

Meet the Coaches



Head Coach Jim Case

LOUISIANA TECH, 1982 • NINTH SEASON



Jim Case has put together some impressive numbers over the last six years since Jacksonville State joined the Ohio Valley Conference in 2004. His teams have won four Ohio Valley Conference Championships; won more OVC games during that six-year span than any other team in the league; set the OVC record by posting an amazing 23-4 Conference record in 2008; won two OVC Coach of the Year Awards; and the Gamecocks played in the OVC Tournament Championship game five out of six years.

Case, who was named the 2005 and 2008 Ohio Valley Conference Coach of the Year, has led the Gamecocks

to seven consecutive 30-win seasons and four OVC Championships. He has posted a 257-209 overall record, but has an impressive 105-53 record against OVC opponents, which is 17 more wins than second place Austin Peay's total of 88-60, and JSU's 66.5 winning percentage is well ahead of the Govs total of 59.4 percent.

Although the 2009 JSU team entered the OVC Tournament as the No. 6 seed, the Gamecocks advanced to the Championship game for the fifth time in the last six years. Five Gamecocks were named to the OVC All-Tournament team including Sam Eberle, Steven Leach, Todd Cunningham, Kyle Bluestein and Austin Lucas.



The Jim Case Family

Juniors Daniel Adamson and Bill Henke each were named to the first-team All-OVC squad, while Sam Eberle and Kyle Bluestein were both named to the All-Freshman Squad. Bluestein also was named the OVC Freshman of the Year, marking the third time in the last six years a Gamecock has earned the honor.

The 2008 Gamecocks raised the bar in the Ohio Valley Conference by posting an incredible 23-4 OVC record, including winning their final 14 straight conference games. It was the most conference wins by any team in the OVC's 48-year history.

Jax State also placed five players on the OVC first-team All-Conference squad and a total of 10 Gamecocks were honored. Senior Clay Whittemore won his second straight OVC Player of the Year Award, while Todd Cunningham was named the OVC Freshman of the Year. Whittemore also was named to the ABCA All-South Region team and was again a third-team All-American.

In 2007, the Gamecocks played in the OVC Championship game for the fourth straight year after posting an 18-9 mark in conference play. The Gamecocks placed the most players of any other school after 10 Gamecocks were named to OVC All-Conference teams. JSU also earned the OVC Sportsmanship Award in baseball for the 2007 season.

In addition, junior outfielder Clay Whittemore was named the OVC Player of the Year. Whittemore also became the school's first-ever All-American at the Division I level after earning third-team honors on the TPX/Louisville Slugger All-America team.

In 2006, Case led the Gamecocks to their second NCAA Regional appearance in three years after winning the OVC Tournament with a dramatic final at-bat win over Samford. JSU placed six players on the All-Conference squad, the most of any other team in the league.

In 2005, Jax State won the Conference regular-season title after posting a 35-25 season, including a 19-8 mark in the league. It was the school's sixth conference championship and the first in Division I.

The Gamecocks made an immediate impact in their first season in the league in 2004. JSU finished third in the regular season standings and then defeated Southeast Missouri State to claim the OVC Tournament Championship and advance to NCAA post-season play for the first time in more than 13 years and the first time in the school's Division I history.

Four Gamecock players earned a spot on the All-Conference team and four were named to the OVC All-Tournament team, including Most Valuable Player Bobby Wynns. JSU had not played in an NCAA tournament since winning the Division II national championship in 1991.

"It has been a blessing to so many of us to be a part of this great university," Case added. "Coach (Steve) Gillispie has been with me from the beginning and he does a great job for us on the field and in the office. It is great to have another 'Head Coach' on our staff and that is how I look at Steve."

"Travis (Janssen) is going into his fifth year. He also does a great job and has a great relationship with the players and is one of the best when it comes to building and maintaining relationships in recruiting. He is tireless on the field working with guys," Case added.

"We are so fortunate to have Shane Kelley returning for a third year," said Case. "He brings a toughness that the players see and feed off."

"The continuity that we have in our staff is wonderful. Our assistant coaches are as good assistant coaches as anyone and I have tremendous confidence in them," Case said.

Not only have the Gamecocks excelled on the field, but also in the classroom.

The Gamecocks have the most players named to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll than any other OVC team since joining the league. To be listed, recipients must have achieved at least a 3.25 grade point average and have been eligible and on the team throughout the season.

Head Coach Jim Case

JSU

Over the last eight years, 112 players have posted a 3.0 grade point average or higher and a total of 89 players have been named to the Academic All-Conference teams.

