

SMU

EQUESTRIAN
2024-25 MEET NOTESMEET
2

2 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS • 50 ALL-AMERICANS • 4 CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS • 10 NCEA RIDERS OF THE YEAR

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS: 2023, 2024 • CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS: 2018 (UEC), 2019 (UEC), 2021 (ECAC), 2022 (ECAC)

OCTOBER 3, 2024 | 1 PM | COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS | HILDEBRAND EQUINE COMPLEX



[2] SMU MUSTANGS

0-1

vs



[4] TEXAS A&M AGGIES

0-0, 0-0 SEC

WHAT TO KNOW

THE MATCHUP: SMU is set to battle with Texas A&M in its second meet of the season in the midst of a season-opening four-meet road trip. The two programs met last season, with the Mustangs taking the meet in Dallas while the Aggies claimed the matchup in College Station. All time, Texas A&M holds a 13-8 advantage in the series.

BACK TO BACK: The Mustangs are the defending back-to-back National Champions, marking the 10th national title for SMU Athletics. SMU is the third school to claim back-to-back national titles, joining Auburn and Georgia.

EXPERIENCE RETURNING: The Mustangs return 28 riders from last season's NCEA Championship squad, including two All-Americans in **Augusta Iwasaki** (Fences) and **Nya Kearns** (Horsemanship). Iwasaki and Kearns both earned NCEA Rider of the Year honors in their respective divisions. Kearns' honor marks her second NCEA Rider of the Year accolade, also taking it home in 2021, while Iwasaki claimed her second consecutive Rider of the Year honor. In addition, SMU has four riders entering their fifth year of eligibility, as Kearns joins **Shelby Clausen**, **Chalyce Head** and **Hailey Johns**.

STRONG START FOR ELLI: Senior Elli Yeager earned two MOP honors during SMU's season opener against No. 1 TCU. Yeager scored a 93 to gain a victory and the MOP on fences, and she also scored a 93 on flat to pick up a narrow victory.

NEAR THE TOP EARLY: SMU has been ranked second in both editions of the NCEA rankings this season. The Mustangs also have a challenging schedule early, facing every top-six team during their fall slate, with all but one being on the road.

THE KEARNS ERA: **Brad Kearns** is entering his first year as the head coach of the Mustangs after serving as an assistant for the previous three seasons. As an assistant, Kearns coached two National Championship winning teams, 10 All-Americans and was named the 2024 NCEA Western Coach of the Year. Kearns' daughter, Nya, is a member of the team and looks to build off an already incredibly successful career.

2024-25 SCHEDULE

OVERALL: 0-1 | HOME: 0-0 | AWAY: 0-1

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULTS
9/20	at [1] TCU	L, 10-10 (1599.50-1548.75)
10/3	at [4] Texas A&M	1 PM
10/18	at [6] Georgia	TBA
10/19	at [1] Auburn	TBA
10/25	[3] TCU	TBA
11/9	BAYLOR	TBA
11/15	at [5] Oklahoma State	TBA
1/31	SOUTH DAKOTA STATE	TBA
2/1	[4] TEXAS A&M	TBA
2/15	[6] GEORGIA	TBA
2/21	at [8] UT-Martin	TBA
2/22	vs. [9] Delaware State*	TBA
3/1	[5] OKLAHOMA STATE	TBA
3/7	[1] AUBURN	TBA
4/17-20	NCEA Championships^	TBA

HOME | Away | All times central
Home meets at Dallas Equestrian Center

* - at Martin, Tenn.

^ - at Ocala, Fla.

FOLLOW ALONG WITH THE MUSTANGS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website	smumustangs.com
Facebook	smumustangs smuequestrian
Twitter/X	smumustangs smuequestrian
Instagram	smu.mustangs smuequestrian
YouTube	smumustangs.com/app

NCEA RANKINGS

1	Auburn
2	SMU
3	TCU
4	Texas A&M
5	Oklahoma State
6	Georgia
7	South Carolina
8	UT Martin
9	Delaware State
10	Fresno State

THE UNIVERSITY

Location	Dallas, Texas
Founded	1911
President	Dr R. Gerald Turner (Abilene Christian, '68)
Director of Athletics	Rick Hart (North Carolina, '94)
Sport Administrator	Kris Harris
Enrollment	12,385
Nickname	Mustangs
Mascot	Peruna IX (a Shetland pony)
School Colors	Red (PMS 186) & Blue (PMS 286)
School Website	www.SMU.edu

