

Eddie Garfinkle is new gridiron coach at BSC



Eddie Garfinkle addresses the media at a Feb. 21 press conference on campus after being announced as BSC's new head football coach.

Eddie Garfinkle has been named the new head football coach at Birmingham-Southern.

Garfinkle, who served as BSC's defensive coordinator in 2007, replaces Joey Jones, who was named the head football coach at the University of

South Alabama. He is the sixth head coach in BSC football history.

Before arriving on the Hilltop, Garfinkle spent five seasons as an assistant coach at Spain Park High School in Hoover, working as defensive and kicking game coordinator, as well as linebackers

coach. The Jaguars made the playoffs in 2003 in only the first year that Spain Park had a senior class.

"After talking to a number of excellent football coaches, and discussing the current state of our young football program, Dr. Pollick [BSC president] and I both felt that it was in the best interest of our football players and staff to promote from within the program," said BSC Athletics Director Joe Dean Jr. "Eddie Garfinkle started helping Joey Jones build our program from day one and has many years of college coaching experience."

Garfinkle coached linebackers at Georgia Southern University from 1992-96 before going into private business from 1997-2001. The Eagles had the No. 1-ranked scoring defense in the Southern Conference in 1993 and 1995—both of those years, the Eagles lost in the NCAA

Division I-AA Quarterfinals to eventual national champions Youngstown State (1993) and Montana (1995).

Garfinkle entered the coaching ranks as an assistant coach at Jacksonville State University, following his three-year career as linebacker for the Gamecocks. He began as a student/graduate assistant coach from 1980-81, and spent 1982-85 as defensive end and defensive line coach. He wrapped up his JSU stint as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach from 1986-91.

A native of Miami, Garfinkle earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from JSU. He is married to the former Jan Johnson of Jacksonville, and they have three children, Katie (20), Elyssa (17), and Jake (14).

After year off, new team takes field for 2008 Panther baseball season

Panther baseball has returned to Striplin Field this year after the 2007 season was cancelled. BSC was granted a one-year exemption by the NCAA to suspend the season after the remaining players transferred to other schools following a decision to reclassify from NCAA Division I to NCAA Division III in May 2006.

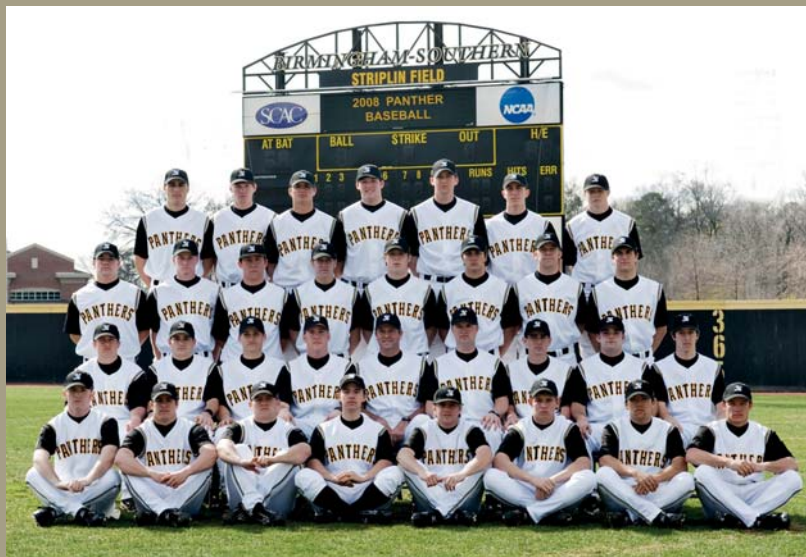
For the first time in 17 years, a new coaching staff has taken the field. Jan Weisberg has replaced Brian Shoop, who left to take over at UAB. Weisberg was a player and coach at the University of Kentucky from 1991-2005 before taking over as head coach at Transylvania University in 2006 prior to BSC.

He is assisted by Drew Briese and Tyler Shrout. Briese, who was an assistant coach under Weisberg at Transylvania in 2006, coaches the hitters and catchers. Shrout, who was a pitching instructor at the Champions Academy of the Kentucky Baseball Club in Lexington, Ky., and was a pitcher at Transylvania University, handles the pitching staff.

BSC also put an entirely new team on the field this year. The 30-member squad is young with 24 freshmen, five sophomores, and one senior making up the roster.

"I am very excited about the 2008 team and what lies ahead for BSC baseball," said Weisberg. "This is an athletic and talented group of young men who have a chance to do some very good things on the field. The energy and enthusiasm that this team brings to the field each day is very impressive. They have formed a very strong team identity both on and off the field where they are representing our college in a very positive way in the classroom and the community."

To see the team's schedule for 2008 and a roster of players, visit www.bscsports.net.



The 2008 BSC baseball team

Softball program in full swing with new coaching staff

With a brand new coaching staff, the 2008 Birmingham-Southern softball team has returned to the field for its final season of NCAA Division I and Big South Conference eligibility.

The Panthers return eight starters from last year's squad in seniors Lindsay Creighton, Bethney Reynoldson, and Grace Stokes; juniors Kayla Backlund, Anne Lawrence, Melissa Muehlenfeld, and Brooke Reed; and sophomore Danielle Honore'.

