

Aztec Tennis Reporter

VOL 11 NO 1

SERVING THE SAN DIEGO STATE TENNIS COMMUNITY SINCE 1998

JANUARY 2010

Oldest Aztec Player Alive and Well at 98

His hair streaked brown and gray, his voice strong, Hugh McArthur looked down from a balcony into his front yard in San Diego's Mission Hills.



McArthur

"I'm pretty healthy," he said with a satisfied smile.

McArthur, who led the 1932 Aztec men's tennis team, dominated local tennis for years and became a successful businessman, talked with *ATR* in October.

"I was the best in Southern California," he recalled proudly. "I beat most everybody around."

At San Diego High in 1929, McArthur won the coveted Dudley Cup interscholastic tennis championship in Santa Monica, defeating Jack Tidball. In 1933, Tidball, representing UCLA, won the U.S. intercollegiate title.

McArthur's father, Duncan, a Canadian-born real estate developer, and his mother, Minnie, from Indiana, welcomed their second child, Hugh, into the world on Sept. 21, 1911.

Ninety-eight years later, McArthur said, he follows the world by newspaper and television, takes naps, and has the benefit of a loving daughter and granddaughter.

Was he willing to be interviewed in two years at age 100? McArthur smiled, silently savoring a pleasing possibility. — JM

EYES ON BALL (MOSTLY)



Aztec Tennis Reporter Photos

AZTECS IN PRACTICE MODE: The players, from top, (1) Juan Gomez of Guayaquil, Ecuador, (2) Sisters Roxanne (top) and Sierra Ellison of Coto de Caza, Calif; (3) Matt Tosches of Murietta, Calif; (4) Emma Cioffi of Melbourne, Australia, (5) Coach Peter Mattera, (6) Naseem Eslami of San Diego.

Aztecs Opening 88th Tennis Season

San Diego State begins its 88th season of intercollegiate tennis on Jan 23.

The women play a doubleheader, facing UC Riverside and Cal State Fullerton at the Aztec Tennis Center.

The men open the same day against Texas Tech in Las Vegas. Their first home match is Feb 5 against UC Irvine.

The first Aztec tennis team was formed as a men's tennis club in 1922.

"I like to think we're an NCAA tournament team," said Peter Mattera, head women's coach. "Five players return from last year, and with the addition (in January) of Alicia Aguilar (of Mexico), this team will remain intact for two full years, unusual in college tennis," he said.

"If we can keep improving, by the end of the season, when it really counts, we could be very, very good."

Mattera said the team set a top 20 national ranking as its goal. Last year, the Aztec men and women both ranked 42nd.

The men trailed Hawaii Manoa, led by former Aztec coach John Nelson.

Jakub Kowalski of Poland is scheduled to join the men's team in January.

Two Aztec seniors held pre-season national rankings: Achim Ceban of Russia was 66th in singles and he and Juan Gomez of Ecuador were 46th in doubles.

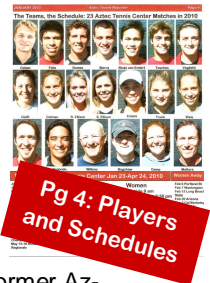
"These guys are motivated and very excited to get themselves to the NCAA tournament and go out with a bang," said Gene Carswell, men's head coach.

He said he believed his Aztec team would contend with New Mexico and TCU for the Mountain West Conference title. Last year, the Aztecs lost to TCU in the year-end MWC tournament.

"We'll be fighting to not only win that conference title but to get ourselves into the (NCAA) tournament and do some damage there," Carswell said.

Mattera said he saw five women's teams contending in the Mountain West: SDSU, UNLV, TCU, Utah and BYU.

He said: "It looks like another good year of Aztec tennis."



IN THIS ISSUE

Homage Due: Fred Kinne 2
Two 1980s Aztecs Honored 3
2010 Season Schedules, Photos 4

Fred Kinne: Homage from Aztecs (and a Gaucho) for a Beloved Tennis Mentor

After 93 years, Fred Kinne's memorial service was much like his life . filled with lots of stories about his exploits as a World War II fighter pilot and as the editor of the *San Diego Evening Tribune* when it won the 1979 Pulitzer Prize for deadline coverage of the PSA airliner crash.

But most speakers remembered Kinne's remarkable feat in tennis: Between 1952 and 1981, when he retired, he taught an estimated 7,000 kids to play tennis . for free.

