



2006-07 Coaching Staff



INSIDE:

Sue Semrau

Cori Close

Angie Johnson

Lance White

Melissa Bruner

Graduate Assistants

Support Staff



2006-07 COACHES



SEMRAU'S COACHING STOPS

FSU/CAREER RECORD: 136-128 (9 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



THE 2006-07 SEASON will represent a milestone in Florida State head coach Sue Semrau's career as she embarks on her 10th season at the helm of the Florida State program.

"What I do think about when it's brought to my attention is the growth and the hard work that a lot of people have put in to get us to where we have a program

Semrau will do just about anything for her women's basketball program. She proved just that when she camped outside of the Donald L. Tucker Center for two days and two nights in an effort to sell 3,000 tickets for the last home game of the 2005-06 season. It's not like Semrau likes the great outdoors, but when

IN HER NINE YEARS AT THE HELM OF THE FSU PROGRAM AND WITH 136 VICTORIES, SEMRAU IS THE MOST WINNINGEST WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH IN FLORIDA STATE HISTORY.

that is on solid ground and competes at the highest level every year," Semrau said. "It's the people I think about and the players who had the courage early on to make the choice to be a part of something special and pave the way for the players today and the opportunities we have today."

While Semrau notes the courage of the players she's had in her program, perhaps she should realize that those players were just following in her footsteps because

she puts her mind to something, there's usually no stopping her.

"The thing I love most about Florida State is the people who support us," Semrau said. "It's unbelievable to be at an FSU football game with 80,000 awesome fans. I want my players, who have done so much to elevate our women's basketball program, to experience that special atmosphere," Semrau said the week of her Tents for Tick-

ets campaign.

An area outside of the Tucker Center ticket window became a home away from home for Semrau following the Seminoles' win over Wake Forest on February 23rd. Just shortly after 2 p.m. that Saturday, Semrau and her "Tent for Tickets" campaign became victorious when she sold the 3,000th ticket. In fact, a total of 3,125 tickets were sold for the women's basketball season finale vs. nationally-ranked Boston College and by game time, a record 3,781 fans were in attendance.

Semrau's passion for the Florida State program has translated into a great deal of success for the Semi-





noles. In her nine years at the helm of the FSU program and with 136 victories, Semrau is the most winningest women's basketball coach in Florida State history. She has guided the Seminoles to double-digit victories in seven straight seasons, four straight postseason appearances, both program bests, and to three NCAA Tournaments – more than any other FSU women's basketball coach.

Always striving for nothing but the best, Semrau expects a great deal from herself, her staff and her players but is quick to show her appreciation. It's easy to go to bat for a coach that goes to bat for you. And camping out was just one example.

"I think it's awesome that she's doing that," former Seminole Ganiyat Adeduntan, a member of the class of 2006, said regarding Semrau's camp out. "For your coach to do something like that to make our senior day special, I am just really thankful that she would go out on a limb to do something like that. When she told the team, I was really surprised and kind of shocked but it just shows the kind of person she is and we really appreciate what she's doing."

Teammate LaQuinta Neely agreed.

"She's being courageous doing that," Neely said. "We're really proud of her."

According to Semrau, "roughing" it for a few days was the least she could do for her seniors, a class that had given so much to the Florida State program.

"While sleeping in a tent is not usually my idea of fun, I really had a great time because I knew the cause," Semrau said. "I really love FSU and I love our players and I'm passionate about this final piece that we need to put together which is to have a community

that comes out and supports us."

Semrau and Florida State had a lot to celebrate with the Class of 2006. The first class to lead FSU to seven or more ACC victories in four consecutive seasons including a record 10 wins in 2005-06, this group helped Florida State to three top four finishes in the ACC, and led the team to its record fourth-straight postseason appearance and second straight trip to the NCAA Tournament. Before the 2005-06 season, the only time Florida State has made back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances was 1989-90 and 1990-91. In the Class of 2006's time together, FSU averaged 19 wins per season which is the most in the Semrau era and second most in FSU history.

