show's producer is Jason Bott. Each edition of Aztecs Sports Weekly is telecast several times with the initial telecast taking place each Wednesday evening.

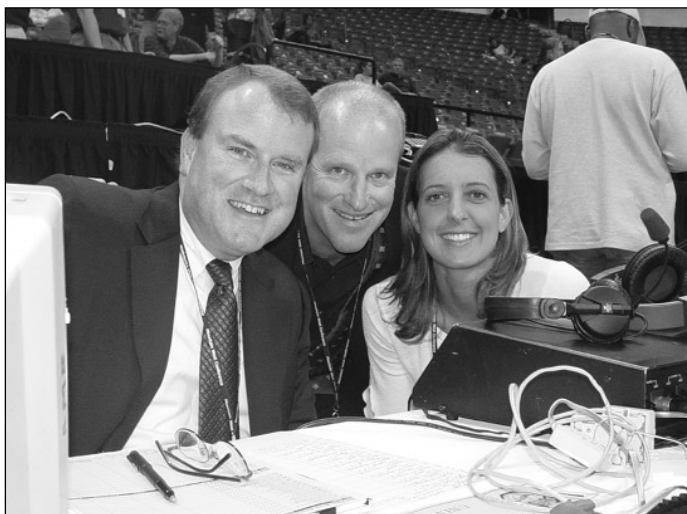
All local telecasts of San Diego State sporting events, including football, men's basketball and women's basketball can be seen on Channel 4 San Diego.

The station is a member of San Diego State and Mountain West Conference television agreements with ESPN+Plus and SportsWest.

In addition to the Aztecs, Channel 4 San Diego is also the local home of the San Diego Padres.

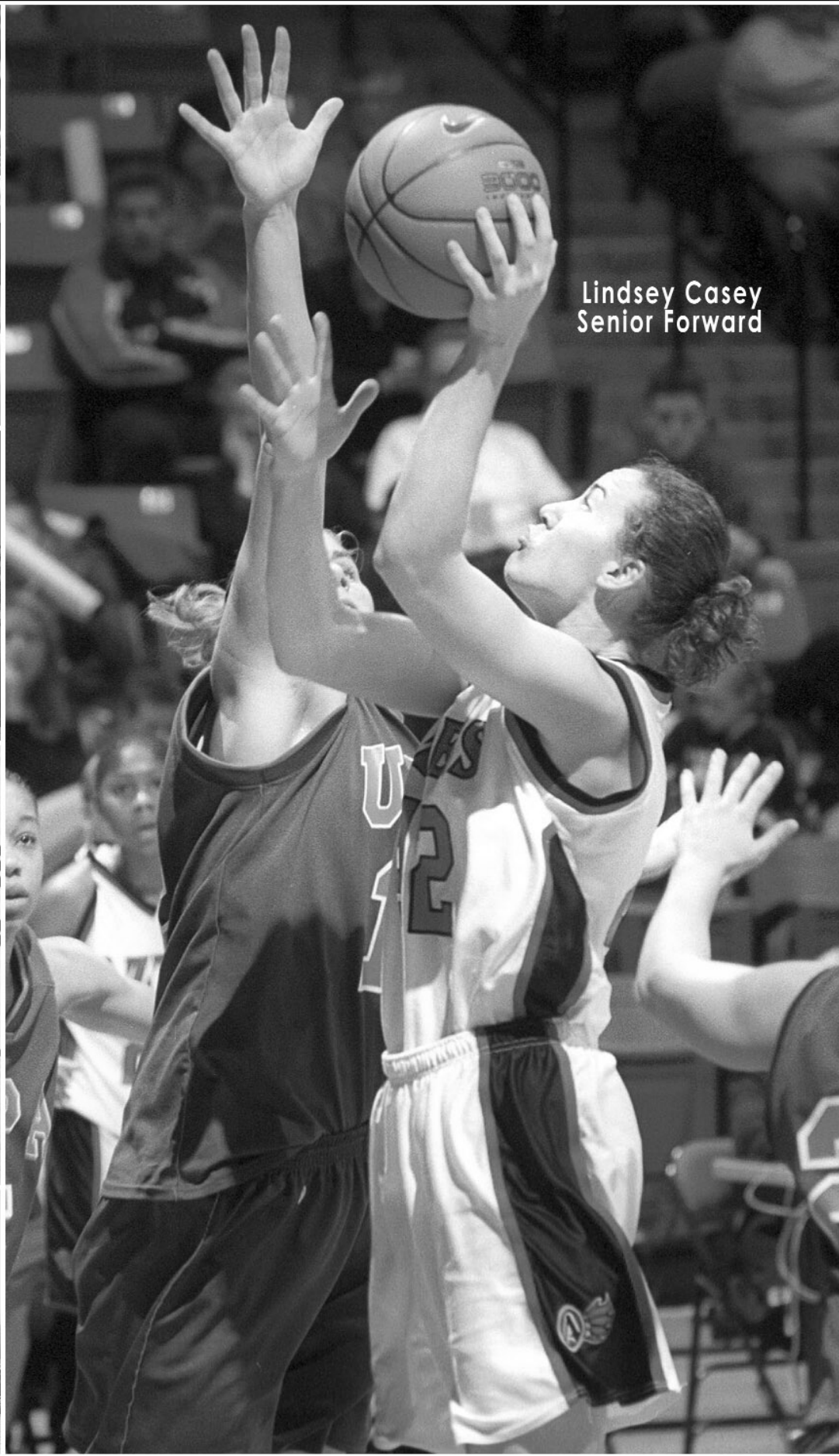
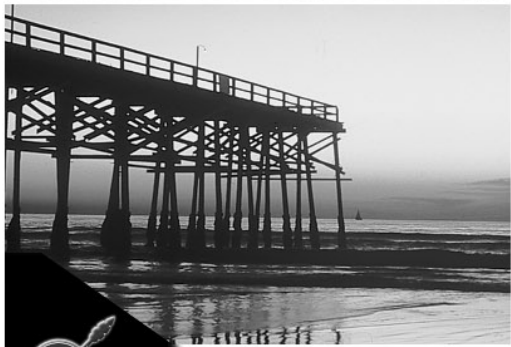