Jacksonville State claimed the prestigious OVC Team Academic Achievement Award after placing 11 student-athletes on the OVC Commission's Honor Roll in 2005. The OVC Team Academic Achievement Awards are presented annually in each of the 17 Conference sponsored sports to the member institution's team with the greatest percentage of its student-athletes named to the OVC Commissioner's Honor Roll.

"I believe that these accomplishments speak volumes about the kind of athletes we recruit and the commitment to excellence that we have on our team," added Case.

One of his team's principles is to study hard and go to class. While at Mississippi State, the Bulldogs led the SEC with 37 Academic Honor Roll recipients. Under his leadership at JSU, the baseball team has achieved an impressive increase in GPA and 82 team members have achieved Academic All-Conference honors over the last seven years.

Two-time OVC Player of the Year Clay Whittemore was selected as JSU's 2008 Eagle Owl Award recipient for excellence in his sport, being a positive role model and exemplifying the well-rounded student-athlete. The Eagle Owl Award is given annually to the male student-athlete of the year by a selection committee of faculty, staff and athletic department administrators. Pitcher C.R. Palmer also claimed the honor in 2004.

"I believe that these accomplishments say more than anything else the kinds of athletes and the commitment to excellence that we have here," said Case.

The road to JSU for Coach Case was filled with tradition and hard work.

Case was a three-sport letterman earning All-City honors in baseball and football at Birmingham's Ensley High School. He credits coaches George Gould, Ronnie Syphurs, Jimmy Tucker, and Jerry Deaton for instilling good work ethic and practice habits.

Case continued his playing career at Louisiana Tech University under Coach Pat Patterson. Case earned All-Southland Conference honors as a catcher and was selected by the team as the recipient for the Outstanding Attitude Award. Afterward, he stayed at Louisiana Tech as a student assistant coach for a year before entering graduate school and working as a graduate assistant coach for Ron Polk at Mississippi State University.

While at MSU, Case completed a Master's Degree in Physical Education and an Educational Specialist's Degree in Educational Leadership.

Leading up to his first head coaching position at JSU, Case served as assistant coach at UAB under Pete Rancont and at Mississippi State University under Pat McMahon.

While at UAB, his teams claimed a 1991 Sun Belt Conference Championship and their first NCAA Regional appearance as well as a 1992 Great Mid-West Conference Title.

During his stints at MSU, Case coached in six NCAA Regional tournaments, two Super-Regionals, and made two College World Series appearances. Over 30 of his former players have been selected in the Major League Baseball Draft with eight advancing to the major leagues. Former MSU pitchers Matt Ginter and Paul Maholm were first round draft choices, while former JSU pitchers Ben Tootle (third), Jesse Corn (sixth) and Donovan Hand (14th) have all been selected in the MLB Draft.

Because of Case's many successes, he is frequently asked to speak at local, regional and national clinics and organizations. He has twice been featured as an invited lecturer at the National American Baseball Coaches Association Convention, including the 2008 convention in Philadelphia. Case is currently serving a three-year term on the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee.

Jim and Jan Case have been married for 27 years and have two daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth. Jan is a math professor at JSU, while Catherine is a junior at UAB and Elizabeth is a freshman at UAB.



The Coach Case File

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

HIGH SCHOOL:

Ensley High School (Birmingham)

COLLEGE:

Four-year letterman (1979-82) for Louisiana Tech

1981 All-Southland Conference as a catcher

PERSONAL

Born: January 28, 1960 in Birmingham

Married: former Jan Orton

Children: daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth

College: Louisiana Tech (1982)

CASE YEAR-BY-YEAR RECORD

YEAR	SCHOOL	W-L	PCT	CONF	NCAA
1983	Louisiana Tech	20-30	.400	5-8	-
1984	Mississippi State	45-16	.738	18-5	3-2
1985	Mississippi State	50-15	.769	16-8	3-1
1986	Mississippi State	34-21	.618	12-15	-
1987	UAB	23-21	.523	8-10	-
1988	UAB	22-28-1	.441	4-12	-
1989	UAB	28-27	.509	7-11	-
1990	UAB	27-26	.509	8-10	-
1991	UAB	29-30	.492	9-7	1-2
1992	UAB	43-18	.705	17-1	-
1993	UAB	35-23	.603	12-6	-
1994	UAB	32-23	.582	16-6	-
1995	UAB	34-22	.607	13-9	-
1996	UAB	33-25	.569	13-11	-
1997	UAB	31-29	.517	14-13	-
1998	Mississippi State	42-23	.646	14-15	4-1
1999	Mississippi State	42-21	.667	15-14	2-2
2000	Mississippi State	41-20	.667	17-10	3-3
2001	Mississippi State	39-24	.619	17-13	3-2
2002	Jacksonville State	23-31	.426	9-20	-
2003	Jacksonville State	32-26	.552	19-14	-
2004	Jacksonville State	31-29	.517	16-11	0-2
2005	Jacksonville State	35-25	.583	19-8	-
2006	Jacksonville State	35-24	.593	19-8	0-2
2007	Jacksonville State	33-27	.550	18-9	-
2008	Jacksonville State	37-21	.627	23-4	-
2009	Jacksonville State	31-26	.544	10-13	-

