



NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY



1992-93 Florida Basketball Team

Front Row: Delmanetta Barlow, Merlakia Jones, Bridget Pettis, Amanda Butler, Kerry Cremeans, Crystal Parker, Inez Bolton; Middle Row: Charlene Batton, Erica Jones, Linda Clark, Takilya Davis, manager Margie Brinza; Back Row: Head Coach Carol Ross, Assistant Coach Mae Ola Bolton, Elizabeth Maxwell, captain LaTonya McGhee, Maya Whitehead, Associate Head Coach Ron Aldy, Assistant Coach Joi Williams

1993 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

In just her third season as Lady Gators Head Coach, Carol Ross was able to achieve a first in the program's 18-year history: earn a bid to the 48-team NCAA Tournament field. Led by senior captain LaTonya McGhee and junior guard Amanda Butler, Florida proved it belonged in postseason play. The Lady Gators opened the tournament on the road at Bowling Green State University on March 17 before a school-record crowd of 4,408 in Anderson Arena, which was also the third largest crowd attendance in a first round game. UF halted the Falcons' perfect 13-0 home record when McGhee banked in a 15-footer with two seconds remaining to give UF the thrilling 69-67 victory. Merlakia Jones led UF with 18 points and Bridget Pettis added 17 in the historic win. The Lady Gators traveled again in the second round, but came up short against postseason veteran Virginia in front of 5,740 Cavalier faithful. McGhee ended her career with a 14-point effort but more importantly helped lay the foundation for seven consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances.



1993-94 Florida Basketball Team

Front Row: Takilya Davis, Carla Johnson, Inez Bolton, Kerry Cremeans, captain Amanda Butler, Merlakia Jones, Deonne Payton, Crystal; Back Row: manager Erin Newberry, manager Jay Aldy, Associate Head Coach Ron Aldy, DeLisha Milton, Maya Whitehead, Tori Wright, Head Coach Carol Ross, Assistant Coach Joi Williams, head manager Margie Brinza

1994 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

Under the leadership of senior captain Amanda Butler, the Lady Gators reached the NCAA Tournament for the second straight year. The Gators matched a school-record 22 wins and finished third in the SEC. Junior Merlakia Jones led UF offensively with 18.6 points per game, while DeLisha Milton averaged a double-double of 11.7 points and 11.5 rebounds during her freshman campaign. The Lady Gators earned the No. 4 seed in the NCAA West Region and were eligible to play host to their first round game, but were forced to travel to College Station, Texas, due to a Rod Stewart concert scheduled in the O'Connell Center. Florida rallied from a 14-point deficit against hosting Texas A&M and tied the score at 74 with 2:31 remaining after senior Kerry Cremeans camed a three-pointer off an assist from Butler. Takilya Davis later hit a jumper to give UF a 76-74 lead. With the score knotted at 76, the Gators turned the ball over with 21 seconds left and the Aggies converted two free throws with four ticks on the clock to end UF's season.



1994-95 Florida Basketball Team

Front Row, sitting: Mahogany Hudson, Dana Smith, Crystal Parker, Deonne Payton; Second Row: head manager Margie Brinza, Chanda Stebbins, Merlakia Jones, Erica Jones, Takilya Davis, Carla Johnson, Danelle Liles, manager Kathy Hanbury; Back Row: Head Coach Carol Ross, Associate Head Coach Ron Aldy, Nicole Sullivan, Charmaine Milton, DeLisha Milton, Muriel Page, Inez Bolton, Assistant Coach Joi Williams, administrative assistant Veronica Meinhard

1995 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

The Lady Gators earned their third consecutive bid to the NCAA Championship, one of just 22 schools to advance to "The Dance" for the third straight year. Led by captains DeLisha Milton and Crystal Parker, the team won a school-record 24 wins and finished fourth in the SEC. During the first round of the NCAA East Regional in Charlottesville, Va., UF played Radford and easily defeated the Highlanders 89-49. Both Merlakia Jones and Milton produced double-doubles and Dana Smith contributed three second-half treys. In the second round, and for the second time in three years, the Lady Gators faced a ranked Virginia squad on its home floor. The team was in position for an upset, but the Cavalier proved to be too strong, winning 72-67. UF was led by Merlakia Jones' 27 points, who became the first Gator to eclipse the 2,000-point plateau, ending her career with 2,001. Freshman Muriel Page showed signs of the All-American she would later develop into, averaging 10.6 points and 7.2 rebounds during her rookie season.

