

Aztec Tennis Reporter

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SERVING THE SAN DIEGO STATE TENNIS COMMUNITY

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Never Give Up: Aztecs Earned Jump-Shot Joy

By JOHN MARTIN

One moment we were accepting defeat, the next we were smiling at victory.

We all remember: It was March Madness and the San Diego State Aztecs were going down to defeat by Florida Atlantic, or so it seemed.

Then, with only, what, 15 seconds left? Aztec Lamont Butler jumped up, hung in the air for what seemed like 5 seconds, and scored the winning basket.

Suddenly, what had felt like despair became delight. We were re-learning what every Aztec tennis coach teaches every Aztec player: Never give up!

Yes, two days later, March Madness became April Anguish. Connecticut learned the same lesson: Never give up!

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Photos : Aztec Tennis Reporter

How Aztecs Completed Their 101st Season

The 101st Aztec tennis season unfolded in 40 matches across 7 states and ended with the SDSU women ranked 55th in the nation with 14 victories and 8 defeats. In an unex-

pected coincidence, both Aztec teams lost their final matches of the season to the team of the same Mountain West universi-

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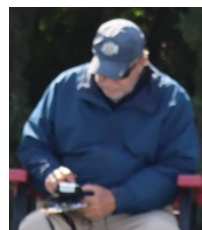
The Score? Aces Soar Into Algorithms to Tell the Story

This season, as the Aztec Tennis Center installed digital panels on six courts, chair umpires



tapped cellphone-style devices to change the scores. Spectators could see the numbers rising and falling as players moved toward victory or defeat.

In his final home match, Aztec Chikaya Sato scored a stunning 6-0, 6-0 victory over Nevada's Delmas N'Tcha. For nearly half an hour, the score



Scorekeeper, left, and Scoreboard

board flashed the remarkable image as other matches continued.

Some umpires told ATR they struggled with the technology but found it an improvement over placing a tennis ball in a numbered rack at the base of their chairs.

Said Bob Christianson, a veteran professional umpire, "It's an important step."

SINGLES MATCHES							
Singles 2	In Progress	G	1	2	3	4	5
SDSU	Sato	6	6				
Nevad	N'Tcha	0	0				

How It Began: A 1980s Aztec Men's Coach Recalls Launching His Career

Dear *Aztec Tennis Reporter*: I was Skip Redondo's assistant on that 1984 team. I was 23, fresh out of college I knew I wanted to coach. Skip wanted to recruit me as a player out of San Diego City College but I thought I would have a better chance to play at Weber State.



Mat Iandolo

So many great things happened that year including the birth of Ryan Redondo! Yes I remember him as an infant already helping "coach the team".



Skip Redondo

Utah, took a program that hadn't finished higher than 5th and won 2 Mountain West Titles when the MWC was a 3 & sometimes 4 bid league! Yes that was 4 top 40 teams!! 2 times I was MWC coach of the year! In 2012 we moved to the PAC 12 and that year made a NCAA regional final in Miami upsetting

After graduating in 1983 I asked Skip if I could come help him.

I was flattered that he remembered me and over the moon that he said he would love for me to help him. So began my 35-plus year journey in Division One, mostly the highest level of college tennis.

At SDSU I was coaching guys I had played against. Some of them were older than me. The thing I remember is the way they bonded to me, allowed me to give them insights and help.

Skip's gift to me was giving me way more responsibility than I deserved and I ran with it. My two years working for him at San Diego State set me up for the rest of my career.

I went from there to UCLA as women's assistant, then 16 years as a Head Women's Coach in the Big Ten, building the program from worst to nearly the top, twice Big 10 Coach of the Year (1998 and 2003) and six times in NCAA post-season competition. From there I became Head Coach at

Big 12 Champion Texas Tech. After 12 years there I parted ways and took on a new challenge at Butler University, where I am building a solid program at a small, academically-oriented, basketball-centric school in the Heart of America.

I loved the 1984 Aztec team. To this day I love every one of those guys more than they could ever know. Skip was unbelievably kind to me!

~**Mat Iandolo**
Assistant Aztec Men's Coach
1983-85

How Aztecs Competed in SDSU's 101st Tennis Season

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ty, Boise State.

The highlight of the men's season came when Aztecs Johannes Seeman and Chikaya Sato won the 134th annual Pacific Coast Men's Doubles Championship, defeating teams from all across the country at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club. It was the third victory there by Aztec players in two decades.

An early season victory over the University of San Francisco

suggested a year of successes ahead, but health challenges dampened prospects and curtailed hopes

(see 2023 win-loss results on page 4).

The highlight of the Aztec women's season was a top national ranking of

41st and a series of victories over highly competitive teams from around the country. Among them, the Aztecs de-

feated 37th ranked Purdue, 40th ranked Alabama, 54th ranked Rice, 61st ranked Tulsa, and 67th ranked Fresno State.

On April 2nd, the Aztecs ran past Boise State, 4-2, on its home ground in Idaho, but fell to the Broncos by 4-3 in the Mountain West quarterfinals just 25 days later in Las Vegas.

The MW conference title was won by UNLV, which defeated Air Force 4-1. The Aztecs lost to UNLV 4-2 in mid-April at the Aztec Tennis Center.

Aztec Tennis Reporter SPRING 2023

Aztec Tennis Reporter is a newsletter created in 1999 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 79th issue. *Aztec Tennis Reporter* invites letters. To comment or subscribe, email its editor,

John Martin, at jjm2144@gmail.com.