SMU EQUESTRIAN

Head Coach	Brad Kearns (NC State, '89)
School Record	First Season
Assistant Coaches	Laura Persons Dean Latimer
Conference	Independent
Roster Size	40

HISTORICAL FACTS

2023-24 Record	12-4
2023-24 Final NCEA Ranking	1
Conference	Independent
SMU All-Time Record (2003-2024)	133-116 (.534) *added Western in 2013
National Championships	2 22-23, 23-24
Conference Tournament Championships	4 17-18 (UEC), 18-19 (UEC), 20-21, 21-22
All-Americans	50
NCEA Riders of the Year	10
Home Facility	Dallas Equestrian Center 8787 Park Ln. Dallas, TX

NOTABLES

A NATIONAL FORCE

- Over the past eight seasons, SMU Equestrian has become a powerhouse on the national scene. Dating back to the 2017-18 season, the program has hoisted either a conference or a national trophy during each season with exception to the COVID-disrupted season in 2019-20.
- The program's first conference championship came as a member of the UEC in 2017-18. The team went 10-6 during the season, and lost by just one point to Texas A&M during the NCEA Championships.
- In 2018-19, the Mustangs claimed their second consecutive UEC crown during a 10-5 season. SMU dominated the UEC Championships, dominating both UT Martin and Fresno State en route to the crown.
- Following the COVID pandemic, the program saw its most successful season yet, winning the ECAC Championship and advancing all the way to the finals of the NCEA Championships. The success continued the next year, as SMU won its second consecutive conference title during an 11-7 campaign in 2021-22.
- During its first year not associated with a conference, SMU Equestrian claimed the first National Championship in program history during a remarkable 13-1 season.
- To cement the program at the top of the sport, the Mustangs followed up the title with a 12-4 season in route to being crowned National Champions for the second consecutive season.
- The back-to-back National titles makes SMU just the third program to win back-to-back, joining Georgia and Auburn.

THE CAPTAINS

- The SMU Equestrian team tabbed four veterans to be the program's captains for the 2024-25 season.
- Graduate student **Shelby Clausen** is entering her second season on the Hilltop after transferring from Baylor. During the 2023-24 season, she posted an 8-8 record and earned two reining MOP awards. She is utilizing her fifth year of eligibility this season.
- Hensley Humphries** enters the 2024-25 season after seeing substantial action throughout her first three seasons with the Mustangs. Last season, she earned a 6-7 record in fences and 7-9 on the flat. For her career, she sits at 21-16-2 on the flat and 7-8-1 in fences. In addition to her accolades in competition, she also has earned NCEA First Team academic All-American honors the past two seasons.
- The 2023 & 2024 NCEA Fences Rider of the Year, **Augusta Iwasaki** enters the season following another phenomenal campaign where she went 11-5 in Fences and an unbeaten 8-0 on the Flat. She has posted a record of 22-6 in Fences for her career, and is 8-0 on the Flat.
- Returning for her fifth season, **Nya Kearns** enters 2024-25 as the defending NCEA Horsemanship Rider of the Year after breaking her own record for Horsemanship wins in a season with a 14-2 mark. For her career, she sits at a spectacular 49-7-4 and is the all-time SMU leader in Horsemanship victories.

NOTABLES

ATOP THE RECORD BOOK

- During her already illustrious SMU career, **Nya Kearns** has firmly cemented herself at the top of the Mustangs' record book.
- Kearns currently is SMU's all-time leader in wins entering her fifth season, with an impressive mark of 50.
- Her 12 wins during the 2022-23 season gave her the program record for Horsemanship wins in a season, and she proceeded to break that in 2023-24 with 14 victories.
- In addition, her 22 Horsemanship MOP's also has her far ahead at the top of the SMU record book.

NEW RIDERS ON THE BLOCK

- SMU welcomes eight new athletes for the 2024-25 campaign, all freshmen.
- The incoming class hails from eight different states and have already received high accolades during their prep career.
- Five of the freshmen compete in the western discipline, while four will see action in jumping seat.
- Three freshmen Mustangs made their debut during the season opener against No. 1 TCU, as Ava Blyth, Addi Schmersal and Violet Shetler all saw action.

