



*Cowgirl Coaches*

**COWGIRL**  
**BASKETBALL**



# Joe Legerski

**Head Wyoming Women's Basketball Coach  
Sixth Season  
Wyoming, 1979**



A Look at 2008-09

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Joe Legerski, who coached at Utah for 12 seasons, enters his sixth season as the head women's basketball coach at the University of Wyoming. He was named head coach on May 1, 2003 and became the sixth head coach in Cowgirl history.

In 2007-08, the Cowgirls continued where they left off from the previous season as further marks were broken. They started off with an 18-1 record, which was the best start in school history, and tied for the best in the MWC as well. With 24 wins, they recorded their third straight 20-win season, which had never been done in the programs' history, and with a 12-4 mark in conference play it also was the most conference wins breaking the 11 wins set the year before. Their play helped them earn the Cowgirl programs' first ever bid to the NCAA Tournament. Wyoming was also honored with several individual awards. Hanna Zavec was named First Team All-Mountain West Conference for the third straight year, while being named the MWC Defensive Player of the Year, Justyna Podziemska earned Second Team All-MWC honors for the second straight year, and Aubrey Vandiver was awarded Third Team All-MWC honors.

He recorded his first career coaching victory on Dec. 13, 2003, as Wyoming defeated Montana State Billings, 62-51. His first conference win came on Jan. 17, 2004 against MWC rival BYU.

In his first season, he guided the Cowgirls to an 11-18 record overall and a 6-8 mark in the Mountain West Conference including their first ever Mountain West Conference Tournament victory in school history. Two Cowgirls also garnered All-Conference awards as he earned MWC Coach of the Year honors in his first year with the program.

In 2004-05, he helped the Cowgirls to a 16-12 overall mark, along with a 7-7 record and a fourth place finish in the MWC. It was the best finish for a Cowgirl team since the 2002-03 season, and the highest they'd finished in conference play since 1996-97. They swept BYU for the first time since 1994-95 and earned a 72-67 win over the Colorado Buffaloes which snapped a 13-game losing streak. Three Cowgirls earned All-MWC awards including Ashley Elliott who earned First Team All-MWC honors for the second year in a row.

During the 2005-06 season, the Cowgirls completed the year 21-9 overall, while finishing 10-6 overall in the Mountain West Conference. They made an appearance in the WNIT for only the third time in school history. The 21-wins were at the time the most since the 1989-90 season when they went 24-8 and the ten conference victories at the time tied an all-time school record which was set in 1978-79. Three Cowgirls garnered All-Conference honors, including Hanna Zavec who earned First Team All-MWC and Defensive Player of the Year honors along with Megan McGuffey who took home the MWC Newcomer of the Year Award.

During the 2006-07 campaign, it was a magical year for Legerski and the Cowgirls as they won the WNIT Postseason Championship over the Wisconsin Badgers. Wyoming went 6-0 enroute to the championship. They completed the season with a program best 27-9 record, which eclipsed the 24-8 mark set in 1989-90, and the 11-5 record and second place finish in the league standings were the second most wins in both the MWC and school history. It was also the first time in school history that a Cowgirl team had won at least 20 games in back-to-back seasons, along with being invited to post season play. For the second year in a row, Hanna Zavec was named First Team All-MWC and Justyna Podziemska was named MWC Newcomer of the Year along with earning Second Team All-MWC honors.



Legerski came to Wyoming following a highly-successful stint at the University of Utah. As an assistant (1991-1998), and later associate head coach (1998-2003) for Elaine Elliott, he was part of the most successful women's program in the history of both the Western Athletic and Mountain West Conferences. The Utes compiled a 254-96 record while he was there, including seven league titles. They were 135-35 in conference play.

During the 2002-03 season, Utah won the MWC with a 12-2 conference mark. The Utes were 24-7 overall, and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament, before falling to Duke.

