

2005-06 coaches

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Florida State head coach Sue Semrau nearly came face-to-face with wild giraffes and zebras. She spent time with a family of monkeys and walked through villages of dirt roads and grass huts. Sounds like an episode of *National Geographic*, and probably could have been, but actually, Semrau went on a two-week African Safari during the off-season. It was the type of vacation she had never taken before.

"It was amazing," Semrau said of the safari. "It was more than I could have ever imagined."

That trip marked the second time in the last year that Semrau "stepped out of the box" and out of her comfort zone and while the first time was no vacation, it was certainly amazing and *everything* she had always imagined.

Semrau has always had a "wild" imagination when it came to her expectations of the Florida State women's basketball program and the heights it could attain.

"I've always said you have to see the invisible, to do the impossible," she said upon her hiring in July of 1997.

Prior to the 2004-05 season, she "stepped out of the box" in her own coaching style in order to move the program a

step closer to those goals. Semrau made associate head coach Cori Close the offensive coordinator, assistant coach Lance White the defensive coordinator and assistant coach Angie Johnson the recruiting coordinator. The previous seven years, Semrau involved herself in every move and every decision of her program and she felt it was time to allow her assistants to take ownership and have authority with responsibility.

"I needed to make some changes for the program's and my development's sake," Semrau said.

The results were nothing short of spectacular. With a 24-8 record and an NCAA Tournament second round appearance, Semrau and her staff guided the Seminoles to one of the program's most successful seasons, which earned Semrau Atlantic Coast Conference Coach of the Year accolades for the second time in her career. The honor was very deserving for not only what the team accomplished on the court, but for how Semrau helped her squad overcome a great deal of adversity.

Heading into the 2004-05 season, the team was dealing with devastating circumstances with the death of promising sophomore Ronald Pierce, a projected starter who died suddenly in early June 2004. FSU would also be without two other projected starters so entering preseason conditioning, an already fragile team was without its top six scorers from the previous season. The roster was comprised of 10 players and of the 10, only five played the season before, one was coming back from a medical redshirt season and four others had never played a single minute as a Seminole.

"There are a lot of different ways that I think this team could have gone as a result of such a tragedy occurring in our program," Semrau said at last season's ACC Media Day. "It's been incredible to

coaching stops

FSU/CAREER RECORD: 116-118 (8 years)

COACHING EXPERIENCE:

Occidental College (Los Angeles, CA) — Head Coach/Assistant Athletic Director (1987-90)

Northern Illinois University (DeKalb, IL) — Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator (1990-93)

University of Wisconsin (Madison, WI) — Assistant Coach/Recruiting Coordinator (1994-97)

Florida State University — Head Coach (1997-present)

2001 & 2005 ACC COACH OF THE YEAR



watch the strength and the character that has been built into a group of people as a result of losing someone we all loved dearly. I really believe that it's going to make a difference for us this year, not only on the basketball court as we enter into Phase Two of our program, but also as we continue on with our lives outside of basketball."

While the foundation and the strength of the program would remain an unwavering commitment to the total collegiate experience, Semrau made significant changes entering into Phase Two in 2004-05. In Phase Two, there was an attitudinal shift within the program, which was geared toward a higher level of personal responsibility, selflessness and the development of a championship mentality.

"When I arrived at Florida State seven years ago, we were winless in the ACC and had been a cellar dweller for quite sometime," Semrau explained. "We had to do some things to jumpstart our program. We had a lot of courageous young people that stepped into our program who were very talented but maybe didn't have that elite level work ethic that you would hope in a contender that was year-in and year-out in the Top 20. With Phase Two, we've taken a major shift in our program to commit to a little different way of doing things."

Semrau's *different* way of doing things resulted in the *right* way of doing things for the program. FSU did indeed defy the odds in 2004-05 and for the first time in program history, the Seminoles made a national postseason tournament appearance for a third straight season. FSU's fourth-place ACC finish in the expanded league race was no where near what the

media had predicted. At ACC Media Day, the media picked FSU to finish eighth in the 12-team league which proved to be four spots too low.

