



# SDSU Softball

Postseason  
Notes

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2002, 2003, 2006 Mountain West Champions ♦ Three NCAA Tournament Appearances (2001, 2003, 2006)

## 2006 Schedule/Results (32-13, 15-3 MWC)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Feb. 9	- CAL POLY	W, 9-4
Feb. 10	- (7) CALIFORNIA	Cancelled
Feb. 11	- MASSACHUSETTS	W, 1-0
Feb. 11	- OKLAHOMA STATE	W, 3-1
Feb. 12	- (2) UCLA	L, 1-2
Feb. 15	SAN DIEGO	W, 5-0
Feb. 17	! vs. Rider	W, 20-2 (5)
Feb. 17	! at UC Santa Barbara	L, 2-3
Feb. 18	! vs. CS Northridge	Cancelled
Feb. 18	! vs. Long Beach State	Cancelled
Feb. 19	! vs. Tulsa	Cancelled
Feb. 23	@ WEST. KENTUCKY	L, 3-4
Feb. 23	@ LONG BEACH STATE	W, 5-1
Feb. 24	@ WAGNER	W, 8-0 (5)
Feb. 25	@ KENTUCKY	W, 5-3
Feb. 26	@ INDIANA STATE	W, 8-0
March 1	at San Diego	W, 8-0 (6)
March 3	# (23) OREGON	W, 4-1
March 3	# CS NORTHRIDGE	Cancelled
March 4	# LOYOLA MARYMOUNT	W, 7-2
March 4	# (25) FRESNO STATE	L, 0-11 (6)
March 5	# (23) OREGON	W, 5-4 (8)
March 10	CS FULLERTON (DH)	W, 3-1; L, 0-8
March 11	VIRGINIA (DH)	Cancelled
March 16	\$ vs. Oklahoma State	L, 0-1
March 16	\$ at Hawai'i	L, 0-1 (8)
March 17	\$ vs. Longwood	W, 4-2
March 18	\$ vs. (16) Northwestern	L, 2-5
March 19	\$ vs. Kansas	Cancelled
March 31	*at Brigham Young (DH)	W, 8-1; W, 10-0 (6)
April 1	*at Utah (DH)	Cancelled
April 7	*New Mexico (DH)	W, 4-1; W, 6-5
April 9	*Colorado State (DH)	W, 3-1; W, 4-1
April 15	*UNLV (DH)	W, 3-2; W, 5-2
April 21	*at Colorado State (DH)	W, 6-2; W, 4-2
April 23	*at New Mexico (DH)	W, 8-6; W, 21-5 (5)
April 29	*at UNLV (DH)	W, 3-0; L, 1-7
May 4	*BRIGHAM YOUNG (DH)	L, 0-4; L, 3-5
May 7	*UTAH (DH)	W, 8-3; W, 5-4
May 11	% at UNLV	W, 6-0
May 12	% vs. Brigham Young	L, 4-8
May 13	% vs. Brigham Young	W, 11-7
May 13	% vs. Utah	L, 4-5
May 19	^ vs. Long Beach State	2:30 p.m.
May 20-21	^ TBA	TBA

Home games in CAPS played at SDSU Softball Stadium  
 ~ - Campbell/Carter Classic (San Diego, Calif.)  
 ! - UC Santa Barbara Tournament (Santa Barbara, Calif.)  
 @ - Aztec Invitational (San Diego, Calif.)  
 # - Aztec Classic (San Diego, Calif.)  
 \$ - Hawai'i Tournament (Honolulu, Hawaii)  
 \* - Mountain West Conference Game  
 % - MWC Championships (Las Vegas, Nev.)  
 ^ - NCAA Regional at UCLA (Los Angeles, Calif.)

## SDSU Softball Prepares For First NCAA Appearance Since 2003

The San Diego State softball team will make the short drive north this weekend to compete in the NCAA regional on the campus of UCLA in Los Angeles, Calif. The Aztecs (32-13), who finished the MWC regular season with their highest conference winning percentage in school history (.833) and advanced to their fifth MWC championship game, earned the No. 2 seed and will face No. 3 Long Beach State (30-20) in the first game of the four-team, double-elimination tournament at 2:35 p.m. Friday. UCLA (43-7), winners of 10 NCAA championships, earned the No. 1 overall seed in the tournament and will host No. 4 Missouri State (40-15) in late game (5:05 p.m.).

The winner of the Los Angeles regional will advance to Super Regionals, where two teams will compete at eight sites in a best-of-three format. The eight winners will advance to the Womens's College World Series in Oklahoma City, Okla.

SDSU received 11 points in the latest ESPN.com/USA Softball Collegiate national poll and are tied with Georgia Tech for 29th in the country.

The Aztecs are ranked No. 22 in the latest RPI ratings, behind Georgia Tech (19), Nebraska (20) and Louisville (21), and ahead of Baylor (23), Auburn (24) and Illinois State (25).

## SDSU and the NAAs

The Aztecs are making their third trip to the NCAA Tournament and first since 2003. SDSU is 4-4 in its NCAA games, including two losses to UCLA.

## 2006 NCAA Softball Tournament

Los Angeles Regional

Friday-Sunday, May 19-21, 2006

Easton Stadium ♦ Campus of UCLA, Los Angeles, Calif.

#3 Long Beach State

Gm. 1

Fri., May 19  
2:35 p.m.

Winner Gm. 1

#2 San Diego State

Gm. 3  
Sat., May 20  
2:35 p.m.

Winner Gm. 3

#4 Missouri State

Gm. 2  
Fri., May 19  
5:05 p.m.

Winner Gm. 2

#1 UCLA

Loser Gm. 1

Gm. 4  
Sat., May 20  
5:05 p.m.

Winner Gm. 4

Loser Gm. 2

Gm. 5  
Sat., May 20  
7:35 p.m.

Winner Gm. 5

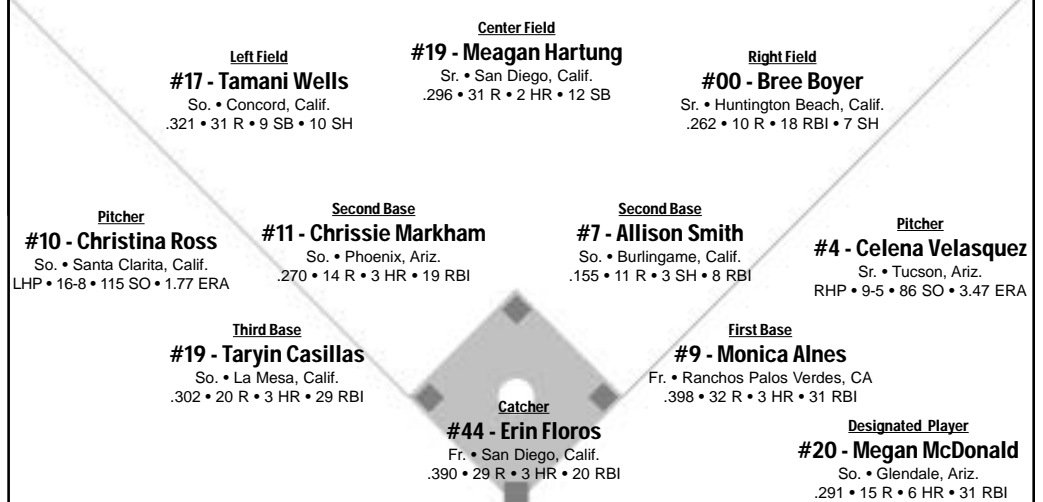
Gm. 6  
Sun., May 21  
2:05 p.m.

Gm. 7 (If necess.)  
Sun., May 22  
4:05 p.m.

Los Angeles  
Regional  
Champion

## PROBABLE SDSU DEFENSIVE ALIGNMENT

• 2006 STATISTICS •



**NCAA HISTORY**

**MAY 15-16, 2003  
NCAA REGIONAL  
AT FULLERTON, CALIF.**

May 15: Louisiana-Lafayette 6, SDSU 0

San Diego State - 000 000 0 - 0 0 0  
La.-Lafayette - 100 005 x - 6 7 1  
Velasquez and Grahlman; Mitchell and Weber  
WP: Mitchell; LP: Velasquez  
HR: LL - McMurty, Gomez, Grayson

May 15: SDSU 2, Rider 1

Rider - 000 100 0 - 1 4 1  
San Diego State - 001 100 x - 2 5 0  
Beintema and Carrabus; DeSanta and Touhey  
WP: DeSanta; LP: Beintema  
HR: RU - Farly; SD - Murphy

May 16: Oregon 4, SDSU 1

Oregon - 002 011 0 - 4 6 1  
San Diego State - 000 010 0 - 1 5 1  
Meashintubby, Vidlund (5) and Poore; DeSanta, Velasquez (6) and Touhey  
WP: Meashintubby; LP: DeSanta  
HR: OR - Vidlund

**MAY 17-20, 2001  
NCAA REGIONAL  
AT NORTHRIDGE, CALIF.**

May 17: SDSU 2, CS Northridge 0

San Diego State - 001 100 0 - 2 7 2  
CS Northridge - 000 000 0 - 0 1 2  
Durazo and Johnson; Farnworth and Cueva  
WP: Durazo; LP: Farnworth

May 18: SDSU 6, Wisconsin 1

San Diego State - 000 000 6 - 6 9 0  
Wisconsin - 000 010 0 - 1 3 2  
Durazo and Johnson; Kirchberg and Starry  
WP: Durazo; LP: Kirchberg

May 19: UCLA 3, SDSU 1

San Diego State - 000 100 0 - 1 3 0  
UCLA - 001 011 x - 3 8 0  
Durazo and Johnson; Goerl and Nuveman  
WP: Goerl; LP: Durazo  
HR: SD - Kovensky; UCLA - Mims

May 19: SDSU 1, Wisconsin 0

Wisconsin - 000 000 0 - 0 1 0  
SDSU - 000 000 1 - 1 5 0  
Kirchberg and Starry; Durazo and Johnson  
WP: Durazo; LP: Kirchberg

May 20: UCLA 11, SDSU 0 (5 innings)

UCLA - 131 42 - 11 14 0  
San Diego State - 000 00 - 0 1 0  
Freed and Nuveman; Durazo and Johnson  
WP: Freed; LP: Durazo  
HR: UCLA - Ramos, Nuveman, Dale

In 2003, the Aztecs went 1-2 in Fullerton, Calif., defeating Rider, 2-1, and losing to Louisiana-Lafayette, 6-0, and to Oregon, 4-1.

In its first-ever NCAA appearance in 2001, SDSU had more success finishing with a 3-2 record. Two of the Aztecs' wins came against Wisconsin (6-1 and 1-0) and the other was a 2-0 win over Cal State Northridge. Both losses were to UCLA by scores of 3-1 and 11-0.

**Aztecs Earn League and National Recognition**

SDSU won three of the four yearly awards given out by the Mountain West Conference at its tournament banquet on May 10.

Sophomore Christina Ross earned MWC Pitcher of the Year honors, while Erin Floros was honored as the MWC Freshman of the Year and head coach Kathy Van Wyk garnered MWC Coach of the Year accolades for the second time in her 10 years at SDSU. Seniors Meagan Hartung and Celena Velasquez, and freshman Monica Alnes joined Ross and Floros as all-MWC selections. Velasquez also earned academic all-district honors by CoSida and ESPN the Magazine.

Ross, a transfer from University of Kansas, became the fifth Aztec to win the award in the league's seven-year history. A Santa Clarita, Calif., native, Ross went 8-2 in league action with a MWC-low 1.55 ERA. In 67 2/3 innings, she struck out a league-high 60 batters and issued just 10 walks.

Floros, a San Diego native (Mt. Carmel HS) finished second in the MWC with a .491 batting average in league competition. She was also ranked second with a .578 on base percentage and six doubles. She became the third Aztec to win Freshman of the Year honors, joining Velasquez (2003) and Bre DeSanta (2002).

After finishing with a 4-16 record in 2005, Van Wyk guided SDSU to a 15-3 record in the MWC this season, its best conference record in the school's 30-year history, and its third regular season title in five years. Despite starting eight underclassmen for the majority of the season, Van Wyk helped the Aztecs to a 13-game win streak to start league play and a national ranking for the first time in school history.

Hartung (San Diego, Calif./Granite Hills HS) earned her second career all-MWC award (2004) after batting .333 with a .437 on base percentage in league games.

Velasquez (Tucson, Ariz./University HS), a two-time MWC Pitcher of the Year, became the first SDSU student-athlete to earn all-MWC honors all four seasons. An 11-time MWC Pitcher of the Week, Velasquez went 4-1 in league play with a 3.75 ERA, fourth-lowest in the conference. She also earned was named to the 2006 ESPN The Magazine/College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-District VIII softball first team. With a 3.54 grade-point average in kinesiology, she was one of three pitchers selected to the 12-member squad and is now eligible for Academic All-America honors, which will be announced May 31.

A native of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. (Palos Verdes Peninsula HS), Alnes batted .453 (fifth in MWC) with 16 RBI in the MWC. She also tied for second in the league with six doubles and her on base percentage of .538 was the third-highest.

**A Look at the Los Angeles Regional**

Long Beach State (30-20) is led by Jonae Perez (.317), who is the only player with an average above .300 on the team. Michelle Turner is the ace of the pitching staff with a 25-9 record and 1.56 ERA. In 215 2/3 innings, she has struck out 180 batters and has issued just 19 walks.

The 49ers lead the all-time series, 44-20, but SDSU has won three of the last four meetings, including a 5-1 win on Feb. 23 in San Diego.

Andrea Duran leads UCLA (43-7) in almost every statistical category, including batting average (.352), runs (50), hits (58), doubles (14), triples (4), home runs (12), RBI (36), total bases (116), slugging percentage (.703) and stolen bases (18). Three others - Caitlin Benyi (.347, 8 HR), Jodie Legaspi (.338, 12 HR) and Krista Colburn (.300, 15 SH) have 33 RBI. Anjelica Selden (28-5) is one of the top pitchers in the country with a 1.02 ERA, while limiting opponents to a .138 batting average. In 219 2/3 innings, she has struck out 331 batters. Lisa Dodd (15-2, 1.74 ERA) is the Bruins' other pitcher.

UCLA has never lost to the Aztecs, winning all 44 meetings, including a 2-1 victory on Feb. 12 in San Diego.

Missouri State (40-15) is led offensively by Samantha Fleeman (.352 avg., 9 HR, 52 RBI). Shannon Buslepp (.347, 11 2B) and Jessica Smith (.318, 8 HR, 29 RBI) are also batting over .300 for the Bears. Buslepp leads a balanced pitching staff with a 18-4 record and 1.92 ERA. Melissa Porsche (17-7, 2.10) and Fleeman (5-4, 1.28 ERA) have also pitched this season.

SDSU and Missouri State have never played one another.

**MWC STANDINGS**

Team	Conference			Overall		
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
SDSU	15	3	.833	--	32	13.711
BYU	15	5	.750	1	42	20.677
Utah	10	8	.556	5	38	19.667
UNLV	8	12	.400	8	26	37.413
CSU	6	14	.300	10	26	26.500
UNM	4	16	.200	12	23	31.426

**SDSU'S MWC RANKINGS**

**Offensive (MWC Games Only in Italics)**

Batting Avg.	.....3rd (.303), 2nd (.333)
Slugging %	.....4th (.425), 3rd (.463)
On Base %	.....2nd (.393), 1st (.428)
Runs Per Game	.....3rd (5.11), 3rd (5.67)
Hits Per Game	.....5th (7.89), 4th (8.67)
Doubles Per Game	.....3rd (1.11), 3rd (1.17)
Triples Per Game	.....3rd (0.16), 1st (0.28)
Home Runs Per Game	.....6th (0.56), 6th (0.58)
Walks Per Game	.....2nd (3.51), 2nd (3.72)
Strikeouts Per Game	.....1st (2.71), 1st (1.94)
Stolen Bases Per Gm.	.....1st (1.04), T-1st (1.06)

**Pitching (MWC Games Only in Italics)**

ERA	.....1st (2.39), 1st (2.41)
Opp. Batting Avg.	.....2nd (.254), 1st (.264)
Innings Pitched	.....6th (304.2), 5th (122.0)
Strikeouts Per Game	.....2nd (5.73), 1st (6.06)
Wins	.....3rd (32), T-1st (15)
Win %	.....1st (.711), 1st (.833)
Saves	.....3rd (4), T-4th (0)
Hits Allow. Per Game	.....3rd (6.73), 1st (7.22)
BB Allow. Per Game	.....1st (1.22), 1st (1.11)
K/BB Ratio	.....1st (4.69), 1st (5.45)
WHIP	.....1st (1.18), 1st (1.23)

**Fielding (MWC Games Only in Italics)**

Fielding %	.....3rd (.965), 3rd (.960)
Errors Per Game	.....3rd (1.07), 3rd (1.17)
DP Per Game	.....3rd (0.38), 5th (0.28)
Stolen Bases Against	.....1st (0.27), 1st (0.28)

**SDSU IN THE NATIONAL POLLS**

Date	ESPN/USA SB	USA Today/NFCA
Pre.	NR	NR
2/14	NR	NR
2/21	NR	NR
2/28	NR	NR
3/5	33 (3 pts.)	T-31 (7 pts.)
3/12	T-32 (3 pts.)	T-31 (2 pts.)
3/19	NR	NR
3/26	NR	NR
4/4	T-32 (1 pt.)	NR
4/11	28 (11 pts.)	NR
4/18	27 (14 pts.)	NR
4/25	24 (32 pts.)	NR
5/2	T-24 (38 pts.)	T-31 (6 pts.)
5/9	T-26th (20 pts.)	28 (11 pts.)
5/16	T-29th (11 pts.)	NA

**SDSU'S RPI RATING**

Date	Record	*RPI	#MWC RPI
4/5	17-8	35	6
4/12	21-8	19	6
4/19	23-8	20	5
4/26	27-8	17	6
5/3	28-9	21	6
5/10	30-11	21	6
5/15	32-13	22	6

\*Out of 275 schools #Out of 31 conferences

**SDSU IN THE NATIONAL RANKINGS**

**Team**

<b>Batting Average</b>	- 20. (.303)
<b>Runs Per Game</b>	- 25. (5.11)

**Individual**

<b>Hardest to Strikeout</b>	6. Tamani Wells 1 K/27.8 at-bats
	24. Allison Smith 1K/17.8 at-bats
<b>Batting Average</b>	49. Monica Alnes .398

**BATTING NOTES**

**MWC Tourn.:** .327 (36-for-110) **2006:** .303 (355-for-1,170) **MWC:** .333 (156-for-469) **'06 vs. LBSU:** .280 (7-for-25)  
**'06 vs. UCLA:** .115 (3-for-26) **'06 vs. MSU:** N/A  
**Season highs:** Runs: 21 (4/23 at NM-2), Hits: 18 (twice), 2B: 4 (4/21 at CS-1), HR: 5 (2/17 vs. Rider), SB: 4 (3/4 vs. LMU)  
**NCAA Rankings (as of 5/14):** 20th in batting average (.303), 25th in scoring (5.11 runs per game)  
**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** 1st in fewest K/gm (2.71), 1st in SB/gm (1.04), 2nd in BB/gm (3.51), 2nd in OB % (.393), 3rd in R/gm (5.11), 3rd in 2B/gm (1.11), 3rd in batting avg. (.303), 4th in SLG % (.425), 5th in H/gm (7.89)

The SDSU offense is having one of its best seasons in recent memory and is threatening many of the team batting records ... Despite hitting at sea level while the other five teams in the conference hit at elevation (New Mexico - 5,000 feet, Colorado State - 4,800, Brigham Young - 4,553, Utah - 4,500 and UNLV - 2,030), the Aztecs finished first in MWC contests in on base percentage (.428), second in batting average (.333) and third in runs per game (5.67) ... In addition, SDSU struck out the fewest of any team (1.94 per game) against MWC opponents and stole the most bases per game (1.06), while walking 3.72 times per game (second in MWC) ... The Aztecs have already hit 26 home runs through 45 games, eclipsing their previous school record of 19 set by the 1999 squad (48 games) ... SDSU has also set school records in runs (230), RBI (210) and in walks (158) ... Other overall records that could be broken this season include batting average (.303 this season, .289 in 1996), slugging percentage (.426 this season, .345 in 2002 and 1996) and on base percentage (.393 this season, .344 in 1996) ... SDSU has reached double-figures in hits on 15 occasions this year through 45 games after doing so only 12 times all of last year (57 games). The Aztecs have had nine hits another six times ... Other glaring differences this season compared to last include runs (230 this year, 148 in 2005), walks (158-101), and stolen bases (47-31) ... Four players - (Monica Alnes - .398, Erin Floros - .390, Tamani Wells - .321 and Taryin Casillas - .302) (minimum 45 at-bats) are batting over .300 this season. Erin Mahoney led the team in 2005 with a .301 average ... 12 players this year are batting over the 2005's .244 team batting average ... SDSU has broken its single-game run total twice this season. On Feb. 17, the Aztecs defeated Rider, 20-2, in five innings, and then scored 21 in a 21-5, five-inning win at New Mexico on April 23.

