



# SAN DIEGO STATE AZTECS

## 2023 Volleyball Weekly Notes

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### 2023 AZTEC VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Day/Date	Opponent	Time
Aug. 25	vs. Cal State Fullerton <sup>^</sup>	W, 3-1
Aug. 26	vs. Kansas State <sup>^</sup>	L, 0-3
Aug. 27	at Portland State <sup>^</sup> (ESPN+)	L, 0-3
Aug. 31	Oregon~ (MWN)	L, 1-3
Sept. 1	Pepperdine~	L, 0-3
Sept. 2	UC Santa Barbara~ (MWN)	L, 0-3
Sept. 7	at UC San Diego+ (ESPN+)	6 p.m. PT
Sept. 8	vs. Denver+	4 p.m. PT
Sept. 9	vs. Navy+	Noon PT
Sept. 15	at Gonzaga# (ESPN+)	6 p.m. PT
Sept. 16	vs. Eastern Washington#	11 a.m. PT
Sept. 19	at UNLV* (MWN)	6 p.m. PT
Sept. 23	San José State* (MWN)	1 p.m. PT
Sept. 28	at Colorado State* (MWN)	7 p.m. MT
Sept. 29	at Wyoming*	7 p.m. MT
Oct. 5	Air Force* (MWN)	6 p.m. PT
Oct. 7	New Mexico* (MWN)	7 p.m. PT
Oct. 12	at Fresno State* (MWN)	6 p.m. PT
Oct. 14	at Nevada* (MWN)	Noon PT
Oct. 19	Boise State* (MWN)	6 p.m. PT
Oct. 21	at Utah State* (MWN)	1 p.m. MT
Oct. 26	at New Mexico* (MWN)	6:30 p.m. MT
Oct. 28	at Air Force* (MWN)	1 p.m. MT
Nov. 2	Nevada* (MWN)	6 p.m. PT
Nov. 4	Fresno State* (MWN)	12:30 p.m. PT
Nov. 9	Wyoming* (MWN)	6 p.m. PT
Nov. 11	Colorado State* (MWN)	1 p.m. PT
Nov. 16	at San José State*	6 p.m. PT
Nov. 18	UNLV* (MWN)	1 p.m. PT

<sup>^</sup> - Hotel Vance Rose City Showdown (Portland, Ore.)  
<sup>~</sup> - SDSU Invitational (San Diego, Calif.)  
<sup>+</sup> - UC San Diego Invitational (La Jolla, Calif.)  
<sup>#</sup> - Gonzaga Tournament (Spokane, Wash.)  
<sup>\*</sup> - Mountain West match  
 (MWN) - Mountain West Network match

**Socially**  
 Twitter: @AztecVB  
 Instagram: @Aztec\_WVB

### UC San Diego Invitational

LionTree Arena | La Jolla, Calif.

San Diego State (1-5) at UC San Diego (4-2)  
 Thursday, Sept. 7 | 6 p.m. PT | ESPN+ | Live Stats

San Diego State (1-5) vs. Denver (0-3)  
 Friday, Sept. 8 | 4 p.m. PT | Live Stats

San Diego State (1-5) vs. Navy (5-1)  
 Saturday, Sept. 9 | Noon PT | Live Stats



### AZTECS TO STAY LOCAL THIS WEEK AT UC SAN DIEGO INVITE

> San Diego State will make the short drive across town this weekend to compete in the UC San Diego Invitational, Sept. 7-9, at LionTree Arena in La Jolla, California. The Aztecs open tournament play on Thursday against the host Tritons, starting at 6 p.m. PT, before battling Denver and Navy on successive days. Friday's encounter with the Pioneers is set to begin at 4 p.m., while Saturday's showdown with the Mids is slated for a noon start.  
 > Live stats will be available throughout the tournament, while Thursday's clash with the Tritons will air live on ESPN+ via subscription basis. Links to both platforms will be available on GoAztecs.com. Below is the complete event schedule.

Thursday, Sept. 7	
San Diego State at UC San Diego	6 p.m. PT (ESPN+)
Friday, Sept. 8	
Navy vs. Denver	10 a.m. PT
San Diego State vs. Denver	4 p.m. PT
Navy at UC San Diego	7 p.m. PT (ESPN+)
Saturday, Sept. 9	
San Diego State vs. Navy	Noon PT
Denver at UC San Diego	4 p.m. PT (ESPN+)

### SERIES RECORD VS. UC SAN DIEGO

> The Aztecs have emerged triumphant in all 14 encounters with the Tritons dating back to 1977.  
 > The teams battled one another last season at the SDSU Invitational when the Scarlet and Black notched a four-set victory (25-22, 25-20, 26-28, 25-20) in UCSD's first meeting with the Aztecs as a Division I member.  
 > In that match, San Diego State owned a decisive 67-42 advantage in kills and served up seven aces to help fuel its win, overcoming a 14.0 to 9.0 deficiency in team blocks.  
 > Additionally, the Aztecs outhit UCSD .270 to .183 and maintained a sizable 51-42 margin in digs while benefiting from 20 opponent attack errors.  
 > Individually, a trio of 2023 returners posted double-digit kills for SDSU, including Madison Corf (.303), who blasted a match-high 15 put-aways, while Heipua Tautua'a logged her first double-double of the year with 14 non-returnables to go with 10 digs. Mikela Labno also got into the act with 13 kills of her own, followed by Kat Cooper, who hit .600 for the night while finishing with seven kills and five total blocks, including a solo stop.  
 > Not to be outdone, setter Sarena Gonzalez dished out 30 assists, while McKenna Douglas led all players with 19 digs to anchor the Aztec back row.  
 > Prior to last season's contest, SDSU and UCSD last faced one another in 1993, when the Aztecs registered a 3-0 sweep in the San Diego City Championships held at Point Loma Nazarene.  
 > SDSU is 168-113 against current Big West schools in program history. The Aztecs have split two meetings with Big West opponents this season, defeating Cal State Fullerton 3-1 on Aug. 25 in the 2023 lid-lifter at the Hotel Vance Rose City Showdown in Portland, Oregon, before suffering a 3-0 home defeat to UC Santa Barbara on Sept. 2 to close out the SDSU Invitational.

### SERIES RECORD VS. DENVER

> San Diego State will face Denver for just the fifth time in program history on Friday, with the each side recording a pair of victories.  
 > The two teams last met in the Mile High City in 2017, when the Aztecs defeated the Pioneers in four sets (20-25, 25-22, 25-20, 28-26) to capture the Denver Invitational championship.  
 > Despite trailing in total blocks (14.0-8.0), SDSU outhit Denver (.257-.231) and held a 63-56 advantage in kills along with a 57-51 margin in digs to help key the victory.  
 > The Aztecs have played just one other school currently aligned with the Summit League, splitting two matches with Oral Roberts in 2003 and 2004.