The Seminoles began the season on a mission and with a perfect 12-0 record. It was not only the best start in program history, but the most consecutive wins an FSU women's basketball team has ever strung together. But that was just the beginning of the "firsts" Semrau would lead FSU to in 2004-05. Once the ACC season began, the Seminoles won three straight overtime games in the same week over ranked league teams. FSU broke into the national rankings in January and spent five weeks there. It was the first time FSU had been ranked in the *USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll* since December 2001 and the Seminoles earned their highest ranking ever in the poll at No. 19. When the team broke into the *Associated Press* rankings,



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it was the first time since 1990-91. In February, the team earned its 20th victory of the season. It was the first time since 1990-91 that FSU had earned 20 or more wins and just the fifth time ever in the program's history.

Semrau, herself, admits that over the years, she has grown in many ways as a head coach and in that process, she has tried to pattern her coaching philosophies after coaches that she admires and respects. One of those coaches is Florida State's very own Bobby Bowden. Sure, who wouldn't want to imitate the actions of a coaching legend? But what people may not realize is that when Coach Bowden arrived in Tallahassee in 1976, he was facing a situation that was very similar to what Semrau faced when she came to FSU in 1997. The Seminole football team had won just four games combined in the two years before Bowden arrived. The Seminole women's basketball team had won just five games and had gone 0-16 in the ACC the season prior to Semrau's arrival. Both had huge challenges ahead of them and both committed themselves to revitalizing their respective programs. Bowden's success speaks for itself. He took a football program that FSU was consider-



ing discontinuing and turned it into a national power. In eight seasons, Semrau, who has a 116-118 record at FSU, has taken a program from the cellar of the ACC and turned it into a program that is respected not only in the state of Florida and in the ACC, but in the nation as well. The daunting task that faced Semrau in 1997 when she was named Florida State's third head coach in as many years certainly would have persuaded others to run the other way, but not Semrau. She had a passion and a desire to build and she wasn't going to let anything get in her way. Now, Florida State is reaping the benefits of Semrau's determination and Florida State women's basketball is definitely back on the map. Under Semrau's direction, the Seminoles have made four postseason appearances in the past five years, been nationally-ranked and have finished in the ACC top four, three times.

Over the years, Semrau has guided the program to many milestones, including defeating Clemson at Clemson for the first time in FSU history. In fact, FSU had beaten Clemson just once in 24 tries, and not since 1992, and has now won six straight games over the Tigers. In 2003-04, the Seminoles earned their first ever victory at Virginia. Having never beaten the Cavaliers until the 2000-01 season, FSU now has four victories over the ACC-foe. The Tribe has also become somewhat of a thorn in Duke's side over the past few years. When Semrau guided the Seminoles to an 80-74 win over the No. 2-ranked Blue Devils on February 4, 2004, it was not only the highest ranked opponent FSU had ever beaten, but it snapped Duke's 51-ACC game winning streak. Last season, the Seminoles took down rival Florida, in Gainesville, snapping a 16-game losing skid to the Gators.

It was evident that Semrau was gaining ground on turning the program around in 2000-01 when she led the Seminoles to a No. 25 final ranking with a 19-12 record, a third-place finish in the ACC and its first NCAA Tournament since 1990-91. It was Florida State's first winning season since 1991-92 as well as the school's best league finish since joining the ACC in 1991. The Seminoles were the only team in the nation to defeat Duke on its home court in 2000-01 and earned their highest-ever seed in the ACC Tourney at No. 4 and advanced to the tournament's semifinals for the first time. Other firsts included defeating Virginia for the first time and FSU took two of three from the Cavaliers, including a win in the



ACC Tournament. The Seminoles' win over Tulane in the NCAA Tournament marked the first time that FSU has recorded a postseason victory away from Tallahassee.

Semrau received her first Atlantic Coast Conference Coach of the Year honor by the Atlantic Coast Sports Writers Association in 2001 after Florida State's vast improvement.

Semrau's philosophy in rebuilding the Florida State program has been a simple one. Semrau runs her program in such a way where players are treated as people first, students second and athletes third. It is this respect for her players that has gotten the program where it is today.