FLORIDA'S NCAA TOURNAMENT CHRONOLOGY

9-11 record in Tournament Games

Year	Seed	Region	Qualified	Round	Opponent (seed)	Result	Location
1993	none	East	at-large	1st	Bowling Green	W 69-67	Bowling Green, Ohio
				2nd	Virginia (2)	L 55-69	Charlottesville, Va.
1994	4	West	at-large	1st	Texas A&M (13)	L 76-78	College Station, Tex.
1995	6	East	at-large	1st	Radford (11)	W 89-49	Charlottesville, Va.
				2nd	Virginia (3)	L 67-72	Charlottesville, Va.
1996	5	East	at-large	1st	San Francisco (12)	L 61-68	Durham, N.C.
1997	3	Midwest	at-large	1st	Fla. International (14)	W 92-68	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
				2nd	Southern Cal (6)	W 92-78	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
				Reg. Semi.	Louisiana Tech (2)	W 71-57	West Lafayette, Ind.
Reg. Final	Old Dominion (1)	L 51-53	West Lafayette, Ind.				
1998	3	West	at-large	1st	Montana (14)	W 85-64	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
				2nd	Virginia Tech (11)	W 89-57	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
				Reg. Semi.	Duke (2)	L 58-71	Oakland, Calif.
1999	11	Midwest	at-large	1st	Arizona (6)	L of 84-87	Piscataway, N.J.
2001	3	West	at-large	1st	Holy Cross (14)	W 84-52	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
				2nd	Washington (6)	L 75-86	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
2002	6	Midwest	at-large	1st	BYU (11)	L 52-90	Ames, Iowa
2004	5	Midwest	at-large	1st	New Mexico (12)	W 68-56	Albuquerque, N.M.
				2nd	Baylor (4)	L 76-91	Albuquerque, N.M.
2006	6	Albuquerque	at-large	1st	New Mexico (11)	L 59-83	Tucson, Ariz.

FLORIDA'S NWIT AND WNIT CHRONOLOGY

7-4 Record in Tournament Games

Year	Round	Opponent	Result	Location
1985	First	Montana	W, 70-49	Amarillo, Texas
	Semifinal	Drake	W, 87-80	Amarillo, Texas
	Final	LSU	L, 74-54	Amarillo, Texas
2000	First	Dayton	W, 97-93	Dayton, Ohio
	Second	Memphis	W, 74-71	Memphis, Tenn.
	Quarterfinal	Maryland	W, 77-57	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
	Semifinal	Arkansas	W, 83-62	Fayetteville, Ark.
	Final	Wisconsin	L, 75-74	Madison, Wis.
2005	First	USF	L, 61-56	Tampa, Fla.
2008	Second	Florida Gulf Coast	W, 60-55	GAINESVILLE, Fla.
	Third	N.C. State	L, 80-55	Raleigh, N.C.

NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY



1995-96 Florida Basketball Team

Front Row (L to R): Crystal Parker, Dana Smith, Tonika Bruce, Tonika Bright, Mahogany Hudson, Talatha Bingham; Back Row (L to R): Chanda Stebbins, Charmaine Milton, DeLisha Milton, Murriel Page, Bea Jacobs, Jackie Wright

1996 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

For the fourth time in school history, the Lady Gators secured a spot in the NCAA Tournament. Led by team captains DeLisha Milton and Mahogany Hudson, Florida earned the No. 5 seed in the Midwest Region and became one of 16 teams to earn four straight NCAA bids. Crystal Parker also became the first player in Lady Gator history to be a member of four NCAA Tournament teams. UF ran into red-hot San Francisco in the opening round, falling 68-61, as the Lady Gators marched into the Sweet 16 by upsetting host Duke in the next game. Former Gator Amanda Butler broke into the coaching ranks this year, when Head Coach Carol Ross hired her as an assistant coach at the start of the season.