**Billy Ray Smith**



**Tammy Blackburn (far right) and Bill Earley (far left) are in their 11th year of covering SDSU women's basketball, while Dan Lawton (center) enters his 10th season with the Aztecs.**

2004-05 SDSU Women's Basketball



Lindsey Casey  
Senior Forward



## Aztec Women's Basketball Looks To Put All The Pieces Together In 2004-05

There comes a point in the development of every program when a strong foundation has been laid and all the pieces are starting to come together. And for the San Diego State women's basketball team, that point is now.

SDSU returns seven letterwinners and six of the team's top seven scorers from last year's squad, which finished 8-20 overall and 3-11 in the Mountain West Conference.

While the Aztecs are once again youthful, boasting a single-member senior class for the second consecutive year, the team's core group is one year older, having gained valuable experience in an, a times, frustrating 2003-04 campaign.

"We felt that we were onto something early," SDSU head coach Jim Tomey said. "Our team struggled toward the middle (of the schedule) in close games, because it was still a group which was learning how to win at this level. In many of those early losses, we were up handily and somehow, during the middle portions of those games, we allowed teams back in. This year we need to find a way to close those tight games and grab the award at the end."

Several of those tight games came during the second half of the Mountain West Conference schedule as SDSU owned half-time leads over both third-place UNLV and regular season co-champion Utah. The Aztecs were also ahead in the final seconds of a three-point loss to New Mexico, a team that won by 34 points in the teams' earlier meeting and would go on to claim its second consecutive MWC tournament title.

"Maturity certainly had something to do with it," said Tomey about his team's strong second half. "They were starting to believe in themselves, show more confidence and purpose to their play."

While 2003-04 ended with a touch of optimism for the future, the same challenges of taking a program to the next level still exist in Tomey's third season at the helm.

Inexperience at the collegiate level is one of those challenges with eight underclassmen and only two players with more than a year of playing time at the NCAA Division I level. Sheer numbers may or may not, barring injuries, prove to be another question mark as this year's roster consists of just 12 players, only 11 of whom are eligible to play.

"We'd like to have 15 bodies, but we like the 12 that we have," Tomey said. "Hopefully we won't get bogged down by injuries and we'll be able to teach and use all of our players."

