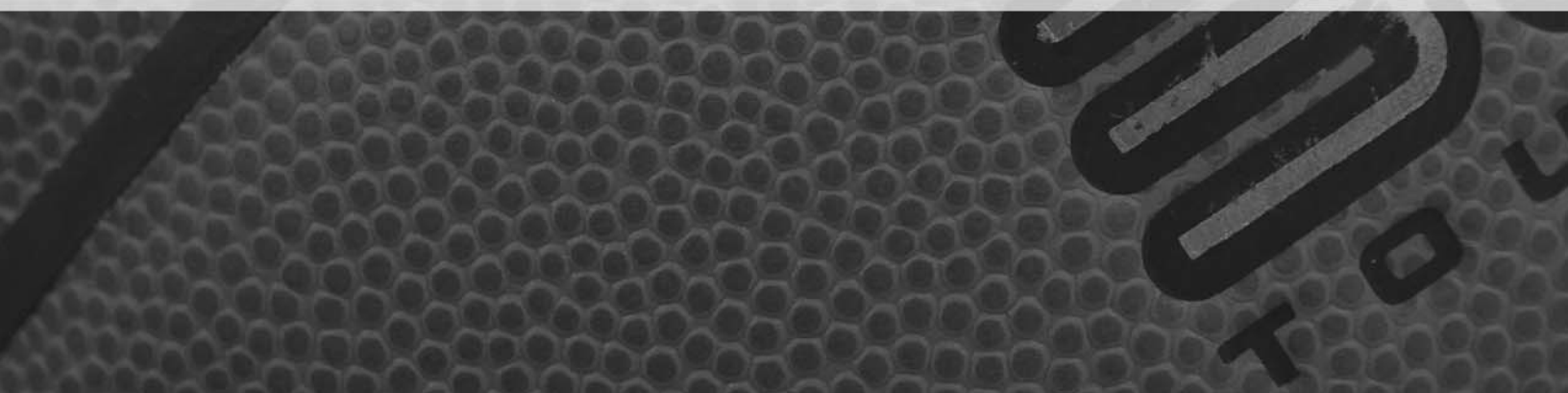


COACHES/STAFF PROFILES



INSIDE: Head Coach Beth Burns ♦ Assistant Coaches ♦ Support Staff





BETH BURNS

HEAD COACH • 5TH SEASON OF 2ND STINT AT SDSU/18TH OVERALL • OHIO WESLEYAN, 1979



Leadership. Charisma. Passion. Energy. Expertise. These are just a few words to describe Beth Burns, who for the last 17 years has dedicated herself to the sport of basketball as a collegiate head coach.



BETH BURNS



THE BETH BURNS FILE

Hometown:
Chatham, N.J.

Education:
Bachelor's of Arts -
Health and Physical Education
Ohio Wesleyan University, 1979

Master's of Arts -
Physical Education
Ohio State University, 1981

Playing Experience:
Ohio Wesleyan
1975-79

Head Coaching Experience:

San Diego State -
2005 - present

Ohio State -
1997-2002

San Diego State -
1989-97

Assistant Coaching Experience:

North Carolina State -
1988-89

Colorado -
1983-88

East Carolina -
1981-83

Ohio State
Graduate Assistant Coach -
1979-81

The winningest coach in SDSU women's basketball history, Beth Burns enters the fifth season of her second stint on Montezuma Mesa in 2009-10.

This past year was a memorable one for Aztec basketball, as the culmination of many years of hard work by Burns and her coaching staff came to fruition with the program's return to the national spotlight and a trip to the NCAA tournament.

San Diego State posted its first 20-win campaign in 12 years, finishing 24-8 overall and 13-3 in conference action. The Aztecs won a share of their first-ever Mountain West regular season title, advanced to the MWC tournament championship game for the second consecutive year and garnered SDSU's first NCAA bid since 1997.

The list of accomplishments for Burns' 2008-09 squad continued with a perfect regular season home record of 14-0, highlighted by the Aztecs' stunning victory over fourth-ranked and previously unbeaten Texas to claim the San Diego Surf 'N Slam title in late December. The win over the Longhorns was San Diego State's first against a ranked team since 1994.

Big wins over established programs followed during conference play, including a sweep of New Mexico, the Aztecs' first victory at BYU in 14 years and ending Utah's 25-game MWC win streak.

SDSU served as perfect hosts to the NCAA first and second rounds at Cox Arena, knocking off DePaul, 76-70, for its first post-season victory in 15 seasons, before falling to eventual Final Four participant Stanford.

