

COACHES



SEMINOLE



VOLLEYBALL

RELENTLESS



Todd Kress

Head Coach ■ Cincinnati, '92
6th Season at FSU (87-70, .554)
12th Season Overall (239-145, .622)

Over the course of the previous five years, head coach Todd Kress has built the Florida State volleyball team into an annual contender for the Atlantic Coast Conference title and one of the burgeoning programs on the national landscape. With perhaps his most talented team on the court, year number six under Kress has the potential to bring the ACC trophy back to Tallahassee and solidify the Seminoles' place among the country's elite teams.

Going into his 13th season as a head coach, Kress has a 239-145 record for a .622 winning percentage that ranks among the NCAA leaders. On October 15, 2004, the 39-year-old Kress became the second youngest active head coach to reach 200 victories with FSU's 3-1 triumph over North Carolina. Prior to his arrival in Tallahassee, 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.

During his tenure at Florida State he has amassed an 87-70 record and 13 more victories would make him the third head coach in school history to reach the 100-win plateau. In addition, he is just 21 wins from taking over the number two spot on the school's career wins list.

One thing that has been unprecedented during Kress' stint as the Seminoles' court boss is the number of national awards his players have won. After FSU went 23 years without an American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All-American, Kress has produced an All-American in each of the last three years as current senior Makini Thompson garnered Honorable Mention accolades in 2006. Amanda Santos earned the school's first All-America honor in 2004 and her sister Andreza followed in her footsteps the next year. Amongst the ACC schools, only Florida State, Duke and Georgia Tech have had an All-American in each of the last three seasons.

In addition to her All-America honor, Thompson was the fourth player under Kress' watch to land on the AVCA All-East Region and First-Team All-ACC squads. Middle blocker Brianna Barry was named to the ACC All-Freshman Team, a first since Cassie McLaughlin was named to the team as well as 2003 East Region Rookie of the Year and ACC Freshman of the Year.

Not only has Kress' impact on Florida State volleyball been felt on the court, but also in the classroom. Since his arrival in 2002, the program has put 25 student-athletes on the ACC Academic Honor Roll, which is more than the previous five seasons. In 2006, Sarah Griffin earned the team's first CoSIDA/ESPN *The Magazine* Academic All-District honor since 1993. She was joined by Jessica Skower and Barry on the 2006 All-ACC Academic Volleyball Team. The team grade point average for the 2006-07 school year was a 3.02.

A blazing start to the 2006 campaign was the key to one of the best seasons under Kress as his team posted a 19-12 mark – the second most wins during his tenure – and a school-record 13-9 ACC ledger. Florida State swept its way through its first five matches, including the title of the FSU Invitational, for the best start since the 2000 season. The hot beginning continued during conference action as the Seminoles got out to an 8-1 start.

Offense was a big key to FSU's success as the Seminoles led the conference with a .266 hitting percentage that is the fourth-best single-season total in school history. The Seminoles' 225 aces were the most since the 1994 season. Four players were ranked in the ACC's top five rankings, led by Thompson who was third in the conference at 3.95 kills per game, which ranks as the eighth-best single-season rate FSU lore.

The last half of the 2005 season saw the Seminoles lay the foundation for a great 2006 campaign. Florida State won seven of its last 10 matches, the third-best finish in the ACC, to end the season tied for fifth in the ACC at 11-11 with a 13-17 overall mark. 2005'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.

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.

Northern Illinois dominated the MAC in 2001, winning 21 of its final 23 matches and sweeping all three matches in the MAC Tournament 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.

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
2006	19-12	Florida State University	Head Coach
Total	239-145 (.622 Winning Percentage)		

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 advanced to its first NCAA Tournament where it faced Ohio State in the first round. 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.

Prior to Fairfield, Kress served as an assistant at Saint Ursula Academy and Thomas More College. 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 where 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 sons, Trevor (6) and Trajan (4).

