

# APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY MOUNTAINEERS

<i>HOUSTON FANCHER</i>	<i>14-16</i>
<i>MATT McMAHON</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>RICHARD MORGAN</i>	<i>18</i>
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## COACHES AND STAFF



Head coach Houston Fancher is entering his seventh season at the helm of the Appalachian State University men's basketball program. Having been named Southern Conference Coach of the Year following the 2002-03 season by both his peers and the media, Fancher continues to use his talents to improve the Mountaineer basketball program.

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 40, the Newport, Tenn. native ranks among the youngest head coaches in Division I college basketball, but carries 18 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.



## HOUSTON FANCHER

HEAD COACH

SEVENTH SEASON

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE, 1988

### 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 High School (Newport, Tenn.)  
Class of 1984

### 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

### RECORD AS A HEAD COACH

Year	School	W	L	Pct.
1992-93	North Greenville	14	14	.500
1993-94	North Greenville	15	13	.536
1994-95	North Greenville	15	14	.517
<b>Total</b>	<b>North Greenville</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>.518</b>
2000-01	Appalachian	11	20	.355
2001-02	Appalachian	10	18	.357
2002-03	Appalachian	19	10	.655
2003-04	Appalachian	9	21	.429
2004-05	Appalachian	18	12	.600
2005-06	Appalachian	14	16	.461
<b>Total</b>	<b>Appalachian</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>.455</b>
<b>Overall Record</b>		<b>125</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>.475</b>





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

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

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.

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.

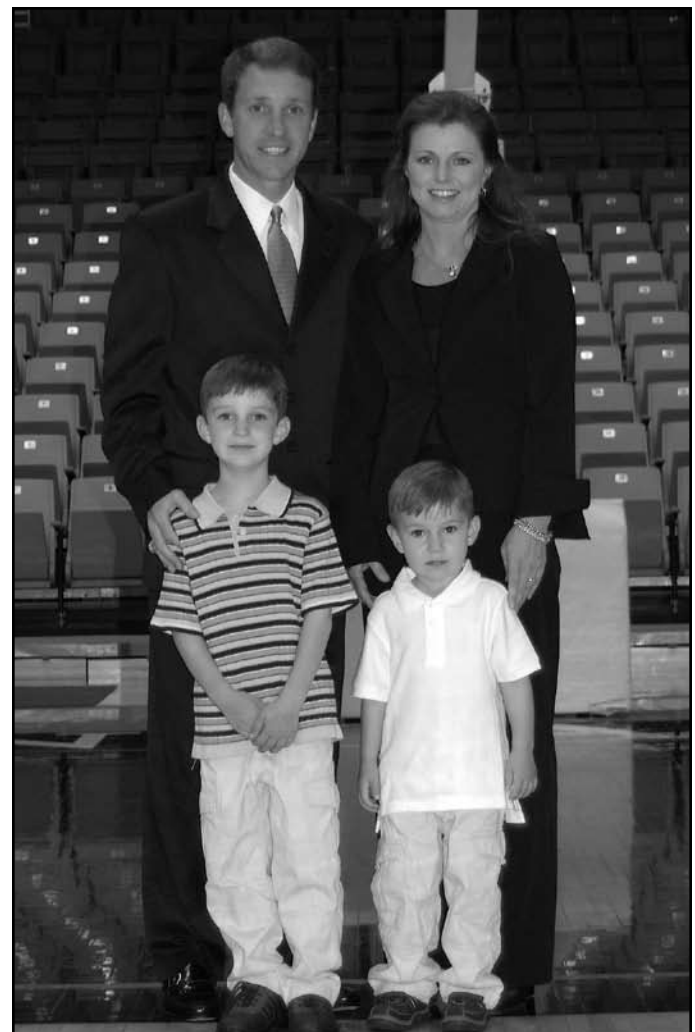
Celebrated as a tremendous recruiter, motivator, teacher and mentor, Fancher is credited with bringing several top student-athletes to the Appalachian program. He was instrumental in bringing every player to

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.

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



*Houston, Cathy, Hayen and Ethan Fancher*



# COACHING STAFF

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 a seven-year old son, Hayden, and a three-year old son, Ethan.



