



LADY STATESMEN BASKETBALL

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY GAME NOTES (2016-2017)

6 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ♦ 16 GSC TITLES ♦ 27 NCAA APPEARANCES ♦ 51 ALL-AMERICANS ♦ 57 ALL-GSC SELECTIONS

2016-17 Schedule/Results

NOVEMBER (0-1; 0-0 GSC)

11	@ Nova Southeastern	L, 64-44
12	vs. Barry University (N)	1 p.m.
22	Southern Arkansas	5:30 p.m.
28	Miles College	5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER (0-0; 0-0 GSC)

1	@ Mississippi College *	5:30 p.m.
10	@ Miles College	2 p.m.
15	@ Shorter University *	5 p.m.
17	@ Lee University *	1 p.m.
31	Union University *	2 p.m.

JANUARY (0-0; 0-0 GSC)

2	@ Christian Brothers *	5 p.m.
7	West Georgia *	2 p.m.
9	West Alabama *	5:30 p.m.
12	North Alabama *	5:30 p.m.
14	Alabama Huntsville *	2 p.m.
19	@ Valdosta State *	5 p.m.
21	@ West Florida *	2 p.m.
26	@ Alabama Huntsville *	5:30 p.m.
28	@ North Alabama *	1 p.m.

FEBRUARY (0-0; 0-0 GSC)

2	West Florida *	5:30 p.m.
4	Valdosta State *	2 p.m.
6	Mississippi College *	5:30 p.m.
9	Lee University *	5:30 p.m.
11	Shorter University *	2 p.m.
16	@ Union University *	6 p.m.
18	Christian Brothers *	2 p.m.
23	@ West Alabama *	5:30 p.m.
25	@ West Georgia *	1 p.m.
28	GSC Super Tuesday!	TBA

MARCH (0-0; 0-0 GSC)

4-5	GSC Tournament #	TBA
10-13	NCAA South Regional !	TBA
21-24	NCAA Elite 8 %	TBA

APRIL

1	NCAA Championship ^	TBA
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* - GSC Games | ! - Campus Sites
Birmingham, Ala. (Samford University)
% - Columbus, Ohio (Alumni Hall)
^ - TBA, TBA (TBA)

DELTA STATE @ GULF SOUTH/SUNSHINE STATE CROSSOVER

Nov. 11 and 12, 2016 ■ NSU Arena ■ Fort. Lauderdale, Fla.

GSC/SSC CROSSOVER



0-1, 0-0 GSC

Head Coach: Craig Roden
at DSU: 41-18/3rd
Career Record: 537-466 /30th
Last Game: 11.11.16
Nova Southeastern | L, 64-44



1-0, 0-0 SSC

Head Coach: LeAnn Freeland-Curry
at Nova: 70-25/4th
Career Record: 159-60/8th
Last Game: 11.11.16
Delta State | W, 64-44



0-0, 0-0 SSC

Head Coach: Bill Sullivan
at Barry: 163-121/11th
Career Record: 163-121/11th
Last Game: 3.2.16
Tampa | L, 55-64

Overall Series Record vs. Nova:	Nova leads 3-0
H: 0-0 A: 0-2 N: 0-1 GSC Tourn.: N/A NCAA Tourn.: 0-2	
First Meeting: 3.18.2001 Nova 78-56 Ft. Lauderdale, FL	
Last Meeting: 11.11.2016 Nova 64-44 Ft. Lauderdale, FL	
Current Series Streak:	Nova W3
Last DSU Victory at Sillers:	N/A
Last DSU Victory at NSU Arena:	N/A
Last Nova Victory at Sillers:	N/A
Last Nova Victory at NSU Arena:	11.11.2016 W
Overall Series Record vs. Barry:	DSU leads 1-0
H: 0-0 A: 0-0 N: 1-0 GSC Tourn.: NA NCAA Tourn.: 1-0	
First Meeting: 3.10.2001 DSU 86-62 Cleveland, Miss.	
Last Meeting: 3.10.2001 DSU 86-62 Cleveland, Miss.	
Current Series Streak:	DSU W1
Last DSU Victory at Sillers:	3.10.01 W, 86-62
Last DSU Victory at Health & Sports Center:	N/A
Last Barry Victory at Sillers:	N/A
Last Barry Victory at Health & Sports Center:	N/A

