

2008 FLORIDA STATE VOLLEYBALL

GOACHIES



SEMINOLE COACHING STAFF



HEAD COACH CHRIS POOLE

FIRST SEASON
ARKANSAS TECH (1983)
CAREER RECORD:
550-230/21 YEARS

The 2008 volleyball season brings a new face at the helm of the Seminole program in head coach Chris Poole. Poole brings a wealth of knowledge and experience after heading the program at the University of Arkansas for 14 accomplished seasons.

Poole started the University of Arkansas' volleyball program in 1994 and was not only successful, but led the Lady Razorbacks to 11 Southeastern Conference Western Division titles. Add to that, 11 postseason appearances - two NIVC and nine NCAA - along with the SEC Tournament title and numerous individual player honors.

Upon arriving in Fayetteville in 1993, Poole personally handled every element of building the program from buying the first pieces of equipment, hiring the assistants and recruiting the players, to renovating the court and building locker room facilities.

With head coaching stints at Arkansas, Arkansas State and Arkansas Tech, Poole holds a 550-230 career record in 21 seasons and has been named conference coach of the year seven times and was pegged the South Region Coach of the Year in 1997. In 24 years of collegiate coaching, including three seasons as an assistant coach at Arkansas Tech, Poole has won 19 conference or divisional championships and has been to the finals 17 times in 22 conference tournaments. He has also taken his teams to a postseason tournament in 19 of his 24 years.

During his 14 seasons at Arkansas, in which he compiled a 316-161 record, Poole produced two AVCA All-Americans, three

HEAD COACH **CHRIS POOLE**

AVCA honorable mention All-Americans, 24 players with 44 All-SEC honors, three SEC Freshmen of the Year and 25 AVCA All-District/All-Region honorees.

In addition to the success on the court, Poole's teams excelled in the classroom as well with 67 SEC Academic Honor Roll selections, 10 CoSIDA All-District selections, two H. Boyd McWhorter Scholar-Athlete finalists and one McWhorter winner.

Poole certainly made his mark in the SEC as well. Since 1994, he guided Arkansas to a 159-65 record in the SEC regular season for a 71 percent league winning mark. Poole and the Lady Razorbacks were even more impressive against the Western Division winning 11 of 14 titles.

Poole spent an entire year away from competition preparing for the Razorback's inaugural season in 1994 and it was time well spent as he led Arkansas to a 19-17 overall record, a 10-5 SEC mark and a SEC Western Division title with a perfect 10-0 divisional record in the first year of competition. The Lady Razorbacks finished third overall in the league that year and played well enough to earn a postseason bid to the National Invitational Volleyball Coaches tournament in Kansas City where they finished seventh in a field of 20 teams. Poole was selected the 1994 SEC Coach of the Year while two of his players (Krystal Osborne and Jaimie Torromeo) earned All-SEC honors and one player (Osborne) earned All-District honors.

Poole's ability to build was proven first with Arkansas Tech then at Arkansas State. He took over days prior to the 1987 season at ASU and his first team showed the effects with a dismal 8-24 record. But with one season un-

der Poole's careful tutelage, virtually the same team was 41-1 the next year, launching a five-year run of winning seasons for the Lady Indians.

His 1988 team had a 33-match win streak, longest in the nation, and posted a school-record 41-1 overall mark. The next year, ASU had a 34-match win streak, notched the Lady Indian record with 43 wins (43-6 overall) and was ranked ninth in the South Region.

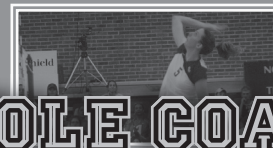
In his last season at ASU, the Lady Indians were 41-6 and received an automatic bid into the NCAA tournament in 1992. ASU entered the 32-team NCAA field with the most wins of any team, but lost a tough four-game match to the Northwest Region's top-seeded team, Long Beach State.

Prior to ASU, Poole was an assistant and later head coach at Arkansas Tech. In two seasons as head coach at ATU, he posted a 53-20 record, winning the Arkansas Intercollegiate Conference title in 1985 as co-head coach and finishing runner-up as head coach in 1986. He started his collegiate career in 1983-84 as a graduate assistant for the nationally ranked Arkansas Tech Golden Suns. Tech was 58-9 and a perfect 24-0 conference mark in two seasons with Poole as an assistant coach.