**#9 MONICA ALNES 1B/P 5-4 R/R FR. RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CALIF.**  
**2006:** .398, 3 HR, 31 RBI, 32 R, 11 2B, .586 SLG %, .470 OB % **MWC Tourn.:** 6-for-10, HR, 3 RBI, 6 R, 2B, 10 TB, BB, HBP  
**MWC:** .453 (24-for-53) **'06 vs. LBSU:** 1-for-2, SH **'06 vs. UCLA:** 0-for-3, K **'06 vs. MSU:** N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 4 (4/23/06 at NM-2), H - 4 (4/23/06 at NM-2), RBI - 5 (4/23/06 at NM-2) **Current Streak:** 15 G (25-for-45, .556)  
**NCAA Rankings (as of 5/14):** 49th in batting average (.398)  
**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** 2nd in PO (322), T-6th in SF (2), 4th in batting avg. (.398), 5th in OB % (.470), T-8th in 3B (2), 10th in 2B (11), 10th in fielding % (.991)  
**SDSU Single-Season Rankings (as of 5/15):** 1st in batting avg. (.398), 1st in SLG % (.586), 2nd in OB % (.470), T-8th in 2B (11), T-9th in runs (32)

Did not play first base in high school. Won the job in the fall after winning over the coaching staff with her leadership abilities ... 2006 all-MWC selection ... 2006 MWC all-tournament team selection after going 6-for-10 with a home run, three RBI and six runs scored in four games ... Is batting .556 (25-for-45) with 17 RBI over her current career-long and SDSU season-high 15-game hitting streak ... Leads the team in batting average (.398), runs (32), triples (tied, 2), RBI (tied, 31), total bases (75), slugging percentage (.586) and sacrifice flies (tied, 2) ... Named MWC Player of the Week on April 25 after going 8-for-14 with seven runs and seven RBI in four Aztec wins at Colorado State and New Mexico ... Hit for the cycle, and had career highs of five RBI and four runs in the Aztecs' 21-5, five-inning win over New Mexico on April 23. The four runs in a game tied a school record set by Tiffany Goudy (April 26, 2002) ... Is tied with four others with her seven multi-RBI games ... A clutch player, Alnes leads the team with eight game-winning plays (five GW RBI, three GW runs), meaning she is responsible for a game-winning play 25 percent (8-of-32 wins) of the time ... Leads the team with her .431 batting average (31-for-72) (minimum 20 at-bats) with runners on base and a .451 average (23-for-51) (minimum 15 at-bats) with runners in scoring position ... Also is tops at SDSU with 20 two-out RBI and is tied for first with four bases loaded hits ... Batted .500 (9-for-18) for a stretch of six games from March 17-April 7 ... Aztecs are 19-3 when she scores a run, 16-2 when she records an RBI and 22-8 when she gets a hit.

**#24 AMANDA BEASLEY UTIL 5-4 R/R JR. SPRING VALLEY, CALIF.**  
**2006:** .118 (2-for-17), 6 R, 2B, SH **MWC Tourn.:** 0-for-1, R  
**MWC:** .000 (0-for-3) **'06 vs. LBSU:** DNP **'06 vs. UCLA:** 0-for-3, 2K **'06 vs. MSU:** N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 1 (9X), H - 2 (4/22/05 at BY), RBI - 3 (2/9/06 vs. Cal Poly) **Current Streak:** 0 G

Has earned four starts in 22 appearances ... Hit a game-winning three-run double in the Aztecs' first game of the season, a 9-4 win, against Cal Poly on Feb. 9 ... Had an RBI single and scored a run against Western Kentucky on Feb. 23 ... Has drove in five runs off her two hits after only recording one RBI her first two seasons.

**#00 BREE BOYER RF/LF 5-4 R/R SR. HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIF.**  
**2006:** .262, HR, 18 RBI, 10 R, 7 SH, 2 SB, .360 OB % **MWC Tourn.:** 3-for-11, 3 RBI, R, 3 TB, SH  
**MWC:** .270 (10-for-37) **'06 vs. LBSU:** DNP **'06 vs. UCLA:** 0-for-2, 2K **'06 vs. MSU:** N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 2 (3X), H - 3 (3X), RBI - 3 (4X) **Current Streak:** 0 G

**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-6th in SF (2), T-6th in SH (7)  
**SDSU Career Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-5th in SH (36)  
 Is second on the team and tied for sixth in the MWC with seven sacrifice hits ... Has a hit in 12 of her last 17 games and 13 of her last 19 contests ... Reached base safely in 14 of the 16 MWC games she played in ... Hit her first home run of the season and drove in three runs in SDSU's 21-5, five-inning win over New Mexico on April 23 ... Went 2-for-2 on two occasions (March 17 vs. Longwood and Feb. 25 vs. Kentucky) ... Aztecs are 9-0 when she scores a run this season and 15-5 when she records a hit.

**#18 JAMIE BURTON C/UTIL 5-5 R/R SR. CARLSBAD, CALIF.**  
**2006:** .000 (0-for-3), 6 R, BB **MWC Tourn.:** DNP  
**MWC:** .000 (0-for-3) **'06 vs. LBSU:** DNP **'06 vs. UCLA:** 0-for-0 **'06 vs. MSU:** N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 2 (2X), H - 1 (7X), RBI - 2 (3/19/05 vs. Longwood) **Current Streak:** 0 G

Will be an assistant coach for ex-Aztec assistant Jen Milo at Cal State San Marcos next season ... Started at catcher and batted in the cleanup spot on senior day against Utah (May 7). Went 0-for-1 and recorded four putouts ... Has appeared in 16 games as a pinch runner ... Scored two runs against Colorado State (second game) on April 23 ... Walked in her first plate appearance of the season against Wagner ... Aztecs are 13-3 when she pinch-runs.

**MWC OVERALL INDIV. RANKINGS**  
 (min. 2.0 AB/1 IP/game)

*Monica Alnes*  
 Putouts ..... 2nd (322)  
 Batting Avg. .... 4th (.398)  
 On Base % ..... 5th (.470)  
 Sac Flies ..... T-6th (2)  
 Triples ..... T-8th (2)  
 Doubles ..... 10th (11)  
 Fielding % ..... 10th (.991)

*Bree Boyer*  
 Sac Flies ..... T-6th (2)  
 Sac Hits ..... T-6th (7)

*Erin Floros*  
 Runners Picked Off ..... T-2nd (5)  
 On Base % ..... 4th (.471)  
 Batting Avg. .... 7th (.390)  
 Putouts ..... 8th (237)  
 Doubles ..... T-8th (12)  
 Fielding % ..... 9th (.992)

*Meagan Hartung*  
 Fielding % ..... T-1st (1,000)  
 Hit by Pitch ..... T-3rd (5)  
 Stolen Bases ..... T-5th (12)  
 Triples ..... T-8th (2)

*Megan McDonald*  
 Hit By Pitch ..... T-3rd (5)  
 Sac Flies ..... T-6th (2)  
 Walks ..... T-7th (21)

*Melissa Owens*  
 Walks ..... T-7th (21)  
 Stolen Bases ..... T-10th (9)

*Christina Ross*  
 ERA ..... 1st (1.77)  
 Opp. Batting Avg. .... 2nd (.231)  
 Wins ..... 3rd (16)  
 Saves ..... T-3rd (2)  
 Strikeouts ..... 6th (115)  
 Innings Pitched ..... 7th (150.0)  
 Games Started ..... T-8th (22)  
 Appearances ..... 9th (29)

*Celena Velasquez*  
 Opp. Batting Avg. .... 7th (.265)  
 ERA ..... 8th (3.47)  
 Strikeouts ..... 8th (86)  
 Saves ..... T-9th (1)

*Tamani Wells*  
 Sac Hits ..... T-3rd (10)  
 Stolen Bases ..... T-10th (9)

**FINAL MWC INDIV. RANKINGS**

(min. 2.0 AB/1 IP/game) (\*pitching stat)

<i>Monica Alnes</i>	
On Base %	.....3rd (.538)
Batting Avg.	.....5th (.453)
Doubles	.....T-2nd (6)
Triples	.....T-2nd (1)
Putouts	.....4th (114)
Walks	.....T-4th (9)
Hit By Pitch	.....T-5th (2)
Sacrifice Flies	.....T-6th (1)
*Wins	.....T-6th (3)
Slugging %	.....T-8th (.660)
RBI	.....T-10th (16)
<i>Bree Boyer</i>	
Hit by Pitch	.....T-5th (2)
Sac Flies	.....T-6th (1)
<i>Taryin Casillas</i>	
Stolen Bases	.....T-10th (3)
<i>Erin Floros</i>	
Batting Avg.	.....2nd (.491)
On Base %	.....2nd (.578)
Doubles	.....T-2nd (6)
Walks	.....T-4th (9)
Putouts	.....5th (110)
Hit By Pitch	.....T-5th (2)
Hits	.....T-7th (26)
Slugging %	.....T-8th (.660)
Sac Hits	.....T-9th (3)
<i>Meagan Hartung</i>	
Hit By Pitch	.....T-1st (3)
Fielding %	.....T-1st (1.000)
Triples	.....T-2nd (1)
Walks	.....T-10th (8)
<i>Chrissie Markham</i>	
Triples	.....T-2nd (1)
<i>Megan McDonald</i>	
Walks	.....T-4th (9)
Hit By Pitch	.....T-5th (2)
Sac Flies	.....T-6th (1)
Home Runs	.....T-7th (3)
Sacrifice Hits	.....T-9th (3)
<i>Melissa Owens</i>	
Walks	.....T-2nd (13)
Triples	.....T-2nd (1)
Stolen Bases	.....T-6th (4)
<i>Christina Ross</i>	
*ERA	.....1st (1.55)
*Strikeouts	.....1st (60)
*Opp. Batting Avg.	.....1st (.239)
*Innings Pitched	.....2nd (67.2)
*Wins	.....T-2nd (8)
*Games Started	.....T-3rd (9)
*Appearances	.....8th (12)
<i>Allison Smith</i>	
Triples	.....T-2nd (1)
Sac Flies	.....T-6th (1)
<i>Celena Velasquez</i>	
*Opp. Batting Avg.	.....2nd (.275)
*Strikeouts	.....3rd (38)
*ERA	.....4th (3.75)
*Wins	.....4th (4)
*Appearances	.....T-10th (9)
<i>Tamani Wells</i>	
Fielding %	.....T-1st (1.000)
Sacrifice Hits	.....T-2nd (5)
Stolen Bases	.....3rd (6)
Runs	.....5th (17)

**#14 TARYIN CASILLAS** 3B 5-7 R/R SO. SAN DIEGO, CALIF.  
 2006: .302, 3 HR, 29 RBI, 20 R, 8 2B, .437 SLG %, 4 SB, 12 BB MWC Tourn.: 5-for-9, HR, 8 RBI, 4 R, 2B, 2 BB  
 MWC: .259 (15-for-58) '06 vs. LBSU: 1-for-2, 2 R, 2B '06 vs. UCLA: 1-for-3, R, 2 K '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
 Career highs: R - 2 (4X), H - 3 (4X), RBI - 5 (4/23/06 at NM-2) Current Streak: 4 G (5-for-9, .556)  
 SDSU Career Rankings (as of 5/15): T-8th in home runs (7)

Named to the all-MWC tournament team after batting .556 (5-for-9) with a home run and a team-leading eight RBI ... Is tied with four others for first on the team with her seven multi-RBI games ... Third on the team with 29 RBI ... Went 3-for-5 with a career-high five RBI in SDSU's 21-5, five-inning win over New Mexico on April 23. Also homered and scored two runs ... Is 4-for-5 on stolen base attempts this season ... Hit .450 (9-for-20) during a career-long six-game hitting streak from Feb. 23-March 1 ... Aztecs are 14-3 when she scores a run and 13-3 when she has at least one RBI.

**#3 ALYSHA DAIGLE** LF 5-1 R/R FR. SAN DIEGO, CALIF.  
 2006: .286 (2-for-7), 2 RBI, R, BB, SB MWC Tourn.: 0-for-0  
 MWC: .000 (0-for-1) '06 vs. LBSU: DNP '06 vs. UCLA: DNP '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
 Career highs: R - 1 (2/23/06 vs. W. Ky.), H - 1 (2X), RBI - 2 (3/18/06 vs. Northwestern) Current Streak: 0 G

Has played in 10 games this season with a start against Western Kentucky on Feb. 23 ... Had a pinch-hit two-run single in SDSU's 5-2 loss to then No. 16 Northwestern on March 18 ... Has not struck out in eight plate appearances.

**#44 ERIN FLOROS** C/1B 5-7 R/R FR. SAN DIEGO, CALIF.  
 2006: .390, 3 HR, 20 RBI, 29 R, 12 2B, .544 SLG %, .471 OB % MWC Tourn.: 5-for-15, 4 R, SH  
 MWC: .491 (26-for-53) '06 vs. LBSU: 1-for-4, 2B '06 vs. UCLA: 0-for-3, 2 K '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
 Career highs: R - 4 (5/7/06 vs. UT-1), H - 3 (5X), RBI - 3 (2X) Current Streak: 0 G

MWC Rankings (as of 5/15): 2nd in runner picked off (5), 4th in OB % (.471), 7th in batting avg. (.390), 8th in PO (237), T-8th in 2B (12), 9th in fielding % (.992)

SDSU Single-Season Rankings (as of 5/15): 1st in OB % (.471), 2nd in batting avg. (.390), 2nd in SLG % (.544), T-5th in 2B (12)

Despite being a freshman, is having one of the best seasons ever by an Aztec after being recruited by national powers Washington and Oklahoma ... 2006 MWC Freshman of the Year ... 2006 all-MWC selection ... Leads SDSU in hits (53), doubles (12), on base percentage (.471), multi-hit games (17) and multi-RBI games (tied, 7) ... Is second in at-bats (136), batting average (.390), home runs (3), total bases (74) and slugging percentage (.544) ... Defensively, Floros has picked off five runners and has committed only two errors in 265 chances for a fielding percentage of .992. Has thrown out 11 of 19 base stealers (57.9 percent) ... Is batting .520 (26-for-50) with eight RBI over the last 15 games ... Has at least two hits in 10 of last 15 contests ... Is batting at a .455 clip (40-for-88) since March 10 (28 games) ... Had a .491 batting average, .660 slugging percentage and .578 on base percentage in MWC games ... Has reached base safely in 30 of her last 32 starts and in 36 of her last 40 starts ... Named MWC Player of the Week on May 8 after going 8-for-13 (.615) over four games to help the Aztecs clinch the MWC regular season championship ... Went 3-for-3 with two RBI and a career-high four runs in SDSU's 8-3 clinching win over Utah in the first game of a doubleheader on May 7 ... Had her first career home run in her first at bat against Cal Poly on Feb. 9 ... Had a homer and drove in a career-high three RBI against Wagner on Feb. 24 ... Had another three RBI after going 3-for-4 in SDSU's 21-5, five-inning win over New Mexico on April 25 ... Had a eight-game hitting streak from March 10-31 where she batted .440 (11-for-25) over the three-week period ... Aztecs are 22-6 when she reaches base two or more times, 17-4 when she scores a run and 11-0 when she drives in at least one run.

**#19 MEAGAN HARTUNG** CF 5-6 L/R SR. SAN DIEGO, CALIF.  
 2006: .296, 31 R, 7 RBI, 6 2B, 2 HR, 2 3B, 20 BB, 12 SB, .399 OB % MWC Tourn.: 3-for-14, R, 2B, BB, HBP, SB  
 MWC: .333 (20-for-60) '06 vs. LBSU: 2-for-3, RBI, 2B '06 vs. UCLA: 0-for-3, K '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
 Career highs: R - 3 (4X), H - 3 (5X), RBI - 1 (25X) Current Streak: 0 G

MWC Rankings (as of 5/15): T-1st in fielding percentage (1.000), T-3rd in HBP (5), T-5th in SB (12), T-8th in 3B (2)

SDSU Career Rankings (as of 5/15): 3rd in OB % (.382), 3rd in BB (60), 4th in runs (85), 8th in batting avg. (.295), 7th in 2B (25), 8th in SLG % (.386)

Would like to become an FBI agent when she graduates this fall ... 2006 and 2004 all-MWC selection ... Is the only Aztec to start all 45 games this season ... Has started the last 52 consecutive games (SDSU is 36-16), dating back to the 2005 campaign ... Has reached base safely in 22 of the last 24 games ... Has had at least one hit in 13 of the last 15 games ... Leads the team in at-bats (142) and stolen bases (12) ... Her 10 multi-hit games are third-most on the squad ... Has 12 stolen bases this season after recording 10 her first three years ... Tied her career high with an eight-game hitting streak from April 15-May 4 ... Has had a five-game hitting streak on two other occasions this season ... Aztecs are 27-5 when she records a hit, 22-1 when she scores a run, 15-3 when she has at least one walk, 9-2 when she steals a base, and 7-0 when she records an RBI.

**#21 C. HOLLINGSHEAD** UTIL 5-5 R/R JR. SAN JOSE, CALIF.  
 2006: .385 (5-for-13), HR, 2 RBI, R, .615 SLG % MWC Tourn.: DNP  
 MWC: .000 (0-for-2) '06 vs. LBSU: 0-for-1, K '06 vs. UCLA: DNP '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
 Career highs: R - 1 (2/17/06 vs. Rider), H - 2 (3/5 vs. Oregon), RBI - 1 (2X) Current Streak: 0 G

Would be second on the team in batting if she had enough at-bats to qualify ... Had a solo home run on Feb. 17 vs. Rider ... Earned the start against then No. 23 Oregon on March 5 and went 2-for-3 with a walk ... Leads the team with two pinch-hits and seven pinch-hit at-bats (.286) ... Aztecs are 4-0 when she has a hit.

