

hampions are led by leaders, and South Carolina Head Softball Coach Joyce Compton is both a champion and a leader. In the history of NCAA softball, Carolina is known for its tradition and success, thanks to the efforts of Coach Compton. Inducted into the National Fastpitch Coaches Association Hall of Fame on December 6, 2002, the legendary Compton now enters her 23rd year at the helm of Gamecock Softball.

After 26 seasons at a Division I school, the two-time Southeastern Conference Coach of the Year has amassed a 1,034-499-3 record. That Division I record puts Compton among the top 25 winningest coaches in NCAA history. Among her SEC peers, Compton is second in career victories and first in victories at their current school. As the longest tenured female coach in Gamecock history, Compton is one of 13 coaches in NCAA history to serve at one school for at least 20 years, and among seven active coaches, ranking sixth. In 33 years of coaching, Compton is 1,127-518-3.

Awards have not just rolled in for Compton, but also for her players during her time in Columbia, Since 1997, the first year of SEC Softball, South Carolina has had 15 All-SEC selections, 19 SEC All-Tournament selections, 108 SEC Academic Honor Roll selections, 11 CoSIDA Academic All-District honorees and five CoSIDA Academic All-Americans.

The year 2007 served as a return to prominence for the Gamecocks, as they advanced into the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2004. Carolina not only hosted the regional round, but it also upset No. 16-seeded North Carolina State and nationally-ranked Oregon to advance into the program's first Super Regional. There, the Garnet and Black fought valiantly before ultimately falling to Northwestern. Compton surpassed another milestone in her legendary career on March 27, 2007, when she recorded her 1,000th Division I victory over Winthrop.

During the 2007 season, McKenna Hughes set the Gamecock career home-run record and also picked up SEC All-Tournament accolades.

Joyce Compton

Head Coach

23rd Season at South Carolina

Melissa Hendon and Lindsay Walker also garnered SEC weekly honors during the campaign.

The 2008 team rebounded from a tough early season schedule but could not continue the success, ending the season with a 21-26 record overall. Compton did record her 900th win at Carolina during the campaign.

In 2006, the team finished 28-30, while the 2005 edition went 28-28-1.

In 2004, Compton recorded her 1,000th career win, her 900th NCAA Division I win and her 800th Carolina win. She also led the Gamecocks to a program-record sixth consecutive NCAA appearance.

Carolina Softball celebrated its 30th year in 2003 while Compton was in her 28th year of coaching. She led her team to its fifth consecutive NCAA Tournament, 13th NCAA trip overall and its seventh-straight

SEC Tournament. The Gamecocks also recorded their fifth-consecutive 40plus win season. Ashley Smith finished her career in style, as she was named the SEC Scholar-Athlete of the Year for softball for the third time while she picked up her third consecutive ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America certificate from the College Sports Information Directors of America.

In 2002, Compton led a talented Gamecock program to an SEC Eastern Division title for the second year in a row, and to the NCAA Tournament for the 10th time during her tenure at Carolina. With a 46-20 overall record, the SEC Co-Coach of the Year posted her fourth

consecutive 40-plus win season, 11th overall while coaching at Carolina. Also in 2002, the Gamecocks went 20-10 in the SEC to record their first 20-plus win conference record since 1997, the first year the SEC sponsored softball.

In 2000, Compton and her USC squad rebounded from a sub-par regular season performance and claimed the program's second SEC Tournament title.

Much of Compton's success comes from her fine tuning of the defensive aspect of the game. Compton's coaching philosophy centers

around the notion that offense wins games, but defense wins championships. Throughout her career, Compton has become accustomed to winning championships.

During the glorious 1997 season, USC won a Division I record 38-straight games, the SEC regular season and tournament championships, a fourth-consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament, and the school's third appearance at the Women's College World Series. In 1989, the Gamecocks won the South Regional Championship, earning a trip to the WCWS. Compton earned her first trip to the WCWS in 1983 when she skippered the Missouri Tigers to the Midwest Regional Championship and their first Big Eight title.

For the success she has earned in the coaching ranks, Compton has earned several prestigious awards. In addition to her NFCA 2002 Hall of Fame induction, she has five

Region Coach of the Year honors in 1987, 1989, 1994,1995 and 1997 as well as the inaugural SEC Coach of the Year award in 1997. She earned that honor again in 2002

Compton is the first to admit, however, that her success is a result of the players whom she has coached. That list of players reads like a who's who of collegiate softball players, including 11 different Carolina players who have achieved All-America status a total of 21 times. In 1997, pitcher Trinity Johnson garnered first-team All-America status while Tina Plew was named to the second team. It was the third-consecutive year that Johnson was named an All-American. Johnson also was a Honda Award

honoree and was named the 1997 SEC Female Athlete of the Year. In 2003, infielder Danielle Quinones was invited to the USA National team tryouts, a first for a Carolina player since 1999.

