

The Staff

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Gamecock Basketball

Head Coach

Dawn Staley

3rd Season at South Carolina – Virginia, 1992

Three-time Olympic gold medalist Dawn Staley took the reins of the University of South Carolina women's basketball program on May 10, 2008, instantly raising the Gamecocks' presence in both the Southeastern Conference and the national stage. One of the most decorated participants in United States women's basketball history, Staley joined the Gamecocks after eight seasons at

Temple University where she led the Owls to four Atlantic 10 Tournament titles, six NCAA Tournament appearances and the program's first national ranking.

At the helm of the Gamecocks over the last two seasons, Staley has coached two All-SEC selections and two unanimous SEC All-Freshman team selections. In her second season at South Carolina, Staley saw her team lift its Southeastern Conference record from 2-12 to 7-9, the largest one-season percentage jump for the Gamecocks since the 2005-06 group turned a 2-12 mark the previous season into a 7-7 league slate. In 2009-10, South Carolina posted three wins over nationally-ranked teams for the first time since the 2002-03 season, during which the Gamecocks were also ranked for most of the campaign.

Staley is no stranger to success in her career whether she's directing the game with the ball in her hand or from the sideline, where she has amassed a 196-113 record in 10 seasons. In her first coaching position, she helped Temple reach the postseason seven times in her eight seasons on the bench. The Owls posted 20 or more wins in a season six times and collected the first A-10 Tournament title in school history in Staley's second season (2002). The program became just the second in A-10 history to collect three straight conference tournament titles, winning the event in 2004, 2005 and 2006, as well.

With a 172-80 record, Staley left Temple as the winningest coach in its women's basketball history and was the fastest to reach 100 victories. En route to that .683 winning percentage, Staley earned WBCA Region 1 Coach of the Year honors in 2005, was twice named A-10 Coach of the Year (2004, 2005), and guided the team to a share of the regular-season A-10 title in 2007-08. She built that success on a foundation of discipline and caring.

Staley Year-by-Year

Year	School	Record	Conf. Rec.	Conf. Finish	Postseason
2000-01	Temple	19-11	11-5	2nd East	WNIT
2001-02	Temple	20-11	12-4	2nd East	A-10 Tourn. Champ./NCAA
2002-03	Temple	14-15	9-7	2nd East	
2003-04	Temple	21-10	14-2	1st East	A-10 Tourn. Champ./NCAA
2004-05	Temple	28-4	16-0	1st East*	A-10 Tourn. Champ./NCAA
2005-06	Temple	24-8	12-4	3rd	A-10 Tourn. Champ./NCAA
2006-07	Temple	25-8	13-1	2nd	NCAA
2007-08	Temple	21-13	12-2	T-1st	NCAA
2008-09	South Carolina	10-18	2-12	11th	
2009-10	South Carolina	14-15	7-9	T-7th	

Career 10 seasons 196-113 108-46

* indicates final season of divisional play

“A lot of people think that X’s and O’s are the biggest part of coaching, but it’s actually very little,” Staley said. “It’s about relationships and discipline. I truly believe that the disciplined person can do anything, so I try to set up a platform on which student-athletes can be disciplined. With that, I want to build a family atmosphere that includes both the staff and the student-athletes. Once those things are in place, the basketball part becomes very easy because everyone wants to win for each other. We want to work for one another; we want to prepare people to be successful.”

Staley has carried that philosophy to USA Basketball as well where she was a member of the women’s staff from February 2006 through the Beijing Olympics in 2008, where the United States won its fourth-straight Olympic gold medal. She helped the team to a gold medal at the 2007 FIBA Americas Championship in Chile to qualify for the 2008 Olympics after the team won bronze at the FIBA World Championship in 2006. Staley served as the head coach at the 2007 Pan American Games where the U.S. won its first gold medal since 1987 and served as an assistant coach for the silver medal winning team in the Good Luck Beijing Tournament, held in Beijing, China in April 2008.

“USA basketball has always been like utopia for me because it creates an environment where it doesn’t really matter what you’ve done personally in your career,” Staley said. “You set all of that aside for one common goal, and that is to win a gold medal. To be part of the coaching staff there now feels like the natural progression for me. I’ve given a lot to USA Basketball, and



Staley Capsule



Coaching Experience • 196-114 (.632)

South Carolina, head coach 2008-present

- 24-33 (.421) – two seasons

Temple University, head coach, 2000-08

- 172-80 (.683) – eight seasons
- Six seasons of 20 or more wins
- Four Atlantic 10 Tournament titles
- Six NCAA Tournament appearances, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008
- One Women’s NIT appearance, 2001
- WBCA Region 1 Coach of the Year, 2005
- Two-time Atlantic 10 Conference Coach of the Year, 2004, 2005

USA Basketball, senior national team assistant coach, 2006-08

- Beijing Olympics gold medal, 2008
- FIBA Americas Championship gold medal, 2007
- FIBA World Championship bronze medal, 2006