### SERIES RECORD VS. NAVY

> Saturday's encounter marks the Aztecs' first-ever meeting against the Mids.  
 > San Diego State has played one previous match against a current volleyball affiliate of the Patriot League, defeating Army in its opening match of the 2022 SDSU Invitational by a four-set tally.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Location ..... San Diego, Calif.  
 Founded ..... 1897  
 Enrollment ..... 35,723  
 Nickname ..... Aztecs  
 Colors ..... Scarlet and Black (Pantone 187)  
 Conference ..... Mountain West  
 Affiliation ..... Division I  
 President ..... Dr. Adela de la Torre  
 Director of Athletics ..... John David Wicker  
 Faculty Representative ..... Dr. Frank Harris III  
 Home Facility ..... Aztec Court at Peterson Gym (2,000)

**TEAM INFORMATION**

Head Coach ..... Brent Hilliard  
 Alma Mater ..... Long Beach State '93  
 Record at SDSU ..... 26-56 (Fourth year)  
 Career Record ..... 80-67 (Sixth year)  
 E-Mail ..... bhilliard@sdsu.edu  
 Volleyball Office Phone ..... (619) 594-5064  
 Volleyball Office Fax ..... (619) 594-1674  
 Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator ..... Melanie Greene  
 Assistant Coach ..... Steve Timmons  
 Assistant Coach ..... Noly Mon  
 Director of Volleyball Operations ..... Bethany Kepner  
 2022 Record ..... 11-20  
 2022 Conference Record ..... 8-10 (Sixth)  
 2022 Home Record ..... 5-4  
 2022 Road/Neutral Record ..... 1-5  
 Letterwinners Returning/Lost ..... 10/5  
 Starters Returning/Lost ..... 4/2+Libero

**PROGRAM HISTORY**

First Year of Volleyball ..... 1976  
 Overall Record ..... 906-666 (.576)  
 NCAA Appearances ..... 14  
 Last Postseason Appearance ..... 2012  
 NCAA Postseason Record ..... 15-14

**MEDIA RELATIONS**

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**2023 AZTEC VOLLEYBALL  
 STATISTICAL LEADERS**  
*(min. 50 percent of team sets played)*

Hitting Percentage*	.375	Julia Haynie
Kills	55	Madison Corf
Kills per set	2.89	Madison Corf
Assists	112	Fatimah Hall
Assists per set	5.60	Fatimah Hall
Service Aces	6	Madison Corf
Service Aces per set	0.32	Madison Corf
Digs	72	McKenna Douglas
Digs per set	3.60	McKenna Douglas
Blocks	13.0	Elly Schraeder
Blocks per set	0.65	Elly Schraeder

\*. min 3.0 attempts per set

**2023 AZTEC VOLLEYBALL FALL ROSTER**

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown (Last School)
1	Fatimah Hall	S	5-9	Fr.	Long Beach, Calif. (Lakewood HS)
2	Heipua Tautua'a	OH	6-2	So.	Wai'anae, Hawaii (Wai'anae HS)
3	McKenna Douglas	DS/L	5-7	Sr.	Phoenix, Ariz. (Notre Dame Prep)
4	Amber Keen	MB	6-5	Fr.	Reno, Nev. (Reno HS)
6	Jordyn Goldsmith	OPP	6-1	Jr.	Valleyford, Wash. (Freeman HS)
7	Madison Corf	OH	5-11	So.	Kansas City, Mo. (Liberty HS)
8	Bailey Darnell	DS/L	5-8	Sr.	Honolulu, Hawaii (UC Irvine)
10	Taylor Underwood	OPP/OH	6-2	So.	Narco, Calif. (DePaul)
11	Campbell Hague	MB/OH	6-2	Fr.	Cheney, Kan. (Cheney HS)
12	Cara Braun	OH	6-1	Fr.	Tempe, Ariz. (Valley Christian HS)
13	Julia Haynie	MB	6-2	Sr.	Temecula, Calif. (Portland State)
14	Reagan Merk	OH	5-11	Jr.	Huntington Beach, Calif. (Mater Dei HS)
15	Mikela Labno	OH	6-2	Jr.	Hilmar, Calif. (Hilmar HS)
16	Sarena Gonzalez	S	5-8	So.	Temecula, Calif. (Temecula Valley HS)
19	Natalie Hughes	OPP	6-4	Fr.	McKinney, Texas (McKinney North HS)
20	Elly Schraeder	MB	6-2	Jr.	Athol, Idaho (Univ. of San Diego)
21	Kat Cooper	MB	6-1	So.	Springdale, Ark. (Har-Ber HS)

**Head Coach:** Brent Hilliard (Long Beach State, 1993), Fourth season at SDSU  
**Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator:** Melanie Greene (San Diego State, 2007), 13th season at SDSU  
**Assistant Coach:** Steve Timmons (USC), Fourth season at SDSU  
**Assistant Coach:** Noly Mon, First season at SDSU  
**Director of Volleyball Operations:** Bethany Kepner (Oregon, 2022), First season at SDSU

**Pronunciations**

#1 FATIMAH Hall	fa-TEE-ma
#2 HEIPUA TAUTUA'A	HEY-poo-ah taw-TOO-AH-ah
#15 MIKELA Labno	ma-KAY-la
#21 Elly SCHRAEDER	SCHRAY-der



**OPPONENT COMPARISON**

2023 Overall Stats	SDSU	OPP	UCSD	OPP	DU	OPP	NAVY	OPP
Hitting Percentage	.174	.290	.219	.132	.165	.280	.239	.151
Kills per set	12.15	12.85	11.92	10.52	10.70	13.70	12.95	10.05
Assists per set	11.10	11.55	10.84	9.84	10.50	12.70	11.95	9.40
Service Aces per set	1.40	2.10	1.96	1.64	1.50	1.90	2.35	1.20
Digs per set	11.75	12.25	13.48	12.04	11.60	14.00	12.25	10.70
Blocks per set	1.68	2.55	2.74	2.12	1.90	2.90	1.55	1.65

**SCOUTING THE OPPOSITION**

> **UC San Diego** (4-2) has won two of three matches in each of its first two preseason tournaments, including last weekend's Gonzaga Tournament, where it dropped a tough five-setter to Air Force before rebounding with consecutive victories over Idaho (3-0) and the host Bulldogs (3-1). The Tritons have faced one other Mountain West squad this year, defeating Fresno State 3-1 in their season opener at the Butler Bulldog Brawl in Indianapolis, Indiana. UCSD split its final two matches of that tournament, knocking off Kent State in four sets before falling in another five-set nail-biter to Butler. The Tritons were predicted to finish seventh in the 2023 Big West preseason coaches poll after posting a 14-18 overall record last season and tying for the seventh spot in conference play. UCSD compiled a 4-9 record at home in 2022 and went a combined 10-9 in road/neutral matches. Entering the weekend, outside hitter Ava McInnes occupies the second spot in the Big West with an average of 3.68 kills per set while ranking fourth in service aces (0.52/set) and 11th in hitting percentage (.268). In addition, Emily McDaniels tops the league in blocks (1.64/set, 41 overall) while ranking ninth in hitting percentage (.289), trailing fellow middle blocker Jasmin Saran (2nd, .400) in that category. Elsewhere, setter Nevada Knowles is slotted seventh in assists (6.00/set), while libero Natalie Repetti ranks ninth in digs (3.08/set). Following the season-opening Bulldog Brawl, McDaniel (Defensive) and setter/opposite Lauren Brooker (Freshman) garnered Big West Player of the Week accolades. Collectively, UCSD leads the conference in blocks (2.74/set) while occupying the second spot in hitting percentage (.219) and service aces (1.96/set). Despite a modest No. 6 Big West ranking in kills (11.92/set), the Triton defense has held opponents to conference lows in hitting percentage (.132) and kills (10.52/set). The Tritons are led by head coach Ricci Luyties, who has compiled a 207-141 record in 12-plus seasons on the La Jolla campus. (UCSD) did not compete in 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic). In May 2017, Luyties was among the inaugural induction class of 25 individuals to the Southern California Indoor Volleyball Hall of Fame. A legend during his collegiate playing days, Luyties started on four straight NCAA Championship teams at UCLA from 1981-84, earning All-America and NCAA MVP honors in his final two seasons. Before enjoying a highly successful pro beach volleyball career, he also won gold medals as a member of the U.S. national team at the 1988 Summer Olympics in Seoul, South Korea and the 1987 Pan American Games in Indianapolis.

