



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL 2019-20

A MEMBER OF THE MID-AMERICA INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION
AND THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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CREDITS

- The 2019-20 Fort Hays State University Men's Basketball Media Guide was written, edited and designed by Ryan Prickett, FHSU Sports Information Director.
- Outside cover was designed by Sam Leventhal, FHSU Sports Information Graduate Assistant.
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- Fort Hays State University Printing Services printed the guide.

ON THE FRONT COVER

Back Left - Nyjee Wright, Sophomore I Guard I Wichita, Kan.
Back Right - Jared Vitzum, Junior I Forward I Hays, Kan.
Middle - Aaron Nicholson, Senior I Guard I Wichita, Kan.
Front - Devin Davis, Senior I Guard I Vallejo, Calif.

ON THE BACK COVER

Jake Hutchings, Senior I Forward I Las Vegas, Nev.



About Fort Hays State University

Founded in 1902 on the plains of Western Kansas, Fort Hays State University is the second youngest of the six state universities. FHSU celebrated its centennial in 2002.

From a humble but exciting beginning, when just two faculty members and a 19-course curriculum greeted 34 students, our university has grown to a faculty over 400, a support staff of more than 500 and a student body over 14,000. The university now offers hundreds of courses in each of its four main colleges — Education, Arts and Sciences, Business and Leadership, and Health and Life Sciences — and the Graduate School. The FHSU Virtual College provides many of the courses through various media to sites across Kansas and beyond.

FHSU is governed by a Board of Regents appointed by the governor of the state of Kansas.

FHSU is located in Hays, the largest city in northwest Kansas. Hays began as a wild frontier town and has grown into a progressive community of about 20,000 people. The old and new blend beautifully to form a city that is small enough to be comfortable yet large enough to provide abundant cultural, commercial and entertainment opportunities. In 1996, Hays was recognized as an All-America City.

The university sits on a campus of 4,160 acres of land that once was part of the historic Fort Hays frontier military post, and it recently expanded to include the relocated Sternberg Museum of Natural History on a site adjacent to Interstate 70 in northeast Hays. Big Creek, with its shady, grassy banks, meanders through the main campus, providing a tranquil learning atmosphere and serving as a natural laboratory for students in the biological sciences. With its stately limestone buildings and profuse flowers, trees and shrubs, our campus has often been called the prettiest in Kansas.

FHSU is academically superior to many comparable universities, offers students an electronic learning and living environment, and is richly endowed by heritage and tradition. Students come to our university for a multitude of reasons, but surveys show that their overwhelming reason is “the university’s reputation for academic excellence and its caring faculty.”

The university supports one of the most extensive and successful intercollegiate sports programs of any comparably sized college or university in America, boasting numerous All-American athletes and national championships. More than 400 athletes compete annually in nine men’s and nine women’s sports. FHSU is a member of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, which comprises 14 schools from the states of Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Nebraska.

The university also serves as the cultural center of western Kansas, featuring fine arts exhibitions, performing arts presentations by faculty, students and traveling professional troupes, and a Presidential Lecture Series.



Dr. Tisa Mason - Fort Hays State President

The Kansas Board of Regents announced the appointment of Dr. Tisa Mason as the 10th president at Fort Hays State University on November 3, 2017.

“I’m honored to accept the role of President at Fort Hays State University and once again join this outstanding community,” said Mason. “I’m excited to work with the students, faculty and staff of this leading forward-thinking, entrepreneurial university as together we position the university for even greater levels of achievement and innovation.”

Mason, a former vice president for student affairs at Fort Hays State, returned to Hays after serving as president at Valley City State University, North Dakota.

A native of Massachusetts, Mason, in addition to serving as president of Valley City State and vice president for student affairs at FHSU, also served as dean of student life at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; executive director of the Sigma Kappa Sorority and Foundation in Indianapolis, Ind.; director of student life and assistant professor at Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Va.; and assistant dean of students, Hanover College, Hanover, Ind.