*College World Series record included

COLLEGIATE CAREER COACHING RECORD

W-L	PCT	CONF	NCAA
854-626	.577	222-155	19-17

COACHING CAREER

1983	Louisiana Tech	Student Assistant Coach
1984-86	Mississippi State University	Graduate Assistant Coach
1987-97	UAB	Assistant Baseball Coach
1997-2001	Mississippi State University	Assistant Baseball Coach
2002-Present	Jacksonville State University	Head Coach





CASE VS ALL OPPONENTS:

Alabama	2-6
Alabama A&M	4-0
Alabama State	14-1
Appalachian State	1-5
Austin Peay	14-9
Belmont	4-3
Birmingham-Southern	4-6
Bradley	1-0
Campbell	5-1
Central Michigan	0-1
College of Charleston	1-2
Eastern Illinois	11-10
Eastern Kentucky	16-6
Florida	0-1
Florida Atlantic	1-6
Furman	1-2
Gardner-Webb	3-0
Georgia	2-1
Georgia State	6-3
Georgia Tech	0-1
Hartford	1-0
Harvard	3-1
High Point	3-0
Illinois	1-0
Jacksonville University	1-6
Kennesaw State	4-4
Louisiana-Monroe	7-5
LSU	0-3
Marshall	1-2
Mercer	3-3
Miami (Ohio)	0-1
Middle Tennessee State	8-10
Millsaps	1-1
Mississippi State	0-7
Morehead State	13-5
Murray State	12-4
Northwestern University	1-0
Northwestern State	5-7
Oakland	3-0
Ohio State	0-1
Ole Miss	0-3
Purdue	0-3
Rider	2-1
Samford	22-7
South Alabama	1-7
Southeast Louisiana	2-4
Southeast Missouri State	14-9
Southern Illinois	2-0
Southern Miss	0-1
Stetson	1-4
Tennessee-Martin	12-6
Tennessee Tech	14-9
Texas A&M	0-3
Toledo	1-0
Troy	5-13
West Alabama	3-0
UAB	13-6
UCF	3-3
UMASS	0-1
Vanderbilt	0-1
Yale	1-0



ASSISTANT COACH
Steve Gillispie
FORT HAYS STATE, 1988
NINTH SEASON

Steve Gillispie begins his ninth season on the Gamecock baseball coaching staff and has played a vital role as the Gamecocks have posted seven straight seasons with 30-or more wins and has won more Ohio Valley Conference games than any other school since joining the league in 2004.

Gillispie coaches the Gamecock hitters and outfielders and also serves as the recruiting coordinator.

With Gillispie on staff, the Gamecocks have won four OVC Championships and posted an incredible 105-52 OVC record during his eight years on the staff.

Although the 2009 JSU team entered the OVC Tournament as the No. 6 seed, the Gamecocks advanced to the Championship game for the fifth time in the last six years. Five Gamecocks were named to the OVC All-Tournament team including Sam Eberle, Steven Leach, Todd Cunningham, Kyle Bluestein and Austin Lucas.

Juniors Daniel Adamson and Bill Henke each were named to the first-team All-OVC squad, while Sam Eberle and Kyle Bluestein were both named to the All-Freshman Squad. Bluestein also was named the OVC Freshman of the Year, marking the third time in the last six years a Gamecock has earned the honor.

The 2008 Gamecocks raised the bar in the Ohio Valley Conference by posting an incredible 23-4 OVC record, including winning their final 14 straight conference games. It was the most conference wins by any team in the OVC's 48-year history.

Jax State also placed five players on the OVC first-team All-Conference squad and a total of 10 Gamecocks were honored. Senior Clay Whittemore won his second straight OVC Player of the Year Award, while Todd Cunningham was named the OVC Freshman of the Year. Whittemore also was named to the ABCA All-South Region team and was again a third-team All-American.