**#11 CHRISSIE MARKHAM** SS/2B 5-5 R/R SO. PHOENIX, ARIZ.  
 2006: .270, 14 R, 2 2B, 3B, 3 HR, 19 RBI, .446 SLG %, 3 SB MWC Tourn.: 4-for-12, HR, 5 RBI, R, BB  
 MWC: .391 (9-for-23) '06 vs. LBSU: 2-for-3, R, 2 TB '06 vs. UCLA: DNP '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
 Career highs: R - 2 (2X), H - 3 (2X), RBI - 4 (2/17 vs. Rider) Current Streak: 1 G (1-for-3, .333)

Homered in first at-bat against Utah on May 7 after missing the previous nine games because of a sprained right foot ... Is batting .412 (7-for-17) with nine RBI over the last six games since returning from the foot sprain ... Tied with four others for the team lead with seven multi-RBI games ... Her 19 RBI have come in just nine games ... Batted .391 in nine games in the MWC, third highest on the team ... Ended up 3-for-5 with four RBI over the Aztecs' doubleheader sweep over the Utes on May 7 ... Hit her first career grand slam and drove in a career-high four runs against Rider on Feb. 17 ... Had a five-game hitting streak from Feb. 23-March 4, where she batted .429 (6-for-14) with five RBI ... SDSU is 12-1 when she scores a run, 13-2 when she gets a hit and 7-2 when she records an RBI.

**#20 MEGAN MCDONALD DP/C 5-7 R/R SO. GLENDALE, ARIZ.**  
 2006: .291, 6 HR, 31 RBI, 15 R, 21 BB, .473 SLG %, .420 OB % **MWC Tourn.:** 2-for-12, HR, 2 RBI, R, 2B, HBP  
**MWC:** .265 (13-for-49) '06 vs. LBSU: 0-for-3, K '06 vs. UCLA: 0-for-1 '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 3 (2/17 vs. Rider), H - 3 (3X), RBI - 6 (2/17 vs. Rider) **Current Streak:** 2 G (2-for-5, .400)  
**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-3rd in HBP (5), T-6th in SF (2), T-7th in BB (21)  
**SDSU Career Rankings (as of 5/15):** 5th in HR (10)  
**SDSU Single-Season Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-2nd in HR (6), 8th in OBP % (.420)

Needs one more home run to tie Erryn Gutjahr's Aztec single-season record of seven, set in 1999 ... Leads the team with six home runs, and is tied for the team lead in RBI (31), walks (21), and sacrifice flies (2) ... One of five Aztecs with seven multi-RBI games ... Has reached base safely in 36 of the 44 games she has played in and 14 of the 18 MWC games ... Has been intentionally walked a team-high three times ... Reached base safely for a remarkable 13 straight games from Feb. 24-March 17 ... Went 1-for-3 with her first career grand slam in the Aztecs' 8-6 win over New Mexico (Game 1) on April 23 ... Had a three-run homer against Colorado State (first game) on April 21 ... After only earning four at-bats (1-for-4, .250) in SDSU's first four games, McDonald went on a tear over her next three contests, batting .778 (7-for-9) with a home run and seven RBI ... Reached base safely in seven consecutive plate appearances during the streak ... Finished 3-for-3 with an Aztec single-game record six RBI against Rider on Feb. 17 ... Went 3-for-4 with a home run, three RBI and two runs scored in the first game of SDSU's doubleheader against Brigham Young on March 31 ... The Aztecs are 18-4 when she gets a hit, 15-1 when she has at least one RBI, 12-0 when she scores a run and 6-0 when she homers.

**#1 KASEY MYTINGER RF 5-4 R/R FR. SAN DIEGO, CALIF.**  
 2006: .389 (7-for-18), HR, 6 RBI, 2 R, 5 BB, .500 OB % **MWC Tourn.:** 0-for-1  
**MWC:** .429 (3-for-7) '06 vs. LBSU: DNP '06 vs. UCLA: DNP '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 1 (2X), H - 2 (4/15 vs. LV-2), RBI - 2 (2X) **Current Streak:** 0 G

Has appeared in 14 games this season with six starts ... Started both games of the Aztecs' doubleheader against UNLV on April 15 and went 2-for-4 with two RBI and two walks ... Hit her first career home run in SDSU's 20-2 win over Rider on Feb. 17 ... Drew a bases loaded walk in the bottom of the seventh inning in the second game against New Mexico on April 7 to help propel the Aztecs to a 6-5 come-from-behind win ... Has reached base safely in nine of the 13 games she has had a plate appearance ... Has an on base percentage of .500.

**#23 MELISSA OWENS SS/P 5-10 R/R FR. SAN DIEGO, CALIF.**  
 2006: .287, 2 HR, 16 RBI, 18 R, 21 BB, 9 SB, 3B, .419 OB % **MWC Tourn.:** 1-for-4, 2B, SH  
**MWC:** .343 (12-for-35) '06 vs. LBSU: DNP '06 vs. UCLA: 0-for-3, 2 K '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 3 (2/17 vs. Rider), H - 3 (4X), RBI - 3 (2X) **Current Streak:** 1 G (1-for-2, .500)  
**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-7th in BB (21), T-10th in SB (9)

Has diabetes and wears an insulin pump and is often asked by the ump's if it is a beeper ... Is tied for second on the team with nine stolen bases and is third with 20 walks ... Had a career-long four-game hitting streak from Feb. 26-March 4 ... Has had three hits on four occasions this season. Went 3-for-3 with three RBI in the second game of a home doubleheader vs. Brigham Young on May 4, 3-for-4 against Brigham Young in the first game of a doubleheader on March 31, 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored versus Indiana State (Feb. 26), and 3-for-3 with three runs scored against Rider (Feb. 17) ... Had her first career triple, scored two runs, and drove in a career-high three runs in the nightcap against the Cougars (March 31) on the way to a 2-for-2 game ... SDSU is 14-0 when she scores a run, 14-3 when she gets a hit, 15-2 when she gets on base via a walk, 10-2 when she has an RBI, and 7-2 when she steals a base.

**#7 ALLISON SMITH 2B/SS 5-11 R/R SO. BURLINGAME, CALIF.**  
 2006: .155, 11 R, 2 2B, 3B, 8 RBI, 8 BB, 3 SH, 3 SB **MWC Tourn.:** 0-for-5, 2 R, BB  
**MWC:** .267 (8-for-30) '06 vs. LBSU: 0-for-2, 2 RBI, R '06 vs. UCLA: 2-for-3, RBI '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 2 (5X), H - 3 (3/10/05 vs. Longwood), RBI - 3 (2/4/05 vs. UC Davis) **Current Streak:** 0 G  
**NCAA Rankings (as of 5/14):** 24th in hardest to strike out (17.8/K)

Has started 33 of the 35 games she has played this season ... Has struck out only four times in 71 at-bats (1 K every 17.8 at-bats) and is the second-hardest to strike out on the team, behind Tamani Wells (1 K every 27.3 at-bats) ... Had two of the Aztecs' three hits and drove in their lone run against then No. 2 UCLA on Feb. 12 ... Scored two runs apiece against Rider (Feb. 17) and Oregon (March 5) ... SDSU is 8-1 this season when she scores a run.

**#17 TAMANI WELLS LF 5-5 L/R SO. CONCORD, CALIF.**  
 2006: .321, 31 R, 10 RBI, 2 2B, 7 BB, 10 SH, 9 SB **MWC Tourn.:** 7-for-16, 3 RBI, 4 R, SB  
**MWC:** .291 (16-for-55) '06 vs. LBSU: 0-for-1, RBI, R '06 vs. UCLA: 0-for-2 '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
**Career highs:** R - 2 (12X), H - 3 (2X), RBI - 1 (10X) **Current Streak:** 5 G (8-for-18, .444)  
**NCAA Rankings (as of 5/14):** 6th in toughest to strikeout (27.8 AB/K)  
**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-3rd in SH (10), T-10th in SB (9)

Named to the 10 sacrifice hits ... Has a hit in 14 of her last 17 games ... Is batting .362 (21-for-58) with 17 runs scored over the 17-game stretch ... Had a career-long eight-game hitting streak (10-for-21, .476) from March 4-31 ... Is the fourth-hardest to strike out in the nation and has done so only four times in 109 official at-bats ... Is batting .360 (18-for-50) with runners on base and .417 (10-for-24) with runners in scoring position ... SDSU is 19-3 when she scores a run.

**PITCHING NOTES**

2006: 32-13, 2.39 ERA, .254 avg., 304.2 IP, 258 K, 55 BB, 8 SHO **MWC:** 15-3, 2.41 ERA, .264 avg., 122.0 IP, 109 K, 20 BB, 2 SHO  
**MWC Tourn.:** 2-2, 4.25 ERA, .312 avg., 28.0 IP, 17 K, 13 BB '06 vs. LBSU: 1-0, 3.00 ERA, .148 avg., 7.0 IP, 5 K, 0 BB  
'06 vs. UCLA: 0-1, 2.00 ERA, .333 avg., 7.0 IP, 6 K, BB '06 vs. MSU: N/A  
**Season highs:** ER: 10 (3/4 vs. Fresno St.), K: 11 (2X)  
**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** 1st in ERA (2.39), 1st in win % (.711), 1st in fewest BB allowed per game (1.22), 1st in K-to-BB ratio (4.69), 1st in WHIP (fewest walks and hits per inning pitched) (1.18), 2nd in opponent batting avg. (.254), 2nd in K/gm (5.73), 3rd in wins (32), 3rd in fewest hits allowed per game (6.73), 3rd in SV (4)

Through 45 games, the SDSU hurlers are 32-13 with a 2.39 ERA, lowest in the MWC ... The staff is also ranked first in the league win percentage (.711), fewest walks allowed per game (1.02), strikeout-to-walk ratio (4.69) and WHIP (Walks + hits/innings pitched) at 1.18 ... Against then No. 2 UCLA on Feb. 12, SDSU held the Bruins, who came into the game averaging 13.0 runs per game, to their then lowest run total of the year in a 2-1 loss ... After allowing four runs in their first game of the season against Cal Poly (W, 9-4), the Aztecs gave up only 18 runs over their next 14 games (1.29 runs per game) before being shut out by No. 25 Fresno State, 11-0. Included in the 14-game streak were five shutouts ... SDSU has given up two or less runs in 26 of its 45 games, one or less runs in 18 games and has eight shutouts ... To show how remarkable

SDSU'S RECORD IN 2006 WHEN...	
Overall	32-13
Mountain West	15-3
Non-Conf	17-10
Home	20-6
Away	9-3
Neutral	3-4
February	9-3
March	8-5
April	11-1
May	4-4
Sunday	8-1
Monday	0-0
Tuesday	0-0
Wednesday	2-0
Thursday	3-5
Friday	11-3
Saturday	8-4
Day	25-8
Night	7-5
vs Left	0-0
vs Right	32-13
1-Run games	5-6
2-Run games	7-1
5+Run games	12-3
Extra innings	1-1
Shutouts	8-5
Scoring 0-2 runs	1-9
Scoring 3-5 runs	16-4
Scoring 6-9 runs	11-0
Scoring 10+ runs	4-0
Opponent 0-2 runs	23-3
Opponent 3-5 runs	7-6
Opponent 6-9 runs	2-3
Opponent 10+ runs	0-1
Scored in 1st inn.	14-0
Opp. scored in 1st inn.	7-2
Scores first	24-5
Opp. scores first	8-8
After 4 leading	29-3
After 4 trailing	3-7
After 4 tied	0-3
After 5 leading	24-4
After 5 trailing	2-5
After 5 tied	3-4
After 6 leading	22-1
After 6 trailing	0-7
After 6 tied	5-4
Hit 0 home runs	17-12
Hit 1 home run	9-1
Hit 2+ home runs	6-0
Opponent 0 home runs	23-7
Opponent 1 home run	8-4
Opponent 2+ HRs	1-2
Made 0 errors	13-6
Made 1 error	8-3
Made 2+ errors	11-4
Opp. made 0 errors	6-4
Opp. made 1 error	8-5
Opp. made 2+ errors	18-4
Out-hit opponent	22-4
Out-hit by opponent	9-9
Hits are tied	1-0
Current losing streak	1
Longest losing streak	3
Longest winning streak	13

**2006 STARTS**

(Record in parenthesis)

- 45: Hartung (32-13)
- 44: Alnes (31-13), Floros (31-13)
- 42: Casillas (30-12)
- 41: McDonald (29-12)
- 36: Owens (26-10), Boyer (25-11)
- 34: Wells (25-9)
- 33: Smith (23-10)
- 30: Markham (23-7)
- 23: Ross (15-8)
- 13: Velasquez (10-3), Carranza (9-4)
- 6: Mytinger (5-1)
- 4: Beasley (2-2)
- 3: Cochran (2-1)
- 1: Burton (1-0), Hollingshead (1-0), Daigle (0-1)

**CONSECUTIVE STARTS**

(Including last season; record in parenthesis)

- 52: Hartung (36-16)
- 40: Alnes (28-12)
- 28: Floros (19-9)
- 22: Casillas (17-5), Wells (17-5)
- 14: Boyer (9-5)
- 6: Markham (4-2)
- 4: Ross (2-2)
- 2: Smith (1-1)

**STARTS BY POSITION**

(Record in parenthesis)

- P:** Ross - 22 (15-7), Velasquez - 13 (10-3), Owens - 7 (5-2), Cochran - 3 (2-1)
- C:** Floros - 40 (28-12), McDonald - 4 (3-1), Burton - 1 (1-0)
- 1B:** Alnes - 44 (31-13), Floros - 1 (1-0)
- 2B:** Smith - 31 (22-9), Markham - 10 (8-2), Beasley - 4 (2-2)
- 3B:** Casillas - 41 (29-12), Owens - 4 (3-1)
- SS:** Owens - 23 (16-8), Markham - 20 (15-5), Smith - 2 (1-1)
- LF:** Wells - 34 (25-9), Boyer - 10 (7-3), Daigle - 1 (0-1)
- CF:** Hartung - 45 (32-13)
- RF:** Boyer - 26 (18-8), Carranza - 13 (9-4), Mytinger - 6 (5-1)
- DP:** McDonald - 37 (26-11), Owens - 2 (2-0), Floros - 3 (2-1), Casillas - 1 (1-0), Hollingshead - 1 (1-0), Ross - 1 (0-1)

**STARTS BY BATTING ORDER**

(Record in parenthesis)

- 1st:** Hartung - 45 (32-13)
- 2nd:** Wells - 31 (22-9), Carranza - 10 (8-2), Markham - 3 (2-1), Smith - 1 (0-1)
- 3rd:** Floros - 40 (29-11), Casillas - 3 (2-1), Alnes - 2 (1-1)
- 4th:** McDonald - 34 (23-11), Owens - 9 (7-2), Burton - 1 (1-0), Floros - 1 (1-0)
- 5th:** Alnes - 35 (26-9), Casillas - 10 (6-4)
- 6th:** Casillas - 29 (22-7), McDonald - 6 (5-1), Alnes - 5 (3-2), Floros - 3 (1-2), Hollingshead - 1 (1-0), Owens - 1 (0-1)
- 7th:** Owens - 25 (19-6), Smith - 7 (5-2), Markham - 6 (5-1), Alnes - 2 (1-1), Beasley - 2 (1-1), McDonald - 1 (1-0), Carranza - 1 (0-1), Mytinger - 1 (0-1)
- 8th:** Smith - 19 (13-6), Markham - 17 (14-3), Mytinger - 3 (3-0), Beasley - 2 (1-1), Carranza - 2 (1-1), Daigle - 1 (0-1), Owens - 1 (0-1)
- 9th:** Boyer - 36 (25-11), Wells - 3 (3-0), Mytinger - 2 (2-0), Markham - 2 (1-1), Smith - 2 (1-1)

the pitching staff is when given run support, the Aztecs are 26-2 when scoring four or more runs and 31-4 when scoring three or more runs ... Three pitchers - senior Celena Velasquez, sophomore Christina Ross and freshman Melissa Owens have been named MWC Pitcher of the Week this season, while Ross earned the MWC Pitcher of the Year, marking the fifth time in six seasons that an Aztec pitcher won the award.

<b>#9 MONICA ALNES</b>	<b>1B/P</b>	<b>5-4</b>	<b>R/R</b>	<b>FR.</b>	<b>RANCHO PALOS VERDES, CALIF.</b>
2006: 3-0, 2.27 ERA, .286 avg., 12.1 IP, 7 K, 2 BB					MWC Tourn.: 0-0, 2.33 ERA, .364 avg., 3.0 IP, 1 K, 0 BB
MWC: 3-0, 2.25 ERA, .263 avg., 9.1 IP, 6 K, 2 BB					'06 vs. LBSU: DNP
'06 vs. UCLA: DNP					'06 vs. MSU: DNP
<b>Career highs:</b> IP: 4.0 (4/7/06 vs. NM), K: 3 (4/7/06 vs. NM)					

Is 3-0 this season with a 2.25 ERA in 9 1/3 innings ... Has gone the last three appearances (5 1/3 innings) without giving up an earned run after allowing three earned runs in her first four innings ... Has an impressive 3-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio this season ... Pitched a perfect two innings of relief to pick up her third win of the season in a 5-4 SDSU win over Utah (game two) on May 7 ... Tossed an inning at UNLV and gave up an unearned run on two hits ... Pitched the final 2 1/3 innings against New Mexico in game two to pick up the win on April 23. Struck out two without allowing a walk ... Pitched for the first time as an Aztec in their come-from-behind 6-5 victory over New Mexico on April 7 ... Tossed the final four innings and allowed six hits and three runs, while striking out three and walking one.

<b>#23 MELISSA OWENS</b>	<b>SS/P</b>	<b>5-10</b>	<b>R/R</b>	<b>FR.</b>	<b>SAN DIEGO, CALIF.</b>
2006: 3-0, 1.75 ERA, .271 avg., 36.0 IP, 37 K, 5 BB, 2 SHO					MWC Tourn.: DNP
MWC: 0-0, 3.65 ERA, .424 avg., 7.2 IP, 5 K, 2 BB					'06 vs. LBSU: DNP
'06 vs. UCLA: 0-0, 2.33 ERA, .250 avg., 3.0 IP, 4 K, 0 BB					'06 vs. MSU: N/A
<b>Career highs:</b> IP: 6.1 (3/16/06 vs. OSU), K: 8 (3/1/06 at USD)					

Has diabetes and wears an insulin pump and is often asked by the umps if it is a beeper ... Has started seven games for the Aztecs and is 3-0 with a 1.75 ERA in 36 innings ... Has struck out 37 batters and has walked only five for a 7.4 strikeout-to-walk ratio ... Earned her first start in a game against then No. 2 UCLA on Feb. 12 and wasn't told until hours before start time that she was starting. Tossed three innings and struck out four batters, while allowing three hits and one run ... Went the next 15 2/3 innings without giving up a run ... Threw a one-hit, complete game shutout (six innings) and struck out a career-high eight batters against San Diego on March 1 ... Three days later versus Loyola Marymount, Owens threw four scoreless innings and struck out two ... Was rewarded when she was named the MWC Pitcher of the Week on March 8 ... Tossed 6 1/3 innings of scoreless ball against Oklahoma State on March 16, but did not get a decision.