A LOOK AHEAD

- The road slate continues for the Mustangs in October, with three meets against Texas A&M, Georgia and Auburn. The SEC programs were third, fourth and fifth, respectively, in the final NCEA rankings.
- Closing out the month of October, SMU will have its first rematch of the season against rival TCU at Dallas Equestrian Center. The matchup will also be the Mustangs 2024-25 home opener.
- SMU will continue up its home schedule against Baylor on November 9. The two programs did not meet last season, and the Mustangs claimed all three matchups during the 2022-23 season.
- In the final meet of the 2024 calendar year, SMU heads to Stillwater to face Oklahoma State in a rematch of last season's NCEA semifinal round. The Mustangs claimed an 11-9 victory over the Cowgirls, which also served as a rubber match for the season series.
- To open the 2025 calendar year, the Mustangs host South Dakota State for the second consecutive season. The home slate will continue with rematches against Texas A&M and Georgia in early February.
- SMU hits the road for the final time in the regular season on February 21-22 for matchups in Martin, Tennessee, against UT-Martin and Delaware State. Both programs appeared in the NCEA final rankings.
- The Mustangs 2024-25 regular season closes out with home rematches against Oklahoma State and Auburn at the beginning of March.
- NCEA Nationals will be held in Ocala, Florida, on April 17-20 as SMU seeks to claim its third consecutive National Championship.

COMPETITION FORMAT

The National Collegiate Equestrian Association tests five riders from each team in head-to-head competitions. Five horses are selected for each event. Each rider is paired with one of the five horses in a random draw before the competition. She is able to watch the horse warm up and receives four minutes to practice on her assigned mount before competing. Riders from opposing teams compete on the same horse in the head-to-head competition. Each rider receives a score, and the rider with the highest score receives one point for her team. In NCEA competition, the level of difficulty is demonstrated by the accuracy of the pattern and how the competitor uses the horse that she draws to the best of her ability.

Jumping Seat Fences - The judges evaluate the rider's position, consistency on course, smoothness, flow from jump to jump, the number of strides (steps taken by the horse) in a line and the rider's plan to complete the course. Scoring for the event is out of a perfect score of 100.

Jumping Seat Flat - The riders have to perform a flat test on their horses in a 40 x 20 meter arena. The test consists of nine movements to be judged on accuracy, smoothness and overall position of the rider. Each movement receives a score from 1-10. The ninth and 10th scores judges the position and seat of the rider and the correctness and effectiveness of her aids. The score is out of a perfect score of 100.

Western Horsemanship - This event is designed to evaluate the rider's ability to execute a prescribed set of maneuvers with precision and smoothness while maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position. The ideal horsemanship pattern consists of seven to nine maneuvers and is extremely precise with the rider and horse working in complete unison, executing each maneuver with subtle aids and cues. Exhibitors are scored for each sequence of maneuvers with a -3 to +3 score for each maneuver with a base score beginning at 70.

Western Reining - This event based on set patterns and a precise scoring system. Within these patterns the horses' and riders' athletic abilities are tested in a series of maneuvers including spins, stops, flying lead changes and circles with changes in size and speed. In collegiate competition, the rider must perform one of the set National Reining Horse Association (NHRA) patterns. There are a total of eight parts to a reining test with each individual maneuver judged from -1.5 to +1.5 with a base score beginning at 70.

THE LAST MEETING

Kearns Sets MOP Program Record In SMU's 10-8 Loss At No. 2 Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (SMU) – Nya Kearns earned her 18th career MOP, an SMU equestrian program record, in the Mustangs' 10-8 loss to No. 2 Texas A&M on Saturday.

Kearns' MOP ride in Horsemanship marked the most ever earned in the program in all events, surpassing Schaefer Raposa.

SMU moves to 7-4 on the year, including a 1-1 season split with Texas A&M.

The Mustangs swept the Most Outstanding Performer (MOP) award, with Katy Merchant (Flat), Shelby Clausen (Reining) and Augusta Iwasaki (Fences) joining Kearns (Horsemanship).

The meet started with the Flat and Reining occurring simultaneously.

Merchant got the Mustangs off to a hot start on the Flat, scoring an event-high 93 in her MOP ride to beat Texas A&M's Devon H. Thomas (85). Augusta Iwasaki followed with an 89-84 win over Devan M. Thomas for SMU's second point on the Flat.