Playing Experience

Houston Comets, WNBA, 2005-06

- Two-time All Star, 2005, 2006
- WNBA Kim Perrot Sportsmanship Award, 2006

Charlotte Sting, WNBA, 1999-2005

- Three-time All-Star, 2001, 2002, 2003
- WNBA All-Decade Team
- WNBA Entrepreneurial Spirit Award, 1999
- WNBA Kim Perrot Sportsmanship Award, 1999

Richmond/Philadelphia Rage, ABL, 1997-98

- Two-time All-Star, 1997, 1998

Various international teams, 1992-94

USA Basketball, 1994-2004

- Three-time Olympic gold medalist, 1996, 2000, 2004
- Two-time USA Basketball Female Athlete of the Year, 1994, 2004
- Flag bearer for the United States in Olympic Games Opening Ceremony, 2004
- Goodwill Games Most Valuable Player, 1994

University of Virginia, 1989-92

- Three-time Kodak All-American, 1990, 1991, 1992
- Honda-Broderick Cup Award for Collegiate Female Athlete of the Year, 1991
- *Sports Illustrated* Player of the Year, 1991
- Two-time ACC Player of the Year, 1991, 1992
- NCAA Tournament Most Outstanding Player, 1991
- ACC Rookie of the Year, 1989
- One of three UVa players to have her jersey retired

Dobbins Tech, 1985-88

- *USA Today* National High School Player of the Year, 1988

Other Notables

Virginia Sports Hall of Fame inductee, 2008

Two-time Wanamaker Award winner, 1997, 2005

Henry P. Iba Citizenship Award Female recipient, 2007

NCAA Division I “Top Players of the Past 25 Years” selection by ESPN.com

Institute for International Sport “The 100 Most Influential Sports Educators in America” selection

Education

Bachelor of arts in rhetoric and communication studies, University of Virginia, 1992



Gamecock Basketball

USA Basketball has given a lot back to me. I would do anything to ensure that our country is successful, because other countries are catching up. It's in my blood to be part of USA Basketball."

As a player, success came early in Staley's career, beginning with being named *USA Today's* National High School Player of the year in 1988 as a senior at Dobbins Tech. She went on to a four-year career at the University of Virginia that featured three trips to the NCAA Final Four, including a championship game appearance in 1991 after which she was named Most Outstanding Player. A two-time National Player of the Year (1991, 1992) and three-time Kodak All-American (1990, 1991, 1992), Staley was the ACC Player of the Year in 1991 and 1992 and the league's Rookie of the Year in 1989. Finishing her career as the only player in ACC history to record more than 2,000 points, 700 rebounds, 700 assists and 400 steals, Staley is one of three players at Virginia to have her jersey retired. She was named to the ACC's 50th Anniversary Women's

Basketball Team in 2002 and earned a spot on ESPN.com's "Top Players of the Past 25 Years." In April 2008, she was inducted into the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame.

On the international scene, Staley made her first appearance in a USA Basketball uniform as a member of the 1989 Junior World Championship Team and 15 years later played her final international game after helping the organization to a 196-10 record. Olympic gold medals in 1996, 2000 and 2004 highlight her collection of 10 gold medals and one bronze on the world stage.

"When I was standing on the podium receiving my gold medal, I got a vision of young people who are less driven, who think that their opportunities to succeed are bleak," Staley said. "I try to equate it to the things I've gone through growing up in the housing projects of Philadelphia. I want those young people to feel what I'm feeling, because it's an incredible feeling to be able to

Speaking of Staley...

When South Carolina announced the hiring of Dawn Staley, the women's basketball community took notice. Here are the things some of the sport's luminaries had to say about Staley.

Val Ackerman, President, USA Basketball

"The University of South Carolina has made an outstanding hire in Dawn Staley, an icon in women's basketball whose proven talents as a basketball coach are exceeded only by her exceptional qualities as a person. Dawn exemplifies everything that's right about sports and will bring the utmost passion, dedication and class to her new duties with the Gamecocks. I know that everyone associated with the women's basketball program and the University at large will be inspired by her leadership, her sense of priorities and the extraordinary example she will set for the student-athletes who will have the privilege of playing on her teams."

Debbie Antonelli, National Basketball Television Analyst

"Dawn Staley's resume says, 'WOW.' Her pedigree is deeply rooted at every level. Equally as impressive is her character and her concern for the welfare of her student-athletes. Staley's skill set includes the ability to recruit, the ability to develop and prepare players for competition and the ability to make the necessary 'X and O' adjustments inside game action. The hiring of Dawn Staley will bring immediate and consistent results to the University of South Carolina. Staley brings an instant cache to the University community, which will breed winning in all areas of the program, not just between the lines."



