

# APPALACHIAN STATE

## COACHING STAFF



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BACK-TO-BACK SOUTHERN CONFERENCE NORTH DIVISION CHAMPIONS





HEAD COACH

NINTH SEASON

MTSU, 1988

HOUSTON

# FANCHER

COACHING STAFF

Head coach Houston Fancher is entering his ninth season at the helm of the Appalachian State University men's basketball program after guiding the program to back-to-back Southern Conference North Division titles and 43 wins over the past two seasons, the second-most successful two-year span in school history.

The 2002-03 Southern Conference Coach of the Year continues to use his talents to improve the Mountaineer basketball program as one of three coaches who have taken the Mountaineers to the postseason.

In 2006-07, he etched his name into the Appalachian record book by leading his squad to a school-record 25 victories and the team third-ever postseason appearance and first-ever berth in the National Invitation Tournament (NIT).

After spending two years as an assistant and another two as associate head coach at ASU, Fancher became the 14th head coach in the 65-year history of the program on June 21, 2000. At 42, the Newport, Tenn. native carries 20 years of coaching experience.

Noted as a players' coach, Fancher has a true passion for the game. He is a coach who appreciates the bonds and relationships he forms with his players and understands the impact a coach can have on an individual's life. He is a man who cares about the young men he coaches.

Raised in a home with two hard-working parents, Fancher's father was a World War II prisoner of war captured in the historic Battle of the Bulge. Fancher is the youngest of four sons who grew up

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Born James Houston Fancher  
Feb. 17, 1966 (Newport, Tenn.)  
Raised in Newport, Tenn.

**EDUCATION**

M.S. in education administration  
Lincoln Memorial, 1990

B.S. in education  
Middle Tennessee State, 1988

Cocke County H.S., 1984  
(Newport, Tenn.)



**COACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 1988-92 Maryville - Assistant Coach
- 1992-95 North Greenville - Head Coach
- 1995-96 Vanderbilt - Assistant Coach
- 1996-98 Appalachian - Assistant Coach
- 1998-00 Appalachian - Associate Head Coach
- 2000- Appalachian - Head Coach



in a small town and each went on to earn their respective college degrees.

Through his academic career in which he earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in education, Fancher's work ethic and passion for the game form a perfect fit for college coaching.

Last season, Fancher was charged with the task of replacing his entire backcourt from a 25-win team in a guard-oriented league. Thanks in part to his staff's efficient and effective recruiting, a fresh crop of guards immediately complemented the team's interior depth to the tune of an 18-13 record and a second-straight North Division title. The five graduated seniors from 2007-08 left campus with 75 wins, the second-most in any four-year period in Appalachian history. Additionally, Fancher continued his penchant for engineering upsets when his squad defeated Arkansas, 74-67, in Little Rock, Ark.

In 2006-07, Fancher firmly wove himself Appalachian history with one of the most successful teams in the program's 82 years. His Apps reeled off a school-record 25 wins and cruised to the SoCon North title with a 15-3 mark in conference play. Along the way, his team captured the San Juan Shootout championship with successive victories over Virginia, UCF and Vanderbilt. Both Virginia and Vanderbilt claimed a share of their respective conference championships and advanced to the NCAA Tournament. Fancher also coached the program's first victory over an SEC opponent in the Shootout.

Following that success, he guided the team to a come-from-behind win at NCAA participant VCU that catapulted the Mountaineers to as high as No. 9 in the RPI. He also oversaw a critical conference victory at Davidson that snapped the nation's second-longest winning streak and is Davidson's only SoCon loss in the past two seasons. The dream season continued with a last-second win before a national television audience and a hostile crowd at Wichita State as part of ESPN Bracket Busters. The team advanced to the SoCon Semifinals before being eliminated by College of Charleston, placing the team firmly on the NCAA Tournament bubble. Unfortunately, weeks of lobbying for inclusion in the field of 65 didn't yield the desired result. However, the Apps got a chance to continue their record-setting campaign with an NIT berth, the team's third-ever postseason appearance.