Semrau's style has been embraced by all who have come in contact with her. She has won the hearts of the Florida State media, fans and most importantly, the student-athletes, which has become very evident in her recruiting success. Semrau and her staff have brought in five of the nation's top recruiting classes since their arrival. Four players have also been drafted to the WNBA since Semrau's arrival, with Roneeka Hodges becoming FSU's highest draft pick, going No. 15 overall to the Houston Comets in 2005. Former Seminole standout Brooke Wyckoff, who was drafted in 2001, just completed her fifth season in the league and helped guide her Connecticut Sun team to the WNBA finals in 2005.

Semrau's friendliness and ease with the media have made her a favorite to interview and the "Lunch with Sue" booster-sponsored luncheons, continue to grow in popularity and attendance.

Her commitment to community service has also been a priority for the program. The Seminoles have performed a variety of services throughout the Tallahassee area and have been known to extend a helping hand when on the road, making visits to the Boys and Girls Club at the Coalition for the Homeless in Orlando and elementary schools in Harlem, West Chester and Wadsworth, Ohio and Martinsville, Indiana.

“Anytime we can do something to help people when we’re on the road, it sinks in a little deeper than even when we are in our own community,” Semrau said. “It’s not only important when we are in Tallahassee, but anywhere we go, there’s a need.”

Prior to coming to FSU, Semrau served three years as an assistant coach and recruiting coordinator at the University of Wisconsin, under Jane Albright, where she contributed to the Badgers’ three straight winning seasons and two NCAA tournament appearances, including the program’s first ever back-to-back 20-win seasons. Semrau was also noted for her recruiting efforts at Wisconsin with a 1995 recruiting class that ranked eighth in the country by *Blue Star Index*. Semrau first joined Albright at Northern Illinois in 1991 where she assisted in leading NIU to three consecutive NCAA tournament appearances.

Prior to her hiring at Northern Illinois, Semrau served as head women’s basketball coach and assistant athletic

director at Occidental College in Los Angeles for four years where she compiled a 51-47 overall record. She also coached soccer for two seasons and was responsible for the administrative duties of fundraising and promotions at the Division III institution. At Occidental, Semrau was a member of the NCAA regional selection committee and chaired the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for women’s basketball.

Semrau also worked as the public relations and promotions director for the L.A. Heat professional soccer team from 1986-87, and the public relations director for the Seattle Storm soccer team in the previous year.

A native of Seattle, Wash., Semrau is a graduate of Shorecrest High School where she earned all-conference honors in her senior year. She went on to attend the University of Puget Sound for two years. Semrau transferred to the University of California-San Diego in 1984 where she finished her career ranking 13th in all-time scoring and fourth in all-time assists. She graduated in 1985 with a bachelor’s degree in communications and received her master’s degree in athletic administration from the University of Southern California in 1988.

An accomplished speaker, Semrau is a very popular guest speaker in the community as well as with alumni groups around the state. She is also active as a volunteer with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.



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When Sue Semrau chose Cori Close as associate head coach in May 2004, she said Close's years of coaching experience and ability to teach the game and connect with people would have an immediate impact on the Florida State basketball program. Semrau couldn't have been more right. Semrau earmarked Close as the program's offensive coordinator and her coaching expertise helped the Seminoles to a 24-8 record and a second round appearance in the NCAA Tournament last season.

Close, a lifelong resident of California, took a leap of faith when she moved across country to Florida to join the FSU program. She was content at UC-Santa Barbara, where she had spent nine seasons with the Gauchos' program, including three years as associate head coach, but there was something drawing her to Florida State and it didn't take long for her to feel right at home. Close's coaching style made an immediate difference. A demanding, detail-oriented offensive-minded coach, she proved to be the perfect compliment to Semrau and her staff.

As offensive coordinator, Close is responsible for developing the offensive schemes that best suit FSU's personnel. Her ability to prepare information and disseminate it the players made it no coincidence that Roneeka Hodges ranked



second in the ACC in scoring at 19.2 points per game and that Ganiyat Adeduntan, Alicia Gladden, Holly Johnson and Linnea Liljestrand all doubled their career scoring averages in 2004-05.

In addition to her coaching responsibilities, Close is instrumental in recruiting and coordinates the efforts of the Seminole Girls Basketball Camps. She also works closely with the Seminole Sports Marketing department in their efforts to promote the program.

