



COACHES





TODD KRESS



HEAD COACH

- Cincinnati, '92
- 5th Season
- 68-58 at FSU

Whether it's tangible or intangible gains, Todd Kress is returning the Florida State University volleyball program to elite status in the Atlantic Coast Conference and building a team set on competing at the national level. With the addition of his best recruiting class, Kress' fifth season with the Seminoles could be a special one.

The second youngest active head coach to reach 200 career victories by virtue of the 3-1 triumph over North Carolina on October 15, 2004, Kress has a career record of 220-133 in 11 seasons. His record at Florida State stands at 68-58 through four years of being the Seminoles' court boss. His .623 career winning percentage is among the national leaders and rates third among ACC coaches with at least five years of experience.

Prior to his arrival in Tallahassee, the 38-year-old Kress spent seven years coaching at Fairfield University and Northern Illinois University, where he led three teams to the NCAA Tournament and compiled a record of 152-75. One of the best indications that Kress has the program on the right track are the accolades that a pair of sisters have earned the last two seasons. In 2004, middle blocker Amanda Santos was named American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Honorable Mention All-American, a first for a Florida State player. Last season her sister Andreza replicated the feat with an All-America certificate of her own. This is a major feat considering in the 37-year history of the FSU volleyball program, which includes some of the program's greats like Gabrielle Reece, Maggie Philgence and Nancy Gasparderek, 16 different players have earned AVCA All-Region accolades, but none had been named an AVCA All-American until the Santos sisters.

During the Kress era at FSU, three players have been named AVCA All-Region (Kristen Frye '02, Amanda Santos '04 and Andreza Santos '05) and freshman Cassie McLaughlin earned East Region Rookie of the Year honors in 2003. Furthermore, Frye and the Santos sisters have been All-ACC First-Team selections and McLaughlin was the 2003 ACC Freshman of the Year.

The last half of the 2005 season saw the Seminoles lay the foundation for a great 2006 campaign. Starting with a 3-2 victory over Boston College on October 28, Florida State posted a 7-3 record in its last 10 games, the third-best finish in the

ACC, and two of the three losses were to NCAA participants Duke and Maryland. Florida State ended the season tied for fifth in the ACC at 11-11 with a 13-17 overall mark.

Another sign of improvement in 2005 was the Seminoles' play on defense. Last year's blocking effort was one of the best at Florida State in the last decade. The 452 blocking assists were the second-most since 1989, while the 89 solo stuffs were also second-highest since 1999 and the 313 total blocks were the second-most since 1993. In addition, Florida State's 1738 digs were the most in the last seven seasons.

Not only has Kress' impact on Florida State volleyball been felt on the court, but also in the classroom. In his four seasons at Florida State, he has had 20 student-athletes on the ACC Academic Honor Roll, which are more volleyball student-athletes on the list than in the five seasons prior to his arrival. Sarah Griffin and Jessica Skower were named the 2005 All-ACC Academic Volleyball Team.

In 2004, FSU accumulated a record of 18-11 and despite a young roster, tied for fourth in a tough ACC race. The loss of four seniors didn't deter the Seminoles in 2003 as they finished strong at the end of the season for a 16-17 mark. Backed by setter Jen Anderson – the school's all-time leader in assists – Florida State amassed 1,671 assists, the fifth-highest single-season total in school history. The Seminoles' 322 total blocks were the most since 1993.

Inheriting a team that was on the cusp of greatness, Kress was the difference maker in 2002 as he led Florida State to its first NCAA Tournament in four years during his inaugural campaign in Tallahassee. Florida State posted a 21-13 overall record that year, 10-6 in the ACC, and advanced to the finals of the ACC Tournament. The Seminoles 1,992 kills that year are the second-most in FSU lore while the 464 blocking assists were the highest since 1990.

Before arriving to Florida State, Kress spent three years at Northern Illinois, where he led the Huskies to a 58-30 record, including a 48-15 mark the last two seasons. In his last season at Northern Illinois, Kress guided the Huskies to an overall record of 24-6 and a 15-3 Mid-American Conference record to claim the regular season title.