On the court, the Aztecs must make up for their lack of numbers and height at the post positions, and scoring has been a constant issue in the team's recent past.

While the challenges are somewhat obvious for the Aztecs, their greatest asset may actually be their youth. Tomey and his staff have worked hard, traveling throughout the country, to recruit versatile players who can shoot from anywhere on the floor and more importantly, fit into the team's offensive and defensive schemes.

SDSU boasts a trio of options at the point



The Aztecs return three starters and seven letterwinners for the third year of the Jim Tomey era.

guard position this year and has more quality depth at the shooting guard spot. The Aztecs will also be strong out on the wing with a number of players being able to drive the lane or spot up and shoot the three.

"We're a deeper team this year," Tomey said. "We're also a better shooting team and both of those components will add to our club. We also feel like we're going to be able to get up and down the floor a little better than we have been in the past."

Another strength for this season's squad will be its effectiveness from beyond the arc. A year ago, SDSU set a trio of school three-point records with a program-high 130 three-pointers on a record 418 attempts, including 25 in the near-upset of New Mexico. Returnees accounted for all but five of those 130 threes.

"We're excited by the group we have," Tomey said. "We know that we're young, but that is just a fact of life. We're excited about their skill, their thoughtfulness out on the floor and they all come from winning programs. They are ready to come in and contribute and move this program in the direction we want."

The following is a breakdown of the 2004-05 San Diego State women's basketball team.

### FRONT COURT

Of the two groups, the front court will be the most changed from a year ago. SDSU will look to replace a pair of starters and four total letterwinners, who combined to pull down almost 48 percent of the team's rebounds.

"We're a little thin in the front court," Tomey said. "We're not really big, but we feel like we're fairly skilled. With our style of play, we don't necessarily have to have someone camped down at the blocks. We're hoping that they'll be able to draw people away from the basket and either

open up opportunities for themselves or teammates."

Leading the charge will be SDSU co-captain and lone senior **Lindsey Casey (Odessa, Texas)**. Casey is by far the most seasoned of the group, having played in the NCAA Final Four with Oklahoma and at the National Junior College Tournament with Midland College.

Coming off knee surgery in April 2003, Casey's first season on The Mesa saw her appear in all 28 games, mostly off the bench, with the lone exception being a start against Oral Roberts in mid-December. She averaged 2.3 points and 2.6 rebounds per contest and ranked third on the team in blocks.

"We're going to need great leadership from her this year," Tomey said. "She needs to be a good mentor to our younger players and we need her to rebound and defend the basket area. She's been slowed by injuries in the past and now that both knees are healthy, I want to see her come back and have an exceptional year."

Casey showed a glimpse of what she was capable of with a season-high 12 points on 5-of-8 shooting in the team's victory versus Texas Pan-American. Her experience in big games also came in handy in SDSU's upset of Colorado State, as she logged a season-high seven rebounds and iced the win by making a pair of free throws.

Sophomore **Erin Jackson (Sparks, Nev.)** also returns after logging minutes in 25 contests a year ago. Jackson, who averaged 1.4 points and 1.7 rebounds per game, was bothered for much of her freshman campaign by an ankle injury after solid outings in the team's exhibition games.

"Erin had a typical up and down freshman season," Tomey said. "Her progress was stalled by an ankle injury that plagued her all year long, but she is a strong player, who has worked hard on her skills. If Erin comes back with the confidence and physical

strength from a summer of hard work, she has a great chance to help us."

The team's lone left-hander, Jackson had a season-best five points and three assists at Cal State Fullerton and pulled down eight boards in 22 minutes against Oral Roberts.

"Erin's got a lot of offensive tools," Tomey said. "She can take a bigger player away from the basket and score or she can get the ball off the ground and take you hard to the basket. She's a crafty left-hander, who can also put her back to the basket and score from around the block."

The Aztecs will also boast a pair of new faces in the post with red-shirt freshman **Jordie Smith (Fort Collins, Colo.)** and freshman **Ashley Cheesman (Orem, Utah.)**

The only center on this year's roster, Smith was forced to sit out the entire 2004-05 campaign with a stress fracture in a vertebrae in her back. While her injury also kept her out of practices, she was able to observe and attend every team function, giving her a year to watch and learn about basketball at the collegiate level.