TIPOFF

- The Lady Statesmen enter the season fresh off a GSC tournament championship, finishing the year 22-7 overall and 16-6 in GSC play. Delta State was picked to finish second in the GSC preseason coaches poll this year and was picked fifth in the NCAA South Region preseason poll.
- DSU returns five players from last season's No. 1 ranked scoring defense in NCAA Division II, which held opponents to 50.3 points per game. The Lady Statesmen also boasted the country's 15th best field goal percentage defense mark, holding teams to 35.5% shooting from the floor.
- **Delta State Returners:** 4 Alexis Ross (1.5 rpg./9.8 mpg.), 5 Toya Collins (DNP - Redshirted), 11 Kaelin Kneeland (4.9 ppg./4.9 rpg.), 20 Aspriona Gilbert (8.2 ppg./3.9 rpg.), 25 Anissa Jackson (6.2 ppg./4.9 rpg./31.4 mpg), and 32 Alondrea Rush (5.8 ppg./3.1 rpg./2.6 apg.).
- **Nova Southeastern Notes:** The Sharks open the season as the preseason favorites in the SSC, were picked third in the NCAA South Region preseason poll and are the No. 23 ranked team in the preseason Women's Basketball Coaches Association Top 25 poll. The Sharks sported the ninth most assists (530) in NCAA Division II last year and were eighth nationally in assists per game (17.1).
- **Nova Southeastern Returners:** 1 Christen Prasse (2.2 ppg./1.3 rpg.), 10 Katie Barnard (3.3 ppg./2.2 rpg./12.9 mpg.), 12 Megan Piggott (1.5 ppg./0.9 rpg.), 13 Taylor Buie, (13.3 ppg./2.3 rpg./30.4 mpg.), 22 Octavia Wilson (2.1 ppg./1.5 rpg.), 25 Alexis Nunez (1.5 ppg./0.8 rpg.), 33 Ashley Arinus (1.3 ppg./0.5 rpg.), 34 Kayla Wright (16.2 ppg./5.3 rpg./18.9 mpg. - 2015-16 SSC Player of the Year).
- **Barry Notes:** Posting a 19-9 mark and a 10-6 record in SSC play last season, the Bucs were picked sixth in the Sunshine State Conference preseason poll. Head coach Bill Sullivan will look to replace nine seniors and all five starters from last year's team. Barry was ranked 18th in NCAA Division II in free throw percentage (76.7%) last season and was also ranked 26th in the country in assist-turnover ratio (1.14).
- **Barry Returners:** 4 Kat Espinosa (1.2 ppg./0.6 rpg.), 12 Stephane Granada (DNP-Redshirt), 14 Melanie Jordan (2.6 ppg./0.6 rpg.), 23 Juhnne Richardson (3.4 ppg./1.7 rpg./10.3 mpg.), 32 Toni Niebler (2.6 ppg./0.7 apg./11.5 mpg.).

STATISTICAL COMPARISON/STAT LEADERS ('15-'16 TOTALS)

DSU	'15-'16 TOTALS	NSU	Barry
60.2	POINTS PER GAME	73.4	68.9
41.4	FIELD GOAL %	45.5	42.6
30.8	3-POINT %	34.9	40.7
74.1	FREE THROW %	72.6	76.7
36.1	REBOUNDS PER GAME	36.3	34.3
12.7	ASSISTS PER GAME	17.1	15.3



Scoring Leader:
Aspriona Gilbert - 8.2 PPG



Rebounding Leader:
Kaelin Kneeland - 4.9 RPG



Assists Leader:
Alondrea Rush - 2.6 APG

PROBABLE STARTERS ('15-'16 TOTALS)

NO	NAME	POS	HT	CLS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	MPG
32	Alondrea Rush	G	5-3	So.	5.8	3.1	2.5	1.0	28.7
25	Anissa Jackson	G	5-6	Sr.	6.2	4.9	2.0	0.8	31.4
20	Aspriona Gilbert	C	6-0	Sr.	8.2	3.9	0.6	0.3	14.2
11	Kaelin Kneeland	F	5-10	Sr.	4.9	4.9	0.4	0.2	15.4
05	Toya Collins	G	5-9	Sr.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

ON THE AIR | GAME CENTRAL

STATESMEN SPORTS NETWORK

- ♦ Philip Tang (Play-by-Play)
- ♦ Cody Clark (Expert Analyst)

LIVE STATS

www.GoStatesmen.com

LIVE AUDIO | LIVE VIDEO

www.GoStatesmen.com





2 IEYSHA MAYS

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0

JR ■ F ■ 6-0 ■ Mound Bayou, Miss.

- Transfer from Itawamba Community College
 - Averaged 8.4 ppg and 6.4 rpg in 20 mins per game at ICC in '15-16

CAREER HIGHS

PTS:
REBS:
ASTS:
STLS:



3 ALIYAH HEROD

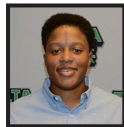
	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0

FR ■ G ■ 5-2 ■ Oxford, Miss.

- Played point guard and shooting guard at Lafayette HS
 - Named MVP, All-Area in 5A at Lafayette High School last season

CAREER HIGHS

PTS:
REBS:
ASTS:
STLS:



4 ALEXIS ROSS

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	29/0	0.6	1.5	0.5	0.2	21.1%	100%	9.8
CAREER	53/1	1.0	1.4	0.4	0.1	32.4%	73.3%	8.2

SR ■ G ■ 5-7 ■ Charleston, Miss.