COACHING RECORD

Year	Record	School	Position
1992		Thomas More College	Assistant Coach
1993		Thomas More College	Assistant Coach
1994		Saint Ursula Academy	Assistant Coach
1995	11-21	Fairfield University	Head Coach
1996	23-12	Fairfield University	Head Coach
1997	25-10	Fairfield University	Head Coach
1998	35-2	Fairfield University	Head Coach
1999	10-15	Northern Illinois University	Head Coach
2000	24-9	Northern Illinois University	Head Coach
2001	24-6	Northern Illinois University	Head Coach
2002	21-13	Florida State University	Head Coach
2003	16-17	Florida State University	Head Coach
2004	18-11	Florida State University	Head Coach
2005	13-17	Florida State University	Head Coach
Total	220-133	(.623 Winning Percentage)	



Todd, Trevor (5), Dani and Trajan (3)

Northern Illinois dominated the MAC in 2001, winning 21 of its final 23 matches and sweeping all three matches in the MAC Tournament by a score of 3-0 to claim the title and advance to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in three years. NIU swept the league awards that year with Kress taking home Coach of the Year honors while Jenny Bowman was named MAC Player of the Year and Tera Lobdell took home MAC Freshman of the Year. During his second year as the head coach of the Huskies, Kress paced Northern Illinois to a 24-9 mark. With a conference record of 12-6, Northern Illinois finished the 2000 season in third place in the MAC's Western Division. The 2000 season marked the 10th time in 13 seasons that the Huskies finished with 20 or more wins.

Kress faced much adversity in his first season as head coach at Northern Illinois. Key players were lost to injury, which weakened an already inexperienced squad. Although the season was challenging, Northern Illinois rallied to win five of its final eight matches and finished with an overall record of 10-15, including a record of 7-11 in the MAC.

In 1995, Kress began his collegiate head-coaching career when he accepted the position at Fairfield. Before Kress' arrival at Fairfield, the Stags had not posted a winning season in seven years. During his four-year stint at the helm of the program, Kress boasted a record of 94-45 and became the school's winningest volleyball coach. In his final two years, he guided the Stags to a 60-12 record and two NCAA Tournament appearances.

In his final season at Fairfield (1998), Kress led his team to the school's first national ranking, a 35-2 record - included a 27-game winning streak - a 14-0 mark at home and an impressive victory over national powerhouse Notre Dame. The Stags won their third-straight regular-season MAAC championship and second consecutive tournament championship. With a winning percentage of 94.6, Fairfield was ranked third nationally behind national champion Long Beach State and national runner-up Penn State. Following the season, Kress was named AVCA/District II Coach of the Year and MAAC Coach of the Year.

Fairfield earned its second consecutive regular season MAAC title in 1997 as Kress directed the Stags to a 25-10 record, 9-0 in the conference. After winning the conference tournament, Fairfield faced Ohio State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Following the completion of the season, Kress earned his first MAAC Co-Coach of the Year.

The 1996 season marked the first time in eight years the Stags posted a winning record. After finishing his first season at Fairfield with a record of 11-21, Kress reversed the Stags' fortunes with a 23-12 record and the regular-season MAAC Championship in 1996.

Kress served as an assistant at Saint Ursula Academy and Thomas More College prior to taking his first head coaching position at Fairfield. While at Saint Ursula Academy, Kress helped the squad to a 25-2 record, winning the 1994 Ohio Division II High School State Championship title. Kress was an assistant under Darrell McLean at Thomas More College during the 1992 and 1993 seasons. During those years, the Saints made back-to-back appearances in the NCAA Division III Tournament and earned two Association of Mideast Colleges Conference trophies. In 1993, Kress also directed the men's club team at the University of Cincinnati, his alma mater.

It was at Cincinnati that Kress began his coaching career. While completing his undergraduate education, he was a two-year starter for the Bearcats' club squad and served as head coach for two Junior Olympic programs and as an assistant for the Seton High School junior varsity. After completing an associate of arts degree in communications from Edison State College in Ohio in June of 1988, Kress earned a bachelor of fine arts degree in broadcasting from Cincinnati in June of 1992.

Kress, a native of Sidney, Ohio, married the former Dani (DON-ee) Peterson in May of 1998. Dani was an assistant coach to Kress at both Northern Illinois and Fairfield for four seasons and is a volunteer coach at Florida State. The couple has two young sons, Trevor (5) and Trajan (3).

