



# AZTEC

## S P O R T S N E W S

SAN DIEGO STATE MEDIA RELATIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Feb. 28, 2002

### CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

FEB. 28 - MAR. 9

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
24	25	26	27	28 Swimming (thru Sat.) at MWC Indoor Championships, All Day Oklahoma City, Okla.	1 W-Tennis at California, 1:30 p.m. Berkeley, Calif.	2 Track at USC Invite, 10 a.m. W-Tennis at Stanford, Noon M-Tennis UCSB, Noon Water Polo at UC Irvine, Noon vs. Redlands, 1:30 p.m
3 Water Polo at Long Bch St., Noon Long Beach, Calif.	4 W-Tennis Georgia Tech, 2 p.m. SDSU Courts	5	6	7 M-Golf (thru Fri.) at Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Santa Barbara, Calif.	8	9 Track at Ben Brown Invite Fullerton, Calif., 10 a.m. Water Polo at California, Noon Berkeley, Calif. Rowing Parker Cup Regatta Mission Bay, All Day

### This Week At SDSU ...

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*Aztecs open outdoor season in Los Angeles.*

**Water Polo** page 3

*Team heads north for three-game weekend.*

**Men's Golf** page 4

*Scarlet and black prep for Pacific Coast Intercollegiate.*

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### Aztecs on the web ...

Follow SDSU athletics on these websites:

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- [www.mpsports.org](http://www.mpsports.org)

# TRACK and FIELD

## Aztecs Open Outdoor Season At USC Trojan Invite

### 2002 Schedule and Results

Date	Event	Time/Result
<i>Indoor Schedule</i>		
Jan. 12	at Pole Vault Summit	NTS
Feb. 2	at Wolf Pack Invite	7th, 23 pts.
Feb. 9	at NAU Invitational	NTS
Feb. 21-23	MWC Indoor Chps.*	6th, 58.5 pts.

### Outdoor Schedule

Date	Event	Time/Result
Mar. 2	at USC Invitational	10 a.m.
Mar. 8-9	Ben Brown Invitational	10 a.m.
Mar. 16	USC/Tennessee	10 a.m.
Mar. 23	AZTEC INVITATIONAL	9 a.m.
Mar. 30-31	at Cal-Nev. State Meet	10 a.m.
Apr. 6	UNLV Invitational	11 a.m.
Apr. 13	ALL-WOMEN INVITE	10 a.m.
Apr. 18-19	at Mt. SAC Heptathalon	10 a.m.
Apr. 19-21	at Mt. SAC Relays	10 a.m.
Apr. 27	at Oregon Invitational	10 a.m.
	at Drake Relays	10 a.m.
	at UCSD Invitational	9 a.m.
May 4	at Texas Invitational	10 a.m.
May 5	at Steve Scott Invitational	10 a.m.
May 11	at Oxy Invitational	5 p.m.
May 15-18	MWC Outdoor Champs.*	All Day

Home meets in CAPS

Home meets held at SDSU Sports Deck

\*Colorado Springs, Colo.

### 2002 Indoor Bests

60 Meters - Melinda Smedley	7.66
60 Hurdles - Leslie Miller	8.95
55 Meters - Melinda Smedley	7.23
200 Meters - Melinda Smedley	24.34
400 Meters - Jini Hogg	55.91
800 Meters - Jennifer Stakiw	2:16.91
3,000 Meters - Alicia Stewart	12:01.00
Mile - Jennifer Stakiw	5:25.49
55 Hurdles - Lynnae Samuels	8.43
60 Hurdles - Lynnae Samuels	8.93
Mile Relay - SDSU "A"	3:50.78
High Jump - Alisha Lasswell	5-05.75 (1.67m)
Long Jump - Leslie Miller	16-03.25 (4.96m)
Pole Vault - Tricia Gutierrez	12-09.50 (3.90m)*#
Shayla Balentine	12-09.50 (3.90m)*#
Shot Put - Candace Hill	43-04.25 (13.21m)
Weight Throw - Candace Hill	42-11 (13.08m)

\*Indicates school record

#Indicates NCAA provisional mark



### This Week

The San Diego State track and field team opens the outdoor portion of its 2002 schedule this Saturday when it competes in the Trojan Invitational. The event will be held at USC's Cromwell Field. SDSU closed the indoor season last weekend in Colorado Springs at the Mountain West Conference Indoor Championships, the team finished in sixth place with 58.50 points.