- 2-Time GSC Winter Academic Honor Roll honoree
 - Played in 29 G's last year | Season-high 21 mins at UWG (12.3.15)

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 10 (11.12.13 vs. Selma)
REBS: 5 (11.12.13 vs. Selma)
ASTS: 3 (12.10.15 vs. CBU)
STLS: 1 (Seven times)



5 TOYA COLLINS

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	29/0	2.9	2.4	0.8	0.3	31.5%	52.4%	13.8

SR ■ G ■ 5-9 ■ Jackson, Miss.

- Sat out last season as a RS | Transferred from Itawamba CC in 2013
 - 29 GP as a member of GSC Tourney Runner-Up team in '14-15

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 12 (1.5.15 vs. UAH)
REBS: 8 (11.24.14 vs. Stillman)
ASTS: 8 (1.12.15 vs. Shorter)
STLS: 2 (Two times)



10 SIMONE JACKSON

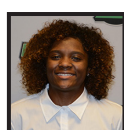
	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0

FR ■ C ■ 6-1 ■ Pass Christian, Miss.

- Played for head coach Debbi Triplett at Bay High School
 - Named an Alpha Honor Roll student and a Scholar Athlete

CAREER HIGHS

PTS:
REBS:
ASTS:
STLS:



11 KAELIN KNEELAND

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	29/0	4.9	4.9	0.4	0.2	50.4%	55.3%	15.4
CAREER	29/0	4.9	4.9	0.4	0.2	50.4%	55.3%	15.4

SR ■ C ■ 5-10 ■ Olive Branch, Miss.

- Played in all 29 games in first season with Lady Statesmen
 - First Team All-Region/ NCJAA All-Star and MACJC All-Star at ICC

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 13 (1.2.16 vs. UNA)
REBS: 11 (Two times)
ASTS: 2 (Three times)
STLS: 1 (Seven times)



12 PATTY HANCOCK

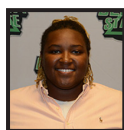
	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0

FR ■ G ■ 5-11 ■ Jackson, Miss.

- Named North State MVP at Tri County Academy
 - Also nominated for the all-state team

CAREER HIGHS

PTS:
REBS:
ASTS:
STLS:



20 ASPRIONA GILBERT

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	29/1	8.2	3.9	0.6	0.3	52.1%	73.3%	14.2
CAREER	29/1	8.2	3.9	0.6	0.3	52.1%	73.3%	14.2

SR ■ C ■ 6-0 ■ Myrtle, Miss.

- 2nd on the team in scoring (8.2 ppg) last season in 1st year at DSU
 - Key cog in the post on last season's GSC tournament title team

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 18 (1.30.16 vs. CBU)
REBS: 9 (Two times)
ASTS: 3 (2.25.16 vs. MC)
STLS: 3 (1.23.16 vs. UWG)



21 CARLY KELLER

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	43/30	3.7	1.7	1.8	0.5	30.2%	65.9%	23.2

JR ■ G ■ 5-5 ■ Madisonville, La.

- Did not play in 2015-16 season
 - Started all 29 games in '14-15, averaging 4.9 ppg/2.3 rpg/2.2 apg

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 11 (11.21.14 vs. ArkTch)
REBS: 8 (1.29.15 vs. Union)
ASTS: 7 (1.24.16 vs. UWG)
STLS: 2 (Five times)



24 LARICKA MORGAN

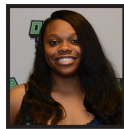
	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0

FR ■ G ■ 5-2 ■ Jackson, Miss.

- Transfer from Holmes Community College
 - Averaged 6.1 ppg and 5.3 rpg in 18.4 minutes per game in '15-16

CAREER HIGHS

PTS:
REBS:
ASTS:
STLS:



25 ANISSA JACKSON

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	29/28	6.2	4.9	2.0	0.8	43.2%	74.1%	31.4
CAREER	87/61	6.4	3.6	1.72	0.9	44%	78.4%	27.7

SR ■ G ■ 5-6 ■ Jackson, Miss.

- Was a 2015-16 GSC Winter Academic Honor Roll selection
 - Has played in 87 games in three seasons for Delta State

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 16 (3.6.14 vs. UWA)
REBS: 12 (12.13.16 vs. UU)
ASTS: 7 (12.13.16 vs. UU)
STLS: 5 (11.26.13 vs. Belhvn)



32 ALONDREA RUSH

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	29/28	5.8	3.1	2.5	1.0	39.3%	75%	28.7
CAREER	29/28	5.8	3.1	2.5	1.0	39.3%	75%	28.7

S0 ■ G ■ 5-3 ■ Horn Lake, Miss.