While at UCSB, Close had the opportunity to expand her knowledge with a wide variety of responsibilities throughout her tenure. Some of her duties included overseeing the skill development of the players, on-court offensive coaching, recruiting and scheduling for the program. Under Close's coordination, UCSB's non-conference slate turned into one of the nation's most challenging each year.

As UCSB's player development coordinator, Close significantly contributed to the mentoring, nurturing and motivating of the student-athletes which led to such achievements as a 98 percent

coaching stops

COACHING EXPERIENCE:

UCLA (Los Angeles, CA) — Graduate Assistant (1993-95)

UC-Santa Barbara (Santa Barbara, CA) — Assistant Coach (1996-01); Associate Head Coach (2001-04)

Florida State University — Associate Head Coach (2004-present)

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graduation rate, seven WNBA players, 15 professional players overseas, 12 Big West Conference MVPs, nine district All-Americans and one national second team All-American. Close was also responsible for all offensive tactics, offensive instruction and game-time decisions leading to eight NCAA appearances, including three second round appearances and a trip to the Sweet 16, one NIT championship and 10 Big West regular season or tournament championships. Close also helped UCSB achieve three Top 10 recruiting classes.

Close was also instrumental in fostering support and increasing revenue for the UCSB basketball program. She developed and implemented a comprehensive marking plan, designed fundraising initiatives, coordinated speaking, community service and radio/television appearances and created the Fastbreakers booster program. Her efforts resulted in a substantial attendance increase, which made UCSB women's basketball the largest revenue-producing program in the department of athletics.

As a player, Close was a four-year starting point guard and captained Santa Barbara's two NCAA Tournament teams in 1992 and 1993, leading both to the second round. The Milpitas, Calif., native was an All-Big West first team selection and the MVP of the conference tournament in 1993. The first player in UC-Santa Barbara history to record more than 1,000 points and 500 assists in a career, Close ranked among the top 10 in seven Gauchero career statistical categories.

Close graduated from UCSB in 1993 after majoring in sociology and was the



recipient of UCSB's Distinguished Senior Award. She was a member of the Bruins' coaching staff for two seasons (1993-95) while earning a master's degree in educational administration from UCLA. On April 30, 2005, Close was inducted into the UCSB Athletics Hall of Fame.



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Angie Johnson, who is in her ninth season as an assistant coach at Florida State, is a “get it done” type of person. Perhaps it was this trait, among others, that prompted Sue Semrau to bring Johnson with her to Florida State in 1997. Johnson has seen her role with Seminole women’s basketball expand with each season. She has literally been in the mix in every aspect of the program and it’s her attention to detail and creativity that have made her a perfect candidate for these responsibilities.

Prior to the start of the 2004-05 season, Semrau made some changes with the responsibilities of her staff and entrusted Johnson with a vital component of the program when she put her in charge of the recruiting efforts. As FSU’s recruiting coordinator, Johnson organizes all correspondence with prospective student-athletes, coordinates recruiting visits and travel and scours the country evaluating talent and finding those student-athletes who best fit the Seminole program.

Johnson’s efforts in this area are obvious as Florida State signed six freshmen this year — marking the largest recruiting class in the Semrau era.

Johnson, who is also active with the Seminole Girls Basketball Camps each summer, has made the overall development of the women’s basketball players her priority and this starts with their success in the classroom. Over the years, she has worked closely with Florida State’s athletic academic

support staff in monitoring the academic progress of the Seminoles. Over the past several seasons, FSU women’s basketball has carved its place on the ACC Academic Honor Roll, ranking among the top women’s basketball teams in the league for number of members. With Johnson’s oversight, FSU has had 30 players named to the ACC Academic Honor Roll since 1997-98.

During her tenure at FSU, Johnson has worked closely with the women’s basketball support club, the Hoop Troop, had oversight of the team managers and has also assisted with the design and ordering of equipment.

Johnson, like Semrau, came to Florida State in 1997 from the University of



coaching stops

COACHING EXPERIENCE:

Paul G. Blazer High School (Ashland, KY) — Assistant Coach (1991-94)
University of Wisconsin (Madison, WI) — Assistant Coach (1994-97)
Florida State University — Assistant Coach (1997-present)

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Wisconsin, where she served as the Badgers' third assistant for three years. Some of her responsibilities at UW included opponent scouting, coordinating video exchange and arranging student-athletes community service. In her final season at UW, she also served as the team's academic liaison. Johnson was also active with the BadgerBall Booster Club, the Jane's Gem kids club and was co-director of the BadgerBall Girls Hoops Camp for two summers.