### Saturday's Schedule

Running events begin at 11:40 a.m. with the women's 3000-meter run, while throwing events will get underway at 8:30 a.m. with the women's hammer. Field events at Cromwell Field will start at noon with the women's pole vault. The meet will also include some open events.

### The Field

Several schools from Southern California will participate in this weekend's event, including California, Long Beach State and Cal State Fullerton.

### Recapping The MWC Championships

The highlight of the Aztecs' appearance in the league championships came in the pole vault pit, where Shayla Balentine set a MWC record. The freshman vaulted a first-place mark of 3.84 meters (12-07.25), her second NCAA provisional mark of the indoor season. Junior Leslie Miller placed fifth in the pentathlon with second-place finishes in the 60-meter hurdles and 800-meter run. Junior Melinda Smedley placed-fourth in the 200-meter dash (24.54) and in the 60-meter dash (7.66). Junior Jini Hogg raced to a fourth-place time of of 55.91 in the 400-meter dash and freshman Alisha Lasswell placed fourth in the high jump (1.67m, 5-05.75).

### Vaulting To Success

Two SDSU pole vaulters entered the MWC championships looking to improve on NCAA provisional marks. On Jan. 12, two Aztecs, senior Tricia Gutierrez and freshman Shayla Balentine, set school record and NCAA provisional marks at the National Pole Vault Summit, in Reno. Balentine and Gutierrez both vaulted 3.90 meters (12-09.50). At the Wolf Pack Invitational, on Feb. 2, Gutierrez set another NCAA provisional mark with a 3.82-meter (12-06.25) second-place vault. Balentine came in third in the competition (3.72m/12-02.25). Gutierrez's school-record mark bested the record of 12-07.50 she set last season.

### This Week ...

at USC Trojan Invitational

Sat., Mar. 2

### Aztec Honors

Senior Tricia Gutierrez's school record and NCAA provisional vault at the National Pole Vault Summit earned her Mountain West Conference indoor track athlete of the week honors for the period ending Jan. 14. The occasion marked her first career athlete of the week award.

### Coaching Staff

The Aztecs are led by head coach Rahn Sheffield, who is in his 11th season with the Aztec program. Sheffield is assisted by Jennifer Nanista, Richard Fox, Leslie Coons and Kristi McGihon. Nanista oversees the team's distance corps, Fox works with the pole vaulters, Coons with the throwers and McGihon handles the jumps.

### League Leaders

Several Aztecs are listed among the top-5 best indoor times and marks this season in the Mountain West Conference. Senior Tricia Gutierrez and freshman Shayla Balentine are tied for second in the pole vault with a 12-09.50 mark. Junior Jesika Englebretson is fifth in the vault (12-01.25). Junior Melinda Smedley and sophomore Tonnnette Dyer are third (24.34) and fourth (24.42), respectively, in the 200-meter dash. Junior Jini Hogg is fifth (55.91) in the 400-meter dash. Junior Leslie Miller has the league's fifth-best score in the pentathlon (3,486).

### A Year Ago

SDSU won three events at last year's USC Invitational. Senior Aimee Crabtree won the pole vault with a 12-foot clearing. Senior Aja Frary won flight 3 of the long jump with a 5.87 meter effort and senior Promise Mose turned in a second-place finish in the 400 meters (56.28).

### Change In Plans

Earlier this week, the San Diego State track and field program announced a change to its 2002 outdoor schedule. The Aztecs' scheduled home meet against UC Irvine and UC San Diego on Sat., Mar. 9 has been canceled. The team will instead travel to Fullerton for the Ben Brown Invitational to be held March 8-9.

### The Outdoor Season At A Glance

Following the Aztecs competition at the Ben Brown Invitational in Fullerton on Mar. 8-9, the team will return to Los Angeles to compete with USC and Tennessee in a 10 a.m. meet on Mar. 16. On Mar. 23, the team will host the Aztec Invitational and on Apr. 13 the All-