> **Denver** (0-3) was idle last weekend after coming up empty in three matches at the UC Santa Barbara Thunderdome Classic, Aug. 25-27. The Pioneers dropped a 3-1 decision to North Florida in their season opener before suffering consecutive sweeps to the host Gauchos and New Mexico State in succession. Denver was led by graduate transfer Cassie Davis, who named to the all-tournament team after totaling 32 kills (3.20/set), 11 digs (1.10/set) and a trio of blocks in the event. In addition, opposite hitter Ava Reynolds and outside hitter Genevieve Lewis averaged 2.00 put-aways per set for the tournament. Elsewhere, libero Gianna Bartalo racked up 34 digs (3.40/set), while setter Briley Decker dished out 94 assists (9.40/set). Collectively, the Pioneers are hitting at a .165 clip with 10.70 kills per set while averaging 1.90 blocks in the middle. However,

2022 MOUNTAIN WEST STANDINGS (AS OF SEPT. 6)

Team	---Conference---			-----Overall-----			
	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.	Strk
Wyoming	0	0	.000	6	0	1.000	W6
Air Force	0	0	.000	5	1	.833	W3
Utah State	0	0	.000	5	1	.833	W3
New Mexico	0	0	.000	4	2	.667	L1
San José State	0	0	.000	4	2	.667	W1
Boise State	0	0	.000	2	2	.500	L2
Colorado State	0	0	.000	3	3	.500	W2
Fresno State	0	0	.000	2	3	.400	W1
UNLV	0	0	.000	2	3	.400	L2
Nevada	0	0	.000	2	4	.333	L1
<b>San Diego State</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>.000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>.167</b>	<b>L5</b>

Upcoming Matches in the MW

Sept. 7-9 (Thursday-Saturday)

San Diego State at UC San Diego Invitational (La Jolla, Calif.)  
(UC San Diego, Denver, Navy)

Colorado State hosts Ram Volleyball Classic (Fort Collins, Colo.)  
(Baylor, Bowling Green, Pacific)

New Mexico at UND Classic (Grand Forks, N.D.)  
(North Dakota, Green Bay, Montana)

UNLV at Husky Invitational (Seattle, Wash.)  
(Washington, Florida International, Memphis)

Utah State at Texas A&M Invitational (College Station, Texas)  
(Texas A&M, TCU, Northern Iowa)

Wyoming at Portland Tournament (Portland, Ore.)  
(Portland, CSUN, Eastern Washington)

Sept. 7-9 (Friday-Saturday)

Air Force at Santa Clara Mission Classic (Santa Clara, Calif.)  
(CSU Bakersfield, Saint Mary's, Santa Clara)

Boise State at Lumberjack Classic (Flagstaff, Ariz.)  
(Northern Arizona, Arizona State, Stephen F. Austin)

Nevada at CBU/UCR Invitational (Riverside, Calif.)  
(California Baptist, Oregon State, UC Riverside)

San José State at Campbell Invitational (Buies Creek, N.C.)  
(Campbell, Georgia Southern, UTSA)

This Weekend's Non-Tournament Matches

Friday, Sep. 8

Fresno State at Utah Tech, 11 a.m. MT  
Fresno State at Southern Utah, 6:30 p.m. MT

Saturday, Sept. 9

Fresno State at Utah Tech, Noon MT



Denver's opponents have countered with averages of 13.70 kills and 2.90 blocks per set while posting a .280 attack percentage so far this year. The Pioneers were picked sixth in the Summit League preseason coaches poll after posting a 19-12 overall record and a fourth-place mark of 12-6 in conference play last year. Denver is under the direction of first-year head coach Megan Pendergast, who arrived in the Mile High City after spending the last three years as an assistant at UCLA where she helped the Bruins to a trio of NCAA Tournament appearances, including a Sweet 16 berth in 2022. She has also made coaching stops at Tulsa and Oklahoma. Pendergast began her collegiate playing career at Nebraska before transferring to Texas A&M for her junior and senior seasons. As a senior in 2012, she racked up 441 digs, which ranked seventh on the Aggies' single-season list at the time of her graduation.

> The Navy women's volleyball program (5-1) will embark on its first road trip to California this week after winning three matches at its own tournament, the Kristen Dickmann Invitational, Sept. 1-2. The Mids capped a perfect weekend with a 3-0 upset of Maryland after defeating Utah Valley (3-0) and Old Dominion (3-1). Following the tournament, outside hitter Jamie Llewellyn was named Patriot League Player of the Week after averaging 4.70 kills and 1.90 digs per set. In addition to her team-leading 47 kills, the Navy senior topped the squad with a .326 hitting percentage and eight service aces. Jamie Llewellyn (4.25/set) and her twin sister Jordan (3.40/set), who is also an outside hitter on the Mids, find themselves among the conference leaders in kills, ranking second and fifth, respectively. In addition, setter Averi Miller is slotted second in the conference with an average of 10.25 assists per set, while libero Hannah Hoover ranks fifth in digs (3.70/set). As a team, Navy leads the Patriot League in service aces (2.35/set) while occupying the second position in kills (12.95/set), assists (11.95/set) and hitting percentage (.265). Additionally, the Mids have limited the opposition to a .151 hitting percentage, which tops the conference. After placing third in the Patriot League with an 11-5 mark and a 16-12 overall record last year, Navy was pegged for another third-place finish in the conference's 2023 preseason coaches poll. Individually, Miller was named the league's preseason Setter of the Year and was joined on the preseason all-conference team by Jordan Llewellyn and middle blocker Maggie Bodman, who currently tops the squad in blocks (0.75/set, 15 overall). The Mids are guided by sixth-year head coach Paco Labrador, who has compiled a 78-49 record at Annapolis, highlighted by a pair of finals appearances in the Patriot League tournament. Prior to his arrival at the U.S. Naval Academy, Labrador spent 15 seasons at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, where he led the Tigers to the 2011 NCAA Division III National Championship, earning AVCA Division III Coach of the Year honors for his efforts.

TOURNAMENT CONNECTIONS

- > Aztec junior outside hitter Reagan Merk was a prep teammate of UCSD outside hitter Zaria Henderson at Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana.
- > SDSU sophomore setter Sarena Gonzalez and UCSD sophomore middle blocker Jasmine Saran faced one another as conference rivals on their respective high school teams in Temecula. Gonzalez's Temecula Valley squad split two matches with Saran's Great Oak team in 2021, as each side claimed a 3-2 victory on their home courts during the regular season.
- > Aztec sophomore McKenna Douglas and Navy freshman Ally Allesio were teammates at the libero position for Notre Dame Preparatory High in Scottsdale, Arizona, as well as the Arizona Storm club program. In 2021, the duo helped Notre Dame Prep to a 37-5 record, highlighted by an Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) Conference 4A state championship.

SDSU IN MW RANKINGS

- > Entering the weekend, middle blocker Julia Haynie ranks fifth in the Mountain West with a .375 hitting percentage. The Aztec super senior has knocked down 19 kills on 40 attempts this season with just four errors.
- > In addition, libero McKenna Douglas occupies the sixth position in the conference with 3.60 assists per set.
- > Freshman setter Fatimah Hall owns the Mountain West's third-highest assist total for a four-set match this year after dishing out 47 helpers in SDSU's season-opening victory over Cal State Fullerton on Aug. 25.
- > Douglas' 21 digs vs. CSUF is also tied for the third-best figure in the conference for a four-set match this year, while her 14 scoops in the tournament finale two days later against Portland State is tied for fifth in the MW for a three-set contest.
- > Not to be outdone, Madison Corf's career-high four service aces vs. Pepperdine on Sept. 1 is also tied for the league's third-best total this year.
- > Collectively, the Aztecs occupy the seventh spot in the conference with an average of 12.15 kills per set while ranking ninth in assists (11.10/set) and service aces (1.40/set).