Where Are We Now? An Aztec Shares His Career In Athletics



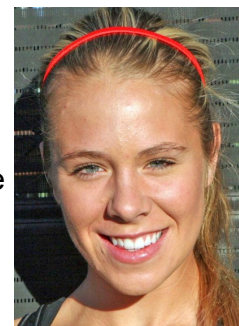
TEAMMATES LOOKING AHEAD: Aztecs Tim Schulz Van Endert, left, of Germany, and Giovanni Vaglietti of South Africa watching 2011 Aztec match against Hawaii. Vaglietti saw this photo and told *ATR*: “That is me! Great photos and memories, although the long bleached hair is a thing of the past! (I’m now) back to my natural color and length from many years ago! :) Among his jobs, he served as CEO of Southern California Youth Rugby and Junior Tennis Director at Co-to De Caza Golf and Racket Club. *ATR* asked Schulz Van Endert to tell us about his fascinating research on young children and their uses of digital devices.

Dear *Aztec Tennis Reporter*: Yes, I landed up staying in the U.S. (just became a citizen) after graduating from San Diego State and I did my Masters Degree in Sport Management. I am currently Executive Director for USA Youth and High School Rugby.



Screen Capture
Giovanni Vaglietti

I married Roxanne Ellison in 2014. As I am sure you remember, Roxanne played on the women's team around the same time. We are living in Orange County, California and have two kids, Siena (3) and Capri (1). Not too much tennis, I play just a couple of times a year in some events at our local club. My competitive outlet is now golf! I have recently started playing for our local club in SCGA leagues and tournaments.



Roxanne Ellison

Where Are We Now? An Aztec Reports from Berlin

Dear *ATR*: My doctoral research was about the relationship between use of digital devices (smartphones, tablets etc.) and impulsive decision-making (choosing smaller, immediate rewards instead of larger, delayed rewards) - with the overarching goal of enabling more prudent use of digital technologies, based on knowledge not just about their benefits but also their risks.

It seems that the best we can do and teach our children is to cultivate self-control, i.e. the ability to align one's thoughts, emotions and behavior with set goals. Fortunately, that is something athletes learn naturally if they want to excel in their



Screen Capture
Tim Schulz Van Endert

sport.

Now that I've finished my doctoral research, I will stay at Free University Berlin for another semester to analyze brain scans and other behavioral data we collected as part of a European Union-funded research project DIGYMATEX (www.digymatex.eu). In the Fall, I will most likely return to management consulting to support companies in the transition towards sustainability. My wife

Maxine is working hard on her career as a fashion photographer (www.maxinevanendert.com). So, children will have to wait another 2-3 years. We both still love and play tennis - and we are excited about our upcoming trip to the French Open in June!

Go Aztecs!

By Week, Season, Aztecs Win Mountain West Player Honors



ARNOLD



DETKOVSKAYA



MELOSCH



SKROBONJA



GONZALEZ
FITZMAURICE



SATO



SEEMAN

At season's end, Aztecs Johannes Seeman and Chikaya Sato were named to the All-Mountain West men's singles and doubles teams. Seeman won 14 singles matches and Sato won eight. Together, they won 14 doubles matches to earn All-Mountain West honors

Three Aztec men also won Player of the Week honors in 2023: Seeman, (January 18), Eugenio Gonzalez Fitzmaurice (January 18 and April 19); and Sato (March 8).

Four Aztec women earned All-

Mountain West honors this season: Tamara Arnold and Andjela Skrobonja in singles and Alicia Melosch and Dariya Detkovskaya in doubles

According to GoAztecs.com, Arnold and Skrobonja scored 11-5 and 11-4 records respectively and the Melosch-Detkovskaya pair had a 3-1 doubles record after teaming up midway through conference play.

Three San Diego State women earned Mountain West Player of the Week awards: Detkovskaya (March 15), Skrobonja, (March 22 and April 12), and Arnold (April 5).

2023 AZTEC MEN'S TENNIS (3-15 W-L)

ARKANSAS 4 SDSU 3
 SDSU 5 USF 2
 SANTA CLARA 4 SDSU 1
 LOYOLA MARYMOUNT 5 SDSU 2
 UTAH 7 SDSU 0
 UC SANTA BARBARA 4 SDSU 1
 SDSU WINS PACIFIC COAST DOUBLES
 HARVARD 4 SDSU 0
 HARVARD 4 SDSU 0
 TULANE 4 SDSU 0
 MEMPHIS 4 SDSU 0
 BOISE STATE 4 SDSU 2
 UNLV 4 SDSU 3
 UTAH STATE 4 SDSU 1
 SDSU 4 UC SAN DIEGO 3
 NEVADA 4, SDSU 3
 NEW MEXICO 4 SDSU 1
 SDSU 4 AIR FORCE 2
 APR 26-28 MOUNTAIN WEST CHAMPIONSHIPS
 BOISE STATE 4 SDSU 2

2023 AZTEC WOMEN'S TENNIS (14-8 W-L)

USC 6 SDSU 1
 SDSU 4 ALABAMA 3
 SDSU 7 UC SAN DIEGO 0
 SDSU 5 RICE 2
 HAWAII 5 SDSU 2
 SDSU 4 LONG BEACH STATE 0
 UC BERKELEY 5 SDSU 1
 USD 6 SDSU 1
 SDSU 4 FURMAN 3
 SDSU 4 TULSA 3
 SDSU 4 PURDUE 3
 SDSU 4 NEW MEXICO 3
 AIR FORCE 4 SDSU 3
 SDSU 4 UTAH STATE 0
 SDSU 4 BOISE STATE 2
 SDSU 4 COLORADO STATE 2
 SDSU 4 WYOMING 1
 UNLV 4 SDSU 2
 SDSU 4 FRESNO STATE 2
 SDSU 4 SAN JOSE STATE 0
 NEVADA 4 SDSU 3
 APR 27-29 MOUNTAIN WEST CHAMPIONSHIPS
 BOISE STATE 4 SDSU 3