<b>#10 CHRISTINA ROSS</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>5-7</b>	<b>R/L</b>	<b>SO.</b>	<b>SANTA CLARITA, CALIF.</b>
2006: 16-8, 1.77 ERA, .231 avg., 150.0 IP, 115 K, 28 BB, 5 SHO					MWC Tourn.: 2-1, 4.58 ERA, .306 avg., 18.1 IP, 8 K, 8 BB, 1 SO
MWC: 8-2, 1.55 ERA, .239 avg., 67.2 IP, 60 K, 10 BB, 2 SHO					'06 vs. LBSU: 1-0, 0.00 ERA, .148 avg., 7.0 IP, 5 K, 0 BB
'06 vs. UCLA: 0-1, 3.50 ERA, .400 avg., 0 BB, 4 H					'06 vs. MSU: N/A
<b>SDSU highs:</b> IP: 7.0 (11X), K: 9 (2X)					

**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** 1st in ERA (1.77), 2nd in opponent batting avg. (.231), 3rd in wins (16), T-3rd in SV (2), 6th in K (115), 7th in IP (150.0), T-8th in games started (22), 9th in appearances (29)  
**SDSU Career Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-7th in SV (2)  
**SDSU Single-Season Rankings (as of 5/15):** T-5th in solo SHO (5), T-5th in SV (2), T-5th in win % (.667), 7th in K-to-BB ratio (4.107), T-8th in wins (16)

MWC Pitcher of the Year ... All-MWC selection ... Named to MWC all-tournament team ... A transfer from University of Kansas ... Has not allowed an earned run in 14 of her 29 appearances this season, including nine of her 22 starts ... Has completed 14 of the 22 games she has started ... She led the league with a 1.77 ERA ... Went 8-2 with a 1.55 ERA in 67 2/3 innings of MWC play, and struck out 60 batters, while walking 10 ... Earned MWC Pitcher of the Week honors on April 4 ... Went 29 innings without giving up an earned run to start MWC play, her longest scoreless streak of the season ... Also has had a 17-inning scoreless streak (Feb. 23-March 4) and a 11 1/3 inning streak to start the season from Feb. 9-Feb. 12 ... Has not allowed an opposing runner to reach third base on four occasions ... If the season were to end now, she would rank among the SDSU single-season leaders in saves (T-5th, 2), solo shutouts (T-5th, 5), win percentage (T-5th, .667), strikeout-to-walk ratio (7th, 4.1), wins (T-8th, 16) ... The Aztecs are 17-1 when she strikes out three or more batters.

<b>#4 CELENA VELASQUEZ</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>5-6</b>	<b>R/R</b>	<b>SR.</b>	<b>TUCSON, ARIZ.</b>
2006: 9-5, 3.47 ERA, .265 avg., 86.2 IP, 86 K, 17 BB					MWC Tourn.: 0-1, 4.20 ERA, .308 avg., 6.2 IP, 8 K, 5 BB
MWC: 4-1, 3.75 ERA, .264 avg., 37.1 IP, 38 K, 6 BB					'06 vs. LBSU: DNP
'06 vs. UCLA: 0-0, 0.00 ERA, .375 avg., 2 K, BB					'06 vs. MSU: N/A
<b>Career highs:</b> IP: 10.0 (4/12/03 vs. LV), K: 15 (2/25/05 vs. UNC)					

**MWC Rankings (as of 5/15):** 7th in opponent batting avg. (.265), 8th in ERA (3.47), 8th in K (86), T-9th in SV (1), T-9th in saves (1)  
**SDSU Career Rankings (as of 5/15):** 1st in SV (12), 1st in K-BB ratio (6.69), 1st in fewest BB/IP (0.14), T-1st in solo SHO (19), 2nd in wins (54), 2nd in win % (.643), 2nd in K (522), 2nd in appearances (136), 2nd in total SHO (24), 3rd in opponent batting avg. (.213), 3rd in WHIP (0.921), 5th in IP (575.2), 5th in GS (81), 7th in CG (45), 9th in fewest H/IP (0.79), 10th in ERA (1.73)  
**SDSU Single-Season Rankings (as of 5/15):** 5th in KK-BB ratio (5.1), 9th in win percentage (.643)

A two-time MWC Pitcher of the Year (2003-04) and all-West Region selection (2003-04) ... Named to the all-MWC team for the fourth consecutive year ... Has earned MWC Pitcher of the Week honors 11 times in her career ... Named academic all-district honors by CoSida and ESPN the Magazine on May 15 ... Named MWC Pitcher of the Week on April 18 after going 2-0 with a 1.75 ERA in eight innings as the Aztecs swept UNLV in a MWC doubleheader on April 15 ... After pitching an inning in relief in the first game, she tossed all seven innings and struck out a season-high 10 batters in the night-cap. She did not allow a runner past second base until a pinch-hit homer in the top of the seventh ... Made her first start since March 17 on April 9 against Colorado State. Allowed four hits and one run over seven innings to pick up the victory. Struck out seven and walked one ... SDSU is 10-3 when she starts this season ... Went 4-1 with 1.73 ERA and 25 strikeouts (two walks) in 24 1/3 innings for a six-game stretch from March 16-April 15 ... Has pitched against three nationally ranked opponents on four occasions this season - then No. 2 UCLA, then No. 23 Oregon (twice) and then No. 16 Northwestern - and is 0-0 with a save and a 2.80 ERA.

2006 GAME-WINNERS

Game	RBI	Play	Run	GW RBI
Cal Poly (2/9)	Beasley	3-run Double	Alnes	5 - Alnes, Boyer
Oklahoma State (2/11)	Owens	Solo HR	Owens	4 - McDonald
Massachusetts (2/11)	Alnes	Sac Fly	Owens	3 - Casillas
San Diego (2/15)	Boyer	Error	Burton	2 - Floros, Owens
vs. Rider (2/17)	McDonald	Walk	Floros	1 - Beasley, Hartung,
Long Beach State (2/23)	Smith	Error	Casillas	Markham, Mytinger,
Wagner (2/24)	Floros	2-run HR	Hartung	Smith, Wells
Kentucky (2/25)	Wells	Double	Alnes	
Indiana State (2/26)	Casillas	Error	Hartung	
at San Diego (3/1)	N/A	Wild Pitch	Alnes	<b>GW Runs</b>
No. 23 Oregon (3/3)	Boyer	Error	Casillas	5 - Owens
Loyola Marymount (3/4)	Owens	2-run Single	McDonald	4 - Floros, Hartung, Wells
No. 23 Oregon (3/5)	Alnes	Single	Smith	3 - Alnes, Casillas
Cal State Fullerton (3/10)	Hartung	Double	Markham	2 - Beasley, Markham,
vs. Longwood (3/17)	N/A	Error	Floros	McDonald, Smith
at Brigham Young-1 (3/31)	McDonald	2-run Single	Hartung	1 - Burton
at Brigham Young-2 (3/31)	N/A	Error	Wells	
New Mexico-1 (4/7)	N/A	Error	Markham	
New Mexico-2 (4/7)	Alnes	Single	Wells	<b>GW Plays</b>
Colorado State-1 (4/9)	Floros	2-run HR	Wells	8 - Alnes
Colorado State-2 (4/9)	N/A	Error	Smith	7 - Owens
UNLV-1 (4/15)	McDonald	Single	Wells	6 - Casillas, Floros,
UNLV-2 (4/15)	Mytinger	2-run Single	Owens	McDonald
at Colorado State-1 (4/21)	McDonald	3-run HR	McDonald	5 - Boyer, Hartung, Wells
at Colorado State-2 (4/21)	Casillas	2-run Double	Beasley	3 - Beasley, Markham,
at New Mexico-1 (4/23)	Alnes	Double	Beasley	Smith
at New Mexico-2 (4/23)	Boyer	3-run HR	Owens	1 - Burton, Mytinger
at UNLV-1 (4/29)	Alnes	2-run Single	Hartung	
vs. Utah-1 (5/7)	Markham	Single	Floros	
vs. Utah-2 (5/7)	Boyer	Single	Owens	
at UNLV (5/11)	Casillas	Single	Floros	
vs. Brigham Young (5/13)	Boyer	2-run Single	Casillas	

TEAM GAME HIGHS

**Batting**

At-Bats . . .34 (at New Mexico, 4/23)  
34 (vs. Rider, 2/17)

Runs . . . \*21 (at New Mexico, 4/23)

Hits . . . \*18 (at New Mexico, 4/23)  
\*18 (vs. Rider, 2/17)

RBI . . . \*19 (at New Mexico, 4/23)  
\*19 (vs. Rider, 2/17)

Doubles .4 (at Colorado State, 4/21)

Triples . . . . .1 (7 times)

Home Runs . . . \*5 (vs. Rider, 2/17)

Total Bases . . . .36 (vs. Rider, 2/17)

Walks . . . . .9 (vs. Wagner, 2/24)

Strikeouts . . . .12 (vs. UCLA, 2/12)

Sacrifice Hits . . . . .3 (3 times)

Sacrifice Flies . . . . .1 (11 times)

Stolen Bases . . . . .4 (vs. LMU, 3/4)

Hit By Pitch . . . .3 (vs. UNLV, 4/15)

Caught Stealing . . . . .2 (3 times)

Runners LOB . .12 (vs. Oregon, 3/5)

Hit into DP . . . . .3 (at BYU, 3/31)  
3 (vs. CS Fullerton, 3/10)

**Fielding**

Putouts . . . . .24 (vs. Oregon, 3/5)

Assists . . . . .17 (at UNLV, 5/11)

Errors . . . . .4 (vs. UCLA, 2/12)

DPs turned . . . . .2 (3 times)

**Pitching**

Inn. Pitched . .8.0 (vs. Oregon, 3/5)

Runs Allow. .11 (vs. Fresno St., 3/4)

ER Allowed .10 (vs. Fresno St., 3/4)

BB Allowed . . . . .3 (4 times)

Strikeouts . . . . .11 (vs. BYU, 5/4)  
11 (at UNM, 4/23)

Hits Allow. . .13 (vs. Fresno St., 3/4)

2B Allowed . . . . .3 (at UNM, 4/23)

3B Allowed . . . . .3 (3 times)

HR Allowed . . . . .2 (3 times)

Hit Batters . . . . .2 (4 times)

*\* indicates school record*

SDSU HOME RUN TRACKER

Player	Season Total	Opponent	Date	Outs	On	Inning
1 Erin Floros	1	Cal Poly	2/9	2	0	1
2 Melissa Owens	1	Oklahoma St.	2/11	0	0	4
3 Megan McDonald	1	Oklahoma St.	2/11	0	0	7
4 Meagan Hartung	1	San Diego	2/15	2	0	4
5 Chrissie Markham	1	vs. Rider	2/17	0	3	3
6 Kristen Carranza	1	vs. Rider	2/17	2	0	3
7 Megan McDonald	2	vs. Rider	2/17	2	2	3
8 Christy Hollingshead	1	vs. Rider	2/17	1	0	4
9 Kasey Mytinger	1	vs. Rider	2/17	2	1	5
10 Erin Floros	2	Wagner	2/24	1	1	1
11 Monica Alnes	1	Wagner	2/24	0	0	3
12 Megan McDonald	3	Oregon	3/3	1	0	5
13 Melissa Owens	2	CS Fullerton (1)	3/10	2	0	4
14 Megan McDonald	4	at BYU (1)	3/31	2	0	5
15 Taryin Casillas	1	at BYU (1)	3/31	1	2	7
16 Erin Floros	3	Colorado St. (1)	4/9	1	1	1
17 Megan McDonald	5	at Colo. St. (1)	4/21	0	2	1
18 Megan McDonald	6	at UNM (1)	4/23	0	3	3
19 Taryin Casillas	2	at UNM (2)	4/23	1	2	1
20 Bree Boyer	1	at UNM (2)	4/23	1	2	1
21 Monica Alnes	2	at UNM (2)	4/23	2	0	2
22 Chrissie Markham	2	vs. Utah (1)	5/7	0	0	2
23 Meagan Hartung	2	vs. Utah (2)	5/7	0	0	1
24 Taryin Casillas	3	vs. BYU	5/13	2	2	3
25 Monica Alnes	3	vs. BYU	5/13	2	1	6
26 Chrissie Markham	3	vs. Utah	5/14	0	0	3

**SDSU Home Run Breakdown**

at home . . . . .11

on road . . . . .7

neutral . . . . .8

vs. MWC . . . . .13

vs. non-MWC . . . . .13

with no outs . . . . .9

with one out . . . . .7

with two outs . . . . .10

solo . . . . .14

two-run . . . . .4

three-run . . . . .6

grand slam . . . . .2

1st inning . . . . .7

2nd inning . . . . .2

3rd inning . . . . .7

4th inning . . . . .4

5th inning . . . . .3

6th inning . . . . .1

7th inning . . . . .2

MULTI-HIT GAMES

17: Floros

15: Alnes

10: Hartung

8: Casillas

7: McDonald, Wells

6: Owens

4: Markham

2: Boyer, Carranza, Smith

1: Hollingshead, Mytinger

MULTI-RBI GAMES

7: Alnes, Casillas, Floros, Markham, McDonald

3: Boyer

2: Mytinger, Owens

1: Beasley, Carranza, Daigle, Smith

LONGEST HITTING STREAKS

15: \*Alnes

8: Floros, Hartung, Wells

6: Casillas

5: Markham

4: Boyer, McDonald, Owens

3: Mytinger

2: Carranza, Daigle, Hollingshead, Smith

1: Beasley

*\* indicates streak is active*

SDSU RECORD WATCH

CAREER

HITTING

▷ BATTING AVG. (min. 250 AB)

1. Trish Mang (1987-88) .....358
2. Kellie Nordhagen (1999-02) ...336
3. Tiffany Goudy (2000-02) .....328
4. Sarah Hershman (1999-02) .....309
5. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....308
6. Jackie Eigner (1997-98) .....301
7. Kellie Labor (1999-00) .....297
8. Meagan Hartung (2003-) .....295

▷ SLUGGING % (min. 250 AB)

1. Trish Mang (1987-88) .....541
2. Tiffany Goudy (2000-02) .....441
3. Erynn Gutjahr (1996-99) .....428
4. Kellie Labor (1999-00) .....425
5. Kellie Nordhagen (1999-02) ...421
6. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....415
7. Sarah Hershman (1999-02) ....410
8. Meagan Hartung (2003-) .....386

▷ ON BASE % (min. 250 AB)

1. Trish Mang (1987-88) .....431
2. Tiffany Goudy (2000-02) .....388
3. Meagan Hartung (2003-) .....382

▷ RUNS

1. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....134
2. Kellie Nordhagen (1999-02) ...126
3. Sarah Hershman (1999-02) ....102
4. Meagan Hartung (2003-) .....85

▷ DOUBLES

1. Kellie Nordhagen (1999-02) ...34
- Erryn Gutjahr (1996-99) .....34
3. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....27
4. Tiffany Goudy (2000-02) .....26
- Sarah Hershman (1999-02) ....26
- Shannon Pouelsen (1992-95) ...26
7. Meagan Hartung (2003-) .....25

▷ HOME RUNS

1. Erryn Gutjahr (1996-99) .....17
2. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....12
3. Joann Figueroa (2001-04) .....11
4. Kelcy Murphy (2001-04) .....11
5. Megan McDonald (2005-) .....10
6. Sarah Hershman (1999-2002) ...9
7. Trish Mang (1987-88) .....9
8. Taryin Casillas (2005-) .....7
- Shannon Pouelsen (1992-95) ...7
- Stephanie Chapel (1990-03) ....7

▷ WALKS

1. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....71
2. Chrystal Friesen (1993-96) ....62
3. Meagan Hartung (2003-) .....60

▷ SACRIFICE HITS

1. Tracy Stowe (1990-92) .....50
2. Sarah Hershman (1999-02) ....43
3. Joann Figueroa (2001-04) ....42
4. Janna Kovensky (2001-04) ....38
5. Bree Boyer (2003-) .....36
- Erin Mahoney (2003-05) .....36

PITCHING

▷ WINS

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....87
2. Celena Velasquez (2003-) .....54

▷ WIN % (min. 30 decisions)

1. Bre DeSanta (2002-03) .....717
2. Celena Velasquez (2003-) .....643

▷ EARNED RUN AVG. (min. 200 IP)

1. Robyn Reid (1983-85) .....0.77
2. Patty Mackey (1980-83) .....0.95
3. Lisa Perettie (1989, 91) .....1.12
4. Bonnie Rice (1984-85) .....1.25
5. Bre DeSanta (2002-03) .....1.26
6. Lisa Michie (1983-86) .....1.40
7. Michelle Wesson (1988-91) ...1.55
8. Karen McCormick (1991-94) ...1.62
9. Mya Sanders (1981-82) .....1.68
10. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...1.73

▷ APPEARANCES

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....165
2. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....136

▷ GAMES STARTED

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) ....116
2. Karen McCormick (1991-94) ...92
- Michelle Wesson (1988-91) ...92
4. MarQuessa Penrod (1993-96) ...88
5. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....81

▷ COMPLETE GAMES

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....95
2. Michelle Wesson (1988-91) ...71
3. Karen McCormick (1991-94) ...68
4. Robyn Reid (1983-85) .....61
5. MarQuessa Penrod (1993-96) ...59
6. Patty Mackey (1980-83) .....58
7. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....45

▷ SOLO SHUTOUTS (since 1999)

1. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....19
- Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....19

▷ TOTAL SHUTOUTS (since 1983)

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....28
2. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....24

▷ SAVES

1. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....12
2. Bre DeSanta (2002-03) .....7
3. Renae Mohamed (1996-97) ....5
4. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....3
- Lisa Gonzales (1994-97) .....3
- Michelle Wesson (1988-91) ...3
7. Christina Ross (2006-) .....2
- Deanna Richards (2004-05) ...2
- Tara Atkins (1998) .....2
- Trish Mang (1987-88) .....2
- Patty Mackey (1980-83) .....2

▷ INNINGS PITCHED

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) ...878.2
2. Michelle Wesson (1988-91) ...681.2
3. MarQuessa Penrod (1993-96) ...641.0
4. Karen McCormick (1991-94) ...632.1
5. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...575.2

▷ STRIKEOUTS

1. Sandra Durazo (1998-01) .....543
2. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ....522

▷ OPP. AVG. (min. 200 IP) (since 1991)

1. Bre DeSanta (2002-03) .....191
2. Deanna Richards (2004-05) ...210
3. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...213

▷ HITS PER INNING (min. 200 IP)

1. Robyn Reid (1983-85) .....0.61
2. Bre DeSanta (2002-03) .....0.665
3. Mya Sanders (1981-82) .....0.666
4. Patty Mackey (1980-83) .....0.67
5. Karen McCormick (1991-94) ...0.726
6. Bonnie Rice (1984-85) .....0.730
7. Lisa Perettie (1989, 91) .....0.75
8. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...0.79

▷ BB PER INNING (min. 200 IP)

1. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...0.14

▷ WHIP (BB + Hits/IP) (min. 200 IP)

1. Robyn Reid (1983-85) .....0.769
2. Patty Mackey (1980-83) .....0.858
3. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...0.921