One, Brian Teacher, won the 1980 Australian Open and amassed \$1.4 million in prize earnings during his career. Another player he helped, Franklin Johnson, became president of the United States Tennis Association. A third, Kelly Jones, earned \$1.1 million in prize money on the ATP tour.

At least 40 of his students won college tennis scholarships. Kinne tacked their photos on a bulletin board in his den. "It's my wall of fame," he said.

Dozens of "Kinne's Kids" attended San Diego State; many played Aztec college tennis, among them Bill Ereneta, Louie Lab, Bill Jack, Steve Gordon, Tom Mullen, Mike Sperber, Bob Ray, Bernie Feldman, and Larry Belinsky.

Nearly a dozen Kinne graduates became teaching pros, yet all . pros or hackers -- bonded with a sport he taught them to love and respect.

"I was devious," Kinne said in 2004, meaning he found ways to teach without seeming to teach.

Once, when Jones was having a bad day at the clinic, he turned to Kinne: "Can I throw my racquet out of the stadium?"

"Sure, go ahead," said Kinne, drawing gasps from the



**Fred Kinne
1916-2009**

other students. Then Kinne told Jones: "Okay, now go get it." While he was retrieving it, the kids protested.

"Fred, you let him throw his racquet out!" Kinne responded: "Well, he asked permission."

The tension broken, Jones returned and, Kinne said, "I started hitting great."

When Kinne first saw Owen Chambers, a promising 14-year-old, hit masterful slice and topspin serves, he counseled him: "Don't EVER let anyone change that serve."

Then Chambers won a tennis scholarship to UC

Santa Barbara. Kinne got a frantic call: "Fred, the coach wants to change my serve. You said never to let anyone change it."

Convinced the coach was misguided, Kinne responded quickly: "Here's what you do. Hit a few serves and go to the coach and say: 'Coach, that's a lot better.'"

Two weeks later, Kinne got another call: "Fred, the coach thinks he changed my serve!"

The ploy worked, with no feathers ruffled, a Kinne trademark. "I got more things done by being devious," Kinne said.

Six years ago, Kinne, then 88, was asked what had mattered most in his life.

"Well, I had newspapering, tennis, and flying in the war," Kinne said. "And it's kind of hard to pick. I know that the war was good, for me." So was newspaper work, he added.

Then Kinne said: "I think the most satisfaction came from seeing kids develop."

—*The New York Times*
August 30, 2009

Aztec Collegians (and a Veteran) Compete for Tournament Titles

Aztecs Emma Cioffi of Australia and Achim Ceban of Russia scored victories in fall tournaments. Larry Belinsky of Rancho Santa Fe won a USTA bronze ball.

Cioffi won the singles title in her bracket at the SDSU Fall Classic II in November, defeating Alexandra Demidova of the University of San Diego, 6-4, 6-2, in the final. Cioffi and Aztec Julia Wais of Germany won the doubles title with an 8-5 victory over USD's Justine Perl and Maja Sujica.

Ceban reached the semifinals of the Wilson/Intercollegiate Tennis Association's West/South Regional Championship at Pepperdine University in October, losing to UCLA's Amit Inbar, 1-6, 6-4, 6-1. Inbar won the tournament. Aztec Juan Gomez fell in the quarterfinals to Arizona's Jason Zafiros, 6-2, 7-5.

Aztec veteran Belinsky reached the semifinals of the USTA National 55 Hardcourt Singles championships at Indian Wells in November. Belinsky won a USTA bronze ball, losing to Fred Robinson, the nation's top 55 player, 6-4, 6-2. Robinson won the title. At year's end, Belinsky told ATR that his showing at Indian Wells would probably help rank him 11th in the national men's 55 division and number 1 in both Southern California and San Diego.