## 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



Matt McMahon begins his seventh season on Appalachian's bench and his third 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.

Now owning the longest tenure of the Mountaineer assistants, McMahon took over the recruiting coordinator responsibilities two 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 2002 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.



**MATT  
McMAHON**  
**ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH**  
**SEVENTH SEASON**  
**APPALACHIAN, 2000**

**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 (Oak Ridge, Tenn.)  
Class of 1996

**PLAYING EXPERIENCE**

1996-00 Appalachian

**COACHING EXPERIENCE**

2000-01 Appalachian - Assistant  
2001 Tennessee - Graduate Asst.  
2001-04 Appalachian - Assistant  
2004- Appalachian - Assoc. Head Coach



Matt and Mary McMahon



Richard Morgan begins his first year on the Appalachian State University men's basketball coaching staff as an assistant coach after serving as associate head coach at Hampton University. Morgan brings more than a decade of collegiate coaching experience to Boone after earning all-ACC honors as a player at Virginia.

Morgan comes to the High Country after helping 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.



## **RICHARD MORGAN** **ASSISTANT COACH** **FIRST SEASON** **VIRGINIA, 1989**

### PERSONAL INFORMATION

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

### EDUCATION

B.S. in sports management  
Virginia, 1989

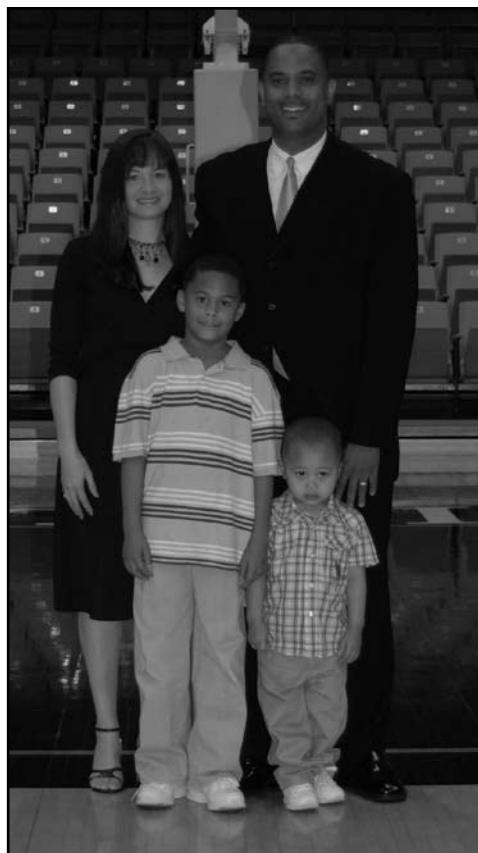
Salem High School (Salem, Va.)  
Class of 1985

### PLAYING EXPERIENCE

1985-89 Virginia

### COACHING EXPERIENCE

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



*Sherelle, Richard, Nicholas and Kaleb Morgan*



Ahmad Smith finished a successful playing career in 2004 and joined the Appalachian basketball staff shortly afterward.

A native of Yukon, Okla., Smith's duties include recruiting and day-to-day team operations. During his playing career at ASU from 2002-04, he served as men's basketball's representative to the ASU Student-Athlete Advisory Board and was a two-year member of the SoCon Student-Athlete Advisory Council. Smith was a member of the 2003 squad that won the North Division regular season title and led the 2003-04 team in field goal percentage (.570).

Smith began his playing career at Cedar Valley Community College in Lancaster, Texas where he started for the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championship team from 2000-01. He averaged 17.2 points and 5.5 rebounds a game as a sophomore. During Smith's career with CVCC, he was named all-Metro Conference, all-Region, and all-American. Additionally he was named to the NJCAA national tournament team.

Smith was honored with the Cedar Valley outstanding student athlete award and recognized as the Freshman of the Year for the Metro Conference.

"We are pleased to have Ahmad as an assistant coach on our staff." Fancher said. "Ahmad was the prototype for what college student athletes should stand for. His character, desire and loyalty are but a few of the qualities that make him an excellent coach."

He graduated from Appalachian in May of 2004 with a degree in recreation management.