SDSU INVITATIONAL REWIND

- > Faced with a demanding schedule against a trio of traditional volleyball powers, the Aztecs fell short in all three matches at their home tournament, the SDSU Invitational, Aug. 31-Sept. 2. The Scarlet and Black battled No. 6 Oregon its tournament opener but ultimately dropped a four-set decision (19-25, 15-25, 25-22, 10-25) before suffering a pair of three-set defeats at the hands of Pepperdine (17-25, 26-28, 21-25) and UC Santa Barbara (22-25, 21-25, 16-25).
- > Madison Corf led the Aztecs with 28 kills (2.80/set) for the weekend, followed by Taylor Underwood's 22 put-aways (2.20/set), while McKenna Douglas (33 digs) and Kat Cooper (6 blocks) topped the squad in their respective statistical categories. In addition, Sarena Gonzalez (54 assists, 5.40/set) and Fatimah Hall (36 assists, 3.60/set) shared the setting duties, with the former averaging 2.00 digs per frame as well.
- > SDSU had its moments against the sixth-ranked Ducks but trailed in most statistical categories, including kills (52-46), hitting percentage (.333 to .215), digs (40-33) and team blocks (10.0 to 6.0). In addition, the Aztecs self-destructed at inopportune times, committing 11 service errors, including five in the first set alone, which frequently derailed momentum.
- > SDSU handed Oregon its first set loss of the year in the third frame after limiting the Ducks to a .000 hitting percentage with nine kills against nine errors in 32 swings while serving up three aces.
- > However, the Aztecs experienced a reversal of fortune in the fourth stanza, posting a minus-.071 efficiency with six put-aways against eight miscues on 28 attempts, while visitors pulled away with a .440 clip (14-3-25) to secure the match.
- > Individually, SDSU was paced by Underwood, who blasted 11 kills and hit .375 for the night, recording just two errors on 24 attempts, while Heipua Tautua'a just missed a double-double after launching nine non-returnables and scooping up a team-high nine digs.
- > The following night against Pepperdine, the Aztecs were unable to recover after surrendering a big lead in the second set, as the Waves used that momentum to complete the sweep.
- > Despite maintaining a slight 39-35 advantage in kills and a 38-35 margin in digs, SDSU was plagued by 30 attack errors in 111

attempts, finishing with a .081 hitting percentage for the night, while Pepperdine posted a .329 efficiency, committing just seven miscues on 85 swings. In addition, the Aztecs found themselves trailing in team blocks (11.0 to 3.0) and service aces (7-6).

> Four of those aces belonged to Corf, who set a career-high in that category, and was the lone SDSU player to surpass the double-digit kill plateau with a match-high 12 put-aways on Friday. Additionally, Underwood and Labno blasted six kills apiece, while Cooper racked up three block assists.

> In the final match of the weekend vs. UCSB, the The Aztecs were stymied for the fifth straight outing after the Gauchos owned the statistical advantage in most categories, including kills (41-30), hitting percentage (.289 to .093) and team blocks (9.0 to 3.0). In addition, UCSB owned a slight edge in service aces (6-3) and digs (41-40) to help fuel their win.

> Against the Gauchos, Corf led the Scarlet and Black with nine kills, while Underwood launched five put-aways of her own to go with a service ace. In addition, the SDSU cause was aided by Julia Haynie, who finished with four kills and a pair of block assists, while Douglas anchored the back row with 13 digs.

**AZTEC TIDBITS**

> Middle blocker Elly Schraeder, opposite hitter Taylor Underwood, libero McKenna Douglas and setter Fatimah Hall are the only Aztecs to play all 20 sets this season.

> Outside hitter Campbell Hague leads the SDSU freshman class with 13 kills, including six put-aways against No. 6 Oregon on Aug. 31, when she did not commit an error in 13 attempts for a .462 efficiency.

> Middle blocker Amber Keen, another freshman, made her Aztec debut in the third set against UCSB and recorded her first career kill.

> Outside hitter Heipua Tautua'a notched her 12th career double-double in SDSU's season-opening victory

over Cal State Fullerton with 10 kills and 13 digs.

> The Aztecs' 14.5 team blocks in that triumph over the Titans marked the squad's highest total since the 2021 spring campaign when the Scarlet and Black registered 15.0 rejections in a 3-2 upset at Boise State.

**SETTING AN EXAMPLE**

> After a heralded prep career at Lakewood High School, setter Fatimah Hall cracked the starting lineup in her first three collegiate matches last month at the Hotel Vance Rose City Showdown in Portland, Oregon, averaging 7.60 assists and 1.00 digs in 10 sets played.

> A native of Long Beach, Hall made her Aztec debut a memorable one, finishing with a double-double after posting 47 assists and 12 digs, helping SDSU defeat Cal State Fullerton in the season opener on Aug. 25. Her 47 assists marked the highest total by an Aztec player since Camryn Machado dished out 53 helpers at Utah State in the penultimate match of the 2019 regular season. The SDSU freshman also blasted her first four collegiate kills against the Titans and was credited with one block assist.

> Additionally, Hall led the Aztecs in assists in their final two matches of the tournament vs. Kansas State (13) and Portland State (16), serving up one ace apiece against the Wildcats and Vikings.

**ALL-TOURNAMENT AZTEC**

> San Diego State libero McKenna Douglas earned a spot on the all-tournament team at the Hotel Vance Rose City Showdown in Portland, Oregon, after posting 39 digs (3.90/set), 10 assists and three aces in three matches. In the Aztecs' 3-1 triumph over Cal State Fullerton, the SDSU sophomore anchored the back row with 21 digs while adding six assists and a service ace.

> Douglas' 21 scoops are tied for the third-best figure in the conference for a four-set match this year. In

**2023 AZTEC SUPERLATIVES**

**Individual**

**HITTING PERCENTAGE (min. 12 kills)**

.360 (14-5-25) ..... Taylor Underwood vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

**KILLS**

14 ..... Taylor Underwood vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 14 ..... Taylor Underwood vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 12 ..... Madison Corf vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1)

**TOTAL ATTEMPTS**

39 ..... Madison Corf vs. vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 39 ..... Madison Corf vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 28 ..... Madison Corf vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1)

**ASSISTS**

47 ..... Fatimah Hall vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 47 ..... Fatimah Hall vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 19 ..... Sarena Gonzalez vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1)

**DIGS**

21 ..... McKenna Douglas vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 21 ..... McKenna Douglas vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 14 ..... McKenna Douglas at Portland State (Aug. 27)

**SERVICE ACES**

4 ..... Madison Corf vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1)

**BLOCK SOLOS**

3 ..... Elly Schraeder vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

**BLOCK ASSISTS**

4 ..... Kat Cooper vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

**TOTAL BLOCKS**

6 ..... Elly Schraeder vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

**Team**

**HITTING PERCENTAGE**

.243 (30-12-74) ..... vs. Kansas State (Aug. 26)

**KILLS**

58 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 58 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 40 ..... at Portland State (Aug. 27)

**TOTAL ATTEMPTS**

150 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 150 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 111 ..... vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1)

**ASSISTS**

55 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 55 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 37 ..... vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1)

**DIGS**

69 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

5 sets ..... N/A ..... N/A

4 sets ..... 69 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

3 sets ..... 40 ..... vs. UC Santa Barbara (Sept. 2)

**SERVICE ACES**

6 ..... Twice: vs. Pepperdine (Sept. 1) and vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

**TOTAL BLOCKS**

14.5 ..... vs. Cal State Fullerton (Aug. 25)

addition, Douglas posted 14 scoops in the tournament finale at Portland State, which was the second-highest number for a three-set match.

