









enowned for its academic excellence, San Diego State University is home to top-ranking programs in education, business, social work, speech-language and public administration, to name just a few. Overall, San Diego State students can choose from 79 undergraduate majors, 61 master's programs and 13 doctoral degree programs.

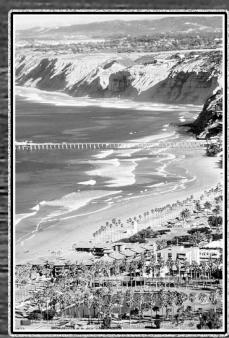
One in seven San Diegans with a college degree attended SDSU, making San Diego State a primary educator of the region's work force, as well as a leader in expanding access to higher education. Committed to serving the richly diverse San Diego region, SDSU ranks among the top 10 universities nationwide in terms of ethnic and racial diversity among its student body, as well as the number of bachelor's degrees conferred upon students of color.

Increasingly recognized for innovative research, San Diego State has achieved the prestigious Doctoral/Research University-Intensive designation granted by the Carnegie Foundation to the top seven percent of the nation's research universities. In fiscal year 2001-2002, SDSU faculty attracted approximately \$135 million in grants and contracts for research and program administration, representing a 58 percent increase in funding over the previous six years.

Private giving to San Diego State is also rising dramatically year by year, reaching a record \$52.6 million in the 2001-2002 fiscal year.

San Diego "America's Finest Gity"















ot just any place, but the place. Recognized as "America's Finest City," San Diego offers the best of summer living all year long.

With an average temperature of 70 degrees, very little rainfall and beautiful beaches at your doorstep, who could ask for anything more.

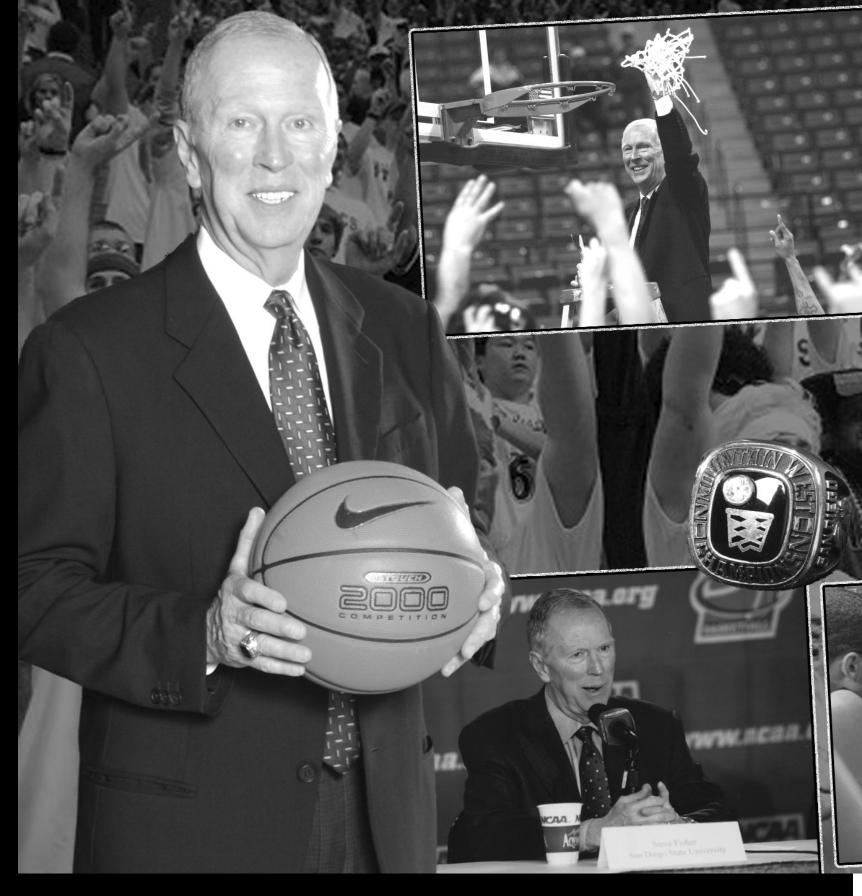
And yet there is so much more. There are mountains and lakes, theaters and museums, and all the benefits of living in a large city while maintaining distinct communities.

As the sixth-largest city in the country, San Diego offers a diverse urban environment. It is the home of Fortune 500 companies, Major League Baseball, the National Football League, the 2003 Super Bowl and some of the world's most spectacular beaches.

Welcome to San Diego.

Population (county)2,700,000Population (city)1,183,102U.S. Population Rank6thAvg. Daytime Temp.70 degreesAvg. Annual Rain10 inchesMedian Age of Residents32

Steve Fisher







ometimes there are no adjectives. Sometimes the phrases don't do justice. Sometimes you just stick with the basic facts and let them tell the story.

A five-win season followed by a 14-win season. A 14-win season followed by

21 wins, a conference championship and a trip to the NCAA Tournament. An NCAA Tournament appearance followed by a third-straight .500 or better season, a second consecutive trip to the postseason and the first Division I postseason victory in school history.