SMU picked up one point in a reining event that saw two ties. Clausen earned her MOP in her 71.5-69.5 win over Texas A&M's Gracie Casebolt. Clausen's 71.5 tied Taylor Zimmerman for a reining-high score on the day.

The second half saw Fences and Horsemanship coincide. SMU would go on to take the Fences event (3-2).

Iwasaki earned her second win of the day in a 90-81 MOP ride over Texas A&M's Kate Egan. Hensley Humphries came through next, beating Devon H. Thomas 88-83 for SMU's second event point. Hannah Hoch then defeated Ali Treuting 85-80 to secure the Fences win for the Mustangs.

Nya Kearns scored SMU's first Horsemanship point with her MOP ride, defeating Texas A&M's Millie Landon 75.5-73. Alexa Black posted the Mustangs' second point of the event in her 74.5-63.5 victory against Ella Patek.

FEBRUARY 24, 2024

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

HILDEBRAND EQUINE COMPLEX

	JS	W	F
#3 SMU	5	3	8
#2 TEXAS A&M	5	5	10

FENCES

Texas A&M	Score	Score	SMU
Alexa Leong	86.00	78.00	Avery Erickson
Brooke Brombach	87.00	82.00	Taylor Madden
Kate Egan	81.00	90.00	Augusta Iwasaki
Devon H. Thomas	83.00	88.00	Hensley Humphries
Ali Treuting	80.00	85.00	Hannah Hoch
	417.00	423.00	

Texas A&M 2 SMU 3

FLAT

Texas A&M	Score	Score	SMU
Maggie Nealon	80.00	75.00	Hensley Humphries
Devon H. Thomas	81.00	93.00	Katy Merchant
Devan M. Thomas	84.00	89.00	Augusta Iwasaki
Rylee Shufelt	86.00	85.00	Emma Engel
Brooke Brombach	86.00	85.00	Taylor Madden
	421.00	427.00	

Texas A&M 3 SMU 2

JUMPING SEAT TOTALS TAMU 5 | 838.00 SMU 5 | 850.00

HORSEMANSHIP

Texas A&M	Score	Score	SMU
Millie Landon	73.00	75.50	Nya Kearns
Ellie Gerbrandt	76.00	72.00	Lily Anderson
Ella Petak	63.50	74.50	Alexa Black
Hanna Olaussen	72.50	72.00	Jayna Lagace
Cori Cansdale	72.50	69.50	Caroline Nielson
	357.50	363.50	

Texas A&M 3 SMU 2

REINING

Texas A&M	Score	Score	SMU
Lauren Hanson	71.50	71.50	Taylor Zimmerman
Emmy Lu Marsh	68.00	68.00	Chalyce Head
Keesa Luers	68.00	66.00	Dani Latimer
Gracie Casebolt	69.50	71.50	Shelby Clausen
Mattie Gustin	67.50	67.00	Lily Anderson
	344.50	344.00	

Texas A&M 2 SMU 1

WESTERN TOTALS TAMU 5 | 702.00 SMU 3 | 707.50
WESTERN EQV TOTALS 755.00 768.75

TEAM TOTALS TAMU 10 | 1593.00 SMU 8 | 1618.80

THE SERIES

22ND MEETING | Texas A&M Leads 13-8

Home: 6-3, Away: 1-7, Neutral: 1-3

10/15/06	College Station	L	6-6 (902-937)
4/18/07	Waco	L	6-2
11/2/07	Dallas	L	3-9
10/18/08	College Station	L	2-8
2/5/10	Dallas	W	9-3
10/10/10	College Station	L	4-8
2/3/12	Dallas	W	6-4
10/26/12	College Station	L	3-9
10/11/13	College Station	L	8-12
10/4/14	Dallas	W	13-7
3/19/16	College Station	W	10-9
2/4/17	Dallas	L	9-11
4/19/18	Waco	L	7-8
2/2/19	College Station	L	9-11
2/15/20	Dallas	W	12-7
4/15/21	Waco	W	7-7 (3698.5-3693.5)
3/5/22	Dallas	L	8-11
4/15/22	Waco	L	5-14
3/11/23	Dallas	W	11-6
10/26/23	Dallas	W	9-9 (1605.25-1561.50)
2/24/24	College Station	L	8-10