"We're anxious to get her on the floor," Tomey said. "She's worked hard to build her conditioning and get physically and mentally ready to play. We recruited her for her ability to think the game. She has a solid basketball IQ and she's someone we think will be competitive in our conference. She's coming into this season with some big expectations for herself."

A highly-touted recruit, Cheesman led Mountain View High School to four straight Utah state titles, including a national championship as a freshman. The Bruins were ranked in the top 10 in the nation each of

her four seasons, combining for a 93-7 record. As a senior, she averaged a team-best 15.6 points per game and 12.6 rebounds per game and was named the MVP of the state tournament.

"We think she was as good as anyone at her position her senior year in high school," Tomey said. "She's been a proven winner for four years and a go-to scorer, not only around the basket, but also out to the three-point line. We think she can come in and contribute immediately for us."

## BACK COURT

SDSU returns five players, including three starters, in the back court and welcomes three impact newcomers.

Junior guard **Veronica Shaw (Phoenix, Ariz.)**, like Casey, will be a more than a year removed from having major knee surgery, which ended her freshman season prematurely. Still, Shaw managed to play in 25 games as a sophomore, starting 12 times and accounting for just over four points and two rebounds a contest. All 12 starts were during Mountain West Conference play with two of her best performances of the year coming in a 6-for-6 effort from the field versus UNLV (15 points) and a 17-point performance against Wyoming.

While Shaw can be counted on to contribute points in the paint, it is her defensive skills that set her apart from other players. A year ago, she tied for first on the team in steals with 38, including 28 during league play, which ranked her second in the MWC with a 2.15 per game mark.

"Veronica is one of those x-factor players," Tomey said. "She's truly our most athletic

player and can change the game with her quickness and competitive fire. There was no question that Roni was a step slower last year post-injury than when she came in as a freshman. Yet, even a step slower, she is one of the quicker players on the floor.

"We're hoping that she comes back for her junior year with a greater confidence and comfort level about her knee, which will allow her to do the things that she was used to doing before she got here."

Shaw's classmate **Michelle Strawberry (Corona, Calif.)** brings a similar style of play to the table with her athleticism and ability to drive to the basket, but also adds a longer shooting range than Shaw. While she is listed as a junior, Strawberry sat out her first season on campus, seeing her first collegiate action in 2003-04. She was in the team's starting five 10 times, play-

ing in all but the season-opener, and scored in double-figures on eight occasions.

As with any first-year player, however, Strawberry battled with consistency issues, especially during the first half of conference play.

"Consistency will determine Michelle's success and contributions to this team," Tomey said. "She had some good moments for us last year and has worked extremely hard during the off-season to develop her ball-handling skills and extend her shooting range."

Strawberry also had a strong, vocal on-court presence that will be much needed on such a youthful squad.

"Michelle is one of our three upperclassmen, so we will be looking to her for some leadership," Tomey said. "She is a great teammate, who pushes people with her strong desire to compete."

While Shaw and Strawberry are more of slashing, drive to the basket-type players, sophomore **Michelle Elliott (Pasco, Wash.)** is a dual threat out on the wing with her ability to get through the lane or shoot the three.

As a freshman, Elliott was the model of consistency, leading the team in scoring with 12.4 points per game to rank eighth in the conference and first among freshmen. Elliott began her career by reaching double-figures in 14 of her first 15 contests and averaged a team-best 36.1 minutes per game. She was tops on the team in assists with 51, second in three-pointers with 38 and was named a third-team all-Mountain West selection for her efforts.

"Michelle had a phenomenal freshman year," Tomey said. "She was asked to do just about everything for our team last season. For most every game, she was our leading scorer, drew the toughest defensive assignment and played the most minutes. There is no question that from start to finish, she was our most consistent player."

The biggest change for Elliott this year might actually be that she spends less time out on the court, due to the team's increased depth and experience at the guard spots. A year ago, she played the entire 40 minutes on six occasions, including three straight during the middle of the conference campaign. With the added rest she will also have more time to devote to her duties as team captain, a role she will share in 2004-05 with Casey.