Individually, Burns helped guard Jené Morris, the MWC Defensive Player of the Year, become Aztec basketball's first honorable mention All-American since 1994. Morris, along with sophomore center Paris Johnson, also are the first SDSU players to be chosen first-team all-MWC in the league's 10-year history. The duo and guard Quenese Davis accounted for three of the five spots on the conference's all-defensive squad.

For her efforts, Burns was named Mountain West Conference Coach of the Year, marking the fourth such honor of her career at San Diego State.

During the summer of 2009, Burns was named to the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Board of Directors as an at-large member and will serve a one-year term until next August.

In 2007-08, Burns led the Aztecs to within an eyelash of the NCAA tournament. The sixth seed in the Mountain West Conference tournament, SDSU defeated third-seeded Wyoming (66-54) and second-seeded TCU (82-80) before falling, 62-59, in the championship game.

San Diego State went 18-13 overall and 7-9 in MWC play to finish in a tie for fifth with Brigham Young. The Aztecs' seven league wins and fifth-place showing was their best-ever in the history of the

MWC. Burns helped SDSU lead the league in assists per game (15.71), steals per game (12.61) and turnover margin (+5.81), and rank second with 4.35 blocks per game.

Burns coached three players to all-conference selections, the program's most in MWC history, as then sophomore Morris earned second-team accolades, while then freshmen Allison Duffy and Paris Johnson each received honorable mention honors. Morris and Duffy also became the first two Aztecs to ever be selected to the MWC all-tournament team.

Off the court, seven players were honored at the department's annual scholar-athlete awards banquet, which recognizes student-athletes with at least a 3.0 cumulative or 3.2 semester GPA.

The previous season, Burns led the Aztecs to their most wins since 2000-01, finishing as the 11th-most improved team in NCAA Division I and recording the biggest turnaround in back-to-back seasons in Mountain West Conference history. Burns helped point guard Quenese Davis lead the league and rank first nationally among freshmen in assists per game, while center Desiree Johnson was first in the MWC in blocked shots per game for the second year in a row.

Burns has also helped the program find success in both the classroom and on the recruiting trail. In the spring of 2007, 10 players were recognized at the department's annual scholar-athlete awards banquet. Among the 10 were Shanna Demus, who received the school's Academic Initiative Medal for her persistent commitment toward meeting her academic goals, and Kate Eveland, who became a member of the elite Phi Beta Kappa honor society and would later graduate magna cum laude.

On the recruiting trail, Burns and her staff signed two *San Diego Union-Tribune* section players of the year, including two-time winner, Paris Johnson and Jerica Williams.

After just her second season back on campus, Burns was rewarded with a new five-year contract in September of 2007, which runs through the 2011-12 campaign.

In 2005-06, Burns' first year back was a tough one, as the Aztecs entered the campaign with just six of 15 players with previous Division I experience. Injuries, youth and a lack of depth were key issues, while SDSU played 15 of its 27 games against teams advancing to the postseason, including 12 in league play alone.

Senior forward Michelle Strawberry earned conference honorable mention honors and then junior Desiree Johnson led the league in blocked shots. Three Aztecs were named to the Mountain West Conference all-academic squad, with two also garnering MWC scholar-athlete accolades.

Since returning to SDSU, Burns has resumed an active role in the campus and local community. In the summer of 2008, she was honored with the YWCA's Tribute to Women and Industry (TWIN)

BETH BURNS' HEAD COACHING CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- * Six 20+ win seasons, including five at SDSU
- * NCAA First Round (1999, 1997, 1995, 1993)
- * NCAA Second Round (2009, 1994)
- * 2001 WNIT Team Champion
- * 1994, 1997 WAC Tournament Champions
- * 2008, 2009 MWC Tournament Runner-Up
- * 1995 WAC Tournament Runner-Up
- * 1994, 1995, 1997 WAC Regular Season Champions
- * 2009 MWC Regular Season Co-Champions
- * 1994, 1995, 1997 WAC Coach of the Year
- * 2009 MWC Coach of the Year
- * 1995 CoSIDA District 7 Coach of the Year
- * 3 All-America Selections:
(Jené Morris, SDSU, 2009 (hm); Falisha Wright, SDSU, 1993, 1994 (hm))