For his record-setting season in 2006-07, Fancher was named a finalist for the Hugh Durham Mid-Major Coach of the Year Award.

Fancher's first year as head coach was filled with turbulent times. Undeterred, his strong character and sincerity allowed him to mold a group of younger players into a team. Together, Fancher and the team contended for the Southern Conference's North Division title until the final weeks of the regular season. Finishing 11-20 (.355) would be sub-par most years, but after starting three freshmen and two walk-ons for a bulk of the season, he was considered a magician.



FANCHER IN THE ASU COACHING ANNALS

- 1** One of three coaches to make a postseason appearance.
- 1** One of four coaches to be named SoCon Coach of the Year.
- 3** Third in SoCon Championships with three.
- 3** Has coached in three SoCon Tourney semifinals.
- 4** Has the fourth-longest tenure on the bench.
- 4** Fourth in SoCon Tournament wins with seven.
- 8.8** Second in SoCon wins per season with 8.8.
- 11** Has coached 11 all-SoCon selections, the most in program history.
- 16** Has had 16 school-records broken during his tenure.
- 70** Tied for first in SoCon victories with 70.
- 124** Fourth in wins with 124.

RECORD AS A HEAD COACH

Year	School	W	L	Pct.	Notes
1992-93	North Greenville	14	14	.500	Fancher revives a dormant junior college program in his first season.
1993-94	North Greenville	15	13	.536	Leads the Crusaders to a winning-record in his second season.
1994-95	North Greenville	15	14	.517	Posts a second-consecutive winning season before leaving the program.
<b>Total</b>	<b>North Greenville</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>.518</b>	
2000-01	Appalachian	11	20	.355	Fancher inherits a squad with just one senior and 11 total players in his first season.
2001-02	Appalachian	10	18	.357	Seven newcomers brought into the program as Fancher begins to mold his team.
2002-03	Appalachian	19	10	.655	In his third year, Fancher wins the SoCon North Division and is named Coach of the Year.
2003-04	Appalachian	9	21	.429	Team falls on hard luck, losing seven games by three points or less.
2004-05	Appalachian	18	12	.600	Apps finish second in the division and advance to SoCon Tournament semifinals.
2005-06	Appalachian	14	16	.461	Team makes second of three-consecutive tournament semifinal appearances.
2006-07	Appalachian	25	8	.758	Fancher leads team to a school-record 25 wins, an NIT berth and San Juan Shootout title.
2007-08	Appalachian	18	13	.581	An inexperienced backcourt leads the Apps to their second-straight North Division title.
<b>Total</b>	<b>Appalachian</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>.512</b>	
<b>Overall Record</b>		<b>168</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>.514</b>	

COACHING STAFF

The second season proved to be quite a task for Fancher. Experimenting with a new system and adding a lot of new faces, Fancher guided the 2001-02 team to a 10-18 (.357) mark.

The 2002-03 season saw Fancher's Mountaineers picked to finish last in the conference and actually end in a tie for first place in the North Division of the conference with a record of 19-10 overall, 11-5 in SoCon play (.688). For his efforts, he was named the conference's Coach of the Year by both the SoCon head coaches and the media.

In 2004-05, Appalachian came within one game of collecting its second SoCon championship of Fancher's five-year tenure and advanced to the semifinals of the SoCon Tournament for the first time in his head coaching career, where it lost a hard-fought battle to host and eventual-champion Chattanooga.