Kress vs. Opponents at FSU

Alabama	0-1
Arkansas State	1-0
Boston College	2-0
Brown	1-0
Central Florida	2-0
Clemson	4-4
Duke	1-6
Eastern Kentucky	1-0
EMU	1-0
Florida	0-3
Florida A&M	1-0
Florida Atlantic	1-0
Florida International	1-0
George Mason	0-1
Georgia	0-1
Georgia Tech	1-8
Houston	1-1
Illinois State	0-1
IUPUI	1-0
Jacksonville	2-0
Kansas State	0-2
Louisiana Lafayette	1-0
LSU	1-0
Louisiana Tech	1-0
Marshall	1-0
Maryland	3-5
Mercer	1-0
Miami	2-4
Michigan	1-1
Minnesota	0-1
NC State	9-0
North Carolina	6-4
Oakland	1-0
Oregon	1-0
Pepperdine	0-1
Pitt	0-1
Sam Houston State	1-0
South Alabama	1-0
South Carolina	0-1
South Florida	2-2
St. Mary's (CA)	0-1
Stetson	1-0
Troy	1-0
UC Irvine	0-1
Virginia	4-4
Virginia Tech	3-1
Wake Forest	4-3
Winthrop	1-0
Total	68-58

Kress vs. the Conferences at FSU

ACC	38-37
Atlantic Sun	7-0
Big 10	1-2
Big 12	0-2
Big East	2-2
Big South	1-0
Big West	0-1
Colonial Athletic	0-1
C-USA	3-3
IVY League	1-0
Mid-American	2-0
Mid-Continent	2-0
MEAC	1-0
Missouri Valley	0-1
Ohio Valley	1-0
Pac 10	1-0
SEC	1-6
Sun Belt	3-0
Western Athletic	1-0
West Coast	0-2

Kress vs. Ranked Opponents

Top 5	0-3
Top 10	0-4
Top 15	2-2
Top 20	0-1
Top 25	0-2
Total	2-13
vs. #3	0-1
vs. #4	0-2
vs. #5	0-1
vs. #6	0-2
vs. #7	0-1
vs. #8	0-1
vs. #11	1-0
vs. #12	1-1
vs. #15	0-1
vs. #20	0-1
vs. #24	0-2



MELISSA BATIE



ASSOCIATE
HEAD COACH

- Southern Miss, '91
- 1st Season



Melissa and daughter Madison (7)

Given her knowledge of volleyball in the Atlantic Coast Conference and in the state of Florida, Melissa Batie was a natural choice to join the coaching staff at Florida State University. On March 17, 2006, Seminole court boss Todd Kress named Batie his associate head coach. The 38-year-old Batie brings 11 years of collegiate coaching experience at all levels to Florida State

Batie joins the Seminoles after one season as head coach at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., where she inherited a team that posted a 4-29 record the year before. Batie began the Sharks' turnaround by improving their record to 6-19 and making gains in several statistical categories. NSU made improvements in every facet of the game including kills per game and assists per game, which both rose by 20 percent, while digs per game increased by 13 percent.

Prior to her tenure at Nova Southeastern, Batie spent two seasons (2003-04) as an assistant at Wake Forest University. During her first season, the Demon Deacons posted a 21-10 mark, the sixth-best record in school history and their .667 winning percentage was fifth-highest. The 2003 edition matched a school-high with 10 ACC victories and finished third in the league, which equaled the 2000 team for the best conference finish.

Further proof of Wake Forest's success that year came in groundbreaking individual awards. Valerie Rydberg and Christy Williams each took home the school's first American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-America awards with a pair of Honorable Mention accolades. Both were named to the AVCA All-Region squad with Rydberg grabbing just the fifth First-Team All-ACC award in WFU history.

Besides the individual awards, 2003 was one of the best all-around at Wake Forest. The Demon Deacons set a new school record with a .262 attack percentage while also ranking the top five in WFU lore for kills (1,742 - 5th) and aces (223 - 4th). The following year, WFU's 414 blocking assists tied for second all-time and the 4,579 attempts sits fifth.

Before joining the staff at Wake Forest, Batie spent two seasons as the head coach of the Gainesville Juniors 16/1 Club Team. Ranked eighth nationally, they finished in the top 10 at nationals. Batie also coached Team Florida, part of the USA High Performance Program, that season and took them to the Volley Classic in Utah.

Prior to coaching the Gainesville Juniors, Batie served as a volunteer assistant coach at the University of Florida for the 2000 season. That year the Gators captured the SEC regular season and tournament titles on their way to the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16. Five players earned All-SEC honors while Nicole McCray was named All-American by *Volleyball Magazine* and Aury Cruz grabbed Freshman All-America honors and AVCA Freshman of the Year accolades.