KRESS VS. ALL OPPONENTS

Opponent	Overall	At FSU	at N. Illinois	At Fairfield	Opponent	Overall	At FSU	at N. Illinois	At Fairfield
Alabama	1-1	0-1		1-0	Maryland	4-6	4-6		
Akron	3-1		3-1		Marquette	1-1		1-1	
Arkansas State	1-0	1-0			Mercer	2-0	2-0		
Army	3-0			3-0	McNeese State	1-0		1-0	
Ball State	3-3		3-3		Miami	3-5	3-5		
Boston College	6-2	4-0		2-2	Miami (OH)	4-2		3-2	1-0
Bowling Green	1-2		1-2		Michigan	1-2		1-1	0-1
Brown	4-0	1-0		3-0	Minnesota	0-1	0-1		
Bryant College	0-1			0-1	Mississippi State	1-0			1-0
Buffalo	2-1		2-1		Mississippi Valley St.	1-0	1-0		
Butler	1-0		1-0		Missouri-Kansas City	1-0		1-0	
Cal Poly	0-1			0-1	Morgan State	0-1			0-1
Canisius	4-2			4-2	New Hampshire	5-0			5-0
Central Connecticut St.	3-1			3-1	New Haven	0-2			0-2
UCF	2-0	2-0			New Mexico	1-0		1-0	
Central Michigan	5-0		5-0		Niagara	3-1			3-1
Charlotte	1-0			1-0	Northeastern	2-1			2-1
Cincinnati	1-2		1-0	0-2	North Carolina	7-5	7-5		
Clemson	4-7	4-6		0-1	NC State	11-0	11-0		
Colgate	0-1			0-1	Northern Iowa	0-1		0-1	
Columbia	3-0			3-0	Notre Dame	1-0			1-0
Connecticut	0-2			0-2	Oakland	1-0	1-0		
Cornell	1-1			1-1	Ohio	3-2		3-2	
Creighton	1-0		1-0		Ohio State	0-1			0-1
Dartmouth	2-1		1-0	1-1	Oregon	1-0	1-0		
DePaul	0-1		0-1		Pepperdine	0-1	0-1		
Duke	1-8	1-8			Pittsburgh	0-1	0-1		
Eastern Illinois	2-0	1-0	1-0		Providence	2-0			2-0
Eastern Kentucky	1-0	1-0			Princeton	1-1			1-1
Eastern Michigan	4-2	1-0	3-2		Rice	1-0			1-0
Florida	0-5	0-4	0-1		Rider	2-0			2-0
Florida A&M	1-0	1-0			Rutgers	0-1			0-1
Florida Atlantic	1-0	1-0			Sacred Heart	1-0			1-0
Florida International	1-0	1-0			Sam Houston State	1-0	1-0		
Florida State	0-1		0-1		San Diego	0-1			0-1
Fordham	1-0			1-0	Santa Clara	0-1		0-1	
George Mason	0-1	0-1			Seton Hall	1-0			1-0
Georgia	0-1	0-1			Sienna	5-2			5-2
Georgia Tech	2-9	2-9			South Alabama	2-0			2-0
Hartford	5-0			5-0	South Carolina	2-1	1-1	1-0	
Harvard	1-2			1-2	South Florida	3-2			3-2
Hofstra	1-1			1-1	Southern California	0-1	0-1		
Holy Cross	4-1			4-1	St. Francis	1-0			1-0
Houston	1-1	1-1			St. John's	1-5	0-1		
Illinois	0-1		0-1		1-4				
Illinois Chicago	2-0		2-0		St. Mary's (CA)	0-1	0-1		
Illinois State	2-1	0-1	2-0		St. Peter's	6-1			6-1
IUPUI	1-0	1-0			Stetson	2-0	2-0		
Iona	3-1			3-1	UT-Arlington	1-0		1-0	
Iowa	2-0		1-0	1-0	UTEP	0-1			0-1
Indiana State	0-1			0-1	UT-San Antonio	1-0		1-0	
Jacksonville	2-0	2-0			Toledo	5-2			5-2
Kansas State	0-2	0-2			Troy	1-0	1-0		
Kent State	4-1		4-1		UC Irvine	0-1	0-1		
Kentucky	0-1		0-1		Vermont	2-0			2-0
Lehigh	3-0			3-0	Villanova	2-0		1-0	1-0
Long Island	2-0			2-0	Virginia	5-5	5-5		
Louisiana Lafayette	2-0	1-0	1-0		Virginia Tech	6-1	5-1	1-0	
LSU	1-0	1-0			Wake Forest	6-3	6-3		
Louisiana Tech	1-0	1-0			Western Michigan	2-5		2-5	
Loyola (Md.)	4-1			4-1	Winthrop	1-0	1-0		
Manhattan	4-1			4-1	Xavier	0-1			0-1
Marist	6-0			6-0	Yale	1-4			1-4
Marshall	5-0	1-0	4-0		Total	239-145	87-70	58-30	94-45