- * 2 WAC Players of the Year:
(Kieishsha Games (1991) and Christina Murguia (1995))
- * 2 WAC Tournament MVPs:
(Christina Murguia (1994) and Jodi Nowlin-Tres (1997))
- * 1- Mountain West Conference Defensive Player of the Year:
(Jené Morris, SDSU, 2009)
- * 1- Big Ten Freshman of the Year:
(LaToya Turner, OSU, 2000)
- * 17 - First Team All-Conference Selections
(12 WAC, 2 MWC, 2 Big Ten, 1 Big West)
- * 7 - WAC All-Academic Selections
- * 9 - MWC All-Academic Picks
- * 14 - Big Ten All-Academic Honorees



BETH BURNS

award for her outstanding achievements, leadership and contributions to her profession. Burns also was tabbed a Girls Scout "Cool Person of the Year" for 2007-08 and has previously served as SDSU's honorary Homecoming chair.

From 1989-97, Burns took the Aztecs full circle, going from 7-23 her first year to 23-7 in her final campaign. Along the way, she compiled a 151-83 record and a 64.5 winning

percentage, the best in school history.

Burns' impact was almost instantaneous. The Aztecs doubled their win total from her first to her second season and ushered in the school's move to the Western Athletic Conference with a 14-14 overall record.

A year later in 1991-92, SDSU won five of its first six outings and went on to post an 18-11 overall record, tallying its first victory at a conference tournament in four seasons.

The team used that momentum heading into a 1992-93 campaign which ended in the Aztecs' first trip to the NCAA tournament in eight years.

SDSU advanced to the 1993 NAAs with the help of early season victories over the likes of UCLA, USC, St. John's, Oregon State, Georgia and Villanova. The Aztecs also tied for second in the final WAC regular-season standings, which at the time, was the program's best-ever conference finish.

Burns' teams would go on to dominate the Western Athletic Conference from 1994-97, capturing a pair of tournament championships and three regular-season titles. The 1993-94 team set a school record for victories with 26, while the 1994-95 squad was a perfect 14-0 in league play.

The Aztecs continued their success the following two years by going 20-8 in 1995-96, including a perfect 13-0 at home, and 23-7 in 1996-97, leading the nation in scoring defense (52.0 ppg.).

In all, Burns led SDSU to four, 20-plus win seasons and four NCAA tournament appearances (1993, 1994, 1995, 1997).

Burns coached 13 first team all-conference picks in her time at SDSU, including a pair of WAC players of the year in Kieishsha Games (1991) and Christina Murguia (1995). Guard Falisha Wright became just the second Aztec women's basketball player to be named an All-American, earning honorable mention accolades in 1993 and 1994. She finished her four-year career as the school's all-time assists leader and, along with Garnes, has been inducted into the Aztec Hall of Fame.

The postseason honors were not just limited to her players, as Burns was a three-time WAC coach of the year (1994, 1995, 1997) and was the district coach of the year in 1995. SDSU also had seven conference all-academic selections, headlined by three-time winner Olivia DiCamilli.

Burns departed San Diego State in 1997 to take the head women's basketball position at Ohio State, where she first started her collegiate coaching career.

In five seasons with the Buckeyes, Burns notched an 82-65 overall record, highlighted by a WNIT title in 2001 and a trip to the NCAA tournament in 1999.

Two OSU players earned first team all-Big Ten honors and LaToya Turner was named conference freshman of the year in 2000. The Buckeyes also excelled in the classroom as 14 players received Big Ten all-academic accolades.

Burns was an active part of the Columbus community, establishing the Beth Burns Bucks for Breast Cancer Research fund at the OSU/James Cancer Hospital, and putting together an annual fundraiser, OSU Bounce for Bucks, for cancer research.

Off the court, the Chatham, N.J., native joined some of the game's elite coaches, Ceal Barry (Colorado), the late Kay Yow (North Carolina State) and Pat

BURNS: BY THE NUMBERS

289 Career Wins As A Head Coach

Burns has won 289 career games as a head coach in 17 seasons, including 208 at San Diego State. Over 28 percent of her losses have come during her first seasons.

98% Graduation Rate

In 17 seasons, 98 percent of players who have completed their eligibility under Burns have gone on to earn their degrees.

30 Conference All-Academic Selections

Burns' players have also succeeded in the classroom, garnering all-academic honors 30 times.

20+ Win Seasons

Burns' teams have won 20 or more games in a season six times, including four straight at SDSU from 1993-97, and again last year in 2008-09.

17 First Team All-Conference Selections

Players have earned first team all-conference honors on 17 occasions in Burns' 17 years as a head coach.