In 2007, the Gamecocks posted a 33-27 record and went 19-8 in the OVC to finish second in the regular-season. JSU also placed 10 players on the OVC All-Conference teams and had the OVC Player of the Year in Clay Whittemore.

Jax State won the 2006 OVC Tournament with a dramatic ninth inning rally to defeat Samford and send Jax State back to the NCAA Regionals. The Gamecocks finished 35-24 overall and 19-8 in the OVC to finish the regular season second.

It marked the third straight championship for the Gamecocks after the team won the 2004 Ohio Valley Conference Tournament and advanced to the NCAA Regional in Atlanta and then posted a 19-8 league record in 2005 to win the regular-season championship.

In addition, JSU has placed 41 players on the OVC All-Conference team and 21 on the OVC All-Tournament team over the last five years.

Hired on June 26, 2001, to join Jim Case, he began his coaching career in 1988 as the head coach at Fort Hays State. From there, Gillispie moved on to the University of Nebraska as an assistant coach in 1990.

In his two seasons at Nebraska, Gillispie recruited three First Team All-Americans, including the number one pick in the 1995 baseball draft in Darin

Erstad, who went to the Anaheim Angels.

In 1992, Gillispie moved on to Mendocino Community College in California and spent two seasons as an assistant. In 1994, he became assistant coach at Lassen College in California, where the team captured the Golden Valley Conference championship.

Gillispie took a position in 1995 as an assistant at the University of Utah. In January of that school year, he was named interim head coach when Coach Rick Sofield accepted a managing job in the Montreal Expos organization.

Gillispie then moved east when he took a position as an assistant coach at UAB (1996-97). The Blazers set or tied 47 school records while he was an assistant coach.

After that, Gillispie became the Southeastern Area's Supervisor of Scouting for Major League Baseball's Philadelphia Phillies (1997-2001). While in that capacity, Gillispie signed 20 players in professional baseball with the Phillies.

To date, two of Gillispie's drafts have made it to the Major Leagues. The Texas Rangers Marlon Byrd was a 10th round pick in 1999 and finished fourth in the National League's Rookie of the Year voting while with Philadelphia in 2003. Third baseman Travis Chapman (17th round pick in 2000) was called to the Major League level in September of 2003 for the Phillies.

Born March 10, 1964, Gillispie graduated with a bachelor's degree in Education from Fort Hays State. He earned his master's degree in Educational Administration at the University of Nebraska. He is married to the former Denise Lamar and the couple has one daughter, Morgan.



The Steve Gillispie family.

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

HIGH SCHOOL: Beatrice (Nebraska)

COLLEGE: Played four years (1984-87) for Northwest Missouri State (1984, 1985) and Fort Hays (1986, 1987)

COACHING CAREER

- 1988-89 Fort Hays State (Kan.) - Head Baseball Coach
- 1990-91 University of Nebraska - Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1992-93 Mendocino (Calif.) Junior College - Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1994 Lassen (Calif.) Junior College - Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1995 University of Utah - Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1996-97 UAB - Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1998-01 Philadelphia Phillies - Southeastern Supervisor of Scouting
- 2001-current Jacksonville State University - Assistant Baseball Coach

PERSONAL

Born: March 10, 1964 in Beatrice

Married: former Denise Lamar of Birmingham, Ala.

Children: daughter, Morgan

College: Fort Hays State University (1988)



ASSISTANT COACH
Travis Janssen
 KANSAS STATE, 1997

FIFTH SEASON

Travis Janssen begins his fifth season on the Gamecock coaching staff and has been a part of the winningest team in the Ohio Valley Conference and a pair of OVC Championships

Janssen, who joined the JSU staff in the summer of 2005, will again work with the infielders, assist with the hitters, coordinating camps and recruiting.

Since 2005, five different position players have earned All-American honors for the Gamecocks.

Although the 2009 JSU team entered the OVC Tournament as the No. 6 seed, the Gamecocks advanced to the Championship game for the fifth time in the last six years. Five Gamecocks were named to the OVC All-Tournament team including Sam Eberle, Steven Leach, Todd Cunningham, Kyle Bluestein and Austin Lucas. Additionally, Bluestein and Eberle were both named Freshman All-Americans.

Juniors Daniel Adamson and Bill Henke each were named to the first-team All-OVC squad, while Sam Eberle and Kyle Bluestein were both named to the All-Freshman Squad. Bluestein also was named the OVC Freshman of the Year, marking the third time in the last six years a Gamecock has earned the honor.

