



**Southern Polytechnic State University**  
**2011-2012 Media Guide**



## ABOUT SPSU

Southern Polytechnic is a residential, co-educational member of the University System of Georgia. Located on 198 acres of naturally wooded landscape in the historic and vibrant city of Marietta, we are just 20 minutes from downtown Atlanta. Approximately 5,800 students study here, from some 35 states and 82 countries.

Since its founding in 1948, the University has earned an exceptional academic reputation. But it's more than just our programs of study that make SPSU a great place to live and learn — it's the bright students, the dedicated and experienced faculty, and our hands-on approach to education.

### UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Accounting  
Apparel & Textiles  
Architecture  
Biology  
Biology Education  
Business Administration  
Chemistry  
Chemistry Education  
Civil Engineering  
Civil Engineering Technology  
Computer Engineering Technology  
Computer Game Design & Development  
Computer Science  
Construction Engineering  
Construction Management  
Electrical Engineering  
Electrical Engineering Technology  
English & Professional Communication  
Fashion Design & Product Development  
Industrial Engineering Technology  
Information Technology  
International Studies  
Mathematics  
Mathematics Education  
Mechanical Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering Technology  
Mechatronics Engineering (Robotics)  
New Media Arts  
Physics  
Physics Education  
Political Science

Pre-Law\*\*  
Pre-Med\*\*  
Psychology  
Software Engineering  
Surveying & Mapping  
Systems Engineering  
Technical Communication  
Telecommunications Engineering  
Technology  
Undecided/General Studies

### GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Accounting  
Architecture  
Business Administration  
Computer Science  
Construction Management  
Engineering Technology / Electrical  
Information and Instructional Design  
Information Design and Communications  
Information Technology  
Quality Assurance  
Software Engineering  
Systems Engineering

\*\*Pre-professional concentrations



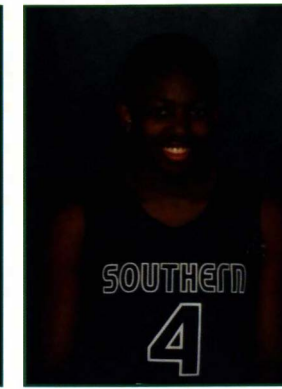
## LADY HORNETS ROSTER 2011-2012



Tara Hay  
5'4" | Junior | G  
Canberra, Australia



Ashlie Billingslea  
5'6" | Senior | G  
Stone Mountain, GA



Megan Nelson  
5'4" | Freshman | G  
Lithonia, GA



Winnie Markey  
5'10" | Senior | F  
Cumming, GA



Dominique Smith  
6'0" | Junior | F  
North Little Rock, AR



Raquel Jones  
5'6" | Senior | G  
Houston, TX



Ayana Ward  
5'5" | Sophomore | G  
Buford, GA



22 Madison Strickland  
6'2" | Freshman | F  
Gainesville, GA



Malynda Hull  
5'6" | Freshman | G  
Memphis, TN



Jacqueline Schadeck  
5'7" | Freshman | G  
Sacramento, CA



Chase Morgan  
6'0" | Senior | F  
Jonesboro, GA



Taylor Singleton  
6'0" | Freshman | C  
Brooklyn, NY



Sheri Hampton-Bing  
Head Trainer



## LADY HORNETS COACHING STAFF 2011-2012

### LAQUANDA DAWKINS HEAD COACH



Laquanda Dawkins begins her second season at the helm of Southern Polytechnic State University Women's Basketball after leading the Hornets to their second consecutive NAIA tournament appearance. The highlights of the season included Southern Poly women topping Loyola for the second straight SSAC crown and earning the East Division regular season. The Hornets had a season record of 29-5 and were ranked as high as 17th in the NAIA national poll.

In her first season at Southern Poly, Dawkins coached the Hornets to 29 victories, including the program's first against a NCAA Division I team (Winthrop University).

A basketball coach for 12 years, Dawkins has coached at Gardner-Webb University, The University of Iowa, Florida International University and Winthrop University. She has classroom experience at the

university level and is committed to developing young women both athletically and academically.