6 NCAA Tournament Appearances

Burns has directed six teams to NCAA tournament bids. The Aztecs' advanced to the second round in 1994 and in 2009.

4 Conference Coach Of The Year Awards

Burns was honored as the WAC coach of the year in 1994, 1995 and 1997, as her teams went a combined 42-2 in league regular season play. She garnered MWC coach-of-year honors in 2009, after helping the Aztecs to a share of the regular-season title.

3 MWC All-Defensive Team Selections

The Aztecs had three of the five players selected for the first-ever Mountain West Conference all-defensive squad in 2009.

2 Conference Tournament Championships

The Aztecs won a pair of Western Athletic Conference championships under Burns in both 1994 and 1997, and were the runners-up in 1995. SDSU have also been runners-up at the Mountain West Conference championships in 2008 and 2009.

2 WAC Players of the Year

Two Aztecs earned conference player-of-the-year honors during Burns' first stint as head coach, including Kieishsha Games in 1991 and Christina Murguia in 1995.

1 WNIT Title

Burns' 2000-01 Ohio State team claimed the WNIT title and finished with a 22-11 record, including a 10-0 mark in non-conference play.

BETH BURNS' HEAD COACHING LEDGER

-At San Diego State (1989-97, 2005 - present)		
	Overall	Conference
1989-90	7-23 (.233)	6-12 (.333)
1990-91	14-14 (.500)	6-6 (.500)
1991-92	18-11 (.621)	9-5 (.643)
1992-93	19-9 (.678)	9-5 (.643)
1993-94	26-5 (.839)	13-1 (.929)
1994-95	24-6 (.800)	14-0 (1.000)
1995-96	20-8 (.714)	9-5 (.643)
1996-97	23-7 (.767)	15-1 (.938)

2005-06	3-24 (.111)	0-16 (.000)
2006-07	12-16 (.429)	5-11 (.313)
2007-08	18-13 (.581)	7-9 (.438)
2008-09	24-8 (.750)	13-3 (.813)
Totals	208-144 (.591)	106-74 (.589)
-At Ohio State (1997-2002)		
1997-98	15-12 (.556)	7-9 (.438)
1998-99	17-12 (.607)	9-7 (.692)
1999-2000	13-15 (.464)	5-11 (.313)
2000-01	22-11 (.667)	6-10 (.375)
2001-02	14-15 (.483)	8-8 (.500)
Totals	81-65 (.555)	35-45 (.438)
OVERALL	289-209 (.580)	141-119 (.542)

Summitt (Tennessee), as a member of the USA Basketball Olympic team selection committee from 1997-2000.

Burns returned to San Diego from Ohio in 2001, as the owner and operator of her own fitness and basketball instruction business, BBHoops, before serving as the strength and conditioning coach for the women's basketball program at Stanford in 2004-05. The Cardinal finished the regular season ranked first in the nation, advanced to the Elite Eight and won the Pac-10 regular season and championship titles.

Burns' collegiate coaching career began at Ohio State as a graduate assistant from 1979-81, under current Stanford head coach Tara VanDerveer. She then spent two seasons as an assistant coach at East Carolina (1981-83), helping the Lady Pirates to a No. 17 national ranking, before moving to Colorado (1983-88), where the Buffaloes made their first-ever NCAA tournament appearance in 1987-88.

Prior to taking her first head coaching job, Burns was an assistant coach at North Carolina State when the Wolfpack advanced to the Sweet 16 in 1989.

Burns has a bachelor's degree in health and physical education from Ohio Wesleyan University (1979), where she was the school's all-time leading rebounder and garnered the most outstanding female student-athlete award as a senior. In 1984, her first year of eligibility, she was inducted into the Battling Bishops' athletic hall of fame.

Burns earned a master's degree in physical education from Ohio State (1981).

She is a member of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) and the National Strength and Conditioning Association and was on the voting panel for the WBCA/USA Today Coaches Top 25 national weekly poll.



JUALEAH WOODS

ASST. COACH/RECRUITING COORDINATOR • 5TH YEAR AT SDSU/12TH OVERALL • USC, 1994



THE JUALEAH WOODS FILE

Hometown:
Berkeley, Calif.