# WATER POLO

## Aztecs Head North For Three-Game Weekend

### 2002 Schedule and Results (6-6)

Date	Event (Rank)	Time/Result
Feb. 8	HARTWICK COLLEGE(14) INDIANA(16)	W, 7-6 W, 10-4
Feb. 9-10	at UCSB Invitational vs. Cal Baptist vs. Loyola Marymount (5) at UCSB (9)	W, 12-11 L, 3-5 L, 4-5
Feb. 16	vs. Hartwick College (14) UCSB (7)*	W, 11-9 L, 6-7 2ot
Feb. 23-24	at UCSB Invitational vs. UC Davis (6) vs. UCLA(2) vs. Loyola Marymount (6) vs. Long Beach State (7)	W, 11-9 L, 2-8 L, 5-7 L, 3-6
Feb. 27	MICHIGAN (13)	W, 8-5
Mar. 2	at UC Irvine (17) vs. Redlands	Noon 1:30 p.m.
Mar. 3	at Long Beach State (7)*	Noon
Mar. 9	at California*	Noon
Mar. 10	at Pacific*	Noon
Mar. 15	UCLA*	4 p.m.
Mar. 17	at UCSB Tournament	All Day
Mar. 21	CS NORTHRIDGE*	4 p.m.
Mar. 23	SOUTHERNCALIFORNIA*	Noon
Apr. 4	at San Jose State*	4 p.m.
Apr. 5	at Stanford*	7 p.m.
Apr. 11	HAWAII*	4 p.m.
Apr. 13-14	at Long Beach St. Invite	All Day
Apr. 19	at UC San Diego	6 p.m.
Apr. 26-28	MPSF Championship#	All Day

Home meets in CAPS

Home meets held at Bud Kearns Pool

\*Mountain Pacific Sports Federation game

#Hosted by Southern California

### This Week

The 12th-ranked Aztecs, fresh off an 8-5 victory on Wednesday over the 13th-ranked Michigan Wolverines, will travel to UC Irvine for matches against the 17th-ranked Anteaters and the University of Redlands on Saturday. On Sunday, the Aztecs will look for revenge against Long Beach State after the Beach beat the Aztecs 6-3 at the UCSB Tournament last weekend. Games are scheduled at noon, 1:30 p.m. and noon, respectively. The Aztecs record currently stands 6-6 overall, 0-1 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation.

### Sizing Up The Competition

#### UC Irvine

- The Aztecs were 4-0 against the Anteaters last season.
- SDSU holds a 5-0 all-time advantage against the conference opponent.
- Three players on Irvine's roster prepped in San Diego. The 17th-ranked Anteaters hold a 2-8 overall record and are 0-2 in the MPSF.

#### University of Redlands

- The Aztecs are 4-0 against the Bulldogs.
- Redlands is currently the top-ranked Division III program in the nation.

#### Long Beach State

- The Aztecs were 2-0 against the 49ers last season, and hold a 9-3 all time advantage.
- The two teams met last week in the final round of pool play at the UCSB Gaucho Invitational. SDSU fell 6-3 in that match.
- Conference opponent Long Beach State is currently ranked seventh.

### This Week ...

Sat., Mar. 2

at UC Irvine

vs. Redlands

Sun., Mar. 3

at Long Beach State

### Michigan Recap

Casey Finnegan led the Aztecs with a 60-percent shooting performance against the Wolverines. Finnegan scored three goals in five attempts and totaled one steal. Junior Amber Prestegard and sophomore Holly Hartzell each scored two goals in the contest. Time in the cage was split between team captain Heather Stiles and Ashley Zabel. Stiles played 21 minutes and recorded eight saves as well as a steal. Zabel played the final seven minutes with four saves.

### UCSB Gaucho Invitational Recap

Last week the SDSU water polo team was up in Santa Barbara at the UCSB Gaucho Invitational where it finished in eighth place out of a field of 16 teams. The Aztecs started off with a first round overtime win over UC Davis, but lost in pool play to UCLA, Loyola Marymount and Long Beach State.

### 2002 Statistical Leaders

#### Scoring Leaders

Athlete	Gm.	G	A	St.	G/Gm.
Holly Hartzell	11	26	9	18	2.4
Amber Prestegard	10	13	4	12	1.3
Dominique Delgado	11	12	9	11	1.1
Casey Finnegan	12	11	4	12	0.9
Heidi Matsumoto	12	6	5	9	0.5