- Named to the GSC All-Tournament Team in 2015-16
 - Started all but one game at guard in her freshman season

CAREER HIGHS

PTS: 17 (1.23.16 vs. UWG)
REBS: 7 (1.30.16 vs. CBU)
ASTS: 6 (Three times)
STLS: 4 (3.4.16 vs. Shorter)



33 TORI MALLORY

	GP/GS	PPG	RPG	APG	SPG	FG%	FT%	MPG
15-16	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0
CAREER	0/0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0%	0%	0.0

FR ■ F ■ 5-8 ■ Tupelo, Miss.

- Played for Coach Devin Hill at Itawamba Agricultural HS
 - Named Best Offensive and Best Defensive Player in 4A at IAHS

CAREER HIGHS

PTS:
REBS:
ASTS:
STLS:

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Lady Statesmen Basketball

QUICK FACTS

Location	Cleveland, Miss., 38733
Founded	1924
Enrollment	3,869
Nickname	Lady Statesmen
Colors	Forest Green and White
National Affiliation	NCAA Division II
Conference	Gulf South Conference
President	William N. "Bill" LaForge
FAR:	Dr. Cooper Johnson
Athletic Director	Ronnie Mayers
Senior Women's Administrator	Dana George
Stadium (Capacity)	Walter Sillers Coliseum (3,000)

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach:	Craig Roden
Alma Mater:	West Alabama 1978
Record at DSU:	41-18 3rd
Career Record:	537-466 30th
GSC Record:	341-293 20th
Assistant Coach:	Shameka Thomas
Alma Mater:	Delta State 2011
Graduate Assistant:	Danielle Cole
Alma Mater:	West Alabama 2016

TEAM INFORMATION

2015-16 Record	22-7
Gulf South Conference Record	16-6
GSC Finish	GSC Tournament Champion
Final 2015-16 National Ranking	NR
Starters Returning/Lost (2015-16)	2/3
Letterwinners Returning/Lost (2015-16)	6/4

BASKETBALL HISTORY

First Year of Basketball	1925
All-time Record:	1,106-279-3
All-time GSC Record:	804-180
Naismith Basketball Hall of Famers:	Two
	Margaret Wade, Head Coach 1st Woman Inducted
	Lusia Harris-Stewart, Player
National Championships:	Six
	AIAW Titles: Three (1975-1976-1977)
	NCAA Titles: Three (1989-1990-1992)
NCAA Appearances/Record	27/57-25
Last Appearance	2015-16
Place:	NCAA South Regional
Result:	L, 75-64 vs. Nova Southeastern
Location:	NCAA South Regional Nova Southeastern - Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

ATHLETIC COMMUNICATIONS

The Delta State University Athletic Communications Office is located on the second floor of the Chadwick-Dickson Athletic Fieldhouse. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. and on game day as time requires. The AC Office may be reached by calling (662) 846-4284 or via email at matt@deltastate.edu.

WEEKLY MEDIA SERVICES

The Athletic Communications Office produces a weekly release featuring game notes, updated statistics and other pertinent information on the Lady Statesmen women's basketball program. To access this release, log on to www.gostatesmen.com and click on women's basketball. The PDF formatted document is posted 48 hours prior to tipoff of each week's first game.

PLAYER INTERVIEWS

Media members must adhere to the following guidelines regarding player interviews: (1) All player interviews must be coordinated through the Athletic Communications Office; (2) Players are available for interviews, either at the Dorgan Center or via telephone prior to practice (generally 1:30-4:00 p.m.) as well as after practice; (3) Please give at least 24 hours notice; (4) No interviews will be allowed prior to tip-off on gameday.

COACHES INTERVIEWS

Head Coach Craig Roden and his staff are also available for interviews on weekdays, generally mornings between 10 a.m. and noon, in their offices. Members of the staff will also conduct interviews after the conclusion of practice each day. Please contact the Athletic Communications Office to schedule an interview outside of this time. There will be no interviews granted before a game.

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Shipping Address

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1417 Maple Street • Chadwick-Dickson
Cleveland, Miss. • 38733

DELTA STATE



2016-2017 LADY STATESMEN NUMERICAL ROSTER

#	NAME	POS.	HT.	CLASS	HOMETOWN PREVIOUS SCHOOL
2	Ieysha Mays	F	6-0	Jr.	Mound Bayou, Miss. Itawamba CC
3	Aliyah Herod	G	5-2	Fr.	Oxford, Miss. Lafayette HS
4	Alexis Ross	G	5-7	Sr.	Charleston, Miss. Charleston HS
5	Toya Collins	G	5-9	Sr.	Jackson, Miss. Itawamba CC
10	Simone Jackson	C	6-1	Fr.	Pass Christian, Miss. Bay HS
11	Kaelin Kneeland	F	5-10	Sr.	Olive Branch, Miss. Itawamba CC
12	Patty Hancock	G	5-11	Fr.	Jackson, Miss. Tri County Academy
20	Aspriona Gilbert	C	6-0	Sr.	Myrtle, Miss. Northwest CC
21	Carly Keller	G	5-5	Jr.	Madisonville, La. St. Thomas Aquinas HS
24	Laricka Morgan	F	5-11	Jr.	Jackson, Miss. Holmes CC
25	Anissa Jackson	G	5-6	Sr.	Jackson, Miss. Forest Hill HS
32	Alondrea Rush	G	5-3	So.	Horn Lake, Miss. Horn Lake HS
33	Tori Mallory	F	5-8	Fr.	Tupelo, Miss. Itawamba Agricultural HS