"I have been lucky to have talented players, as well as having fine assistant coaches, to work with," stated Compton. "They are directly responsible for any success which I am able to obtain as a coach."

Compton's collegiate coaching career began in 1975 at Mattatuck Community College in Waterbury, Connecticut. For her

efforts, Compton was named Coach of the Year in Mattatuck's conference an unprecedented five times. Compton also coached the women's basketball and volleyball teams at Mattatuck.

After seven seasons at Mattatuck, Compton was named head softball coach at the University of Missouri in 1983. Her career at Missouri was highlighted by an overall record of 115-77 and a berth in the Women's College World Series. While at Missouri, Compton became the all-time winningest coach in MU history, a record which stood until the 1991 season.

In 1987, after four straight winning seasons, Compton made the move from one Columbia to another, becoming the Gamecocks' fifth head coach in 13 years.

Immediately, Compton instilled her winning system into the Gamecock program, which has been the basis of Carolina softball and its successful legacy.

Compton is a member of the National Fastpitch Coaches Association, and she has served on various NFCA and NCAA Committees.

Before becoming a softball coach, Compton was successful as a player as well. While earning all-star status at Trenton State College, she became a member of the nationally known Raybestos Brakettes amateur team from 1973-1975. While playing first base, Compton led the team to three-consecutive national championships and an international championship as well. Her numbers were almost as impressive as her coaching record, posting an overall batting average of .388 and knocking in 142 runs.

Compton furthered her playing career as a member of the Connecticut Falcons, a professional softball team. She earned all-star honors when she batted .355 during the regular season and .300 in World Series play in 1978. While playing first base for the Falcons, she led the team to four World Series Championships in the Women's Professional Softball League. Compton also accompanied the team to China to perform exhibitions and clinics for the Chinese softball players.

During her playing career, Compton established herself as one of the most dominant offensive performers in the nation. For three-consecutive years, from 1976-78, she was the RBI champion in the Women's Professional League.

The success that Compton has achieved has not gone unnoticed by her coaching peers either.

"Joyce's teams are always well coached and well disciplined," stated Yvette Girouard, head coach at Louisiana State. "I have a tremendous amount of respect for the job she has done at South Carolina."

Coach Compton is a winner. From a small college in Connecticut, to the University of Missouri, to the University of South Carolina, she has left her mark on them all. Three different programs, but one common denominator — success!

The Joyce Compton File

Born: Trenton, New Jersey

High School Education: Allentown High School, 1968

College Education: Trenton State College, 1972, B.S. Physical Education

College Softball: Trenton State College, 1968-72

Amateur Softball: Raybestos Brakettes, 1973-75

Professional Softball: Connecticut Falcons, 1976-79

Coaching Career: 1973-74, Piscataway H.S.; 1976-82, Mattatuck Community College; 1983-86, University of Missouri; 1987-present, University of South Carolina.

Coaching Highlights: 2002 NFCA Hall of Fame inductee...2002 SEC Co-Coach of the Year...Carolina's all-time winningest coach...1997 SEC Coach of the Year...1994, 1995 and 1997 Southeast Region Coach of the Year...1987 and 1989 South Region Coach of The Year...1983 Midwest Region Coach of the Year...15 NCAA Regional appearances (1982-83-88-89-94-95-96-97-99-00-01-02-03-04-07)...One NCAA Super Regional appearance (2007)...Three Women's College World Series appearances (1989 and 1997 at South Carolina; 1983 at Missouri)...2000 SEC Tournament Champions ...1997, 1999, 2001 and 2002 SEC Eastern Division Champions