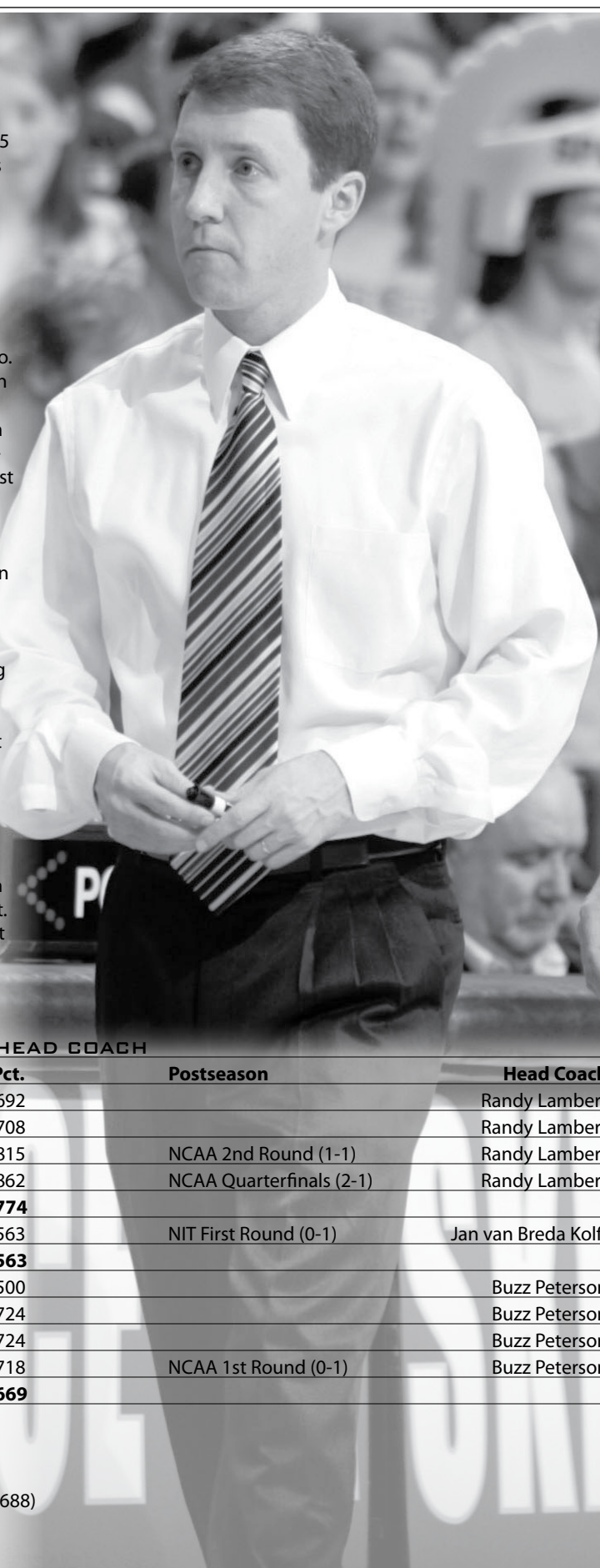
The 2005-06 campaign saw Fancher's Mountaineers advance to the SoCon Tournament semifinals after dispatching Wofford and No. 1-seed Georgia Southern. The Mountaineers ended the season with a 14-16 record.

In his two seasons as assistant coach, the Mountaineers posted a 35-22 record (.614). As associate head coach, the Apps tallied a 44-17 (.721) record. In 1999-2000, Fancher aided the program to its first Southern Conference championship and NCAA appearance since 1979. Over his time on the Mountaineers' staff, they posted three consecutive 20-win seasons for the first time in the history of the program. The period is also the program's winningest three years in history.

Celebrated as a tremendous recruiter, motivator, teacher and mentor, Fancher is credited with bringing several top student-athletes to the Appalachian program. He was instrumental in bringing every player to the program over his four seasons prior to being named head coach.

Before arriving in Boone, Fancher served one year as an assistant at Vanderbilt. While at the Southeastern Conference program, he served under Jan van Breda Kolff. The 1995-96 Commodore squad finished 18-14 and advanced to the postseason NIT. It was at Vanderbilt where Fancher met Commodore associate head coach and future Appalachian head coach Buzz Peterson.

Following Peterson's appointment as head coach at Appalachian prior to the 1996-97 season, Fancher came on board as an assistant. He moved to Boone where he quickly went to work recruiting what would become the nucleus of the winningest three years in ASU basketball history.