In 2013, Mason received the Robert H. Shaffer Award from the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors for her long-term commitment to fostering positive change in fraternities and sororities. She received the Excellence in Service to Students Award from the National Society of Leadership and Success in the same year.

“Dr. Mason possesses a wealth of experience and has the innovative spirit needed to lead Fort Hays State University,” said Dave Murfin, chair of the Board of Regents. “I’m confident that she will continue the Fort Hays State tradition of providing accessible, quality education to its community and our state.”

Mason’s academic credentials include a Doctor of Education degree in higher education from the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.; a Master of Science degree in education from Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Ill.; and a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology/anthropology from Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky.



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Curtis Hammeke - Athletic Director

Curtis Hammeke is in his 16th year as Director of Athletics at Fort Hays State University. He was named the Director of Athletics on May 20, 2004. Hammeke is in his second stint as an administrator at FHSU. He served as the Head Baseball Coach and Assistant Director of Athletics from 1991-1996. Hammeke spent the 2003-04 school year as the athletic director at Newman University (then known as Kansas Newman) in Wichita, Kansas. Before taking the Athletic Director position at Kansas Newman, Hammeke served as the director of athletics at Butler County (Kan.) Community College in El Dorado from 1998-2003. Before that, he was director of athletics at Great Bend High School for two years, beginning in 1996, after leaving his position at FHSU.

Hammeke earned a bachelor's degree in Physical Education from Fort Hays State University in 1985 and a master's degree in Athletic Administration in 1993. The Great Bend, Kan., native played baseball for FHSU from 1983-1984.

Hammeke also worked at Barton County Community College as Assistant Baseball Coach and Sports Information Director from 1987-1991 and as a writer for the Grand Island Daily Independent from 1986-1987.

During his time as FHSU's head baseball coach, Hammeke received the Louisville Slugger Award in 1995, a national coach of the year honor, and was named coach of the year by the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and the Mile High Intercollegiate Baseball League.

In 2017, Hammeke was inducted into the Barton (Kan.) Community College Sports Hall of Fame for his time as both a player and coach at the institution.

Hammeke and his wife, Annette, have three children—Andy, Alicia and Nicholas.



Matt Cook - Assistant Athletic Director for External Operations

Matt Cook is in his sixth year as Assistant Athletic Director of External Operations at Fort Hays State University. Cook returned to Fort Hays State University in 2014 after one year away as the marketing development coordinator for Prep2Prep.

Cook earned his bachelor's degree in Recreation/Sports Management from FHSU in 2011 and a master's degree in Sports Administration in 2013, while serving as a graduate assistant for the FHSU Athletic Department.

His past experiences include a two-year game day internship with the professional indoor football team Wichita Wild, interim Russell Recreation Director, and three years of coaching high school football and basketball in Russell, Kan.

Cook and his wife, Kathleen, currently reside in Hays.



Ryan Prickett - Sports Information Director

Ryan Prickett is in his 15th year as Sports Information Director at Fort Hays State University. He became director in June of 2005 and oversees media relations for all of Fort Hays State's 18 intercollegiate athletic programs.

Prickett has been involved in Fort Hays State's sports information department for 22 years as a student assistant, graduate assistant, and now head director. He worked under former Fort Hays State Sports Information Directors Jack Kuestermeyer, Steve Webster and Jason McCullough.

Prickett is a member of the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). He is responsible for writing, editing and designing all of Fort Hays State University's athletic publications. He is also responsible for statistical operations and media relations at home athletic events, along with maintaining and writing releases for the official athletic website of Fort Hays State University Athletics (www.fhsuathletics.com) and managing Fort Hays State's athletic social media accounts.