Education:
Bachelor's of Arts -
Public Administration
Southern California, 1994

Playing Experience:
USC
1990-94

Coaching Background:

San Diego State -
Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator
2005-Present

Oregon State -
Assistant Coach
2000-05

California -
Assistant Coach
1998-2000

Santa Monica High School -
Head Coach/Assistant Coach
1994-97

Burns on Woods: "Coach Y has been with us every step of the way and a large amount of the credit goes to her. As our recruiting coordinator, she is the one who ensures that the brightest and the best from across the country are aware of San Diego State. As evident from the talent on our roster, I think you can see why I say that she has done a fabulous job and we're reaping the benefits."

Entering her 12th season as an NCAA Division I assistant coach, Jualeah Woods is in her fifth year at San Diego State.

Woods is the Aztecs' recruiting coordinator, while her on-court duties include working with the forwards and centers, as well as concentrating on team defense.

Hired in May of 2005, Woods immediately got to work on the recruiting trail, playing an instrumental part in laying a strong foundation for the future success of Aztec basketball.

Since her arrival, the team has become a Mountain West Conference title contender, finishing as regular season co-champions a year ago and advancing to the NCAA tournament for the first time in 12 seasons. Woods helped tutor first-team all-conference center Paris Johnson and had two front court players earn honorable mention all-league honors in 2007-08.

Woods most recently was an assistant coach at Oregon State for five years, serving as the program's recruiting coordinator for the last three seasons. The Beavers made four consecutive WNIT appearances from 2001-04, and advanced to the quarterfinals in 2004.

Before moving to Corvallis, she was an assistant coach for two seasons at California. She started her coaching career at Santa Monica High School as both an assistant and later as the head girls' basketball coach from 1994-97.

Woods was a four-year starter at small forward and two-time team captain at USC from 1990-94.

The Berkeley, Calif., native helped lead the Women of Troy to four NCAA tournament appearances, including trips to the Elite Eight in 1993 and 1994 and the Sweet 16 in 1992.



Woods earned her bachelor's degree in public administration from USC in 1994.





FRED CHMIEL

ASSISTANT COACH • 2ND YEAR AT SDSU/16TH OVERALL



THE FRED CHMIEL FILE

Hometown:
Palmer, Alaska

Family:
Wife, Julie

Playing Experience:
1992-94
Univ. of Alaska-Fairbanks

1990-92
Feather River College

Coaching Background:

San Diego State -
Assistant Coach
2008-Present

Temple University -
Assistant Coach
2006-08

Detroit Shock (WNBA) -
Advance Scout
2006-08

San Jose Spiders (NWBL) -
Head Coach
2006

Charlotte Sting (WNBA) -
Assistant Coach
2004-05

Lassen College -
Men's Head Coach
1999-2005

Feather River College -
Men's Head Coach
1995-99

Men's Assistant Coach
1994-95

Burns on Chmiel: "Fred Chmiel was an immediate impact coach for our program a year ago. His wealth of experience, most significantly in the professional game developing the best guards in the country at that level, immediately transferred to what he did with Quenese, Jené and Coco on both ends of the floor. From a developmental standpoint, he has done a great job working with every position on the floor. From an in-season standpoint, he primarily scouts every one of our games and helps me with devising a game plan. He was a difference-maker a year ago, and we're happy to have him back."

Fred Chmiel enters his second season at San Diego State as an assistant coach. Chmiel has spent the last 15 years coaching on the professional, NCAA Division I and community college levels.

At SDSU, coach Chmiel primarily works with the perimeter players and opponent scouting and assists with scheduling, camp coordination, recruiting, player development and team analysis.

Prior to coming to San Diego, he worked for two seasons on Dawn Staley's staff at Temple, where the Owls boasted a 21-13 record in 2007-08, including a 12-2 mark in Atlantic 10 play to claim the conference regular season championship. Temple advanced to the NCAA tournament twice during his stay on the Philadelphia, Pa., campus and posted a two-year combined record of 46-21 overall and 25-3 in league action.

Before joining the Owls' staff, Chmiel was the head coach of the San Jose Spiders in the National Women's Basketball League in San Jose, Calif., in 2006, following a one-year stint as an assistant with the WNBA's Charlotte Sting in 2005. The Palmer, Alaska, native also has worked with the WNBA's Detroit Shock as an advance scout, providing opponent evaluation and film analysis.

Chmiel began his coaching career in Northern California, serving as head men's coach at both Lassen College (1999-2005) in Susanville, Calif., and Feather River College (1995-99) in Quincy, Calif. He led Lassen to three Golden Valley Conference titles in his six seasons with the Cougars.



As a player, Chmiel was a standout guard at Feather River, averaging 12.5 points and six assists per outing, garnering first-team all-league accolades and twice earning defensive team MVP honors. He finished his playing career at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks from 1992-94, before returning to Feather River as a men's assistant coach for one season.