With a 20-10 record in 2005-06, FSU earned back-to-back 20-win seasons for the first time under Semrau's direction and just the second time in program history. The season started earlier than usual for the Seminoles when the squad, including the six incoming freshmen, gathered in early August for 10 days of practice in preparation for Florida State's trip to Italy later that month. During those 10 days, the Seminoles would realize their task ahead. Not only would they have to replace the explosiveness and leadership of departing seniors Roneeka Hodges and Linnea Liljestrand, they would have to figure out a way to mesh six newcomers with nine returning Seminoles. Unfortunately, due to NCAA rules, the incoming freshmen were not allowed to travel to Italy but they were never far from the Seminoles' thoughts.

On the court in Italy, the nine returning Seminoles went 4-0 and averaged 97.8 points per game and held opponents to 47.8 points per game. There were also several strong individual performances but for Semrau and her team, off of the court proved to be just as successful. The Seminoles created memories to last a lifetime with visits to cities like Rome, Venice, and Lake Como and places like The Coliseum, The Vatican and The Leaning Tower of Pisa. After 10 days of experiencing a new culture together, the Seminoles had built a bond with one another and they couldn't wait share it with the freshmen at home.

While the Seminoles felt some growing pains early in the season, they pulled together and Semrau guided them to eight wins in the final 10 regular-season games. While a fourth-place finish in the nation's No. 1 rated conference was a feat in itself, the fact that the league's top three teams were ranked in the top five in the nation and advanced to the Final Four made it even more impressive.



2006-07 COACHES



The success of 2005-06 was just a continuation of the process by which Semrau has built the Florida State program. Prior to the 2004-05 season, Semrau introduced Phase Two of the program. While the foundation and the strength of the program would remain an unwavering commitment to the total collegiate experience, Semrau made significant changes including 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 some time," 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."

She asked the players to "believe" in Phase Two in 2004-05 and in 2005-06, it was time for them to totally "commit" themselves to it.

Semrau also altered her own coaching style with Phase Two in order to move the program a step closer to its goals. Beginning with the 2004-05 season, 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 immediate and have proven successful over the long haul with back-to-back 20-win seasons. With a 24-8 record and an NCAA Tournament second round appearance in 2004-05, 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 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."

FSU defied 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, 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 considering discontinuing and turned it into a national power. In nine seasons, Semrau, 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 five postseason appearances in the past six years, including a program-best four straight, have been nationally-ranked and have finished in the ACC top four, four 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 eight 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 six victories over the ACC-foe, including the program's first ever sweep of the Cavaliers in 2005-06.. 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. In 2004-05, the Seminoles took down rival Florida, in Gainesville, snapping a 16-game losing skid to the Gators and split the series last season.

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 Associa-

tion 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, is entering her sixth season in the league and helped guide the Connecticut Sun to the WNBA finals in 2005. She played with the Chicago Sky in 2006, a team coached by former Seminole great Dave Cowens.

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.



10 Years With Sue Semrau



1997-98

SUE SEMRAU is hired as Florida State's head coach — the program's

third new coach in three years. The program is coming off of a 5-22 season, including a winless season in ACC play at 0-16. In her first season at the helm of the program, Sue Semrau leads Florida State to its most victories since 1992-93 (9-18) and its best ACC record (5-11) and finish since 1992-93, including its largest victory by margin over an ACC opponent (88-53 over Georgia Tech). The season prior to Semrau's arrival, FSU went 0-16 in ACC play. Latavia Coleman was named Second Team All-ACC while Brooke Wyckoff was named to the ACC All-Freshman Team.



1998-99

THE SEMINOLES were 5-5 when leading scorer Latavia

Coleman was lost for the season with a torn ACL and the team won just two more games the rest of the season and finished 7-20. Sue Semrau and her staff signed the No. 8 ranked recruiting class in the nation. Brooke Wyckoff was named Third Team All-ACC while April Traylor was named to the ACC All-Freshman Team.