"I see Michelle maturing and with an off-season working on her skills, she should be even more valuable out on the floor," Tomey said.

Elliott was not the only freshman to be thrust into the spotlight a year ago. **Courtney Fritz (Newberg, Ore.)** was the only Aztec to play and start all 28 games, averaging 10 points per outing and hitting 63 three-pointers, which rank fourth in SDSU's single-season history. She led the team in scoring all 11 times she reached double-figures in points, including a pair of 21-point efforts, and was named an MWC honorable mention pick at the end of the year.

"Courtney and Michelle were asked, because of the inexperience of our team, to be a lot of everything for us - scorers,



Erin Jackson will look to be more of a factor in the post in 2004-05.



**Courtney Fritz started all 28 games her freshman season.**

leaders and starters," Tomey said. "They didn't have a lot of time to acclimate to college basketball. They were thrown in the fire right away and had to learn through trial and error. In the long run, we feel that will pay dividends."

With the team's lack of depth in the back court, Fritz was forced to take over the point guard duties, pulling her away from her more natural position at the No. 2 spot. Despite the position change and a mid-year rough patch, Fritz only got better as the season went on, reaching double-figures in scoring in five of the final seven contests and making 17 threes during that span.

"Courtney hit the freshman wall three-quarters into the season, but then found her reserve," Tomey said. "Mentally, she's a very strong player and she somehow found her second wind. She handled the campaigns of a freshman year in a positive way and had great moments for our team as perhaps our best shooter."

Fritz also had the propensity to make the big play as she almost single-handedly secured the team's upset of conference foe Colorado State, hitting the game-winning three pointer and then sealing the victory with a steal in the Rams' final possession.

When the 2003-04 season began, Fritz was supposed to have shared the point guard duties with fellow freshman **Jessica Huettl (Eau Claire, Wis.)**. Huettl, however, saw her season cut to the first 11 games due to a stress fracture in her left leg.

In her time on the court, Huettl was a key ingredient in the team's early success, reaching double-figures in each of the team's early-season wins over Nevada, Cal State Fullerton and UC Irvine. At UC Irvine, she tallied a career-best 15 points all on three-pointers to help erase the team's nine-

point, first-half deficit.

"For the first 10 games, Jess gave us a nice lift off the bench with her shooting," Tomey said. "We missed that ability after her injury in mid-December. Even though she was out for more than half of the year, she gained some belief in herself through her experience and I know she learned a ton about our system, our players and our opponents from the sideline during her injury. She appears to be healthy and ready to play and we're looking for her to give us some great contribution."

While the five returning guards give SDSU a solid back court, freshmen **Kate Eveland (Southlake, Texas)** and **Marin McCue (Calgary, Alberta)** will both see significant minutes.

Eveland is perhaps the truest point guard of the three and will see significant time at that position this season. As a high school senior, she was named her district's co-offensive MVP, helping Southlake Carroll to the regional semifinals and a share of the district title. As a junior, she averaged 15.5 points and 2.9 assists per con-

test and was a two-time participant at the adidas Top Ten All-American camp and a McDonald's All-America nominee.

"Kate is a very stylish ball-handler, who knows how to run a team and does a great job getting the ball to the right people," Tomey said. "We're looking for her to come in and push Courtney and Jess at that position. She is the kind of player who you want to have the ball at the end of the game, whether she's going to the line or you need her to knock down a two for you. She's a very skilled offensive player, who has worked very hard at the different aspects of her game."

McCue, meanwhile, is another of the team's versatile options out on the wing with the ability to drive or pull back and shoot the three. As a high school senior, she was named Alberta's Miss Basketball after leading her team to a perfect league record by averaging more than 20 points per game. She also has experience on the national level as a member of the Canadian junior national development team.

"Marin is one of those players who can make others around her better," Tomey said. "She sees the floor extremely well and is a great passer. Her greatest assets are her offensive skills, whether its shooting, dribbling or passing. She has a tremendous feel for the game."

The Aztecs final newcomer at the guard position, sophomore **Shanna Demus (Palmdale, Calif.)**, must sit out the year due to NCAA transfer guidelines, but will be

able to practice with the team. A speedy defender, Demus starred at Cal State Los Angeles (NCAA Division II) a year ago, averaging 16.3 points and a team-best 6.3 rebounds. She was also named the conference's freshman of the year with a team-high 38 three-pointers.

