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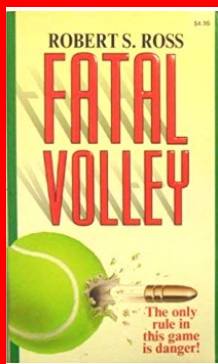
Aztecs Rebound, Win Honors, Signal Resurgence in 2020

Tennis and Terror?

BY JOHN MARTIN

Tennis (thriller) anyone? If post-U.S. Open boredom has set in, why not pick up a tennis novel or two from the past?

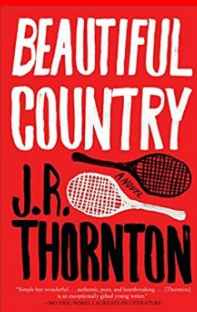
Fatal Volley (1994) has the best cover: A bullet bursts



from the front of a tennis ball hovering over the net. Terrorists are trying to kill our hero and he takes desperate steps to save him-

self (and win matches).

Beautiful Country (2016) follows a top ranked American junior to Asia, where he becomes close friends with a 14-year-old Chinese junior at the national tennis academy in Beijing.



The plot thickens when his friend's coaches demand

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The two Aztec tennis teams staged stirring revivals this spring, compiling identical 15-10 won-loss records and driving deep into the final rounds of the Mountain West Conference championships. The Aztec men ranked 74th in the nation at season's end.

Two Aztec women won all-conference honors in singles, a pair won in doubles. A pair of Aztec men won doubles honors and a graduating male senior was honored for singles and doubles.

Aztec men's coach Gene Carswell cited four factors that led to his team's turnaround:

"Growth and maturity, doubles improvement and continued hard work is how we've arrived where we are," he said.

The Aztec men defeated UC Irvine, UC San Diego, USF, Portland, UC Davis, Drake, Memphis, Eastern Washington, Boise State, Santa Clara, Nevada, Air Force, UNLV (twice), and New Mexico.

The 4-3 Aztec victory over New Mexico came in the conference semifinals and reversed a 4-1 defeat by the Lobos just 11 days earlier.

Fresno State's Bulldogs won the Mountain West crown by defeating the Aztec men, 4-2, in the championship final.

"This team will be back to finish what we've started. We expect to be champions," Car-



Nnena Nadozie led both Aztec teams with 21 singles victories.

swell told *Summer ATR*.

The Aztec women won five of their first seven matches in an explosive start that led to victories over Sacramento State, UC San Diego, UC Riverside, Cal State Fullerton, Cal Poly, Hawaii, University of the Pacific, Quinnipiac, Yale, Fresno State, San Jose State, Nevada, UC San Diego, Colorado State, and Air Force.

Aztec women's coach Peter Mattera called it "a really great season." Citing their strong won-loss record and

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Looking Ahead: Six Recruits Head for 2019-20 Aztec Tennis Rosters

The Aztecs plan to welcome three new players per squad beginning this fall after an active recruiting season.

The men's team loses only one player but he could be difficult to replace: Captain and Number One singles player Sander Gjoles-Andersen of Denmark, who won 2019 All Mountain West honors in both singles and doubles.

Looking ahead, Aztec men's coach Gene Carswell identified his three newest recruits for 2019-20:

"Aaro Pollanen, a transfer from University of Arizona will make an immediate impact," he said.

"Daniel Traxler split time between Texas and California High Schools, graduating from El Camino High School in Oceanside," Carswell said. "He has great potential to be an excellent Division One player.."

Julien (Jules) Auffray of France is the third men's recruit. "Jules is moving rapidly up the rankings in his country," said Carswell, praising his ability to compete.

"I'm pleased to welcome him to the team."

Julia Jordan of Long Beach will arrive as a freshman with extensive experience as a competitor in Southern California junior tennis.

"Julia is everything that we look for in a re-



CECILE MORIN
Aztec Due from France

cruit," Coach Peter Mattera said. "She has been ranked as high as No. 42 on the Babolat Tennis Recruiting list and has had tremendous success in the Southern California section and in the nation.

"Julia also has international experience playing in both France and Mexico," he said.

Mattera praised Jordan's "numerous sportsmanship awards," as evidence of "her outstanding character."

Cecile Morin of Bouc Bel Air, France, a July high school graduate, is also an entering freshman.

Mattera called Morin "an excellent student" and "one of the top junior tennis players in her home country."

As a result, he predicted Morin "will have a very positive and immediate impact."

A talented Swiss student transferring from Oklahoma State rounds out the newcomers. Tamara Arnold will be starting her junior year.

Arnold's Big 12 team ranked 15th in the nation with a 21-8 record this spring and reached the NCAA Sweet 16.

"She is a proven winner," Mattera said, citing her record at both Oklahoma State and Tyler Junior College. "She is a very high-energy player and person."

Bored After Wimbledon? Time to Look for Tennis Thrillers

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unscrupulous actions of their players.

Carnival at Forest Hills:

Anatomy of a Tennis Tournament (1975), is non-fiction, a fascinatingly

detailed account of the 1974 U.S. Open played at the West Side Tennis Club. It was a moment when American tennis was reaching a peak. John Newcomb, who emigrated from

Australia and established his tennis ranch in Texas, writes an insider's tale.