Compton's Collegiate Record

| Year | School | Won | Lost | Tied | Pct. | Highlights |
|----------------|----------------|-------|------|------|------|--|
| 1976-82 | Mattatuck | 93 | 19 | 0 | .830 | Five-time Coach of the Year |
| 1983 | Missouri | 40 | 13 | 0 | .755 | Women's College World Series |
| 1984 | Missouri | 21 | 18 | 0 | .538 | |
| 1985 | Missouri | 29 | 23 | 0 | .558 | |
| 1986 | Missouri | 25 | 23 | 0 | .521 | Fourth Consec. Winning Season |
| 1987 | South Carolina | | 14 | 0 | .708 | South Region Coach of the Year |
| 1988 | South Carolina | | 14 | 0 | .770 | NCAA Regionals |
| 1989 | South Carolina | a 46 | 12 | 0 | .793 | Women's College World Series/Coach of the Year |
| 1990 | South Carolina | a 49 | 14 | 0 | .778 | South Region Top 3 |
| 1991 | South Carolina | a 51 | 13 | 0 | .797 | South Region Top 3 |
| 1992 | South Carolina | a 54 | 14 | 0 | .794 | Final Rank 15th |
| 1993 | South Carolina | a 36 | 21 | 1 | .629 | Notched her 500th Career Win |
| 1994 | South Carolina | a 52 | 17 | 0 | .754 | NCAA Regional/Region Coach of the Year |
| 1995 | South Carolina | a 53 | 21 | 0 | .716 | NCAA Regional/Region Coach of the Year |
| 1996 | South Carolina | a 38 | 13 | 0 | .745 | NCAA Regional/Final Rank 10th |
| 1997 | South Carolina | a 63 | 5 | 0 | .926 | WCWS/SEC Champions/Final Rank 7th |
| 1998 | South Carolina | a 36 | 21 | 0 | .632 | South Region Top 10 |
| 1999 | South Carolina | a 49 | 21 | 0 | .700 | NCAA Regionals/800th Career Win/Final Rank 14th |
| 2000 | South Carolina | a 41 | 28 | 0 | .594 | NCAA Regionals/SEC Tourn. Champs/Final Rank 22nd |
| 2001 | South Carolina | a 40 | 20 | 1 | .665 | NCAA Regionals/SEC East Champs/Final Rank 23rd |
| 2002 | South Carolina | a 46 | 20 | 0 | .697 | NCAA Regionals/SEC East Champs/ |
| | | | | | | 900th Career Win/Final Rank 12th |
| 2003 | South Carolina | a 41 | 20 | 0 | .672 | NCAA Regionals/Final Rank 21st/24th |
| 2004 | South Carolina | a 28 | 24 | 0 | .538 | NCAA Regionals/1,000th Career Win |
| 2005 | South Carolina | a 28 | 28 | 1 | .500 | |
| 2006 | South Carolina | a 28 | 30 | 0 | .482 | |
| 2007 | South Carolina | a 38 | 26 | 0 | .594 | NCAA Super Regionals/1,100th Career Win/ |
| | | | | | | 1,000th Division I Win/Final Rank 21st/24th |
| 2008 | South Carolina | a 21 | 26 | 0 | .447 | 900th Carolina Win |
| | | | | | | |
| Mattatuck C.C. | | 93 | 19 | 0 | .830 | |
| Missouri | | 115 | 77 | 0 | .599 | Missouri's First Big 8 Title |
| South Carolina | | 919 | 422 | 3 | .685 | All-Time Winningest Coach |
| OVERAL | L (33 years) | 1,127 | 518 | 3 | .685 | 13 NCAA Appearances at South Carolina |

Compton Versus All Opponents

| Akron 1-0 |
|--------------------------|
| Alabama14-22 |
| Arizona3-5 |
| Arizona State |
| Arkansas23-10 |
| Auburn |
| Austin Peay1-0 |
| Ball State |
| Baylor4-1 |
| Bethune Cookman0-1 |
| Boston University |
| |
| Bradley |
| Bucknell |
| BYU1-0 |
| Cal Poly Ponoma0-2 |
| Cal Poly SLO2-0 |
| Cal State Fullerton0-3 |
| Cal State Northridge4-2 |
| Campbell10-0 |
| Canisius2-0 |
| Centenary |
| Central Michigan9-3 |
| Central Missouri1-0 |
| Charleston Southern9-1 |
| Charlotte |
| Chattanooga2-0 |
| Coastal Carolina |
| Colgate |
| College of Charleston |
| Connections 4.0 |
| Connecticut |
| Coppin State |
| Creighton |
| Dayton1-0 |
| DePaul0-2 |
| Detroit1-0 |
| Drake 1-0 |
| East Carolina16-1 |
| East Tennessee State 4-0 |
| Eastern Kentucky2-1 |
| Eastern Michigan4-3 |
| Evansville |
| Florida19-24 |
| Florida A&M2-0 |
| Florida Atlantic |
| Florida State |
| Fordham0-1 |
| Fresno State |
| Furman |
| George Mason |
| |
| Georgia |
| Georgia Southern |
| Georgia State |
| Georgia Tech |
| Hawai'i0-2 |
| Hofstra7-1 |
| Illinois-Chicago5-2 |
| Illinois State |
| |

