Aztec Silvia Tornier Selected for Mountain West All-25 Year Team

By John Martin This past spring, Aztec Silvia Tornier (2000-03) was honored by the Mountain West Conference as a member of its All-25 Year Women's Tennis Team.

"Silvia Tornier ranks as one of the best players ever to be a part of San Diego State Women's tennis," said Aztec Coach Peter Mattera.

"She played the very difficult # 1 position for nearly all of her matches here , and was a virtual lock at that position, which really helps the team immensely in winning matches."

Tornier was Player of the Year in 2002 and 2003 and



SDSU PHOTO

LEADERS: SILVIA TORNIER, LEFT, AND INDRA ERICHSEN

won all-conference praise in

both singles and doubles from 2001 through 2003.

The winner of two conference Player of the Week awards in 2002, Tornier also excelled in the classroom, earning Academic All-Mountain West honors twice and was an ITA Scholar-Athlete and an Academic All-American in 2003.

"This is such a great honor, and it brings a big smile to my face. Being rewarded after so many years means a lot to me." Tornier told *Aztec Tennis Reporter.*

A review of San Diego State Athletic Department records showed Tornier ranks third (minimum of 75 matches). Her

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Aztec Tennis Reporter

Founded 1999 SERVING THE SAN DIEGO STATE TENNIS COMMUNITY AUGUST 2024

San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame Honors Aztec Coach Skip Redondo

The San Diego Tennis Hall of Fame selected Aztec Coach Skip Redondo as a member of its 2024 class of honorees and welcomed him in August at the Balboa Tennis Club.

Redondo coached the Aztec men's team for 11 years, 1977-88, a critical period when the university decided to cancel the men's tennis program to help finance newly required women's athletic teams under a federal law called Title IX. Redondo's success-



Skip Redondo Aztec Men's Tennis Coach, 1977-1988

ful effort to persuade the university's presi-

dent to reverse his decision was praised by Jim Lackritz, Hall of Fame Master of Ceremonies:

"I would say that he is singlehandedly responsible for keeping the men's tennis program in."

Redondo thanked Lackritz and added: "I had to raise 70,000 dollars for the 10 years that I was coaching there, but it wasn't me that raised it, it was the community of San Diego and the San Diego tennis patrons, you were the

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HALL OF FAMERS, FROM LEFT: Angel Lopez, Skip Redondo, Jack McGrory, MC Jim Lackritz, Alexandra Stevenson, Una Davis, and Carolyn Nichols. The hall honors world-level competitors (Stevenson), senior standouts (Nichols), coaches (Lopez and Redondo), philanthropists (Davis), and community service (McGrory).

Coach Redondo Honored; Rescue of Aztec Men's Program Cited

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ones that saved the program." Redondo pointed to the current Aztec Men's Coach, Gene Carswell, sitting in the Balboa Tennis Club audience.

"Every time I go to San Die-

go State," he said, "Carswell tells his players, "See this guy (Redondo), he saved your program. (Carswell) he's doing an awesome job and I'm really proud of him. I'm proud of everybody that helped me save the program." Redondo is the third member of his family honored by the Hall of Fame.

His sister, Marita, was a WTA pro with a top 20 ranking. His brother Walter was nationally ranked as a junior and an ATP Pro.

Silvia Tornier and Indra Erichsen Set Aztec Doubles Records

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career winning percentage is 71.0%.

"I will never forget the wonderful times I had in San Diego with Peter and the team, who made me feel at home, and I always look back with a lot of joy and thankfulness. After a ten-year break from tennis, I started playing matches again for my youth club here in Hamburg last year."

Tornier has two of the top ten singles seasons in school history and her 2002 campaign ranks as the third best singles winning percentage (78.1%) in a season.

In doubles, Tornier set records with Indra Erichsen in career winning percentage (since 1994, minimum of 20 decisions) with an 85.7% mark, victories in a season with 26 and season winning percentage with a perfect 10-0 record in 2002.

"She and Indra were an incredible doubles team. They fed off each other's games and personalities, which is so key in doubles success. These players will go down as two of the All-time greats in Aztec Women's Tennis. Silvia and Indra are really wonderful people, they made San Diego State better in many ways, and have gone on to spread the SDSU message throughout the world. I am very proud to have been their coach!" Mattera said.

SDSU Athletic Department records place Tornier and Erichsen atop two individual doubles leaderboards in career win percentage with 72.5% and 26 doubles victories in a single season.

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Aztec Tennis Reporter invites letters. To comment or subscribe, email jjm2144@gmail.com.