1997-98 Florida Basketball Team

Back Row (from left): Matt Bach (manager), Beth Dunkenberger (asst. coach), Michael Peck (asst. coach), Tonya Washington, Erin O'Neil, Murriel Page, Tamara Stocks, Misty Knight, Bea Jacobs, Candace Cunningham, Carol Ross (Head Coach), Joi Williams (asst. coach) and Brock Mikosky (manager); Front Row (from left): Larry Moore (manager), Tombi Bell, Tiffany Travis, Dana Smith, Mahogany Hudson, Talatha Bingham, Kelly Freeman and Chris Rabil (manager)

1998 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

Led by First-Team All-American Murriel Page and her fellow senior co-captains Mahogany Hudson and Dana Smith, the Lady Gators fought through an injury-plagued season to a 23-9 record, their fifth consecutive 20-win season and a second-place finish in the Southeastern Conference. UF became one of just 12 schools to compete in each of the last six NCAA Tournaments, while earning its second consecutive trip to the Sweet 16. UF was rewarded for its outstanding regular-season play, being named one of 16 schools to host an NCAA Sub-Regional, which it did for the second straight year. In a bracket plagued with upsets (highlighted by No. 16-seed Harvard defeating No. 1-seed Stanford), the third-seeded Lady Gators couldn't continue the fun as they fell to No. 2-seeded Duke, 71-58.



1996-97 Florida Basketball Team

(front row, left to right) Akita Heatly, Talatha Bingham, Kelly Freeman, Chanda Stebbins, Mahogany Hudson, Dana Smith, Tiffany Travis, Tonya Washington. (back row) manager Chris Rabil, manager Cindy Dowling, Bea Jacobs, Murriel Page, Erin O'Neil, DeLisha Milton, Jackie Wright, Head Coach Carol Ross, Assistant Coach Amanda Butler, Assistant Coach Joi Williams (not pictured: Associate Head Coach Ron Aldy)

1997 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

The 1996-97 academic year marked the 25th season of women's varsity athletics at the University of Florida and the Lady Gator Basketball team ensured it would not be soon forgotten, staging the most impressive postseason run in program history. First-Team All-American DeLisha Milton, along with fellow co-captain Mahogany Hudson, led the Lady Gators a 24-9 overall record. As the No. 3 seed in the Midwest Region, UF was selected to play host to an NCAA Sub-Regional for the first time and responded, thumping Florida International, 92-68, behind 21 points from Dana Smith and a career-high six 3-pointers from Talatha Bingham. Murriel Page scored 35 points with 14 rebounds in a 92-78 victory over Southern California and the Lady Gators marched into the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history. UF's magical run did not stop there, as UF routed fifth-ranked and second-seeded Louisiana Tech, 71-57, to advance to the Elite Eight. The historical season finally came to an end when second-ranked and top-seeded Old Dominion managed a 53-51 decision, as UF had three shots in the final 10 seconds that would have tied the score, but all just rolled around the rim.



1998-99 Florida Basketball Team

(front row, left to right) Kelly Freeman, Tiffany Travis, Tombi Bell, Talatha Bingham, Brandi McCain, Monique Cardenas; (back row, left to right) Assistant Coach Beth Dunkenberger, Assistant Coach Bobbie Kelsey, Naomi Mobley, Erin O'Neil, Tamara Stocks, Candace Cunningham, Tonya Washington, Misty Knight, Assistant Coach Joi Williams, Head Coach Carol Ross

1999 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

The Lady Gators knew that matching the success of the past two seasons would be tough, especially after losing three key seniors. Even with an uphill battle, Florida, led by team captain Talatha Bingham, was still strong enough to earn its seventh consecutive NCAA Tournament bid - one of just 11 teams to compete in the "Big Dance" every year since 1993. UF was also one of a record-setting eight SEC schools to secure a bid. The Lady Gators would not dance long, however, dropping a frustrating 87-84 overtime decision to Arizona in the opening round.



2000-01 Florida Basketball Team

Back Row (left to right): Head coach Carol Ross, Assistant coach Renee Ladner, Kelly Stevenson, Brandi McCain, Ash'lea Moore, Lindsey DeLoach, Tombi Bell, Sherisha Hills, Tara Taylor, Assistant coach Joi Williams, Assistant coach Matthew Mitchell; Middle Row (left to right): Head trainer Kellye Mowchan, Monique Cardenas, Jameelah Trimble, Tamara Stocks, Misty Knight, Vanessa Hayden, Naomi Mobley, student trainer Amy Schroeder; Front Row (left to right): Managers - Tiffany Lomax, Stefano Trompeo, Rico Hernandez, Sarah Sanders and Iris O'Neal

2001 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

The 2000-01 season was one of the most exciting in school history, as the Lady Gators tied a school record with 24 wins and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Tournament. Captains Tombi Bell, Misty Knight and Tamara Stocks were fueled all season by what they felt was a snub from the 2000 event and led Florida to a second-place tie in the Southeastern Conference, winning a program-best 11 league games. This was the eighth overall trip to the "Big Dance" for the Gators and their third time playing host to the opening rounds.



