

2008 VMI Men's Soccer Media Guide

VMI KEYDETS

2008 MEN'S SOCCER MEDIA GUIDE

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of School Virginia Military Institute
 City/Zip Lexington, Va. 24450
 Founded 1839
 Enrollment 1,400
 Nickname Keydets
 Mascot Kangaroo
 School Colors Red, White, and Yellow
 Affiliation NCAA Division I
 Conference Big South Conference
 Superintendent Gen. J.H. Binford Peay III (VMI '62)
 Athletic Director Donny White (VMI '65)
 Athletic Dept. Phone (540) 464-7251
 Ticket Office Phone (540) 464-7266

MEN'S SOCCER HISTORY:

First Season 1972
 Most Wins/Season 2004 (10-9-1)
 All-Conference Players 29

COACHING STAFF:

Head Coach Ben Freakley
 Alma Mater/Year Georgia Southern '00
 Record at school (yrs.) 8-25-4 (2 yrs.)
 Career record (yrs.) 13-34-3 (3 yrs.)
 Phone (540) 464-7611
 Email freakleybc@vmi.edu

Assistant Coach Richie Rose
 Alma Mater/Year Lander '04
 Phone (540) 464-7610
 Email roserr@vmi.edu

Assistant Coach Daryl Fischer

Address VMI Men's Soccer
 245 Cameron Hall
 Lexington, Va. 24450

TEAM INFORMATION:

Letterwinners returning 16
 Letterwinners lost 9
 Starters returning 10
 Starters lost 2
 Newcomers 13

2007 Overall record 6-10-3
 2007 Conf. record/finish 2-3-1/5th of 7
 2007 Big South Championship Lost 2-0 vs. Radford
 (First Round)

Home Field Patchin Field
 Capacity 1,000
 Surface Bermuda Grass



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IT'S VMI, PLEASE

When referring to our athletic teams, it is requested that members of the media refer to this institution as "VMI", or "Virginia Military Institute", not "Virginia Military" or the cryptic "Va. Military" or V.M.I. Any help in using the correct moniker would be greatly appreciated.

ATHLETIC MEDIA RELATIONS:

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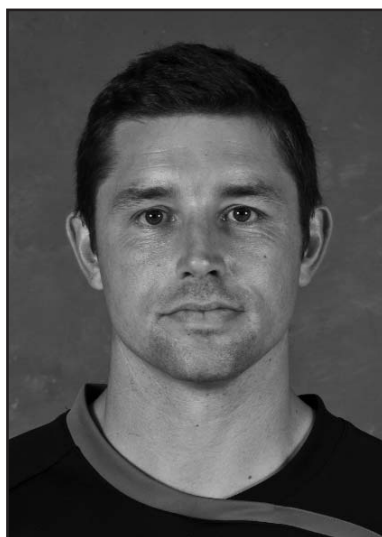
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SID Main Office Phone (540) 464-7253
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 Website www.vmikeydets.com

MEDIA GUIDE CREDITS:

The 2008 Virginia Military Institute Men's Soccer Media Guide is a publication of the VMI Athletic Media Relations Office, and was compiled and written for the benefit of all interested in learning detailed information regarding the Institute, coaches, staff, and student-athletes of the Keydet men's soccer program. Written & Laid Out by Brad Salois. Cover design by Joel Balthaser, Consultant. Special assistance, including editing, by Wade Branner, Assoc. AD for Athletic Comm. and Christian Hoffman, Asst. AD for Media Relations. Photography: Chuck Steenburgh, VMI Communications and Marketing office, WG Sports Photos & Jeremy Ledbetter of Andre Studios. Printing by Collinsville Printing in Martinsville, Va.





The Freakley File

-VMI	Head Men's Soccer Coach (2006-present)
-Region 1 ODP	Program Staff/coach (2006-present)
-Erskine College	Head Men's Soccer Coach (2004-06)
-NSCAA	Staff/Instructor (2006-present)
-NSCAA	State Technical Dir. (2005-06)
-South Carolina YSA (SCYSA)	ODP State Staff / Head Coach (2003-06)
-College of Charleston	Assistant Men's Soccer Coach (2003-04)
-Georgia Southern University	Assistant Men's Soccer Coach (2001-03)
-Ben Freakley School of Soccer	Owner/Operator/Dir. (2005-present)

Licenses:

USSF A License, NSCAA Premier Diploma (Distinguished Pass Honors)



BEN FREAKLEY

Head Coach - Third Season - Georgia Southern (2000)

Ben Freakley enters his third season as head coach of the VMI men's soccer team. In his first two seasons, the former head coach of Erskine College (SC) has led the Keydets to a noticeable improvement, going from just two wins his first year, to six in 2007.