Author Marty Bell, editor of Sport Magazine, delivers a remarkable set of stories.

A friendly warning: Don't buy the new version of *Carnival* online from the famous retailer shipper. It's \$87! The \$11 used copy works just fine.



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Aztec Tennis Reporter is a newsletter created in 1998 for players, coaches, alumni, and friends of San Diego State tennis. Neither the university nor its athletic department is responsible for its content. This is the 67th issue. To comment or subscribe, email aztectennisreporter@yahoo.com.

A WEDDING IN BERLIN CREATES AN AZTEC TENNIS REUNION



**BERLIN
JULY 6
2019**

Aztec Tim Schulz van Endert (2007-2011) got married in Germany this summer and the wedding turned into an Aztec tennis reunion.

Aztec Men’s Coach Gene Carswell attended and identified these guests: Achim Vladmirschi and his

wife, Kate; Andre Feliz, Shiva Sangwan, Vicente Tulliano (Aztec team stringer) and his fiancé Dora Samoracz (2012-2015 Aztec women’s team); Javier Pulgar, Bartosz Golas, and a large poster of Matt Tosches (carried to Germany by his sister, Nicole, so he could be part of

the wedding celebration).

Tim’s bride, Maxine, teaches elementary school. Tim is studying for a doctorate in psychology and plans to return to the profession he pursued before graduate school: management consulting.

Where Are We Now? 1998 Aztec Women

- 1. PETER MATTERA: I am in my 25th year as head coach of the Aztecs. I now have 3 granddaughters. I’m living the dream in Cardiff (yes, I’m still surfing!). And I’m still in a job I love and still getting to hang out with great people.
- 2. SARAH DONOVAN
- 3. MAGGIE COLE
- 4. DOROTA WOZNAK MILLER: My teammate Whitney Wells says I’m married to Gary Miller and we have twin girls who play tennis. She says we live in Tyler, TX. She thinks I’m a stay-at-home mom.
- 5. SUSHEEL GULATI:

I’m a police officer in London. I’ve loved playing in law enforcement tournaments.

6. SIMONE HOWARD

VASQUEZ lives in Miami, writes Whitney Wells.

7. LISA PAPI is now Lisa Lakovich. “She is married

to A.J. Lakovich,” writes Whitney Wells. “They live in Fresno and have 3 children. She works for MeTEOR Education.”

8. MERETE LINDAHL: I live in Denmark, work in pharmaceuticals for Roche. I still play tennis and my 15-year-old daughter, Caroline, plays tennis too!

9. WHITNEY WELLS: I live in Rockwall, TX (Dallas suburb), married to Peter Jones. We have a son, Cooper, who is 2 years old. I teach tennis part-time — but am mostly a stay-at-home mom now.

10. JEANETTE BHAGUANDAS



3 AZTEC WOMEN, 2 MEN WIN ALL-MOUNTAIN WEST HONORS

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battle to the conference final, Mattera praised his players for their team effort. "We had a wonderful experience and really represented SDSU in a high quality way."

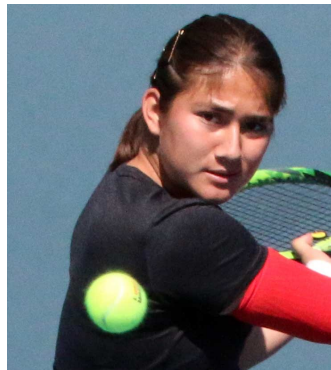
The UNLV women won the conference title by defeating the Aztec women 4-0 in the Mountain West final, repeating a 4-3 regular season victory two weeks earlier.

Mattera praised his entire team and singled out four by name.

"Individually, we placed two student-athletes on the All Conference singles team, Nnena Nadozie and Shakhnoza Khatamova.

"In doubles, Nadozie and her partner Alicia Melosch were named to the All-Conference doubles team. Also, Khatamova was named the Mountain West Conference Freshman of the Year.

"Nadozie and Abbie



Aztec Tennis Reporter photos

WINNERS: Shakhnoza Khatamova, left, won honors for singles and Freshman of Year. Alicia Melosch, center, won for doubles. Abbie Mulbarger, right, scored 17 singles victories for Aztecs.

Mulbarger, both sophomores, had the most singles wins, at 21 and 17 respectfully.

"The doubles team of Nadozie and Melosch were in the ITA National rankings for most of the year as well, with a record of 10-5 overall, and 8-5 at the number one position.

The future looks bright as well," said Mattera, pointing to five returning teammates and three recruits.

Among the men, Aztec Sander Gjoles-Andersen, team captain and a senior from Denmark, was honored in singles

and doubles. His Aztec doubles partner was Ignacio Martinez, a sophomore, of Weston, FL

"We returned a large chunk of the guys who had worked hard to turn it around at the end of the 2018 season," Carswell said.

"As we came into the 18-19 season, we continued to work to improve. We were stronger and became more mature for going through those tough moments in '18," Carswell said.

"Our doubles evolved, we won 12 of our last 13 doubles points to end the season."



TRIPLE PUNCH: Aztecs Ignacio Martinez, left, and Sander Gjoles-Andersen, center, won all-conference doubles honors. Jan Kirchoff, right, was a major contributor to men's team.