**WELCOME BACK**

- > Despite a 11-20 overall record, the Scarlet and Black captured seven of its last 11 matches in 2022, punctuated by an appearance in the Mountain West Championship where the sixth-seeded Aztecs upset No. 3 seed Colorado State, 3-2, in the first round before falling to second-seeded San José State in the semifinals by a 3-1 tally.
- > Building on that momentum, San Diego State returns 10 letterwinners from last season, including the duo of outside hitters Madison Corf and Heipua Tautau'a.
- > Corf made an immediate impact during her freshman campaign in 2022, earning all-Mountain West honorable mention after averaging a team-best 2.61 kills across 109 sets and ranked second on the squad with 282 kills overall. The Kansas City, Missouri, product was also slotted third on the Aztecs with double-digit kills in 11 matches while occupying the fourth position with 172 digs (1.59/set). She also contributed 25 blocks, including five solo stops, to go with 16 service aces.
- > In the Aztecs' aforementioned upset of Colorado State in the Mountain West tournament, Corf posted her second double-double of the year, blasting a team-high 17 kills to go with 13 digs.
- > Tautau'a continued to exhibit her resourcefulness last season, finishing second on the team in digs (244) while ranking third in kills (260), kills per set (2.36) and digs per set (2.22). Additionally, the Wai'anae, Hawai'i, native led SDSU with seven double-doubles (kills-digs) and was slotted fourth on the squad with 39.0 total blocks, including 13 solo stops.
- > The Aztecs also welcome back a pair of middle blockers in super senior Julia Haynie and junior Elly Schraeder. In 2022, Haynie ranked fifth in the Mountain West with a career-best .356 hitting percentage while finishing third on the team in total blocks (43) and sixth in kills (137, 1.59/set). The Temecula native recorded multiple blocks in 10 matches and surpassed the double-digit kill plateau on four occasions, committing one attack error or less in 15 contests.
- > Schraeder, meanwhile, was slotted sixth in the league with 1.09 blocks per set, compiling a team-high 118 blocks overall in her first season on The Mesa after transferring across town from the University of San Diego. The Athol, Idaho, product notched at least one block in all but two matches and recorded multiple stops in all but three contests. She also ranked second on the team among qualifiers with a .291 hitting percentage and was slotted fifth in kills (152) and sixth in kills per set (1.41).
- > Outside hitter Mikela Labno was the only other Aztec to average more than two kills per set in 2022 (2.15, 204 overall), appearing in 95 sets across 26 matches, including nine starts. The Hilmar, California, native surpassed the double-digit kill plateau in eight matches during her sophomore campaign in 2022, including consecutive encounters with Army (12) and UC San Diego (13) at the SDSU Invitational, helping the Scarlet and Black close out its season-opening home tournament with a pair of victories.
- > Middle blocker Kat Cooper looks to assume an expanded role this year after posting 81 kills (1.01/set), 35 blocks (0.44/set) and 25 digs (0.31/set) in 80 sets played across 26 matches, which featured 10 starts. During her freshman campaign, the Springdale, Ark., product finished with at least five kills in eight different contests, tying her season best with seven put-aways against both UC San Diego (.600) and San José State (.429) at home.
- > Setter Sarena Gonzalez is back in the mix as well after she was one of three freshmen to appear in all 31 matches for SDSU during the 2022 season when she made 11 starts. The Temecula native averaged 4.58 assists and 1.00 digs across 107 sets, ranking second on the team in total assists (490) while occupying the fifth spot in digs (107). Gonzalez amassed double-digit assist totals in 24 matches and dished out 20 or more helpers on nine occasions, including four straight appearances from Aug. 27-Sept. 3.
- > Defensively, the Aztecs are hoping for the healthy return of libero McKenna Douglas, who played in just 10 matches during an injury-shortened freshman campaign. The Phoenix, Arizona, product finished second on the team with an average of 3.03 digs in 37 sets played. She also dished out 38 assists (1.03/set) and served up 12 aces (0.32), which ranked fifth and seventh on the squad, respectively. Douglas set an SDSU season-high with 26 digs in a 3-1 home triumph over Nevada, which was tied for the second-best total in a four-set Mountain West match during the 2022 campaign.
- > Rounding out the list of Aztec veterans are juniors Reagan Merk and Jordyn Goldsmith, along with redshirt freshman Cara Braun.

**NEW KIDS IN TOWN**

- > The prospects for the San Diego State volleyball program continue to improve after head coach Brent Hilliard retooled the Aztec roster with another solid newcomer class for the 2022 campaign.
- > SDSU's early signing class last November featured three prep stars in opposite hitter Natalie Hughes (McKinney, Texas), setter Fatimah Hall (Long Beach, Calif.) and middle blocker/outside hitter Campbell Hague (Cheney, Kan.).
- > During spring and summer, the Aztecs added a pair of Division I transfers in opposite hitter Taylor Underwood (DePaul) and defensive specialist Bailey Darnell (UC Irvine) while signing another prep standout in middle blocker Amber Keen (Reno, Nev.).
- > Underwood garnered Big East all-freshman accolades in her lone season at DePaul last year after ranking third on the Blue Demons with 264 kills (2.47/set) while occupying the sixth spot with 36 blocks (0.34/set). The Norco, California, native also contributed 78 digs (0.73/set) and nine services aces (0.08/set). Additionally, she surpassed the double-digit kill plateau on 13 occasions, launching a career-high 18 put-aways (.351) at Seton Hall.
- > Hughes, meanwhile, lifted McKinney (Texas) North High to its second straight Class 5A Region II quarterfinal playoff berth in 2022 after a finals appearance in 2020. During her senior campaign, she led the Bulldogs in kills (473), kills per set (4.4), hitting percentage (.316), total blocks (83), and blocks per set (0.8), according to MaxPreps, finishing her prep career with over 1,100 put-aways while setting an all-time school record with 353 total blocks.
- > Hall was also a highly prized recruit out of Lakewood High, compiling over 800 assists and 200 digs as a senior, helping her squad secure berths in the prestigious CIF Southern Section Division I championships and CIF State Open Division playoffs, as the Lancers finished with a No. 8 state ranking in the Open Division. For her efforts, the Long Beach product earned first-team all-CIF Southern Section Division I honors and was named co-MVP in the Moore League. Hall was part of a Lakewood High program that compiled a 54-14 record over the past two seasons, highlighted by a pair of conference championships with a 24-0 mark in league play during which her squad dropped just one set.
- > Like Hall, Hague brings a winning pedigree with her to The Mesa after helping Cheney (Kan.) High to a combined 106-14 record over three seasons, highlighted by a runner-up finish at the 2021 Kansas State High School Activities Association (KHSAA) Class 3A Championships during her junior campaign. As a senior, she collected Most Valuable Player honors from the Central Plains League after leading the Cardinals in numerous categories, including kills (338), kills per set (3.60), hitting percentage (.270), service aces (42), total blocks (73) and blocks per set (0.8), according to MaxPreps.
- > Keen has also witnessed success at the prep level after propelling Reno High to the 2022 Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) Class 5A North Regional championship and a runner-up finish in the state tournament. Prior to last season, she was nominated for Senior Player of the Year by VBRcruiter.com.
- > Darnell will bring additional veteran leadership to the SDSU back row this year after competing for three seasons at UC Irvine where she compiled 269 digs, 36 setting assists, 13 services aces and seven kills in 181 sets across 59 matches. She enjoyed her best season in 2021, averaging 2.11 digs per