COACHING STAFF

Head Coach	Craig Roden (West Alabama, 1978) - 3rd
Assistant Coach	Shameka Thomas (Delta State, 2011) - 4th
Assistant Coach	Danielle Cole (West Alabama, 2016) - 1st

SUPPORT STAFF

Athletic Communications	Cody Clark (Waldorf, 2016) - 1st
Athletic Trainer	Gabrielle de Armas - 1st

LADY STATESMEN PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Ieysha Mays	I-ee-sha
Aliyah Herod	Uh-lee-uh
Simone Jackson	Si-moan
Kaelin Kneeland	Kay-lin
Aspriona Gilbert	Aspri-on-uh
Laricka Morgan	La-rick-uh

LADY STATESMEN RADIO/TV ROSTER



2

Ieysha Mays
JR | F | 6-0
Mound Bayou, Miss.
Itawamba CC



3

Aliyah Herod
FR | G | 5-2
Oxford, Miss.
Lafayette HS



4

Alexis Ross
SR | G | 5-7
Charleston, Miss.
Charleston HS



5

Toya Collins
SR | G | 5-9
Jackson, Miss.
Itawamba CC



10

Simone Jackson
FR | C | 6-1
Pass Christian, Miss.
Bay HS



11

Kaelin Kneeland
SR | C | 5-10
Olive Branch, Miss.
Itawamba CC



12

Patty Hancock
FR | G | 5-11
Jackson, Miss.
Tri County Academy



20

Aspriona Gilbert
SR | C | 6-0
Myrtle, Miss.
Northwest CC



21

Carly Keller
JR | G | 5-5
Madisonville, La.
St. Thomas Aquinas HS



24

Laricka Morgan
JR | F | 5-11
Jackson, Miss.
Holmes CC



25

Anissa Jackson
SR | G | 5-6
Jackson, Miss.
Forest Hill HS



32

Alondrea Rush
SO | G | 5-3
Horn Lake, Miss.
Horn Lake HS



33

Tori Mallory
FR | F | 5-8
Tupelo, Miss.
Itawamba Agricultural HS



HC

Craig Roden
Head Coach
3rd Season
West Alabama (1978)



AC

Shameka Thomas
Assistant Coach
4th Season
Delta State (2011)



AC

Danielle Cole
Graduate Assistant Coach
1st Season
West Alabama (2016)



Craig RODEN

HC

Head Coach | 3rd year | Guntersville, Ala. | West Alabama, 1978

- Overall Career Record is 537-466 with a 341-293 mark in GSC play entering his 30th season as a head coach
- Led Delta State to a 22-7 record (16-6 in GSC) and a GSC Tournament title last season, his second at DSU
- Led Delta State to a 19-10 record (15-7 in GSC) and a GSC Tournament Runner-Up finish in the 2014 season
- Sports a 41-18 record entering his third season at the helm of Lady Statesmen basketball
- Collected his 500th win against Valdosta State on December 10, 2014
- Coached UWA to the 2012 GSC Tournament Champions
- GSC East Division Coach the Year in 2006, 2008, 2009
- Atlanta Tip-off Club Georgia's Women's College Basketball Coach of the Year
- 2009 WBCA South Region Coach of the Year

Craig Roden is entering his third season as head coach of the Lady Statesmen. Roden came to DSU from the University of West Alabama and has coached at every level of collegiate basketball, including the last 20 years in the Gulf South Conference. He spent 14 seasons at the University of West Georgia, four seasons at UWA and the last two seasons at DSU.

He sports a career 537-466 record, including a 341-293 mark in GSC play. His GSC victories are the second highest total of any coach in league history, trailing legendary former Lady Statesman head coach Lloyd Clark's 495.

Roden led the Lady Statesmen to the program's 16th GSC title last season. The 2015-2016 Lady Statesmen went 22-7, including a 16-6 mark in GSC play and a 12-2 record at home. Delta State led the GSC and led the NCAA in scoring defense in allowing 50.3 points per game. The Lady Statesmen were also ranked 15th in the NCAA in field goal percentage defense, allowing opponents to shoot just 35.5%.