The 2008 Gamecocks raised the bar in the Ohio Valley Conference by posting an incredible 23-4 OVC record, including winning their final 14 conference games. It was the most conference wins by any team in the OVC's 47-year history.

Jax State also placed five players on the OVC first-team All-Conference squad and a total of 10 Gamecocks were honored. Senior Clay Whittemore won his second straight OVC Player of the Year Award, while Todd Cunningham was named the OVC Freshman of the Year. Whittemore also was named to the ABCA All-South Region team and was again a third-team All-American.

The Gamecocks placed 10 players on the OVC All-Conference team in 2007 after posting a 33-27 record and an 18-9 mark in the OVC. Junior Clay Whittemore was also named the OVC Player of the Year and became the school's first-ever Division I All-American.

In Janssen's first year, Jax State won the OVC Tournament with a dramatic 8-7 final at-bat win over Samford in the OVC Championship game to advance to the NCAA Regionals in Tuscaloosa.

Janssen joined the JSU staff after one year at Hawaii, where he was an assistant coach. He also was the third base coach and assisted with recruiting, hitting, infielders and base running. At Hawaii, he helped the Rainbows to a third place finish. It marked the highest finish in the Western Athletic Conference since 1992.

Five position players earned All-WAC honors including Freshman All American Joe Spiers who led the WAC in stolen bases with 31. Janssen also was instrumental in Hawaii's Major league drafted player in Issac Omura. Omura was drafted in the 17th round by the Oakland A's and hit .369 (third in WAC) with 19 doubles (third in WAC).

Before his stint at Hawaii, Janssen was an assistant coach at Northwestern State and was responsible for recruiting, hitting, outfielders and base running for three years, while also serving as the third base coach. At NSU, he helped the team to a Southland Conference championship in 2002 with an overall record of 43-17 and a runner-up finish in the SLC Tournament. Janssen helped NSU accumulate a 111-62 record in his three years there and he coached 13 players that garnered All-Southland Conference honors, including eight first-team selections. In 2004, NSU finished sixth in the country in stolen bases with 131 in 56 games.

Prior to his time at Northwestern State, Janssen spent three years as a volunteer assistant coach at the University of Arkansas. In 1999, Janssen was part of a Razorback squad that finished the season 42-23, winning the SEC championship, finishing runner-up at the SEC Tournament and earning a berth in the NCAA Regionals. The 2000 Razorback team featured American League Cy Young winner Cliff Lee.

In 1998, Janssen served as an assistant coach, where he began his college career as a player at Butler County Community College. That year, the Grizzlies finished

with a 41-21 record and was the runner-up in The Jayhawk Conference. While coaching at Butler County, he served as an associate scout for the Florida Marlins. In 1997, Janssen coached as a student assistant at Kansas State University.

Janssen also served as the head coach of the Elkhart Dusters in the Jayhawk Summer baseball league in 2000 and 2001, leading the Dusters to two NBC National Tournaments. In 2001, the Dusters finished 35-22 overall and took third in the NBC, both the highest finishes in program history. He coached four players at Elkhart that have now reached the major leagues, including Adam LaRoche (Diamondbacks), Shane Youman (Pirates), Brandon Fahey (Orioles) and Sean Barker (Rockies).

Janssen graduated from Kansas State in 1997 after playing two years at New Mexico State and two years at Butler County Community College. He was a third-team All-American at NMSU in 1995, earning first team ABCA All-District 8, and first team All-Big West Conference.

During the 1995 NCAA season, the Manhattan, Kansas, native finished second with a .403 batting average, to current major league and Golden Spikes Winner Mark Kotsay for the Big West Conference batting title. He hit over .400 for two years at New Mexico State.

He also played for the prestigious Cape Cod League for the Falmouth Commodores in the summer of 1995, the same team that Gamecock pitcher Ben Tootle pitched for during the 2008 summer, and Todd Cunningham played for in 2009. Kyle Bluestein is slated to play for the Commodores during the summer of 2010.

In 1994, he helped Butler County place third in the National Junior College World Series and was a first-team All-Jayhawk selection, an All-Region VI performer and was named an Academic All-American.

Following his collegiate career, Janssen played independent professional baseball for the Adirondack Lumberjacks (NY) of the Northeastern Independent League before starting his coaching career.

Janssen is a 1992 graduate of Manhattan High School in Manhattan, Kan., where he led his team to a 6A state championship and he was an All-State shortstop selection for all classes.