Van Chancellor, Head Women's Basketball Coach, LSU

"She has always played for me, on the [2004] Olympic gold medal team and in the WNBA. She and I have had more than just a coach- player relationship. And she'll tell you that in the second half of the gold medal game it was her play that that scored the last 14 points, it wasn't my coaching, and she won the gold medal for me. And I'd agree. As a player she was a tough, tough nut. And her teams are exactly like she is. I thought about two times in the second half we had a real chance of getting ahead of the game. I should have known that a Dawn Staley coached team was not going to go away. What you saw in them tonight, fighting and never giving up, is what Dawn Staley is as a player."

Debbie Ryan, Head Women's Basketball Coach, University of Virginia

"South Carolina won the lottery when they hired Dawn Staley. She is a tremendous women's basketball coach, but more importantly you now have a leader and role model that has helped change the face of college athletics. Dawn will immediately impact her team on the court as she helps mold each of her players into strong, powerful, responsible young women. Her influence as a player and coach spans the globe. Dawn will transform the South Carolina program into a perennial national contender and become a state treasure upon her arrival."

Tara VanDerveer, Head Women's Basketball Coach, Stanford University

"I am thrilled for Dawn that she is taking the next step in her professional career and accepting the challenge of coaching in the Southeastern Conference and moving the South Carolina women's basketball program forward. I have coached Dawn and coached against Dawn. She brings a tremendous knowledge of the game from a player's and from a coach's perspective. She is an excellent recruiter and a person who young people will want to play for. She will recruit great players and develop their talents. Beyond her many accomplishments, Dawn is an outstanding person. She has tremendous character and values and will be a great leader of young people. She is not only style, but substance as well. The University of South Carolina will be well rewarded in choosing Dawn Staley as their head women's basketball coach."

Gamecock Basketball



realize your dream. There is no better feeling in the world than to accomplish something you worked so hard for and the people told you that you couldn't do just because of the color of your skin or the place you grew up or maybe just bad luck."

Staley was also on two FIBA World Championship gold-medal teams (1998, 2002). Twice named USA Basketball's Female Athlete of the Year (1994, 2004), Staley counts carrying the U.S. flag in front of the United States delegation in the 2004 Olympic Games Opening Ceremony among her most gratifying moments on the international stage.

"Being asked to carry the flag into the opening ceremony caught me off guard," Staley admitted. "It's not something I ever dreamt of or aspired to do, but it was so meaningful. It was such a prestigious thing to be able to do. I believe that if you live right and try to do the right things, things will happen to you that will catch you off guard but that are so gratifying for you. Being chosen to carry the flag for the whole United States team is one of those moments in the story of my life."

Following the 1996 Olympic Games, Staley joined the Richmond Rage of the ABL, one of two women's basketball professional leagues started in the wake of USA Basketball's success on the world stage. After two all-star seasons with the organization, she switched leagues, signing with the WNBA's Charlotte Sting in 1999. Including the 2005 and 2006 seasons with the Houston Comets, Staley played in the WNBA All-Star game five times and was the first player in league history to represent both the East and West teams during her career. A member of the WNBA's All-Decade Team, as selected by a panel of national and WNBA-market media as well as the league's players and coaches, Staley twice earned the Kim Perrot Sportsmanship Award (1999, 2006) and won the WNBA Entrepreneurial Spirit Award in 1999.

Following her retirement from the league, the WNBA began awarding the Dawn Staley Community Leadership Award in 2007, honoring the player who



Staley vs. Opponents

Alabama	2-0	Maryland	0-2
Arizona State	0-1	Maryland-Eastern Shore	3-0
Arkansas	0-2	Massachusetts	11-2
Auburn	2-1	Miami (Ohio)	1-1
Ball State	1-0	Michigan	1-0
Boise State	1-0	Michigan State	0-1
Boston College	0-1	Mississippi	3-3
Boston University	0-1	Mississippi State	0-3
Bowling Green	0-1	Morgan State	1-0
Brown	3-0	Nebraska	1-0
Central Michigan	1-0	New Mexico	0-1
Charlotte	5-0	North Carolina	0-1
Clemson	0-2	North Carolina State	2-3
Connecticut	0-1	Notre Dame	0-2
Davidson	1-0	Ohio	1-0
Dayton	8-3	Oregon	1-0
Drexel	2-0	Penn	7-1
Duke	0-2	Penn State	1-1
Duquesne	10-0	Princeton	1-0
East Tennessee State	2-0	Purdue	1-0
Evansville	0-1	Rhode Island	9-3
Fairleigh Dickinson	1-0	Richmond	9-2
Florida	1-7	Rider	1-0
Florida International	1-0	Rutgers	3-5
Fordham	13-1	Saint Joseph's	16-4
George Washington	5-9	Saint Louis	3-0
Georgia	2-3	San Diego State	1-0
Georgia State	1-0	Santa Clara	1-1
Georgia Tech	1-1	Seton Hall	1-1
Hampton	2-0	South Carolina	0-2
Hartford	0-1	South Carolina-Upstate	1-0
High Point	2-0	St. Bonaventure	12-1
Iona	1-0	Stanford	0-2
Iowa State	0-1	Stony Brook	1-1
Jacksonville	1-0	TCU	0-1
James Madison	0-1	Tennessee	0-5
Kansas State	0-1	Toledo	1-0
Kent State	1-0	UNC Wilmington	1-0
Kentucky	2-4	Vanderbilt	1-3
La Salle	10-0	Villanova	5-3
Lehigh	1-0	Virginia	0-2
Louisiana Tech	1-0	Wake Forest	1-1
LSU	0-5	Western Michigan	2-0
Marist	1-0	Xavier	7-4