1999-00

SUE SEMRAU LED FSU to an 12-18 record while the Seminoles

played 12 games against NCAA Tournament teams and eight nationally-ranked teams. The Seminoles were competitive as seven of the team's ACC losses were by five points or less. FSU won its first round game at the ACC Tournament with a 65-60 victory over Maryland marking the first time the Seminoles had won a game in the actual tournament. Latavia Coleman scored 31 points in that game and became the first Seminole since 1993 to earn ACC Tournament First Team honors. For the season, Coleman was named Second Team All-ACC, Brooke Wyckoff was named Third Team All-ACC and to the All-Defensive Team while April Traylor earned Honorable Mention honors. Coleman became the first Seminole to be drafted to the WNBA as a third round selection and the 48th pick overall.



2000-01

IN SUE SEMRAU'S

fourth year, she led Florida State to the program's best season

in a decade. What a year it was and it started early as the Seminoles practiced 10 days in August before embarking on a 10-day European adventure to France and Switzerland where they played four games and won them by an average of 47 points. The Seminoles went on to record the program's most wins (19-12) in 10 years, advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since the 1990-91 season and had their first winning season since 1991-92. FSU's 9-7 ACC record was the program's best record and finish (tied for 3rd) in league play. FSU finished ranked No. 25 nationally, the program's first national ranking since 1991. Semrau was named ACC Coach of the Year. Brooke Wyckoff was named a First Team All-ACC selection and was the first FSU player since 1992-93 to garner such status. She also earned ACC All-Defensive Team honors for the second straight season. Levys Torres and April Traylor were named Third Team All-ACC. Wyckoff was selected in the second round as the 26th overall pick in the WNBA Draft while Torres was a third round selection (37th pick).



2001-02

THE SEMINOLES

once again played some of the nation's toughest opponents

with five games against Top 10 opponents, 11 games total against Top 25 teams and 12 games against NCAA Tournament teams. Six of FSU's losses (13-15) were by four points or less. Tasheika Morris earned Third Team All-ACC honors. April Traylor was Honorable Mention All-ACC while Genesis Choice was named to the ACC All-Freshman Team.



2002-03

FLORIDA STATE

made its second postseason tournament appearance in three

years, playing in the WNIT and advancing to the second round. Sue Semrau guided the Seminoles to another winning season (17-13), the second in three years, and to a fourth-place finish in the ACC, which was rated No. 2 among 32 conferences in RPI rankings. Tasheika Morris earned Second Team All-ACC honors while Ganiyat Adeduntan garnered Honorable Mention ACC All-Freshman Team honors.



2003-04

DESPITE THE LOSS

of starter LaQuinta Neely just six games into the

season, Sue Semrau led the Seminoles to another WNIT appearance, marking the third postseason tournament appearance in four years and to a 15-15 record. Tasheika (Morris) Allen was named Second Team All-ACC while rookie Shante Williams earned Honorable Mention All-ACC honors and All-Freshman Team accolades.



2004-05

THE FLORIDA STATE

women's basketball program suffered a tragedy

with the sudden death of rising sophomore Ronald Pierce in June 2004. Sue Semrau provided the strength and leadership to pull her team through the devastation and introduced Phase Two of the program which was about personal responsibility, selflessness and a championship mentality. The Seminoles flourished in the new system and established the best start in school history (12-0) on their way to the program's first 20-win season (24-8) since 1990-91. With a second round appearance in the NCAA Tournament, FSU made its third straight postseason tournament appearance and fourth in a five-year stretch. FSU spent five weeks nationally-ranked and earned its first Associated Press ranking since 1991. Semrau, who guided FSU to another fourth-place ACC finish, was recognized with her second ACC Coach of the Year award while Roneeka Hodges became the third Seminole to earn First Team All-ACC honors. Ganiyat Adeduntan and Alicia Gladden earned Honorable Mention All-ACC recognition while Gladden was also named to the ACC All-Defensive Team. Hodges earned Kodak Region All-American honors, was a WBCA All Star and became FSU's highest WNBA Draft pick as the first player called in the second round and the 15th pick overall.