The 2007 team posted the program's best Big South finish, while playing a great deal of freshmen. In fact, Freakley has recruited a pair of talented, deep freshman classes, including 2007's class, which featured three players named to the Big South All-Freshman Team.

Freakley was named the new head coach of the VMI men's soccer team on February 21, 2006, joining the VMI staff after spending two seasons as head coach at Erskine College (SC).

In 2005, Freakley (pronounced FRAKE-lee) led the Division II Erskine Flying Fleet to a 9-7-1 record. In just his first season with the program, Freakley guided the Flying Fleet into the Carolinas-Virginia Athletics Conference (CVAC) post-season tournament for the first time in his players' careers.

Freakley currently works with the National Soccer Coaches' Association of America (NSCAA) as an instructor and State Technical Coordinator in Virginia and is also a Region 1 Olympic Development Program staff member and coach.

Furthermore, he recently served on the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association (SCYSA) state staff as a head coach for several ODP state teams.

He holds several coaching licenses, including a USSF "A" License from the United States Soccer Federation as well as a Premier National Diploma from the NSCAA. For the NSCAA, he also served as the State Technical Director in South Carolina (he now holds this position for the Commonwealth of Virginia).

Prior to his position at Erskine, Freakley was an assistant coach at College of Charleston. His primary responsibilities with the Cougars included fundraising, assisting with the teams' recruiting efforts, and moni-

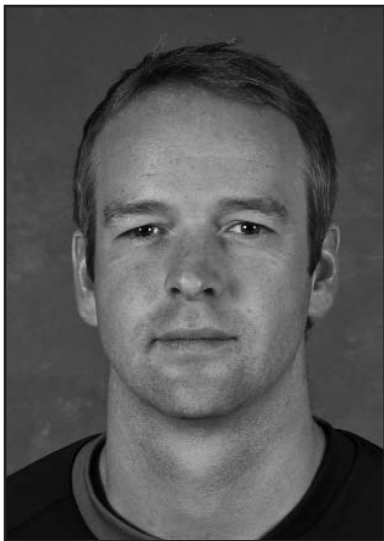


toring the academic progress of his players. His first coaching experience came at his alma mater, Georgia Southern University, where he spent two seasons as the assistant men's soccer coach.

Freakley is a 2000 graduate of Georgia Southern University, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Relations and was a member of the men's soccer team. Freakley also has a Master's degree in Sports Management, which he received from Georgia Southern in May 2003.

Freakley currently lives in Lexington with his wife Melissa and son Benjamin, who was born this past June





RICHIE ROSE

Assistant Coach - First Season - Lander (2004)

The hiring of former Lander University assistant coach Richie Rose as VMI's newest men's soccer assistant coach was announced on May 30, 2008.

Rose, who graduated from Lander and was an assistant there for four years, comes to Lexington from the Greenwood, S.C. institution. While there, the England native's duties included working with the players on strength, speed, and agility training, as well as assisting with video review of games and the recruiting of new players.

In addition to those responsibilities at his alma mater, the new VMI assistant was the head coach at Greenwood High School for one season, where he was in charge of scheduling games, fundraising activities, and travel arrangements, in addition to standard coaching duties. He also acted as the Senior Staff Coach of the Ralph Lundy Soccer Academy, a clinic for soccer players which is run out of the South Carolina area. Rose was in charge of the day-to-day operations of that clinic, a role he assumed in 2005.

Finally, he spent two years as a coach educator for the South Carolina Youth Soccer Association, which entailed his being a part of the process of youth soccer coaches earning various certifications.

"Richie is a tremendous asset to this program. He is a true professional, a dedicated student of the game, and he will bring with him a great deal of experience due to his playing background, knowledge of the game, and passion to grow and develop players." His proven success at Lander under Coach Van Taylor in recruiting student-athletes, and training them to win consistently, makes Coach Rose the perfect fit for our program. He is a quality person, a genuine friend, and someone the players and I will enjoy working with."
-Head Coach Ben Freakley

Prior to assuming the majority of the roles listed above, Rose was a Head Coach of one portion of the South Carolina State Olympic Development Program, a title which gave him the responsibility of helping develop young, elite soccer players around the Palmetto State. He also spent several years coaching in England, where he coached youth ages 8-16 at various times, and was a professional player in that country during the mid-1990's.

