

2009 Southern Heat Coaching Staff

Girls

12's Lisa Fertig

Lisa coached three years at Holy Childhood in Mascoutah. Her first year at Southern Heat her 12's finished second in the copper division.

13's Chris Boucher

Chris begins his third year with Southern Heat. He was the assistant coach at St. Louis College Pharmacy and was the head coach for Smithton Grade School for nine years. In addition to coaching volleyball, Chris coaches little league baseball as well as manages the SAA club in Smithton. Chris has 4 children.

13e – Todd Gober

Todd begins his second year with Southern Heat and been instrumental in expanding our club into Edwardsville. Todd is in his seventh season as the head coach at SIUE. Todd continues to push the volleyball program into new heights.

SIUE posted 29 victories last season (tying the school record) as the Cougars advanced to the NCAA Division II Great Lakes Championship match. The Cougars finished 14th in the final American Volleyball Coaches Association poll, its first such top 25 ranking in school history. In 2006, Gober guided two All-Americans in right-side hitter Kim Potthast and setter Mallory Clements.

Gober enters the 2007 season having collected 30 consecutive wins against GLVC opponents during the regular season, dating back to the 2005 season.

His 2005 team won the program's first Great Lakes Valley Conference championship, and Gober made his first trip to the NCAA Tournament.

In the six seasons that Gober has been at the helm of the volleyball program, SIUE has broken the 20-win barrier every year. Gober has averaged nearly 25 wins per season and recorded 100 wins over .500 at 149-49. Gober has the most wins as a Cougar volleyball coach, which includes an mark of 53-8 at the Vadalabene Center.

Prior to coming to SIUE, Gober posted a record of 204-50 (80.3 percent) as the head coach at Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC). He produced five junior college All-Americans, 22 All-Region selections, four conference Most Valuable Players and four Conference Freshmen of the Year. All of his teams at SWIC earned national rankings.

Gober's teams had not dropped below 20th in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) rankings and rose as high as seventh in the nation. In 1998 and 1999, SWIC appeared in the NJCAA tournament and finished fifth and ninth nationally, respectively. Gober was honored as the Conference Coach of the Year four times, the Region 24 Coach of the Year twice and District 15 Coach of the Year twice.

Gober's teams held a 96 percent graduation rate from 1996 through 1999. Twenty-one of 24 graduating sophomores under Gober received scholarships to four-year institutions. One of his graduates at SWIC was former Cougar Shanan McLean.

Gober is the third head volleyball coach at SIUE following Sandy Montgomery and Joe Fisher.

While Gober was working as SWIC's head volleyball coach, he also was an adjunct instructor of volleyball at SWIC as well as a Vice President and Compliance Officer at

Citizens Community Bank in Mascoutah.

Gober earned a bachelor of arts degree in business (economics) from Northwestern (Iowa) College in 1985 and a master of arts in finance from Saint Louis University in 1991. Gober and his wife, Joan, have three children and reside in Edwardsville

14's Sam Tooke

Coach Tooke comes to Southern Heat from Virginia where he was the Varsity Coach at Annandale High School and coached club volleyball with Northern Virginia Volleyball Association (NVVA). With over 24 years of playing and coaching experience at the University of Arkansas and on various Air Force Base teams, he has coached junior volleyball since 1997 in Texas, Virginia and Germany. In 2002 and 2003, he helped lead Ramstein American High School to 2nd- and 3rd-place finishes in the European high school championships. Coach Tooke is USAV CAP II and ASEP certified. Coach Tooke was a volunteer assistant at O'Fallon High School this past season.

15e and 18's - Lynn Weidenbenner – Assistant Southern Heat Director

Lynn begins her fourth year as the co-founder and assistant director for Southern Heat. She is also in her second year as the JV coach at O'Fallon High School. She has been coaching volleyball in this area for over 15 years. Previously Weidenbenner coached at Southwestern Illinois College (SWIC), Althoff Catholic High School, Northwest Missouri State University and Maryville Missouri High School.