ROSTER

NAME	CLASS	POSITION	HOMETOWN / HIGH SCHOOL (PREVIOUS SCHOOL)
Alexa Black	JR	Western	Cedarville, Ohio / Cedarville HS
Ava Blyth	FR	Western	Bend, Ore. / Mountain View HS
Makenna Bomke	SO	Western	Bend, Ore. / Mountain View HS
Rachel Brandt	FR	Jumping Seat	Orange County, Calif. / Santa Margarita Catholic HS
Rylee Butler	JR	Western	Larkspur, Colo. / Regis Jesuit HS
Shelby Clausen	GR	Western	Cave Creek, Ariz. / Cactus Shadows HS / Baylor
Reynolds Cole	JR	Jumping Seat	Tuscaloosa, Ala. / Tuscaloosa Academy
Evie Doles	SO	Western	Saint Louis, Mo. / Whitfield School
Grayson Douglas	SO	Western	Franklin, Tenn. / Battle Ground Academy
Emma Engel	SR	Jumping Seat	Carrollton, Ga. / Oak Mountain Academy
Avery Erickson	SR	Jumping Seat	Lucas, Texas / Spring Creek Academy
Sara Filiatreau	FR	Western	Bardstown, Ky. / Thomas Nelson HS
Lauren Graves	SR	Western	Plano, Texas / Fusion Academy HS
Avery Hansen	SO	Jumping Seat	Houston, Texas / The Woodlands Christian Academy
Chalyce Head	GR	Western	Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada
Hannah Hoch	JR	Jumping Seat	Whitefish Bay, Wis. / Univ. School of Milwaukee
Hensley Humphries	SR	Jumping Seat	Austin, Texas / Westlake HS
Augusta Iwasaki	JR	Jumping Seat	Calabasas, Calif. / Univ. of Nebraska Online HS
Genevieve Johns	SO	Jumping Seat	Munster, Ind. / Indiana University HS
Hailey Johns	SR	Jumping Seat	Munster, Ind. / Indiana University HS
Campbell Kahn	FR	Jumping Seat	Moreland Hills, Ohio / Hathaway Brown HS
Nya Kearns	GR	Western	Grayslake, Ill. / Warren Township HS
Katie Kiely	FR	Jumping Seat	Rumson, N.J. / The Ranney School
Taylor Kraft	JR	Jumping Seat	Bernardville, N.J. / Villa Wash Academy
Siena Krueger	JR	Western	Bellevue, Wash. / Eastside Catholic School
Jayna Lagace	SO	Western	Higganum, Conn. / Haddam-Killingworth HS
Anya Leland	FR	Western	Bellevue, Wash. / Bellevue HS
Brianna Merklin	SR	Western	Lewis Center, Ohio / Olentangy Orange HS
Aedan Mooney	RS FR	Jumping Seat	Golden, Colo. / Faith Christian HS
Elle Moreno	JR	Jumping Seat	Dallas, Texas / Spring Creek Academy
Ava Peck	SR	Jumping Seat	Los Angeles, Calif. / Univ. of Nebraska Online HS
Maria Richards	SR	Western	Saint Thomas, Pa. / Saint Maria Goretti Catholic HS
Addi Schmersal	FR	Western	Scottsdale Ariz. / Scottsdale Online Learning
Violet Shetler	FR	Western	Seagertown, Pa. / Seagertown HS
Katelyn VanDenburg	SO	Jumping Seat	Miller Place, N.Y. / Miller Place HS
Annie Veenstra	JR	Jumping Seat	Santa Fe, N.M. / Santa Fe Prep
Annabel Whitehead	JR	Jumping Seat	Richmond, Va. / Chatham Hall HS
Elli Yeager	SR	Jumping Seat	Westlake Village, Calif. / Laurel Springs HS

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Makenna Bomke	bomb-key	Katie Kiely	kee-lee
Rachel Brandt	brant	Jayna Lagace	legacy
Sara Filiatreau	fill-e-atreau	Anya Leland	On-ya
Augusta Iwasaki	e-wa-saki	Caroline Signorino	cig-nor-ino



BRAD KEARNS

**HEAD COACH
NC STATE, 1989
FIRST SEASON (FOURTH AT SMU)**

NCEA Western Coach of the Year and two-time National Championship assistant coach Brad Kearns has been named the Head Coach of the SMU Equestrian program, Director of Athletics Rick Hart announced in July, 2024 after serving three years as the Mustangs' Western Coach and Associate Head Coach.