RECORD AS AN ASSISTANT COACH/ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH

Year	School	W	L	Pct.	Postseason	Head Coach
1988-89	Maryville	18	8	.692		Randy Lambert
1989-90	Maryville	17	7	.708		Randy Lambert
1990-91	Maryville	22	5	.815	NCAA 2nd Round (1-1)	Randy Lambert
1991-92	Maryville	25	4	.862	NCAA Quarterfinals (2-1)	Randy Lambert
<b>Total at Maryville</b>		<b>82</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>.774</b>		
1995-96	Vanderbilt	18	14	.563	NIT First Round (0-1)	Jan van Breda Kolff
<b>Total at Vanderbilt</b>		<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>.563</b>		
1996-97	Appalachian	14	14	.500		Buzz Peterson
1997-98	Appalachian	21	8	.724		Buzz Peterson
1998-99	Appalachian *	21	8	.724		Buzz Peterson
1999-00	Appalachian *	23	9	.718	NCAA 1st Round (0-1)	Buzz Peterson
<b>Total at Appalachian</b>		<b>79</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>.669</b>		

Postseason Record: 5-7 (.417)

Division I Postseason Record: 2-5 (.286)

Record as an Assistant Coach/Associate Head Coach: 264-120 (.688)

Record as an Associate Head Coach: 44-17 (.721)

\*Associate Head Coach



**COACHING STAFF**

Although given mixed reviews upon signing an undersized point guard as the new coaching staff's first recruit, Fancher showed his ability to eye talent when as a senior, that first signee, Tyson Patterson, received first-team all-league mention, SoCon tournament Most Valuable Player honors and led the Mountaineers to the NCAA Tournament.

The Mountaineers improved from 8-20 before the coaching change to a break-even 14-14 mark over one year. An improvement of six wins may not have appeared to be much, but it paved the way for the next three seasons of Mountaineer basketball.

The 1997-98 season witnessed Fancher and the Mountaineers garner their first season with more than 20 victories since 1979, finishing 21-8.

During Fancher's second campaign as the top assistant, Appalachian earned a share of the SoCon North Division title. A 66-62 loss in the league tournament finals in the Greensboro Coliseum stopped ASU one win shy of the NCAA Tournament.

Before the 1998-99 season, Fancher was rewarded for his efforts on and off the court by being given the title of associate head coach.

After a season of surprising opponents, the Mountaineers worked harder to stay successful and the result was another 21-8 record. The program once again appeared in the SoCon tournament championship game, but College of Charleston stalled the Apps 77-67 and ended their season.

In his second year as associate head coach, Fancher helped steer Appalachian to its winningest season since 1979. He helped the program win both the SoCon regular-season and tournament crowns and earn the program's second trip to the NCAA Tournament with a victory over College of Charleston in the league championship contest.

Prior to his stint at Vanderbilt, Fancher gained three years' experience as a head coach at North Greenville College in Tigerville, S.C. Fancher revived a program that had been canceled for one year and posted a 44-41 mark (.518) with limited scholarship funding, against fully funded teams. While at North Greenville, he leaned on his athletic background to also coach the men's tennis team.

Fancher began his coaching career at Maryville College (Tenn.), where he spent four seasons as assistant coach. In his last year at Maryville, the team advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Division III National Tournament.

Fancher received his undergraduate degree in education in 1988 from Middle Tennessee State University. While coaching at Maryville, he made the time to earn his master's degree in education administration in 1990 from Lincoln Memorial University.

A four-year cage letterwinner at Coker County High School, Fancher also earned three monograms in baseball.

He is married to the former Cathy Reagan of Jamestown, Tenn. Cathy is a professor in ASU's HLES department. The couple has an nine-year-old son, Hayden, and a five-year-old son, Ethan.



