



Coaches

1997-98 Florida State
Seminole Basketball Media Guide

After an outstanding two-year stint as the Head Coach at Tulsa, Steve Robinson is set to make his mark on the Florida State basketball program in 1997-98.

————— New Seminole Head Coach Steve Robinson: 

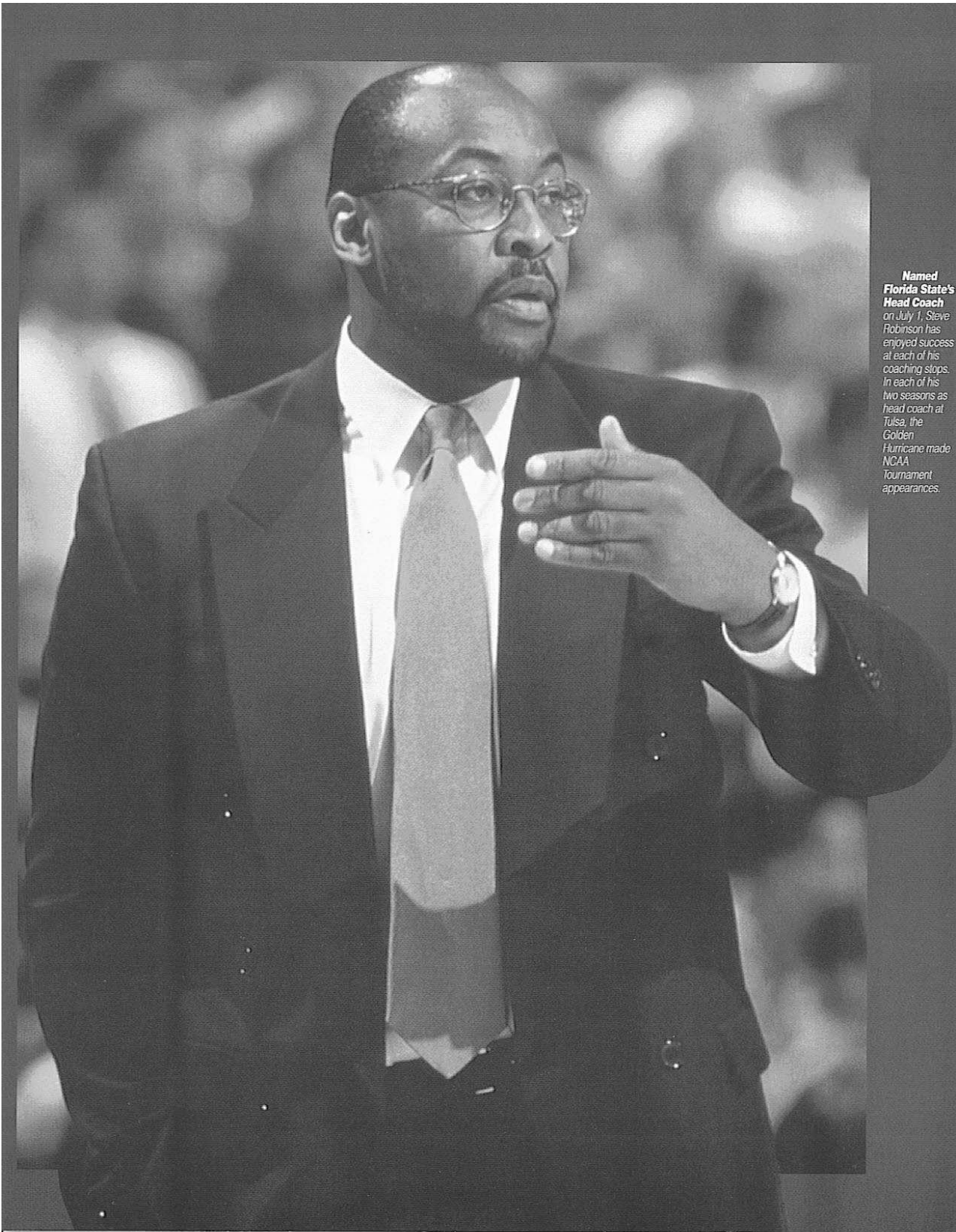
New to Florida State... Not New To Success

When Florida State Athletics Director Dave Hart was searching for a new head basketball coach for his Seminole program earlier this summer, he was certain about the qualities the next FSU coach would have. "I am looking for a coach that will recruit top student-athletes to our program, that will develop quality people, and that will be able to win games from the bench. I want a coach with a style that will attract recruits and excite fans," said Hart, at the outset of the search process. By all accounts, Hart got his man when on July 1, he named Steve Robinson as the sixth head coach in the history of the Florida State Men's Basketball program.