In four short seasons, Steve Fisher has changed the outlook, fortunes and expectations of San Diego State basketball. The Aztecs have been transformed from the ugly duckling that muddled through the first-ever Mountain West Conference campaign with an 0-14 record into a conference champion. It is a school that now regularly goes toe-to-toe with the west's best basketball programs on the court and in the recruiting wars. It may be the new program on the block but seniority rarely matters in the changing world of college athletics.

It is now Steve Fisher's program.
The hiring only dates back to March of 1999, so referring to the "Steve Fisher Era" at San Diego State might be considered a bit premature. But with the Aztecs success under the national championship coach, there is little doubt that San Diego State basketball has reached a new level.

Fisher's Men Star in the NBA

Juwan Howard

Chris Webber



COXATEIA atates Box





San Diego, California San Diego State University, host



DIVISION I CHAMPIONSHIP

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA



2006 Division I Men's Basketball Championship **First/Second Rounds**

San Diego State, host





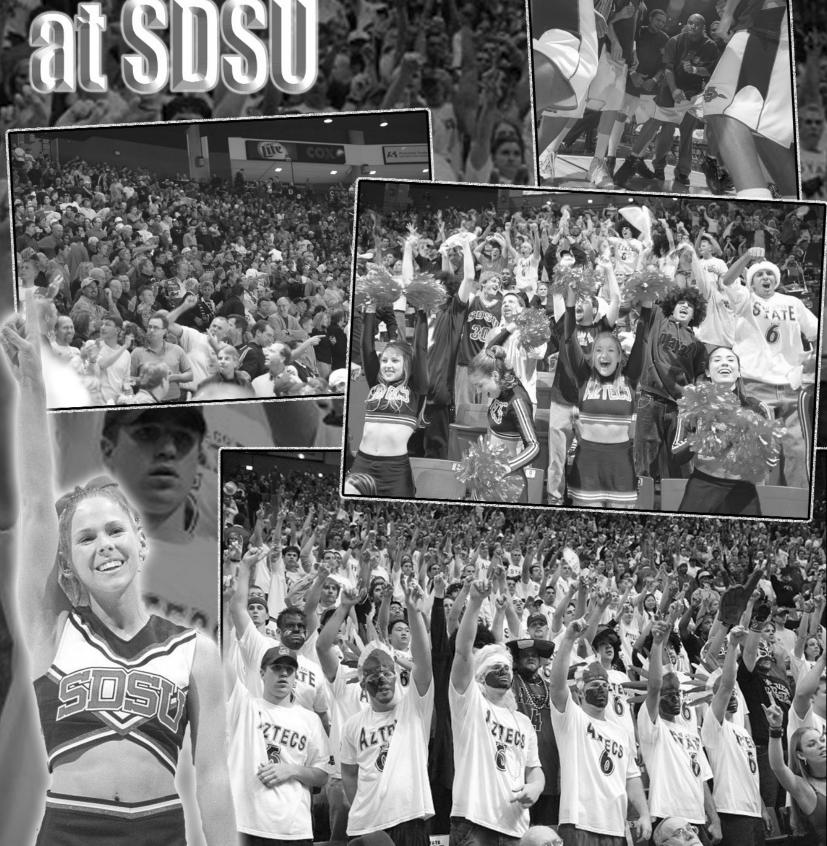
he San Diego State basketball team has one of the finest on-campus basketball facilities in the country as its home court.

Cox Arena at Aztec Bowl enters its seventh season as the home court for the San Diego State men's and women's basketball programs. A 12,414-seat facility that combines state-of-the-art technology with fanfriendly, close-to-the-floor seating configuration, the arena has already hosted the 2001 NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament and the 2001 NCAA Women's Volleyball national championship. The Aztecs will again play host to the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament in 2006.

In addition, the facility is the premier concert venue in Southern California, as Elton John, Billy Joel, Britney Spears, Creed and Incubus have all recently graced the arena's stage.



Gameday at SDSU







ame day at Cox Arena is a spectacle that every college basketball fan must see.

Whether it's the Aztec pep band blasting the SDSU Fight Song, the cheerleaders working the crowd into a frenzy, the dance team entertaining during timeouts, one thing is for sure: Cox Arena shakes with excitement every time San Diego State takes the floor.

From the booming introductions building to a crescendo at tip-

off, to the storming of the court following another big Aztec victory, game nights at Cox are

And no matter whether you are in the front row, in the middle of the wild student section. or at the top of the arena, four video display boards make every seat like the front row.

Largest Percentage Increase in Average Home Attendance from 1999-00 to 2002-03

<u>Pl.</u>	School 1	1999-00	<u>2002-03</u>	Pct. Inc.
1.	▶ SDSU	2,618	7,172	+ 173.9
2.	Baylor	3,247	6,768	+ 108.4
3.	Pittsburgh	5,305	10,932	+ 106.1
4.	Morehead State	1,635	3,304	+ 102.1
5.	Stephen F. Austir	1,065	2,118	+ 98.9

* - Minimum 1,000 fan average in 1999-00.