Under Roden's tutelage, Chelsey Rhodes was named DSCCA South Region Player of the Year and was selected First-Team D2CCA All-South Region last season. Rhodes was also a WBCA All-American in her senior season, as well as being named the GSC Player of the Year and the GSC Tournament Most Outstanding Player. Alondrea Rush was also named to the GSC All-Tournament team.

In his first season with the Lady Statesmen, Roden led Delta State to a 19-10 overall record and a 15-7 mark in GSC play while battling injuries to key players all season. DSU marched to the GSC Championship game before falling to Union University. A trio of Lady Statesmen were named All-GSC, including Chelsey Rhodes (1st), Seneca Walton (1st) and Rhandi Ball (2nd). Rhodes and Walton were also named to the Daktronics All-South Region Second Team.

Roden's 20 seasons as a head coach in the GSC have led to great individual success on the court for his players, as seven have been named All-American and 21 selected to all-conference honors. He has also coached four GSC Players of the Year, two NCAA Division II South Region Players of the Year and a finalist for Daktronics DII National Player of the Year.

Academic success has also followed Roden wherever he has coached, graduating 19 student-athletes during his tenure at UWA. While at West Georgia, 28 student-athletes earned their degrees, including 17 first-time college graduates in their family.

Roden comes to DSU from his second tenure at West Alabama, helping return the Lady Tigers to ranks of yearly contenders, playing for the league title in two of the last three seasons. In his first season back at his alma mater, Roden led UWA to an 18-9 record, a nine win improvement from the previous season.

The Lady Tigers also earned postseason accolades with three players being named All-GSC, headlined by Player of the Year Mystee Dale.

Latashia Greer and LaShandra McCoy also nabbed all-conference honors. Dale captured All-American honors from the Division II Bulletin, Daktronics and Women's Basketball Coaches Association, while Greer was named to the Division II Bulletin all-America list.

The 2012 Lady Tigers, hampered by injuries throughout the season, put together a memorable run to the GSC championship, capped by back-to-back victories over nationally ranked Delta State (63-54) and Alabama-Huntsville, 86-74, in the title game. The GSC title gave UWA just its third NCAA Tournament berth in the program's history.

Following the tournament run, Nikkia Jordan was named MVP and was joined on the all-tournament team by all-conference selections Brittany Weathers and Daniele Cole.

In 2013, UWA was again hit with injuries during the regular season before making a run in the league's postseason dance. The Lady Tigers defeated West Georgia and North Alabama before falling the championship game to Alabama-Huntsville. Jordan and Weathers repeated as all-conference selections following their senior seasons.

Prior to his stint as head coach at West Alabama, Roden served as an assistant at UWA from 1978-1980 and was head coach from 1984-1987.

Roden returned to the GSC in 1996 at West Georgia, serving as head coach of the Wolves for 14 years. In his last three seasons at UWG, the Wolves posted a 56-29 record. The 2007-08 season was Roden's best in Carrollton, with the Wolves going 25-5, the school's best record since the early 1990s, winning the GSC East Division title and advancing to the semifinal round of the NCAA Division II South Region Tournament.

Roden's list of coaching accolades is also impressive. The Atlanta Tipoff Club named him Georgia's Women's College Basketball Coach of the Year following the 2007-08 season. The honor covered every women's program in the state, regardless of size or classification. In 2009, Roden was named the WBCA South Region Coach of the Year and was a finalist for the WBCA's National Coach of the Year. He also captured three GSC East Division Coach of the Year honors in 2006, 2008 and 2009.

Prior to Roden's return to NCAA Division II, the Guntersville, Alabama native made four stops ranging from junior college to Division I. He served as head coach at Crowder Community College, Snead State Community College (1980-84), the University of Texas at El Paso (1987-90), and Connors State College (1990-92).

Roden is a 1978 graduate of UWA, receiving a bachelor's degree in physical education, with a minor in history. He completed his master's in health, physical education and recreation from UWA in 1980.

He is married to the former Debra Griffin of Birmingham, Alabama. The Rodens are the parents of three grown children; Tyler, who is a high school basketball coach in Orlando, Florida; Andrew, who is a police officer in Huntsville, Alabama; and daughter Maggi, who recently graduated from UWA.