In his third year with the Mustangs, Kearns helped SMU earn its second consecutive NCEA Dual Discipline National Championship. During the season, Kearns mentored three Western All-America Selections, two NCEA Riders of the Year, four All-Championship Team honorees and a Nationals MOP. Kearns led the Mustangs' Western arena to a 10-4-2 record in 2023-24, and was honored as the NCEA's Western Coach of the Year.

Kearns was a key component of a historic Mustang team that captured SMU's first NCEA National Title in program history. Five of Kearns' riders, Nya Kearns, Mallory Vroegh, Chalyce Head, Lily Anderson and Alexa Black were named NCEA All-Americans. Vroegh and Dani Latimer were also named the National Championships Most Outstanding Performers in Horsemanship and Reining, respectively.

In Kearns' first year as the Western Coach, SMU added its fourth consecutive ECAC Conference title and finished No. 3 in the final NCEA poll of the season. The Mustangs were 11-7 on the year and 4-1 in the conference. At the NCEA Championships in Ocala, Florida, SMU took down No. 1 Auburn in convincing fashion 12-8 in the quarterfinals. Kearns coached two all-American selections in Nya Kearns and Mallory Vroegh. The Mustangs had four NCEA all-American selections total, including two in the Western discipline.

Kearns took over as the Mustangs' Western Coach in July 2021. He joins SMU after a successful career competing, coaching and judging in the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA), American Paint Horse Association (APHA) and National Snaffle Bit Association (NSBA).

Kearns has coached multiple youth riders to AQHA High Point All-Around year-end titles. In addition, he has coached two AQHA Select World Champions, eight AQHA Youth World Champions, four AQHA Amateur Reserve World Champions, three AQHA Amateur Reserve World Champions and three Appaloosa World Champions.

As a competitor, Kearns is an AQHA World Champion and Reserve World Champion in Trail and Western Pleasure and has won a number of national titles in other events as well.

Kearns has served as a judge at major horse shows across the United States and around the world in countries like Switzerland, Germany and Australia. He previously judged the American Quarter Horse Association World Championship Show and the Australian Pleasure Horse Association National Championship Show.

Kearns' daughter, Nya Kearns, competes in Horsemanship for the Mustangs. Nya is a three-time all-American.



LAURA PERSONS

**ASSISTANT COACH
CORNELL, 2007
FOURTH SEASON**

Laura Persons took over as the Mustangs' Jumping Seat Coach after 15 years of experience in the horse industry.

In Persons' third season, she helped lead SMU to its second consecutive NCEA Dual Discipline National Championship. Under Persons, the SMU Jumping Seat arena was awarded an NCEA Rider of the Year, two Nationals MOPs and two All-Championship Team honorees. Persons helped SMU's Jumping Seat events earn an overall record of 11-3-2, and had two All-America selections.

In Persons' second season on the Hilltop, she helped guide SMU to a historic season. The Mustangs finished the year with a program-best 13-1 record and won the program's first NCEA National Championship. Persons helped mentor Augustus Iwasaki, Madigan Eppink, Emma Engel and Hensley Humphries to All-America status.

In Person's first year as the Jumping Seat Coach, SMU added its fourth consecutive ECAC Conference title and finished No. 3 in the final NCEA poll of the season. The Mustangs were 11-7 on the year and 4-1 in the conference. At the NCEA Championships in Ocala, Florida, SMU took down No. 1 Auburn in convincing fashion 12-8 in the quarterfinals. Persons helped Taylor Madden earn the nod as a first-team all-America selection in the Flat and NCEA co-Rider of the Year, along with freshman Elli Yeager earning second-team honors in Fences. Person's first season saw Hensley Humphries be named as the ECAC Freshman of the Year honors.



DEAN LATIMER

**ASSISTANT COACH
SECOND SEASON**

Dean Latimer was announced as SMU Equestrian's Assistant Reining Coach in 2023.

Latimer, no stranger to the National Reining Horse and American Quarter Horse Associations, has many years of experience in both associations with specialization in reining horses. As an NRHA Professional, Latimer garnered much success in the show-pen, and has been an active, well respected NRHA Judge while also serving as the Head of the NRHA Judge's committee in the past.

Latimer has coached many non pro, youth and rookie riders to success, including several of his youth and non-pro riders committing to Division 1 Equestrian teams. He was the 2019 NRHA Youth Coach of the Year, and has coached 3 riders to four NAAC NRHA Youth 14-18 Championship titles at the NRHA Futurity.