Gamecock Basketball

best exemplifies the characteristics of a leader in the community in which she works or lives.

Staley lives that mantra daily through individual appearances, the work of the Dawn Staley Foundation and in encouraging her teams to pursue community services opportunities. A spokesperson for the American Health Association, Staley directs a bulk of her service commitments through The Dawn Staley Foundation, which is aimed at giving inner-city children positive input. In the after-school programs sponsored by the foundation, participants experience a three-hour focus on academics and athletics at the Hank Gathers Recreation Center. The foundation also organizes summer leagues as well as fund-raising activities.

"It is important for me to give back because I have been given so much," Staley said. "I am blessed, and I want to share my vision. I want to share my hope with people who are under-privileged and think they can't be successful with what they have. I was given some God-given talent to play basketball, but I think everyone has God-given talent to do something. It is important to help young people figure out what that is."

Local and national organizations have recognized her commitment to giving back. She has twice been presented the Wanamaker Award (1997, 2005), presented annually to the athlete, team or organization that has done the most to reflect credit upon Philadelphia and to the team or sport in which he/she excels. She is the only individual woman to ever win the award and joins Joe Frazier and Steve Carlton as the only individuals to capture the honor twice. In 2007, the Rotary Club of Tulsa named Staley its female recipient of the Henry P. Iba Citizenship Award, which is presented annually to the male and female athlete who has excelled in both their sport and their service to others.

Staley was honored by the University of Virginia Women's Center in 2006 with the Center's Distinguished Alumna Award, which honors a female



graduate of the University who has demonstrated excellence, leadership and extraordinary commitment to her field and who has used her talents as a positive force for change. The University further recognized Staley's standing in the community when it asked her to give the valedictory address at the 2009 Valedictory Exercises.

The Dawn Staley Foundation

After growing up in north central Philadelphia, Dawn Staley felt compelled to give something back to the community that enabled her to achieve success both on the basketball court and in life. So, in the fall of 1996, she created the Dawn Staley Foundation with the mission to create a future of hope for at-risk youth by providing opportunities that help them realize their dreams and become productive, responsible citizens. The creation and support of educational and sport programs that challenge minds, build character and help youth develop to their fullest potential academically, socially and physically are the essence of the foundation. To achieve this mission, the foundation supports a variety of programs including an After School Program, Summer Basketball League and mentoring programs for girls, Annual DSF Black Tie and Sneaker Gala, as well as "Day in the Park," an annual daylong community celebration in North Philadelphia.

While remaining active in Philadelphia, the Dawn Staley Foundation's inaugural event in Columbia was the Grandparents Breakfast on Wed., Dec. 10, 2008, at the Brookland Baptist Church Banquet and Conference Center. Nearly 70 grandparents were honored for the sacrifices they made not only for their children but for their grandchildren as well. The honorees were brought together to enjoy breakfast, served by several Gamecock players and local dignitaries, and to receive an array of gifts from the foundation and community donations.

Valedictory Address

Dawn Staley delivered the valedictory address at her *alma mater*, the University of Virginia, on May 16, 2009. Speaking to the masses at John Paul Jones arena as comfortably as if she had been entertaining small groups in her living room, she explained the importance of finding hope. Staley acknowledged the challenges facing graduates in an unwelcome economic environment, but encouraged them to lean on the values they gained through their diversity of experiences both at UVa and before arriving on campus. She assured them that those values and the character built in defining them would provide strength and courage no matter what the obstacle.



Associate Head Coach

Lisa Boyer

3rd Season at South Carolina – Ithaca, 1979

Lisa Boyer joined the South Carolina staff in May 2008, shortly after head coach Dawn Staley announced her intention to join the Gamecocks. Boyer has been the lead assistant on Staley's staff since the 2002-03 season when she returned to the college ranks after five seasons coaching at the professional level. Named associate head coach in May 2010, she is the Gamecocks' recruiting coordinator and liaison for strength and conditioning and compliance. Additionally, she works directly with South Carolina's guards.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to get South Carolina women's basketball where it needs to be, which is among the top teams in the SEC," Boyer said. "With the conference we are in, the facility, the location and the fact that it's a state university, there is no reason we can't put South Carolina on the women's basketball map."