Prickett has gained national recognition by CoSIDA for his publications at FHSU. He has amassed 16 "Excellence in Publications" Awards for media guides, which includes volleyball, men's and women's basketball, and football. In 2011, Prickett teamed with graduate assistant Doug Self to earn Best in Nation honors for the 2011 Fort Hays State Volleyball Media Guide. In 2014, the volleyball media guide once again earned Best in Nation honors when Prickett teamed with graduate assistant Andrew Sogn. In 2015-16, Prickett earned Best in Nation honors for his women's basketball media guide. Most recently, Prickett earned two Best in Nation honors for his men's basketball media guide and volleyball media guide cover in 2016-17. He produced the top volleyball media guide in NCAA Division II four consecutive years (2011-2014).

Prickett currently serves as the Central Region Coordinator for the D2CCA Division II Men's Soccer All-America Team and a regional voter for the D2CCA Division II Men's Basketball Poll. He has also served as the head media contact for Kansas State High School Activities Association State Championships hosted in Hays for football, volleyball, wrestling, and boys and girls basketball.

Several graduate assistants and student workers have found success in athletic operations after working under Prickett at Fort Hays State - positions at the pro sports level including the National Basketball Association (NBA), Major League Soccer (MLS), and Central Hockey League (CHL), along with collegiate positions at the NCAA Division I and II levels, including the annual Alamo Bowl football game. Six of Prickett's former assistants moved on to become sports information directors at either the NCAA Division I and II levels, or junior college level. Four of the six are still active as sports information directors.

A native of Salina, Kan., Prickett earned a bachelor's degree in Physical Education in 2003 and a master's degree in Sports Administration in 2005 from Fort Hays State University. He and his wife, Stacy, reside in Hays.



Brad Haynes - Assistant Athletic Director for Internal Operations

Brad Haynes is in his 12th year as Associate Athletic Director at Fort Hays State University. This is his 10th year handling Internal Operations, after handling External Operations the first two years. Haynes returned to Fort Hays State University in 2008 with over 11 years of experience in sports administration.

Haynes' past administrative experiences include stops in minor league baseball with Los Angeles Angels and Texas Rangers affiliates, minor league hockey with a Calgary Flames affiliate, and Division I and II athletics (Texas Tech University and University of Nebraska at Omaha).

Haynes holds two degrees from Fort Hays State University, a bachelor's in Business Education and a master's in Sports Administration. As he acquired his degrees, he was a baseball player (undergrad) and assistant coach (graduate) for current athletic director Curtis Hammeke. Haynes' family includes wife Trisha, son Cyrus and daughter Heidi.



Dixie Balman - Assistant Athletic Director for Compliance and Senior Woman Administrator

Dixie Balman is in her sixth year as Assistant Athletic Director of Compliance and Senior Woman Administrator. She made the move into athletics after working at Fort Hays State in the Office of Financial Assistance from 1999 to 2014.

Balman served as Assistant Director of Financial Assistance at FHSU for 15 years, overseeing financial assistance programs for students, administering and maintaining the scholarship application program as well as ensuring and determining student financial aid eligibility. Her time in Financial Aid also saw her work closely with the athletic department, assisting in NCAA Compliance for financial aid eligibility and working alongside the department regarding Financial Aid Agreements for scholarship purposes. She also serves on several FHSU committees and as an advisor to the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

Other administrative stops for Balman include time at Cargill, Inc., and Newman University.

Balman holds two degrees from Fort Hays State, a bachelor's in Business Administration (management), achieved in 1989, and a Master of Liberal Studies in Organizational Leadership (2007).

She lives in Hays, Kan., with her family - husband Dan and children Josh, Megan and Abby.



Kegan Knight - Assistant Athletic Director

Kegan Knight is in his first year as Assistant Athletic Director after serving as a graduate assistant in the athletics office for two years. His role is assisting in both internal and external operations.

Prior to his time at Fort Hays State, Knight attended Coffeyville (Kan.) Community College where he competed in baseball and graduated with an associate's degree. He transferred to Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where he continued his baseball career and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Business Administration minor. Knight completed his master's degree in Athletic Administration at Fort Hays State in 2019.