The Panthers opened the season at home against Huntingdon College Feb. 9 and hosted the annual Panther Spring Classic the following weekend. This year's classic featured BSC squaring off against Lipscomb and South Alabama Feb. 16-17.

Other home highlights on the schedule this season are Belmont, Mobile, Samford, and West Alabama, as well as Big South opponents Coastal Carolina and Charleston Southern.

BSC softball takes part in five regular-season tournaments in 2008: the Panther Spring Classic; the Central Florida Tournament in Orlando, Fla.; the Magic City Classic at the Spain Park Complex in Hoover; the Kennesaw State Tournament in Kennesaw, Ga.; and the Mercer Easter Classic in Macon, Ga. In those tournaments, the Panthers face opponents such as Auburn, nationally ranked Michigan, Columbia, Kent State, and Harvard, among others.

This year's Big South Tournament will be held in Rock Hill, S.C., hosted by Winthrop. In this season's preseason poll, Winthrop was picked to finish first, while the Panthers were picked fifth.



Senior pitcher Bethney Reynoldson

Panther men's basketball wraps up first season as DIII member

The beat goes on for Birmingham-Southern basketball. Playing with a roster that included 13 freshmen, three sophomores, and a junior, the Panthers posted a 13-12 overall record in 2007-08.

Besides fielding a brand new team this year, Birmingham-Southern also had a new boss roaming courtside for the first time in 17 seasons. Mitch Cole, who served 11 seasons as the top assistant under Duane Reboul, took over for his first season at the helm and proved to the BSC faithful that the future is indeed bright for the Panthers.

Birmingham-Southern went 7-9 against teams from its new league—

the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference. The Panthers collected wins over traditional conference powers Trinity University, Oglethorpe University, and DePauw University.

Freshman Aaron Parr, who was an All-SCAC and Freshman of the Year candidate, averaged a team-high 14 points per game. Sophomore point guard Daniel Hudson, who was also an All-Conference nominee, averaged 10.5 points, 2.2 assists, and 1.5 steals per game. Freshman Phillip Rogers led the team averaging just over four rebounds per game, while Mark Messenger pulled down 3.8 boards per contest.

The Panthers also ranked high in several SCAC team and individual statistical categories. BSC ranked third in field goal percentage (46.4) and three-point field goal percentage (37.6) and fifth in three-pointers made (187).

Parr finished ranked fourth in three-point percentage (41.6), while Hudson ranked fifth with a 41.3 percentage. Hudson converted on 82.1 percent from the free throw line, ranking fourth, and Parr was 10th with 79.3 percent.



Aaron Parr

Women's basketball registers winning season, as records fall



BSC President Dr. David Pollick (far left) and Women's Basketball Coach Brad Hodge helped honor Reba Ross for her scoring achievement at a pregame ceremony prior to the Jan. 11 game against Centre.

The Birmingham-Southern women's basketball team put together an impressive 18-7 record this past season, posting the first winning record since the 2002-03 season.

BSC put together a nine-game winning streak in the middle of the season and also went 7-2 on the Panthers' home court in Bill Battle Coliseum, including a 13-point victory against No. 11 DePauw. The team also won the Maryville College Thanksgiving Classic, defeating McMurry University—a team that would go on to be ranked nationally later in the season—and Maryville. At the Thanksgiving Classic, seniors Reba Ross and Morgan Talbot were named to the All-Tournament Team, with Talbot earning Most Valuable Player honors.

The Panthers also went 11-5

against Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference opponents. Other key wins for the Panthers this season were against Louisiana College, Emory University, Judson College, and Spring Hill College.

Ross set an individual milestone for the program this season when she surpassed the 1,000-point mark in her career against Spring Hill on Dec. 17, becoming only the second player in program history to achieve the feat. Ross led the Panthers in scoring and rebounding for the first 18 games of the season before going down with a season-ending knee injury Jan. 26. She ended her career as the first player for BSC to average over 20 points a game (20.1) and the first to average a double-double (20.1 points, 12.3 rebounds). She also is the career leader in field goal percentage, hitting 54.5 percent of her shots, and broke BSC's single-game rebounding record Jan. 25 with 21 boards against Colorado College.

Another record-setter this season was senior Mallory Moring, who broke her own single-season three-pointer record with 82. She also tied the single-game three-pointer record of eight three-point field goals three separate times in her two-year career on the Hilltop.

Seniors Brittany Allison, Moring, Ross, and Talbot were all honored in the Panthers' final game of the season against Rhodes Feb. 23. Since BSC still is considered a transitional member of the SCAC, it is not eligible for post-season play.



Mallory Moring again broke the three-pointer season record this year.

BSC 2008

FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Aug. 30	at Campbell University	Buies Creek, N.C.	Noon
Sept. 6	LaGrange	BSC Athletics Complex	Noon
Sept. 20	at Rhodes College *	Memphis, Tenn.	TBA
Oct. 4	Trinity University *	BSC Athletics Complex	Noon
Oct. 11	at DePauw *	Greencastle, Ind.	1 p.m.
Oct. 18	Austin College *	BSC Athletics Complex	Noon
Oct. 25	at Centre College *	Danville, Ky.	TBA
Nov. 1	at Colorado College *	Colorado Springs, Colo.	TBA
Nov. 8	Sewanee * (Homecoming)	BSC Athletics Complex	1:30 p.m.
Nov. 15	Millsaps *	BSC Athletics Complex	TBA

*SCAC game

