

# Dave Balogh

(BAY-log)

## Associate Head Coach

**2002 ITA National Assistant Coach of the Year**

**2006 ITA South Region Assistant Coach of the Year**



Dave Balogh (pronounced BAY-log), who enters his ninth year on the Gator sidelines, is one of the most highly respected coaches on the collegiate circuit. For his efforts and contributions toward the University of Florida women's tennis program, UF athletics director Jeremy Foley promoted Balogh to the position of Associate Head Coach in September 2003. He had worked with the Gators as an assistant coach for three years prior to this elevation.

"Dave is really an extension of me. He has the same philosophy in how to coach the team, how to recruit and how to create the atmosphere we want to have in our clubhouse," UF head coach Roland Thornqvist said. "Working with Dave makes everything fun because he's always positive and is a great guy. He has a tremendous knowledge of the game. The University of Florida and I are very fortunate to have him on our team. Dave is invaluable to me and this program."

Balogh, who oversees the doubles teams, coached the Gators to a combined 65-8 dual match doubles record, as Florida 26 of 27 times during the 2007-08 season, en route to helping the team post a perfect 11-0 record in Southeastern Conference dual matches and a 24-3 overall mark.

The 2006-07 Gators were faced with some difficult personal, off-the-court adversity from a number of players. Several players became unable to compete during a large portion of the dual match season, which significantly altered the singles' and doubles' lineups. While Thornqvist and Balogh were able to patch together six semi-healthy players for singles, the doubles' pairings were blown apart. Balogh did an amazing job during a very trying stretch of finding the right chemistry to re-build the doubles lineups. One of those newly-formed teams - freshman Csilla Borsanyi and junior Diana Srebrovic - immediately went on a six-match win streak that included moving up to the No. 1 position and defeating four top-18-ranked opponents with the highest-ranked win coming against Kentucky's 11th-ranked Kim Coventry and Joelle Schwenk, 8-3, that clinched the doubles point and sparked a 4-3 dual match victory. Two days prior to win over the Wildcat pair

was an 8-1 victory over Vanderbilt's 18th-ranked Amanda Taylor and Amanda Fish, helping UF earn the 4-3 team triumph and defeat the Commodores in Nashville for the first time since April 1, 2000. Those were just two of the matches the Gators won 4-3 during the season thanks in part to the team being able to win the doubles point.

In 2005-06, Balogh was recognized as the ITA South Region Assistant Coach of the Year, marking his second such honor at UF.

During his tenure at UF, Balogh has helped the Gators capture the 2003 NCAA championship, five Southeastern Conference regular-season titles and five SEC Tournament crowns, while compiling a 173-16 dual match record.

At the end of the 2001-02 season, the rest of the country acknowledged what the Gators already knew, as Balogh was recognized by his peers as the 2002 ITA National Assistant Coach of the Year, becoming the first Gator coach to receive such an honor.

A four-year letterwinner of the University of Florida men's tennis program, Balogh joined the Gator women's tennis team as an assistant coach on July 1, 2000 under former head coach Andy Brandi.

Balogh, who is a life-long native of Gainesville, played tennis for former men's coach Ian Duvenhage from 1993 to 1996, when the team ranked among the top 15 nationally all four years. The Gators captured the 1994 SEC championship during Balogh's tenure on the team.

Balogh was an assistant coach with the Florida State University women's tennis team for the dual match portion of the 2000 season. Prior to his four-month stint in Tallahassee, Balogh was an assistant at Vanderbilt, where the Commodores ended the 1999 season ranked 13th in the country.

From 1996 to 1998, he was the assistant head professional at DB Racquet Club in Gainesville, where he coached former Gator great Mark Merklein and worked with UF standout Jill Craybas. Balogh received an offer to work with tennis-great Jana Novotna, but was unable due to an elbow injury.

Balogh earned a bachelor's of science degree in recreation in 1996. As a student-athlete, Balogh received the 1996 Presidential Recognition Award in honor of his outstanding achievement and contributions to the University of Florida by then-President John Lombardi. That same year, he also received the Office of Student Life Achievement Award, given for his outstanding achievement in academics, athletics and community service.

Each August, Balogh organizes the Merrill Lynch Tennis Pro-Am held in Gainesville. The event benefits Big Brothers/Big Sisters and draws former Gator stars from various sports back to the Gainesville courts to participate.

Balogh married the former Melissa Clark of Gainesville in August 2000. The two became parents for the first time on Feb. 18, 2004, when Cade Kelly Balogh was born.

On March 11, 2006, between singles and doubles play during the home match against Tennessee, Melissa went into labor at the courts, causing Dave to bolt from the Tennis Complex and drive Melissa to the hospital, where Colby Lewis was born the following morning.

### Balogh's Year-by-Year Coaching Record at Florida

	RECORD	SEC	SEC FINISH	SEC TOURN.	NCAA FINISH	FINAL ITA RANK
2001	24-3	11-0	1st	Semifinals	Semifinals	2
2002	24-2	10-1	2nd	Champions	Runner-up	2
2003	31-2	10-1	1st	Champions	Champions	1
2004	23-1	11-0	1st	Champions	2nd Round	3
2005	22-3	9-2	t-2nd	Champions	Semifinals	2
2006	25-2	11-0	1st	Champions	Semifinals	2
2007	24-3	10-1	t-1st	Runner-Up	Quarterfinals	6
2008	24-3	11-0	1st	Runner-Up	Semifinals	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>197-19</b>	<b>73-4</b>	<b>6 titles</b>	<b>5 titles</b>	<b>1 title</b>	

Record in NCAA Championship action: 31-5



The Balogh Family (from left): Cade, Dave, Colby and Melissa