Prior to joining the Badger staff, Johnson was the assistant basketball coach at Paul G. Blazer High School in her hometown of Ashland, Kentucky. She was a four-year letter winner at the University of Louisville from 1987-91. A 6-0 center, she ranked among the top 10 in career rebounds (621) and games played (120).

Johnson, who earned her degree in biology, was the recipient of the Ed Kallay Senior Award in 1991 and was a Woodford R. Porter Scholar.



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There are those times when you just know it's right. Florida State head coach Sue Semrau experienced one of those times when she hired Lance White in June 2003. Considered by Semrau as one of the rising stars of the coaching profession, White has helped the Florida State program rise to new heights and has brought an energy to the program that has become contagious.

White is in his third season with the Florida State program and will begin his second as the team's defensive coordinator. As the defensive coordinator, White facilitates all aspects of the defensive effort of the team, including teaching, reviewing and implementing the defensive philosophy for the program. Additional responsibilities include recruiting, film and opponent breakdown and assisting with the Seminole Girls Basketball Camps each summer. He also works closely with Coach Close on individual skill development.

White's attention to the defensive side of the ball resulted in positive things for Florida State basketball in 2004-05. As a team, the Seminoles held opponents to just 61.9 points per game and had the rebounding advantage in 18 games. Individually, Alicia Gladden set an FSU record with 101 steals and her 3.2 steals per game average ranked first in the ACC. She landed herself a spot on the five-member ACC All-Defensive team.

White was well prepared when he arrived at Florida State. He came from

Texas Tech where he spent 10 seasons, including seven years as an assistant coach, with the Lady Raiders' top 10 program.

Some of White's responsibilities at Texas Tech included individual workouts, scouting reports, perimeter and post player development and all aspects of recruiting, including mail correspondence and recruiting visits. White also served as the academic liaison for the women's basketball team, directing study hall and monitoring academic progress while also handling player relations. During White's tenure Texas Tech won three Big XII championships and advanced to seven straight NCAA Tournaments, including five Sweet Sixteen and two Elite Eight appearances. He was a student assistant on Tech's 1993 National Championship team and a graduate assistant coach for two seasons before being elevated to a full-time coach.



coaching stops

COACHING EXPERIENCE:

Texas Tech University (Lubbock, TX) — Graduate Assistant (1996-98);
Assistant Coach (1998-03)
Florida State University — Assistant Coach (2003-present)

White was active in summer basketball camps while at Tech and also coached the AAU Lubbock Lady Bulls who advanced to the National Tournament in Ogden, Utah in 1994 and in 1996, was again an AAU coach for the Lady Cardinal team. White was the co-director of the annual Wyatt/White Basketball Camp in Spur, Tex., in 1995-96. He oversaw a varsity camp, a day camp and a mini camp designed especially for kindergarten through third graders.

A 1996 graduate of Texas Tech, White earned his bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science. He went on to receive a master's degree in sports administration in August of 1998. He attended Lubbock Christian University for three semesters before transferring to Tech in January of 1993. As a high school athlete in Spur, he was a three-time All-District selection, twice All-Region, and twice third team all-state choice in basketball. His high school basketball and football teams advanced to the regional round both his junior and senior years. As a basketball player, he was listed in the Spalding Top 100 basketball players in 1991.

White is an NCAA certified recruiter and member of the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. He is married to the former Melanie Smith, who added "Dr." to her name in the spring of 2004. She is a professor at both Florida State and Tallahassee Community College.



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Nadia Flaim is in her third season as Florida State's Director of Basketball Operations, but has been a member of the Seminole staff since January 2001 having also served as Program Assistant. A tireless worker, there are not many areas Flaim hasn't been involved in during her tenure at Florida State.

As the Director of Basketball Operations, Flaim has a wide range of responsibilities in all facets of the program. She coordinates all areas of team travel and was very instrumental in the success of the team's tour of Italy this summer. The director of FSU's annual Seminole Classic, Flaim is also in charge of facility usage and game management of all practices and games. She assists head coach Sue Semrau with scheduling and serves as the program's liaison with the athletics department's administration. Flaim oversees the equipment operations and team managers for the program and assists with the Seminole girls summer camps.