Todd, Trevor, Dani and Trajan



Melissa Batie

Associate Head Coach
Southern Miss, '91
2nd Season at FSU

With a successful playing career to her credit and in-depth knowledge of the Atlantic Coast Conference and the state of Florida, associate head coach Melissa Batie is a valuable component of the Florida State coaching staff. The start of the 2007 campaign marks her 12th year in the volleyball coaching ranks.

In her second season with the Seminoles, the 39-year-old Batie works primarily on the court with the middle blockers. Last year, middle Brianna Barry was named to the ACC All-Freshman Team after finishing fourth in the conference with a .325 hitting percentage while leading the team with 0.98 blocks per game. Off the court, one of Batie's main duties is serving as Florida State's recruiting coordinator. FSU's 2007 class received high honorable mention status from prepvolleyball.com.

Batie joined 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. The 2006 NSU team – comprised mostly of Batie recruits – posted 11 wins. The Sharks 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. One of her Gainesville pupils, Marcie Hampton, was named to the 2007 U.S. Women's National Team. 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. At Northern Lights she coached U.S. Women's National Team member, two-time All-American and 2003 Big Ten Player of the Year Cassie Busse.

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 ten match, single-season and career records.



Batie earned a bachelor's in sports administration from Southern Mississippi in 1991. She was a two-year starter for the Golden Eagles after transferring to Southern Miss from Texas Tech, where she played her first two years. A two-time team MVP for Southern Miss, Batie 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. The former Melissa Trent, she now resides in Tallahassee with her daughter Madison, who is eight.



Melissa and daughter Madison (8)



Mitch Sadowsky

Assistant Coach
Ball State, '98
2nd Season at FSU

Entering his second season with the Florida State volleyball program, assistant coach Mitch Sadowsky brings a strong lineage and a wealth of coaching knowledge to the table. A former member of Team USA, Sadowsky cut his coaching chops at his alma mater Ball State, which produced some of the nation's top coaches.

During his first year with the Seminoles, Sadowsky worked with the Florida State setters. Zrinka Tomic finished the year ranked fourth in the ACC at 11.55 assists per game and her 1,201 total assists was the 10th-highest single-season total in school history. As a team FSU was third in the ACC during overall matches (14.34 per game) and conference matches (14.51). Away from the court, Sadowsky heads up FSU's team travel and film exchange.

For the two summers prior to his arrival in Tallahassee, Sadowsky worked with some of the best talent in the country. In 2006 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 came 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 master's of science in sport management in 2000.



SUPPORT STAFF



Mary Anderson
Head Volleyball Trainer



Brandon Blahnik
Team Manager



Leanne Gross
Graduate Assistant



Tyler Peacock
Strength & Conditioning Coach



Jenny Little
Marketing



Amy Lord
Athletic Academic Support



Tommy Reynolds
Equipment Manager



Mark Breshanan
Facility Coordinator



Laurie Swiger
Facility Coordinator

Not Pictured
Student Trainers: Lauren Heiser and Dan Wilson