Robinson's 14 years of collegiate coaching experience, the first 12 as an assistant and the last two as the head coach at Tulsa, have been filled with success both on and off the basketball court. Robinson's characteristics off the court - discipline, organization, focus, confidence - carry over to his on-court coaching style and explain the success he has had at every stop during his professional life.

In fact, success has seemed to follow this coach through every venue of his career. The Robinson coaching resume includes: 13 winning seasons in his 14 years; nine NCAA Tournament appearances, including eight consecutive; an average of nearly 22 victories per season; and - just as importantly - numerous academic all-conference and honor roll awards for his players.





Named Florida State's Head Coach on July 1, Steve Robinson has enjoyed success at each of his coaching stops. In each of his two seasons as head coach at Tulsa, the Golden Hurricane made NCAA Tournament appearances.

While at Tulsa the last two seasons, Robinson posted back-to-back 20-win campaigns and guided the Golden Hurricane to the NCAA Tournament both years. His first season at the school produced a 22-8 record, the school's first Missouri Valley Conference tournament title in 11 years and an automatic bid into the Big Dance.

Robinson became only the second Tulsa head coach to take the program to the NCAA Tournament in his first year.

His second year at Tulsa presented a new challenge: a move to the expanded Western Athletic Conference. Robinson responded by taking Tulsa to the NCAA Tournament again, posting a 24-10 record (the fourth most wins in school history) and earning the WAC's Mountain Division Coach of the Year honor.

During Robinson's time as Kansas' academic counselor, nine Jayhawk players were named to the Big Eight All-Academic team and 37 recorded grade point averages of 3.0 or better during the fall or spring semesters. In his two years at Tulsa, 20 players recorded GPA's of 3.0 or better and last year's team GPA was 2.8.

Robinson's coaching star began to shine in the seven seasons prior to his appointment at Tulsa. During those seven years, he served as an assistant coach at Kansas under one of the college game's most respected coaches - Roy Williams. Robinson helped Williams build the Jayhawks into one of the nation's most dominant college

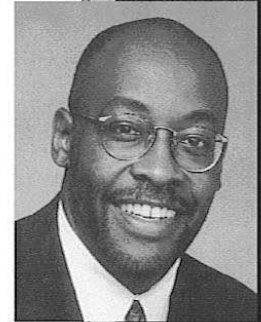
basketball programs from 1988-95. During that time, KU averaged 26 wins per season while compiling a 184-51 record. Kansas won four Big Eight Conference titles and made six trips to the NCAA Tournament, including appearances in the Final Four in 1991 and 1993. In addition to his coaching

duties at Kansas, Robinson served as the basketball program's academic counselor. During his time, nine Jayhawk players were named to the Big Eight All-Academic team and 37 recorded grade point averages of 3.0

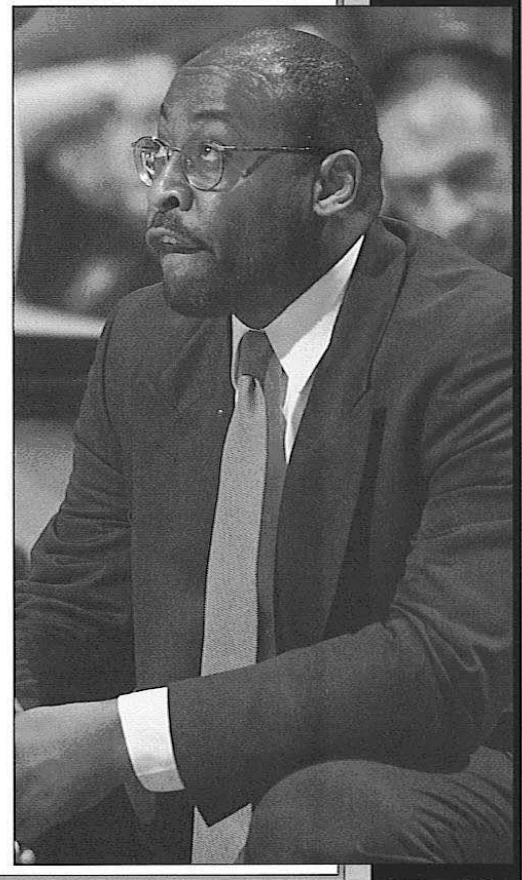
or better during the fall or spring semesters. In his two years at Tulsa, 20 players recorded GPA's of 3.0 or better and last year's team GPA was 2.8.