An avid runner that has participated in two marathons over the last three years, most recently the St. Jude's Marathon in December of 2008, he is married to the former Christy Brown of Springdale, Arkansas. In January of 2010, he was a featured speaker at the ALABCA State Coaches Conference, where he presented "A Foundation to Consistent Infield Play". The couple has one daughter, Avery Catherine (4) and one son, Tate Alan (2).

PLAYING EXPERIENCE

High School: Manhattan High School (Kansas)

College: Played four years (1993-96) for Butler County (Kansas) Community College (1993, 1994) and New Mexico State (1995, 1996)

Professional: Played for the Adirondack Lumberjacks of the Northeastern Independent League

COACHING CAREER

1996-1997 Kansas State University – Student Assistant Baseball Coach

1997-1998 Butler County Community College
 – Assistant Baseball Coach

1998-2001 University of Arkansas
 – Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach

2001-2003 Northwestern (La.) State – Assistant Baseball Coach

2004-2005 University of Hawaii – Assistant Baseball Coach

2005-current Jacksonville State University – Assistant Baseball Coach

PERSONAL

Born: July 5, 1974 in Manhattan, Kansas

Married: former Christy Brown of Springdale, Ark.

Children: Daughter, Avery, son, Tate

College: Kansas State University (1997)



The Travis Janssen family.



ASSISTANT COACH
Shayne Kelley
 ALABAMA, 2006
 THIRD SEASON

Shayne Kelley begins his third season on the Gamecock coaching staff, but he has more

than 16 years of coaching experience.

Kelley, who joined the JSU staff in the fall of 2006, will coach catchers and assist with hitters.

Although the 2009 JSU team entered the OVC Tournament as the No. 6 seed, the Gamecocks advanced to the Championship game for the fifth time in the last six years. Five Gamecocks were named to the OVC All-Tournament team including Sam Eberle, Steven Leach, Todd Cunningham, Kyle Bluestein and Austin Lucas.

Juniors Daniel Adamson and Bill Henke each were named to the first-team All-OVC squad, while Sam Eberle and Kyle Bluestein were both named to the All-Freshman Squad. Bluestein also was named the OVC Freshman of the Year, marking the third time in the last six years a Gamecock has earned the honor.

The 2008 Gamecocks raised the bar in the Ohio Valley Conference by posting an incredible 23-4 OVC record, including winning their final 14 straight conference games. It was the most conference wins by any team in the OVC's 47-year history.

Jax State also placed five players on the OVC

first-team All-Conference squad and a total of 10 Gamecocks were honored. Senior Clay Whittemore won his second straight OVC Player of the Year Award, while Todd Cunningham was named the OVC Freshman of the Year. Whittemore also was named to the ABCA All-South Region team and was again a third-team All-American.

Prior to joining the Gamecocks, Kelley spent three seasons at Samford, where he coached the outfield, hitters and coordinated the Bulldogs' strength and conditioning program. Samford won the regular-season title in 2006, but lost in the OVC Championship to Jacksonville State.

The Eastaboga, Ala., native spent several years in the Kansas City Royals organization at every level from rookie ball up to spring training for the major leagues. Handling a variety of aspects within the organization, his main area of expertise was the coordination of the Royals' strength and conditioning program.

Before his time with the Royals, Kelley was an assistant baseball coach at the University of Alabama. He was head of the strength and conditioning program, and assisted with the pitchers and catchers from 1996 to 1999. He coached many players who went on to careers in professional baseball, including five who make it to the major leagues.

The 1997 team at Alabama finished second at the College World Series and the 1997 and 1999 teams won the SEC Tournament.



Before his time at Alabama, Kelley worked extensively with Athletes in Action. He started his coaching career at Gadsden State Community College, where he coached from 1990 to 1991.

Kelley earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Alabama. He and his wife, Kimberly, have two sons, Rocklyn Kohl and Kooper Brock, and a daughter that was born in February.

COACHING CAREER

- 1990-91 Gadsden State Community College
- Student Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1992 Athletes in Action
- Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1996-1999 University of Alabama
- Assistant Baseball Coach
- 1999-2001 Kansas City Royals
- Assistant Baseball Coach
- 2005-07 Samford University
- Assistant Baseball Coach
- 2008-current Jacksonville State University
- Assistant Baseball Coach

PERSONAL

Born: June 28, 1968 in Anniston, Alabama
 Married: former Kimberly Johnson of Prattville, Alabama
 Children: Son Rocklyn Kohl and Kooper Brock; Daughter
 College: University of Alabama (2006)



Jacksonville State University