2005-06

FOLLOWING A 10-DAY

tour of Italy in August in which the Seminoles went 4-0

and averaged 97.8 points per game while holding opponents to 47.8 points per game, FSU continued the success it enjoyed in 2004-05. For just the second time in program history, and first since 1990 and 1991, Florida State participated in back-to-back NCAA Tournaments as Sue Semrau guided the Seminoles to a 20-10 and a second round NCAA Tourney appearance. The Seminoles also enjoyed back-to-back 20-win seasons for just the second time in program history. The Seminoles earned their most ACC wins with a 10-4 record and another fourth-place finish. Semrau became FSU women's basketball's winningest coach by victories. Alicia Gladden earned Third Team All-ACC honors and was named to the ACC All-Defensive Team for the second straight season. Britany Miller garnered ACC All-Freshman Team honors. FSU had a lot to celebrate with the Class of 2006. The first class to lead FSU to seven or more ACC victories in four consecutive seasons, this group led the team to a record fourth-straight postseason appearance and averaged 19 wins per season which is the most in the Semrau era and second most in FSU history.



2006-07

TO BE CONTINUED...

2006-07 COACHES



CLOSE'S 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)



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 in her first season in the position. Even more impressive was that the Seminoles continued that success in 2005-06 with different personnel and an expanded offense. FSU enjoyed another 20-win season and a second straight second round NCAA Tournament appearance.

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 impact. A demanding, detail-oriented and 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 to the players has been a perfect recipe for success. It's no coincidence that Roneeka Hodges ranked second in the ACC in scoring at 19.2 points per game in 2004-05, Close's first season or that Ganiyat Adeduntan, Alicia Gladden and Holly Johnson have more than doubled their scoring output the past two seasons.

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 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 marketing 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 Gauchos 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.

2006-07 COACHES



JOHNSON'S 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)



ANGIE JOHNSON, who also celebrates her 10th season at Florida State in 2006-07, 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 ability in this effort is obvious as Florida State signed six freshmen for the 2005-06 season, marking the largest recruiting class in the Semrau era, and snagged two of the state’s most coveted players for 2006-07.

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 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.



►► Ten Years With Angie Johnson

2006-07 COACHES



WHITE'S COACHING STOPS

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



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 fourth season with the Florida State program and his third 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 camp each summer. He also works closely with Coach Close on individual skill development.

White's attention to the defensive side of the ball have resulted in positive things for Florida State basketball. As a team in 2004-05, the Seminoles held opponents to just 61.9 points per game and had the re-

bounding 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. Gladden repeated the honor in 2005-06 and as a team, the Seminoles outrebounded 19 opponents and recorded 68 more steals.

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.