The native of Shelby, North Carolina was a standout basketball performer for the University of North Carolina, and the Class of 1999 graduate earned her B.A. in Physical Education. During her time as a Tar Heel the team won three Atlantic Coast Conference titles in 1994-95, 1996-97, and 1997-98. Dawkins was named to the ACC Academic Honor Roll and received the Coach's Award.

Dawkins is also a 2008 graduate of the Black Coaches Association A.C.E. Program. In addition, she is a member of BCA (Black Coaches Association) and WBCA (Women's Basketball Coaches Association). Crest Senior High School retired her high school jersey.

### STEPHON SERAILE ASSISTANT COACH



This marks Stephon Seraile's first season as assistant coach and recruiting coordinator for the Lady Hornets basketball team. In addition to his recruiting responsibilities at Southern Poly, Seraile will assist with academics, team travel, strength and conditioning, player development, scouting, video exchange and on-the-floor coaching.

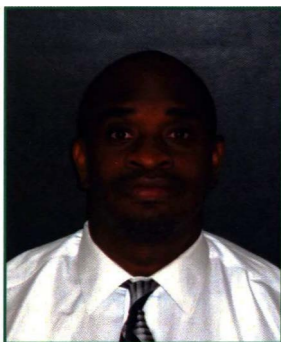
A native of Washington, D.C., Seraile most recently coached for five years at Wootton High School in Rockville, MD where he was an integral part of building their program.

Prior to his stint at Wootton, Seraile was Head Basketball Coach with the Maryland Flames and most recently with the Montgomery County Select AAU.

Seraile earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. He graduated from Quince Orchard High School in Gaithersburg, MD.

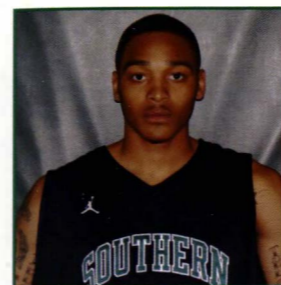
"I am blessed and really excited to have a young, tireless working coach like Stephon to be a part of our program. He brings tremendous energy and knowledge that will contribute to the continued success of our program to the championship level," Dawkins said.

### THEO WILLMON ASSISTANT COACH

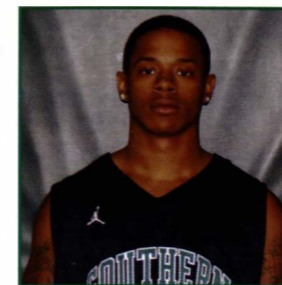


The Runnin' Hornets are proud to welcome Theo Willmon for his first season as an assistant for the women's basketball program. The Melbourne, Florida native attended Eau Gallie High School. Prior to this season, Theo spent the last ten seasons as an assistant varsity coach at Salem High School in Conyers, Georgia. Willmon's responsibilities include game preparation, scouting and film breakdown, recruiting, player development, and strength and conditioning. Theo is currently attending the University of Phoenix to pursue a B.S. degree in Business Management.

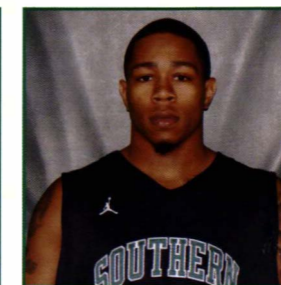
## MEN'S BASKETBALL ROSTER 2011-2012



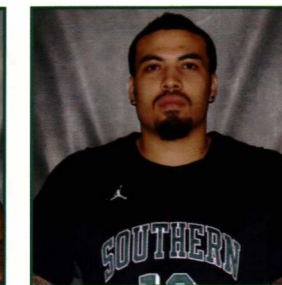
Derwin Gage  
6'4" | 165 lbs.  
Chicago, IL



Trey Payne  
5'10" | 175 lbs.  
Memphis, TN



Bobby Smith  
6'1" | 185 lbs.  
Rome, GA



Jesse Childs  
6'1" | 205 lbs.  
Bakersfield, CA



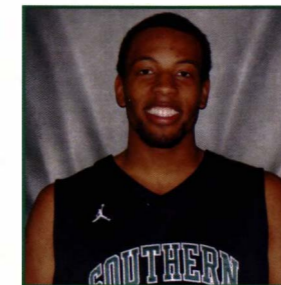
Scott Mennicke  
6'0" | 175 lbs.  
Canton, GA



