

Aztec Tennis Reporter

SERVING THE SAN DIEGO STATE TENNIS COMMUNITY

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ATR Staff Photos

Aztec Women Win 10 In Row At Home, Hold Rank of 48th

The San Diego State women's tennis team rolled into its 2002 schedule with doubleheader victories over St Mary's (7-0) and Cal Poly (7-0). Then came the hard part: Back-to-back losses on the road against Washington (7-0) and Washington State (4-3).

In early March, the Aztecs earned victories over Oregon (5-2), Pacific (6-1), and UC Irvine (4-3). After losses to Cal (6-1), Stanford (7-0), and Georgia Tech (4-3), their record stood at 5-5 and they ranked 48th in the U.S.

Against UC Irvine, Katalina Romero defeated UCI's Anna Bentzer, 7-6, 4-6, 6-2, in the deciding match, assuring SDSU's tenth straight home victory over a two-year period.

In the Georgia Tech match,

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DOUBLE TROUBLE: Oliver Maiberger, left, and Ryan Redondo await serve by Stanford's Scott Lipsky and David Martin, at net, at National Indoors in Louisville. Stanford won, 8-5.

Minute-by-Minute: How Tide Turned For SDSU Victory

LOUISVILLE · There was an air of desperation when SMU and San Diego State took to the courts. Both had already lost two rounds at the National Intercollegiate Indoor Championships.

The Mustangs, ranked eighth in the nation, and the unranked Aztecs battled to the final points. The Texans led all the way until a dramatic surge by the Californians. The Aztecs went from 2-3 down to 4-3 up, all within 90 seconds.

Here's the replay from the cavernous six-court bay at the Louisville Tennis Club:

The two squads warm up and begin the match at 7:30 p.m.

The Aztecs yield the doubles point with identical 8-6 losses at the two and three positions.

Then, with six singles matches underway, the struggle begins in

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Aztecs Lose Twice to Stanford, Then Upset No. 8-Ranked SMU

San Diego State's men's tennis team staggered under the weight of top-ten competition but pulled out a major upset in the early weeks of the 2002 season.

The Aztecs fell to four top-ten teams in 20 days, losing

twice to powerhouse Stanford, 6-1 and 4-0, battling last year's NCAA runner-up Tennessee to the wire before losing, 4-2, then upsetting eighth-ranked SMU, 4-3, at the National Intercollegiate

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Dear Diary: Pulse 220, I'm Hitting With a Guy Named Pete in Australia

By ALEX WASKE (1998-2000)

Aztec Alex Waske emails his ATP tour diary from the road.

ADELAIDE · We went to book flights to Auckland, and my friend Jan Frode Andersen was supposed to get somebody to hit with me at 12. The travel agent took a little longer than I expected, so I got to the courts at 11:55. I went to the office to check which court I am on and who I hit with: Court 4 Sampras + Waske.

Yeah, right! I thought it was a joke my buddy made, and expected him to show at 12 with a grin on his face, but the lady in the office told me that Pete was looking for a right-hander to hit with before his

match against Todd Martin. So I took my stuff and ran to the courts, where Pete was already stretching and waiting for me! I introduced myself, had a pulse of 220, and went on the court.

It was very windy, he took the side against the wind, and I had a hard time against his flat, hard strokes to get under the ball. I was on my toes, ran after every ball; he was on the back of his feet, didn't make a step, but still didn't miss a shot.

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Aztec Getz Gains USPTA Elite Status



Nick Getz

Nick Getz (1980-85), director of tennis and head pro at the Hillcrest Country Club in Los Angeles, has been selected as a Master Profes-

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Our Movie Critic Returns

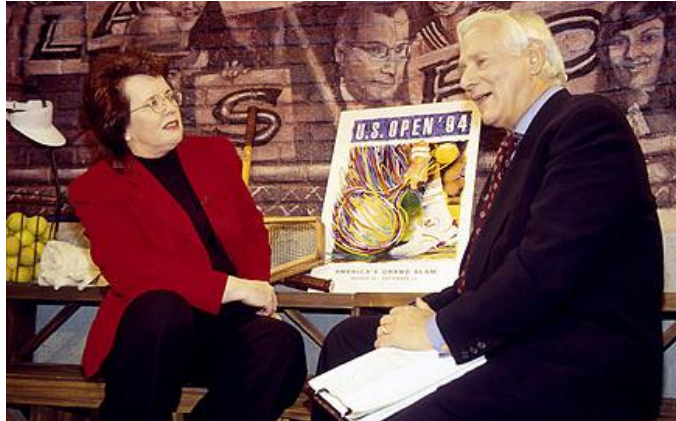
Midway through the eulogies at a private funeral service for Dick Schaap, the sports-writer who wrote 33 books and hosted ESPN's *The Sports Reporters*, a thin, black-haired man with a deep Florida tan stood up to speak from his pew in the crowded chapel on New York's Amsterdam Avenue.