RODEN YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORD

YEAR	SCHOOL	RECORD	PCT
1984-85	West Alabama	14-15	.483
1985-86	West Alabama	18-9	.667
1986-87	West Alabama	19-10	.655
1987-88	Texas-El Paso	8-19	.296
1988-89	Texas-El Paso	16-14	.533
1989-90	Texas-El Paso	12-16	.429
3 seasons	Texas-El Paso	36-49	.424
1996-97	West Georgia	8-18	.308
1997-98	West Georgia	9-17	.346
1998-99	West Georgia	11-15	.423
1999-00	West Georgia	11-15	.423
2000-01	West Georgia	14-12	.538
2001-02	West Georgia	17-10	.630
2002-03	West Georgia	16-11	.593
2003-04	West Georgia	9-18	.333
2004-05	West Georgia	16-11	.593
2005-06	West Georgia	19-10	.655
2006-07	West Georgia	12-15	.444
2007-08	West Georgia	25-5	.833
2008-09	West Georgia	22-7	.759
2009-10	West Georgia	9-17	.346
14 seasons	West Georgia	198-181	.522
2010-11	West Alabama	18-9	.667
2011-12	West Alabama	14-15	.483
2012-13	West Alabama	14-15	.483
2013-14	West Alabama	5-22	.185
7 seasons	West Alabama	102-95	.517
2014-15	Delta State	19-10	.655
2015-16	Delta State	22-7	.758
2016-17	Delta State	0-1	.000
3 seasons	Delta State	41-18	.694
27 seasons	NCAA	377-343	.518
30 seasons	Overall Career	537-466	.535



► THE RODEN FILE

SCHOOL	YEARS	RECORD	PCT.	NOTES/HONORS/CHAMPIONSHIPS
West Alabama	7	102-95	.517	2012 GSC Tournament Champions
Texas-El Paso	3	36-49	.424	Member of Former DSU Coach Sandra Rushing's Staff
West Georgia	14	198-181	.522	GSC East Division Coach of the Year
Delta State	3	41-18	.694	GSC Tourney Champs: '15-16 GSC Tourney Runners-Up: '14-15
NCAA	27	377-343	.518	Earned 500th Win In Inaugural Season With Delta State
Overall	30	537-466	.535	Includes Crowder and Snead State Community College

2016-17 GULF SOUTH CONFERENCE STANDINGS

SCHOOL	CONF	PCT.	OVERALL	PCT.	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL	STREAK
Alabama Huntsville	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Christian Brothers	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Delta State	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Lee University	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Mississippi College	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
North Alabama	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Shorter University	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Union University	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
Valdosta State	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
West Alabama	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
West Florida	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---
West Georgia	0-0	0.000	0-0	0.000	0-0	0-0	0-0	---

▶ THIS WEEKEND IN THE GSC

Fri. | 11.11.2016

Saint Leo vs. Lee	12 p.m.
Shorter vs. Florida Southern	12 p.m.
Barry vs. Union	1:30 p.m.
Eckerd vs. West Florida	4 p.m.
Christian Brothers @ Arkansas-Monticello	5 p.m.
Delta State @ Nova Southeastern	4 p.m.
Clafin vs. Alabama Huntsville	5:30 p.m.
North Alabama @ Tuskegee	5:30 p.m.
Albany State @ Valdosta State	6:00 p.m.
West Alabama @ Spring Hill	6:00 p.m.

Sat. | 11.12.2016

Clafin vs. North Alabama	10 a.m.
Albany State vs. West Georgia	12 p.m.
Alabama Huntsville @ Tuskegee	12 p.m.
Barry vs. Delta State	1 p.m.
Lee vs. Florida Southern	2 p.m.
Eckerd vs. Valdosta State	2 p.m.
Shorter @ Saint Leo	2 p.m.
Union @ Nova Southeastern	3 p.m.

Sun. | 11.13.2016

Christian Brothers @ Austin Peay State	2 p.m.
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All Times Listed Are Central

▶ GSC PRESEASON TEAMS/POLL

NAME	SCHOOL	HT	YEAR	HOMETOWN
F Taylor Adams	SU	6-1	Sr.	Scottsboro, Ala.
F Katie Bobos	UWF	6-0	Sr.	Lowell, Ind.
G Alex Coyne	UWF	5-3	Sr.	Pittsburgh, Pa.
G Jada Smith	UU	5-9	So.	Hoover, Ala.
G Erin Walsh	LU	5-11	Jr.	Knoxville, Tenn.

GSC Preseason Coaches' Poll

SCHOOL	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	Total
Union	10	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	120
Delta St.	1	4	4	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	103
West Fla.	1	5	1	3	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	101
Lee.	--	1	6	2	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	94
Shorter	--	1	1	4	3	1	1	--	--	--	--	83
Ala-Hunts.	--	--	--	--	3	6	1	1	--	--	--	66
West Ga.	--	--	--	1	2	2	3	1	--	2	--	57
Chris. Bros	--	--	--	--	--	2	3	2	2	2	--	45
Valdosta St.	--	--	--	--	--	3	5	3	--	--	--	44
West Ala.	--	--	--	--	1	1	2	4	2	--	--	42
North Ala.	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	3	4	3	24	24
Miss. Coll.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	9	13

▶ GSC PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Players of the Week

Week 1	N/A
Week 2	N/A
Week 3	N/A
Week 4	N/A
Week 5	N/A
Week 6	N/A
Week 7	N/A
Week 8	N/A
Week 9	N/A
Week 10	N/A
Week 11	N/A
Week 12	N/A
Week 13	N/A
Week 14	N/A
Week 15	N/A