Prior to joining Williams at Kansas, Robinson served as an assistant coach for two years at Cornell. The Big Red went 15-11 in 1987 and 17-10 in 1988. The 1987-88 team earned the school's first NCAA Tournament berth in 34 years.

Robinson began his coaching career at Lincoln (Pa.) University, where he spent the 1981-82 season. A one-year stint at Albemarle High School in Charlottesville, Va. followed during the 1982-83 season. He then returned to



Steve Robinson's two-year record as head coach at Tulsa was 46-18. Just as impressive, 20 of his players earned GPAs of 3.0 or better.

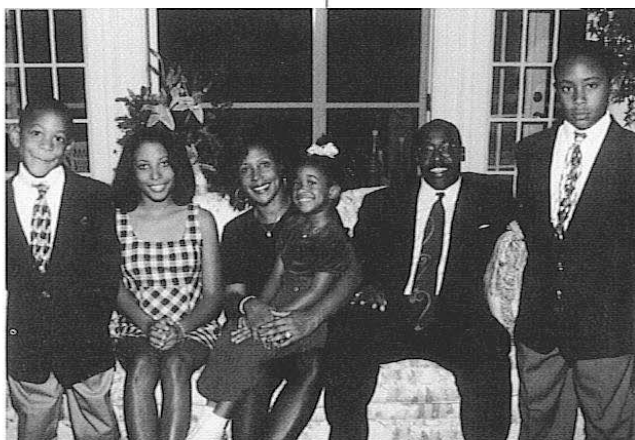


Robinson's Coaching Career

Year	Position	School	Record	Post-Season
1983-84	Assistant Coach	Radford	17-10	—
1984-85	Assistant Coach	Radford	16-12	—
1985-86	Assistant Coach	Radford	11-17	—
1986-87	Assistant Coach	Cornell	15-11	—
1987-88	Assistant Coach	Cornell	17-10	NCAA
1988-89	Assistant Coach	Kansas	19-12	—
1989-90	Assistant Coach	Kansas	30-5	NCAA
1990-91	Assistant Coach	Kansas	27-8	NCAA (Final Four)
1991-92	Assistant Coach	Kansas	27-5	NCAA
1992-93	Assistant Coach	Kansas	29-7	NCAA (Final Four)
1993-94	Assistant Coach	Kansas	27-8	NCAA
1994-95	Assistant Coach	Kansas	25-6	NCAA
1995-96	Head Coach	Tulsa	22-8	NCAA
1996-97	Head Coach	Tulsa	24-10	NCAA



The Robinson Family: Denzel (6), Shauna' (17), wife Lisa, Kiaya (5), Coach Robinson and Tarron (9)



his alma mater, Radford, for three seasons as an assistant coach (1983-85).

A native of Roanoke, Va., Robinson is a graduate of William Fleming High School. He attended Ferrum Junior College and played basketball for two years there before transferring to Radford to complete his eligibility. Robinson was Radford's first athletic scholarship recipient and was team captain during the 1980 and 1981 seasons. He received his bachelor's degree in health and physical education in 1981 and a master's degree in counseling in 1985, both from Radford.

Robinson and his wife, Lisa, have four children: daughters Shauna' (17) and Kiaya (5); and sons Tarron (9) and Denzel (6).

What They Are Saying About Florida State Head Basketball Coach Steve Robinson:

Kansas Head Coach Roy Williams:

"Steve Robinson is a truly unique individual in that he cares greatly about his players and combines that with constructive discipline that they appreciate. He will do a fantastic job at Florida State and that basketball program will reach even greater heights. People will be jealous of Florida State football AND basketball. The FSU people will look back on the day of his hiring as a great day for the university."