Chmiel and his wife, Julie, reside in San Diego.





SHANELE STIRES

ASSISTANT COACH • 2ND YEAR AT SDSU/7TH OVERALL • KANSAS STATE, 1995



Burns on Stires: "Coach Stires has been really valuable for our student-athletes to have on staff. She is someone who they can model after, because of her experience as a player on both the collegiate and professional levels. She helps us immeasurably on the floor with the energy she bring every day. It's hard to bring energy 100 days in a row in practice, but I can always count on her to do just that."

Shanelle Stires, who starred at Kansas State and played professionally both overseas and in the WNBA, joined the Aztecs in June of 2008 as an assistant coach.

Utilizing over eight years of WNBA and professional playing experience, coach Stires works directly on the court with the Aztec forwards and centers. Administratively, she assists with recruiting, scouting future opponents and player development and coordinates all electronic and hard mail correspondence.

Prior to her stint at SDSU, Stires was an assistant coach at the University of San Francisco, where she worked with the Dons' forwards and post players, while also assisting with recruiting and scouting and working as the team's community service liaison. In her two years in the Bay Area, USF went from 9-20 the year prior to her arrival in 2005-06, to a 14-16 overall mark last season.

Before moving to California, Stires was an assistant coach at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, from 2003-06. Her on-court duties included working with the Bobcat post players, while off the court, she helped with recruiting, opponent scouting, team conditioning, marketing, summer camps, travel and community outreach. Stires tutored a pair of all-Mid-American Conference players and an all-league freshman team performer at Ohio.



THE SHANELE STIRES FILE

Hometown:
Salina, Kan.

Education:
Bachelor's of Arts - Social Science
Kansas State, 1995

Playing Experience:
2000-03
Minnesota Lynx (WNBA)

2001
Clube Amigos du Basket (Madeira, Portugal)

1999-2000
Visby Ladies (Gotland, Sweden)

1996-98
Columbus Quest (ABL)

1995-96
A.O. Pagrati (Athens, Greece)

1992-95
Kansas State

Coaching Background:

San Diego State -
Assistant Coach
2008-Present

University of San Francisco -
Assistant Coach
2006-08

Ohio University -
Assistant Coach
2003-06

Augsburg College -
Volunteer Assistant Coach
2002-03

Salina (KS) South High -
Assistant Coach
1996-97



Stires also has experience coaching at the prep level as an assistant for the 1997 5A Kansas state runner-up team at Salina South High School and was a volunteer assistant coach at NCAA Division III Augsburg College in Minneapolis, Minn., from 2002-03. In 2002, she organized and conducted her own high school basketball clinic and has worked behind the scenes with both the Minnesota Lynx and Columbus Quest.

Stires entered the coaching ranks after a successful professional playing career in the WNBA and ABL and overseas in Greece, Portugal and Sweden. She played both guard and forward for the Minnesota Lynx from 2000-03, and the Columbus Quest from 1996-98, when the team won a pair of ABL championships.

A 1995 graduate of Kansas State with a bachelor's degree in social science, Stires was a three-year letterwinner for the Wildcats from 1992-95. She was an honorable mention Kodak All-American, first-team all-Big 8 selection and runner-up for conference player of the year as a senior in 1995, after twice being named to the all-league second team. The Salina, Kan., native left K-State ranked fifth in career rebounding (701) and sixth in scoring (1,344 points).



TAMMY STEPHENS

DIR. OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS • 5TH YEAR AT SDSU/9TH OVERALL • CS FULLERTON, 1981



THE TAMMY STEPHENS FILE

Hometown:
San Diego, Calif.

Education:
Bachelor's of Arts -
Sociology
Cal State Fullerton, 1981

Master's of Education -
Counseling
University of San Diego, 1991

College Basketball Background:

San Diego State -
Director of Operations
2005-Present

Stanford -
Director of Operations
2004-05

Ohio State -
Director of Operations
1997-2000

Burns on Stephens: "Tammy has helped us assemble this program brick-by-brick. Her intellect and her versatility in just about every area has been so critical in enabling us to build our program and coach our team. She's expanded her role over this past year in helping to mentor and advise our student-athletes in everything from academics to life skills, which is on top of everything else that she that she does for our program.

As I look at the poise of our juniors and seniors, a large part of the credit goes to Tammy and her leadership and guidance."