#### Goalkeeping Leaders

Athlete	Gm.	Sv	Sv/G
Heather Stiles	10	88	8.8
Ashley Zabel	4	21	5.3

## 2002 Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Previous School)
1	Heather Stiles	GK	5-10	Sr.	Sacramento, Calif. (Sierra CC)
1A	Ashley Zabel	GK	5-10	So.	San Diego, Calif. (Scripps Ranch HS)
1B	Cindy Ayala	GK	5-6	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif. (Santa Monica HS)
2	Whitney Winlow	UTL	5-10	Sr.	Las Vegas, Nev. (Chapparral HS)
3	Beth Merlo	UTL	5-9	Sr.	Clovis, Calif. (Merced CC)
4	Heidi Matsumoto	DR	5-6	Jr.	Grover Beach, Calif. (Arroyo Grande HS)
5	Casey Finnegan	UTL	5-6	Jr.	Fresno, Calif. (Clovis West HS)
6	Dominique Delgado	UTL	5-5	Fr.	Lompoc, Calif. (Cabrillo HS)
7	Katie Clark	UTL	5-4	Sr.	Fontana, Calif. (Riverside CC)
8	Ashleigh May	DR	5-5	Jr.	University Place, Wash. (Golden West CC)
9	Jackie Lopez	DR	5-0	Jr.	Commerce, Calif. (Bell Gardens HS)
10	Amber Prestegard	UTL	5-7	Jr.	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Edison HS)
11	Lisa Weise	DR	5-8	Sr.	Riverside, Calif. (Riverside CC)
12	Donna Stivers	UTL	5-5	So.	El Cajon, Calif. (El Cajon Valley HS)
13	Becky Sensney	UTL	5-5	Jr.	Modesto, Calif. (Johansen HS)
14	Holly Hartzell	2M	5-10	So.	Vista, Calif. (Fallbrook HS)
15	Brenna Wylie	UTL	5-5	Jr.	Merced, Calif. (Golden Valley HS)
16	Monica DeRosier	2M	5-11	Fr.	San Diego, Calif. (Patrick Henry HS)
19	Chelsy Smith	2M	5-8	Jr.	Roseville, Calif. (Sierra CC)

**Head Coach:** Carin Crawford (UC San Diego) fourth season

**Assistant:** Rachel Scott, first season

# MEN'S GOLF

## No. 26 Aztecs Travel To Pacific Coast Intercollegiate

### Pacific Coast Intercollegiate (UCSB) La Purisima Golf Course Lompoc, Calif.

**Dates:** March 7-8

**Par:** 72

**Yardage:** 7,105

**The Field:** San Diego State, Cal State Bakersfield, Colorado State, Denver, Fresno State, Hawaii-Hilo, Long Beach State, Nevada, New Mexico State, Pacific, San Francisco, San Jose State, Santa Clara, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, Wyoming

### 2001-02 Schedule and Results

#### Fall

Date	Event	Result
S. 10-11	Mid Pines Intercollegiate	2nd (847)
S. 21-22	Tucker Intercollegiate	6th (876)
O. 5-6	Lexus Classic	5th (876)
O. 8-9	Club Glove Intercollegiate	4th (902)
N. 5-6	Aztec Invitational	2nd (837)

#### Spring

Date	Event	Result
F. 20-22	John Burns Intercollegiate	1st (853)
M. 7-8	Pacific Coast Intercollegiate	
M. 18-19	USD Invitational	
M. 25-26	Oregon Duck Invitational	
A. 5-6	Texas A&M Invitational	
A. 20-21	Stanford Invitational	
A. 29-M. 1	MWC Championships	
M. 16-18	NCAA Regionals	
M. 29-J. 1	NCAA Championships	



### Aztecs Look To Build On Win At Burns

Coming off its first win of the season at the John Burns Intercollegiate in Wahiawa, Hawaii, the 26th-ranked San Diego State men's golf team looks to make it two in a row as the Aztecs travel to the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate. The two-day, 54-hole tournament will be played at the La Purisima Golf Course (par 72; 7,105 yards) in Lompoc, Calif., March 7-8, and is being hosted by UC Santa Barbara. The Pacific Coast Intercollegiate gets underway with 36 holes on Thursday, March 7th. The final 18 holes will be played on Wednesday, March 8th.

### The Field

In addition to the 26th-ranked Aztecs, ranked teams entered in the 2002 Pacific Coast Intercollegiate include No. 9 Fresno State and No. 35 Nevada. Rounding out the 18-team field are Cal State Bakersfield, Colorado State, Denver, Hawaii-Hilo, Long Beach State, New Mexico State, Pacific, San Francisco, San Jose State, Santa Clara, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside and Wyoming.