"I always told Dick, I said Nick Bolletieri, that I could beat him at tennis, I could beat him at golf, and I had more wives than he did. Where he could not surpass his friend, Bolletieri conceded, was in Schaap's generous nature.

Some of tennis's most famous personalities experienced Schaap's generosity of spirit.

In 1958, for *Sport Magazine*, he profiled the "Lone Wolf of Tennis," Pancho Gonzalez, the scrappy Los Angeles dynamo

Dick Schaap: The Writing Life



ESPN Photo

CHAMPIONS: Billie Jean King and the writer Dick Schaap.

who drove alone on the tour, so stung by misunderstandings that he spurned Jack Kramer's offer of transportation across mid-century

America. The story won a place in *Greatest American Sports Writing of the (20th) Century*.

Schaap's 1996 collabora-

tion with Bolletieri, *My Aces, My Faults*, offered revealing glimpses of Bolletieri's clients, including Andre Agassi and Boris Becker.

At a memorial service, Martina Navratilova recalled that Schaap spoke out for women's sports, women athletes, and the need for equality and equal opportunity.

"Dick wrote passionately about Title IX and the right of women to excel on the field, on the court, in the rink, in any arena," said Navratilova. "He played a significant role in helping women move toward opportunities many male athletes took for granted."

Tennis was largely absent from Dick Schaap's obituaries, but in his writing life, it won a special place.

John Martin (1957)

Dear ATR: Email, Cards, and Letters from the Aztec Tennis 'Family'

Dear ATR: I enjoy reading the *Aztec Tennis Reporter*. It is like the holiday letter that many of us receive at (Christmas). I love reading about our Aztec family.

Michele Schlecht
Director of Development
San Diego State U

Dear ATR: Just a note to say how much I like your Aztec tennis newsletter. It's a model for other schools to copy. I was especially interested in learning about the Redondo family (Vol 3, No 6) and will (use) some of that information for a future ITA Hall of Fame newsletter. We ran Ryan's picture in the last issue after his win (with Oliver Maiberger) in the ITA National Indoor Doubles Championship.

Dan Magill
Athens, GA

The writer, an accomplished player and sports writer, coached the University of Georgia men's tennis team for 34 years, helped establish the NCAA Team Championships, wrote the autobiographical Matched Points, and is founder and curator of the ITA Men's Collegiate Tennis Hall of Fame

at the University of Georgia.

Dear ATR: Your "A Night of 'Delicious Chocolate' (Vol 3, No 7) was excellent.

Al Cholula
Phoenix, AZ

The writer, who uses a pseudonym, is the author of The Manx Dossier.

Dear ATR: I loved the most recent issue (Vol 4, No 1), especially seeing Maureen Connolly and the model (Gaye Cowie) on the Rose Parade float. It was very entertaining. I love reading ATR.

Lisa Gordon
Palo Alto, CA

The writer, a member of the Stanford women's team (1979-80), is a lawyer and independent film producer affiliated with the Silicon Valley Film Fund.

Dear ATR: Your new format is great. You're doing a wonderful job and we former Aztec players are lucky!

Jeanne Doyle Garrett
San Diego

The writer, a top USTA

competitor and college coach, attended San Diego State College and the University of Arizona.

Dear ATR: I just read your latest *Aztec Tennis Reporter* (Vol 3, No 7). Enjoyed it immensely, especially "Where Are We Now?" I know quite a few of the boys and it was fun finding out their whereabouts.

Silka Kurth
Youth Tennis San Diego

Dear ATR: Thank you for sending the *Aztec Tennis Reporter*. I enjoyed seeing all the great coverage of our World Team Tennis/Intercollegiate

Tennis Association Championships! You did a great job.

Billie Jean King
Chicago, IL

ATR published a special edition as a commemorative for players and coaches at the

Aztec Tennis Reporter

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This is the 19th edition of *Aztec Tennis Reporter*, a newsletter established in 1999 for players, coaches, alumni, and friends of SDSU tennis.

This issue is being mailed to 1,383 readers in 37 states and 22 foreign countries.