After graduating from Belleville Township High School West, Weidenbenner attended Millikin University graduating in 1986. She led the Big Blue to the NCAA Division III National Tournament both her sophomore year and senior year where she was named a member of the national all tournament team as an outside hitter. Weidenbenner was named most valuable player her senior year setting four career and university records. Lynn has a husband and two daughters.

15's Melissa Meddows & Sarah Powers

Melissa begins her second year with Southern Heat. Sarah is a graduate of Althoff High School who continued her volleyball career at McKendree College. Melissa then coached club at St. Louis Metro as well as working summer camps for grade school athletes.

Sarah Powers is a graduate of O'Fallon High School and is currently attending Swic. Sarah played for Southern Heat for three years and begins her first year as a coach for the club.

16's Erica Touchette

Erica begins her second year with Southern Heat. She is a graduate from Belleville West and played all four years. She is a versatile player who was setter, defensive specialist and outside hitter. She also played club ball for three years. She is a graduate of SEMO and is currently employed at Children's Hospital as an Early Development Coordinator.

16e Mary Ann Sprague

Mary Ann begins her first year as a coach with Southern Heat.

Mary Ann Sprague has been the head Principia's head volleyball coach since 1999, after assisting the team in 1998.

As a student at Principia College she was a strong competitor in volleyball, swimming, and track and field and was the recipient of the Howard L. Mitchell Athletic Award her senior year. She coached swimming, basketball, and volleyball at Principia Upper School for three years after graduation. Next she coached at the University of Missouri, Columbia, as a assistant coach from 1987-1989.

Mary Ann has been a coach and personal trainer for volleyball players for 23 years and currently holds the highest certification granted by the volleyball coaches' accrediting program. Mary Ann coached 18-under U.S.A. Volleyball elite traveling teams and was Co-Director of the Jacksonville Juniors Volleyball Club before coming to Principia, and she is the founder and Director of Panther Power Volleyball Club in St. Louis. Mary Ann is also Principia's associate athletic director

17's – Kim Forcade – Southern Heat Club Director

Kim begins her fifth year as co-founder, club director and coach for Southern Heat VBC. She has coached all ages as well specific technical training. She was the head coach at St. Louis College of Pharmacy. She coached for seven years at St. John's the Baptist in Smithton and was the assistant athletic director. During the years at St. John's she had teams that won the Diocesan tournament. She then for four years at Freeburg High School, Freshman and JV. She graduated from Maryville University with an accounting degree and is a Certified Public Accountant. Kim has a husband and two daughters.

18's – Lynn Weidenbenner (see 15e bio)

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Technical Trainers:

Erin Legendre

In 2006, Erin Legendre began her first season as the OTHS Head Varsity girls volleyball coach, after 3 years as an assistant and underclass coach. In 2003, Erin began as the Freshman coach before moving to the JV level in 2004 and 2005. In 2006, she took the head Varsity coaching position with OTHS.

Coach Legendre graduated high school from Red Bud High School where she played volleyball. After high school, she went to McKendree College and played volleyball the entire four years.

Aside from coaching varsity volleyball at OTHS, Erin teaches Social Studies and runs the intramural program. In 2005, she married Dave who is glad to play the role of "volleyball widow" during the season. No kids yet, but they do have 3

Deb Germann

Deb begins her third year with Southern Heat. She was the 17's & 18's assistant coach as well as one of the clubs technical trainers. Deb is a graduate of Red Bud High School. She continued her career in volleyball and softball at the SIU-Carbonale and then transferred to ISU. Deb coached volleyball and softball at Red Bud and Granite City High School where is the physical education teacher

Kendra Forcade

Kendra begins her third year at Southern Heat. Kendra coached the 15's and then the 16's age group. She has played club since was 13 and qualified for nationals twice with her teams. She is a graduate of Freeburg High School and was a four year varisty player and was ranked as one of the top setters for the Metro Regional area during her high school career. She has assisted in grade school camps since she was 15 and she is currently studying to be a Medical Assistant.

Boys

Southern Heat is pleased to announce their first year for a boys program.

17's boys – Dave Thompson

18's boys – Jamie Wooldridge