### Aztecs Versus The Field

San Diego State has finished in the top five in five of six tournaments this season and enters the week with a 75-14 overall record. SDSU has faced 11 teams in this year's Pacific Coast field, posting an 18-5 mark against Colorado State (3-1), Denver (2-0), Fresno State (1-2), Hawaii-Hilo (1-0), Long Beach State (1-0), Nevada (1-1), New Mexico State (1-0), Pacific (1-1), San Francisco (2-0), San Jose State (3-0), Wyoming (2-0).

### Last Time At La Purisima

Last year's Pacific Coast Intercollegiate was completely washed out as rain scuttled both days of the tournament. Two years ago, San Diego State held a five-stroke lead following the opening day's action, but couldn't hold on down the stretch, combining for a final-round 307 and slipping to third.

Magnus Carlsson paced SDSU, finishing in seventh at 10-over 224. The only current Aztecs in the lineup for San Diego State was Lars Johansson. Then a freshman, Johansson finished 23rd with a three-round total of 15-over 229.

BYU captured the team title with a final score of 896, 11 strokes ahead of the Aztecs. The individual medalist was San Diego's Patrick Hawkins, who shot 2-under par 214.

### 2000 Pacific Coast Intercollegiate\*

#### Top-3 Teams

1. Brigham Young, 896
2. San Diego, 897
3. San Diego State, 907

#### Individual Champion

1. Patrick Hawkins, USD, 214

#### SDSU Individuals

7. Magnus Carlsson, 224
14. Scott Piercy 227
19. Larry Correa, 228
23. Lars Johansson, 229
32. Ryan Donovan, 232

\*The 2001 Pacific Coast

### This Week...

at Pacific Coast Intercollegiate

Thurs., Mar. 7- Fri., Mar. 8

Fall 2001 Stroke Averages	Avg.	Rds.
Gilberto Rodriguez	71.2	6
<b>John Lieber*</b>	<b>72.1</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Mark Warman*</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>18</b>
Chris Galeski	72.5	6
<b>Lars Johansson*</b>	<b>72.6</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Brandon Kearney*</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Scott Henderson*</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>9</b>
Charlie Smith	73.9	9
Linus Nilsson	75.5	6
Jarrod Jenkins	76.3	3

\*Probable starter at the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate

### Back Spin — Aztecs Win Burns

John Lieber took medalist honors and Brandon Kearney and Mark Warman each turned in top-20 finishes as the Aztecs topped the leaderboard from wire to wire at the John Burns Intercollegiate in Wahiawa, Hawaii, last week. The win was the first of the season for San Diego State, which defeated three top 20 squads in the event. Lieber opened the tournament with a career-low 7-under par 65 and led the entire way, finishing up with a pair of 71s en route to his third 9-under 207 of the season and his first collegiate tournament victory. But the win was a team effort for the Aztecs, who in addition to Lieber had three other players finish up among the top 25, including junior Scott Henderson, whose 2-over 218 was good enough to place him 22nd. Junior Lars Johansson, the 2001 Mountain West Conference Golfer of the Year, finished up strong with a final-round 72 to place 40th after back-to-back disappointing rounds.

### Aztec Chip Shots

- SDSU has finished in the top 5 in 5-of-6 tournaments thus far, including a first and two seconds. The Aztecs' only non-top 5 finish was a sixth at UNM's Tucker Intercollegiate.
- Six of the nine players who have appeared in at least two tournament's this season own stroke averages under 73.0.
- In players with at least nine competitive rounds this season, junior John Lieber owns the Aztecs' stroke average lead at 71.2.
- John Lieber has finished below par in six straight rounds and has averaged 69.0 in SDSU's last two tournaments. The junior also owns three top-5 finishes this season.
- Three Aztecs have appeared in all-six tournaments thus far, including John Lieber, Mark Warman, and Brandon Kearney.

### Head Coach Dale Walker

San Diego State is in its second season under the direction of head coach Dale Walker. He guided the Aztecs to a top-25 ranking and a 12th-place finish at the 2001 NCAA West Regional in his first year at the helm. A 1980 graduate of SDSU, Walker was a standout performer for the Aztecs from 1975-79. In his one-and-a-half seasons at the reins of the SDSU men's golf program, Walker has guided the Aztecs to four tournament titles.