With eight years of experience as a director of basketball operations at the Division I level, Tammy Stephens enters her fifth season with the Aztecs.

At SDSU, Stephens plays a critical role in the Aztec basketball program. She handles all of the off-the-court responsibilities relative to the budget, facilities and travel. She also coordinates community service projects, the season ticket campaign, summer camps, equipment and fundraising.

Stephens works with the Aztec Athletic Foundation as the team's point person for the "Full Court Press" booster club and establishes on-going relationships with Aztec basketball alumnae.

In 2004-05, Stephens was a part of coach Tara VanDerveer's staff at Stanford, helping the Cardinal to a No. 1 national ranking, a 32-3 record and a trip to the NCAA Elite Eight. She coordinated the team's practice facilities and worked with the booster club in its fundraising efforts. She also was the primary contact for summer camps and was responsible for the Cardinal's game scheduling for the 2005-06 campaign.

Stephens was the director of basketball operations at Ohio State from 1997-2000. In that position, she managed the day-to-day operations of the Buckeye program, which included overseeing the budget, hiring and supervising the office staff and coordinating team travel. She also was in charge of summer camps and was the community relations liaison.



Before leaving for Ohio State, Stephens was an assistant women's tennis coach at the University of San Diego from 1993-97. She graduated in 1981 from Cal State Fullerton with a bachelor's degree in sociology and has a master's of education in counseling from USD.





AZTEC BASKETBALL STAFF



JORGE CERNA
 Director of Player Development
 Second Season at SDSU/
 Second Overall
 San Diego State, 2006

Burns on Cerna: "Jorge has been be a large part of our program's success because of how he uses technology to assist and enhance how we teach our players and prepare for opponents. "Jorge aspires to be a college basketball coach. He has a fabulous background as a manager in coach Fisher's program, is an SDSU graduate and is 100 percent Aztec. He has been able to experience and contribute to every facet of our program."

Jorge Cerna enters his second year as SDSU's director of player development, after serving as a student manager with the Aztec men's basketball squad for three seasons.

Cerna is in charge of all of the program's video needs. His job duties at SDSU include coordinating film exchange, editing game and practice film, developing team highlight videos and supervising student managers. He also assists director of basketball operations Tammy Stephens in the planning and setting up of all women's basketball events.

Cerna graduated from Christian High School in 2001, where he played four years of varsity basketball. While a student at San Diego State, he coached at Marian Catholic High School from 2002-05, serving as the boys' freshman team coach as well as an assistant with the boys' and girls' varsity squads.

The San Diego native became a student manager for the Aztec men's basketball team in May 2005, and over the next three seasons helped with practice set-up, game statistics, summer camps and team travel. Cerna supervised other student managers and helped the video coordinator with film exchange and game scout edits.

Cerna earned his bachelor's degree in social science in December 2006, and is currently pursuing his master's in kinesiology with a concentration in sports psychology at SDSU.

THE JORGE CERNA FILE

Hometown:
 San Diego, Calif.

Education:
 Bachelor's of Arts -
 Social Science
 San Diego State, 2006

Playing Career:
 Christian High School
 1998-2001

Basketball Background:

San Diego State -
 Women's Basketball
 Dir. of Player Development
 2008-present

Men's Basketball
 Student Manager
 2005-08

Marian Catholic High -
 Girls' Varsity
 Assistant Coach
 2004-05

Marian Catholic High -
 Boys' Varsity
 Assistant Coach
 2003-04

Marian Catholic High -
 Boys' Freshman Coach/
 Varsity Assistant Coach
 2002-03



JON FRANCIS
 Head Strength &
 Conditioning Coach
 Sixth Season at SDSU
 Appalachian State, 1993

Jon Francis is in his sixth year at San Diego State as the director of strength and conditioning after spending the previous three years as head strength and conditioning coach at the University of Idaho.

Before arriving in Idaho, Francis was the assistant strength and conditioning coach at Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C. He worked with the university's football, basketball, baseball, wrestling, volleyball and men's soccer programs. He also served as a graduate assistant at Appalachian State.

Francis is a 1993 graduate of Appalachian State and completed his master of arts in sport management at the school in 2001. He is a member of the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association and is Strength and Conditioning Coach Certified (SCCC). He is also a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association and has earned certification from USA Weightlifting.

Francis resides in Vista with his wife and daughter.