Florida State Athletics Director Dave Hart:

"Steve Robinson is something special. I think he will demonstrate that to everyone he comes into contact with in his role as our head men's basketball coach. He perfectly fits the profile of someone which I have no doubt can lead our men's basketball team with long-term goals in mind."

Florida State Senior LaMarr Greer:

"He is a very truthful guy and he cares about his players. You can tell that everything in his life is organized. He is the perfect fit for Florida State. We (the team) just wanted a coach that will help us win. Coach Robinson is that guy."

Kansas Senior Raef LaFrentz (recruited there by Robinson):

"Coach Robinson is a class individual who helped recruit me to play at Kansas. Once there, Coach Rob really helped me develop, both on and off the court. There is no doubt that the Florida State players will love playing for him."

Utah Jazz Rookie Point Guard Jacque Vaughn (recruited to Kansas by Robinson):

"Coach Robinson is very special to me. He was a great inspiration to me while he was at Kansas and he really helped me with basketball and with life. Florida State got a great coach who cares about his players, not just as players, but as people and students as well. That basketball program made the right choice."



Coleman Crawford

Assistant Coach North Alabama, '75

Coleman Crawford begins his first season on the Florida State basketball staff as assistant coach under Steve Robinson. Crawford was named to his post on July 7, 1997 and works with FSU's post players.

"Coleman is very well connected and very well respected in the coaching business," said Robinson. "He is a great teacher and has a great feel for postman development."

Crawford will hone the skills of two of the top returning big men in the Atlantic Coast Conference, Corey Louis and Randell Jackson, and will have the opportunity to aid in the development of freshman center Karim Shabazz. In addition to his post player duties, Crawford will assist in recruiting, scouting and daily practice coaching.

The 43-year old native of Henderson, NC, is one of two assistants on the Florida State staff that has Division I head coaching experience (Jim Platt is the other). Crawford was the head coach at Akron from 1989-1995. While at the school, Crawford compiled a 71-91 record and guided the Zips from independent status into the Mid Continent Conference and finally the Mid America Conference.

During the 1989-90 season, his first at Akron, the Zips went 16-12 and fell just one victory shy of tying the best record for a first-year Akron basketball coach. Crawford's teams also put together winning seasons in 1991 and 1992 with 15-13 and 16-12 marks, respectively.

Prior to his appointment at Akron, Crawford served as an assistant coach at Tennessee under Don DeVoe from 1986 through 1989. During his three seasons with the Vols, Tennessee earned bids to the 1988 NIT and 1989 NCAA Tournament. Previously, he was an assistant coach at Akron under current Cincinnati coach Bob Huggins for three years (1984-86) and also held assistant coaching positions at Middle Tennessee State (1982-84) and Delta State (1979-82).

Crawford is a member of the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) and has served on the NABC's Legislative Committee. He is a frequent speaker at coaching clinics around the nation as well, talking

about post player development. He also served as a member of the NCAA Midwest Advisory Committee that evaluates teams for the NCAA Tournament Selection Committee and, at the 1994 Final Four, participated as an instructor in a special NCAA youth clinic.

A standout in college at North Alabama, Crawford began his collegiate career at Seward County (KS) Community College before transferring to UNA. While at North Alabama, he was a two-time all-conference



performer in 1974 and 1975. In 1974 he was named conference player of the year. North Alabama honored Crawford by inducting him into its Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993.

Crawford received his bachelor's degree from North Alabama in history and secondary education in 1975 and earned a master's degree in administration supervision in 1980 from Delta State.

Crawford and his wife, Elaine, have two sons; William (24) and Adrian (19), who transferred into the Seminole basketball program from Tulsa during the summer.

Jim Platt

Assistant Coach Concordia, (IL) College, '73

Jim Platt, entering his 19th year of Division I college coaching, is in his first season as an assistant coach at Florida State. Platt joined FSU head coach Steve Robinson staff's at Tulsa for the 1995-96 season and followed Robinson to Tallahassee last summer.

Platt works with FSU's perimeter players and also holds recruiting and scouting responsibilities.

"Jim is as enthusiastic and hard-working as they come in this

business," said Robinson. "He owns a vast knowledge of the game of basketball and I am fortunate to have someone with his qualities on my staff."