2003-04 Florida Basketball Team

Standing (left to right): Assistant Coach Charlene Thomas-Swinson, Academic Advisor Lindy Brown, Assistant Coach Michael Peck, Tarnia Williams, Bernice Mosby, Dalila Eshé, Vanessa Hayden, Brittany Davis, Briana Phillips, Tara Taylor, Natashaia Morehead, Assistant Coach Kerry Creameans, Athletic Trainer Kellye Mowchan, Strength & Conditioning Coach Karin Spence; Middle Row: Ash'lea Moore, Kim Dye, Danielle Santos, Head Coach Carolyn Peck, Sarah Lowe, Tishona Gregory, Kelly Stevenson; Front Row: Manager Michael Robuck, Manager Jared Fleet, Manager Ryann Nursery, Student Athletic Trainer Kelly Palmer, Video Coordinator Mike Miller, Video Coordinator Fred Williams

2004 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

Head Coach Carolyn Peck guided UF to the greatest one-year turnaround in school history, bouncing back from a 9-19 record the previous season to a 19-11 record and an NCAA Tournament bid. Captains Vanessa Hayden, Sarah Lowe and Kelly Stevenson led the Gators to a No. 5 seed in the NCAA Tournament and advanced to the second round for the sixth time in school history. UF overcame 16,000 deafening New Mexico fans at The Pit with an opening-round 68-56 win against the hosting Lobos, before falling in the next game to Baylor, which went on to win the NCAA title the following season.



2001-02 Florida Basketball Team

Back Row (left-to-right): Strength Coach Karin Werth-Spence, Assistant Coach Matthew Mitchell, Assistant Coach Joi Williams, Tara Taylor, Monique Cardenas, Vanessa Hayden, Trish Patterson, Lindsey DeLoach, Assistant Coach Renee Ladner, Head Coach Carol Ross, Athletic Trainer Kellye Mowchan; Middle Row: Manager Sarah Sanders, Courtney Cooper, Kelly Stevenson, Ash'lea Moore, Brandi McCain, Tishona Gregory, Sherisha Hills, Tarnia Williams, Student Trainer Erika Miller; Front Row: Managers Iris O'Neal, Stefano Trompeo, Tiffany Lomax and Andreia Alexander

2002 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

For the ninth time in 10 years, Carol Ross successfully led the Lady Gators to the NCAA Tournament. Stuningly, it would be her last because six days after the final horn sounded on Florida's opening-round loss, Ross stepped down as winningest head coach in school history, with a record of 247-121. The team was led by senior tri-captains Monique Cardenas, Lindsey DeLoach and Brandi McCain.



2005-06 Florida Basketball Team

Standing, back row: Strength Coach Karin Werth, Athletic Trainer Paul Kinney, Academic Advisor Lindy Brown, Assistant Coach Shell Dailey, Marshaé Datson, Brittany Davis, Jessica Jackson, Brooke Carnish, Dalila Eshé, Briana Phillips, Depree Bowden, Assistant Coach Michael Peck, Assistant to the Head Coach Kim Boes, Assistant Coach Jose Mori & Video Coordinator Adam Beaupre; Sitting, middle row: Danielle Santos, Kim Dye, Sarah Lowe, Head Coach Carolyn Peck, LaToya Bullard, Kim Critton & Sha Brooks; Sitting, front row (managers): Bill Ferrara, Tanya Herman (student trainer), Fred Williams, Serena Wilson, Billy McCall, Michael Robuck, Jared Fleet, Meagan Edwards, Matt Bowers & Amanda Noriega

2006 NCAA TOURNAMENT TEAM

Fueled by two of the biggest upset wins in program history, the Gators earned their way back into the NCAA Tournament for the 11th time. Senior tri-captain Sarah Lowe hit the game-winning free throws with 3.2 seconds remaining in overtime to help the Gators upset No. 2 LSU, 79-78, in UF's final home game. A few nights later, senior tri-captain Brittany Davis poured in a career-high 29 points to help stun No. 5 Tennessee in the regular-season finale, as UF became just the second unranked team ever to defeat the Lady Vols in Knoxville. The Gators, who raced out to the best 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15-game starts in program history en route to a 21-9 overall record, received the No. 6 seed in the NCAA Albuquerque Region but dropped their opening-round game to New Mexico, 83-59.