To receive a copy, comment, seek a correction, or request back issues, please write to John Martin, ATR, 1528 Corcoran St., NW, Washington, DC 20009. Or email:

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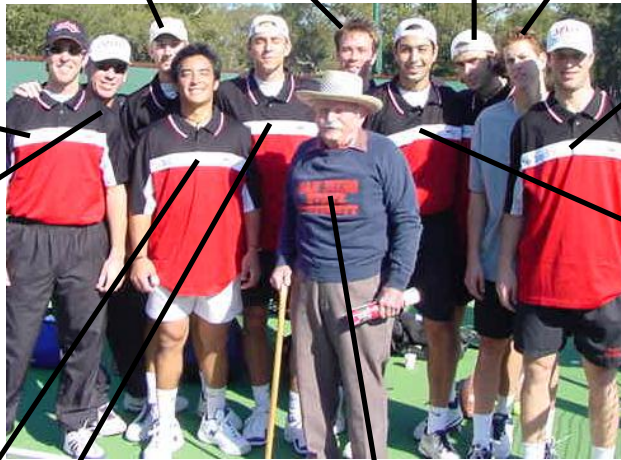
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An Unforced Error

Due to a reporting error, ATR (Vol 4, No 1) incorrectly identified a new member of the Aztec men's team. He is Rasmus Larsen of Denmark, not Rasmus Jensen. A graduate student in geographic information systems, Larsen played at Valdosta (GA) State and has a final year of eligibility. ATR regrets the error.

Where Are We Now? The Great Search (1922-2002) Continues

2002 San Diego State Men's Team — And a 1936 Teammate



ATR Staff Photo

Gene Carswell (1999-2002): I am a volunteer coach assisting John Nelson (I played at New Mexico). My wife, Lainie, and I run an ice cream business in Southern California. We live in La Jolla.

John Nelson (1994-2002): I am in my ninth year as SDSU head coach (and 20th year coaching at universities). I am a CSU Hayward graduate with a Bachelor of Science in physical education and I hold a Master of Arts in education from Stanford University. My wife, Carol, and I live near the SDSU campus.

Ryan Redondo (2002): I am a sophomore liberal studies major from Encinitas. I transferred from Pepperdine. (My father is a teaching pro at the Vista Tennis Club and a former SDSU men's coach).

Travis Hasson (1998-2002): I am a physical therapy major from San Luis Obispo (I may move east for advanced study).

Rasmus Larsen (2002): I am a graduate student from Denmark studying geography information systems.

Oliver Maiberger (2000-02): I am a junior majoring in international business and I am from Lorch, a small German town on the Rhine River.

Gabe Coren (2000-02): I am a junior political science major from Santa Cruz.

Valentino Pest (2000-2002): I am Croatian and German, an international business major from Garching, a small town northwest of Munich.

Khalid Naffa (2001-02): I am an economics major from Jordan (my mother is a teaching pro at the Royal Tennis Club in Amman). I transferred from Saddleback College in Orange County.

Felix Hardt (2002): I am in my second year at SDSU, studying international business. I come from Allensbach, a little town in southern Germany near Lake Constance and the border with Switzerland.

Clelland Wharton (1933-36): I am a retired accountant who played football and tennis at San Diego State College. I worked many years in the business office of the University of California teaching hospital in San Diego. I knew (and played) many of San Diego's top players (including Maureen Connolly, who could hit the ball so hard it hit your racket before you could get into position at net). I played tennis until about 10 years ago (I am 88), winning my community tournament seven times with six different doubles partners. In February, I attended the San Diego State-Stanford men's match in Palo Alto and met the guys (above). It was my first SDSU tennis match since graduation. My wife, Beverly, is a retired San Jose State administrator. We live in south San Jose.



Wharton

USPTA Names Getz Master Professional

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sional by the United States Professional Tennis Association.

The elite honor, shared by only about 125 of the association's 12,500 members, was conferred for his work with the association and his skills as a teacher and leader in the professional tennis community.

"I am honored," said Getz, who played satellites and was previously at West End Racquet and the San Francisco Tennis Club. "It's great to re-

Aztec in Middle of Hong Kong-Taiwan Davis Cup Tie

Aztec Chris Numbers, an All-American in doubles at San Diego State in the 1990s, is in the middle of Davis Cup competition in Asia.

After coaching Hong Kong's International Junior Team and Davis Cup squad, Numbers was invited to play for Hong Kong. Under a Davis Cup rule, foreign players may compete after two years' residency if they possess a green card.