A native of Olathe, Kansas, Knight resides in Hays with his wife Alicia and children Emery and Kollins.

Fort Hays State Head Coaches & Support Staff



Chris Brown
Football



Jessica Wood-Atkins
Volleyball



Jason McCullough
Cross Country/
Track & Field



Gerry Cleary
Men's Soccer



Blake Reynolds
Women's Soccer



Mark Johnson
Men's Basketball



Tony Hobson
Women's Basketball



Chas Thompson
Wrestling



Jerod Goodale
Baseball



Adrian Pilkington
Softball



Brian Flax
Tennis



Seth Kincaid
Men's Golf/
Asst. Sports Information Director



Jerol DeBoer
Women's Golf



Tobi Neuburger
Administrative
Officer



Jan Schmidtberger
Bookkeeper



Summer Harris
Special Events
Coordinator

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STAFF DIRECTORY/MAJORS AT FHSU

Fort Hays State Athletics Directory

Area Code: 785 Main campus switchboard number: (785) 628-4000
Athletic Department Phone: (785) 628-4050 Athletics Fax Number: (785) 628-4383

Fort Hays State Athletic Administration

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
Athletic Director	Curtis Hammeke	628-4353	chammeke@fhsu.edu
Assistant A.D. for Internal Operations	Brad Haynes	628-5288	behaynes@fhsu.edu
Assistant A.D. for External Operations	Matt Cook	628-4429	mcook8@fhsu.edu
Assistant A.D./SWA/Compliance	Dixie Balman	628-4372	dbalman@fhsu.edu
Sports Information Director	Ryan Prickett	628-5903	rmprickett@fhsu.edu
Administrative Specialist	Stephanie Dechant	628-4050	sdechant@fhsu.edu
Bookkeeper	Jan Schmidtberger	628-4394	jschmidtberger4@fhsu.edu
Head Athletic Trainer	Nate Hepner	628-5285	nhepner@fhsu.edu
Gross/Cunningham Complex Operations	Troy Keller	628-4199	t_keller2@fhsu.edu

Fort Hays State Head Coaches

Position	Name	Phone	E-mail
FOOTBALL			
Head Coach	Chris Brown	628-4399	cjbrown9@fhsu.edu
VOLLEYBALL			
Head Coach	Jessica Wood-Atkins	628-4392	jmwoodatkins@fhsu.edu
CROSS COUNTRY/TRACK & FIELD			
Head Coach	Jason McCullough	628-4352	jmccullo@fhsu.edu
MEN'S SOCCER			
Head Coach	Gerry Cleary	628-5471	gmcleary@fhsu.edu
WOMEN'S SOCCER			
Head Coach	Blake Reynolds	628-5690	bareynolds3@fhsu.edu
MEN'S BASKETBALL			
Head Coach	Mark Johnson	628-4355	mjohnson@fhsu.edu
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL			
Head Coach	Tony Hobson	628-4375	thobson@fhsu.edu
WRESTLING			
Head Coach	Chas Thompson	628-5392	chthompson@fhsu.edu
BASEBALL			
Head Coach	Jerod Goodale	628-4357	jmgoodale@fhsu.edu
SOFTBALL			
Head Coach	Adrian Pilkington	628-5885	ammohr2@fhsu.edu
TENNIS			
Head Coach	Brian Flax	628-5854	bflax@fhsu.edu
MEN'S GOLF			
Head Coach	Seth Kincaid	628-4785	sckincaid@fhsu.edu
WOMEN'S GOLF			
Head Women's Coach	Jerol DeBoer	432-1084	ijdeboer@fhsu.edu