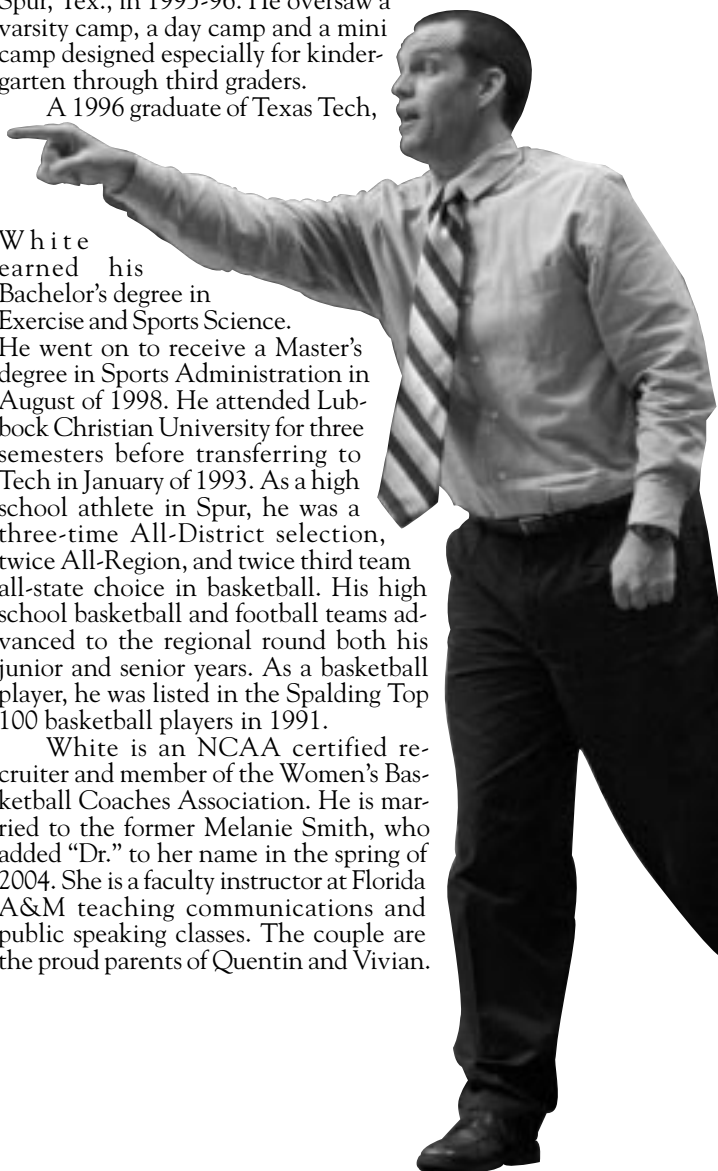
Some of White's responsibilities at Texas Tech included individual workouts, scouting reports, perimeter and post player development and all aspects of recruiting, including mail correspondence and recruiting visits. White also served as the academic liaison for the women's basketball team, directing 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.

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 faculty instructor at Florida A&M teaching communications and public speaking classes. The couple are the proud parents of Quentin and Vivian.



2006-07 COACHES



BRUNER'S COACHING STOPS

COACHING EXPERIENCE:

University of Wisconsin (Madison, WI) — Director of Basketball Operations (1995-02)

Coe College (Cedar Rapids, IA) — Assistant Athletics Director/ Head Coach (2002-06)

Florida State University — Director of Basketball Operations (2006-present)



THE NEWEST MEMBER of the Florida State women's basketball staff is Melissa Bruner who assumed the position of Director of Basketball Operations in June. Bruner came to Florida State after serving four seasons as Assistant Athletics Director and Head Women's Basketball Coach at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

As the Director of Basketball Operations, Bruner has a wide range of responsibilities in all facets of the program. She coordinates all areas of team travel and 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. Bruner oversees the equipment operations for the program and will coordinate the Seminole girls' summer camps.

Bruner and Semrau previously worked together for two seasons at the University of Wisconsin-Madison while Semrau was an assistant coach. Bruner was Director of Women's Basketball Operations for the Badgers for seven years where she assisted in public relations, team travel and practice arrangements.

Prior to her duties at Wisconsin, Bruner earned a master's degree in physical education, with a concentration in athletic administration, from Ohio University in June 1995. She received her business administration and accounting degree with a minor in physical education from Coe in 1994.

As a Kohawk, Bruner earned Academic All-Midwest Conference honors in softball, basketball, tennis and volleyball. In recognition for her athletic and academic achievements, she was named a national GTE Academic All-American her senior year.



▶▶ **Jenny Roulier**

Graduate Assistant
Third Season
(Colorado '02)

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, who is in her third year at FSU, 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 Spring League 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.



▶▶ **Julie Brown**

Graduate Assistant
First Season
(Rhodes College '87)

JULIE BROWN, A 1987 GRADUATE of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tenn., begins her second stint as a member of the Florida State women's basketball staff. Having served as a graduate assistant with FSU women's basketball from 1988-1990, Brown returned to Tallahassee in July and will provide assistance in the coordination of managers, office systems and summer camps.