In six seasons at Temple, Boyer helped Staley lead the Owls to five NCAA Tournaments and three Atlantic 10 Tournament titles. She also keyed the recruitment of two players that would go on to be Temple's first WNBA First-Round Draft Picks. In 2005, the Owls became the first team in A-10 history to go undefeated in the regular season when they posted a 16-0 mark in league play. That team went on to capture its second-straight A-10 Tournament championship and finished the season in the second round of the NCAA Tournament with a school-record 28 wins. Prior to falling in the second-round game against Rutgers, Temple had rattled off 25 consecutive victories, the nation's longest winning streak of any men's or women's team that season.

Prior to her stint at Temple, Boyer spent six seasons coaching in first the ABL and then the WNBA. She began her career at the professional level in 1996 as the head coach of the Richmond Rage, which became the Philadelphia Rage the following season. After guiding her first team to a 21-19 record, Boyer welcomed the arrival of Staley to the squad in 1997, during which Staley earned All-Star honors. Boyer left the Rage to take an assistant coach position with the Cleveland Rockers of the WNBA for the 1998 season. During her five years with the club, the Rockers advanced to the WNBA semifinals (1998) and the conference final (2000). As part of her work with the Rockers, Boyer had the opportunity to serve on John Lucas' Cleveland Cavalier's staff in 2001-02, becoming the first woman on an NBA coaching staff.

Boyer took the position with the Rage after 10 seasons as Bradley University's head coach. With a 100 percent graduation rate throughout her tenure, she guided the Braves to a 15-13 record in her first season (1986-87). Boyer also posted winning records in 1989-90 (16-12) and 1991-92 (17-11) before leaving the program following the 1995-96 seasons. In her final four seasons at Bradley, she also served as the department's senior women's administrator and compliance coordinator.

Bradley was not Boyer's first head coaching stop, however. She led Converse

in 1982-83, just one year after getting her start in coaching as an assistant at Davidson. Following her single season at Converse, Boyer served as an assistant coach for one season at East Carolina, Miami (Ohio) and Virginia Tech, respectively.

Having both coached Staley as a player and coached with her, Boyer enjoys a symbiotic relationship with her head coach where her perspective and experience propel both forward in their shared goal of team success.

"We view the game similarly, and our philosophies around how players should practice and approach the game are parallel," Boyer said of her relationship with Staley. "We're both driven and competitive and thrive around other people with those qualities. When she first got into coaching, I had the experience to help her through the off-the-court details, especially when she was still playing in the WNBA and coaching. Those years helped us build a trust that we have each other's back and are working toward a common goal."

A native of Ogdensburg, N.Y., Boyer was a standout forward for Ithaca College, from which she graduated with a bachelor of science degree in 1979. She also earned a master of education degree from UNC Greensboro in 1982.

Boyer Capsule

Coaching Experience

South Carolina, associate head coach, 2010-present
South Carolina, assistant coach, 2008-10
Temple, assistant coach, 2002-08
Cleveland Rockers, WNBA, assistant coach, 1998-2002
Cleveland Cavaliers, NBA, assistant coach, 2001-02
Richmond/Philadelphia Rage, ABL, head coach, 1996-97
Bradley University, head coach, 1986-1996
Virginia Tech, assistant coach, 1985-86
University of Miami (Ohio), assistant coach, 1984-85
East Carolina, assistant coach, 1983-84
Converse College, head coach, 1982-83
Davidson College, assistant coach, 1981-82

Playing Experience

Ithaca College, 1975-79

Education

Bachelor of science, Ithaca College, 1979
Master of education, UNC Greensboro, 1982



Assistant Coach

Nikki McCray

3rd Season at South Carolina – Tennessee, 1995

Two-time Olympic gold medal winner Nikki McCray reunited with two former teammates when she joined head coach Dawn Staley's South Carolina staff in May 2008. Following an 11-year professional playing career, McCray moved into the coaching ranks in 2006, spending two seasons on the bench at Western Kentucky. A three-time WNBA All-Star and the 1996-97 ABL Most Valuable Player, McCray plays a key role in recruiting for the Gamecocks in addition to working with the guards.

McCray got her start in coaching at Western Kentucky where she helped the Lady Toppers to a 49-17 record, which included a WNIT semifinal appearance in 2006-07 and a Sun Belt Tournament title and a berth in the NCAA Tournament in 2007-08. She played a key role in recruiting, especially in drawing players from her hometown of Memphis, Tenn.

Prior to moving into the coaching world, McCray enjoyed a nine-year career in the WNBA, following a two-year stint in the ABL. She signed her first professional playing contract with the ABL's Columbus Quest in 1996 and proceeded to lead the team to the league championship, earning league MVP honors along the way. Joining the WNBA's Washington Mystics in 1998, McCray was the team's leading scorer in each of her first two seasons and played in the WNBA All-Star game three times in her four years in Washington. She earned a starting spot in the league's inaugural All-Star game in 1999 and was the leading vote-getter among Eastern Conference guards in 2000.