Academic Majors at Fort Hays State University

Accounting	Educational Administration (Master of Science)	Math Education	Pre-Osteopathy
Agricultural Business	Elementary Education	Mathematics	Pre-Pharmacy
Agriculture	English	Media Studies	Pre-Physical Therapy
Art & Design	English Education	Medical Diagnostic Imaging	Pre-Podiatry
Art Education	Finance	Modern Languages	Pre-Theology
Art History	General Studies	Music	Pre-Veterinary Medicine
Associate of General Studies	Geography/Geographic Information Systems	Music Education	Psychology
Athletic Training	Geology	Music Performance	Radiologic Technology
Beef Cattle Management	Graphic Design	Nursing	Reading Specialist
Biology	Health & Human Performance	Office Technology	Social Work
Biology and General Science	Health & Human Performance - Teaching	Organizational Leadership	Sociology
Business Communication	History	Philosophy	Special Education
Business Education	History Education	Physical Science	Specialist in Education (Education Administration)
Chemistry	Information Networking & Telecommunications	Political Science	Speech-Language Pathology
Chemistry Education	Interdisciplinary Studies	Pre-Public Administration	Studio Art
Communication Education	Interior Design	Pre-Dental	Technology Leadership
Communication Studies	Justice Studies	Pre-Engineering	Technology Studies
Computer Networking and Telecommunications	Library Media Specialist	Pre-Forestry	Telecommunications/Networking
Computer Science	Management	Pre-Law	Tourism & Hospitality
Computer Science - Business	Management Information Systems	Pre-Medicine	
Counselor Education (Master of Science)	Marketing	Pre-Occupational Therapy	
Criminal Justice	Master's in Education	Pre-Optometry	

2019-20 FORT HAYS STATE MEN'S BASKETBALL



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Lewis Field Stadium

LEWIS FIELD STADIUM is the 6,362-seat home of the Fort Hays State University football team. The venue has been home to the Tigers for over 80 years, but has seen several renovations throughout its history.

Lewis Field was constructed in 1936 on what was formerly the Golden Belt Fairgrounds, named in honor of William Alexander Lewis, president of Fort Hays State University from 1913 to 1933. The field is located beside a spacious tree-lined drive and is just a short walk from the campus residence halls and downtown business district.

The stadium saw several changes prior to the start of the 2013 season. A brand new artificial playing surface was installed, which plays similar to natural grass. A new look for the field included the FHSU Tiger logo at the 50-yardline and black endzones with gold lettering that reads "Fort Hays" in the north endzone and "Tigers" in the south endzone. Visible just beyond the southeast wall of the stadium is the Schmidt-Bickle Indoor Training Facility, opened in 2013, which features a 60-yard indoor field, a weight room and meeting rooms for the players.

In the summer of 2017, over 2,000 new black folding seats replaced old chair back seats and a majority of the bench seating previously on the west side of the stadium, while stairwells widened and handrails were installed. Following the 2017 season, a new video/scoreboard was installed at the north end of the stadium. The board measures over 60 feet wide and 45 feet tall and will be ready for use going into the 2018 season.

Prior to the 2003 season, a new lighting system was installed to eliminate shadows on the playing surface. The native limestone structure around the outside of the stadium was refurbished to its natural state in 1993 when 57 years of weathering was sandblasted away.

Dressing rooms, concession areas, athletic training facilities, restrooms and equipment storage rooms are located under the grandstands. A complete remodel of the Tiger locker room was completed prior to the 2006 season with carpet flooring and individual lockers for 90 players.



Schmidt-Bickle Indoor Training Facility

The multi-million dollar **SCHMIDT-BICKLE INDOOR TRAINING FACILITY** opened in August of 2013. The facility is located just beyond the southeast wall of Lewis Field Stadium on the campus of Fort Hays State University. The 50,400-square foot facility features a 65-yard artificial turf practice field, batting cages, 70-yard three-lane synthetic track with jump pits, 5,000-square foot weight room, storage areas for multiple sports, and a team meeting room. The facility was named for the families of Bob and Pat Schmidt and Don and Chris Bickle, who provided major gifts to the university to help fund the construction of the facility. Construction began in June of 2012 and took just over a year to complete. The facility is primarily used by Fort Hays State's outdoor sports programs.