## THE SCHEDULE

Sixteen home games and the season-opener with cross-town rival San Diego, highlight the 2004-05 schedule.

"This is a good schedule for our team," Tomey said. "We play nine of our 13 non-conference games in our arena and really need to start protecting our home turf. Overall, this schedule will test our team and allow us an opportunity to compete and have success."

The 16 home contests are the program's most since the 1985-86 season, when the Aztecs had 18 home games, bolstered by a pair of non-conference tournaments. SDSU went 3-2 against non-conference teams which also appeared on last year's schedule, while four schools are first-time opponents.

SDSU's non-conference slate is highlighted by a rematch with Pac-10 member Washington State (Dec. 11) and road games at Southern Methodist (Dec. 22) and Kansas (Dec. 28).

The Mountain West Conference, meanwhile, will once again be strong as all but one team returns three or more starters.

"Our conference hasn't changed," Tomey said. "The perennial powers - New Mexico, Utah, UNLV and BYU - are tough every year. Going on the road in this league is a challenge and we just want to continue to climb up the Mountain West ladder."



**Michelle Strawberry is one of SDSU's three upperclassmen.**





The 2004-05 San Diego State women's basketball team includes (left to right): Sitting - Shanna Demus, Courtney Fritz, Kate Eveland, Veronica Shaw, Jessica Huettl and Michelle Strawberry. Standing - Assistant coach Fentriss Winn, head coach Jim Tomey, Marin McCue, Ashley Cheesman, Lindsey Casey, Jordie Smith, Erin Jackson, Michelle Elliott, assistant coach Dustin Finley and assistant coach Krista Poehler.

### Aztec Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown (Previous School)
4	Courtney Fritz	G	5-8	So.	1V	Newberg, Ore. (Jesuit HS)
5	Michelle Elliott	G/F	5-11	So.	1V	Pasco, Wash. (Pasco HS)
10	Jessica Huettl	G	5-7	So.	1V	Eau Claire, Wis. (Regis HS)
11	Kate Eveland	G	5-8	Fr.	HS	Southlake, Texas (Southlake Carroll HS)
13	Marin McCue	G/F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Calgary, Alberta (Springbank Community HS)
20	Michelle Strawberry	G	5-10	Jr.	1V	Corona, Calif. (Centennial HS)
21	Veronica Shaw	G	5-7	Jr.	2V	Phoenix, Ariz. (Mountain Pointe HS)
30	Erin Jackson	F	6-1	So.	1V	Sparks, Nev. (Reed HS)
32	Shanna Demus <sup>^</sup>	G	5-8	So.	TR	Palmdale, Calif. (Cal State Los Angeles)
33	Jordie Smith	C	6-2	Fr.	RS	Fort Collins, Colo. (Poudre HS)
42	Lindsey Casey	F	6-1	Sr.	1V	Odessa, Texas (Midland Junior College)
50	Ashley Cheesman	F	6-2	Fr.	HS	Orem, Utah (Mountain View HS)

### Aztec Alphabetical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Exp.	Hometown (Previous School)
42	Lindsey Casey	F	6-1	Sr.	1V	Odessa, Texas (Midland Junior College)
50	Ashley Cheesman	F	6-2	Fr.	HS	Orem, Utah (Mountain View HS)
32	Shanna Demus <sup>^</sup>	G	5-8	So.	TR	Palmdale, Calif. (Cal State Los Angeles)
5	Michelle Elliott	G/F	5-11	So.	1V	Pasco, Wash. (Pasco HS)
11	Kate Eveland	G	5-8	Fr.	HS	Southlake, Texas (Southlake Carroll HS)
4	Courtney Fritz	G	5-8	So.	1V	Newberg, Ore. (Jesuit HS)
10	Jessica Huettl	G	5-7	So.	1V	Eau Claire, Wis. (Regis HS)
30	Erin Jackson	F	6-1	So.	1V	Sparks, Nev. (Reed HS)
13	Marin McCue	G/F	6-1	Fr.	HS	Calgary, Alberta (Springbank Community HS)
21	Veronica Shaw	G	5-7	Jr.	2V	Phoenix, Ariz. (Mountain Pointe HS)
33	Jordie Smith	C	6-2	Fr.	RS	Fort Collins, Colo. (Poudre HS)
20	Michelle Strawberry	G	5-10	Jr.	1V	Corona, Calif. (Centennial HS)