As the Program Assistant, Flaim administered the Hoop Troop Booster Club, Courtside Kids Club and Community Service Programs, and developed marketing materials including "Courtside Kids Corner," the team's monthly newsletter. Furthermore, Flaim was in charge of planning and organizing annual team events including the Kick-Off Golf Tournament, Alumni Weekend and Youth Basketball Clinics. She also worked feverishly to increase the program's community awareness, setting up a variety of public appearances and community services projects. Flaim continues to oversee these areas in her current position.

Prior to returning to Florida State, Flaim worked as the Director of Communication, Community and Team Affairs for the Tallahassee Tiger Sharks, an East Coast Hockey League franchise. As part of the Tiger Sharks organization, she produced

all written materials for the team, managed the website and acted as the team's media liaison while also overseeing game day operations. Before being promoted to that position, Flaim gained the title of Public Relations Coordinator for the Tiger Sharks in August of 1999 where she was able to cultivate working relationships with the media and local community groups.

A 1998 graduate of the University of Windsor in Ontario, Canada, Flaim acted as the Home Game Manager for football and basketball. Flaim, who is fluent in a number of languages including French and Italian, earned her bachelor's degree with honors in communication studies.

Flaim received a master's degree with honors in sports administration from FSU in 2000 and also spent some time as an assistant in the sports information and women's basketball offices while earning her degree.



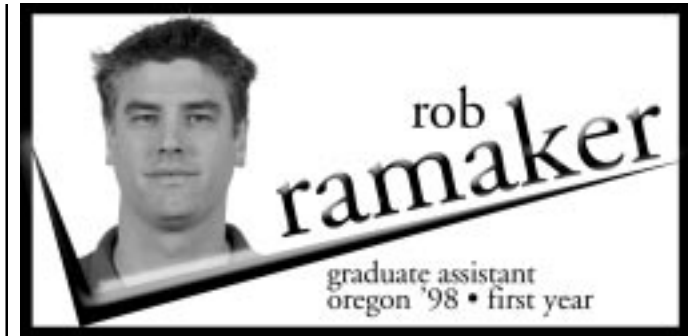


Second-year graduate assistant Jenny Roulier provides unique insight to the women's basketball players at Florida State. A 2002 graduate of the University of Colorado, Roulier has not only recently been a student-athlete at a major university, but she has also played professionally, which is goal of many players today.

At Florida State, Roulier helps inspire the Seminole guards to reach their potential, organizes the scout team, coordinates the program's efforts with the Courtside Kids Club and assists with summer camps. She also serves as the color analyst for some radio broadcasts.

Roulier, a native of Denver, was a four-year letterwinner for the Buffaloes and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Communication in 2002. In 2001, Roulier was a member of the USA Basketball Women's World University Games Team which won a gold medal in Beijing. Her senior season, Roulier, a three-time third team All-Big 12 Conference selection, helped lead Colorado to the NCAA Tournament Elite Eight. Roulier finished her collegiate career with 1,399 points which ranked eighth in school history. She also ranked third all-time with 203 career three-point field goals and fourth in three-point field goal percentage (.407). Upon graduation, Roulier played in 2002-03 for Club Estudiantes, a First Division team in Madrid, Spain. She played for the ABL's Colorado Chill in 2004.

Roulier, who loves working with underprivileged youth, is pursuing her master's degree at Florida State in recreation and leisure services administration. She has two brothers who also played collegiate basketball.



Rob Ramaker, a 1998 graduate of the University of Oregon, is in his first season as a graduate assistant with the Florida State women's basketball program. A three-year Division I men's basketball letterwinner, Ramaker played one season at UC-Santa Barbara before transferring to Oregon where he played his final two seasons for the Ducks.

At Florida State, Ramaker, who stands 6'9", will provide encouragement in the development of the post players and will also be responsible for assisting with film exchange, the Hoop Troop newsletter, FSU women's basketball's Spring League and summer camps.

Upon graduating from Oregon, Ramaker pursued a career in restaurant management where he was responsible for the management and scheduling of personnel, the recruitment, hiring and training of employees, developing and maintaining relationships with vendors and suppliers as well as coordinating corporate events and providing public relations for the establishment.