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Gross Memorial Coliseum

GROSS MEMORIAL COLISEUM is the home of Fort Hays State men's and women's basketball, volleyball, wrestling, and indoor track and field. The 6,814-seat arena was finished in August of 1973 at a cost of seven million dollars. The Tigers made the move across campus from Sheridan Coliseum, which seated 2,000. Paul "Busch" Gross is the namesake of the Coliseum. Gross coached basketball at FHSU from 1930 to 1946 and also served as the athletic director at Fort Hays State for several years. In 2017, Gross Memorial Coliseum was selected as one of the Five Best Arenas in D2 Basketball by Hero Sports.

The installment of a new video board occurred in the summer of 2017. The new board replaced the old scoreboard above center court that was in operation nearly 20 years. The new board features a four-sided, high definition, full-color LED display, with all four screens measuring nearly 12 feet wide by seven feet tall. Just below is a video ring that is two feet tall with an 11-foot diameter. The underside of the ring features the Tiger logo facing the playing floor. New scoreboards at each end of the arena were also installed in place of old scoreboards. The volleyball, wrestling, and softball programs all received upgrades to locker rooms inside the coliseum as well.

Major renovations took place in the coliseum in the summer of 2011 with the installation of a completely new playing surface and indoor track, and remodeled locker rooms for the men's and women's basketball teams. On the new playing surface, a larger Tiger logo was painted around the mid-court circle.

In the summer of 2008, changes were made with the addition of chairback seating on the lower level of the coliseum. Approximately 650 chairback seats were installed along the sidelines of the court.

Gross Memorial Coliseum is a multipurpose facility. It is also home to the KSHSAA 1A State Basketball Tournament, the KSHSAA 3-2-1A State Wrestling Championships, and the KSHSAA 1A State Volleyball Championships. The coliseum houses the FHSU Athletic Department, a large athletic training room, locker rooms, concession stands, a press box and the Field Weight Room.



FHSU Soccer Stadium at Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex

The **FHSU SOCCER STADIUM** opened for play in the fall of 2011, the inaugural season of Fort Hays State men's and women's soccer. The Tigers home stadium is part of the Bickle-Schmidt Sports Complex which also features eight baseball/softball fields and eight football/soccer fields. The stadium is a state of the art soccer-specific complex with a synthetic turf playing surface and lighting that meets NCAA regulations for holding night contests. Other features include a Daktronics scoreboard with LED lighting just beyond the south end of the playing field, bleachers seating 500-plus fans, and a two-level press box. The stadium also has both men's and women's locker rooms and a concessions area. This brand new facility sits on 120 acres of ground and is located just northwest of Gross Memorial Coliseum on the western edge of Hays at the intersection of Old Highway 40 and the Highway 183 bypass.





Larks Park

LARKS PARK is home to the Fort Hays State University baseball team. The park is owned by the city of Hays but operated by the FHSU Athletic Department. The athletic department has a ten-year lease on the property.

Larks Park was built in 1940 as part of a Work Projects Administration project. It is a historic venue as the oldest park within the state of Kansas. Continued renovations over past years have maintained the facility as one of the finest in the state.

Larks Park is located at Fourth and Main in Hays. The park features a limestone frame with locker rooms, restrooms, concession facilities, and seating for 1,200 Tiger fans. A record 1,868 fans turned out on April 8, 2005, to watch the Tigers take on Mesa State. Lights were installed in 2000 to allow night games at the park.

A new field turf infield playing surface was installed in the spring of 2013. The entire infield, including dugouts, mound, base cutouts, and home plate area, is now field turf instead of dirt. The artificial infield is necessary due to the numerous games that are played in the park each year. The outfield is made of bluegrass sod.

Park dimensions are 322 feet down the left field line, 319 feet down the right field line, 349 feet to the power alleys and 405 feet to center field.