Legerski earned a bachelor of science degree in business education from UW in 1979. He was an assistant with the Cowgirls from 1987 through 1991, before taking the Utah position. He was the head women's basketball coach at Western Wyoming College (Rock Springs) for one season, finishing second in the region. Prior to that he was the head women's basketball coach at Rock Springs High from 1984 to 1986.

"This University has always held a special place in my life, and to have an opportunity to come back is a chance most do not receive," Legerski said. "The commitment to this program is at the highest level. After visiting with several individuals, and seeing the facilities, I have a great sense of how much support there is for the program.

"Today is a new start for all of us, and I look forward to rolling up my sleeves and going to work."

During his second season at Utah, in 1992, Legerski coached the best post duo in the league in Mikki Kane-Barton and Susana Tauteoli. Kane-Barton was named the 1993 WAC Most Valuable Player, and MVP of the Western Athletic Conference tournament. He also helped develop Amber McEwen into a two-time First Team All-Conference selection, and the 1996 WAC Player of the Year.

Legerski, and his wife, Jamie, are parents of three children, stepson Zane, daughter Madison and son Joseph III.



## The Legerski Profile

Hometown ..... Rock Springs, Wyo.  
 High School ..... Rock Springs HS  
 Alma Mater ..... Wyoming 1979 (Business Education)  
 Family ..... Wife-Jamie; Children-Zane, Madison, Joseph III

### Coaching Background

**University of Wyoming** - Head Coach (2003-present)  
**University of Utah** - Associate Head Coach (1999-2003)  
**University of Utah** - Assistant Coach (1992-98)  
**University of Wyoming** - Assistant Coach (1987-91)  
**Western Wyoming College (Rock Springs)** - Head Coach (1985-86)

### University of Wyoming

Year	Overall			Conference			Finish	Postseason
	W	L	%	W	L	%		
03-04	11	18	.379	6	8	.429	5th	MWC Second Round
04-05	16	12	.571	7	7	.500	4th	MWC First Round
05-06	21	9	.700	10	6	.625	5th	Second Round WNIT
06-07	27	9	.750	11	5	.688	T-2nd	WNIT Championship
<b>07-08</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>.774</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>.750</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>NCAA First Round</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>.643</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>.605</b>		

### Legerski vs. Mountain West

Opponent	H	A	N	Total
vs. Air Force	5-0	4-1	0-0	9-1
vs. BYU	3-2	2-3	0-0	5-5
vs. Colorado State	5-0	3-2	1-0	9-2
vs. New Mexico	3-2	1-4	0-2	4-8
vs. San Diego State	5-0	4-1	1-1	10-2
vs. TCU	3-0	1-2	0-1	4-3
vs. UNLV	4-1	1-4	0-1	5-6
<b>vs. Utah</b>	<b>1-4</b>	<b>1-4</b>	<b>0-0</b>	<b>2-8</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>29-9</b>	<b>17-21</b>	<b>2-5</b>	<b>48-35</b>

### Coaching Accomplishments

- 90th Career Coaching Victory**  
vs. Air Force (1/16/08), 75-59
- 50th Career Coaching Victory**  
vs. Northern Colorado (11/15/06), 76-46
- 25th Career Coaching Victory**  
vs. San Diego State (2/17/05), 69-66
- First Career Victory**  
vs. Montana State Billings (12/13/03), 62-51
- First Career MWC Victory**  
vs. BYU (1/17/04), 57-50
- First MWC Tournament Win**  
vs. Colorado State (3/10/03), 67-61
- First Win Over a Ranked Opponent**  
vs. New Mexico (2/15/06), 59-52
- Best Single Season Winning Percentage**  
24-7 (.774)
- Best Conference Single Season Winning Percentage**  
12-4 (.750)
- Coached two WBCA Honorable Mention All-Americans**  
Ashley Elliott, 2004-05  
Hanna Zavec, 2006-07, 2007-08
- Coached one Associated Press Honorable Mention All-American**  
Hanna Zavec, 2007-08
- Coached seven All-Mountain West Conference Honorees**  
Ashley Elliott (First Team, 2003-04, 2004-05)  
Brenda Pickup (Honorable Mention, 2003-04)  
Erin Hicks (Honorable Mention, 2004-05, 2005-06)  
Jodi Bolerjack (Third Team, 2005-06; Honorable Mention, 2007-08)  
Justyna Podziemska (Second Team, 2006-07, 2007-08)  
Aubrey Vandiver (Third Team, 2007-08)  
Hanna Zavec (First Team, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08; Second Team 2004-05)
- Coached two Mountain West Conference Defensive Players of the Year**  
Brenda Pickup (2003-04)  
Hanna Zavec (2005-06, 2007-08)
- Coached two Mountain West Conference Newcomers of the Year**  
Megan McGuffey (2005-06)  
Justyna Podziemska (2006-07)