LAUREN BENDER
 Student Manager
 First Season



JESSICA FORTNER
 Student Manager
 First Season



VERONICA SANDOVAL
 Student Manager
 First Season



AZTEC BASKETBALL STAFF



WILLIE JUDD
Academic Advisor
Fourth Season at SDSU
Iowa State, 2002

Willie Judd is in his fourth year as the academic advisor for the Aztec women's basketball team. Judd also is the department's CHAMPS/Life Skills Coordinator, as well as a co-advisor for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

Judd provides academic guidance and life skill development to the Aztec women's basketball team. He addresses all academic needs for the players, including scheduling course work and coordinating tutoring, study hours and mentor meetings. He also teaches a freshman success class for SDSU student-athletes, in which players learn everything from time management, communication and study skills.

The San Diego native came to SDSU after two years at Santa Barbara City College, where he was an athletic academic counselor and coached the defensive line for the Vaquero football team.

Judd is a former student-athlete himself, playing football for two seasons at Iowa State, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology in 2002. After completing his eligibility, he spent a year at ISU as a graduate assistant in football operations.

He returned to the West Coast to pursue his master's degree in education counseling (2004), while working as an academic advisor at National University.

Judd's wife, Kate, is a former UC Santa Barbara women's basketball player and is pursuing a master's degree from SDSU in rehabilitation counseling. His parents are both San Diego State alums, and his sister, Katie, played volleyball at Portland State.



GINA MAGGIO
Athletic Trainer
Fourth Season at SDSU
William Paterson, 1999

Gina Maggio begins her fourth year as an athletic trainer at San Diego State. Maggio works directly with the Aztec women's basketball team.

As the team's head athletic trainer, her primary responsibility is the overall healthcare of the student-athletes. Whether it's the flu or an ankle sprain, the Aztecs see her for all ailments. Maggio works with state-of-the-art equipment, including a SWIM-Ex Unit and Biodex machine to rehabilitate injuries and return the student-athletes to the court better than before. She also coordinates nutrition services for the team to improve performance.

Before coming to SDSU, Maggio spent six years at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, Calif. From 2000-06, she was a staff athletic trainer working with world-class athletes in a variety of different sports. In 2004, Maggio was the primary athletic trainer for the U.S. canoe and kayak teams at the Olympic Games in Greece.

The New Jersey native came to San Diego in 2000, after completing her master's degree in athletic training at the University of Virginia. While in Charlottesville, she worked with the cross country and track and field teams.

A 1999 graduate of William Paterson University with a bachelor's degree in physical education, Maggio is a certified massage technician through Mueller College of Holistic Studies.

She is also a certified athletic trainer (NATABOC), first-aid/CPR instructor and certified member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association.

Maggio and her husband, Jeff, live in San Diego.



TARA MORRISON
Administrative Assistant
Third Season at SDSU
Adams State, 2001

Tara Morrison enters her third year at San Diego State and her second as the team's administrative assistant. In her position, Morrison handles the daily operations and administrative duties of the women's basketball office. She works closely with the staff to organize team travel, daily schedules and the budget. She also works closely with the members of the "Full Court Press Club" booster group by organizing and running the club's events.

In 2007-08, the Arvada, Colo., native served as the team's head manager after six years as a Division I assistant coach.

Morrison was an assistant women's basketball coach at Binghamton University in Binghamton, N.Y. from 2005-07. Her responsibilities included coaching the Bearcats' forwards and post players, while also helping with the team's recruiting, academics, scouting and summer camps. Binghamton finished in the top four of the America East Conference in each of her two seasons and twice made semifinal appearances at the league championships.

Before moving to New York, Morrison was an assistant from 2001-05 at the University of Maine under head coach Sharon Versyp. The Black Bears were 86-34 overall during her four-year stay, including a 58-10 mark in conference play. Maine claimed three straight America East regular seasons titles from 2003-05, and advanced to the postseason on three occasions, including a trip to the NCAA tournament in 2004.

Her duties with the Black Bears involved coaching the forward and post players, including two-time America East Conference Player of the Year Heather Ernest. Morrison also coordinated team travel and film exchange and helped with film editing, scouting, recruiting, summer camps and academics.

A 2001 graduate of Adams State College in Alamosa, Colo., she was a three-year basketball letterwinner at forward for the Grizzlies, after playing one season at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. Morrison, who has a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology with a minor in coaching, was the head coach of the Mile Hi Magic Girl's Basketball Club in Denver, Colo., during the summer from 1999-2001.

Morrison is a certified personal trainer and resides in San Diego.

A special thank you to the following dealerships for providing the women's basketball staff with courtesy cars.