Rose holds five coaching certifications, three from the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA), as well as two from the United States Soccer Federation.



SOCCKER MEDIA INFORMATION

KEYDETS ON-LINE:

World Wide Web users can access the VMI Athletics web site through their web browser at www.vmikeydets.com. The site contains updated statistics, results, and roster information, as well as updated info on every Keydet athletic team.

INTERVIEWS:

All interviews with VMI student-athletes must be coordinated through the VMI Athletic Media Relations (formerly Sports Information) office. Since cadets do not have telephones in their rooms, interviews are usually done in the Athletic Media Relations office. Please call ahead so we can arrange a convenient time for both you and the student-athlete.

GAME RESULTS:

A brief story and game statistics will be available from VMI Athletic Media Relations approximately 90 minutes after the completion of all home matches (excluding neutral site contests). Updated cumulative statistics are usually available the morning after the contest, if not sooner.

LIVE STATS/VIDEO STREAMING:

Live stats and play-by-play updates are available for all VMI home matches and for select away games, technology permitting. To view live stats, please visit www.vmikeydets.com. Select games during the 2008 season may be available online via video streaming. For information on this as it becomes available, please visit VMIKeydets.com.



SOCCER SUPPORT STAFF:



DARYL FISCHER

Assistant Coach

Daryl Fischer, VMI's newest assistant coach, enters his first season at the Institute. The Virginia Beach native comes to VMI from Division III Virginia Wesleyan College, where he spent the 2000 and 2002 seasons as an assistant coach alongside Sunny Travis.

Fischer grew up playing soccer in his hometown, playing for the Olympic Development Program and Beach-FC Soccer club, as well as Norfolk Catholic High School. After high school, he played for several professional teams throughout America, as well as suiting up for the National Beach Soccer team.

During his pro career, he earned various awards and honors. While playing professionally, Fischer also earned several coaching licenses as he sought to further his knowledge of the game. The new VMI assistant also has served as the Director of Coaching goalkeepers for multiple club programs, including the Chesapeake United and Old Dominion Soccer Clubs, as well as teaching many camps throughout the country.



BRAD SALOIS

Assistant Media Relations Director

Brad Salois enters his second term at the Institute and his first with the title of Assistant Media Relations Director.

During his first four months at VMI, while serving as the Institute's Assistant Sports Information Director, Salois has handled publicity for the VMI lacrosse program's 2008 success, including the first-ever post-season victory for the program, as well as track and field's publicity, including information on national qualifier Felix Kitur. This fall, the

Lexington resident will handle media relations duties for Coach Ben Freakley and the Keydet men's soccer program.

Salois came to VMI from Liberty, where he was involved in the Athletic Media Relations office as a student worker for three years, including six months as an intern. During those six months, he was the main contact for the men's and women's tennis programs, as well as the secondary contact for the baseball program. During his time in Lynchburg, Salois also acted as a PA announcer at various Liberty athletic events, including baseball, and assisted in other capacities throughout the media relations department. The Wichita Falls, Texas native graduated from Liberty in 2007 with a B.S. in Sport Management.

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT STAFF:



Duggar Baucom
Head Basketball Coach



Sherry Baucom
Asst. A.D./SWA



Col. Tom Baur
Faculty Chair of Athletics



Wade Branner
Assoc. A.D./SID



Judy Cash
Athletic Dept. Secretary



Jimmy Coale
Head Strength Coach



Lance Fujiwara
Assoc. A.D./Sports Med.



John Hoffman
Asst. Athletic Trainer



Christian Hoffman
Asst. A.D./Media Rel.



Col. Eric Hutchings
Chief of Staff



Elizabeth Igo
Asst. A.D./Facilities



Marlin Ikenberry
Head Baseball Coach



Jimmy Mason
Equipment Manager



Betsey Nicely
Athletic Dept. Secretary



Bill Nicholson
Head Swimming Coach



Stephen Ross
Academic Enhancement



David Sigler
Ticket Manager



Jeff Shirk
Head Lacrosse Coach



Paul Spangler
Head C. Country Coach



Andrew Spadafora
Asst. Athletic Trainer



Jim Thorpe
Head Rifle Coach



John Trudgeon
Head Wrestling Coach



Cliff Wade
Assoc. AD/Compliance



Darrin Webb
Dir. of T & F/XC



Andrew Westhouse
Asst. A.D./Mktg. and Op.