2024-25 SEASON RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT				--- JUMPING SEAT ---			--- WESTERN ---			SMU RK
		SMU	OPP		FLAT	FENCES	OVERALL	H'SHIP	REINING	OVERALL	
Sept. 20	at #1 TCU	L 10 1548.75	10 1599.50		L, 2-3	W, 3-2	T, 5-5	W, 3-2	L, 2-3	T, 5-5	2
Oct. 3	at Texas A&M	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Oct. 18	at Georgia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Oct. 19	at Auburn	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Oct. 25	TCU	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nov. 9	Baylor	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Nov. 15	at Oklahoma State	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Jan. 31	South Dakota State	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Feb. 1	Texas A&M	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Feb. 15	Georgia	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Feb. 21	at UT Martin	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Feb. 22	vs. Delaware State	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
March 1	Oklahoma State	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
March 7	Auburn	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
April 17-20	NCEA Championships	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

2024-25 INDIVIDUAL LEADERS

FENCES

Wins

1	Aedan Mooney
1	Augusta Iwasaki
1	Elli Yeager

Mops

1	Elli Yeager
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Points

93.00	Augusta Iwasaki	at TCU (09.20.24)
	Elli Yeager	at TCU (09.20.24)
90.00	Katelyn VanDenburg	at TCU (09.20.24)
82.00	Hannah Hoch	at TCU (09.20.24)
78.00	Aedan Mooney	at TCU (09.20.24)

FLAT

Wins

1	Katelyn Vandenburg
1	Elli Yeager

Mops

1	Elli Yeager
---	-------------

Points

93.00	Elli Yeager	at TCU (09.20.24)
83.00	Augusta Iwasaki	at TCU (09.20.24)
	Hensley Humphries	at TCU (09.20.24)
81.00	Katelyn VanDenburg	at TCU (09.20.24)

HORSEMANSHIP

Wins

1	Alexa Black
1	Jayna Lagace
1	Nya Kearns

Mops

1	Ava Black
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Points

77.5	Alexa Black	at TCU (09.20.24)
76.5	Jayna Lagace	at TCU (09.20.24)
74.00	Nya Kearns	at TCU (09.20.24)
69.00	Violet Shetler	at TCU (09.20.24)
68.00	Ava Blyth	at TCU (09.20.24)

REINING

Wins

1	Maria Richards
1	Chalyce Head

Mops

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Points

70.00	Addi Schmersal	at TCU (09.20.24)
69.50	Maria Richards	at TCU (09.20.24)
68.50	Shelby Clausen	at TCU (09.20.24)
68	Siena Krueger	at TCU (09.20.24)
	Chalyce Head	at TCU (09.20.24)

2024-25 INDIVIDUAL RESULTS: FENCES

HANNAH HOCH 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Ella Bostwick	Electric	L	82	92

AUGUSTA IWASAKI 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Tiffany Geere	Caramba	W	93	55

AEDAN MOONEY 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Lilly Goldstein	Fats	W	78	77

KATELYN VANDENBURG 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Ashleigh Scully	Java	L	90	92

ELLI YEAGER 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Jordyn Scelsa	Vam	W-MOP	93	79

2024-25 INDIVIDUAL RESULTS: FLAT

HENSLEY HUMPHRIES 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Ashleigh Scully	Luke	L	83	87

AUGUSTA IWASAKI 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Laurel Smith	Mac	L	83	86

AEDAN MOONEY 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Lilly Goldstein	Fudge	L	0	83

KATELYN VANDENBURG 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Savonna Adell	Gipsy	W	81	79

ELLI YEAGER 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Ella Bostwick	Lina	W-MOP	93	91

2024-25 INDIVIDUAL RESULTS: HORSEMANSHIP

ALEXA BLACK 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Shea Graham	Cupid	W-MOP	77.5	75

AVA BLYTH 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Jessica McAllister	Flash	L	68	70.5

NYA KEARNS 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Payton Boutelle	Peyton	W	74	72.5

JAYNA LAGACE 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Sydney Feager	Jake	W	76.5	76

VIOLET SHETLER 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Elizabeth West	George	L	69	71.5

2024-25 INDIVIDUAL RESULTS: REINING

SHELBY CLAUSEN 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Lannie-Jo Lisac	Alfie	L	68.5	69