A native of Heber Springs in north-central Arkansas, Poole is a 1983 graduate of Arkansas Tech and earned a master's degree from Tech in 1989. He is a member of the American Volleyball Coaches Association and has served on the AVCA's All-American, All-South Region and All-South Region Ranking committees and is also an AVCA Top 25 voter.

Poole and his wife, Toni, a former Arkansas State track and field standout, have two children, son Joshua and daughter Taylor.





SEMINOLE COACHING STAFF

HEAD COACH **CHRIS POOLE**

POOLE'S COACHING RECORD

TOTAL AS A HEAD COACH

Years	Overall	Conf.
21	550-230	243-82

ASSISTANT COACH - ARKANSAS TECH (1983-1985)

Year	Overall	Conf.	Finish	Highlights
1983	26-4	12-0	1st	
1984	32-5	12-0	1st	
1985	34-7	13-1	1st	
Total	92-16	37-1		

HEAD COACH - ARKANSAS TECH (1986)

Year	Overall	Conf.	Finish	Highlights
1986	21-15	11-3		
Total	21-15	11-3		

HEAD COACH - ARKANSAS STATE (1987-1992)

Year	Overall	Conf.	Finish	Highlights
1987	8-24	N/A		
1988	41-1	13-0	1st	American South title
1989	43-6	13-0	1st	American South title
1990	39-8	14-1	1st	American South title
1991	41-9	5-0	1st	Sun Belt title
1992	41-6	9-0	1st	Sun Belt title
Total	213-54	54-1		

HEAD COACH - UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS (1994-2007)

Year	Overall	Conf.	Finish	Highlights
1994	19-17	10-5	1st*	NIVC Tourn.
1995	25-15	11-4	1st*	NIVC Tourn.
1996	26-11	11-4	1st*	NCAA 2nd Rd.
1997	30-6	13-2	1st*	SEC Tourn. title NCAA 2nd Rd.
1998	29-6	14-1	1st*	NCAA Regionals
1999	30-7	14-1	1st*	NCAA 2nd Rd.
2000	16-14	9-6	2nd*	3 all-SEC; 6 SEC all-academic
2001	21-12	12-3	1st*	NCAA 1st Rd.
2002	27-6	14-2	1st*	SEC Tourn. Runner-Up
2003	27-7	15-1	1st*	SEC Tourn. Runner-up; NCAA 2nd Rd.
2004	17-16	10-6	1st*	NCAA 1st Rd.
2005	21-12	10-5	1st*	Western Div. co-champ; NCAA 2nd Rd.
2006	16-13	9-11	4th	NCAA 1st Rd.
2007	12-19	6-14	5th*	
Total	316-161	159-65		

*Western Division finish

SEMINOLE COACHING STAFF



**ASSOCIATE
HEAD COACH
HOLLY WATTS**
FIRST SEASON

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH **HOLLY WATTS**

ence selections. Most recently she helped 2006 senior Amy Allison finish the 2005 season ranked second in the country in blocking.

Watts was invited to assist with the U.S. National Team for several weeks, in the summer of 1998, working with the country's elite volleyball players.

While busy with the day-to-day demands of the Lady Razorback program, Watts also founded the Ozark Juniors, a club program, in the northwest Arkansas area. Ozark Juniors play an inter-state schedule and provides playing opportunities for all ages. Watts also served on the board for Ozark Juniors, which continues to expand with each season.

As an athlete, the former Holly Graham helped Texas to national

dominance and was the Lady Longhorns' MVP as a senior. An all-conference pick, she was an all-SWC and all-SWC Tournament selection as well as being named to the all-South region team in her final year. She went on to play basketball in her final year before graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in kinesiology from UT in 1994.

Watts began her coaching career while in college working with Mick Haley at the UT Volleyball Camps. Watts accepted the assistant coaching job at Texas-Arlington in 1994, a position she held until coming to Arkansas.

Watts is married to John Watts and the couple has two sons, Jeremiah and Jared, and reside in Tallahassee.

Holly Watts comes to Florida State as an associate head coach after guiding the Arkansas volleyball program to its highest level since joining the Lady Razorbacks' staff in April of 1996.