McCray went on to play five more seasons in the WNBA, spending two with the Indiana Fever and one each with the Phoenix Mercury, the San Antonio Silver Stars and the Chicago Sky prior to her retirement at the end of the 2006 season. With 2,528 points, she finished her career ranked 24th on the WNBA's career scoring list. Averaging 10.1 points per game, she was a career 41.3 percent shooter.

A veteran of international basketball as well, McCray was part of the USA Basketball program on three separate occasions. Those stints were highlighted by trips to the Olympic Games in 1996 and 2000, both of which resulted in gold medals for the United States. She was a key element on the 1995-96 team that spent more than a year together in residency for the first time in USA Basketball's history. The effort helped the group to 60-0 record in international competition and sparked two professional women's basketball leagues in the United States.

"There is nothing like putting that USA jersey on your shoulders," McCray said. "Not only are you working for yourself and your family, but now you're working for your country. When you beat other countries and stand up there on that podium and hear your national anthem, that is an unbelievable feeling. I feel very fortunate and blessed to have done it several times."

In her four-year career at Tennessee, McCray keyed three SEC regular-season titles, two conference tournament championships and four NCAA Tournament appearances for the Lady Vols. In addition to helping UT build a 122-11 record, McCray picked up All-America and SEC Player of the Year honors in both her junior and senior years. She scored 1,572 career points, a number that still ranks her among the Lady Vols' all-time top 15.

McCray graduated from Tennessee in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in sports marketing. She is married to Thomas Penson.

McCray Capsule

Coaching Experience

South Carolina, assistant coach, 2008-present
Western Kentucky, assistant coach, 2006-08

Playing Experience

Chicago Sky, WNBA, 2006
San Antonio Silver Stars, WNBA, 2005
Phoenix Mercury, WNBA, 2004
Indiana Fever, WNBA, 2002-03
Washington Mystics, WNBA, 1998-2001

- Three-time WNBA All-Star, 1999, 2000, 2001
- *Columbus Quest, ABL, 1996-98*
- ABL Most Valuable Player, 1996-97
- League Championship, 1996-97
- *USA Basketball, 1993, 1995-96, 1998-2000*
- Olympic Gold Medal, 1996, 2000
- *University of Tennessee, 1991-95*
- Two-time Kodak All-America, 1994, 1995
- Two-time Naismith All-America, 1994, 1995
- Two-time SEC Player of the Year, 1994, 1995

Education

Bachelor of science in sports marketing, Tennessee, 1995

Assistant Coach

Darius Taylor

1st Season at South Carolina – Michigan, 2000



Darius Taylor joined the South Carolina staff in June 2010 for his second stint as an assistant to Dawn Staley. Taylor's experience both working for Staley at Temple and serving as the manager of community and player programs for the NBA Developmental League (NBADL) is the ideal background for his work with the Gamecocks' post players and the team's academic progress.

"I'm so excited to once again have Darius a part of our staff," Staley said upon Taylor's hiring. "He will have an immediate impact, specifically working with our post game. Darius has always been an effective and relentless recruiter, and we expect him to have the same success here at the University of South Carolina."

Prior to joining the Gamecock staff, Taylor worked for two years with the NBADL, promoting personal, professional and social development in the league's players. He devised a comprehensive program that educated players about nutritional health, money management and career development. Taylor implemented mentor and apprenticeship programs around the league to help players build a resume worthy of work off the basketball court in the future. He also oversaw the continuing education program, which helped players financially pursue their college degrees.

"My work with the D-League was pretty significant," Taylor said. "A lot of players are going through a hard transition from being college stars to falling just short of their dream of playing in the NBA. I wanted to help open their eyes to the opportunity that is still there and to have them think outside the box to learn the business and think in terms of what teams are looking for, what a player might be lacking and what off-the-court things he might be able to work on."

Taylor brings that background to his focus on the Gamecocks' academic endeavors and life skills programs. As the team's primary academic contact, he will work closely with academic advisors and professors to monitor players' academic progress. He will also work with the community to help integrate the team into the city of Columbia and the University through service projects.

"At the end of the day, I hope our players take from me an understanding that there is a bigger game than basketball – the game of life," Taylor said. "My larger focus outside of coaching is on helping them navigate, survive and be successful at that game. Sports is a microcosm of life. If you can do well at it and figure it out, that translates to the real world."

Before taking an off-the-court role with the NBADL, Taylor spent four seasons on Staley's staff at Temple, helping the Owls to consecutive Atlantic 10 Tournament titles and four NCAA Tournament appearances. He worked closely with former Owl Candice Dupree who closed her career with AP All-America honors in addition to being named A-10 Player of the Year and A-10 Defensive Player of the Year. Dupree was the sixth pick in the 2006

WNBA Draft, starting her career with the Chicago Sky before moving on to the Phoenix Mercury for the 2010 season.