| ndiana8-2 | |
|--|--|
| ndiana State2-0 | |
| ona2-0 | |
| owa | |
| owa State | |
| | |
| Jacksonville1-0 Jacksonville State1-1 | |
| Jacksonville State 1-1 | |
| _amar1-0 | |
| ong Beach State0-1 | |
| ouisiana-Lafayette | |
| ouisiana-Monroe6-0 | |
| ouisiana Tech7-18 | |
| ouisville1-0 .SU11-26 | |
| _SU11-26 | |
| Maine | |
| Marshall0-1 | |
| Maryland3-2 | |
| Memphis1-1 | |
| Mercer | |
| Kansas | |
| Kansas State | |
| Varisas State | |
| Kent State | |
| Kentucky | |
| Massachusetts | |
| AcNeese State2-0 | |
| Miami (OH)2-0 | |
| Alichigan | |
| Vichigan State1-1 | |
| Middle Tennessee State1-0 | |
| /linnesota2-0 | |
| Mississippi20-10 | |
| /lississippi State19-18 | |
| Aissouri | |
| Aissouri State9-5 | |
| Nebraska | |
| New Mexico1-2 | |
| New Mexico State | |
| Vicholls State | |
| Joseph Constine 40,11 | |
| North Carolina | |
| North Carolina State | |
| Northern Colorado1-0 North Dakota State1-0 | |
| North Dakota State 1-0 | |
| | |
| North Florida2-1 | |
| North Florida2-1 Northern Illinois5-0 | |
| Vorth Florida2-1 Vorthern Illinois5-0 Vorthern Iowa3-1 | |
| Vorth Florida2-1 Vorthern Illinois5-0 Vorthern Iowa3-1 V.W. Missouri State0-1 | |
| Vorth Florida | |
| North Florida | |

| Penn State2-0 |
|---------------------------|
| Pittsburgh6-0 |
| Princeton9-0 |
| Purdue2-0 |
| Radford2-0 |
| Rhode Island2-0 |
| Robert Morris |
| Rutgers |
| Ruigers |
| Sam Houston State |
| San Diego State1-0 |
| Seton Hall1-0 |
| SLU |
| South Dakota State1-0 |
| Southeastern Louisiana2-0 |
| Southern Mississippi |
| Southern Illinois |
| St. Mary's1-1 |
| Stanford0-1-1 |
| Stephen F. Austin1-0 |
| Stetson |
| Syracuse0-2 |
| Temple |
| Tennessee15-20 |
| Tennessee Tech2-1 |
| Toledo |
| Texas |
| Texas A&M12-18 |
| Texas-Arlington |
| |
| Texas Tech |
| Troy |
| Truman State |
| UAB1-0 |
| UCLA1-10 |
| UC Santa Barbara1-2 |
| UMSL1-0 |
| UNC Greensboro6-1 |
| UNC Wilmington4-0 |
| UNLV |
| US International0-1 |
| USF18-7 |
| Utah4-1 |
| Utah State1-3 |
| Virginia23-5 |
| Virginia Tech |
| Washington |
| West Texas A&M1-0 |
| Western Carolina |
| Western Illinois |
| Western Michigan |
| Wichita State |
| William Woods |
| Winthrop |
| Winthrop |
| Wisconsin |
| Wright State |
| Yale |
| Youngstown State2-0 |
| |

All-Americans Under Compton

| 1983 | Karen Sweet | N |
|------|------------------|---|
| | Teresa Wilson | N |
| 1986 | Kris Schmidt | N |
| 1987 | Karen Sanchelli | S |
| 1988 | Gretchen Koenig | S |
| | Karen Sanchelli | S |
| 1989 | Michelle Delloso | S |
| | Tricia Popowski | S |

| Missouri | | | |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| Missouri | | | |
| Missouri | | | |
| S. Carolina | | | |