Smith is married to Teresa Richardson, a former ASU women's basketball player.



**AHMAD  
SMITH**  
**ASSISTANT COACH**  
**THIRD SEASON**  
**APPALACHIAN, 2004**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Born Ahmad Rashad Smith  
Nov. 14, 1980 (Yukon, Okla.)

**EDUCATION**

B.S. in recreation management  
Appalachian State, 2004

Yukon High School (Yukon, Okla.)  
Class of 1999

**PLAYING EXPERIENCE**

1995-1999	Yukon High School
1999-2001	Cedar Valley C.C.
2002-2004	Appalachian State

**COACHING EXPERIENCE**

2004- Appalachian - Assistant



Ahmad and Teresa Smith





# SUPPORT STAFF

David Funk begins his first year as the director of basketball operations at Appalachian State.

At ASU, Funk will oversee the team's on-campus recruiting, alumni relations, camps, community service, travel arrangements and film exchange.

Funk, a Florida native, brings nearly a quarter-decade of high school coaching experience to the High Country. Most recently he served as head coach at Cape Coral High School for 20 years, where he was the winningest coach in school history and the 1994 Florida Coach of the Year. His Cape Coral teams won four district titles, four conference championships, made three appearances in the state 'Sweet 16' and were ranked No. 1 in the state in 1993-94.

Funk earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from Florida Atlantic in 1970 and his masters in administration and supervision from McNeese State in 1972. He and his wife, Leah, are the parents of two grown children, Jennifer and Debby.

Jason Robey is in his first season at Appalachian and works primarily with the men's basketball team.

A 10-year veteran in the sports medicine field, Robey most recently was the head athletic trainer

at Hampton University since 2003. 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.



**DAVID FUNK**  
DIR. OF BASKETBALL OPERATIONS



**JASON ROBEY**  
ATHLETIC TRAINER

Jeff Dillman, an Appalachian alumnus, returned to his alma mater after spending the past two-and-a-half years at Louisiana State University as an assistant strength and conditioning coach.

At LSU, Dillman worked primarily with the Tigers' men's and women's basketball, men's and women's tennis and gymnastics programs while assisting with the football and baseball squads. For the past year, he was responsible for the setup and implementation of workouts for LSU's men's and women's basketball teams, which both advanced to the 2006 Final Four.

Dillman graduated from Appalachian in 2001 with a B.S. in exercise science.

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 bachelors in physical education from ASU in 2003. He also taught physical education and was the men's a women's tennis coach at St. Andrews Presbyterian College from 2003-05.



**JEFF DILLMAN**  
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING



**ROBBIE ORMSBY**  
STRENGTH & CONDITIONING

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

Roberts is in her fourth year working with men's basketball and seventh year with student-athletes. Under Roberts' tutelage, 171 ASU student-athletes were named to the SoCon Honor Roll in 2005-06.

Roberts has been a part of the ASU community for over 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.



**JEAN ROBERTS**  
ACADEMIC SERVICES

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Kim McConnell has been with the athletic department at Appalachian for six years and currently serves as the men's and women's basketball and volleyball administrative assistant.

An avid sports fan, Kim resides in Zionville with her husband Jim, and sons, Austin, 8 and Alex, 6.



**KIM McCONNELL**  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Daniel Casey is a junior at Appalachian majoring in history.

A native of Clayton, N.C., Casey is a graduate of Smithfield-Selma High School where he played football and ran track. Besides his duties as a manager, he spends time playing flag football.



**DANIEL CASEY**  
TEAM MANAGER

Senior John Haley is a native of Raleigh, N.C., where he played basketball for Leesville Road High School.

While in high school he was named to Who's Who in American High Schools and was involved with the Boy Scouts of America, attaining the highest rank of Eagle Scout. An avid outdoorsman, Haley spends his spare time kayaking and skiing in the High Country.



**JOHN HALEY**  
TEAM MANAGER

William Murphy Post is a senior at Appalachian majoring in history/secondary education. A native of Boone, N.C., Post is a graduate of Watauga High School where he played baseball. Besides his duties as a manager, he spends time as a North Carolina Teaching Fellow.



**MURPHY POST**  
TEAM MANAGER