Before coaching at Florida, Batie was involved with the Northern Lights Volleyball Club in Burnsville, Minn., for three years. During her stint with Northern Lights, she worked as head coach of the 17/1 team and the assistant coach for the 18/1 squad. Both teams finished in the top 10 at the National Open Championships each year.

Batie spent the 1998 season as an assistant coach at Creighton University in Omaha, Neb. That year Melissa Walsh won her first of four All-Missouri Valley Conference awards - the most by any player in school history - and was named to the league's All-Freshman team. The previous fall, Batie spent a season as the head coach at Anoka High School in Anoka, Minn., where she guided the Tornados to the 1997 conference championship.

After a successful playing career, Batie got her first coaching job as an assistant at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. She spent four seasons on the 49ers bench from 1992-96 with a one-year stint (1993) as an assistant volleyball and softball coach at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., and was Charlotte's interim head coach in the spring of 1997. During her tenure in Charlotte, the 49ers had five All-Metro Conference selections and set 10 game, single-season and career records.

A 1991 graduate of Southern Mississippi, Batie earned her degree in sports administration. She was a two-year letterwinner for the Golden Eagles after transferring to Southern Mississippi from Texas Tech, where she played her first two years. A two-time team MVP for Southern Mississippi, the former Melissa Trent still ranks in the top ten on the school's career list for solo blocks and total blocks and is on the single season charts for blocking assists.

Born in Detroit and raised in Miami, Batie started playing volleyball in Pleasanton, Calif., where she went to high school. She now resides in Tallahassee with her daughter Madison, who is seven.

MITCH SADOWSKY



ASSISTANT COACH

- Ball State, '98
- 1st Season



For years, the men's volleyball program at Ball State has produced some of the best coaches in the country. When it came time to hire a new assistant coach at Florida State University, head coach Todd Kress tapped into that lineage when he named former Cardinal standout and former member of Team USA Mitch Sadowsky to the staff on June 15, 2006.

The last two summers Sadowsky has been working with some of the best talent in the country. This year he was the lead tryout coach for the USA Select, USA Youth National and USA Junior National teams following a stint as a coach at the 2005 USA Developmental Camp.

Sadowsky comes to the Seminoles after a pair of seasons as the top assistant at Georgetown University where he made an immediate impact on the Hoyas. During the 2004 season, his first on staff, Georgetown improved by eight wins for a 17-12 record, the school's most wins since 2001.

One of his prodigies, Sara Albert, became the first player in school history to earn four All-Big East Conference awards when she brought home Second-Team honors. Albert led the conference with a .392 attacking percentage.

Sadowsky went to Georgetown from the Utah Grizzlies Hockey Club where he was a corporate sales executive from September 2003 until July 2004. In addition to his duties as corporate sales executive, he also sold corporate sponsorships with the 2003 California League Champion Inland Empire 66ers, the Single A Affiliate of the Seattle Mariners.

Sadowsky coached volleyball at Redlands High School in California. His Redlands' freshman team and the varsity team won their conference championship outright during his time at the helm of the squad. Sadowsky also coached at North Shore Milwaukee Volleyball Club, Greendale High School, Munciana Volleyball Club, Wapahani High School and Ball State University.

At North Shore, Sadowsky was the head coach of the boy's 18-under team which earned back-to-back fifth-place finishes at the Junior National Championships. He was the head boys' varsity coach at Greendale High, overseeing all aspects of team training and preparation. At Munciana, Sadowsky worked as an assistant coach with the girls' teams. His 1998 Munciana team won the 16-and-under club national championship. Sadowsky was also an assistant coach at Wapahani High School, where he helped lead the team to two state semifinal appearances.

Sadowsky started his collegiate coaching career as a graduate assistant at Ball State from 1999-2000. During his two seasons, three different Cardinals earned All-Midwestern Intercollegiate Volleyball Association (MIVA) awards.

As a player, Sadowsky has international experience in the 2001 Maccabi Games where he helped led Team USA to a silver medal and in the Bring It USA All-Star Tour in the fall of 2000. During his collegiate career, Sadowsky helped Ball State to a pair of third-place finishes in the NCAA Tournament (1995 & 1997), a trio of MIVA titles (1996-98) and served as captain in 1998. The 1997 squad set new school records for kills per game and assists per game.

Sadowsky graduated from Ball State University in 1998 with degrees in sport administration and spanish and received his masters of science in sport management in 2000.



SUPPORT STAFF



Mary Anderson
Head Volleyball Trainer



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Seminoles Athletic Marketing



Gary Lhotsky
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Amy Lord
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