Platt, along with fellow Florida State assistant Coleman Crawford, is a former head coach at the Division I college level after serving four seasons in that role at the University of Arkansas-Little Rock. He was named to that post prior to the 1990-91 season and led the Trojans to an 18-12 record and an appearance in the Trans America Athletic Conference Tournament championship game. Platt posted two winning seasons and compiled a 56-59 record in four years there.

He was on Robinson's staff at Tulsa the last two seasons as the Golden Hurricane twice advanced to the NCAA Tournament.

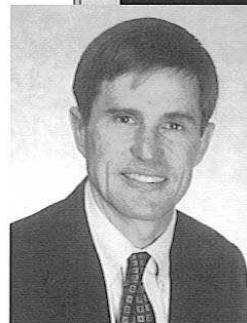
Prior to his appointment as the head coach at Arkansas-Little Rock, Platt was an assistant for 12 seasons at two Division I programs.

Platt served under Bob Donewald at Illinois State for six seasons from 1978-84 then moved on to DePaul under Joey Meyer from 1984-90. He was associated with teams that made nine postseason appearances, including seven NCAA Tournaments, in those 12 years and averaged 21 wins per season.

During his stint at Illinois State, the Redbirds finished in second place twice in the Missouri Valley Conference, won the MVC Tournament in 1983, were crowned co-champions



Coleman
Crawford



Jim
Platt





Matt Wingate

with Tulsa in 1984 and advanced to the NCAA Tournament twice and the NIT one time. Platt helped lead DePaul to five straight NCAA Tournament appearances and one trip to the NIT. While at DePaul, Basketball Times tabbed Platt as one of the nation's top 20 assistants. Platt began his coaching career at Luther North High School in Chicago in 1973. He made the jump to the collegiate ranks for the 1978-79 season.

A 1973 graduate of Concordia (IL) College, Platt earned a bachelor of arts degree. He was a four-year letter-winner on both the basketball and baseball teams at Concordia.

A native of Aurora, Illinois, the 46-year-old Platt and his wife, Cheryl, have three children: Jeff (20), a junior on the Tulsa basketball squad, Jessica (16) and Jamie (13).

Matt Wingate
Assistant Coach
Kansas, '92

Matt Wingate, a member of Steve Robinson's coaching staff at Tulsa the last two years, joined the Florida State basketball family as an assistant coach last July after Robinson was named the FSU head coach.

Wingate is in his sixth year of working with Robinson. "Matt is an extremely bright and energetic young man," said Robinson. "He knows how our program should be operated and has done a tremendous job working with me in the past."

Wingate's history with Robinson dates to his undergraduate days at the University of Kansas. While at Kansas, Wingate served as a basketball manager for three seasons during Robinson's assistant coaching stint under Roy Williams. Wingate was the Jayhawks' head manager as a senior and also served as a student-athlete tutor in English and science for a year. While at Kansas, he also served as a

supervising counselor at the Roy Williams Basketball Camp for three summers.

After earning a bachelor's degree in sports management from Kansas in 1992, Wingate moved on to the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) in Overland Park, KS. During his tenure at the NABC, he coordinated all aspects of NABC All-America awards program, assisted with the organization and marketing of the NABC East-West All-Star Game at the Final Four and served as the association's staff liaison to the NABC Congress and its committees.

Wingate joined Robinson's Tulsa coaching staff prior to the 1995-96 season and was an assistant coach on the Golden Hurricane's 1996 and 1997 NCAA Tournament teams.

The 27-year-old Wingate is a native of Eureka, KS.

Mark Meloney
Director of Athletic
Academic Support, Florida
State '86

Mark Meloney is in his first year as the Director of Athletic Academic Support at Florida State. Named permanently to the post in August, Meloney served as the department's acting director since October of 1996. He has worked in different capacities within FSU's academic support structure for the last nine years.

Meloney is responsible for coordinating and monitoring completion of degree requirements and overseeing the professional staff that provide advising and tutorial services to all Florida State student-athletes. His role also includes advising, registration and adherence to the University's rules and regulations.

An FSU alumnus, the 37-year-old Meloney earned his bachelor's degree in management and finance in 1986. Upon graduation, he took a position in the FSU Registrar's Office as the Student Affairs Coordinator. Meloney held the

position for three years before moving to the athletic department in 1989.

A native of Defuniak Springs, Florida, Meloney first enrolled at Buenavista College in Iowa, where he was a two-time letterwinner in both football and baseball.