C

1990

1991

1992

1993

| Michelle Delloso |
|------------------|
| Tricia Popowski |
| Michelle Delloso |
| Tricia Popowski |
| Tiff Tootle |
| Tiff Tootle |
| Tiff Tootle |

| S. Carolina | 1995 | |
|-------------|------|---|
| S. Carolina | | ٦ |
| S. Carolina | | ٦ |
| S. Carolina | 1996 | 1 |
| S. Carolina | | 0 |
| S. Carolina | 1997 | 1 |
| S. Carolina | | 1 |
| | 1999 | k |
| | | |

| 95 | Dana Fulmer | S. Carolina |
|----|-----------------|-------------|
| | Trinity Johnson | S. Carolina |
| | Tina Plew | S. Carolina |
| 96 | Trinity Johnson | S. Carolina |
| | Chanda Lee | S. Carolina |
| 97 | Trinity Johnson | S. Carolina |
| | Tina Plew | S. Carolina |
| 99 | Kim Pietro | S. Carolina |
| | Megan Matthews | S. Carolina |

olina



Carrying on the Gamecock Tradition ...

Carolina head coach Joyce Compton has tutored many fine athletes during her tenure at South Carolina. Many of these players have continued to play softball after their collegiate careers were over.

But there is a large contingent of former Gamecocks using their skills as coaches

Former All-American Karen Johns has taken an assistant coaching job with the U.S. National Team. Carie Dever-Boaz, a former USC assistant coach under Coach Compton, leads the National Pro Fastpitch 2007 champion Washington Glory. Dever-Boaz and current Virginia head coach Eileen Schmidt were assistants under Compton from 1993-95.

Former Carolina pitching standout Megan Matthews continues on the coaching path as an assistant at Coastal Carolina.

With the number of Division I coaches that have learned under Coach Compton, it is clear to see the vast impact Coach Compton has had on the softball community.

Compton's Legacy

Holly Aprile (Assistant Coach) Head Coach, Pittsburgh Adrianna Baggetta (1999-02) Asst. Coach, South Carolina Beth Collett (1993-96) Head Coach, Dixie State (Utah) College Carie Dever-Boaz (Asst. Coach)......Head Coach,

Washington Glory (NPF) Asst. Coach, US National Team Karen Johns (1985-88) Megan Matthews-Buning (1999-02)..... Asst. Coach, C. Carolina Eileen Schmidt (Asst. Coach) Head Coach, Virginia Tiff Tootle (1991-93)..... Volunteer Asst. Coach, South Carolina Teresa Wilson (Missouri '80-'83)Asst. Coach, Arizona



Joyce Compton: NFCA Hall Of Famer



On December 6, 2002, South Carolina Head Coach Joyce Compton was inducted into the National Fastpitch **Coaches Association** Hall of Fame. Compton became the NF-CA's 27th inductee into the Hall of Fame and joined fellow softball greats Linda Wells, the Greek National Coach, USA Olympic Coach and University of Arizona head coach Mike Candrea and Sharon Drysdale, director of National Fastpitch Coaches College.

"Joyce exemplifies all that is right in the sport of fastpitch. I not only consider her a great coach, but more importantly, an exceptional friend. She is the person that you call when you need an honest opinion. She epitomizes the definition of INTEGRITY."

- Michelle Delloso, USC Class of 1991

"I think one of the things that always impressed me most about Coach is her confidence about softball. When you play for her, you constantly feel her confidence and passion for the game and that alone drives her players to reach her level of expectation for how the game should be played." - Beth Collett, USC Class of 1996

Compton's Accolades

University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.

- Head Coach, 1987-present
- Overall Record: 1,127-518-3, .685
- South Carolina's all-time winningest coach
- SEC Coach of the Year: 1997, 2002
- Southeast Region Coach of the Year: 1994, 1995, 1997
- South Region Coach of the Year: 1987, 1989
- SEC Regular Season and Tournament Champions: 1997
- SEC Eastern Division Champions: 2001, 2002
- SEC Tournament Champions: 1997, 2000
- 14 All-Americans, Including a Honda Award Winner
- 13 NCAA Regional Appearances:
 - 1988, 1989, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2007
- 1 NCAA Super Regional Appearance: 2007 2 Women's College World Series Appearances:
 - 1989, 1997

- University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.
 - Head Coach, 1983-86
 - Overall Record: 115-77
 - Big Eight Champions: 1983
- Midwest Region Coach of the Year: 1983
- Women's College World Series: 1983

Mattatuck Community College, Waterbury, Conn.