**2023 SITUATIONAL RECORDS**

**GENERAL**

Overall.....	1-5
Mountain West.....	0-0
Home.....	0-3
Away.....	0-1
Neutral.....	1-1
vs. Ranked Teams.....	0-1
vs. Unranked Teams.....	1-2
Matches Following a Win.....	0-1
Matches Following a Loss.....	0-3
Longest Winning Streak.....	1
Longest Losing Streak.....	5
Current Streak.....	Lost 5

**BY SETS**

3 Sets.....	0-4
4 Sets.....	1-1
5 Sets.....	0-0
Leading After Two.....	0-0
Trailing After Two.....	0-2
Tied After Two.....	1-0
Leading 2-1.....	1-0
Trailing 2-1.....	0-0

**BY MONTH**

August.....	1-3
September.....	0-2
October.....	0-0
November.....	0-0

**BY DAY**

Tuesday.....	0-0
Thursday.....	0-1
Friday.....	1-1
Saturday.....	0-2
Sunday.....	0-1

**BY KILLS**

Leading in Kills.....	1-1
Trailing in Kills.....	0-3
Tied in Kills.....	0-1

**BY DIGS**

Leading in Digs.....	1-1
Trailing in Digs.....	0-4
Tied in Digs.....	0-0

**BY BLOCKS**

Leading in Blocks.....	1-0
Trailing in Blocks.....	0-5
Tied in Blocks.....	0-0

**BY ATTACK PERCENTAGE**

Greater Attack Percentage.....	1-0
Lower Attack Percentage.....	0-5
Equal Attack Percentage.....	0-0
Hitting above .300.....	0-0
Hitting between .200 and .300.....	0-3
Hitting between .100 and .200.....	1-0
Hitting below .100.....	0-2
Opponent Hitting above .300.....	0-4
Opponent Hitting between .200 and .300.....	0-1
Opponent Hitting between .100 and .200.....	0-0
Opponent Hitting below .100.....	1-0

**BY INDIVIDUAL KILLS**

3+ Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	1-0
2 Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-0
1 Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-3
0 Double-Digit Individual Kill Totals.....	0-2

## 2023 MATCH-BY-MATCH LEADERS

Date	Opponent	Kills	Hitting Pct.*	Assists	Aces	Digs	Blocks
A.25	vs. Cal State Fullerton	Underwood - 14	Underwood (.360)	Hall - 47	Underwood - 2	Douglas - 21	Schraeder - 6
A.27	vs. Kansas State	Tautua'a - 9	Tautua'a (.300)	Hall - 13	Cooper/Tautua'a - 2	Hall/Tautua'a - 4	Schraeder - 2
A.28	at Portland State	Corf - 11	Corf (.474)	Hall - 16	Douglas - 2	Douglas - 14	Haynie/Hughes - 2
A.31	No. 6 Oregon	Underwood - 11	Underwood (.375)	Gonzalez - 21	Underwood - 2	Tautua'a - 9	Cooper/Schraeder - 3
S.2	Pepperdine	Corf - 12	Corf (.107)	Gonzalez - 19	Corf - 4	Douglas - 12	Cooper - 3
S.3	UC Santa Barbara	Corf - 9	Corf (.174)	Gonzalez - 14	Three players - 1	Douglas - 13	Labno - 3
S.7	at UC San Diego						
S.8	vs. Denver						
S.9	vs. Navy						
S.15	at Gonzaga						
S.16	vs. E. Washington						
S.19	at UNLV						
S.23	San José State						
S.28	at Colorado State						
S.30	at Wyoming						
O.5	Air Force						
O.7	New Mexico						
O.12	at Fresno State						
O.14	at Nevada						
O.19	Boise State						
O.21	at Utah State						
O.26	at New Mexico						
O.28	at Air Force						
N.2	Nevada						
N.4	Fresno State						
N.9	Wyoming						
N.11	Colorado State						
N.16	at San José State						
N.18	UNLV						

\* - min. 7 kills

set (114 overall) with 19 setting assists and five services aces.

### PRESEASON PROGNOSTICATIONS

- > In a vote of the league's 11 head coaches, San Diego State was pegged for a fourth-place finish in the 2023 Mountain West preseason coaches poll released on August 16.
- > The Aztecs received 64 points to tie New Mexico for that position while trailing defending MW tournament champion Utah State (92 pts, 5 first-place votes), 2022 regular-season standard bearer UNLV (92 pts, 3 first-place votes) and Colorado State (86 pts, 3 first-place votes) for the top three spots, respectively.
- > In the 24-year history of the Mountain West, SDSU has finished first (2012), second (2002, 2011), fourth (2000, 2001, 2003, 2013, 2017), fifth (2005, 2015, 2019), sixth (1999, 2004, 2006, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2016, 2022), seventh (2008), eighth (2007, 2018, 2020), and ninth (2021) in the final league standings.

### 2023 Mountain West Preseason Poll

Rk. Team (1st-place votes), Pts.

1. Utah State (5) - 92
- UNLV (3) - 92
3. Colorado State (3) - 86
4. San Diego State - 64
- New Mexico - 64
6. Boise State - 59
7. Air Force - 38
8. San José State - 35
9. Nevada - 32
10. Wyoming - 28
11. Fresno State - 15

### TWO AZTECS WIN GOLD MEDALS FOR MW SQUAD IN EUROPE

- > The San Diego State volleyball program was represented on the Mountain West touring squad that captured the gold medal at the 2023 Global Challenge, held July 13-23 in Europe.
- > Middle blocker Julia Haynie was the lone Aztec player named to the league's traveling team, while Melanie Greene served as co-head coach of the MW delegation that featured 12 student-athletes from eight conference institutions.
- > SDSU's participation in the 2023 Global Challenge was supported by the SDSU Athletics Women's Fund.
- > The Mountain West touring squad spent the first four days of its excursion (July 13-16) in Maribor,

Slovenia, for training and friendly competition against various club and national teams before traveling to Pula, Croatia, for the opening ceremony.

> After four days of competition (July 18-21), the triumphant MW all-star team enjoyed a spectacular day of sightseeing in Venice, Italy (July 22), followed by a return flight to the United States.

### ON THE HORIZON

> Following the UC San Diego Invitational, the Aztecs continue their non-conference schedule next weekend, returning to the Pacific Northwest for the Gonzaga Tournament in Spokane, Washington. San Diego State will open the tournament on Friday, Sept. 15, when it takes on the host Bulldogs, starting at 6 p.m. PT, before wrapping up the event on Saturday, Sept. 16, with a neutral-site match vs. Eastern Washington, beginning at 11 a.m. PT.



# Brent HILLIARD

## Head Coach - Fourth Season at San Diego State

San Diego State Director of Athletics John David Wicker ushered in a new era for the Aztec volleyball team with the hiring of Brent Hilliard as the fifth head coach in program history on Jan. 31, 2020.

In his third season on The Mesa in 2022, Hilliard's determined efforts to return the Aztecs to conference title contention began to bear fruit, as the Scarlet and Black won seven of its last 11 matches to secure the sixth and final spot in the Mountain West Championship. Facing elimination, SDSU rounded into tournament shape with a pair of crucial road victories over Nevada and San José State in the final two matches of the regular season before utilizing that momentum to pull off a thrilling 3-2 upset over No. 3 seed Colorado State in the first round of the MW Championship. The Aztecs' triumph over the Rams marked their first victory over CSU in Fort Collins since 2013, a span of eight visits.