CHALYCE HEAD 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Jessica McAllister	Boogie	W	68	67.5

SIENA KRUEGER 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Shea Graham	Britney	L	68	70

MARIA RICHARDS 1-0-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Kylie Baker	Roxie	W	69.5	69

ADDI SCHMERSAL 0-1-0

Date	Team	Opponent	Horse	Result	SMU	Opp
9/20	at TCU	Kaylene Cunningham	Smooch	L	70	70.5



- SMU, a private university in Dallas, is a center for global research and teaching that serves approximately 7,000 undergraduates and 5,000 graduate students through eight degree-granting schools.
- SMU ranks in the top 20% of universities by U.S. News and World Report, with top 50 graduate programs in business (34), law (44) and education (48).
- SMU attracts high-achieving students from all 50 states and over 85 countries, with incoming first-year students averaging a 32 ACT score and a 3.7 GPA. Seven out of 10 first-year students receive scholarships or grants, and 75% graduate without debt.
- Within six months of graduation, 91% of graduate students and 86% of undergraduates are employed, enrolled in further education, pursuing military service, or volunteering. The median starting salary for undergraduates is \$70,000 and \$85,000 for graduates.
- Ninety-two percent of SMU student-athletes earn degrees, and 80% graduate with a GPA of 3.0 or higher. SMU's Life after Ball program supports their career readiness through networking, mentoring, and internships.
- Sophisticated high-performance computing and targeted goals are the hallmarks of SMU research which fosters interdisciplinary collaboration on earth hazards and national security; education and technology; data science and urban studies.
- SMU faculty members are elected to prestigious groups such as the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, National Academy of Education, and Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation Scholars. They are also fellows of organizations like the National Endowment for the Humanities, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, American Council of Learned Societies, National Humanities Center and Harvard Society of Fellows – Junior Fellows.
- SMU graduate students receive prestigious awards like the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant, Boren Fellowship, and the Federal Highway Administration Dwight D. Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship. They also earn competitive dissertation and career advancement awards, including the Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship, PEO Scholar Award, ACLS Emerging Voices and Leading Edge Fellowships.
- SMU undergraduates are regularly selected for competitive national awards, including 31 Goldwater Scholars, four Marshall Scholars, 15 Truman Scholars and two Schwarzman Scholars. In the last five years, 28 students were awarded Fulbright scholarships.



THIS IS SMU



- Entrepreneurship opportunities abound at SMU – through academic majors and minors ranging from business and engineering to the arts – as well as academic centers offering mentoring, funding, competitions and support to students across various disciplines.
- SMU is home to the George W. Bush Presidential Center, Library, Museum, Foundation and Institute, attracting over 1.9 million visitors since opening in 2013.
- SMU is Dallas' university, located in a city that hosts 24 Fortune 500 companies.
- Dallas was named the No. 1 best sports business city by the Sports Business Journal in 2024, boasting of six professional sports clubs, collegiate athletics, annual premiere events and world class athletics' facilities.
- SMU Athletics has invested over \$250 million in facilities since 2013. The Garry Weber End Zone Complex at Ford Stadium, opening in fall 2024, features premium fan spaces and dynamic student-athlete facilities.
- SMU is the only NCAA FBS program in Dallas, with a record of 10 national championships, over 200 team conference championships, 100 individual national championships, 150 NCAA top-10 finishes, nearly 2,000 All-American honors and more than 150 Olympic appearances.
- SMU won a school-record eight championships in 2023-24 and is riding a surge of momentum heading into 2024-25, with all 17 programs reaching the postseason and 16 programs winning conference championships since 2013.
- SMU football has more wins than any Division I team in the state of Texas since 2019 and appeared in the AP Top 25 in four of the last five years. In the fall of 2023, the Mustangs won their first conference championship since 1984.
- In 2023-24, SMU finished as the No. 1 American Athletic Conference program and ranked 54th nationally in the final LEARFIELD Directors' Cup Division I Standings, ahead of six programs from the Big 12, five schools from the ACC, four teams from the Big Ten and three programs from the SEC.
- In the week after the ACC offered membership to SMU, the University raised \$100 million to support its move to the conference, and a total of \$159 million over the 2023-24 fiscal year. In preparation for its inaugural year in the ACC, SMU set a new season ticket sales record for Ford Stadium and is on pace to more than double year over year.