SDSU Athletics

Celena Velasquez

2003 MWC Pitcher of the Year and 2003 MWC Freshman of the Year

Kirk Morrison

2003 Bronko Nagurski Award, Vince Lombardi and Butkus Award Watch Lists

Mark Warman

2002 NCAA Ind. Championship Qualifier 2002 and 2003 All-Mountain West Conference

Silvia Tornier

2003 Academic All-American and Two-Time MWC Player of the Year

Nicole Ireland

Five-Time All-American





he momentum keeps building at San Diego State where a well-rounded athletic program continues to come into focus. The San Diego State men's basketball program continued its five-year climb up the ladder of success when it was selected to participate in the National Invitation Tournament in March. The NIT invite came one year after San Diego State's appearance in the NCAA Tournament marking two straight appearances in the postseason for the first time at SDSU since the 1975 and 1976 teams accomplished the feat.

Legendary San Diego Padre and SDSU alum Tony Gwynn began his career as the Aztecs' head baseball coach in 2003 after one year as a volunteer assistant. The difference in crowds and attention at Tony Gwynn Stadium were immediately noticeable.

One of the spring highlights for San Diego State University came the weekend of May 8th-11th. The Aztec women's softball team played host to the Mountain West Tournament at the same time the men's tennis team played host to the first and second rounds of the NCAA Tournament.

Large and festive crowds took the opportunity to take in both events, located adjacent to each other on the San Diego State campus. The men's tennis team reached the second round and the softball squad advanced to the

championship game of the Mountain West Tournament and later received an at-large bid to the NCAA Tournament. Also advancing to NCAA postseason competition was the men's golf team. The Aztecs fought their way through the rugged western regional to advance to

the NCAA Championship for the first time since 1999.

One of the bigger headlines of the spring on Montezuma Mesa was furnished by the women's track and field program. The Aztecs shocked the Mountain West Conference when they brought home the team championship, ending a 21-year run of titles by Brigham Young.

Overall, in the spring of 2003, SDSU claimed league titles in men's tennis, women's tennis, softball and track and field. SDSU also once again had one of the nation's top 10 water polo programs.

The fall of 2003 was highlighted by the play of the Aztec football squad. Under the direction of former San Diego State quarterback Tom Craft, the Aztecs dropped jaws across the country when they pushed defending national champion and second-ranked Ohio State to the brink, losing 16-13 in Columbus.

Overall, 2003 was a time of new growth and successes at San Diego State with the promise of a suddenly very bright future.

Mountain West Conference SAN DIEGO STATE .







Craig Thompson

Commissioner

he Mountain West Conference was conceived on May 26, 1998, when the presidents of eight institutions - Air Force, Brigham Young, Colorado State, New Mexico, San Diego State, UNLV, Utah and Wyoming - met in Denver and decided to form the MWC.

The cornerstone of the conference's formation was the maintenance of long standing athletic rivalries among its member institutions Hence the Mountain West Conference was formed. Located in Colorado Springs, Colo., when the MWC's doors opened for business the new league had in place a sevenyear contract with ESPN giving the broadcaster exclusive national television rights to MWC football and men's basketball; and three-year agreements to send the league's football champion to the Liberty Bowl and a second team to the Las Vegas Bowl.

The Conference officially began operations on July 1, 1999. Prior to opening it doors an executive committee was estab-

lished and named Craig Thompson commissioner. Thompson had less than one-year to name the new league, settle on a city to serve as the league's headquarters, find a television partner, arrange for bowl tie-ins, hire staff, and develop a logo.

The Mountain West Conference is noted for its geographic diversity. Some of the most beautiful geography in the nation can be found within Mountain West Conference boundaries, including the unparalleled Rocky Mountain range, which borders four MWC schools (Utah, BYU, Air Force and Colorado State). The high plains of Wyoming (elevation 7,000 feet) contrast with the desert city of Las Vegas (the fastest growing metropolitan area in the West), the balmy weather and Pacific Ocean locale of San Diego State and the southwestern flavor of New Mexico.

Highlights through the MWC's first four years include three women's cross country national championships; participation in 12 bowl games; sending six of the eight teams to postseason bowls; the only conference each of the last two seasons to send 75 percent of its men's basketball teams to postseason play; 11 berths in the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament, including three "Sweet 16" appearances; sending five of eight men's golf teams to NCAAs each of the last four years; 11 NCAA Volleyball berths with two teams advancing to the "Sweet 16" three of the last four years; and being the only conference with multiple bowl games to go unbeaten in the 2000 postseason - posting a 3-0 mark.

In addition to the 19 MWC-sponsored sports, programs like Utah and BYU have national titles in non-league sports. The Utes have won a total of 21 national championships in the sports of women's gymnastics and skiing, while BYU captured the 2001 and 1998 NCAA men's volleyball championship.

Mountain West Conference

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Javan Hedlund

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Ron Christian

Asst. Director Communications



Marlon Edge

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