▷ K/BB RATIO (min. 200 IP)

1. Celena Velasquez (2003-) ...6.69

PITCHING

▷ WIN % (min. 12 decisions)

1. Celena Velasquez (2004) .....762
2. Bre DeSanta (2003) .....750
3. Bre DeSanta (2002) .....690
4. Sandra Durazo (2000) .....676
5. Christina Ross (2006) .....667
- Sandra Durazo (2001) .....667
7. Celena Velasquez (2003) .....652
8. Michelle Wesson (1991) .....647
9. Celena Velasquez (2006) .....643

▷ WINS

1. Sandra Durazo (2001) .....30
2. Sandra Durazo (2000) .....25
3. Bre DeSanta (2002) .....20
4. Bre DeSanta (2003) .....18
- Sandra Durazo (1999) .....18
6. Michelle Wesson (1990) .....17
- Robyn Reid (1985) .....17
8. Christina Ross (2006) .....16
- Celena Velasquez (2004) .....16

▷ SAVES

1. Celena Velasquez (2005) .....6
- Bre DeSanta (2002) .....6
3. Celena Velasquez (2004) .....5
4. Renae Mohamed (1997) .....3
5. Christina Ross (2006) .....2
- Deanna Richards (2003) .....2
- Sandra Durazo (2000) .....2
- Tara Atkins (1998) .....2
- Renae Mohamed (1996) .....2
- Trish Mang (1988) .....2
- Michelle Wesson (1988) .....2
- Patty Mackey (1983) .....2

▷ SOLO SHUTOUTS (since 1999)

1. Celena Velasquez (2005) .....10
2. Sandra Durazo (2001) .....9
3. Bre DeSanta (2003) .....8
4. Celena Velasquez (2003) .....6
5. Christina Ross (2006) .....5

▷ K/BB RATIO (min. 80 IP)

1. Celena Velasquez (2005) .....10.1
2. Cori Janelli (2004) .....8.5
3. Robyn Reid (1984) .....8.2
4. Celena Velasquez (2003) .....6.5
5. Celena Velasquez (2006) ....5.1
6. Celena Velasquez (2004) .....4.8
7. Christina Ross (2006) .....4.107
8. Cori Janelli (2005) .....4.105

SINGLE-SEASON HITTING

▷ BATTING AVG. (min. 100 AB)

1. Monica Alnes (2006) .....398
2. Erin Floros (2006) .....390

▷ SLUGGING % (min. 100 AB)

1. Monica Alnes (2006) .....586
2. Erin Floros (2006) .....544
- Trish Mang (1987) .....544

▷ ON BASE % (min. 100 AB)

1. Erin Floros (2006) .....471
  2. Monica Alnes (2006) .....470
  3. Tiffany Goudy (2004) .....462
  - Trish Mang (1988) .....462
  5. Janna Kovensky (2004) .....449
  6. Kellie Nordhagen (2000) .....430
  7. Tiffany Goudy (2002) .....425
  8. Megan McDonald (2006) ....420
  9. \*Melissa Owens (2006) ....419
- \*Only has 94 AB

▷ RUNS

1. Tiffany Goudy (2002) .....41
2. Kellie Nordhagen (2000) .....40
3. Meagan Hartung (2004) .....37
- Janna Kovensky (2004) .....37
- Kellie Nordhagen (2002) .....37
6. Janna Kovensky (2002) .....35
- Janna Kovensky (2001) .....35
8. Jennifer Hambly (1993) .....33
9. Monica Alnes (2006) .....32
- Kellie Nordhagen (2001) .....32

▷ DOUBLES

1. Tiffany Goudy (2002) .....14
- Kellie Nordhagen (2000) .....14
- Shanon Pouelsen (1994) .....14
4. Meagan Hartung (2004) .....13
5. Erin Floros (2006) .....12
- Sarah Hershman (2002) .....12
- Trish Mang (1987) .....12
8. Monica Alnes (2006) .....11
- Erryn Gutjahr (1996) .....11

▷ HOME RUNS

1. Erryn Gutjahr (1999) .....7
2. Megan McDonald (2006) .....6
- Trish Mang (1987) .....6



**ALPHABETICAL ROSTER**

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	B/T	YR.-EXP.	HOMETOWN (LAST SCHOOL)
9	Monica Alnes	IF/P	5-7	R/R	Fr.-HS	Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. (P.V. Peninsula HS)
24	Amanda Beasley	UTIL	5-4	R/R	Jr.-2L	Spring Valley, Calif. (Mount Miguel HS)
00	Bree Boyer	OF	5-4	R/R	Sr.-3L	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Marina HS)
16	Danielle Bryan	IF	5-6	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Patrick Henry HS)
18	Jamie Burton	C	5-5	R/R	Sr.-3L	Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad HS)
2	Kristen Carranza	OF	5-6	L/L	So.-1L	San Mateo, Calif. (Burlingame HS)
14	Taryin Casillas	IF	5-7	R/R	So.-1L	San Diego, Calif. (Grossmont HS)
3	Alysha Daigle	OF	5-1	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Monte Vista HS)
22	Sydney Fleming	C	5-8	R/R	Fr.-HS	Oakland, Calif. (Bishop O'Dowd HS)
44	Erin Floros	C/IF	5-7	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Mt. Carmel HS)
19	Meagan Hartung	OF/IF	5-6	L/R	Sr.-3L	San Diego, Calif. (Granite Hills HS)
21	Christy Hollingshead	UTIL	5-5	R/R	Jr.-RS	San Jose, Calif. (West Valley College)
11	Chrissie Markham	IF	5-5	R/R	So.-1L	Phoenix, Ariz. (Mountain Ridge HS)
20	Megan McDonald	C	5-7	R/R	So.-1L	Glendale, Ariz. (Cactus HS)
1	Kasey Mytinger	OF	5-4	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (West Hills HS)
23	Melissa Owens	P/IF	5-10	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Christian HS)
10	Christina Ross	P	5-7	R/L	So.-TR	Santa Clarita, Calif. (Univ. of Kansas)
8	Dani Sidoti	OF	5-9	L/R	So.-1L	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Salpointe Catholic HS)
7	Allison Smith	IF	5-11	R/R	So.-1L	Burlingame, Calif. (Burlingame HS)
4	Celena Velasquez	P	5-6	R/R	Sr.-3L	Tucson, Ariz. (University HS)
17	Tamani Wells	OF	5-5	L/R	So.-1L	Concord, Calif. (Holy Names HS)

**NUMERICAL ROSTER**

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	B/T	YR.-EXP.	HOMETOWN (LAST SCHOOL)
00	Bree Boyer	OF	5-4	R/R	Sr.-3L	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Marina HS)
1	Kasey Mytinger	OF	5-4	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (West Hills HS)
2	Kristen Carranza	OF	5-6	L/L	So.-1L	San Mateo, Calif. (Burlingame HS)
3	Alysha Daigle	OF	5-1	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Monte Vista HS)
4	Celena Velasquez	P	5-6	R/R	Sr.-3L	Tucson, Ariz. (University HS)
7	Allison Smith	IF	5-11	R/R	So.-1L	Burlingame, Calif. (Burlingame HS)
8	Dani Sidoti	OF	5-9	L/R	So.-1L	Scottsdale, Ariz. (Salpointe Catholic HS)
9	Monica Alnes	IF/P	5-7	R/R	Fr.-HS	Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif. (P.V. Peninsula HS)
10	Christina Ross	P	5-7	R/L	So.-TR	Santa Clarita, Calif. (Univ. of Kansas)
11	Chrissie Markham	IF	5-5	R/R	So.-1L	Phoenix, Ariz. (Mountain Ridge HS)
14	Taryin Casillas	IF	5-7	R/R	So.-1L	San Diego, Calif. (Grossmont HS)
16	Danielle Bryan	IF	5-6	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Patrick Henry HS)
17	Tamani Wells	OF	5-5	L/R	So.-1L	Concord, Calif. (Holy Names HS)
18	Jamie Burton	C	5-5	R/R	Sr.-3L	Carlsbad, Calif. (Carlsbad HS)
19	Meagan Hartung	OF/IF	5-6	L/R	Sr.-3L	San Diego, Calif. (Granite Hills HS)
20	Megan McDonald	C	5-7	R/R	So.-1L	Glendale, Ariz. (Cactus HS)
21	Christy Hollingshead	UTIL	5-5	R/R	Jr.-RS	San Jose, Calif. (West Valley College)
22	Sydney Fleming	C	5-8	R/R	Fr.-HS	Oakland, Calif. (Bishop O'Dowd HS)
23	Melissa Owens	P/IF	5-10	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Christian HS)
24	Amanda Beasley	UTIL	5-4	R/R	Jr.-2L	Spring Valley, Calif. (Mount Miguel HS)
44	Erin Floros	C/IF	5-7	R/R	Fr.-HS	San Diego, Calif. (Mt. Carmel HS)

**HEAD COACH:** Kathy Van Wyk (CS Fullerton, 1983), 10th season

**ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH:** Kelly Warren (UCLA, 1996), sixth season

**ASSISTANT COACH:** Miranda Bleisch (Point Loma Nazarene, 2004), first season

**►PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

Alnes	.....ALL-nes	Markham	.....mark-UM
Beasley	.....BEES-lee	Mytinger	.....my-TIN-GUR
Bleisch	.....BLY-sch	Dani Sidoti	.....Danny seh-DOTEE
Carranza	.....CAH-ranza	Tamani	.....TOM-ini
Taryin Casillas	.....TAIR-in ca-SEE-es	Van Wyk	.....van WIKE
Daigle	.....DAY-gull	Velasquez	.....vuh-LASS-kez

**►ROSTER BREAKDOWN**

**BY POSITION**

**Outfielders (7)** Boyer, Carranza, Daigle, Hartung, Mytinger, Sidoti, Wells

**Infielders (8)** Alnes, Bryan, Casillas, Floros, Hartung, Markham, Owens, Smith

**Catchers (4)** Burton, Fleming, Floros, McDonald

**Pitchers (4)** Alnes, Owens, Ross, Velasquez

**Utility (2)** Beasley, Hollingshead

**BY BATTING STANCE**

**Right-handed (17)** Alnes, Beasley, Boyer, Bryan, Burton, Casillas, Daigle, Fleming, Floros, Hollingshead, Markham, McDonald, Mytinger, Owens, Ross, Smith, Velasquez

**Left-handed (4)** Carranza, Hartung, Sidoti, Wells

**BY THROWING ARM**

**Right-handed (19)** Alnes, Beasley, Boyer, Bryan, Burton, Casillas, Daigle, Fleming, Floros, Hartung, Hollingshead, Markham, McDonald, Mytinger, Owens, Sidoti, Smith, Velasquez, Wells

**Left-handed (2)** Carranza, Ross

**BY CLASS**

**Seniors (4)** Boyer, Burton, Hartung, Velasquez

**Juniors (2)** Beasley, Hollingshead

**Sophomores (8)** Carranza, Casillas, Markham, McDonald, Ross, Sidoti, Smith, Wells

**Freshmen (7)** Alnes, Bryan, Daigle, Fleming, Floros, Mytinger, Owens

**BY EXPERIENCE**

**3L (4)** Boyer, Burton, Hartung, Velasquez

**2L (1)** Beasley

**1L (7)** Carranza, Casillas, Markham, McDonald, Sidoti, Smith, Wells

**RS (1)** Hollingshead

**TR (1)** Ross

**HS (7)** Alnes, Bryan, Daigle, Fleming, Floros, Mytinger, Owens

**BY STATE**

**California (17)** Alnes, Beasley, Boyer, Bryan, Burton, Carranza, Casillas, Daigle, Fleming, Floros, Hartung, Hollingshead, Mytinger, Owens, Ross, Smith, Wells

**Arizona (4)** Markham, McDonald, Sidoti, Velasquez

2006 San Diego State Softball  
Overall Statistics for San Diego State (as of May 14, 2006)  
(All games Sorted by Batting avg)

Record: 32-13 Home: 20-6 Away: 9-3 Neutral: 3-4 MWC: 15-3

Player	AVG	GP-GS	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	TB	SLG%	BB	HBP	SO	GDP	OB%	SF	SH	SB-ATT	PO	A	E	FLD%
ALNES, Monica.....	.398	44-44	128	32	51	11	2	3	31	75	.586	16	3	12	0	.470	2	4	4-7	320	24	3	.991
FLOROS, Erin.....	.390	45-44	136	29	53	12	0	3	20	74	.544	18	3	13	0	.471	0	5	0-0	237	26	2	.992
WELLS, Tamani.....	.321	45-34	109	31	35	2	0	0	10	37	.339	7	0	4	0	.362	0	10	9-15	29	4	1	.971
CASILLAS, Taryin....	.302	44-42	126	20	38	8	0	3	29	55	.437	12	0	15	1	.362	0	4	4-5	35	95	8	.942
HARTUNG, Meagan.....	.296	45-45	142	31	42	6	2	2	7	58	.408	20	5	15	0	.399	1	3	12-13	40	1	0	1.000
MCDONALD, Megan.....	.291	44-41	110	15	32	2	0	6	31	52	.473	21	5	11	1	.420	2	4	0-0	38	1	2	.951
OWENS, Melissa.....	.287	38-36	94	18	27	2	1	2	16	37	.394	21	1	16	0	.419	1	1	9-11	40	77	11	.914
MARKHAM, Chrissie...	.270	31-30	74	14	20	2	1	3	19	33	.446	6	1	6	0	.333	0	3	3-3	49	51	7	.935
BOYER, Bree.....	.262	39-36	84	10	22	2	0	1	18	27	.321	12	2	8	2	.360	2	7	2-4	26	0	1	.963
SMITH, Allison.....	.155	35-33	71	11	11	2	1	0	8	15	.211	8	1	4	0	.247	1	3	3-3	72	52	5	.961
-----																							
MYTINGER, Kasey.....	.389	14-6	18	2	7	1	0	1	6	11	.611	5	0	5	1	.500	1	0	0-1	1	0	0	1.000
HOLLINGSHEAD, C.....	.385	9-1	13	1	5	0	0	1	2	8	.615	1	0	4	0	.429	0	0	0-0	0	0	0	.000
DAIGLE, Alysha.....	.286	10-1	7	1	2	0	0	0	2	2	.286	1	0	0	0	.375	0	0	1-2	0	0	0	.000
CARRANZA, Kristen...	.211	14-13	38	3	8	0	0	1	6	11	.289	9	0	3	0	.354	1	3	0-0	4	0	0	1.000
BEASLEY, Amanda.....	.118	22-4	17	6	2	1	0	0	5	3	.176	0	0	5	0	.118	0	1	0-0	11	8	3	.864
BURTON, Jamie.....	.000	17-1	3	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1	0	2	0	.250	0	0	0-0	5	0	0	1.000
ROSS, Christina.....	.000	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0-0	4	49	3	.946
-----																							
Totals.....	.303	45-45	1170	230	355	51	7	26	210	498	.426	158	21	123	5	.393	11	48	47-64	914	399	48	.965
Opponents.....	.254	45-45	1193	127	303	39	12	18	121	420	.352	55	22	258	4	.298	4	24	12-24	876	460	72	.949

LOB - Team (304), Opp (259). DPs turned - Team (17), Opp (29). TPs turned - Team (0), Opp (1). IBB - Team (5), MCDONALD 3, ALNES 1, HOLLINGSHEAD 1, Opp (2). Picked off - FLOROS 1.

(All games Sorted by Earned run avg)

Player	ERA	W-L	APP	GS	CG	SHO/CBO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	2B	3B	HR	AB	B/Avg	WP	HBP	BK	SFA	SHA
ROSS, Christina.....	1.77	16-8	29	22	14	5/0	2	150.0	134	51	38	28	115	15	2	7	579	.231	2	8	0	1	14
VELASQUEZ, Celena...	3.47	9-5	24	13	4	0/0	1	86.2	90	49	43	17	86	14	5	9	339	.265	6	8	0	1	9
-----																							
OWENS, Melissa.....	1.75	3-0	9	7	2	2/0	0	36.0	38	10	9	5	37	3	2	2	140	.271	3	2	0	1	0
ALNES, Monica.....	2.27	3-0	5	0	0	0/0	0	12.1	14	5	4	2	7	2	0	0	49	.286	0	1	0	1	0
COCHRAN, Katie.....	3.56	1-0	5	3	1	1/0	1	19.2	27	12	10	3	13	5	3	0	86	.314	1	3	0	0	1
-----																							
Totals.....	2.39	32-13	45	45	21	8/0	4	304.2	303	127	104	55	258	39	12	18	1193	.254	12	22	0	4	24
Opponents.....	4.24	13-32	45	45	24	5/0	0	292.0	355	230	177	158	123	51	7	26	1170	.303	22	21	0	11	48

PB - Team (3), FLOROS 2, MCDONALD 1, Opp (4). Pickoffs - Team (5), FLOROS 5, Opp (1). SBA/ATT - FLOROS (8-19), ROSS (6-12), VELASQUEZ (4-9), MCDONALD (4-5), OWENS (1-2), COCHRAN (1-1).