**Houston, Cathy, Ethan and Hayden Fancher**

**FANCHER VERSUS ALL OPPONENTS**

Opponent	Home	Away	Neutral	Total
Arkansas			1-0	1-0
Arkansas-Little Rock	1-0	0-1		1-1
Barton	1-0			1-0
Bluefield	1-0			1-0
Boston College			0-1	0-1
Brevard	1-0			1-0
Campbell	1-0	1-0		2-0
Central Florida			1-0	1-0
Charlotte	1-0	0-3		1-3
Chattanooga	4-2	3-5	0-4	7-11
The Citadel	5-0	5-0	2-0	12-0
Clemson		0-2	0-1	0-3
College of Charleston	2-3	2-3	1-3	5-9
Davidson	1-5	3-3		4-8
Duquesne		1-0		1-0
East Carolina	1-0	0-1		1-1
East Tennessee State	2-3	1-5		3-8
Elon	4-1	1-4		5-5
Erskine	1-0			1-0
Furman	4-1	1-4	1-0	6-5
Gardner-Webb	2-1	0-1		2-2
George Washington	1-0	0-1		1-1
Georgia		0-1		0-1
Georgia Southern	3-2	3-2	1-0	7-4
Greensboro	1-0			1-0
Hawaii-Hilo		1-0		1-0
Indiana State		0-1		0-1
James Madison	2-0	1-1		3-1
LaSalle			1-0	1-0
Liberty	1-0	0-1		1-1
Longwood	1-0	1-0		2-0
Lipscomb			1-0	1-0
Marquette		0-1		0-1
Mars Hill	2-0			2-0
Marshall	0-1	1-0		1-1
Methodist	1-0			1-0
Miami (Fla.)		0-1		0-1
Middle Tennessee		1-0		1-0
Milligan	1-0			1-0
Mississippi		0-1		0-1
Monmouth			0-1	0-1
Montreat	2-0			2-0
North Carolina	0-1			0-1
NC State	0-1	0-1		0-1
UNC Asheville	0-2			0-2
Niagara	0-1		0-1	0-2
UNC Greensboro	4-4	2-6		6-10
North Greenville	2-0			2-0
Oregon State			0-1	0-1
Piedmont	1-0			1-0
Purdue		0-1		0-1
Richmond	0-1	0-1		0-2
Robert Morris	1-0			1-0
Saint Francis (N.Y.)			0-1	0-1
San Francisco			0-1	0-1
San Jose State			0-1	0-1
South Carolina		0-3		0-3
USC Upstate	1-0			1-0
SMU	1-0	1-0		2-0
Tennessee		0-2		0-2
Tennessee Tech	1-0	0-1		1-1
TCU		0-1		0-1
Vanderbilt		0-2	1-0	1-2
VCU	1-0	1-0		2-0
Virginia		0-1	1-0	1-1
UVA- Wise	1-0			1-0
Virginia Tech		0-1		0-1
VMI	2-1	1-2		3-3
Wake Forest		0-2		0-2
Western Carolina	6-2	6-2	1-0	13-4
Wichita State	0-1	1-0		1-1
Wofford	3-2	2-2	1-0	6-4

COACHING STAFF



# McMAHON

Matt McMahon is in his ninth season on Appalachian's bench and his fifth as associate head coach. McMahon serves as recruiting coordinator in addition to his duties in player development.

One of the hardest-working individuals in his field, McMahon has been a tireless worker since stepping onto campus. A passionate member of the Appalachian basketball family, McMahon is a recognizable figure in the local community.

In the summer of 2008, McMahon was voted as one of the top-10 mid-major assistant coaches in the nation by his peers in a poll conducted by *FoxSports.com*.

Now owning the longest tenure of the Mountaineer assistants, McMahon took over the recruiting coordinator responsibilities three seasons ago.

McMahon has strong ties to the Mountaineers. Following a successful playing career for the Black and Gold, he made the transition from player to coach when he was originally named to Fancher's first staff on Aug. 2, 2000.

McMahon spent the first part of the 2001-02 season at Tennessee as an administrative graduate assistant under former Appalachian head coach Buzz Peterson. He returned to ASU as a member of Fancher's staff during the 2001 season following the departure of assistant coach John Braswell.