- Head Coach, 1976-82
- Overall Record: 93-19
- Five-Time Coach of the Year

As a player

- Professional Softball, Connecticut Falcons, 1976-79
- Played First Base
- · Four World Series Championships in the Women's Pro Softball League
- Batted .355 during regular season and .300 in World Series play, 1978
- RBI Champion of the Women's Pro SB League, 1976-78





The Angela Thompson File

Born: July 27, 1973 in Nashville, Tenn. High School Education: Nashville Christian School, 1991

- **College Education**: Bachelor of Science in Public Relations, Austin Peay, 1995; Master of Science, Middle Tennessee State, 1998
- **College Softball**: Ranked in the top 10 in lowest ERA in the nation and most strikeouts 1993-94; Ohio Valley Conference Pitcher of the Year in 1993.

Coaching Career: Assistant Coach-Middle Tennessee State, 1997-99; Assistant Coach-Alabama-Birmingham, 2000; Assistant Coach-South Carolina, 2001-present.



Angela Thompson

Assistant Coach

Ninth Season at South Carolina

all of Fame coaches are no stranger to the South Carolina staff. Nine-year assistant Angela Thompson was named to her alma mater Austin Peay's Hall of Fame in January 2005. Recognized as the best pitcher ever to play for the Lady Govs, Thompson became only the second softball player to be inducted into the APSU Hall of Fame.

Thompson serves as the Gamecocks' pitching coach, and, under her guidance, South Carolina has thrown eight nohitters with former standouts Megan Matthews, Stacey Johnson, Aleca Johnson, Melissa Hendon and Kate Pouliot all accomplishing the feat. In her eight-year stint at USC, her pitchers have compiled a 291-221-2 record. Also, she has six of her pupils on South Carolina's all-time saves listing, five among South Carolina's leaders in strikeouts, four on the appearances and innings pitched lists and three on the win, complete game and shutout charts.

Thompson also has helped direct the Gamecocks' camps and clinics for the past eight years and assists with recruiting. She also coordinates the team's travel throughout the year.

Under Thompson, Stacey Johnson won 17 games as a freshman in 2001, while in 2002, Aleca Johnson posted a 9-2 record as a freshman, including earning a win over then-No. 1 UCLA in the NCAA Regionals.

She tutored Melissa Hendon, who stands among the Gamecock best in strikeouts, shutouts, complete games and saves, for two years. Kate Pouliot also improved during her time under Thompson, ranking in the top 10 in innings pitched, strikeouts and saves.

"Angela is very knowledgeable in working with pitchers and we have the consistency, which is important to the pitching staff," said head coach Joyce Compton. "Our pitchers have continued to show improvement under Angela."

Thompson came to Carolina from the University of Alabama-Birmingham where she helped start the program. At UAB, she coached a freshman pitcher to secondteam All-Conference USA honors. Before coming to UAB, Thompson coached for three seasons at Middle Tennessee State University. At MTSU, she coached freshman Jennifer Martinez to Pitcher of the Year honors, as well as Freshman of the Year honors in the Ohio Valley Conference in 1999. Thompson's pitcher was ranked in the top 10 in the nation for lowest ERA and strikeouts during the 1999 season.

Thompson honed her skills with two of the top pitching coaches in the nation, Gary Martineau and Cheri Kempf of Nashville, Tenn. She has worked at numerous camps in the Southeast including the USA Gold Medal Camps with Ralph Weekly, as well as numerous college camps.

The Nashville, Tenn., native did her undergraduate work at Austin Peay, graduating in 1995. Thompson received her Master of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State in 1998.

As a player, Thompson still holds many Austin Peay and Ohio Valley Conference pitching records. She was ranked in the top 10 in the nation in ERA and strikeouts in 1993-94, while earning OVC Pitcher of the Year honors in 1993. She also traveled to Illinois to play against top competition in the women's majors in 1993 and 1994.







The Adrianna Baggetta File Born: September 7, 1980 High School Education: Chantilly H.S., 1998

- **College Education**: Bachelor of Science in Sport and Entertainment Management, South Carolina, 2002
- College Softball: South Carolina, 1999-2002
- **Coaching Career**: Volunteer Coach-South Carolina, 2003; Assistant Coach-South Carolina, 2004-present.



Adrianna Baggetta

Assistant Coach

Seventh Season at South Carolina

Adrianna Baggetta is in her sixth year as an assistant coach. Baggetta served as the volunteer coach in 2003 and was promoted to assistant coach in July 2003. Baggetta assists in all aspects of coaching and works primarily with the outfielders and catchers. She also assists with recruiting.

"It is good for the program to have a former player as a member of our staff," said head coach Joyce Compton. "Her knowledge of the game and of the University as both a player and a coach are valuable to the program."