2006 San Diego State Softball  
Overall Statistics for San Diego State (as of May 14, 2006)  
(All games Sorted by Fielding pct)

Player	C	PO	A	E	FLD%	Dps	SBA	CSB	SBA%	PB	CI
HARTUNG, Meagan.....	41	40	1	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
BURTON, Jamie.....	5	5	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
CARRANZA, Kristen...	4	4	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
COCHRAN, Katie.....	3	1	2	0	1.000	1	1	0	1.000	0	0
MYTINGER, Kasey.....	1	1	0	0	1.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
FLOROS, Erin.....	265	237	26	2	.992	2	8	11	.421	2	0
ALNES, Monica.....	347	320	24	3	.991	16	0	0	---	0	0
WELLS, Tamani.....	34	29	4	1	.971	1	0	0	---	0	0
BOYER, Bree.....	27	26	0	1	.963	0	0	0	---	0	0
SMITH, Allison.....	129	72	52	5	.961	4	0	0	---	0	0
MCDONALD, Megan.....	41	38	1	2	.951	0	4	1	.800	1	0
ROSS, Christina.....	56	4	49	3	.946	1	6	6	.500	0	0
CASILLAS, Taryin....	138	35	95	8	.942	8	0	0	---	0	0
MARKHAM, Chrissie...	107	49	51	7	.935	4	0	0	---	0	0
OWENS, Melissa.....	128	40	77	11	.914	5	1	1	.500	0	0
BEASLEY, Amanda.....	22	11	8	3	.864	1	0	0	---	0	0
VELASQUEZ, Celena...	13	2	9	2	.846	1	4	5	.444	0	0
DAIGLE, Alysha.....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
HOLLINGSHEAD, C.....	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	---	0	0
Totals.....	1361	914	399	48	.965	17	12	12	.500	3	0
Opponents.....	1408	876	460	72	.949	29	47	17	.734	4	0

Hitting minimums - 1 Games 1.0 AB/Game  
Pitching minimums - 1 Games 1.0 IP/Game

2006 San Diego State Softball  
 Game Results for San Diego State (as of May 16, 2006)  
 (All games)

Game date	Opposing team	Score	r	h	e/	r	h	e	Inns	Overall	MWC	Pitcher of record	Attend	Time	
-----	-----	-----	-----/-----			-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
02-09-06	Cal Poly	W 9-4	9	9	0/	4	7	3	7	1- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 1-0)	249	2:08	
02-11-06	vs Massachusetts	W 1-0	1	2	2/	0	3	0	7	2- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (W 1-0)	257	1:45	
02-11-06	vs Oklahoma State	W 3-1	3	6	2/	1	3	1	7	3- 0- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 2-0)	535	1:51	
02-12-06	#2 UCLA	1-2 L	1	3	4/	2	10	2	7	3- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (L 1-1)	876	2:07	
02-15-06	Univ. of San Diego	W 5-0	5	10	0/	0	2	4	7	4- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (W 2-1)	101	1:53	
02-17-06	vs Rider	W 20-2	20	18	2/	2	5	2	5	5- 1- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 3-0)	55	1:51	
02-17-06	at UC Santa Barbara	2-3 L	2	6	1/	3	7	1	7	5- 2- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (L 2-2)	70	2:40	
02-23-06	vs Western Kentucky	3-4 L	3	8	0/	4	9	2	7	5- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (L 3-1)	102	2:00	
02-23-06	Long Beach State	W 5-1	5	7	2/	1	4	4	7	6- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (W 3-2)	150	1:41	
02-24-06	vs Wagner	W 8-0	8	7	0/	0	4	2	5	7- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	OWENS (W 1-0)	337	1:35	
02-25-06	Kentucky	W 5-3	5	10	1/	3	6	2	7	8- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 4-1)	430	1:51	
02-26-06	vs Indiana State	W 8-0	8	10	0/	0	5	3	7	9- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	COCHRAN (W 1-0)	220	1:54	
03-01-06	at Univ. of San Diego	W 8-0	8	11	0/	0	1	1	6	10- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	OWENS (W 2-0)	75	1:40	
03-03-06	vs #23 Oregon	W 4-1	4	4	3/	1	6	4	7	11- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (W 4-2)	144	2:18	
03-04-06	vs Loyola Marymount	W 7-2	7	10	2/	2	10	3	7	12- 3- 0	0- 0- 0	OWENS (W 3-0)	295	2:15	
03-04-06	#25 Fresno State	0-11 L	0	0	1/11	13	0	0	6	12- 4- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (L 4-3)	357	1:48	
03-05-06	#23 Oregon	W 5-4	5	7	1/	4	8	2	( 8)	13- 4- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (W 5-3)	271	2:11	
03-10-06	Cal State Fullerton	W 3-1	3	4	0/	1	6	0	7	14- 4- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (W 6-3)	66	1:49	
03-10-06	Cal State Fullerton	0-8 L	0	6	0/	8	11	2	7	14- 5- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (L 4-2)	66	1:58	
03-16-06	vs Oklahoma State	0-1 L	0	4	0/	1	6	1	( 8)	14- 6- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (L 4-3)	0	1:53	
03-16-06	at Hawai'i	0-1 L	0	5	0/	1	2	0	7	14- 7- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (L 6-4)	0	1:53	
03-17-06	vs Longwood	W 4-2	4	9	0/	2	6	1	7	15- 7- 0	0- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 5-3)	0	1:47	
03-18-06	vs #16 Northwestern	2-5 L	2	7	3/	5	5	3	7	15- 8- 0	0- 0- 0	ROSS (L 6-5)	0	1:55	
*03-31-06	at Brigham Young Univ.	W 8-1	8	14	2/	1	8	0	7	16- 8- 0	1- 0- 0	ROSS (W 7-5)	0	2:17	
*03-31-06	at Brigham Young Univ.	W 10-0	10	10	0/	0	2	3	6	17- 8- 0	2- 0- 0	ROSS (W 8-5)	125	1:34	
*04-07-06	New Mexico	W 4-1	4	2	2/	1	8	2	7	18- 8- 0	3- 0- 0	ROSS (W 9-5)	245	1:53	
*04-07-06	New Mexico	W 6-5	6	7	0/	5	12	2	7	19- 8- 0	4- 0- 0	ALNES (W 1-0)	546	2:15	
*04-09-06	Colorado State Rams	W 3-1	3	3	1/	1	9	1	7	20- 8- 0	5- 0- 0	ROSS (W 10-5)	546	1:37	
*04-09-06	Colorado State Rams	W 4-1	4	9	2/	1	4	2	7	21- 8- 0	6- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 6-3)	768	1:48	
*04-15-06	UNLV Rebels	W 3-2	3	6	3/	2	4	1	7	22- 8- 0	7- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 7-3)	579	2:00	
*04-15-06	UNLV Rebels	W 5-2	5	12	0/	2	7	4	7	23- 8- 0	8- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 8-3)	744	1:54	
*04-21-06	at Colorado State Rams	W 6-2	6	10	3/	2	7	0	7	24- 8- 0	9- 0- 0	ROSS (W 11-5)	176	1:54	
*04-21-06	at Colorado State Rams	W 4-2	4	9	0/	2	10	1	7	25- 8- 0	10- 0- 0	ROSS (W 12-5)	176	1:54	
*04-23-06	at New Mexico	W 8-6	8	10	1/	6	9	1	7	26- 8- 0	11- 0- 0	VELASQUEZ (W 9-3)	204	2:42	
*04-23-06	at New Mexico	W 21-5	21	18	1/	5	9	2	5	27- 8- 0	12- 0- 0	ALNES (W 2-0)	513	2:10	
*04-29-06	at UNLV Rebels	W 3-0	3	6	1/	0	10	1	7	28- 8- 0	13- 0- 0	ROSS (W 13-5)	200	1:49	
*04-29-06	at UNLV Rebels	1-7 L	1	6	1/	7	8	0	7	28- 9- 0	13- 1- 0	VELASQUEZ (L 9-4)	226	1:49	
*05-04-06	Brigham Young Univ.	0-4 L	0	7	3/	4	4	1	7	28-10- 0	13- 2- 0	ROSS (L 13-6)	242	1:55	
*05-04-06	Brigham Young Univ.	3-5 L	3	9	0/	5	6	1	7	28-11- 0	13- 3- 0	ROSS (L 13-7)	256	2:09	
*05-07-06	Utah Utes	W 8-3	8	10	1/	3	7	0	7	29-11- 0	14- 3- 0	ROSS (W 14-7)	650	1:49	
*05-07-06	Utah Utes	W 5-4	5	8	0/	4	6	0	7	30-11- 0	15- 3- 0	ALNES (W 3-0)	650	1:51	
05-11-06	vs UNLV Rebels	W 6-0	6	9	0/	0	3	4	7	31-11- 0	15- 3- 0	ROSS (W 15-7)	296	1:44	
05-12-06	vs Brigham Young Univ.	4-8 L	4	10	2/	8	12	0	7	31-12- 0	15- 3- 0	ROSS (L 15-8)	310	2:07	
05-13-06	vs Brigham Young Univ.	W 11-7	11	12	1/	7	11	2	7	32-12- 0	15- 3- 0	ROSS (W 16-8)	256	2:31	
05-13-06	vs Utah Utes	4-5 L	4	5	0/	5	8	1	7	32-13- 0	15- 3- 0	VELASQUEZ (L 9-5)	227	2:24	

\* = Conference game  
 () extra inning game



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# Van Wyk & Velasquez

**Willie Bans, Sports Editor**

**Posted: 2/9/06**

Her coach had nothing to prove. She already had her place in history.

The other kid came to San Diego State on a mission. The other kid had something to prove.

Kathy Van Wyk was one of the best pitchers in college softball history. Though she began her career at tiny Texas Women's University, the SDSU head coach soon became known around softball circles as one of the best in the game.

In her senior season - her lone season - at Cal State Fullerton, Van Wyk compiled a 35-1 record, had a 0.18 ERA and posted four no-hitters. She walked away with the Broderick Award, given to the nation's top collegiate player and even tossed back-to-back perfect games.

The other kid looked at that kind of success and was sold. The other kid saw the potential, she saw the success, she saw the doubters, and she knew she would be an Aztec.

The other kid's name?

Celena Velasquez.

Think of the best softball pitchers in college.

Alicia Hollowell, Arizona Wildcats.

Cat Osterman, Texas Longhorns.

Monica Abbott, Tennessee Lady Volunteers.

Their heights: 6-foot-1, 6-foot-2, 6-foot-3, respectively.

Celena Velasquez, San Diego State - 5-foot-6.

As a senior at University High in Tuscon, Ariz., Velasquez was overlooked by the biggest schools in her home state - the Wildcats and the Arizona State Sun Devils.

Given her height, it's not much of a surprise.

But given her ability?

The credentials were all there: first-team All-State in both her junior and senior year, star pitcher for her high school travel ball team that won a national championship in 2001.

The size just wasn't.

However, Van Wyk saw past the height and the slight frame, saw a pitcher that exuded potential.

She saw a pitcher that could become something special.

"She has as many or more pitches," Van Wyk said. "She throws harder and throws a better rise ball. She's got tougher competition than what I did. She's got to get mentally stronger, that will be the challenge for her.

"But she's better than I was."

The mental aspect of the game has perhaps been Velasquez' biggest hurdle, however.

Both the pitcher and her coach have worked for three years to jump the obstacle. Van Wyk has high expectations. Velasquez, now a senior, does, too. Both feel that the mental approach to the game will be the final piece to the puzzle.

At this point, Velasquez can only improve her blazing rise ball so much. Her repertoire of pitches at this point is complete.

Now, with two Mountain West Conference Pitcher of the Year awards under her belt, Velasquez says she will try to clear her head on the mound.

Most importantly, and most daunting for Velasquez, eliminate the pressure she sometimes feels from pitching for a legend.

"Oh, there's tons of pressure knowing that she was so amazing at what she did," Velasquez said. "Now, she's teaching me what she knows and it's kind of like, 'I better step up and be as good as she can make me.' I try things like (asking), 'What would she do in this situation?'

Those situations have found Velasquez on the mound wondering what Van Wyk might be thinking. It leaves her more worried about the stress in her mind than the stress in her arm.

But, like a good coach, Van Wyk reassures her.

"There's definitely a lot of pressure to stand out," Velasquez said. "Sometimes, a pitch isn't working and I doubt myself and she gets mad at me. She'll say, 'You know how to do this. Don't doubt yourself.' She's always like, 'Test yourself. You have to be able to know that you know how to pitch.'

"That helps a lot."

But sometimes, Van Wyk feels helpless.

The transition from a college legend to a college coach is difficult for some. The feeling that they need to be out on the field, doing more to win.

The feeling that they can do it better.

On game days, Van Wyk usually stands only 20 feet away from the pitching circle - the place that made her one of the greatest college pitchers of all-time.

Having to watch someone in the circle instead of being inside herself was a significant adjustment for Van Wyk.

"What's so hard about coaching is that you only have so much control," Van Wyk said. "The beauty, when I was a pitcher, was because I had the ball in my hands and I controlled everything. Nobody played until I decided to pitch the ball. What I learned coaching-wise, is you sit back and have an idea of how everything's supposed to be but little control about how it really is, so it's really difficult.

"But the passion never leaves you. It's in your blood."

It's in Velasquez' blood, too.

Even though, at 5-foot-6, that blood has to be a little thicker.

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## Diamonds are a girl's best friend

### A pair of freshmen are leaning on each other for support outside of the playing field

**Jon Gold, Managing Editor**

**Posted: 2/9/06**

What makes a friend?

Really, what separates a true companion from just a mere acquaintance?

At what point does someone earn a level of trust, graduating from the small gossip to the important details of social life.

Friendship is more than just a bond or a common interest. Friendship is, "Can I help you with that?" and, "You can count on me." Friendship is looking at the person you rely on, the person you need, and knowing that he or she looks at you in just the same way.

For a college freshman, that look is crucial. It can be the difference between a second-semester dropout and a graduating senior.

That look, that "I'm there for you" look, can mean the world to a new college student. Especially a student that has to manage three practices a day in addition to a full class load and a new environment.

San Diego State freshmen Erin Floros and Melissa Owens are getting there. They've known each other for a long time - played travel softball together for a while, in fact - but their friendship is just forming.

They have their inside jokes and favorite movies, but they can't exactly rattle off the names of each other's third-grade teacher.

They chose to come here together - well, not exactly together, but with each other in mind - and have found their friendship is growing.

And as it grows, so to does their roles in each other's lives.

"(Owens) is like a safety blanket, for the most part," Floros said. "We were both quiet kids, and we kind of opened up eventually. We both came to the (San Diego) Renegades - our travel ball team - and we kind of just came together that way, depending on each other and everything. "When we came here it was just nice knowing that I would already have a really good friend here. It took a lot of pressure off."

But the pressure has been put back on by head coach Kathy Van Wyk. Coming off a tough season that saw the Aztecs get few breaks, preparation for 2006 has been tough. With a roster that combines old talent - seniors pitcher Celena Velasquez and outfielder Bree Boyer - and new blood - catcher Floros, pitcher / infielder Owens, freshman pitcher/outfielder Monica Alnes - Van Wyk has challenged her

squad.

"(Softball) has always been pretty easy to me, and now it's a challenge," Floros said. "I've never had really tough coaches. It's been hard, but I like being pushed."

While Floros and Owens have been getting pushed, they've been able to pull on each other for help. They relate to one another - star players from star high school softball programs, Mt. Carmel High for Floros and Christian High for Owens - and now they can count on each other, too.

"It makes it a lot easier," Owens said. "Someone's going through all this with me. It helps out."

Added assistant coach Kelly Warren: "I think their familiarity is a bonus, and I think it helps them relax. I think that's why we see them playing so well against the older players."

For the these two gems, though, playing well has never been a problem.

They played travel softball together with the Renegades in 2001. Meanwhile, in high school ball, they each found great success.

They were both named to the All-California Interscholastic Federation San Diego section team last year and had marvelous senior seasons.

*The North County Times* referred to Owens in an article after the season last year, stating, "Owens all but single-handedly carried the Patriots into the San Diego CIF Division-IV finals. The San Diego State-bound senior struck out 282 this season to go along with a 15-10 record and a 0.35 ERA. She totaled 796 career strikeouts, 32 shutouts and eight no-hitters, while posting a career batting average of .473. The majority of her career stats rank in among the All-San Diego CIF Top 10 best."

Clearly, Van Wyk and Warren knew what they were getting with these blue-chip prospects.

"With Erin, it was fantastic because we had an idea she wanted to stay close to home," Warren said. "Our major goal was recruiting good hitters. She had all qualities we were looking for in a student athlete. (And) we are looking to Melissa to make an immediate impact. We'll see her on the mound and at third base. She also happens to be a fantastic hitter with a ton of power.

"Right now both Erin and Melissa seem ready to roll."

Whether they will actually roll will be determined throughout the season, set to start today against Cal Poly in the Campbell/Cartier Classic at the SDSU softball stadium. The 1-year-old stadium actually played a big part in the commitment of both players.

But, realistically, the draw of staying close to home was the biggest bait that Van Wyk used to reel them in.

"I wanted to stay in San Diego, and I knew they were getting a new field and that just added on to it," Owens said. "I was probably going to come here anyway. I love it here. I've lived here my whole life."

Added Floros: "I love San Diego - I couldn't leave. I went to a couple extremes (for recruiting trips) - Washington, Oklahoma - and it was a lot different. No beach, no nothing. The weather (was bad).

"I get cold easily."

Van Wyk and Warren knew how much the climate would play into their recruiting fortunes.

After all, you can't exactly surf in Spokane or tan year-round in Tulsa.

"I think it's a great advantage," Warren said. "And now that we have our stadium, it makes it a lot easier. The biggest advantage we have over east coast schools is our weather. I don't think the Arizona or California athletes are used to the weather."

Sure, the sunny skies helped get Floros and Owens to Montezuma Mesa. Of course, Pacific Beach is just a short drive away. And, yes, not having to wear a sweater and pants in January is a plus.

But when it comes right down to it, these two freshmen came to SDSU for the relationships.

With their families. With their coaches. With their teammates.

With each other.

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## Youth is served for SDSU softball

**By Nicole Vargas**  
UNION-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

**February 12, 2006**

San Diego State softball coach Kathy Van Wyk has spent a decade at the helm of the Aztecs. And still, the start of another season never gets old.

“You get nervous every year,” Van Wyk admitted. “It never fails. We're looking forward to it.”

After finishing last season with a disappointing 27-30 record, Van Wyk is hoping an infusion of youthful energy will result in a season to remember.

And the Aztecs are starting the season with a bang, hosting its 16th annual Campbell-Cartier Classic this weekend and inviting some of the nation's best teams to take part.

“The competition is huge for us,” said Van Wyk, whose team's strong nonconference record of 23-14 in 2005 was overshadowed by a 4-16 run through the Mountain West.

“I see it as a great opportunity to knock off some top teams.”

SDSU (3-0) swept its trio of early tournament opponents, following a convincing 9-4 victory over Cal Poly with a 1-0 win over Massachusetts and a 3-1 victory over Oklahoma State. Along the way, Van Wyk earned her 300th career victory. The true test, though, will come today, as the Aztecs follow an 8 a.m. meeting against Cal with a 1 p.m. final vs. No. 2 UCLA.

“We have nothing to lose and everything to gain,” said senior outfielder Meagan Hartung, a Granite Hills grad who is one of nine local products on the team.

Hartung says much of the team's optimism is rooted in its youthfulness.

The Aztecs' 15 underclassmen – including eight freshmen and seven sophomores – make SDSU the second-youngest team in the conference.

Van Wyk, though, sees in that youth some tremendous up-side.

“We got a great group of youngsters and a ton of talent,” Van Wyk said. “My toughest job is finding a place for it all, which is a good problem to have. They all want to do so well, and that's fun to see. They really have a passion for it.”

Van Wyk believes that will translate into a much-needed boost to SDSU's offensive production, something that should put pitchers such as Celena Velasquez at ease in the pitcher's circle.

“We have more power hitters and more consistent hitters than we've had in a long time,” Velasquez said. “That takes so much pressure off of you (as a pitcher).”

But then, pitchers such as Velasquez seem to thrive under pressure. A three-time All-MWC pick, Velasquez enters her senior season as one of the premier pitchers in the conference.

And she will get some much-needed help not only from returners like Katie Cochran, but from incoming freshmen Monica Alnes and Christian grad Melissa Owens and from Kansas transfer Christina Ross.

“Christina was a gift,” Van Wyk said. “She beat (No. 13) Oklahoma twice last year, and she's extremely competitive on the mound.”

Even with its young players, the Aztecs will benefit from the leadership of its trio of seniors, a tight group eager to end on a high note.

“We know what we need to get done,” Velasquez said.

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## Aces Wild

**Milos Blagojevic, Senior Staff Writer**

**Posted: 3/8/06**

San Diego State head softball coach Kathy Van Wyk might want to consider taking up poker.

After all, any poker player worth his or her weight in chips will tell you to go all-in with a pair of aces.

And Van Wyk sure has a couple of pocket rockets at her disposal - senior Celena Velasquez and sophomore Christina Ross.

These two are aces of the diamond, pitching SDSU to a 13-4 record - the best start in school history.

"There (are) not many teams out there who have two starting pitchers (who) they can really go to at any time, and I feel that way with both of them," Van Wyk said. "It's a luxury, and believe me, we're going to use it."

But the luxury didn't appear to be a possibility last season. Ross ending up in San Diego didn't seem to be in the cards.