A two-year starter for Appalachian, McMahon started all 32 games for the 1999-2000 Southern Conference regular-season and tournament championship team that finished 23-9 and advanced to the NCAA tournament. A 6-1 guard, he was a part of the winningest four years in ASU basketball history, wrapping up his career with a 79-39 record under the direction of Peterson. During that time, Appalachian won the 1998, 1999 and 2000 Southern Conference North Division Championships.

A former walk-on to the program, the Oak Ridge, Tenn. product earned an athletic scholarship after three seasons and finished among the team leaders in three-point field goals his final two years. McMahon netted 60-of-132 long-range goals (.455) during his junior campaign to lead the team in three-point goals, attempts and accuracy.

He ranked in the top 20 in the nation in three-point field goal percentage during the 1998-99 season and was also named to the 1999 SoCon All-Tournament first team.

McMahon averaged 23.8 minutes per contest during the 1999-2000 season. He finished second on the squad in three-point field goal shooting, draining 45-of-132 tries (.341) and free-throw shooting, making good on 34-of-43 (.791).

McMahon wrapped up his career at Appalachian seventh on the all-time list with 135 three-point field goals.

He graduated from Appalachian State in May of 2000, with a degree in marketing. In the summer of 2005, McMahon married former Appalachian women's basketball assistant coach Mary Brock. They are the parents of a newborn daughter, Maris.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Born Matthew Joseph McMahon  
April 26, 1978 (Knoxville, Tenn.)  
Raised in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

**EDUCATION**

B.S. in marketing  
Appalachian State, 2000

Oak Ridge High School, 1996  
(Oak Ridge, Tenn.)



**COACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2000-01 Appalachian - Assistant Coach
- 2001 Tennessee - Graduate Assistant
- 2001-04 Appalachian - Assistant Coach
- 2004- Appalachian - Associate Head Coach



*Mary, Maris and Matt McMahon*



ASSISTANT COACH

THIRD SEASON

VIRGINIA, 1989

RICHARD

# MORGAN

Richard Morgan is in his third season on the Appalachian State University men's basketball coaching staff as an assistant coach. Morgan brings more than a decade of collegiate coaching experience to the ASU bench and was an all-ACC player at Virginia.

Morgan came to the High Country after serving as associate head coach at Hampton University. While there, he helped the Pirates to a MEAC Championship and NCAA Tournament appearance in 2006. During his three-year tenure at Hampton, the Pirates compiled a 62-46 record and advanced to the MEAC Tournament Championship game twice. His stint at Hampton was the second of his career after serving as an assistant on the Pirates' bench from 1996-98. While at Hampton he worked with the backcourt players, served as the recruiting coordinator and assisted with community relations.

Prior to returning to Hampton, Morgan spent five seasons as an assistant at East Carolina University under head coaches Bill Herrion and Joe Dooley.

Morgan moved into coaching after an extremely successful career as both a collegiate and professional player. At the University of Virginia, he was a three-year starter at guard and finished his career ranked sixth all-time in scoring with 1,540 career points. He also finished his collegiate career ranked third all-time at UVa in steals and seventh in assists with 160 and 279, respectively. Following the 1988-89 season, he earned first team all-ACC honors and was named honorable mention All-America by The Sporting News after leading the Cavaliers to an appearance in the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament.

Upon graduating from UVa in 1989 with a degree in sports management, Morgan played professionally for two seasons with the Rockford Lightning of the CBA and overseas with teams in Austria and the Philippines.

Morgan was also an assistant coach for four seasons at Salem (Va.) High School, his alma mater. During his tenure as an assistant coach at Salem, Morgan helped his team to district, regional and state championships with a 25-1 record in 1993-94.

He is married to the former Sherelle Walker of Martinsville, Va., and they have two sons, Nicholas and Kaleb.

#### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Born Richard Penn Morgan  
Jan. 5, 1967  
Raised in Salem, Va.