**Head Coach:** Jim Tomey (Michigan 1981), third year <sup>^</sup> = Not eligible until the 2005-06 season  
**Assistant Coaches:** Fentriss Winn (Art Inst. of Calif., 2002), first year; Krista Poehler (UC San Diego, 1998), first year;  
 Dustin Finley (UC Davis, 2002), first year  
**Athletic Trainer:** Sara Williamson (East Stroudsburg '92), seventh year

### Aztec Pronunciation Guide

Ashley <b>CHEESMAN</b>	chess-MUN	<b>SHANNA</b> DEMUS	SHAN-uh DEAM-us	Kate <b>EVELAND</b>	EVE-lund
Jessica <b>HUETTL</b>	HUT-ull	<b>MARIN</b> McCue	MARE-in	Krista <b>POEHLER</b>	PAIL-er
Jim <b>TOMEY</b>	toe-ME	<b>FENTRISS</b> Winn	phen-TRISS		

## PERSONNEL SUMMARY

### Returning Starters (3)

Courtney Fritz, So., G, 10.0 ppg., 2.3 rpg.  
Michelle Elliott, So., G/F, 12.4 ppg., 2.4 rpg.  
Veronica Shaw, Jr., G, 4.1 ppg., 2.0 rpg.

### Starters Lost (2)

Ashlee Dunlap, F, 10.7 ppg., 7.6 rpg.  
Nicolette McCartny, F, 2.7 ppg., 3.8 rpg.

### Letterwinners Returning (7)

Lindsey Casey, Sr., F, 2.3 ppg., 2.6 rpg.  
Courtney Fritz, So., G, 10.0 ppg., 2.3 rpg.  
Michelle Elliott, So., G/F, 12.4 ppg., 2.4 rpg.  
Jessica Hueftl, So., G, 6.0 ppg., 1.3 rpg.  
Erin Jackson, So., F, 1.4 ppg., 1.7 rpg.  
Veronica Shaw, Jr., G, 4.1 ppg., 2.0 rpg.  
Michelle Strawberry, Jr., G, 5.4 ppg., 2.2 rpg.

### Letterwinners Lost (4)

Ashlee Dunlap, F, 10.7 ppg., 7.6 rpg.  
Farryn Lewis, F, 0.5 ppg., 1.1 rpg.  
Candace Mattson, F, 3.4 ppg., 3.6 rpg.  
Nicolette McCartny, F, 2.7 ppg., 3.8 rpg.

### Other Players Returning (1)

Jordie Smith, RS-Fr., C, (Ft. Collins, Colo.)

### Transfer (1)

Shanna Demus, 5-8, So., G

### Newcomers (3)

Ashley Cheesman, 6-2, Fr., F; Kate Eveland, 5-8, Fr., G; Marin McCue, 6-1, Fr., G/F

## ROSTER BREAKDOWN

### By Class

Senior (1): Casey; Juniors (2): Shaw, Strawberry; Sophomores (5): Demus, Elliott, Fritz, Hueftl, Jackson; Freshmen (4): Cheesman, Eveland, McCue, Smith

### By State/Province

Alberta, Canada (1): McCue; Arizona (1): Shaw; California (2): Demus, Strawberry; Colorado (1): Smith; Nevada (1): Jackson; Oregon (1): Fritz; Texas (2): Casey, Eveland; Utah (1): Cheesman; Washington (1): Elliott; Wisconsin (1): Hueftl

### By Position

Center (1): Smith; Forwards (5): Casey, Cheesman, Elliott, Jackson, McCue; Guards (8): Demus, Elliott, Eveland, Fritz, Hueftl, McCue, Shaw, Strawberry

### By Height

6-2 (2): Cheesman, Smith; 6-1 (3): Casey, Jackson, McCue; 5-11 (1): Elliott; 5-10 (1): Strawberry; 5-8 (3): Demus, Fritz, Eveland; 5-7 (2): Hueftl, Shaw