After an illustrious, award-filled high school and club softball career with the OC Batbusters in Orange County, Ross began her college softball career with the University of Kansas.

However, despite being the Jayhawks' top pitcher with a 12-9 record and 1.93 ERA, Ross simply wasn't happy in Lawrence.

To be more specific, the 5-foot-7 southpaw was California dreamin.'

"I think it was a good experience to go away, (but it wasn't a place) I could be happy for the next three, four years," Ross said. "It was hard being that far away and then being unhappy on top of it.

"It's one of those things where if you're happy, the distance doesn't matter."

And this year, Ross has proven just how important happiness is to her game.

In her first year in red and black, she has combined with Velasquez to form a force to be reckoned with on Montezuma Mesa.

"(Ross) has given us another Celena," Van Wyk said. "She's given us another really strong pitcher with great experience right from the get go."

What the Valencia, Calif. native has given the Aztecs is the perfect complement to the hard-throwing, right-handed Velasquez. Ross, the low-ball hurling lefthander, is second in the MWC with an anemic .93 ERA.

With two talented pitchers in the circle, the question of which one is the ace - the No. 1 - inspires a lot of discussion.

"Right now I don't like the way I'm pitching, so I'd say Christina (is the ace)," Velasquez said.

Ironically, Ross disagrees.

"I'd say Celena (is the ace)," Ross said. "I look up to Celena, look up to what she's done. Celena's a great pitcher."

However, no matter which pitcher is the No. 1, the two are combining to push SDSU to No. 1 in the MWC.

"One day, I'm going to start

a game, she's going to come in for relief," Velasquez said. "The next day, she's going to start a game, I'm going to come in for relief. It gets the job done, and the way we work together is going to be very effective."

Added Ross: "It works well. (Velasquez) throws a really good rise ball where I throw better down stuff. So it's just giving batters a different look and keeping them off balance."

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## Devotion

**"God definitely influences everything that I do, especially in softball. I pray to him on the field, but I don't like to be cheesy about it ... More so, (God) just lets me be inspired to do this or inspire someone else."**

**Milos Blagojevic, Senior Staff Writer**

**Posted: 3/30/06**

For the last few years, San Diego State freshman Alysha Daigle felt like she was missing something.

There was an emptiness, a void, that left her wanting more from life.

She needed a foundation. She needed a meaning. She needed an answer.

It wasn't that she had problem believing in God, but there just wasn't that certain closeness.

Then teammate Monica Alnes came into her life, like an angel. The two were paired together as roommates in the Cuicacalli Suites in August, assigned to be the yin to the other's yang.

As the first semester of school wrapped up and the season was getting underway, Daigle as in a funk, on the field and off. A superb high school and club softball player in San Diego, Daigle was spending most of her time riding the pine.

And then Alnes stepped in and brought a friend.

She brought God.

"In the beginning of the year, I had a big problem in that I wasn't really that close to God," Daigle said. "She actually brought me a lot closer because whenever I had a problem, she would bring God into it. Usually the problem was softball, like if I wasn't playing enough ... she told me it's God's plan."

Alnes saw Daigle struggle, and she helped like the leader she is. She stepped in and showed that it's not the outcome that matters, not the end result, but the journey along the way.

"She would always keep her spirits up, she never doubted God at all," Daigle said. "If she did have a bad game, she would always say, 'That's God's plan and that's God's way, but he's just making me stronger,' and I think it just makes her more positive on the field knowing that he's watching her and that she has so much faith in him."

And this year, bad games have been few and far between.

Alnes is hitting .323 with 14 runs and 12 RBIs in her first year for the Red and Black. She is the freshman captain and leads her teammates with an aura that suggests experience, not youth.

That confidence, that ability to play beyond her years, is a credit to who she is as a person.

But it's also a credit to who Alnes credits.

"God definitely influences everything that I do, especially in softball," Alnes said "I pray to him on the field, but I don't like to be cheesy about it, like praying 'Can I get a hit?' More so, (God) just lets me be inspired to do this or inspire someone else.

"I definitely get strength from (God) and I definitely find a balance from having God with me out there. When things do get crazy, I'll give a little prayer, like 'Let the team relax.' You know that God is the rock, God is there."



Watching Alnes on the field suggests that maybe she's the rock, though.

On the field, Alnes has the eyes of a ruthless, stone-cold hitter and the mannerisms of one who's possessed.

From associate head coach Kelly Warren's position - right in the first base coach's box - that look is intimidating.

"Monica is an intense kid," Warren said. "On the field, it's unbelievable. "You can just see the fire in her eyes.

"Monica steps in the box and you think she wants to tear the pitchers head off. That's the intensity that she brings to the team that I haven't seen in my six years here. She's a very rare find."

And Warren isn't the only one who sees Alnes' passion.

"I've always heard that," Alnes said with a chuckle. "My teammates always say, 'Monica, your face is ridiculous up there.'

"I don't do it on purpose, but when I'm up there, it's a battle. I actually do subconsciously want to rip their head off, not as a bad thing, but I'm up there always saying, 'I got to take the hardest cut I can.'"

Even the song that blares from the loudspeakers as she strolls to the batter's box - all the while eyeing down the pitcher - has an edge to it. As Black Sabbath's "Iron Man" punishes the loudspeakers, Alnes walks to take her place in the box, ready to attack.

"It's intense, it reflects me, and everyone gets into it," Alnes said. "I wasn't going to pick a flowery song when I go up to bat because that's not how I am up there.

"I wanted to choose a song that was going to pump me up. It kind of relaxes me at the same time it pumps me up."

Strange, Alnes needs a song to pump her up.

Usually, she's the one doing the same thing.

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## Mt. Carmel grad Erin Floros excelling at SDSU

By Robert Fulton

April 5, 2006

Rookies don't always excel, newcomers take time to adjust and freshman should experience growing pains.

These rules don't apply to San Diego State freshman softball player Erin Floros.

Floros, who graduated from Mt. Carmel High School in 2005, has knocked the cover off the ball so far this spring for the Aztecs and is quickly emerging into one of the team's leaders, despite her youth.



*Freshman Erin Floros has made her presence known as San Diego State's starting catcher. Photo courtesy San Diego State*

"In fall ball I got use to it with all of the practices and I kind of knew what I was getting into once I got into spring," said Floros. "I've never been pushed as hard as I've been here at State and I think that's benefited me a lot. It's made me into a better player."

Through 25 games this season, Floros is batting .329 with 24 hits (leads the team) 37 total bases (also leads the team), 14 runs scored and 8 RBI.

"I'm very hard on myself, too; so I think that's helped," said Floros, who is studying kinesiology. "I've worked pretty hard on things I need to work on. It's helped me become a better player and helped me evolve."

There are a million differences between high school and travel ball and playing at a major university. The best of the best battle at four-year schools, so there are no easy games.

"It's a lot harder," she said. "(My first game) was crazy. It felt like big time to me. I like competition a lot. The higher competition was more motivation for me to play well, but it was a lot different."

Floros plays the catcher position for SDSU. Typically, the catcher is the leader of the infield, the anchor that guides the show. That responsibility presents an interesting dichotomy for a freshman. On the one hand, she must respect the older veterans. On the other, she has to step up as a leader.

"I'm more quiet," Floros admitted. "I don't feel comfortable being a leader out there. I think I lead more by example than verbally. Coach (Kathy Van Wyk) has said I'm a natural leader. I can't bring myself to do it."

The Aztecs are 15-8 so far this season, with a big Mountain West Conference home stand this weekend. On Friday, they play a doubleheader against New Mexico, and then another doubleheader against Colorado State on Saturday.

Each game is a learning experience for Floros.

"I'm excited," she said. "I don't know how conference is really. I don't know how these teams play. I don't have the experience from last year. Each game I'll get a better understanding of what to do."

And the way she's playing, if Floros gets an even better understanding, opponents better look out.

"I think we're playing well," Floros said. "We're surprising a lot of people out there and I think it's finally our time to shine."

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Kathy Van Wyk (left) instructs Megan McDonald (right). Van Wyk's experience will be key as the team prepares for an NCAA run.

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## Kuner's Corner: Softball team keeps getting lucky

**Devin Kunysz, Assistant Sports Editor**

**Posted: 4/19/06**

A softball sits on head coach Kathy Van Wyk's desk.

As she talks, she picks it up and tosses it casually as she mentally travels back in time to 2001.

The ball doesn't look like a time machine.

It appears to be an average, yellow ball, albeit with writing all over it. Surrounded by detailed injury reports, notes on academic progress and sheets of paper that scout the San Diego State softball team's next opponent, the ball is just another fixture of the fourth floor office.

Scrawled across the yellow surface is a note that looks like it belongs in someone's high school yearbook.

But while it doesn't have "Keep in touch" or "Have a great summer" written on it, the ball is a road map pointing to where the SDSU softball team wants to go.

In black sharpie, the writing is bold, succinct, to the point.

"SDSU 2-CSU Northridge 0."

It serves as a reminder to Van Wyk. A reminder of how, when everything falls into place, even the underdog can succeed.

A reminder of the last success that the Aztecs had in the NCAA Tournament.

That win against the Matadors began a Cinderella run for SDSU in 2001 when the team reached the Sweet 16 before being bounced by No. 2-seed UCLA.

And while there is a world of difference between the 2001 squad and this year's team, there is one

important similarity.

Certain teams have an air of confidence about them, a feeling that there is something special about the season.

Van Wyk said the 2001 team had it.

So does this team.

There is a certain sense of destiny, some magical protective shield covering the SDSU Softball Stadium. Away from home, a guardian angel travels with the team.

From a 12-4 start that included a near-upset of No. 2 UCLA to an 8-0 start in Mountain West Conference play, all signs point toward a deep tourney run, toward a date with destiny.

The Aztecs' first date with lady-luck came on March 5 against Oregon. Trailing 4-3 and with Melissa Owens on third base, Van Wyk called for a suicide-squeeze play to try to even the score. Owens appeared to be out at the plate, but the umpire called her safe and SDSU went on to win.

Almost one month later, fate came calling again.

Against Utah, the Aztecs found themselves trailing before the game was cancelled because of rain.

Ask any coach and they'll tell you that success depends heavily on luck, on having the breaks go their way.

This season, winning has been in the cards for SDSU. Whether it's a call going their way or an opponent coming out flat, the team has been the recipient of a large helping of - for lack of a better word - help.

This isn't to say that this run is all luck. Not in the least. So far, the team has looked every bit like the best squad in the MWC so far.

You don't dominate the preseason No. 1 pick in the conference like the Aztecs did in their two-game sweep of then-No. 23 BYU that included a 10-0, mercy-rule shortened victory purely on the whims of fortune.

The RPI, which has SDSU ranked No. 19, doesn't take fate into account.

Receiving votes in the top-25 polls, and going 23-8 to start the season, isn't based on luck alone.

But, if the Aztecs want to "keep in touch" with their winning ways, they're going to need some.

*-Devin Kunysz is an accounting junior and assistant sports editor of The Daily Aztec.*

*-This column does not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Daily Aztec.*

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# The anatomy of a riseball

**Milos Blagojevic, Senior Sports Writer**

**Posted: 4/20/06**

It's a blistering hot April day at the SDSU Softball Stadium. The sun beats down on the field, and the people in the crowd have to shield their eyes.

On the mound is San Diego State senior pitcher Celena Velasquez, who ranks among the all-time school leaders in all 16 pitching categories.

The batter knows what's coming, but what can she do?

Velasquez winds up and the ball flies toward home plate. It looks like a garden-variety fastball. For once, a reprieve - a juicy, fat screamer coming right down the pipe.

Then, instantaneously, the ball rises, exploding upward like lava out of a volcano.

This might be hotter, though.

What was once a flame through the middle of the plate has now risen to the sky, and the resulting swing nets a breeze felt all the way to Cox Arena.

It's OK. The batter's not alone. There's nothing new here.

In her three and a half years in Red and Black, Velasquez has utilized her riseball - a pitch unique to softball - to fan 436 batters.

"We've played Oklahoma, Alabama, Arizona State and Michigan," said Kyle Magnusson, Utah's interim co-head coach. "She's got the best one that we've faced."

Added Velasquez: "Obviously, since it's my best pitch, I think it's had a lot to do with my success here. I'm comfortable with it, I'm confident in it, and I've had to work hard to get it to where it's at."

Hard work is a must with the riseball, which requires an amount of effort and physical ability unlike any other pitch.

Upon release of the ball, the pitcher - who is leaning back more than usual - has to snap her wrist forward in a near-360-degree motion, with her hand under the ball to create a backspin.

The better the snapping motion, the better the backspin. The better the backspin, the better the rise. The better the rise, the bigger the whiff.

"Your wrists have to be strong," SDSU head coach Kathy Van Wyk said. "It's the most physically demanding pitch to throw, whether (it's because of) the wrist or the fact that the body is leaning back.

"You've got to fight gravity, you got to have a certain amount of speed to throw the thing. The direction

of the spin and the speed of the spin is what's really going to make the ball jump up."

And when it jumps, batters generally have two choices: swing at a downward angle or lay off it.

With a pitch that's generally high in the strike zone, home runs are the risk to the reward. Pure contact, right in the heart of the bat, can lead to a long ball. But if a batter swings and misses?

A broken ankle waiting to happen.

"They tomahawk the ball and just drive it down into the ground," Velasquez said. "I think that's what a lot of people are doing now.

"If the riseball is coming in at a reasonable level, the batters (have gotten) a lot better at getting their hands on top of the ball and slicing it down, instead of trying to hit home runs."

That doesn't prevent some from trying, however. Every so often, some opposing hitter will stroll to the box, confident and ready to take on Velasquez. They'll forget her two Mountain West Conference Pitcher of the Year awards, and they'll think that she's nothing special.

"I don't think about (giving up home runs)," Velasquez said. "It's just something that you say, 'Yeah, well I'm going to strike someone out this many times or get this many popups at the risk of one big hit.' With the amount that we're hitting especially, one big hit is just one big hit."

Added Van Wyk: "There are advantages and disadvantages to everything. In this case, the disadvantages are the riseball travels farther and it has a tendency to go up. But she's also going to strike out seven a game and pop out the others so those are the advantages."

Unlike Velasquez, during Van Wyk's college career, the disadvantages certainly outweighed the advantages.

Van Wyk played her first three years of college ball at Texas Women's University, where she was able to utilize the riseball against weaker Midwest and East Coast competition.

Upon coming to Cal State Fullerton for her senior year, the riseball became a distant memory against top-notch West Coast competition.

"My first three years, I relied on my riseball much more than I did in my senior year, when I came to California," Van Wyk said. "I learned the hard way that the riseball wasn't the pitch to throw because the hitters were better and they knew how to hit.

"I got away from it, threw more low pitches, more curves and drops and changeups. I would probably throw seven-to-10 riseballs a game as a waste pitch to move their eyes up."

A waste pitch? Not for Velasquez.

Far from it.

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## Magnificent obsession

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### Velasquez helps San Diego State to top of heap in Mountain West

**By Nicole Vargas**

STAFF WRITER

April 21, 2006

It is a ritual for San Diego State pitcher Celena Velasquez that begins from the moment the umpire calls “strike.”

Velasquez snatches the return throw from her catcher and, with the ball in her glove, returns to the circle, walking past the rubber.

When she turns around, she picks the ball out of her glove and throws it back in, then wipes her right hand on her pants leg.

She clears the red dust from the rubber with her right foot, bounces a little in place and waits for the sign.

Velasquez is ready to pitch.

“If I don't do it, I feel weird,” Velasquez said, almost exasperated at herself. “It's so OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder).”

For years, Velasquez has been the face Aztecs opponents feared most as she established herself as one of SDSU's most potent pitchers. The senior from Tucson ranks No. 2 all-time at the school in victories (53), winning percentage (.654) and strikeouts (493), and is No. 1 in saves (12).

But this season it's not Velasquez alone who has opponents watching this team closely.

The combination of Velasquez (8-3, 2.67 ERA) and the personnel around her has SDSU – winner of eight straight games – just outside the Top 25 (at No. 27) and in the hunt for a Mountain West Conference championship for the first time since it won back-to-back titles in 2002-03.

“We're really on track to get them peaking at the right time,” said head coach Kathy Van Wyk. “So I'm excited.”

Joining Velasquez in the circle is Kansas transfer Christina Ross (10-5), whose 0.97 ERA is tops in the MWC and 19th in the NCAA.



NANCEE E. LEWIS / Union-Tribune  
 SDSU pitcher Celena Velasquez, a senior from Tucson, ranks No. 2 in career victories (53) at the school.



Combine that with the continued consistency of the defense and an offense jolted to life by two true freshmen, and the Aztecs (23-8, 8-0) are in position to go from worst to first in one year.

“It's a good combination,” Velasquez said. “It clicks.”

Out of 275 Division I programs, SDSU is No. 20 in RPI.

It's a far cry from last year, when the Aztecs won just four league games, their fewest in the six-year history of the MWC.

And while this season has had its share of hiccups, ranging from nagging injuries and illness to the recent suspension of three players, Van Wyk refuses to believe her team can be distracted.

“They're enjoying all this too much,” Van Wyk said. “We just want to play ball. Let us play ball.”

Velasquez has battled nagging pain in her left hip that has her limping around the dugout between innings.

Velasquez, though, said dealing with her injury has actually helped her focus in the circle.

“The injury has taken my mind off everything,” said Velasquez, whose stellar freshman season came despite a torn labrum in her pitching shoulder. “When I was struggling (earlier in the season), it got me down and I thought about it too much. Since I have this, my pitching is almost back to normal. Whatever it takes, I guess.”

The combination of Velasquez, a consistent rise-ball pitcher, and Ross, more atuned to the breaking ball, has kept opposing hitters at bay, said catcher Erin Floros.

“These are two studs I'm catching,” said the freshman from Mt. Carmel High.

In addition, the hitting of Floros and classmate Monica Alnes has ignited the offense. Floros is batting .322, second only to Megan McDonald's .338, has scored 15 runs and has had eight multihit games. Alnes is hitting .314 with 14 RBI.

“There's a lot of changes when you go to the next level,” said Alnes, who grew up in Rancho Palos Verdes. “But just being involved with a program like this is super-exciting. We have really good talent on this team, and we've learned how to harness it.”

The true test, though, comes in the next few weeks, as the team plays two-game series at Colorado State and New Mexico before closing the regular season at home against perennial powers BYU and Utah. After that, SDSU will go to Las Vegas May 11-13 for the MWC tournament, with the winner getting an automatic NCAA berth.

Velasquez acknowledges that the regular season's final eight games will speak volumes about the postseason potential of this team. But she shies away from addressing specifically what this team has the potential to do.

“Oh, God,” she said. “I don't want to jinx it.”

**Tuesday, May 9, 2006**

Last modified Wednesday, May 3, 2006 10:36 PM PDT

Aztecs freshman on softball field despite challenges of diabetes

By: MIKE SULLIVAN - Staff Writer

SAN DIEGO ---- Six years ago, Melissa Owens suddenly began losing weight and drinking gallons of water. She continually was fatigued and lethargic, uncharacteristic traits for a 12-year-old who thrived on playing softball.



*San Diego State softball player Melissa Owens has learned to balance her athletic career with the demands of living with diabetes.*

**STAN LIU** For the North County Times

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Eventually, her parents insisted on a visit to the doctor.

It didn't take long for concern to grow into panic.