Taylor has two years of experience with USA Basketball, serving as its assistant director of competitive programs (2002-04). He got his first taste of coaching as a team leader at the Chicago Bulls Basketball Schools (2000-02). During that time, he served as an intern at the Big Ten Conference, working with the marketing and merchandising programs.

A four-year basketball letterwinner at the University of Michigan, Taylor was a Big Ten Academic All-American en route to his bachelor of arts in sport management and communications (2000).

Taylor Capsule

Coaching Experience

South Carolina, assistant coach, 2010-present
Temple, assistant coach, 2004-08

Other Experience

NBA Development League, manager of community and player programs, 2008-10
USA Basketball, assistant director of competitive programs, 2002-04

Playing Experience

University of Michigan, 1996-2000
• Big Ten Academic All-American (2000)

Education

Bachelor of arts in sports management and communications, Michigan, 2000

Gamecock Basketball

Director of Basketball Operations

Angela O'Neal

3rd Season at South Carolina – Virginia, 1995



Angela O'Neal reunited with fellow Virginia alumnus Dawn Staley when she joined the University of South Carolina women's basketball staff in July 2008. After graduating from Virginia, O'Neal pursued a legal career before getting her start in college athletics as the director of basketball operations at Kentucky then moving on to the NCAA office.

"Angela is loyal, passionate about the game of basketball and enjoys the task of helping people be the best they can be," Staley said. "We have been friends for a long time, and I have always wanted to work with her because of her outstanding work ethic and her thoroughness."

Prior to joining Staley's staff, O'Neal worked as an assistant director of enforcement at the NCAA. As such, she was charged with investigating and evaluating information to determine if NCAA violations had occurred and then processing that information within the enforcement guidelines.

After her first three years at University of Kentucky, O'Neal earned an assistant athletics director title in July 2006 and continued to manage the day-

to-day operations of the women's basketball program. Working with a multi-million budget, O'Neal handled the logistics for team travel, non-conference scheduling, facility usage and the supervision and hiring of staff, student employees and team managers. Additionally, she was the administrator for the Victory Club for Women's Basketball, the program's university-affiliated fundraising entity.

Prior to her work in college athletics, O'Neal was an associate attorney at Kennerly, Montgomery & Finley, P.C., where she was a civil litigator with a concentration in insurance defense and business related torts. She got her start as an attorney at Legal Aid of East Tennessee, litigating and negotiating family law cases under a Department of Justice Domestic Violence grant.

O'Neal earned a bachelor of arts in American government from the University of Virginia in 1995 and received her doctor of jurisprudence from the University of Tennessee in 2000.

Athletic Training

Jennifer Herod

6th Season at South Carolina – Purdue, 1994



A 1996 graduate of South Carolina with a master's in public health, Jennifer Herod returned to Columbia to join the Gamecock athletic training staff as an assistant athletic trainer in the summer of 2005 after serving in a similar role at Ball State University. She works primarily with the women's basketball team and oversees men's and women's golf and men's and women's tennis.

In addition to her direct work with Gamecock teams, Herod is the coordinator for the Performance, Health and Wellness Team at the University. Charged with ensuring the overall well being of Gamecock student-athletes, the group, which includes team doctors, the athletic department dietitian, other department athletic trainers and members of the University's athletic training program faculty, addresses disordered eating, anxiety and stress issues student-athletes may be facing. They screen student-athletes at the beginning of each season and meet once per month to ensure at-risk student-athletes are being closely monitored.

Herod began her full-time career at Ball State, where she worked primarily with the women's basketball and men's and women's tennis teams. She was the direct supervisor for the Cardinals' women's soccer, men's and women's swimming and diving, women's cross country and women's track and field teams as well as the coordinator of Olympic sports coverage.

A 1994 graduate of Purdue with bachelor's degrees in athletic training and movement and sports science, Herod served as graduate assistant athletic trainer at South Carolina for two years while working toward her master's degree, working primarily with the softball and men's and women's swimming and diving teams.

Herod is a certified member of the National Athletic Trainers Association, along with numerous other affiliations and certifications, and has spoken at various South Carolina Athletic Trainers Association meetings. She is married to Kevin Herod, and the couple has two children, Olivia and Aubrey.

Strength & Conditioning

Jon Vaden

5th Season at Carolina – Virginia Tech, 2005



Jon Vaden became an assistant strength and conditioning coach for the Gamecocks in July 2007 after spending the previous two years as a graduate assistant. He is responsible for the design and implementation of strength and conditioning programs for women's basketball, volleyball and men's and women's tennis.