Bryan Williams
Head W. Soccer Coach



Jimmy Whitten
Assoc. Strength Coach



Sparky Woods
Head Football Coach



VMI Athletic History - A Brief Look

Athletics at VMI form an integral part of the school's aim to educate the whole person. The athletic program, managed honorably over many years, is critical to VMI's determination to encourage "the sound mind and sound body." Mr. Giles H. Miller '24, coined the VMI educational experience as a three-legged stool with academics, military training, and athletics all forming pillars supporting the mission of the Institute.

VMI's proud intercollegiate athletic history dates back to 1866 with the formation of a baseball team, but the first organized squad came in 1892 when cadet Walter H. Taylor served as captain and coach of the first football team in 1891. Since that time, VMI athletics has evolved into a rich and storied history that continues to thrive into the 21st century.

A few highlights of VMI's athletic history include: undefeated football teams in 1920 and 1957. The 1957 squad under the legendary coach John McKenna finished 9-0-1 and was ranked 13th in the final Associated Press poll. In 1934, the alumni educational fund was established, forming one of the first athletic scholarship organizations in the country. In December 1924, VMI joined the Southern Conference beginning an illustrious history that saw Keydet squads capture seven league football titles, three basketball championships, 31 indoor and outdoor track championships, five cross country championships, 10 wrestling championships, nine swimming championships, and five cross country titles.

Perhaps the most famous athletic story in VMI history was the two-year glorious run of the 1976 and 1977 teams basketball teams. The 1976 squad advanced within one game of the Final Four before bowing to Rutgers in the East Regional Final, and in 1977 VMI finished with a school record 26-4 mark and reached the "Sweet 16" round of the NCAA tournament.

Famous VMI athletic alumni include George Marshall, a football player from the class of 1901 who served as chief of staff in World War II and was awarded the Nobel Prize for the Marshall Plan that rebuilt war-torn Europe. Jimmy Leech, Class of 1921, starred on VMI's undefeated 1920 squad and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame. Bobby Ross, Class of 1959, distinguished himself in the college and professional coaching ranks and led Georgia Tech to a national championship in 1990 and the San Diego Chargers to the Super Bowl in 1995. Ron Carter '78, who played on the NCAA tournament basketball teams of the 70's, played with the Los Angeles Lakers of the NBA. Thomas Haskins '97 became the NCAA's leading rusher in I-AA football, breaking a mark that stood for 17 years. In 2002, basketball player Jason Conley became the first freshman to lead the NCAA in scoring when he averaged 29.3 points.

Ten VMI athletics or coaches are currently enshrined in the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. They are Jimmy Leech (football), Frank Summers (football), Joe Muha (football), Bosh Pritchard (football), Paul Shu (Football), Weenie Miller (Basketball Coach), Johnny Mapp (football/track), Nelson Catlett (football), Bobby Ross (football), and Bob Thalman (football).



The school nickname "Keydets" is derived from a southern drawl pronunciation of the word "cadet." The kangaroo serves as the school mascot and is one of only four U.S. colleges that uses the marsupial to represent its sports teams.

VMI fields 15 teams on the NCAA Division I level. The sports include baseball, basketball, men's and women's cross-country, football, lacrosse, men's and women's rifle, men's soccer, swimming, men's and women's indoor and outdoor track, and wrestling. Women's soccer moved to full varsity status in the fall of 2003.

VMI, with an enrollment of 1,250 cadets, has the third smallest enrollment among NCAA Division I institutions, behind only Centenary and Wofford. Approximately one-third of the Corps of Cadets plays on one of VMI's intercollegiate athletic teams making it one of the most active athletic programs among its student body. Of the VMI athletes who complete their eligibility, 92 percent receive their VMI diplomas.

In August, 1997, VMI fielded its first women's athletic program with a cross country team and has since added three additional women's sports. More will follow as female enrollment increases in the coming years. Throughout most of the 20th century, VMI athletics teams competed as a member of the Southern Conference and played a large role in the rich history of one the nation's oldest college athletic conferences.

In December 2001, the school announced that it will join the Big South Conference in 2003, beginning a new athletic chapter for a new century. VMI's first year of competition was, in fact, the 2003-04 season, and the Keydets have enjoyed success in the conference since, including multiple post-season honorees. That list has included Reggie Williams, who led NCAA basketball in scoring for two consecutive seasons, the 2006-07 and 2007-08 campaigns, when the Keydets received national attention for their fast-paced style of play.