#### EDUCATION

B.S. in sports management  
Virginia, 1989

Salem High School, 1985  
(Salem, Va.)



#### COACHING EXPERIENCE

1992-96 Salem High School - Assistant Coach  
1996-98 Hampton - Assistant Coach  
1998-04 East Carolina - Assistant Coach  
2004-06 Hampton - Assistant Coach  
2006- Appalachian - Assistant Coach



Sherelle, Kaleb, Richard and Nicholas Morgan



ASSISTANT COACH

SECOND SEASON

TUSCULUM, 2007

JOSH

EALY

Josh Ealy begins his first season as an assistant coach at Appalachian State University after serving as a graduate assistant during the 2007-08 campaign.

In addition to his on-court responsibilities, Ealy will serve as the team's academic liaison, coordinate film exchange and video editing and oversee the continued expansion and development of the Mountaineers' summer camp program.

A 2007 graduate of Tusculum College with a degree in sport management, Ealy played three seasons for the Pioneers and helped lead the squad to the NCAA Division II Tournament and a South Atlantic Conference title in 2005. The Greenville, Tenn. native began his collegiate career at Tennessee Wesleyan before transferring to Tusculum after a season.

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Born Joshua Joel Ealy  
July 8, 1983  
Raised in Greeneville, Tenn.

**EDUCATION**

B.A. in sport management  
Tusculum, 2007

Greeneville High School, 2002  
(Greenville, Tenn.)

**COACHING EXPERIENCE**

2006-07 Greeneville High School - Assistant Coach  
2007-08 Appalachian - Graduate Manager  
2008- Appalachian - Assistant Coach



**2008-09 MANAGERS**

*L-R: Vincent Mennino, David Land, John Lattimore, Ryan Goodson, Josh Snyder, Robbie Lowman, Stanton Corley, Marcus Wilmouth*

**JASON ROBEY**  
ATHLETIC TRAINER

Jason Robey is in his third season at Appalachian and works primarily with the men's basketball team in addition to other duties as ASU head athletic trainer.

With more than a decade of experience in the sports medicine field, Robey most recently was the head athletic trainer at Hampton University. Prior to his stint at Hampton, Robey served as an athletic trainer at Rivier College in Nashua, N.H. and Louisiana-Monroe. In addition to his collegiate experience, Robey has worked at three hospitals and with various minor-league, semi-pro and high school teams. He holds bachelor's degrees in education and athletic training from the University of Akron (1996), a master's in exercise science/cardiac rehab from ULM (2001) and is an NATA-certified athletic trainer.



**ROBBIE ORMSBY**  
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

Robbie Ormsby, a former Appalachian student-athlete, directly coordinates the men's basketball team's strength and conditioning program. A former tennis player at ASU, Ormsby is pursuing his graduate degree in exercise science and received his bachelor's in physical education from ASU in 2003. He also taught physical education and was the men's and women's tennis coach at St. Andrews Presbyterian College from 2003-05.



**JEAN ROBERTS**  
ACADEMIC SERVICES

Jean Roberts, director of academic services for athletes, works closely with ASU's men's basketball student-athletes to ensure their academic success.

Roberts is in her sixth year working with men's basketball and seventh year with student-athletes. Under Roberts' tutelage, 172 ASU student-athletes were named to the SoCon Honor Roll in 2007-08.

Roberts has been a part of the ASU community for more than 20 years and earned an M.A in educational media from the Appalachian in 1982 and an Ed.S. in counselor education in 1992.

Roberts earned a B.S. in radio, television and motion pictures from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980. She and her husband, Dave, have two children: daughter, Ivy, and son, Davis.



**KIM MCCONNELL**  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Kim McConnell has been with the athletic department at Appalachian for eight years and currently serves as the men's and women's basketball and volleyball administrative assistant.

An avid sports fan and native of Cleveland, Ohio, Kim resides in Zionville with her husband Jim, and sons, Austin and Alex.





**NIKE BASKETBALL**

[nikebasketball.com](http://nikebasketball.com)