A native of New Kent, Va., Vaden got his start in the profession as a student intern at Virginia Tech while completing his bachelor's degree in human nutrition, food and exercise. He assisted in the training for football, baseball and men's soccer. Following his graduation in May 2005, Vaden was a volunteer strength and conditioning coach at Liberty University until enrolling in South Carolina's master's of public health program in August. In his short time with the Flames, he helped organize, plan and prepare workouts for the football team.

Upon his arrival in Columbia, Vaden served as a strength and conditioning graduate assistant, working with baseball and men's golf. After his first year on the staff, he took a leadership role with men's golf and baseball pitchers, implementing a year-round strength and conditioning program for those groups. He continued to assist with the training of student-athletes in women's soccer, men's and women's tennis, women's golf, swimming, equestrian and track and field. Vaden completed his master's degree in May 2007 and, in July 2007, began working full time on the Gamecocks' strength and conditioning staff.

He is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (C.S.C.S.) through the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) and holds the title of Strength and Conditioning Coach Certified (SCCC) through the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association (CSCCA). Additionally, Vaden is CPR, first aid and AED certified.

Gamecock Basketball

Dir. of Player Development

Freddy Ready

1st Season at Carolina – Carolina, 2002



After being part of the South Carolina athletics department in various capacities since August 1999, Freddy Ready was named director of player development by head coach Dawn Staley in July 2010. He proved to be an invaluable member of the women's basketball program through Staley's first two seasons as first a head manager then a graduate assistant prior to his first full-time appointment to the staff.

As director of player development, Ready will continue to manage the male practice squad and serve as summer camp director. He will also prepare several scouting reports, serve as an academic liaison for several players and prepare materials for all home and official visits.

The Aiken, S.C., native earned a bachelor's degree from South Carolina in hotel, restaurant and tourism management with a focus on sport and entertainment and a minor in business administration in 2002. He also earned his master's degree in sport and entertainment management December 2009.

Academic Services

Lynn Smith

1st Season at South Carolina – S.C. St., 2002



Lynn Smith joined the South Carolina academic advising staff in the fall of 2010 and oversees the academic needs of the women's basketball and men's and women's swimming and diving programs. Smith assists those student-athletes with class registration and scheduling, progress toward degree requirements and communication with their professors.

A 2002 graduate of South Carolina State with a bachelor's in physical education, Smith earned her master's degree in sport management from the University of Georgia in 2006. After a brief stint as the assistant director of compliance for the Florida High School Athletic Association, she returned to Georgia to serve as an academic counselor from January 2008 until beginning her current position with the Gamecocks. At UGA, Smith worked with 130 student-athletes, co-taught freshman seminar and assisted with the planning of the annual student-athlete banquet.



Video Coordinator

Cynthia Jordan

3rd Season at South Carolina – Temple, 2004



Cynthia Jordan joined the South Carolina staff as video coordinator in September 2008 after serving as a graduate assistant at Temple University in 2007-08. Her primary duties include taping South Carolina games and practices, coordinating the exchange of scouting tapes, film breakdown, the production of team highlight videos and supervising the day-to-day video needs of the staff.

Jordan was a four-year letterwinner on the Temple women's basketball team under head coach Dawn Staley. Jordan earned her bachelor's degree in business administration and marketing in 2004 and her master's degree in sports and recreation administration in 2009.

Administrative Assistant

Kaye Hunke

14th Year at South Carolina



Since joining the women's basketball staff in 1997, Kaye Hunke has helped keep the coaching staff organized and the office running smoothly.

She graduated from Scott County High School (Ky.) and attended Lexington Community College, where she took classes toward a business degree. In her spare time, Hunke enjoys reading, traveling, gardening and spending time with her family.

Hunke and her husband, Ken, have two children, John and Jacob.

Team Behind the Team



Jenna Foster

Clinton, S.C.
College of Pharmacy, Graduate Student
1st Year



Ashley Green

Holly Hill, S.C.
English
1st Year



Marion Rodgers Van-Tassel

Clover, S.C.
Geography
3rd Year



De'Andra Seaberry

Santee, S.C.
Nursing
1st Year



Tajae Woods

Eutawville, S.C.
Pre-Med/Cardiovascular Technology
2nd Year

Student Managers

Gamecock Basketball



Dr. Harris Pastides
University President



Eric Hyman
Athletics Director



Dr. Zach Kelehear
Faculty Athletic Representative



Marcy Girton
Deputy Athletics Director



Kevin O'Connell
Executive Associate Athletics Director



Jeff Davis
Associate Athletics Director



Raymond Harrison
Associate Athletics Director



Charles Waddell
Associate Athletics Director



Jeff Tallant
Chief Financial Officer



Shawn Burke
Assistant Athletics Director



Jennifer Stiles
Assistant Athletics Director



Jeff Crane
Director of Revenue Development



Steve Fink
Media Relations Director



Lance Grantham
Director of Ticket Operations



John Kasik
Sports Medicine Director



Eric Nichols
Marketing Director