After leaving Florida State in 1990 having completed all coursework toward a Master's degree in Sport Psychology, Brown worked as an assistant coach at Hartford (1990-1992), Ball State (1992-1995) and Tulsa (1995-1997) before leaving coaching to become the National Director of Programs and then later National Director of Innovations for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA). She later represented FCA as the network coordinator for the 2002 Winter Olympics for the Utah Games Network.

Brown came to Florida State from Salt Lake City where she earned a Master's degree in Theological Studies in 2004 from Salt Lake Theological Seminary.



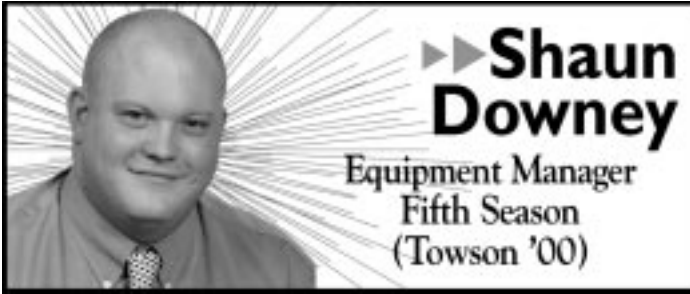
2006-07 COACHES



BETSY McALLISTER IS IN HER FIRST YEAR as video coordinator for Florida State women's basketball. Responsible for all film breakdown for both the Seminoles and their opponents, McAllister operates the highly-efficient video editing software XOS Technologies, which edits practice and game video. This makes it possible for Florida State coaches and players to review games, frame-by-frame, almost immediately after each game, home or away. McAllister is also responsible for videotaping all potential FSU opponents throughout the season for scouting and preparation purposes.

McAllister comes to FSU from Cleveland, Ohio where she carried the same responsibility for the NBA's Cleveland Cavaliers and the WNBA's Cleveland Rockers. Having graduated with a bachelor's degree in science from Eastern Michigan in 1997, McAllister has worked in basketball almost continuously since her graduation. She worked in the CBA for the Florida Beachdogs in West Palm Beach, Fla., as a basketball operations associate. She also worked one season as the assistant coach of women's basketball at NAIA Concordia University in Ann Arbor, Mich.





▶▶ **Shaun Downey**

Equipment Manager
Fifth Season
(Towson '00)

SHAUN DOWNEY IS IN HIS FIFTH 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.



▶▶ **Vanessa Kaye**

Graduate Assistant Equipment
Manager • First Season
(Wake Forest '06)

VANESSA KAYE IS IN HER FIRST YEAR as graduate assistant equipment manager at Florida State. She will work with the Seminole basketball programs while working towards a master's degree in Sports Management.

A native of Naples, Fla., where she attended John Neumann High School, Kaye began her athletics career in her junior year as a manager for her high school girls' basketball team. While attending Wake Forest University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Sociology with a minor in Spanish in 2006, Kaye served as an equipment manager for four years and was the head manager for the women's basketball and field hockey teams for three seasons while also working with several other sports.

While Kaye worked at Wake Forest, the Demon Deacons made two field hockey final four appearances and won a national championship in 2004. Her duties at Wake included filming home and away games, helping out at practices with the clock and stats, arranging the equipment for travel and helping with all other equipment needs.



2006-07 COACHES

Support Staff & Managers



MANAGERS (l-r): Maurice Jackson, Michelle Christie, Kyle Miller, Amanda Foster, Jeremy Meyer, Tania Fernandez, Reece Miller, Erica Case



BRENT DIGIACOMO
Seminole Athletics Marketing



BRANDON GOODMAN
Sports Information Student
Photographer



CHRIS GROSSE
Seminole Athletics Marketing
Assistant



KELLY HARRINGTON
Program Assistant



PATRICK MARTIN
Ticket Manager



STUART PEARCE
Facilities, Basketball Training
Center