Freshman of the Week

Week 1	N/A
Week 2	N/A
Week 3	N/A
Week 4	N/A
Week 5	N/A
Week 6	N/A
Week 7	N/A
Week 8	N/A
Week 9	N/A
Week 10	N/A
Week 11	N/A
Week 12	N/A
Week 13	N/A
Week 14	N/A
Week 15	N/A



▶ WBCA POLL

RANK	TEAM	Prev. (15'-16')	Record
1	Bentley University	3	0-0
2	California Baptist University	5	0-0
3	West Texas A&M University	T12	0-0
4	Emporia State	16	0-0
5	Ashland University (Ohio)	7	0-0
6	Florida Southern	9	0-0
7	Limestone College (S.C.)	11	0-0
8	California Pa.	NR	0-0
9	Bellarmine	NR	0-0
10	Alaska-Anchorage University	2	0-0
11	Lubbock Christian University (Texas)	1	0-0
12	Pittsburg State	6	0-0
13	Grand Valley State	8	0-0
14	Virginia Union University	4	0-0
15	Benedict College (S.C.)	10	0-0
16	Winona State	T12	0-0
17	UC San Diego	20	0-0
18	Queens College (N.Y.)	NR	0-0
19	Union University (Tenn.)	22	0-0
20	Lewis University	15	0-0
21	Anderson University (S.C.)	NR	0-0
21	Lander University (S.C.)	NR	0-0
23	Nova Southeastern	NR	0-0
24	Angelo State	NR	0-0
25	Arkansas Tech	17	0-0
25	Shaw University (N.C.)	NR	0-0

Others receiving votes: Northern State 55; Western Washington 54; Colorado St. - Pueblo 44; Saginaw Valley 44; Ursuline 31; Drury 30; Saint Anselm 21; Francis Marion University (S.C.) 14; Missouri Western State 13; Bloomfield 9; Azusa Pacific 7; Point Loma Nazarene 4; Washburn 3; West Liberty 3 (11 other teams mentioned on only one ballot)



2015-16 LADY STATESMEN OVERALL STATISTICS



RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	22-7	12-2	8-4	2-1
CONFERENCE	16-6	9-2	7-4	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	6-1	3-0	1-0	2-1

##	Player	GP	GS	Min	Avg	FG	FGA	Pct	3FG	FGA	Pct	FT	FTA	Pct	Off	Def	Tot.	Avg	PF	FO	A	TO	Blk	Stl	Pts	Avg
01	Rhodes, Chelsey	29	29	1077	37.1	197	516	.382	58	194	.299	152	181	.840	14	71	85	2.9	55	0	82	59	7	71	604	20.8
42	Ruckes, Becca	29	29	681	23.5	107	239	.448	0	2	.000	46	73	.630	73	96	169	5.8	78	3	22	50	33	24	260	9.0
20	Gilbert, Aspriona	29	1	413	14.2	86	165	.521	0	1	.000	66	90	.733	43	69	112	3.9	78	2	20	44	19	11	238	8.2
25	Jackson, Anissa	29	28	911	31.4	80	185	.432	1	6	.167	20	27	.741	49	92	141	4.9	61	2	59	46	4	24	181	6.2
32	Rush, Alondrea	29	28	832	28.7	53	135	.393	33	88	.375	30	40	.750	8	81	89	3.1	46	0	75	46	0	29	169	5.8
11	Kneeland, Kaelin	29	0	446	15.4	58	115	.504	0	1	.000	26	47	.553	46	96	142	4.9	46	0	14	22	1	7	142	4.9
03	Davis, Mary Carol	29	28	785	27.1	43	124	.347	7	28	.250	20	29	.690	42	81	123	4.2	68	1	45	39	18	32	113	3.9
12	Riddle, Antionette	29	2	397	13.7	4	19	.211	0	0	.000	12	16	.750	3	43	46	1.6	25	0	34	27	9	13	20	0.7
04	Ross, Alexis	29	0	283	9.8	8	38	.211	0	1	.000	2	2	1.000	10	34	44	1.5	33	0	17	17	0	7	18	0.6
	Total	29				636	1536	.414	99	321	.308	374	505	.741	320	726	1046	36.1	490	8	368	371	91	218	1745	60.2
	Opponents	29				493	1388	.355	142	484	.293	332	496	.669	246	630	876	30.2	492	-	241	448	59	139	1462	50.4

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	OT	Total
Delta State University	412	385	451	487	10	1745
Opponents	303	325	400	430	4	1462

2016-17 LADY STATESMEN GSC-ONLY STATISTICS

RECORD:	OVERALL	HOME	AWAY	NEUTRAL
ALL GAMES	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
CONFERENCE	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0
NON-CONFERENCE	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0



FIRST GSC GAME IS DECEMBER 1ST vs. MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE