



WILDCAT COACHES



HEAD COACH CARLA TAYLOR

INFORMATION

COACHES



CARLA TAYLOR

**HEAD COACH
20TH SEASON**



The 2007-08 season will mark the 20th season for Carla Taylor as the head coach of the Weber State women's basketball program. Taylor has been associated with the Wildcat women's basketball team for over 25 years as a player and coach. She has the second-most wins among coaches in Big Sky history and has produced 22 All-

Big Sky First Team selections and five District 7 Kodak All-Americans. In 19 seasons as head coach Taylor has amassed a career record of 270-265 at Weber State. She is 163-122 all-time in Big Sky Conference games. Heading into this season she has coached the Wildcats in 535 games and among active coaches, she has the eighth most wins of any coach in the nation at one school.

PLAYERS

06-07 REVIEW

OPPONENTS

**OFF THE COURT WITH
CARLA TAYLOR**

- Birthdate:** April 29, 1961
- Birthplace:** LaGrande, Oregon
- Alma Mater:** Weber State '84
- Dream vacation:** Italy
- Craziest ambition:** Win the lottery -- and I will win it.
- I would most like to have dinner with:** Oprah Winfrey
- In 20 years I plan to be:** Retired
- Favorite food:** Sushi
- Favorite movie:** On Golden Pond
- Favorite sports team:** Weber State Wildcats
- My best basketball memory:** Finally winning a Big Sky Championships and cutting down the nets.
- Before each game I like to:** Have time to myself
- When I'm not coaching I'm most likely:** Riding my road bike, mountain biking, skiing, or working in the yard.
- One thing most people don't know about me:** My graduating high school class was 19.
- One word that best describes me ON the court:** Competitor
- One word that best describes me OFF the court:** Dancer

The Wildcats are coming off a 17-14 overall record during the 2006-07 season. WSU also finished 11-5 in Big Sky play, ending up in a tie for second place in the league standings. The Wildcats started the conference season 6-0, their best conference start in school history. WSU advanced to their 14th overall appearance and 12th straight appearance at the Big Sky Tournament. The Wildcats beat Portland State in the First Round before losing to eventual tournament champion Idaho State in the Second Round. Weber State has advanced to the championship game of the Big Sky Tournament in four of the last six years.

In 19 season as head coach Taylor has been through it all with the Wildcats. She has coached Weber State

against 86 different schools during her tenure and has coached WSU in games in 22 different states. She has coached the most games against Eastern Washington, Montana, and Northern Arizona, all of which she has faced 43 times during her career with the Wildcats.

Carla Taylor's (CT) loyalties to Weber State began when she signed her letter of intent to play for the Wildcats and continued as she was hired as one of the youngest head coaches in Division I at the age of 26 in 1988.

HISTORY



2007-08 WEBER STATE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

HEAD COACH CARLA TAYLOR

INFORMATION

Taylor was a player and two-time team captain from 1980-84. She was a four-year starter and averaged 10.5 points, 3.8 rebounds, and 2.8 assists per game, despite having two ACL reconstructive knee surgeries during her playing career.

She was a member of the 1982 Wildcat team that competed in the Women's National Invitational Tournament (WNIT). CT currently ranks 12th among the all-time scoring leaders at Weber State with 1,122 career points. She is also ninth all-time in assists with 301 in her career for an average of 2.81 per game. In 1984, Taylor was the Gold Watch recipient for the Senior Female Outstanding Career Award at Weber State.

COACHES

CARLA TAYLOR YEAR-BY-YEAR			
YEAR	OVERALL	CONFERENCE	FINISH
1988-89	17-9	10-6	t-3rd
1989-90	10-18	6-10	t-6th
1990-91	14-14	10-6	t-3rd
1991-92	12-15	7-9	6th
1992-93	4-22	3-11	7th
1993-94	7-19	6-8	t-4th
1994-95	15-11	5-9	6th
1995-96	17-12	9-5	t-2nd
1996-97	15-13	9-7	5th
1997-98	7-20	7-9	5th
1998-99	11-16	10-6	4th
1999-00	14-15	10-6	4th
2000-01	14-15	9-7	5th
2001-02	22-9	11-3	t-1st
2002-03	21-9	11-3	t-1st
2003-04	17-11	11-3	t-2nd
2004-05	21-8	11-3	2nd
2005-06	15-15	7-7	t-4th
2006-07	17-11	11-5	t-2nd
19 yrs.	270-265 (.505)	163-123 (.570)	

PLAYERS



Not only was Taylor a team captain for the women's basketball team, she was also a member of the Wildcat track and field team. As a track and field athlete, Taylor qualified for, and competed in, the javelin at the 1982 NCAA Division II Track and Field Championship held in Knoxville, Tennessee.

06-07 REVIEW

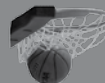
Taylor's success did not end with her playing career. In fact, it was just beginning. Prior to becoming the head coach at Weber State, she spent two years at Morgan High School in Morgan, Utah, teaching and coaching volleyball, basketball, and boys and girls track. Following her high school coaching career, Taylor spent a year at the University of Utah as an assistant basketball coach. She had previously spent a year there as a graduate assistant coach following her playing career.

OPPONENTS

In 1988-89, her first season as head-coach of Weber State, she had the best turnaround record in the nation, finishing with a record of 17-9 and were 10-6 in the Big Sky, finishing in a tie for third and making the Big Sky Conference Tournament. The Wildcats also qualified for post-season play in 1991.

HISTORY

The 1995-96 season marked one of the best in CT's tenure and in the history of Weber State. Taylor was named Big Sky Conference Co-Coach of the Year after leading her team to the Big Sky Championship finals and a 17-12 record. After beating Eastern Washington in the quarterfinals and downing Boise State in overtime in the semifinals, the Wildcats ran out of steam, falling to Montana in the championship game. In the 1998-99 Big Sky season, the Wildcats looked to take the conference by storm as they won six of their first eight games. They were also being recognized nationally for their stingy team defense that ranked 24th in the nation with a 59 points allowed per game average. The 'Cats finished the season losing





HEAD COACH CARLA TAYLOR

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five of the final nine conference games including a loss to Montana in the Big Sky Tournament, but showed that they were a team on the rise in the conference.



Carla Taylor cutting down the net at her first Big Sky Championship in 2002.

The 2001-02 season was a season of firsts for Taylor and the 'Cats. They produced the first 20-win season, finishing with a record of 22-9. They also won their first Big Sky regular season championship (tied with Montana State), the first Big Sky Championship, and the first trip for the school to the NCAA tournament, losing to Stanford in the first round. Other firsts for WSU during the year were: First time to host a Big Sky Championship; First time to have a Wildcat player named the Big Sky Most Valuable Player (Stephanie Stanger); and the first time to have a Wildcat named as the Big Sky Tournament MVP (also Stanger).

The 2002-03 season was an encore to the previous year. The Wildcats put together a 19-8 regular season record, including an 11-3 conference record, which netted the team a Big Sky regular season co-championship with Montana State. For the second-straight year

the 'Cats hosted the conference tournament, and defeated Eastern Washington and Montana State to post their second-straight Big Sky title and another trip to the NCAA tournament where they faced Ohio State.

During the 2003-04 season the Wildcats finished with a 17-11 record last year and were 11-3 in Big Sky Conference action. In 2004-05 the Wildcats again finished with an 11-3 Big Sky regular season record for the fourth straight season. The Wildcats advanced to the tournament final before falling to Montana. Weber State posted a 21-8 overall record, the third best record in school history. The team was led by senior Julie Gjertsen who was named Big Sky Co-MVP.

PLAYERS

06-07 REVIEW

Carla Taylor's Coaching Highlights

Three-time Big Sky Coach of the Year (1996, 2002, 2003)
District VII Coach of the Year (2001-02)
13 Big Sky Conference Tournament appearances
11 straight Big Sky Conference Tournament appearances
Career record 270-265
Career Big Sky Conference record 163-123

Overall Accomplishments

118 Academic All-Conference Performers
38 All-Conference Performers
7 Top 25 WBCA National Top 25 Team GPA rankings
5 Kodak All-Region Performers
3 20 plus win seasons
2 Big Sky Conference Championships
2 Post Season NCAA Appearances

OPPONENTS

HISTORY



CT with WSU athletic director Jerry Graybeal (left) and her father at her 500th game at Weber State on March 2, 2006.

In 2005-06 Taylor again led the Wildcats to the Big Sky Championship game. Weber State finished with a 15-15 record and a 7-7 conference mark to finish in fifth in the league standings. The 'Cats defeated Eastern Washington in the first round and then defeated host Idaho State in the second round, to become the first team in conference history to defeat the No. 1 seed in the second round of the tournament. The 'Cats fell to Northern Arizona in the championship game but advanced to the title game for the fourth time in the last five years. Also during the season she coached her 500th game at Weber State.



2007-08 WEBER STATE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

HEAD COACH CARLA TAYLOR

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CT won the Athena Award in January 2005.

As impressive as the Wildcat program has been on the court, it has been equally impressive off of it as well. The team has consistently been named to the WBCA Honor Roll of Top 25 Academic Teams and Taylor has produced 118 Big Sky Academic All-Conference selections.

In January 2005 Taylor was honored as recipient of the Athena Award, a national award program presented by the Women in Business committee of the Ogden/Weber Chamber of Commerce. Off the court, Taylor has served as a basketball clinician throughout the Northwest, and is actively involved in community speaking engagements. She has served as an Honorary Commander for the 388th Equipment Maintenance Squadron at Hill Air Force Base and flew in an F-16 in September 2006.



CT flew in an F-16 at Hill Air Force Base in September 2006.

PLAYERS

Taylor has served on the WBCA's prestigious All-American selection committee for three separate terms. She has also served as the Big Sky Conference's representative for two consecutive terms with the WBCA. She recently completed a second term on the Women in Business Executive Board. In 2006 Taylor served as a GOAL (Greater Ogden Athletes Legacy) Foundation member.

A native of North Powder, Oregon, Taylor received her bachelor's degree in Physical Education, with minors in Health and History, from Weber State in 1984. In 2007 she was also named as the Senior Women's Administrator at Weber State. In that role Taylor will be responsible for advising WSU's administration and athletic department on gender-equity issues, representing the university on Big Sky Conference committees that focus on enhancing opportunities for women in athletics, and being an advocate for women's teams at Weber State.

06-07 REVIEW

TAYLOR AGAINST ALL OPPONENTS

Air Force	2-3	Hawaii	0-2	Nevada	7-2	San Jose State	2-1
Arizona	0-3	Idaho	11-8	New Mexico	0-2	Southern Illinois	0-2
Boise State	9-14	Idaho State	21-20	New Mexico State	1-0	Southern Utah	6-8
Boston College	1-0	Iowa	0-2	North Texas	1-1	Stanford	0-1
Bradley	0-2	Iowa State	1-0	Northeastern	1-0	Texas-Arlington	1-0
Brigham Young	4-14	James Madison	1-0	Northern Arizona	26-17	Texas A&M C-C	2-0
Cal Poly	1-1	Kansas	1-1	Northern Colorado	3-1	Texas Pan American	2-0
Cal Poly Pomona	0-2	Kansas State	0-2	Northern Iowa	1-1	UC Riverside	3-0
Cal State Fullerton	1-1	Louisiana Tech	0-1	Northwest Nazarene	1-0	UC Santa Barbara	1-1
Cal State Northridge	6-6	Long Beach State	0-2	Ohio State	0-1	UNLV	1-0
Chapman College	1-0	Loyola Marymount	6-0	Oklahoma State	0-1	US International	1-0
Colorado	0-1	Mercer	1-0	Oregon	0-3	Utah	3-19
Colorado State	2-5	Mesa State	2-0	Pacific	1-2	Utah State	4-0
Delaware	1-0	Miami	0-1	Portland	6-2	Utah Valley	2-1
Denver	0-2	Michigan	1-0	Portland State	14-10	UTEP	1-0
Eastern Montana	0-1	Minnesota	0-1	Sacramento State	21-1	Vanderbilt	0-1
Eastern Washington	35-8	Montana	7-36	Saint Louis	2-0	Washington State	0-3
Florida Atlantic	1-0	Montana State	20-21	St. Joseph's	0-1	West Virginia	0-1
Georgia	0-1	Montana Tech	1-0	St. Martin's	1-0	Western Carolina	0-1
Georgia Tech	0-1	MSU-Billings	0-1	St. Mary's	1-2	Wisc.-Milwaukee	1-0
Gonzaga	3-2	Navy	1-0	San Diego	0-2	Wyoming	6-9
Grand Canyon	1-0	Nebraska	0-2	San Francisco	1-1		

HISTORY





ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH

INFORMATION

COACHES



**RACHELLE
GARDNER-SAYERS**

**ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
11TH SEASON**



Former Weber State standout Rachelle Gardner-Sayers begins her 11th season as a coach with the Wildcats . In October 2007 she was elevated to the position of Associate Head Coach after serving for ten seasons as an assistant coach for the Wildcats.

PLAYERS

06-07 REVIEW

OPPONENTS

HISTORY

As an assistant coach with the Wildcats Gardner-Sayers has overseen the recruiting as well as coached the guard and perimeter play. She was a four-year player at Weber State and a two-year starter from 1993-96, playing for Carla Taylor. She led the Wildcats in scoring her junior year with 14.9 points per game and was named to the Big Sky All-Conference First Team. The second leading scorer her senior year (11.8 ppg), she helped lead the Wildcats to a second place finish at the Big Sky Championship and was a Big Sky Honorable Mention pick. Gardner was also a Big Sky Academic All-Conference selection for two years and the WSU team MVP in 1995.

**OFF THE COURT WITH
RACHELLE GARDNER-SAYERS**

Birthdate: February 14, 1972
Birthplace: Billings, Montana
Alma Mater: Weber State '97
Master's Degree: Regis University '06
Dream vacation: Anywhere that is warm and has babysitters!
Craziest ambition: Own and run my own Sports Bar.
In 20 years I plan to be: A "soccer" (hopefully basketball) mom.
I would most like to have dinner with: Magic Johnson or Tina Turner
Favorite food: Ice cream
Favorite sports teams: Pittsburgh Steelers and LA Lakers
Favorite movie: Tommy Boy
The CD I'm listening to right now: Kenny Chesney
My best basketball memory: Winning our first Big Sky Championship and going to the NCAA Tournament.
Favorite CT quote: "You are all highly conditioned Division I basketball players, you're not tired!"
Before each game I like to: Look up scores to see how everyone else is doing.
When I'm not coaching I'm most likely: Chasing my girls.

For her career Gardner averaged 9.4 points, 2.5 re-

bounds and 1.8 assists per game and is currently the 14th all-time leading scorer in Wildcat history with 1,009 career points. She ranks fifth in Weber State history in career three-pointers made with 149 and is ninth in school history in three-point percentage at



.323. After her career she spent one season as a graduate assistant coach and the next nine years as a full-time assistant coach with the Wildcats.

A native of Absarokee, Montana, Gardner-Sayers graduated from Weber State in June 1997 with a degree in English and in 2006 she earned her master's degree in Business Administration from Regis University. She is married to Keith Sayers and they are the parents of two daughters Keetyn, age 4, and Taylor, age 1.





ASSISTANT COACHES

ELIOT REYNOLDS

ASSISTANT COACH 2ND SEASON



The 2007-08 season will mark the second season for Eliot Reynolds as an assistant coach at Weber State. Reynolds primary responsibilities are coaching the post players, film exchange, and assisting in recruiting for the Wildcats.

Reynolds joined Weber State in 2006 after serving as the varsity assistant coach at Timberline High School in Boise, Idaho. Due to health complications of the head coach, Reynolds took over the team and was the head coach for the last two months, guiding Timberline into the state play-in game.

Before coaching at Timberline, Reynolds spent three season as an assistant coach for the Boise State women's team. He began his coaching career in 2002 at Boise State where he coached the post players under then head coach Jen Warden. In his first season with the Broncos, he coached Jamie Hawkins who became WAC Freshman of the Year and was named to the All-Newcomer team. The following year Reynolds coached another freshman, Michelle Hessing, to All-Newcomer honors in the conference.

Reynolds is a native of Lakewood, Colorado. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Colorado



OFF THE COURT WITH ELIOT REYNOLDS

Full name: Eliot Francis Todd Reynolds
Birthdate: December 11, 1976
Birthplace: Denver, CO
Alma Mater: Colorado '99
Nickname: E-doggie
Dream vacation: New Zealand
Craziest ambition: To be a comedian
I would most like to have dinner with: Dean Smith, Roy Williams, and Mike Krzyzewski
In 20 years I plan to be: Figuring women out
Favorite TV show: Entourage
Favorite movie: Saving Private Ryan
Favorite food: Spaghetti with meat sauce
Favorite sports teams: Denver Broncos, Colorado Avalanche, Boston Red Sox
The CD I'm listening to right now: Dave Matthews Band "Live at Alpine Valley"
When I'm not coaching I'm most likely: Watching SportsCenter
Favorite CT quote: "Fat lady walking"
One thing most people don't know about me: I've nearly been bitten by rattlesnakes three times.

in 1999. While in school he was a practice player for the Colorado women's basketball team in 1997. Following graduation he became the head team manager for the Buffaloes and during his first year as manager they advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. In the summer of 2001, Reynolds was an assistant coach for the Big 12 All-Star Team on their tour of Europe. The next season at Colorado the Buffaloes advanced to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament.





ASSISTANT COACHES

STEPHANIE STANGER-HALE

**ASSISTANT COACH
5TH SEASON**



This year will mark the fifth season for Stephanie Stanger-Hale as a full-time assistant coach at Weber State. Prior to that she spent one season as a student-assistant coach. Stanger-Hale's duties at Weber State include team travel, setting up recruiting calendars, handling the individual development of the guards, scouting of opponents, and assisting Coach Taylor on the court.

**OFF THE COURT WITH
STEPHANIE STANGER-HALE**

- Birthdate:** May 3, 1980
- Birthplace:** Ogden, Utah
- Alma Mater:** Weber State '03
- Dream vacation:** Anywhere to see Dolly Parton in concert.
- Craziest ambition:** Write a book.
- I would most like to have dinner with:** Dolly Parton or Molly Shannon
- In 20 years I plan to be:** Retired and on a vacation somewhere.
- Favorite food:** broccoli or Grandma's meatloaf.
- Favorite movie:** Somethings Gotta Give
- Favorite TV show:** Super Nanny
- Favorite sports teams:** Detroit Lions or whoever just beat the LA Lakers.
- The CD I'm listening to right now:** Kenny Rogers "Back to the Well".
- My best basketball memory:** Playing in the Big Sky Championship game my senior year and hearing the crowd cheering for us during the last few minutes of the game and having them rush the floor when we won.
- Favorite CT quote:** "Just do whatever you want to, you will anyway."

Stanger-Hale was a four-year letter winner for Weber State from 1999-2002. As a senior she led the Wildcats to their first-ever Big Sky Championship and NCAA appearance. That year she became the first Wildcat ever to be named Big Sky Conference MVP and Big Sky Tournament MVP.

She ranks as the 11th all-time leading scoring in school history, totaling 1,126 points, four more than head coach Carla Taylor. Stanger-Hale is the Weber State all-time leader in free throw percentage at .842 for her career. She also holds the single-season for free throw percentage, shooting .895 during the 2000-01 season.

She ranks fifth all-time in three-pointers made with 145 and eighth in percentage at .323. She ranks fifth in assists with 350 for an average

of 3.04 and is sixth in steals, averaging 1.21 per game. She played in 115 games during her career, the tenth most in Weber State history, and was a three-time Big Sky Conference All-Academic selection.

Stephanie was a 2003 graduate of Weber State University with a degree in Secondary Education. In July 2003 she married former Weber State football player Mike Hale.





NANCY WEIR **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TRAINER**

Nancy Weir is the trainer for Weber State's women's basketball and volleyball teams. She handles medical coverage for both teams as well as conducts drug education programs for all athletes.

Nancy joined Weber State's staff in August 1983. She served as the Assistant Trainer at Montana State before coming to Ogden. She also worked for two seasons as a Graduate Assistant at Western Illinois and was the Head Athletic Trainer at Snow Junior College in 1979.

Weir earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Utah and earned a Master's at Western Illinois. She played softball and volleyball for two years at Snow JC.



KATHLEEN NIELSEN **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** **TEAM DIETICIAN AND NUTRITIONIST**

Kathleen Nielsen serves as the team dietician and nutritionist for the Weber State women's basketball team. Nielsen is the Director of Food and Nutrition Services at McKay-Dee Hospital Center, near Weber State University in Ogden. She has worked in that capacity since 1990. Nielsen has worked as a team dietician for the Weber State athletic department since January 2002.

Nielsen is a registered Dietician and a member of the American Dietetic Association and the Utah Dietetic Association. She currently serves on the Utah Health Facility Administrators Certified Dietitian Licensing Board.

She has been instrumental in developing the Eating Disorders Program that began in 1983 at McKay-Dee and has worked with nearly 300 eating disorder patients since 1983.