## Gerald Mattinson

**Associate Head Women's Basketball Coach  
Sixth Season  
Weber State, 1981**



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### The Mattinson File

**Full Name:** Gerald Mattinson

**Hometown:** Rock Springs, Wyoming

**Education:**

Weber State, '81  
(Bachelor's Business Education)  
United States Sports Academy, '88  
(Master's Sports Science)

**Family:**

Wife Carey; Sons, Morgan Splichal and  
Ashton, Daughter, Tiffany Splichal

**Playing Experience:**

Weber State University 1979-81  
Casper College 1977-78

**Coaching Experience:**

Weber State University 1981-82  
(Graduate Assistant Coach)  
Rock Springs HS 1982-87  
(Head Boy's Basketball Coach)  
Western Wyoming CC 1987-90  
(Assistant Men's Basketball Coach)  
Western Wyoming CC 1991-98  
(Head Men's Basketball Coach)  
Western Wyoming CC 1998-99  
(Vol. Asst. Women's Basketball Coach)

Gerald Mattinson is beginning his sixth season on the Cowgirl coaching staff and his third as an associate head coach. Prior to that, he spent two years as the Principal at East Junior High School in Rock Springs, Wyo.

He began his college basketball career as a student-athlete at Casper College for head coach Oscar "Swede" Ericson. While there, he was a First Team All-America and All-Region selection in 1978. Mattinson then moved onto a three-year career at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. He earned All-Conference honors twice during his career for head coach Neil McCarthy. A two-time Academic All-American selection, he graduated from Weber State with a bachelor's of science degree in business education in 1981. He completed a master's of sports science degree from the United States Sports Academy in 1988 and earned his principal endorsement from the University of Wyoming.

Mattinsons' professional coaching career began at Weber State as a graduate assistant coach with the men's basketball program during the 1981-82 season. From 1982-1987, he was the head boy's basketball coach at Rock Springs High School. He earned Wyoming State Coach of the Year honors and was named Conference Coach of the Year twice. From 1987-90, Mattinson was an assistant men's coach at Western Wyoming Community College. He was elevated to an Assistant Athletics Director and the Head Men's Basketball Coach in 1991 and held the position until 1998. For the 1998-99 season, he became an assistant with the women's program for one year. Mattinson had been a business education teacher at Rock Springs High School since 1982 before taking his current position in June of 2001.



Mattinson, and his wife, Carey are the parents of three children, stepson Morgan Splichal, stepdaughter Tiffany Splichal and son Ashton.



# Kristin Becker

Assistant Women's Basketball Coach  
Third Season  
Vanderbilt, 1990



## The Becker File

**Full Name:** Kristin Becker

**Hometown:** New Berlin, Wis.

**Education:**

Vanderbilt, '90  
(Bachelor's Secondary Education)  
Southern Illinois, '94  
(Master's Spanish and linguistics)

**Playing Experience:**

Vanderbilt 1986-90  
La Universidad Complutense de Madrid 1990-92

**Coaching Experience:**

Southern Illinois 1992-94  
(Graduate Assistant Coach)  
Loyola University (Chicago) 1994-95  
(Assistant Coach)  
Loyola University (Chicago) 1995-96  
(Interim Head Coach)  
Vanderbilt 1996-98  
(Assistant Coach)  
Kansas State University 1998-2004  
(Assistant Coach)

Kristin Becker, who came to Wyoming after spending two years as the project manager for the Fort Riley Housing Expansion Project in Manhattan, Kan., enters her third season with the Cowgirl program.