Coaching, however, was always in the back of Ramaker's mind. He served as an assistant coach at Santa Barbara High school the past two seasons where he assisted the head coach with designing practices and drills, teaching players discipline and game execution and was also involved in scheduling, scouting and film work.

Ramaker, a native of Santa Barbara, Calif., is pursuing a master's degree in sports psychology.



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Shaun Downey is in his fourth season as the head equipment manager for Florida State basketball. Instrumental in helping open the equipment room in the \$10 million Florida State Basketball Training Facility, Downey's numerous responsibilities include working with the graduate assistants and student managers on a daily basis to perform necessary tasks to assist with practice, games and travel, overseeing the equipment budgets for the men's and women's teams, including handling all Nike orders, purchase orders and contract items and maintaining a monthly inventory of all items ordered, received and issued. He also supervises the distribution of all equipment and gear.

Working closely with the entire equipment staff at Florida State, Downey has developed the policies and procedures manual for equipment room in the basketball facility. He succeeded long-time equipment manager Gene Granger, who retired in May 2003 after serving the Seminoles for 23 years.

Downey was an assistant equipment manager at his alma mater, Towson University, during the final two years of his collegiate academic career. He assisted in the equipment support for 23 varsity sports and helped maintain team uniforms, equipment and inventory. Downey was the clubhouse manager for the Aberdeen Ironbirds (owned and operated by former Baltimore Oriole great Cal Ripken) in the New York Penn League during the spring of 2002. He helped in the opening of the Ironbirds' new stadium as well as overseeing the opening of the equipment room. Downey also worked in the clubhouses of the Orioles and their class AA Bowie (Md.) Baysox farm club for five years.

A 2001 graduate of Towson University in Maryland, Downey earned his bachelor's degree in sports management. In 2004, he became a member of the Athletic Equipment Managers Association.



Patrece Albertie is in her first year as a graduate assistant equipment manager for Florida State basketball. Albertie's responsibilities include assisting the equipment manager with the daily operations of the basketball equipment room including gear inventory and distribution, laundry and ordering equipment.

The Jacksonville, Fla., native was a manager for the women's basketball team for three years. Two of those years she was head manager and some of her duties included setting up the court for practice and video taping practices and games.

Albertie will earn a bachelor's degree in sports management from Florida State in December 2005 and will pursue a master's degree in sports administration.





Jeffrey Sutton is in his first year as video coordinator for Florida State women's basketball. Responsible for all film breakdown of both the Seminoles and their opponents, Sutton operates the highly-efficient video editing software XOS Technologies, which edits practice and game video. With Sutton's help, Florida State coaches are able to review games, frame-by-frame, within minutes of the conclusion of the contest, whether on the road or at home. He is also responsible for the videotaping of all potential FSU opponents throughout the season for scouting and preparation purposes.

Sutton came to Florida State from the University of Louisville, where he served as a graduate assistant coach for two years. While at Louisville, Sutton had an array of responsibilities including coordinating film exchange with over 225 schools, creating scout film, tracking practice statistics and creating brochures for coaches clinics and booster club functions. He earned his master's of science degree from Louisville in sports administration in 2005.

The Mabank, Texas native, is a 2000 graduate of Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas where he earned a bachelor's of arts degree in business administration. He was a teacher and an assistant basketball coach at Mabank High School from January 2001 to May 2003.



SUPPORT STAFF & MANAGERS



MANAGERS: *Back Row - Left to Right* – Lauren White (Misawa, Japan - psychology), Brittany Crain (Palm Harbor, FL - sports management), Tania Fernandez (Miami, FL - communications), Lauren Hurst (Mayo, FL - social work)
Front Row - Left to Right – Janelle Diaz (Hialeah, FL - sports management), Maurice Jackson (San Antonio, TX - economics), Lexi Roegiers-Jensen (St. Petersburg, FL - sports management)



NELL BELUE
Program Assistant



BRENT DiGIACOMO
Seminole Athletics Marketing



BRANDON GOODMAN
*Sports Information Student
Photographer*



PATRICK MARTIN
Ticket Manager



STUART PEARCE
*Facilities, Basketball
Training Center*