## 2004-05 AZTEC SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Wed.	Nov. 10	<b>Team Concept (Exhibition)</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Tues.	Nov. 23	at University of San Diego (Ch. 4 San Diego)	5:00 PM
Tues.	Nov. 30	<b>Cal State Stanislaus</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Dec. 4	<b>Northern Colorado</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
Tues.	Dec. 7	at Nevada	7:00 PM
Sat.	Dec. 11	<b>Washington State (Peterson Gym)</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Dec. 18	<b>Cal State Fullerton</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
Mon.	Dec. 20	<b>UC Riverside</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Wed.	Dec. 22	at Southern Methodist	7:00 PM
Tues.	Dec. 28	at Kansas	7:00 PM
Thurs.	Dec. 30	<b>Southern Utah</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Tues.	Jan. 4	<b>Canisius</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Fri.	Jan. 7	<b>Eastern Washington</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Jan. 15	<b>UNLV*</b>	<b>4:00 PM</b>
Thurs.	Jan. 20	at Colorado State*	7:00 PM
Sat.	Jan. 22	at Wyoming*	2:00 PM
Thurs.	Jan. 27	<b>Air Force*</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Jan. 29	<b>New Mexico*</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
Thurs.	Feb. 3	at BYU*	7:00 PM
Sat.	Feb. 5	at Utah*	3:00 PM
Thurs.	Feb. 10	Utah Valley State College	5:00 PM
Sat.	Feb. 12	at UNLV*	3:00 PM
Thurs.	Feb. 17	<b>Wyoming*</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Feb. 19	<b>Colorado State*</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
Thurs.	Feb. 24	at New Mexico*	7:00 PM
Sat.	Feb. 26	at Air Force*	2:00 PM
Thurs.	Mar. 3	<b>Utah*</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>
Sat.	Mar. 5	<b>BYU*</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>
Wed.-Sat.	Mar. 9-12	2005 MWC Tournament Championship Pepsi Center (Denver, Colo.)	TBA
Sat.-Tue.	Mar. 19-22	NCAA First & Second Rounds	TBA
Sat.-Tue.	Mar. 26-29	NCAA Regionals	TBA
Sun. & Tue.	Apr. 3 & 5	NCAA Final Four (Indianapolis, Ind.)	TBA

All times local to site

Home games in **Bold**

All home games at Cox Arena, except where noted

\*Mountain West Conference Game

## 2004-05 AZTEC ROAD HEADQUARTERS

### Dec. 6-8 • Nevada

Reno Hilton  
2500 East 2nd Street  
Reno, NV 89511  
Ph.: (775) 789-1135 Fax: (775) 789-1151

### Dec. 21-23 • Southern Methodist

Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott  
4151 Centreport Drive  
Ft. Worth, TX 76155  
Ph.: (817) 359-4611 Fax: (817) 359-4619

### Dec. 27-29 • Kansas

Holiday Inn - Holidome  
200 McDonald Drive  
Lawrence, KS 83044  
Ph.: (785) 749-8921 Fax: (785) 841-2799

### Jan. 19-22 • CSU-Wyoming

Marriott Fort Collins  
350 East Horsetooth Road  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
Ph.: (970) 226-5200 Fax: (970) 226-9708

### Feb. 2-4 • BYU

Marriott Provo  
101 W 100 N  
Provo, UT 84601  
Ph.: (801) 377-4700 Fax: (801) 377-4577

### Feb. 4-5 • Utah

Marriott Salt Lake City  
75 South West Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84110  
Ph.: (801) 531-0800 Fax: (801) 532-3978

### Feb. 11-12 • UNLV

Embassy Suites  
4315 Swenson Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89119  
Ph.: (702) 795-2800 Fax: (702) 795-1520

### Feb. 23-25 • New Mexico

Marriott Albuquerque  
2101 Louisiana Blvd., NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87110  
Ph.: (505) 881-6800 Fax: (505) 888-2982

### Feb. 25-26 • Air Force

Wyndham Colorado Springs  
5580 Tech Center Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80919  
Ph.: (719) 260-1800 Fax: (719) 260-1492