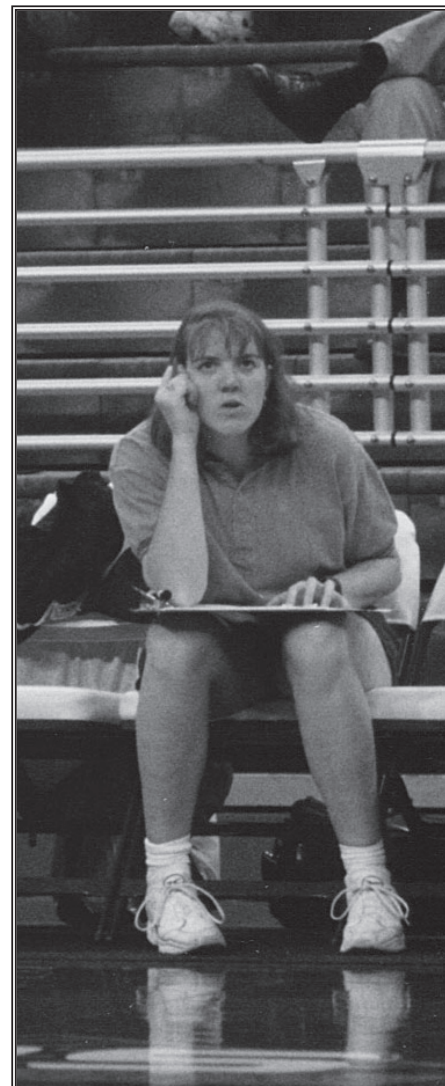
The Lady'Backs have played a 262-129 record, nine Southeastern Conference Western Division titles and nine NCAA Tournament appearances with Watts in the second chair. Her hard work and commitment to the program was rewarded at the conclusion of the 2002 season when she was promoted to associate head coach.

Although her duties were many and varied, one of Watts' most critical jobs was to coordinate all of the Lady Razorback recruiting efforts including correspondence, evaluation, visits and tracking athletes.

In addition to her recruiting duties, she served as the primary coach for Arkansas' blockers.

Her blocking talents are evident as the Lady Razorbacks have consistently ranked in the top of the SEC and the nation in blocking. In fact, the Lady Razorbacks finished the 2005 season first in the league and 12th in the country with a 3.28 block per game average.

Watts coached the best blockers in school history, including All-Americans Jessica Field and Kim Storey along with several all-confer-





SEMINOLE COACHING STAFF



ASSISTANT COACH GOKHAN YILMAZ
FIRST SEASON

ASSISTANT COACH **GOKHAN YILMAZ**

sons. While there, the Aggies played in two conference final games and Yilmaz coached 2003 All-American and Offensive Player of the Year Kelsey Kosick and the 2004 Defensive Player of the year Jenny Head. He previously held a similar position at Western New Mexico University from 2002-03.

Before coming to the US, Yilmaz worked for various club programs in Istanbul, Turkey, as well as with the Turkish national team.

He has also worked with national team coaches from Cuba, Russia and Bulgaria, assisting in their practices and working in the physical training aspect of the game.

Yilmaz received his bachelor's degree in European studies in 2002 from Istanbul University and completed his master's degree sports psychology while coaching at Cameron in 2005.

Gokhan Yilmaz joins the Florida State staff after two seasons as the assistant coach for the Arkansas Lady Razorbacks.

While at Arkansas, Yilmaz went to work on re-energizing practices and drilling the Lady Razorbacks. He was also involved with recruiting by making trips both nationally and internationally to spread the Lady'Backs' name.

Yilmaz's first exposure to Arkansas came in the spring of 2005 when he worked with the Lady Razorbacks as a volunteer coach.

Prior to his time in Fayetteville, Yilmaz was a full-time assistant coach at Northwood University in Midland, Mich., for the 2005 season.

While at Northwood, he helped the Timberwolves to a regional semi-final in 2005 with a 23-11 overall record and developed All-American and Regional Player of the Year Gorona Maricic. Yilmaz also worked with five other All-Conference athletes as Northwood was conference runners-up with a 14-4 mark that same season. He was also the recruiting coordinator and camp director at Northwood. In 2006, the Timberwolves went 16-11 and had three players selected to the 2006 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic all-conference team.

Yilmaz was an assistant and recruiting coordinator at Cameron University during the 2003 and 2004 sea-





SEMINOLE COACHING STAFF

SUPPORT STAFF



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TEAM MANAGER



MARLON DECHAUSAY
ATHLETIC
ACADEMIC SUPPORT



MALLORY GREATHOUSE
VOLLEYBALL
ATHLETIC TRAINER



JENNY LITTLE
MARKETING ASSISTANT



TOMMY REYNOLDS
EQUIPMENT MANAGER



STUART PEARCE
FACILITY COORDINATOR



LAURIE SWIGER
FACILITY COORDINATOR