Prior to that, she was an assistant coach at Kansas State University for six seasons (1998-2004). She served as the recruiting coordinator for the Wildcats, helping to bring in some of the program's best players including WNBA draft pick Nicole Ohlde. During that time, KSU advanced to the NCAA Tournament three consecutive years, including a Sweet 16 appearance in 2002. The team also won their first ever Big 12 Title during the 2001-02 season while finishing with a mark of 26-8 overall and 11-5 in the league. The previous two seasons, she served as an assistant coach at Vanderbilt under veteran coach Jim Foster. In each of her years with the program, the Commodores qualified for the NCAA Tournament, including a trip to the 1997 NCAA Sweet Sixteen, and finished with an overall record of 40-20. From 1994-95, she served as an assistant coach at Loyola University in Chicago before becoming the interim head coach for one season (1995-96). Her professional coaching career started as a graduate assistant at Southern Illinois University from 1992-94.

She began her college career as a student-athlete at Vanderbilt playing for the Commodores from 1987-90 and was a member of the program's first NCAA Sweet Sixteen appearance team in 1990. A three-time All-SEC Academic Honor Roll selection, she earned CoSIDA Academic

All-District honors and was named Female Commodore of the Year her senior year.

After her collegiate career, Becker played professionally for two years in Spain for La Universidad Complutense de Madrid before moving on to Southern Illinois as a graduate assistant.

A native of New Berlin, Wis., she graduated magna cum laude from Vanderbilt in 1990 with a degree in secondary education. She went on to earn a master's degree in Spanish and linguistics from Southern Illinois in 1994.





# Katie Kern

**Assistant Women's Basketball Coach  
Third Season  
New Mexico, 1999**



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## The Kern File

**Full Name:** Kathleen Kern

**Hometown:** Albuquerque, N.M.

**Education:**  
University of New Mexico, '99  
(Bachelor's Communications)  
University of New Mexico, '03  
(Master's Sports Administration)

**Playing Experience:**  
University of New Mexico 1995-99

**Coaching Experience:**  
University of New Mexico 2001-03  
(Graduate Assistant Coach)

**University of Alaska-Anchorage  
2003-06  
(Assistant Coach)**

Katie Kern, who joined the program after spending three seasons as the top assistant coach at the University of Alaska Anchorage, is entering her third season with the Cowgirl basketball program.

She began her college basketball career as a student-athlete at the University of New Mexico for head coach Don Flanagan. A four-year letterwinner for the Lobos, she was a First Team All-Western Athletic Conference selection in 1999, while being named to the WAC All-Tournament Team (1998) and the All-Newcomer Team (1996). Over those years, the team had a combined record of 82-39 overall and 36-22 in the WAC, which included a 24-7 record, a 12-2 conference mark and a first place finish in the league during the 1998-99 season. Kern still ranks among the top 15 in school history in scoring, rebounding and blocked shots. A three-time Academic All-WAC selection, she earned her bachelor's degree in communications in 1999 and her master's degree in physical education and sport administration in 2003 both from the University of New Mexico. Following her career, she played two seasons of professional basketball in Germany and Luxembourg.

Kern's professional coaching career began at the University of New Mexico as a graduate assistant coach from 2001-2003. During that time, she assisted in several aspects of the program including on campus recruiting, film exchange, game day operations and organizing all recruiting mail-outs. She then moved on to the University of Alaska Anchorage as an assistant coach, where she was for three years. During that time, she was involved in

the day to day operations of the program including academics, assisting with practices, recruiting and scouting.