SDSU showed dramatic statistical improvement for its stretch run, posting greater per-set averages and marks in most categories over the final 11 matches compared to the first 20 contests, including kills (13.6 to 12.1), hitting percentage (.222 to .174), service aces (1.58 to 1.24), digs (13.09 to 11.73) and blocks (2.16 to 1.78).

Although the Aztecs' advance was stymied in the semifinals, their defeat at the hands of SJSU did not dampen the enthusiasm generated by their late-season flourish, as Hilliard and the SDSU coaching staff eagerly await the 2023 campaign.

Under Hilliard's tutelage, outside hitter Madison Corf, a former AVCA High School All-American, received all-Mountain West honorable mention during her freshman season after she topped the squad with an average of 2.61 kills per set while ranking second with 282 kills overall.

In addition, opposite hitter Kayla Rivera blossomed under Hilliard's direction, earning all-tournament honors at the MW Championship after tying for the team lead with 25 kills (2.89/set) and seven total blocks (0.78/set) while ranking second with a .362 hitting percentage in two matches.

Scholastic achievement has been a trademark for the SDSU volleyball program, and the 2022 campaign was no different, as eight players landed on the Mountain West all-academic team following the fall semester.

In the fall of 2021, Hilliard and the Aztecs were faced with another demanding schedule, squaring off against 10 teams that qualified for postseason play.

However, San Diego State had its moments of glory, posting a 3-0 sweep at eventual Mountain West tournament champion Boise State before recording a five-set thriller on the road at UNLV, which went on to capture the NIVC crown.

Individually, Hilliard oversaw the continued rise to prominence of Victoria O'Sullivan, who received all-Mountain West recognition for the second straight season after ranking second in the conference with 3.71 kills per set, as the SDSU outside hitter concluded her illustrious career with 1,026 kills overall.

Hilliard's charges enjoyed another successful year scholastically, with nine Aztecs landing on the Mountain West all-academic team, including Ashley Vanderpan, Kennedy Feuerborn and Serena Hodson, who were presented with the Malik Award, given to SDSU student-athletes who attain a 4.0 GPA.

In his first season with the Scarlet and Black, Hilliard endured a challenging season fraught with COVID-19 protocols, an abbreviated schedule that was postponed until spring, along with injuries to key players.

However, Hilliard and the Aztecs persevered through the 2021 spring campaign, posting a 6-9 record, highlighted by thrilling victories over Boise State on the road and Colorado State at home in the season finale, respectively. Against the Broncos, SDSU defeated a Boise State team that entered the contest with four consecutive 3-0 sweeps. Two weeks later, the Aztecs snapped an 11-match to the Rams dating back to 2014 and logged their first win over CSU in San Diego since 2012.

Under Hilliard's guidance, O'Sullivan garnered all-Mountain West accolades for the first time in her career, as the SDSU junior led the squad with 3.25 kills per set, which ranked seventh in the conference. In addition, seniors Lauren Lee and Erin Gillcrist received MW Defensive Player of the Week recognition following the team's aforementioned wins over Boise State and Colorado State, respectively.

Hilliard's Aztecs also excelled in the classroom, with 12 student-athletes selected to the Mountain West all-academic team, including Lauren Lee, who also merited first-team all-District 8 academic honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA).

A 2018 inductee to the Southern California Indoor Volleyball Hall of Fame, Hilliard arrived at SDSU with a wealth of experience after achieving 19 years of unparalleled success as an assistant coach at the University of San Diego, where he served as the Toreros' associate head coach since 2007.

During his fruitful tenure, the Toreros qualified for the NCAA Tournament in all but one of his 19 seasons, advancing to the Sweet 16 in 2004, 2006, 2013 and 2018. In addition, Hilliard helped guide the Toreros to nine West Coast Conference championships while his players earned six All-America awards, 12 All-America honorable mentions, 44 all-WCC accolades and 15 freshman all-conference certificates.

Hilliard twice assumed the reins of the USD program on an interim basis while head coach Jennifer Petrie was absent on maternity leave. In 2006, Hilliard was honored as WCC Coach of the Year after guiding the Toreros to a conference championship and a Sweet 16 appearance in the NCAA Tournament. That season, he coached five all-conference honorees, including WCC Player of the Year Kristen Carlson, as USD finished 14th in the final USA Today/Coaches Poll.

The Toreros also flourished under Hilliard's guidance in 2011, racing to a 13-0 start en route a program-best 28-5 record, highlighted by a spot in the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Throughout his stint, USD was consistently ranked among the nation's top 25, climbing to as high as No. 2 during the 2013 campaign and rising to No. 5 in 2016.

Hilliard played collegiately at Long Beach State, earning All-America honors in each of his four years from 1990-93, including first-team recognition over his final three seasons. A right-side hitter for the 49ers, Hilliard was named the NCAA Men's Volleyball Player of the Year as a junior in 1992 after leading LBSU to a 31-1 record.

In 1991, Hilliard and the 49ers captured the NCAA Championship with a 3-1 victory over USC in the finals, avenging a loss to the Trojans in the title match the year before. He finished his career as the NCAA all-time leader with 3,034 kills.

Additionally, Hilliard was selected to play for Team USA in the 1992 Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, where he helped the Americans capture the bronze medal. The following year, he won a silver medal at the 1993 Pan American Games in Argentina and also owns a bronze medal from the 1991 World Cup.

After receiving his undergraduate degree in 1993 from Long Beach State in political science, Hilliard continued his volleyball career as a professional in Europe from 1995-98, playing two seasons in Belgium and another in the Netherlands. In 1996, Hilliard and the Masiel Volleyball Club captured the Belgian national championship and competed in the European Champions League.

In addition to his collegiate experience, which included a stint as head coach at nearby Cuyamaca College in 1999 and 2000, Hilliard has also coached for over 10 years at Wave Volleyball Club in Del Mar, the premier volleyball club in San Diego County.

### HILLIARD'S COLLEGIATE COACHING LEDGER (As an Assistant at USD)

Year	Overall Record	WCC Record (Finish)	Postseason
2001	22-9	10-4 (3rd)	NCAA Second Round
2002	25-8	10-4 (3rd)	NCAA First Round
2003	17-13	6-8 (T-5th)	NCAA First Round
2004	24-5	14-0 (1st)	NCAA Sweet 16
2005	23-6	10-4 (T-2nd)	NCAA Second Round
2006*	26-6	13-1 (1st)	NCAA Sweet 16
2007	21-8	11-3 (1st)	NCAA First Round
2008	23-5	12-2 (1st)	NCAA First Round
2009	18-7	10-4 (2nd)	None
2010	24-8	13-1 (1st)	NCAA Second Round
2011*	28-5	12-4 (2nd)	NCAA Second Round
2012	21-7	13-3 (T-1st)	NCAA First Round
2013	26-4	16-2 (1st)	NCAA Sweet 16
2014	19-12	12-6 (T-3rd)	NCAA First Round
2015	22-10	14-4 (2nd)	NCAA Second Round
2016	24-6	15-3 (2nd)	NCAA First Round
2017	25-5	17-1 (T-1st)	NCAA Second Round
2018	18-13	13-5 (3rd)	NCAA Sweet 16
2019	25-6	17-1 (1st)	NCAA Second Round
<b>USD Total</b>		<b>431-143 (.751)</b>	
<b>WCC Total</b>		<b>238-60 (.799)</b>	

### As Head Coach at SDSU

Year	Overall Record	MW Record (Finish)	Postseason
2020	6-9	6-9 (8th)	
2021	8-22	5-13 (9th)	
2022	11-20	8-10 (6th)	MW Tourney Semifinals
2023	1-5	0-0	
<b>SDSU Total</b>		<b>26-56 (.317)</b>	
<b>Career as Head Coach</b>		<b>80-67 (.544)</b>	
<b>Overall Total</b>		<b>457-199 (.697)</b>	

### Notes

\* - Served as interim head coach during the 2006 and 2011 seasons at USD.  
Record reflected in career totals.