The doctor heard about the loss of 25 pounds, the undying thirst, the sluggishness and the repeated trips to the bathroom and ordered a battery of blood tests.

A short time later, Melissa and her parents were informed she has diabetes, a disease in which the body has difficulty converting sugars, starches and other foods into energy because of a lack of insulin.

When Melissa was told her diabetes would affect her for the remainder of her life, her parents were devastated. Melissa saw her parents "freaking out," so she began to cry as well.

After a long speech from the doctor centering on what she needed to do on a daily basis to make it through life, Melissa was asked if she had any questions.

She had one: "Will I be able to play softball?"

Hearing "yes" was enough for young Melissa. Today, she is thriving in the sport as a member of San Diego State's team.

The 5-foot-10 freshman has been a key contributor on a team that is ranked 24th in the nation and takes a 28-9 record into a home doubleheader today against Brigham Young.

Owens, now 18, pitches and plays shortstop for the Aztecs. She's hitting .274 with two home runs and 13 RBIs, and she has a 3-0 record with a 1.75 ERA.

Those are nice numbers for any college freshman. They become more impressive considering Owens is playing an NCAA Division I sport while being one of the estimated 21 million Americans who face daily challenges while

living with diabetes.

"I think she's done awesome," said freshman first baseman Monica Alnes, who is Owens' roommate and has been tutored on what to do in case of an emergency. "I think it's really impressive having to go through something that could really hold back a lot of people. She doesn't use it as an excuse and just goes out there and plays good ball."

Owens downplays the magnitude of the situation, acknowledging that dealing with diabetes became much easier once she switched to an insulin pump four years ago. The pump, which she wears on her left hip, monitors her blood-sugar level and supplies insulin to her body through a tube attached to her stomach.

Before the switch, Owens had to give herself shots, a routine she considered the scariest aspect of her situation. Upon originally learning she had diabetes, Owens and some family members visited an endocrinologist and learned how to give shots by practicing on oranges. Her parents and two older brothers administered the shots for the first two months before Owens got up the courage ---- helped by a \$100 bribe from her father, Mark ---- to give herself the shots.

"At first, it was like, 'Wow. I'm going to have to do this for the rest of my life, and this is going to be a pain,' " Owens said. "But now, I'm used to having it, and it's not that big of a deal.

"Being on the pump helps a lot. If I were on shots still, during the middle of a game, I'd possibly have to come out and take a shot. I was up to five, six shots a day, and it's so hectic when you have to stop and take a timeout to get a shot.

"With the pump, it just gives you a steady rate throughout the day, and you just push a couple buttons when you eat stuff to give yourself insulin right there and then. It's a lot more convenient."

Owens tests her blood-sugar level every other inning when she pitches and twice a game if she's playing shortstop. She keeps juices and snacks in the dugout during games in case her blood-sugar level drops.

The pump certainly attracts attention. This past weekend in Las Vegas, an umpire called timeout and wanted to know what was on her hip. It often gets confused with a pager.

Despite the challenges, Owens has always thrived on the softball field. She led Christian High in El Cajon to two CIF Division IV section titles and two runner-up finishes while throwing eight career no-hitters and posting a career batting average of .473. She batted .597 as a junior and .567 as a senior.

Owens chose to play for San Diego State, and it certainly helped that the Aztecs were knowledgeable when it came to diabetes. Amber Grahlman, who played two seasons for the Aztecs, is diabetic and wore an insulin pump as a senior in 2003.

Coach Kathy Van Wyk sees nothing but a bright future for Owens.

"We deal with some focus issues right now, which may or may not be because of the diabetes, but when's she on and she's focused, she's just unbelievable," Van Wyk said. "She's had to make some adjustments, which is something that you expect freshmen to have to deal with it, anyway. Once she gets settled down, she's going to be an unbelievable athlete."

Owens is already showing herself as a role model. She and her parents visit with youngsters who learn they have diabetes to counsel the family on what lies ahead. At the home finale Sunday, five people with juvenile diabetes will be honored before the game.

"I like helping other people with it," Owens said. "It's nice to know that other people have it too and that I give them hope they can do something."

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Senior Jamie Burton has spent most of her final

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## Softball: Red and Black (pinch) run to the finish

### Burton's smaller role highlighted as Aztecs hosts BYU and Utah on Senior Day

**Milos Blagojevic, Senior Staff Writer**

**Posted: 5/4/06**

When four San Diego State softball team seniors play their final home game against Utah on Sunday, the names of three players practically jump off the lineup card to anyone familiar with SDSU softball.

Celena Velasquez, one of the most prolific pitchers in school history, Bree Boyer and Meagan Hartung, both starting outfielders.

But there's a fourth senior who will also play her final home game for the No. 24 Aztecs when they host the Utes at 1 p.m. on Sunday after a doubleheader against BYU starting at 5 p.m. today: reserve catcher Jamie Burton.

Burton has played in 15 games this season - mainly as a pinch runner - with zero starts and only two at-bats.

In fact, the senior captain usually only gets behind the plate between innings, helping warm up a pitcher while freshman starter Erin Floros puts on her equipment.

If you ask associate head coach Kelly Warren, though, Burton will be irreplaceable in a way that a box score or stat sheet would never be able to explain.

"Jamie Burton brings so many things, and the biggest is maturity," Warren said. "She has a perspective that coaches really enjoy because she's a little more mature, and she provides guidance for a lot of the players in more ways than just on the field.

"They look up to her, and they trust her, and they know she has a great head on her shoulders."

This season, Burton's presence may not have been felt on the field, but what she does in the dugout has

helped put SDSU head and shoulders above the rest of the Mountain West Conference, leading the league with a 13-1 record (28-9 overall).

"Compared to the other seniors, I guess I do play a little bit of a different role on the team," Burton said. "Not so much my athletic ability, but just trying to keep a positive attitude. It's not easy not playing; the only thing I knew is that if I could keep my energy up and encourage all my other teammates, hopefully that will rub off on everyone else."

Burton has to be in form in a must-win situation this weekend, as Utah and BYU come in just three games behind the Aztecs in the conference standings.

First, there's the necessity to come out strong after being outplayed on Saturday by UNLV - one of two teams in the MWC with a sub-.500 overall record - in a game that snapped the Aztecs' school-record-tying 13-game winning streak.

"Everyone knows we're beatable now, so people are going to think they can come on top of us," Floros said. "I think we really have to come out there just on top of our game because people know that we can lose now."

Then, there's the competition at hand.

The preseason No. 1 Cougars (36-17, 11-5) come to the SDSU Softball Stadium with a sour taste in their mouths after SDSU started league play by outscoring BYU 18-1 in the March 31 doubleheader in Provo, Utah.

"I think the games are going to be a lot closer this time," Floros said. "I know (BYU is) going to come out wanting to kill us because we completely killed them."

The Utes (32-15, 10-4) will also have added motivation. After leading the Aztecs 3-1 with the bases loaded and no outs in the second inning on April 1, the game was cancelled because of snowy conditions in Salt Lake City.

"I can't wait to play them because they're definitely going to be kind of cockier because they were beating us at one point," Floros said. "We want to prove to them that we definitely can beat them and we deserve to be first in conference."

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Coveted Floros shuns elite programs to star at SDSU

By: MIKE SULLIVAN - Staff Writer

SAN DIEGO ---- Erin Floros is living up to her billing as a great catch for the San Diego State softball program.

The Mt. Carmel High graduate shunned a pair of elite programs in Oklahoma and Washington to stay close to home, and has been a smashing success in her first college season.

Floros, a catcher, was named Mountain West Conference Freshman of the Year on Wednesday night and has been one of the primary reasons the Aztecs (30-11) are the top seed in the conference tournament that begins today in Las Vegas. San Diego State has a first-round bye and plays either Nevada-Las Vegas or Colorado State tonight at 7 p.m.

The right-handed hitting Floros leads the Aztecs in batting average (.397), slugging percentage (.570) and on-base percentage (.486). She's on pace to set new school records in each category.

Fantastic stuff for a freshman who says all she wanted to do was hit .250 in her first college campaign.

"You can't envision that type of season," Aztecs coach Kathy Van Wyk said. "She's the kind of kid who just quietly goes about her business, and she's not overwhelmed by herself and doesn't have a big head. She's been a gem for us."

Floros was destined to be a prized recruit for whichever school gained her services, but many people were chirping in her ear that her desire to stay close to home wasn't such a swell idea.

Observers were surprised that she passed on the chance to play at a school that regularly participates in the Women's College World Series.

"They wanted to see me play at the highest level I could," Floros said. "I was getting opportunities that maybe other girls would have been kind of envious of having, like going to a Top 10 school, and there was me just passing it up.

"But that really wasn't that important to me. Everyone was kind of like, 'You should go for the highest school you can,' and I just didn't want to find myself in Oklahoma or Washington. That wasn't the most important thing to me at all."

Floros wanted to stay home so bad that she first contacted the Aztecs by letter during her junior year at Mt. Carmel. One season into her college career, she's delighted with how everything worked out.

But that doesn't mean it was easy to resist the lure of schools like Oklahoma and Washington.

Floros' first recruiting trip was to Oklahoma, and the Sooners put on the full-court press, led by a fervent plea from former Rancho Bernardo standout Heather Scaglione, the All-America catcher who completed her Oklahoma career last season.

"She was my host," Floros said. "She was begging me to come. She was a catcher, and she loves softball and she's from San Diego. She was like, 'I've had a really fun time here' and 'You can be in the exact same position that I am.' I'm sure some of it was fabricated because the hosts try to do anything to get you to come there.

"It was a beautiful campus and everyone was so nice, but it wasn't the most important thing to me to play for a really, really high-



*Aztec catcher Erin Floros  
North County Times file photo*

caliber school."

When Floros took her visit to Washington, it was a cold, rainy weekend ---- during September. That pretty much sealed the deal that the Pacific Northwest wouldn't be her ideal place for college.

Floros' visit to San Diego State was between the trips to Oklahoma and Washington. The experience solidified her feelings that staying home was the best option.

"I know who I am and know how I react to change," Floros said. "Leaving home, especially for a place like Oklahoma or Washington, wasn't going to fit me at all. I absolutely love this campus and I love it here in San Diego. I liked the coaches and I liked the players, so I figured, 'Why don't I just stay here?'"

In addition to her solid hitting ---- she has 21 hits in 35 at-bats over the Aztecs' last 11 games ---- Floros has been sensational behind the plate. She has a .992 fielding percentage, and her strong arm routinely discourages opponents from running. The Aztecs have 45 stolen bases on the season; opponents have swiped just 12.

That all-around ability prompts Van Wyk to predict that Floros is a future All-American. She also thinks the .400 average Floros is flirting with this season will be topped in future campaigns.

"If she keeps things in perspective and stays a student of the game like she is now, she can be one of the best hitters in the country," Van Wyk said, "and hit upwards of .500."

**AZTECS NOTES** ---- In addition to C Erin Floros being named Freshman of the Year at Wednesday night's tournament banquet, sophomore LHP Christina Ross (14-7 record, 1.38 earned run average) was named Pitcher of the Year and Kathy Van Wyk was named Coach of the Year. Aztecs earning a spot on the 20-member all-conference team were Floros, Ross, freshman 1B Monica Alnes (.381), senior OF Meagan Hartung (.305) and senior RHP Celena Velasquez (9-4, 3.41).

Contact staff writer Mike Sullivan at (760) 739-6645 or [msullivan@nctimes.com](mailto:msullivan@nctimes.com).

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Christina Ross transferred from the University of Kansas to SDSU and her performance was what the Aztecs wanted.

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## Female Athlete of the Semester

**Willie Bans, Sports Editor**

**Posted: 5/15/06**

As the San Diego State softball team head coach, Kathy Van Wyk knows her players will make mistakes. They'll feel as low as the turf they slipped on, maybe hit themselves in the head with the bat they just struck out with or argue with an umpire who just made a crucial call in their opponent's favor.

But Van Wyk knows that no matter how much sophomore Christina Ross messes up, she'll be back again and again.

"There's no doubt in mind that what makes (Ross) so good is that she's stubborn, and she's a fighter," Van Wyk said. "She's extremely competitive. With her, she's not going to let anybody beat her. And that's huge for pitchers. You have to have that mentality.

"You can just see the fight in her."

Ross' tenacity, her demeanor on the pitcher's circle, the Mountain West Conference Pitcher of the Year honor and her statistics - an MWC-low 1.55 ERA, a league-high 60 strikeouts against just 10 walks - all combined to make her The Daily Aztec Female Athlete of the Semester.

Van Wyk said that perhaps not since Bre DeSanta, another one of SDSU's four MWC Pitcher of the Year recipients, has a player come along with such a business-like attitude when it comes to game time.

Ross represents not necessarily a mistake-free pitcher, Van Wyk said, but one who is constantly looking for ways to get better. Van Wyk said one must understand that, in Ross' mind, there's a difference between pitching a perfect game and pitching the perfect game. And Van Wyk says that's all she can ask for from a pitcher.

"What I like about Christina is that she is not satisfied I strike people out," Van Wyk said. "She wants to make sure she's doing it the right way, like she's hitting her targets. She can throw a bad riseball to somebody and strike them out and not be happy with it. And that's what I like - she wants perfection. She wants to hit her spots the way she's supposed to and make that a good riseball instead of a bad one."

Ross' love of pitching does indeed seem like tough love, often filled with self-criticism and a never-ending struggle to constantly improve. Ultimately, happiness can be found in Ross' fondness for the mental game of pitcher versus batter.

"I like toying with (batters') heads," Ross said. "I like mixing it up. I like making people look silly swinging at my changeup."

And Ross has had plenty of chances to embarrass hitters in different places. Whether it was for the University of Kansas last year, when she was the Jayhawks' best pitcher, or the OC Batbusters club team, Ross dominated with her signature curve ball. And Van Wyk believes Ross' tough-as-nails attitude throughout her career has yielded benefits in her first year since transferring from Kansas.

"Does her personality make her clutch in a tough situation? Yes, she loves that stressful situation," Van Wyk said. "She's going to get better in that situation. She's been there before with Kansas and club ball. There were a few times I've seen her this year give up a home run and the next pitch she throws to the next hitter has got to be 5- to 10-mph faster than the last pitch she threw - she's just that mad.

"That's a good thing. I love that."

In just one year in red and black, Ross seems to have already made a permanent mark on Montezuma Mesa as a player whose intensity is as visible as the eye-popping stats she's produced.

"I feel like sometimes people take me too seriously; maybe that's just the way I come across," Ross said. "When I'm on the field, I am all



business. I obviously want to win, and I do get frustrated. I try not to show that and be composed. I don't think I get irate, but you can see my facial expressions.

"Some people say I have a little walk, a little strut in the pitcher's circle."

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Freshman Erin Floros, named the Mountain West Conference Player of the Year, made an instant impact in her first year on Montezuma Mesa.

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## Newcomer of the Semester

**Milos Blagojevic, Senior Staff Writer**

**Posted: 5/15/06**

San Diego State freshman catcher Erin Floros hit a home run in her first career at-bat against Cal Poly on Feb. 9.

"It was pretty shocking," Floros said. "It didn't even enter my mind when I got up to the plate. I just wanted to get a base hit or something.

"When it went over, I was like, 'OK did that really happen?' It was pretty surreal."

But as the old saying goes, it's not how you start - it's how you finish.

Floros ended the season on a roll and just about took record books with her.

The Mt. Carmel High alumna finished the Mountain West Conference season with a .491 batting average, a .578 on base percentage and a .660 slugging percentage.

Good numbers, indeed.

Great numbers, considering that they put her near the top of the SDSU single-season list in each category - all in her first season of college softball.

In addition to The Daily Aztec Newcomer of the Semester award, Floros received the Mountain West Conference Freshman of the Year honor.

"I just feel really lucky I guess," Floros said. "It's pretty cool because I look at the people especially on my team, (Christina) Ross and Monica (Alnes), they're just amazing players and any of those girls could've easily taken (the Newcomer of the Semester award). I feel lucky to get it."

Added head coach Kathy Van Wyk: "I don't know how well people understand our game, but to have a hitter come in here as a freshman and set records for batting average in a season and to hit .400, it's just almost unheard of."

Floros' personality is also something unheard of, especially for such a dominant player.

The San Diego native always seems to have a smile on her face. She is shy, somewhat quiet. It takes her a while to open up to people, said freshman shortstop Melissa Owens, her teammate and close friend.

But despite her mellow demeanor, one thing about Floros sticks out.

She doesn't lack confidence.

"She is definitely shy but confident," Owens said. "If you don't have confidence, you're not going to play well."

The confidence has paid off, as Floros was a crucial part of a team that put forth one of the best regular seasons in the program's history.

"The confidence thing is when I say things like, 'Oh we're going to win or we're going to beat them,' because you can't really say something like, 'Well, I don't know if we're going to win,'" Floros said. "You can't go into a game thinking that. I'm usually seen as very modest."

Added Van Wyk: "It's neat because she's so mellow, but you put a bat in her hand and she ain't mellow. It's funny when I talk to her off the

field; I would not expect that personality on the field. Because that personality on the field between the lines is tough and aggressive and intense and off the field she' kind of mellow and laid back and she turns it on. It's wonderful."

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Kathy Van Wyk (center) turned a last-place team into regular-season conference champions.

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## Coach of the Semester

**David Biderman, Staff Writer**

**Posted: 5/15/06**

For San Diego State softball head coach Kathy Van Wyk, losing is unacceptable.

In softball, she has always been great.

As a pitcher for Cal State Fullerton, she had a 33-game winning streak, multiple perfect games and won a national championship.

As a head coach at SDSU, she has almost single-handedly turned a team that was lacking in success into a powerhouse program.

She has led the school to multiple Mountain West Conference regular-season titles and is the program's all-time leader in wins among coaches.

But in 2005, Van Wyk had troubles for the first time.

The Aztecs finished with a 6-14 conference record, dead last in the MWC tournament.

After unheralded success in her first seven years at SDSU, the team hit a huge road bump.

"You really start to question everything," Van Wyk said. "You question your style, philosophy, all types of things ... but we really tried to keep it all in perspective. The team was extremely young."

But Van Wyk was able to keep a positive outlook.

Despite still having a team laden with under-classmen, Van Wyk has been able to dig SDSU out of its brief rut and quickly bring them back afloat.

Maybe afloat isn't the right way to describe it. More like suspended way above the water.

The team won the MWC regular-season title for the third time in five years.

"The thought of having another bad season does creep into your head, but you try to figure out what happened and make some changes," associate head coach Kelly Warren said. "The young group has really helped carry us."

Warren is referring to freshmen Erin Floros and Monica Alnes as well as sophomore Christina Ross, who have formed the core of the team's success. But it isn't always easy to coach a team overflowing with talent.

Getting the bat on the ball and throwing strikes are only part of the game. Having the confidence and mental toughness to perform under pressure is something totally different.

Something only a good coach can help provide.

"After having that bad year, we tried to get (the players) to focus on the short-term goals," Van Wyk said. "We, as a team, have to know that we can only control the things that we do and can't worry about what the other teams are doing."

The Aztecs won the regular-season title, and reached the MWC Tournament where they lost to Utah in the finals, but to Van Wyk, a tournament title was secondary.

"Winning (the tournament) would (have been) nice, but I don't think it would (have been) everything," Van Wyk said.

"I just want to win every game we play."