Cioffi



Ceban

SDSU Fall Classic II: Singles: Maria Kalashnikova (Oklahoma U) def. Sierra Ellison (SDSU), 6-2, 6-4; Marie Pier-Huet (Oklahoma U) def. Julia Wais (SDSU), 7-5, 6-1; Roxanne Ellison (SDSU) def. Katelyn Connolly (Oklahoma U), 2-6, 6-2, 10-6 (tiebreak); Aleksandra Malovic (University of Washington) def. Olivia Colman (SDSU), 6-3, 6-2. Julia Wais (SDSU) def. Kristina Smith (UCI), 6-4, 7-5; Marie Pier-Huet (OU) def. Sierra Ellison (SDSU), 6-3, 6-1; Aleksandra Malovic (UW) def. Roxanne Ellison (SDSU), 7-5, 6-0; Aleksandra Krsljanin (UW) def. Olivia Colman (SDSU), 6-4, 6-2; Naseem Eslami (SDSU) def. Hayley Young (UCI), 6-2, 6-0; Emma Cioffi (SDSU) def. Brittany Parks (OU), 6-2, 6-3. Doubles: Jan Ardies/Samantha Smith (University of Washington) def. Roxanne Ellison/Sierra Ellison (SDSU), 8-5. Eslami/Colman (SDSU) def. Holladay/H. Young (UCI), 8-4; Cioffi/Wais (SDSU) def. Kwan/M. Young (UCI), 8-6.

Wilson/ITA West/South Regional: Round of 64 singles: (9) Achim Ceban (SDSU) def. Nick Caledonia (UCSB), 6-2, 6-2; Andre Feliz (SDSU) def. D. Jacobs (Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo), 4-6, 6-2, 6-0; Jose Sierra-Short (SDSU) def. Zach Tsai (UCIrvine), 3-6, 6-4, 6-0; Giovanni Vagiletti (SDSU) def. D. Gliner (USC), 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; (9) Juan Gomez (SDSU) def. J. Bridge (Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo), 6-3, 6-2; L. Sudow (UCSB) def. Matt Tosches (SDSU), 6-1, 6-1; Round of 32 singles: (9) Achim Ceban (SDSU) def. A. Sonesson (Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo) 6-3, 6-3; N. Bubnic (USD) def. Andre Feliz (SDSU) 7-5, 6-0; (8) A. Arango (Arizona) def. Jose Sierra-Short (SDSU) 6-4, 6-3; (9) Juan Gomez (SDSU) def. S. Suzuki (UCI) 6-2, 7-6; Round of 16 singles: (9) Achim Ceban (SDSU) def. (7) N. Meister (UCLA) 6-3, 6-2; (9) Juan Gomez (SDSU) def. I. Lopez (Loyola Marymount University) 6-3, 6-0.

—Compiled from GoAztecs.com.

Aztec Tennis Reporter January, 2010

Aztec Tennis Reporter is a newsletter for players, coaches, alumni, and friends of San Diego State tennis. Neither the university nor its athletic department is responsible for its contents. This is the 45th edition. To comment, correct, or subscribe, email aztectennisreporter@yahoo.com.

Editor: John Martin (1957 men's team)

Where Are We Now? The Great Search (1922-2010) Resumes

Honors for Aztec Teammates

Two members of the 1984 Aztec women's team won recognition for their sportsmanship and community service. Taiche Kantner Rudee, left, was honored as one of 69 winners of the Bob Carrothers Sportsmanship Award at an August ceremony inducting Carrothers into the San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame. Shelley Susman, below, won a Star Award from the United States Professional Tennis Association for her work in opening courts to juniors and adults in the United Kingdom, where she lived in 2005-2009. She now teaches tennis at the San Dieguito Tennis Club.



RECOGNITION: Aztec Taiche Kantner Rudee, above, joined more than two dozen winners of the Robert Carrothers Sportsmanship award to honor the tennis prodigy when he was posthumously inducted into the San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame.

Kantner Rudee is one of five Aztecs who won the Carrothers award since its introduction in 1941 in the city's annual Harper Ink Interscholastic tournament.

The Aztec winners are Kerry Safdie (1988), Kantner Rudee (1983), Larry Belinsky (1972), who is the hall's founder and co-chairman; Bernie Feldman (1970), and Bill Jack (1956).



INDELIBILITY AWARD: Tom Daglis, president, holds the USPTA Star Award with Aztec Shelley Susman at the association's international convention in September on Marco Island, Fl. The award recognizes "teaching professionals who make an indelible mark on their communities." The USPTA said "Shelley

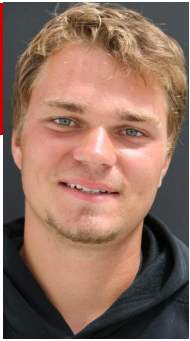
Susman of San Diego has made a significant impact on grassroots tennis in the U.K., and hopes to do the same in the United States." In four years of advocacy for free public use of tennis courts, Susman said, she was able to open up tennis and basketball spaces for about 10,000 youngsters.



