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General Information

Location
Founded
Enrollment
NicknameAztecs
ColorsScarlet and Black
Conference
PresidentDr. Stephen L. Weber
Director of Athletics
Faculty RepresentativeDr. Roger Caves
Senior Women's AdministratorKathy Van Wyk

► Women's Water Polo Team Information

Head CoachCarin Crawford (UCSD '89), 6th year					
Assistant Coach Sara Weyandt (SDSU '00), 1st year					
Water Polo Office Phone(619) 594-0649					
Home FacilityRay & Joan Kroc Community Center					
2003 Record					
2003 MPSF Record					
2003 Final National Ranking5th					
Letterwinners Returning/Lost					



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► Aztecs On The Internet

For the most up-to-date information on San Diego State water polo, check out the official web site of Aztecs athletics at www.goaztecs.com. News releases, updated statistics, results, game recaps and player profiles can be found on the water polo page.

▶ Team Roster								
No.	Player	Year	Position	Height	Hometown (Previous School)			
1	Ashley Zabel	Sr.	G	5-11	San Diego, Calif. (Scripps Ranch HS)			
1A	Sara Ďaseler	Sr.	G	6-0	Lodi, Calif. (Hartwick College)			
1B	Sarah Kilgore	Fr.	G	5-8	Rossmoor, Calif. (Los Alamitos HS)			
2	Kristin Moore	Sr.	2MD	5-7	Sacramento, Calif. (Sierra College)			
3	Savanah Kelley	So.	2MD	5-8	Modesto, Calif. (Johansen HS)			
4	Stacy Werner	Fr.	U	6-0	Lodi, Calif. (Lodi HS)			
5	Elana Cervantes	Fr.	U	5-11	Davis, Calif. (Davis HS)			
6	Dominique Delgado	Jr.	DR	5-5	Lompoc, Calif. (Cabrillo HS)			
7	Rachel Serna	So.	DR	5-6	Coronado, Calif. (Coronado HS)			
8	Sara Farris	Jr.	U	5-7	Federal Way, Wash. (Golden West CC)			
9	Sandy Onweller	Sr.	DR	5-4	Poway, Calif. (Palomar CC)			
10	Susan Stivers	So.	DR	5-4	El Cajon, Calif. (El Cajon Valley HS)			
11	Chelsy Smith	Sr.	U	5-7	Roseville, Calif. (Sierra College)			
12	Donna Stivers	Sr.	DR	5-5	El Cajon, Calif. (El Cajon Valley HS)			
13	Taylor Cranney	So.	U	5-10	Fresno, Calif. (Clovis West HS)			
14	Holly Hartzell	Sr.	2M	5-10	Vista, Calif. (Fallbrook HS)			
15	Cassie Zebisch	Jr.	2M	5-9	Anaheim Hills, Calif. (Long Beach CC)			
16	Monica DeRosier	Jr.	2M	5-11	San Diego, Calif. (Patrick Henry HS)			
17	Ashley Reta	Fr.	DR	5-7	Yorba Linda, Calif. (El Dorado HS)			
18	Rachelle Denaro	Fr.	2MD	6-0	San Diego, Calif. (Monte Vista HS)			



AZTECS WATER POLO Media Relations Office

The San Diego State University athletic department would like to welcome members of the media to its coverage of the Aztec women's water polo program. We hope this media guide will be useful in your coverage of San Diego State.

If you have any questions this season, please feel free to contact the San Diego State media relations office.

Credits

The 2004 San Diego State University women's water polo media guide is a product of the Aztec media relations office. The publication was written, edited and designed by media relations assistant Dan Gisel.

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MPSF

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SDSU water polo would like to thank TYR for their support.





theOUTLOOK

AZTECS WATER POLO

an Diego State has become one of the premier women's water polo teams in the country, finishing in the top eight nationally in all nine years it has been a sponsored sport by the university. The 2003 season was no exception as the Aztecs finished with a 21-12 record, their best winning percentage in seven years, and ranked sixth in the final American Water Polo Coaches Association poll. Head Coach Carin Crawford enters her sixth season at the helm and is confident the tradition will remain alive and well as they enter into the 2004 season.