Since joining the coaching staff, Baggetta has helped tutor players like McKenna Hughes to high honors. A utility player earlier in her career, Hughes played all 64 games behind the plate in 2007. Hughes also flourished at the plate, setting a program record with 12 homers in one season. For her efforts, Hughes picked up SEC All-Tournament Team honors and first-team *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-District accolades.

As a player, the Chantilly, Va., native was named to the 2002 All-SEC second team and the 2002 SEC All-Tournament team. Baggetta played infield, outfield and catcher during her career. In 2002, she led the team in hitting with a .353 average, tied for home runs with six and led in slugging percentage with .573. Against Tennessee in 2002, she became the fourth player in Gamecock history to hit two home runs in a single game.

Baggetta also closed out her career ranked 10th on Carolina's all-time list for walks with 52. She still stands in the top 10 in Gamecock history in home runs, on-base percentage, slugging percentage and hitby-pitches. Baggetta graduated from the University of South Carolina in Dec. 2002 with a degree in sport and entertainment management and a minor in business administration.



Support Staff



The Tiff Tootle File

Born: Jan. 30, 1971 in Reidsville, Ga. High School Education: Pinewood Christian Academy, Reidsville, Ga., 1989 College Education: Bachelor of Science in Physical Education, South Carolina, 1993; Master of Education, Athletic Adminstration, Trenton State College, 1996

College Softball: Holds several career records at South Carolina, including hits, runs, batting average, on-base percentage and stolen bases.

Coaching Career: Assistant Coach - Spring Valley High School, 1994; Assistant Coach - Trenton State, 1995-97; Head Coach -North Florida Community College, 1998-99; Head Coach, Columbus (Ga.) State, 2000-08; Volunteer Assistant Coach, South Carolina, 2008-present.

Tiff Tootle

Volunteer Assistant Coach First Season Coaching at South Carolina

ne of two South Carolina Athletics Hall of Fame softball players comes back to her alma mater for the 2009 season, as Tiff Tootle joins the staff of Joyce Compton as a volunteer assistant coach. Among Tootle's duties this season will be working with the slap hitters for the Gamecocks.

Tootle spent nine seasons at NCAA Division II Columbus State (Ga.) University, compiling a 329-134 record (.711) as the Cougars' boss. Under Tootle's guidance, the program won two regular-season and three tournament Peach Belt Conference titles. Her 2007 squad was ranked No. 1 in the nation by the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) and strung together a 38-game winning streak. That 2007 squad advanced to the Division II Championship, finishing third in the country. The NFCA again honored the work done in Columbus, as Tootle and her staff earned South Atlantic Region Coaching Staff of the Year. Overall, her squads made the NCAA Tournament on five occasions.

Prior to her stint with the Cougars, Tootle spent two years at North Florida Community College. The Lady Sentinels went 82-39-2 during those two seasons, finishing fifth in the Florida Community College Activities Association in 1999. Tootle also spent time at NCAA Division III member Trenton (N.J.) State College as an assistant, helping the team to a national runner-up finish in 1995 and the Division III national title in 1996.

Tootle lettered four years under Compton at South Carolina and still holds a bevy of school records. Her .432 batting average, 351 hits, 207 runs and 114 stolen bases all still stand as career marks. The 2006 Hall of Fame inductee also still holds five single-season records in the Carolina record books. She is one of four Gamecock softball players to earn All-America certificates for three different seasons.



Billy Anderson Assistant Strength & Conditioning Coach

Billy Anderson is in his 16th season as strength coach for the Gamecock softball program. Anderson also works with the

baseball team along with men's and women's golf. Anderson began working in 1992 at South Carolina as a graduate assistant and has been a full-time member of the strength staff since 1994. He is certified by the United States American Weightlifting Association (USAWA) as well as the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (CSCCA) and the National Association of Speed and Explosion (NASE). A native of Stratford, Conn., Anderson received his bachelor of science degree in Health Fitness from Springfield (Mass.) College. Anderson and his wife, the former Tish Fellers, were married July 22, 2000. They have a son, Kaden Ellis.