Numbers previously played for Hong Kong



NUMBERS: At #2 Singles in Davis Cup

against Lebanon and Kazakhstan.

Then the former British colony came under stronger authority from Beijing; Numbers moved to the background. A new Davis Cup coach was appointed.

But this year, as Hong

Kong, which maintains a separate Davis Cup status, was preparing to face China's arch-rival Taiwan, Numbers was recalled.

"Obviously, they need my help if they keep calling me back," said the 1996 SDSU graduate, who now works at Marriott's Desert Springs in Palm Desert.

Unfortunately, it was a losing cause. Taiwan won the tie, 4-1, and Wang Yeu-Tzuoo, an ATP competitor, topped Numbers, a doubles specialist, 6-1, 6-2, 6-4.

Minute-by-Minute: How Aztecs Won

(Continued from Page 1)

earnest. Aztec Valentino Pest draws first blood with a 6-4, 6-1 victory over 97th ranked Johan Brunstrom of SMU. Then Mustangs Lukasz Senczhyszyn and Gwinyai Chingoka take straight-set victories over Travis Hasson and Gabe Coren. (At 9:22 p.m., Hasson shrieks in frustration near the end of his match).

Countering, Ryan Redondo defeats Ryan Mauck, 7-5, 6-2, but at 9:45 p.m., SDSU's Oliver Maiberger splits sets.

At 10:20 p.m., ahead 3-2 in the third set, Maiberger suffers a cut hand. Play halts as Aztec trainer Armin Shaverdian stops the bleeding; later he applies a bandage. The hall falls silent. Coaches whisper on both sides. Maiberger comes back on court, calmly holds on to defeat SMU's Krystain Pfeiffer, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4.

Score: Mustangs 3, Aztecs 3.

Just 90 seconds later, with players lining both sides of the court, Aztec Felix Hardt grinds out the final points over SMU's Alexis Rudzinski, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

It is 10:37 p.m.

The Aztecs erupt, hugging and shouting. The Mustangs fall silent. SDSU Coaches John Nelson and Gene Carswell accept congratulations from SMU Coach Carl Neufeld.

The teams pass, touching hands in the ritual of courtesy that ends U.S. college tennis matches.

The Aztecs have won a big match.



Photo by Susheel Gulati

ON THE ROAD: Aztecs in Seattle, from left, Julie Chidley, Katey Becker, Lindsay Hedberg, Sylvia Tornier, Katja Karrento, Katalina Romero, and Indra Erichsen. The Californians lost to Washington, 6-0, and Washington State, 4-3, then defeated Oregon, 5-2, in a match on home courts.

Hitting (By Chance) with Sampras

(Continued from Page 1)

It was a good hit. I was satisfied, and when it came to serves, I shot some bullets over (still the wind at my back), and Pete just stepped aside. He wanted no business trying to return those. He was actually laughing about how hard I hit them. His coach tried to walk towards the area where I was hitting them. I don't know why, but I hit him

really hard. Pete laughed even harder. His coach mumbled something about World War III.

It started raining and we had to stop. I would have loved to play a couple of points, but, well...

They thanked me for my time (like I wouldn't get up at 4 a.m. to hit with him). So I replied: My pleasure, and left.

I had a flight to catch!



A7R Staff Photo

VICTORY: Seconds after SMU upset, Aztecs rejoice, from left, Travis Hasson, Rasmus Larsen, Khalid Naffa, Oliver Maiberger (hidden), Valentino Pest, and Ryan Redondo.

Women's Streak And 5-5 Record

(Continued from Page 1)

We were right there, said Coach Peter Mattera. The final match was decided at 7-5 in the third set. We really played very well.

The Aztecs were looking toward a Mountain West Conference showdown against BYU in Las Vegas.

SDSU was runner-up to BYU for the 2001 league title. BYU then won the conference tournament, denying the Aztecs an NCAA bid.

Top Ten Losses Drop Men to 5-5

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Indoor Championships in Louisville, KY.

Later, losses to UCLA, 5-2, and Pepperdine, 6-1, left the Aztecs reeling, but improving. They ranked 40th.

We're a better team, said Coach John Nelson after the victory over SMU in Louisville. We stayed focused and learned.

Against UCLA, Aztecs Oliver Maiberger and Ryan Redondo defeated the nation's top-ranked doubles team of Jean-Julien Rojer and Marcin Matkowski, 8-3.

With victories over New Mexico, BYU, UC Irvine, and UC Santa Barbara, the Aztec record was 5-5.



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FOR THE
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TENNIS
COMMUNITY

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