"We have the potential for another great season, but we do have some big holes to fill after an outstanding year," said Crawford referring to three departed seniors who accounted for 42 percent of the team's scoring in 2003. "However, I think we are returning the backbone of the team and we have some young people who are ready to step in and fill those empty positions."

Hartzell Leads Senior Corps

One of the reasons coach Crawford can be so optimistic is undoubtedly senior Holly Hartzell. Hartzell is a three-time All-American selection by the Collegiate Water Polo Coaches Association after scoring 221 goals in her three years with SDSU. Hartzell ranks third on the alltime scoring list and only needs 15 goals in her final campaign to become SDSU's top scorer. Hartzell, however, brings much more to the team than just scoring.

"I don't think there is a player in the country with better skills at the center position,' Crawford said. "Holly is an outstanding allaround talent. She not only has quickness and great shot selection on offense, but she is also a great defender, which often gets overlooked because she is such an awesome scorer. She is incredibility talented and creates opportunities for us in many different ways."

Joining Hartzell as co-captain for the 2004 squad is senior Sandy Onweller. In her first year with the Aztecs last season, Onweller was one of the first players off the bench and was the fifth leading scorer on the team. However, Onweller's 23 goals from last season makes her the Aztecs second leading returning scorer behind Hartzell.

"Sandy is really eager to see her role increased," said Crawford. "Due to injuries, Onweller started for us at the conference tournament last year and her play was outstanding. She filled in incredibly well and proved to the team that she is ready to be a primary player."

Another senior leader on the team is goalkeeper Ashley Zabel who a year ago started in 25 matches and posted a 6.32 goals against average while recording 196 saves. Zabel will again be called upon to monitor the net for the Aztecs.

"Zabel is a very physically intimitading presence in goal and really came on towards the end of the year," said Crawford. "She has been playing the best water polo of her career and I am really excited about what she can do for us this season."

Senior defender Kristin Moore will solidify the defense as she enters the season with great experience. Moore started in all 32 games she played and will again be relied on to anchor the defense for SDSU.

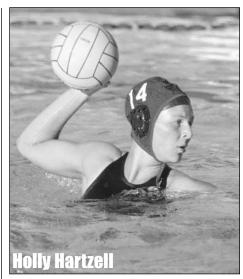
Chelsy Smith will start for the SDSU squad as she enters her senior year. Smith is another Aztec playing the best water polo of her career and is eager to show her talents after playing behind some great senior leaders a year ago. Smith registered 16 goals in 2003 and looks to add to those numbers this season.

Underclassmen Stepping Up

Three sophomores will fight for the final two

starting positions. Savanah Kelley, Taylor Cranney and Rachel Serna all earned playing time in their freshman campaigns, but are ready to be major contributors this season.

"The three sophomores got great experience a year ago as they were traveling and they got to see the standard that we expect by watching the seniors," Crawford said. "They all have



great skills that will add to our team and they will need to play well for us to be successful."

Junior Dominique Delgado will return from off-season shoulder surgery to add another spark and give great depth to the Aztec squad. Delgado is a two-year starter who will give SDSU a threat from the left side.

"We are very excited to get Dominique back to full strength," said Crawford. "She gives us balance and experience and is a very smart, scrappy player."

The final key to the puzzle for the upcoming season is the outstanding recruiting class brought in by Crawford. Four prized recruits, Elana Cervantes, Stacy Werner, Ashley Reta and Sarah Kilgore, will give the Aztecs depth and versatility during the long season.

"The freshmen are incredible and will set the standard high for the type of recruits we want to bring to San Diego State," Crawford said.

Cervantes was a member of the USA Junior National team, Werner has great size and skill with unlimited potential, while Reta brings offense on the transition and in the front court. Kilgore is a goalkeeper who is very fundamentally sound, with great positioning and anticipation, and will challenge Zabel for playing time.

The road will not be easy for the Aztecs as they again will face the top competition in the country every day in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, which has crowned every NCAA national champion. The Aztecs will visit defending national champion UCLA on April 3, but also have key national contests against Stanford, California and Long Beach State before traveling to the MPSF Championships on April 30. The winner of the conference tournament will advance to the NCAA Championships on May 8 in Palo Alto.