Erin Pettinger Assistant Athletic Trainer

Erin Pettinger is in her first year as an assistant athletic trainer at South Carolina, where she works with the Gamecock

softball and volleyball teams. She spent four years at Duquesne, working with the Dukes' baseball, lacrosse and volleyball teams during her tenure. Pettinger earned a master's degree in education with an emphasis on sports administration from the University of Miami in 2004. While serving as the Hurricanes' graduate assistant trainer, she worked with the football and men's and women's tennis teams. She graduated from Nebraska with a B.S. in athletic training in 2002 and worked as a student athletic trainer with a variety of the Huskers' squads. The Beatrice, Neb., native is a member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association and is an approved clinical instructor and a certified athletic trainer.



Koby Padgett Assistant Media Relations Director

Koby Padgett is in his second year at South Carolina and serves as an assistant media relations director, working mainly

with volleyball and softball. Padgett came to Columbia from Tennessee, where he worked as a graduate assistant in the women's athletic department there. While in Knoxville, he worked with the soccer and rowing programs and acted as the media coordinator for the 2007 NCAA Women's Rowing Championships. Prior to getting his masters in sports administration at UTK, he worked as the media relations assistant at Jacksonville University, where he handled day-to-day tasks for 11 of the Dolphins' 18 sports. Padgett earned his bachelor's at Mississippi State in communication and worked with the Bulldogs' track and field and cross country programs for two years. The Lexington, Miss., native also served as co-media coordinator at the 2002 SEC Outdoor Track & Field Championships.



Administrative Staff



Val Sheley Senior Associate AD/SWA

Val Sheley, who has experience as a former student-athlete, coach, athletics director and several other administrative areas, including compliance, academics and student-athlete development, is in her fifth year as senior associate athletics director and senior woman administrator. Her many responsibilities include

administration of eight sports and the NCAA compliance office. Her athletics career started in 1988 when she served as head of men's and women's track and field, then added the responsibilities of assistant athletics director/senior woman administrator at UNC Asheville. From there, she went to the NCAA office working as a legislative assistant for the national organization. Sheley is in her second stint with South Carolina during her college athletics career, having served as an associate athletics director for NCAA compliance at the school from 1995 to 2000. In 2000, she left the Gamecocks to become athletics director at Presbyterian College, where she oversaw the school's 13 athletics programs and facility improvements for three years. During 2003-04, Sheley served as the interim associate athletics director for academic support and career development at Maryland before returning to South Carolina. Sheley has a bachelor's degree from Murray State, where she excelled as a track and field athlete. She earned a master's from Houston and is a graduate of the Sports Management Institute. Sheley was a 1984 Olympic qualifier in track and field for Great Britain. Her husband, Mike, was a track and field All-American and NCAA national champion (4x800-meter relay, 1974 indoors) at South Carolina.



Robert Campbell Academic Advisor

Robert Campbell joined South Carolina's Athletic Department in January of 2007. Campbell serves as the academic advisor for football and softball. A Kentucky native and graduate of the University of Louisville, Campbell previously worked at his alma mater's Olga Peers Academic Center for Student-

Athletes and the University of Central Florida. Campbell holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in sport administration.



Dawn Ellerbe Marketing Director for Varsity Sports

Dawn Ellerbe is in her fourth year as marketing director for varsity sports, directly overseeing the promotional efforts of women's basketball, volleyball, softball and men's and women's soccer. Prior to joining the athletics department, Ellerbe worked at South Carolina's Colonial Life Arena in marketing and public re-

lations. An alumna of South Carolina and 2000 Olympian, Ellerbe was a volunteer assistant track and field coach for the Gamecocks from 2001 to 2004. A four-time NCAA champion, six-time All-American and five-time SEC champion, Ellerbe received her bachelor's degree in journalism from South Carolina in 1996. She earned her master's in communication from Wyoming. A native of Long Island, N.Y., Ellerbe is a member of the South Carolina Athletics Hall of Fame and is on the Board of Directors for the United Way of the Midlands.



Kelly Lewis Operations & Facilities Manager

Kelly Lewis is in her 15th year with Gamecock athletics. Lewis manages event operations for softball, as well as several other sports at South Carolina. Lewis was the event coodinator for the 1999 NCAA Women's Golf East Regional and served as the Gamecocks' coordinator for the 1997-2001 SEC women's basketball tour-

naments. She also worked as an event coordinator for the 1997 NCAA Women's Basketball East Regional held at the Carolina Coliseum. Lewis earned her master's degree in sports administration at Eastern Kentucky in 1994. A native of Aiken, S.C., Lewis received a Bachelor of Science in physical education in 1982 from USC-Aiken, where she also coached volleyball and basketball.



Haydn Campbell

2009 South Carolina Managers



Lynn Bennett



Justin Conley