Larks Park also received several major renovations in 2008. A new eight-foot wooden fence replaced the old chainlink outfield fence and the foul poles were also replaced. Billboards of Tiger supporters line the new outfield fence. Along foul territory is now a four-foot wooden fence. The bullpens received a facelift as they are now enclosed with the same fencing that surrounds the field. A new scoreboard with LED lighting was placed above the right field fence. Most recently in the spring of 2010, the Tiger locker room, bathrooms, and training facility underneath the grandstand were remodeled.



FHSU Tennis Courts

The **FHSU TENNIS COURTS** are home to the Lady Tiger tennis team. Six hard surfaced courts are available for both tournament and dual match contests. The courts were completed in 1994 on the south side of the Gross Memorial Coliseum/Cunningham Hall Complex. The courts also feature lights for evening play.



Smoky Hill Country Club



SMOKY HILL COUNTRY CLUB is home to the Fort Hays State men's and women's golf teams. The par-71 layout is one of the premier golf courses in northwest Kansas. The course opened in 1962 and was designed by Greg H. Nash. Smoky Hill Country Club is located at 3303 Hall in Hays.



Tiger Stadium

TIGER STADIUM is home to the Fort Hays State University softball team. Ground breaking for the stadium occurred in January of 1998 and was ready for action by February of 1999.

Tiger Stadium is on the south side of Gross Memorial Coliseum/Cunningham Hall. The park features concession facilities and seating for 500 Tiger fans.

Both dugouts were built above ground with a six foot high protection fence in front. A large press box sits behind the stands which houses the public address announcer, scoreboard operator, official scorer, and working media.

Park dimensions are 200 feet down the left and right field lines, 210 feet to the power alleys and 220 feet to center field. The outfield fence stands eight feet high.

Prior to the 2012 season, the stadium received a major facelift as the wooden outfield fence was painted black with a gold distance marks and trim on top of the fence. The tops of the dugouts were also painted black, along with the backstop behind home plate. More renovations took place in the fall of 2013, when stadium style seating was added behind home plate thanks to a major donation from Eugene and Jo Ann Fleharty.

Upgrades to the park were made before the 2007 season with the installation of an Oklahoma red clay infield surface. The surface is excellent for the Kansas wind and has a high moisture content ratio, providing the ability to withstand spring storms, particularly in the absence of field tarp. Drought resistant fescue grass is the surface in the outfield and foul territory.

In the summer of 2007, a new net-style backstop replaced the old chain link backstop behind home plate. In 2008, a new scoreboard with LED lighting was installed beyond the outfield wall.

Behind the center field portion of the fence sits three flagpoles which hold the American, State of Kansas and FHSU flags. The chainlink fence alongside foul territory contains billboards of Tiger supporters.

The stadium also features two bullpens and two batting tunnels. They are located outside the playing area down the right and left field lines. Lights were installed in the summer of 2003 to aid in hosting tournaments and night contests. The lights are positioned behind each dugout and to each side of right and left field.



FHSU Track & Field Facility

The FHSU Track and Field Facility consists of a nine-lane, 400-meter, all-weather running track and a full complement of field event areas. The current site was chosen more than two years ago and construction of the \$3.28 million facility began in April of 2016. The complex includes a press box and fixed bleacher seating for 500 spectators on the east side. Other structures provide field equipment storage, a training room, a meeting room, and public restrooms. Construction completed in December of 2016. Installation of a new timing and results board occurred in August of 2017 and future upgrades include the addition of lights to the facility as funding becomes available.

The track at the facility is named for Alex Francis, the highly successful man who coached track and field and cross country at Fort Hays State University from 1946 until his retirement in 1980. The track at Lewis Field Stadium was previously named after Coach Francis and his name and legacy has been carried forward to Fort Hays State's current track. His cross country teams won four national titles (1963, 1965, 1968, 1969) and finished national runner-up four times. He also guided cross country teams to 11 conference titles. His track and field squads captured 17 conference titles and overall he guided 139 Tiger athletes to All-America status in cross country and track and field combined.

