

Intercollegiate Athletics

Athletics Director: To be appointed

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Senior Associate Athletics Director for Internal

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Senior Associate Athletics Director for Business Affairs:

Kenneth A. Peterson

Associate Athletics Director for External Operations:

Kevin Dustin

Assistant Athletics Director, Head Trainer:

Dale Mildenberger

Assistant Athletics Director, Academic Services/Compliance:

Brian Evans

Ticket Manager:

Clark Livsey

Director of Media Relations:

Mike Strauss

Director of Marketing and Promotions:

Kim Larson

Director of Development:

Kenneth L. Beazer

Strength and Conditioning:

Shawn Griswold

Equipment Supervisor:

Mike Bair

Compliance Coordinator:

Lucy Stolpe

Faculty Representative:

Kenneth L. White

Head Coaches:

Basketball (Men's): Stew Morrill

Basketball (Women's): Raegan Pebley

Football: Mick Dennehy

Golf: Dean Johansen

Gymnastics: Ray Corn

Soccer: Heather Cairns

Softball: Debbie Bilbao

Tennis: Chris Wright

Track: Gregg Gensel

Volleyball: Burton L. Fuller

The Intercollegiate Athletics program at Utah State University encourages excellence in academic and athletic performance. The program is designed to develop qualities of leadership, sportsmanship, and individuality, helping each student-athlete to realize his or her ultimate capabilities. Utah State's Intercollegiate Athletics operates under the direction of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the Big West Conference, and Utah State University. The Aggies compete at the NCAA Division I Level in 16 sports, including football, women's soccer, women's volleyball, men's and women's cross-country, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's indoor track and field, women's gymnastics, softball, men's golf, men's and women's tennis, and men's and women's outdoor track and field.

The Aggies have a storied history, gaining national attention in recent years in a number of different sports. During the past 25 years, Utah State has won 36 Big West Conference championships, including a school record five during the 1997-98 school year. Since 1998, Aggie athletic success has continued with nine more league titles.

The basketball team has become a fixture in the NCAA Tournament and has won either a Big West Conference regular season title, conference tournament title, or both every year during the 2000s. The Aggies have won at least 20 games during 8 of the last 10 years.

The football team has finished first or second in league play 12 times during its last 24 years of conference play. Three of the top five home attendance seasons have come in the last five years.

USU's cross-country and track teams have been among the Big West's best for a number of years, as the cross-country team has won four league titles and finished second six times during the last 12 years. The track team has claimed seven Big West team championships during the last 10 years.

On the women's side, USU has had success in a number of its sports. The gymnastics program has competed in the NCAA regionals during 24 of the last 26 years and has won four conference championships during the last 12 years.

The Aggie soccer team has made great strides every year since it started the program in 1996 and produced its best season in 2003.

The track teams continue to have success, as the women's cross-country team was the Big West runner-up in 2003, while the track team won seven consecutive league titles beginning in 1993.

USU's volleyball team advanced to consecutive NCAA tournaments in 2000 and 2001.

USU reinstated its women's basketball program ahead of the 2003-04 season.

Academically, Utah State is the leader of the Big West Conference, having finished first in number of academic all-conference selections during four of the last five years.

USU has a strong history of athletic success. Among these successful athletes is Merlin Olsen, who won the Outland Trophy awarded to the nation's top lineman in 1961. Olsen, who was selected into the NFL Hall of Fame, was also an academic All-American. Merlin's brother, Phil, was also an athletic All-American at Utah State and had great success in the NFL.

USU has produced five Olympians and 27 All-Americans in track and field, including former world record holders L. Jay Silvester and Mark Enyeart. Jay Don Blake became USU's first NCAA national champion in golf, winning the national title in 1980 and finishing second the following year.

Aggie basketball boasts the legacy of Wayne Estes, an All-American in the early 1960s before his untimely death prior to the conclusion of his senior season.

Three Aggie gymnasts have earned All-American honors and two others have represented their countries in the Olympics and World Championships. Seven different student-athletes have earned All-American honors in volleyball 12 times, and Elaine Roque and Karolyn Kirby have gone on to successful careers on the pro beach volleyball tour.

The softball team has produced four All-Americans, including three-time All-American Kelly Smith.

Participation. Utah State's athletic teams compete as members of the Big West Conference in basketball, golf, tennis, cross-country, outdoor track and field, soccer, softball, and volleyball, while the football team plays in the Sun Belt Conference, the indoor track and field teams in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, and the gymnastics team in the Western Gymnastics Conference.

Beginning with the 2004-05 season, all of USU's sports will compete in the Western Athletic Conference.

Facilities. Excellent training and competition facilities are provided in all sports. E. L. "Dick" Romney Stadium, home of the Aggie football team for more than 30 years, seats 30,257. A state-of-the-art lighting system was installed prior to the 1993 season, and chair-back seating was added ahead of the 1997 season. The 1999 season saw expanded seating, two new scoreboards, and an improved sound system. A new synthetic turf was installed prior to the 2004 season, and a new press box with sky boxes is scheduled for the 2005 season. Future plans for Romney Stadium include construction of multi-storied complexes at both the north and south ends of the stadium to consolidate academic support to the student-athletes. New coaches' offices, strength and weight rooms, ticket sales, and locker and team rooms, as well as a hall of fame, are also planned.

Basketball, gymnastics, and volleyball are played in the beautiful 10,270-seat Dee Glen Smith Spectrum. A \$1.2 million scoreboard was installed prior to the 2002-03 academic year, and a new playing floor will be installed during 2004. Basketball and volleyball practices are held in the Spectrum, while the HPER Building is the practice home for the gymnastics team. The recently renovated gymnastics practice gym has been labeled as one of the nation's finest, complete with vaulting pits and foam-spring exercise floor.

The \$4.4 million Stan Laub Indoor Training Facility is one of the finest facilities in the nation. The building features a 95-yard football field that is regulation width and a vaulted ceiling that

reaches 78 feet high. The building is perfect for off-season conditioning for all of Utah State's sports.

The Nelson Fieldhouse is the home of the Aggie indoor track and field teams. The teams practice on a 200-meter tartan track. For the outdoor season, a recently resurfaced and renovated Ralph Maughan Stadium is the home for the men's and women's track teams.

The women's softball team plays its home games at LaRee and LeGrand Johnson Field, an on-campus facility, for which a large scoreboard, new grass, and a new fence were added ahead of the 2004 season. The women's soccer team also has a new facility, Aggie Field, which was built in 2003 and features a two-story press box.

The tennis teams play at the Sports Academy and Racquet Club, one of the finest indoor facilities in the West. The men's golf team practices and plays at the Birch Creek Golf Course and at the Logan Golf and Country Club.

Scholarships. Utah State offers partial and full scholarships in each of its 16 sponsored sports. A student or prospective student desiring consideration for one of these awards may contact one of the coaches for further information about scholarship applications.

Registration and Eligibility. Registration for athletic participation in Aggie athletics may be accomplished by contacting any of the coaches or the athletics office. Eligibility for participation is governed by the rules and regulations established by the NCAA, by the Big West Conference, and by Utah State University.

Supervision. Supervision and direction for men and women is vested in the Director of Athletics and the Athletic Council, consisting of the President of the University, and members of the faculty, the alumni, and student organizations.