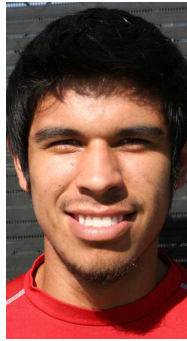
TEAMMATES: The 1984 Aztec squad, led by coaches Carol Plunkett and Peter Mattera. Front row, from left: Heather Petty, Linda Howell, Jean Dillingham, Cynthia MacGregor, and Carol Neeld Lang. Back row, from left: Dana Bleicher Pohlman, Taiche Kantner Rudee, Shelley Susman, Plunkett, Mattera, Tenley Treat Gritt, Catherine Berry Davies, and Jenny Rens.

The Teams, the Schedules: 24 Aztec Tennis Center Matches in 2010

MEN



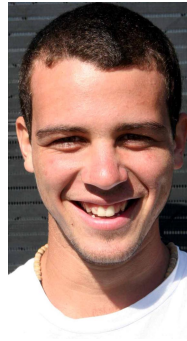
Ceban



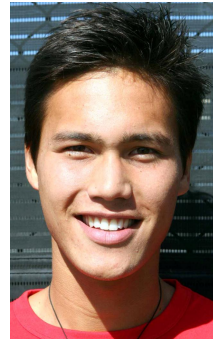
Feliz



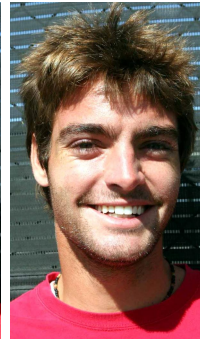
Gomez



Sierra



Shulz van Endert



Tosches



Vaglietti

MEN

WOMEN



Cioffi



Colman



R. Ellison



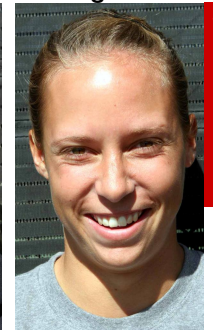
S. Ellison



Eslami



Trunk



Wais

WOMEN

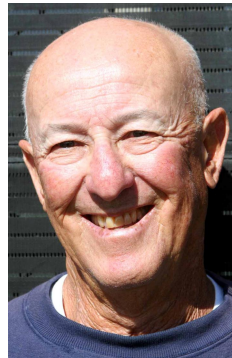
COACHES



Carswell



Redondo



Willens



Bagshaw



Gamp



Mattera

COACHES

Men Away

Aztec Tennis Center Jan 23-Apr 24, 2010

Women Away

Jan 23 Texas Tech
 Jan 29 Oklahoma
 Jan 30 Stanford or
 UNC Wilmington
 Feb 20 UCLA
 Feb 23 USC
 Mar 5-7 Pacific
 Coast Doubles
 Mar 18-21 Blue
 Gray Invitational
 Apr 1 Pepperdine
 Apr 7 USD
 Apr 16 BYU
 Apr 17 Utah
 Apr 28-May 1
 Mountain West
 Championships
 May 15-16 NCAA
 Regionals

Men

Feb 5 UC Irvine 3 pm
 Feb 21 UCSB 1 pm
 Mar 4 Fresno State
 Mar 13 Boise State 11 am
 Mar 15 Arizona 2 pm
 Mar 27 Tulane 11 am
 Apr 4 TCU 11 am
 Apr 9 UC Riverside 10 am
 Apr 9 Air Force 3 pm
 Apr 11 New Mexico 11 am
 Apr 24 UNLV 12 p.m.

Women

Jan 23 UC Riverside 9 am
 Jan 23 Cal State Fullerton 3:30 pm
 Jan 30 UC Irvine 12 pm
 Feb 11 Hawaii 2 pm
 Feb 23 USC 2 pm
 Feb 27 Sacramento State 12 pm
 Mar 2 Eastern Michigan 2 pm
 Mar 10 Loyola Marymount 2 pm
 Mar 13 Saint Mary's 11 am
 Apr 15 Colorado State 2 pm
 Apr 16 Wyoming 2 pm
 Apr 17 Air Force 10 am
 Apr 19 USD 4 pm

Feb 6 Portland St
 Feb 7 Washington
 Feb 13 Long Beach
 State
 Feb 20 Arizona
 Mar 5 Cal Berkeley
 Mar 24 UNLV
 Apr 1 BYU
 Apr 3 Utah
 Apr 9 TCU
 Apr 11 New Mexico
 Apr 28-May 1
 Mountain West
 Championships
 May 14-16 NCAA
 Regionals