# Cowgirl Support Staff

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## Kathy Crowe-Wagner

Director of Strength and Conditioning, Angelo State, 2000

Kathy Crowe-Wagner begins her fifth year with the University of Wyoming strength and conditioning program, and her first with the Cowgirl basketball program. She came to Wyoming from The Ohio State University where she had been an assistant strength and conditioning coach for Olympic Sports for two years. Her responsibilities included designing and implementing strength, speed and conditioning programs for women's soccer, softball, women's tennis, men's gymnastics, men's and women's swimming and diving, and various other sports. Prior to that, she spent two years at UTEP first as a graduate assistant and then as the first assistant strength and conditioning coach. Crowe-Wagner received her bachelor's degree in kinesiology, graduating

Magna Cum Laude, from Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, in 2000 and her master's degree in kinesiology from UTEP in 2001. At Angelo State, she was a three-time track (discus) All-American, 1998-2000, and was the Lone Star Conference Discus Champion in 2000. She also earned numerous academic awards, including GTE Academic All-America honors in 1999-2000 and the Presidential Academic Excellence Award in 2000. In addition to being a certified strength and conditioning specialist (CSCS), Crowe-Wagner is also certified at the United States Weightlifting Club Coach Level 1 (USAW) as well as strength and conditioning coach certified from the CSCCA. The former Kathy Crowe married Chris Wagner on July 14, 2007.



## Alison Mosel

Assistant Athletics Trainer, Dakota Wesleyan, 2001

Alison Mosel enters her first season as an athletics trainer at the University of Wyoming and with the Cowgirl basketball program. Mosel comes to Wyoming after spending the last five years at Buena Vista University (Storm, Iowa) in the same capacity. She oversaw the primary coverage of volleyball, men's basketball, baseball and softball, while being an instructor in the School of Education with an emphasis in Exercise Science and Athletic Training courses. She also provided coverage for women's tennis, cross country and men's and women's golf during her time there as well, along with several other administrative duties.

Prior to joining BVU, she completed her master's degree in education at Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, MO. During that time, she served as a graduate assistant from 2001-03. Her primary responsibilities included coverage of volleyball, softball, women's soccer and the track and field teams, while serving in a supervisory roll of the undergraduate athletics training students.

A native of Orchard, Neb., Mosel graduated from Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD in the spring of 2001. While at Wesleyan, she interned at Baker University in Baldwin City, KS and Neu Physical Therapy Clinic in Lawrence, KS. Mosel is certified by the Board of Certification and is a member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association.



## Gwen Cotterman

Academic Coordinator, Pepperdine, 1996

Gwen Cotterman is in her fourth year in with the UW Office of Academic Support after joining them in the Fall of 2005. Prior to that, she worked as a Coordinator in the Academic Assistance program at Drake University from 2001-2005 before adding the CHAMPS/LifeSkills position in 2003. From 2000-01, Cotterman was an assistant coach with the women's cross country and track and field teams at Drake. She earned her bachelor of science degree in sport administration from Pepperdine (Malibu, Calif.) in 1996 where she was a four-year member of the varsity cross country team. Following that, she went on to earn her master's in education with an emphasis in sport administration from Bowling Green State University in 1999. During

that time, she worked as a graduate assistant in the school of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies (1997-99) and as a practicum student in the athletics department (1998-99), along with volunteering with the women's cross country team. A native of California, her responsibilities include academic assistance to student-athletes of various sports, connect students to resources on campus as well as oversee the Student Athlete Advisory Committee and the CHAMPS program.



## Edna Sena

Cowgirl Basketball Office Manager

Edna Sena begins her fourth year as the Cowgirl Women's Basketball office manager. She also oversees all of the office duties for Cowgirl Volleyball as well. Sena began her career at the University of Wyoming in the College of Education as an administrative assistant from 1997-2004. Prior to

that, she worked for the Grand Canyon Association in Grand Canyon National Park, Ariz. (September 1982-September 1997) before moving back to Laramie. A native of Wyoming, she and her husband, Leroy have one daughter, Theresa, who lives in Tempe, Ariz.



**Cowgirl Basketball Managers:** Katie Lancaster, Kristen Dermody, Cortnee Query