

Ellie Edles Williams

Head Coach

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Biography

In 2023-24, Williams led the Mustangs to their first appearance in the NCAA tournament since 2011. In only her second season as head coach, Williams was named Big West Coach of the Year. Under Williams' coaching, four Mustangs- Peyton Dunkle, Delanie Dunkle, Romane Moss and Melissa LaMette- also took home All-Big West Honors. The Mustangs ended their second season with Williams with an overall record of 13-9-1, with a home record of 4-1-1 and an away record of 4-7.

During her first year at the helm in 2022-23, Williams led the Mustangs to their third consecutive Big West Championship match — a first in the program's history. Cal Poly reached several other significant milestones under her watch in 2022-23, including making their first postseason appearance in 12 years by participating in the inaugural Universal Tennis NIT Championship. The Mustangs finished with an 14-11 overall record in 2022-23, marking the first time in Division I program history the team secured 14 or more wins in three straight seasons.

In a 4-1 loss to No. 62 Colorado in the quarterfinals of the NIT Championship on May 17, 2023, Cal Poly earned its first match point in postseason play in Division I program history. The Mustangs also ended the regular season with an historic win, defeating UC Santa Barbara 4-3 on April 22 to capture their first victory at UCSB since 2011. It was also the program's first win overall over the Gauchos since 2014 and allowed the team to lock up the No. 2 seed in the Big West Championships.

Five players garnered All-Big West honors in Williams' first season, including Alexandra Ozerets becoming just the second player in program history to be named Big West Freshman of the Year.

Williams served as an assistant coach at Cal Poly from 2019-20 prior to being promoted to associate head coach in January 2020. Williams was also an assistant coach for the Mustangs in the 2013-14 season.

In August 2021, Williams took on the interim head coaching duties at Cal State Fullerton for the 2021-22 season and led the Titans to a 16-8 record and a berth in the Big West Tournament semifinals. The team finished the season ranked No. 75 in the final Intercollegiate Tennis Association poll.

Following her first coaching stint at Cal Poly, Williams spent the 2015-16 season as an assistant coach at Middlebury College in Vermont, helping the Panthers reach the semifinals of the NCAA Division III Tournament and earn a No. 3 national ranking by the ITA.

From 2016-18, Williams was an assistant coach at Cal State Fullerton. In her first season with the program, the Titans achieved a school-record winning percentage of .826 and secured 11 straight victories to start the year,

the longest winning streak in program history. In 2017-18, the team advanced to the Big West Tournament championship match.

Williams, a 2013 UC Davis graduate, played for the Aggies' women's tennis team (2009-13) prior to earning her bachelor's degree in human development. She also received a master's degree in coaching and athletic administration from Concordia University of Irvine.

In addition to coaching collegiately, Williams has taught at San Luis Obispo Country Club for a number of years, coached at Orangetheory Fitness and earned her personal training certificate.

Williams' father, Mike Edles, spent 20 years as the UC Irvine women's tennis head coach and will serve as an assistant coach for Cal Poly in 2023-24.
