

St. Ambrose University Men's Basketball – Coaching Staff

Ray Shovlain, Head Coach

Coach Ray Shovlain has always challenged the student-athletes in all programs to “Bee” leaders. A St. Ambrose University leader defines winning as an every day effort to improve themselves, others around them, and the communities in which they are involved. Over the past two decades, Coach Shovlain and his staff have strived to instill that leadership in the student athletes that participate in men's basketball.

The Fighting Bees have experienced tremendous success over the past 25 years. This success starts with the quality, readiness, performance and community involvement that the men's basketball program has been able to achieve.

Given that foundation, success on the basketball court has followed. Shovlain has achieved 479 victories and 15 20-win seasons over his stellar career. The basketball program has earned nine NAIA National Tournament appearances and four Sweet 16 finishes under Shovlain, including the school's first and only trip to the Final Four in 2004, when the team set a school record for most victories in a single season (32).

This has been accomplished against an extremely competitive and challenging schedule that has included many contests against NCAA Division I and II competitors. The program has elected to schedule the best opponents possible. This year's schedule is no different.

Past seasons have included games against many NCAA Division I opponents, including California State at Los Angeles, Creighton, Indiana State, Loyola Marymount, St. Louis University, the University of San Diego and Western Illinois. The 2008-09 campaign is more of the same, featuring quality tournaments and a tough non-conference schedule.

Well regarded by his peers, Shovlain has spoken at a number of summer basketball camps at DePaul, Drake, Colorado State, Illinois State, Louisville and Notre Dame. After the 1988-89 season, Shovlain was the recipient of the Paul Maaske Memorial Award, an award given annually by the Iowa Basketball Coaches Association to the leading small college coach in the state.

Shovlain has also gained nationwide recognition as the activity director of the National Youth Sports Program (NYSP) at St. Ambrose. The NYSP is a summer youth program aimed to help economically disadvantaged children ages 10–16 in the Quad City area. The St. Ambrose University NYSP program was selected for the Silvio O. Conte Award in 1996, recognizing them as the top NYSP program in the country.

A graduate of Clinton's St. Mary's High School, Shovlain led his team to the 1975 Iowa State Championship while earning All-State honors. As a four-year letterman at St. Ambrose, Shovlain still holds the single game, season and career assist records and was inducted into the SAU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1993. He went on to earn his master's in business administration at St. Ambrose in 1982.

In addition to coaching and leading the Athletics Department, Shovlain's position at St. Ambrose allows him to fulfill one of his other passions, which is teaching in the College of Business. Shovlain was selected Professor of the Year in 1989 and 1993. Shovlain and his wife, Betsy, currently reside in Davenport. They are blessed with a daughter, Katelyn Rae, and a son, Sean Michael.

St. Ambrose University Men's Basketball – Coaching Staff (cont.)

John Doyle, Assistant Coach

John Doyle is in his seventh year as an assistant on the St. Ambrose coaching staff. Overall, this is his 10th year of coaching. Originally from Davenport, Iowa, Doyle graduated from Davenport Assumption High School, where he lettered in both football and basketball. He attended St. Ambrose, where he majored in Business Administration. Since graduating from St. Ambrose, Doyle has taken some graduate level courses at Western Illinois University in Macomb. He is currently the owner of The Hat in Bettendorf, Iowa.

Kyle Murray, Assistant Coach

Kyle Murray enters his third season as an assistant on the St. Ambrose coaching staff. Murray is originally from Muscatine, Iowa, and graduated from Muscatine High School in 2002.

A finalist for the 2002 Quad City Sports Athlete of the Year, Murray earned 13 varsity letters as a 4-sport athlete. He was a 1st-Team All-State selection in football and soccer while earning Honorable Mention recognition in baseball and basketball. In Murray's senior season, he led the Muskies to their first playoff football win in school history, their first state basketball appearance in 48 years, and a quarterfinal showing in the state soccer tourney.

After a successful high school career, Murray played football for Division I-AA Drake University as a wide receiver. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English in 2006. Following Drake, Murray came to St. Ambrose as the graduate assistant for Sports Information. He received a Master of Business Administration degree in 2008.

Jim Kiss, Assistant Coach

Jim Kiss joined the St. Ambrose men's basketball coaching staff prior to the 2008-09 season. Kiss spent the 2007-08 campaign as an assistant coach at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. At UMD, he was in charge of film exchange and film breakdown; worked primarily with guards at practice; and assisted with recruiting, scouting reports, and preseason and post-season individual workouts.

Originally from Geneseo, Ill., Kiss was a two-time Quad City All-Metro selection. He was a unanimous First Team All-NCIC pick and earned Illinois Basketball Coaches Association All-State honorable mention as a senior in 2002-03. Kiss played four years at Minnesota-Duluth, an NCAA Division II school. He graduated in the spring of 2007 with a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology.

Jim's father Mike Kiss '76, his uncle Jim Morris '81, and his grandfather Don Morris '50 all played basketball and graduated from St. Ambrose. Don Morris was inducted into the SAU Athletic Hall of Fame in 1981.

Kiss, who interned with C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. in Bloomington, Ill., in the summer of 2007, is pursuing his Master's of Organizational Leadership at St. Ambrose.

Brad Mohr, Assistant Coach

Brad Mohr begins his first season as an assistant coach with the Fighting Bees.