Meloney, a member of the National Association of Academic Advisors for Athletes, is married to the former Sarah Cawthon and they have a daughter, Montana.

Sam Lunt
Head Basketball Trainer,
Miami '83

Sam Lunt is in his 14th year of association with the Florida State athletic department, and he begins his 10th as head basketball trainer in 1997-98.

Lunt originally came to FSU in 1983 as a graduate assistant after receiving his bachelor's degree in athletic training from the University of Miami. While at UM, he worked as a student trainer in the Hurricane athletic department and served as an assistant trainer with the NFL's Miami Dolphins in the summer of 1982.

As a graduate assistant at Florida State, Lunt worked with the Seminole football team while earning his master's in sports psychology. He then moved on to the Jacksonville Bulls of the USFL for the 1985 spring season, but returned to the college ranks that summer when he was named assistant trainer at Louisville.

The Fort Myers, Florida native returned to FSU in 1986 and his duties included assisting head trainer Randy Oravetz with the Seminole football team as well as working with all men's



Mark Meloney



Sam Lunt

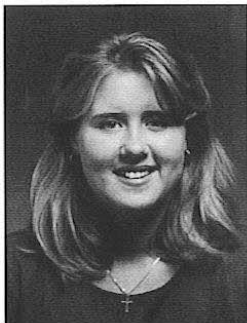
A certified member of the National Athletic Trainers Association, Sam Lunt begins his 14th year and 10th season as the Seminole's head basketball trainer.



Support Staff



Tim Juhlin
Administrative Assistant



Rebecca Deveraux
Basketball Secretary



Peggy McDowell
Basketball Secretary

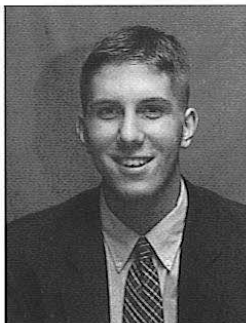
teams. Lunt then became head basketball trainer and oversees all spring sports.

Involved in athletics at both the national and international level, Lunt worked closely with FSU team physicians in planning and coordinating the medical coverage for the 1991 AAU Junior Olympics held in Tallahassee.

A certified member of the National Athletic Trainers Association, Lunt has also worked as a volunteer trainer at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, CO at the 1987 U.S. Olympic Festival and as the trainer for the U.S. track team at the 1989 World University Games in Duisburg, Germany.

Lunt, 36, is married to the former Agnes Bundick. The couple celebrated the birth of their first child, Ryan Patrick, in October of this year.

Basketball Managers



Tim Cregan



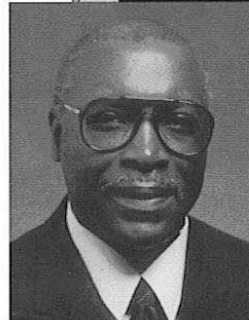
Luke Fry

Gene Granger Equipment Manager, Bethune-Cookman '71

A member of the Florida State athletic staff since 1971, Gene Granger is in his 19th year as head equipment manager for the Florida State basketball team.

A native of Dade City, Florida, Granger attended Bethune-Cookman College, where he played varsity baseball from 1969 through 1971. After college, he joined the Seminole athletic staff as an assistant manager for five years before being named to the head equipment manager position in 1977.

Granger, 52, and his wife, Alberta, are the parents of two children: Apryl (21) and Gene Jr. (17).



Gene Granger

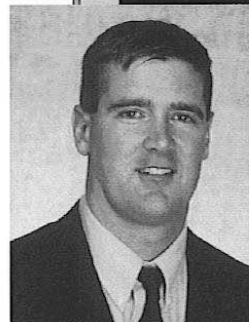
Eric Johnson Strength Coach

Eric Johnson is in his second season as the strength coach for the Florida State basketball program and his third year working with the Seminole athletic department.

Johnson coordinates a year-round weight room and conditioning program for FSU basketball players and also works closely with Florida State trainers as players recover from injuries.

A former wrestler at Western Illinois and amateur boxer, Johnson also serves as the head strength coach for Florida State's women's tennis team, cheerleaders and Golden Girl dance team. He also assists FSU head strength and conditioning coach Dave Van Halanger with the Seminole football program.

A native of Bloomington, Indiana, Johnson is a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association.



Eric Johnson