- > Qualified for the NCAA Tournament in 18 of his 19 seasons at USD
- > Reached the NCAA Sweet 16 four times in 2004, 2006, 2013 and 2018
- > Won nine West Coast Conference championships

# 2023 AZTEC VOLLEYBALL PHOTO ROSTER



**Fatimah HALL**  
S | 5-9 | Fr.

1



**Heipua TAUTUA'A**  
OH | 6-2 | Jr.

2



**McKenna DOUGLAS**  
DS/L | 5-7 | So.

3



**Amber KEEN**  
MB | 6-5 | Fr.

4



**Jordyn GOLDSMITH**  
OPP | 6-1 | Jr.

6



**Madison CORF**  
OH | 5-11 | So.

7



**Bailey DARNELL**  
DS/L | 5-8 | Sr.

8



**Taylor UNDERWOOD**  
OPP/OH | 6-2 | So.

10



**Campbell HAGUE**  
MB/OH | 6-2 | Fr.

11



**Cara BRAUN**  
OH | 6-1 | RS-Fr.

12



**Julia HAYNIE**  
MB | 6-2 | Sr.

13



**Reagan MERK**  
OH | 5-11 | Jr.

14



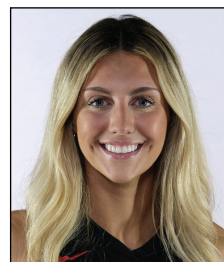
**Mikela LABNO**  
OH | 6-2 | Jr.

15



**Sarena GONZALEZ**  
S | 5-8 | So.

16



**Natalie HUGHES**  
OPP | 6-4 | Fr.

19



**Elly SCHRAEDER**  
MB | 6-2 | Jr.

20



**Kat COOPER**  
MB | 6-1 | So.

21



**Brent HILLIARD**  
Head Coach



**Melanie GREENE**  
Assistant Coach/  
Recruiting Coordinator



**Steve TIMMONS**  
Assistant Coach



**Noly MON**  
Assistant Coach



**Bethany KEPNER**  
Director of  
Volleyball Operations





**2023-24 San Diego St. Women's Volleyball  
Combined Team Statistics  
All games**

**Game Records**

Overall	Conference	Home	Away	Neutral
1 - 5	0 - 0	0 - 3	0 - 1	1 - 1

**Team Box Score**

#	Player	SP	Attack					Set		Serve			Dig			Blocking					PTS	
			K	K/S	E	TA	PCT	A	A/S	SA	SE	SA/S	RE	DIG	DIG/S	BS	BA	TOT/S	BLK/S	BE		BHE
1	Hall, Fatimah	20	4	0.20	2	10	.200	112	5.60	2	2	0.10	0	29	1.45	0	1	1	0.05	0	4	6.5
2	Tautua'a, Heipua	19	33	1.74	23	103	.097	6	0.32	4	2	0.21	11	45	2.37	1	2	3	0.16	2	1	39.0
3	Douglas, McKenna	20	0	0.00	0	0	.000	20	1.00	3	6	0.15	11	72	3.60	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	3.0
4	Keen, Amber	1	1	1.00	2	4	-.250	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	1	0	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0
7	Corf, Madison	19	55	2.89	36	144	.132	1	0.05	6	8	0.32	8	23	1.21	2	6	8	0.42	2	0	66.0
8	Darnell, Bailey	14	0	0.00	0	2	.000	0	0.00	1	1	0.07	5	16	1.14	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	1.0
10	Underwood, Taylor	20	45	2.25	22	125	.184	0	0.00	5	11	0.25	1	9	0.45	0	5	5	0.25	2	1	52.5
11	Hague, Campbell	9	12	1.33	7	35	.143	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	1	0.11	0	2	2	0.22	0	0	13.0
12	Braun, Cara	5	5	1.00	2	9	.333	0	0.00	1	1	0.20	1	1	0.20	1	0	1	0.20	0	0	7.0
13	Haynie, Julia	10	19	1.90	4	40	.375	1	0.10	2	3	0.20	0	2	0.20	0	4	4	0.40	0	0	23.0
14	Merk, Reagan	4	0	0.00	0	0	.000	0	0.00	0	2	0.00	0	2	0.50	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.0
15	Labno, Mikela	16	20	1.25	7	53	.245	1	0.06	0	0	0.00	1	6	0.38	0	6	6	0.38	2	0	23.0
16	Gonzalez, Sarena	16	2	0.13	1	5	.200	81	5.06	1	5	0.06	0	24	1.50	0	0	0	0.00	0	3	3.0
19	Hughes, Natalie	5	3	0.60	3	10	.000	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	3	3	0.60	0	0	4.5
20	Schraeder, Elly	20	21	1.05	7	59	.237	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	1	0.05	4	9	13	0.65	6	0	29.5
21	Cooper, Kat	16	23	1.44	13	58	.172	0	0.00	3	5	0.19	0	4	0.25	1	11	12	0.75	3	0	32.5
<b>SAN DIEGO ST.</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>12.15</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>.174</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>11.10</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1.40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>11.75</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>1.68</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>304.5</b>
<b>Opponents</b>		<b>20</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>12.85</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>.290</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>11.55</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>2.10</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>12.25</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>350.0</b>

**Team statistics**

	SDSU	OPP
<b>ATTACK</b>		
Kills	243	257
Errors	129	83
Total Attacks	657	601
Attack Pct	.174	.290
Kills/Set	12.15	12.85
<b>SET</b>		
Assists	222	231
Attempts	665	586
Assist Pct	.334	.394
Assists/Set	11.10	11.55
<b>SERVE</b>		
Aces	28	42
Errors	46	43
Attempts	416	481
Serve Pct	.889	.911
Aces/Set	1.40	2.10
<b>SERVE RECEPTIONS</b>		
Errors	42	28
Errors/Set	2.10	1.40
Attempts	437	370
Reception Pct	.904	.996
<b>DEFENSE</b>		
Digs	235	245
Digs/Set	11.75	12.25
<b>BLOCKING</b>		
Block solo	9	13
Block Assist	49	76
Total Blocks	33.5	51
Blocks/Set	1.68	2.55
Block Errors	17	12
Ball handling errors	9	5
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
Total	1531	521
Dates/Avg Per Date	3/510	1/521
Neutral Site #/Avg	2/314	-
Current win streak	0	-
Home win streak	0	-

**Team Results**

Date	Opponent	Score	Score-by-set	Att.
08/25/2023	vs Cal St. Fullerton	W 3-1	21-25,25-19,30-28,25-16	280
08/26/2023	vs Kansas St.	L 0-3	14-25,13-25,25-27	347
08/27/2023	at Portland St.	L 0-3	22-25,22-25,19-25	521
08/31/2023	Oregon	L 1-3	19-25,15-25,25-22,10-25	555
09/01/2023	Pepperdine	L 0-3	17-25,26-28,21-25	465
09/02/2023	UC Santa Barbara	L 0-3	22-25,21-25,16-25	511