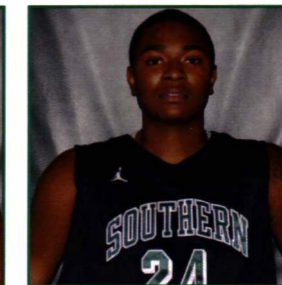
Shae Varljen  
6'5" | 195 lbs.  
Marietta, GA



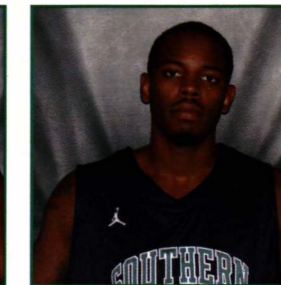
20 Ricky Fuller  
6'3" | 165 lbs.  
Cranston, RI



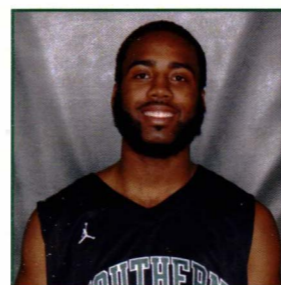
CJ McElrath  
6'2" | 180 lbs.  
Dallas, TX



Cortez Irby  
6'5" | 195 lbs.  
Huntsville, AL



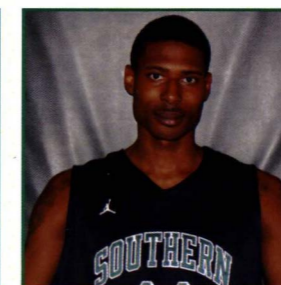
30 Brandon Williams  
6'4" | 185 lbs.  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL



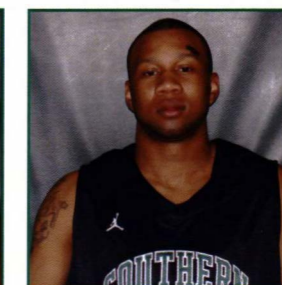
Devon Butler  
6'0" | 170 lbs.  
Atlanta, GA



33 Ashton Pitts  
6'7" | 195 lbs.  
Atlanta, GA



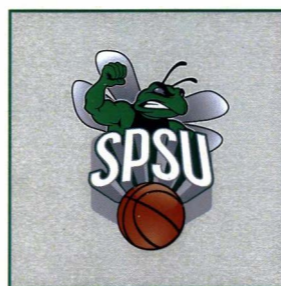
Tyrone Brinson  
6'7" | 190 lbs.  
Valdosta, GA



Deandre Blackmon  
6'5" | 205 lbs.  
Decatur, GA



John Alexander  
6'1" | 175 lbs.



50 Tim Harrison  
6'8" | 235 lbs.  
Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX

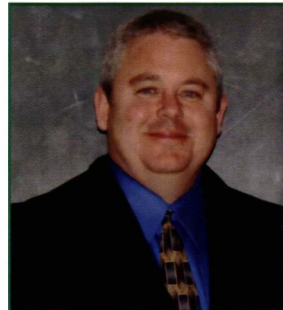


Josh Martin  
Assistant Trainer



## MEN'S BASKETBALL COACHING STAFF 2011-2012

### TOMMY DILLON HEAD COACH



Tommy Dillon enters the 2011-2012 season as the Interim Head Coach. The Winchester, Kentucky native is in his third season with the Southern Polytechnic Hornets after serving two years as the Associate Head Coach.

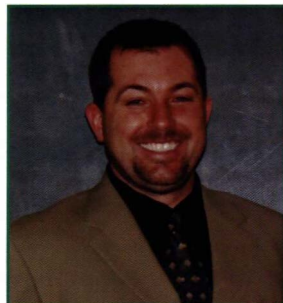
In 2010-2011 the Hornets had a season record of 23-10. Coach Dillon helped lead them to the SSAC second place regular season finish, the SSAC Tournament Championship Game, and the school's 14th NAIA National Tournament Appearance. The Hornets were ranked as high as 7th in the NAIA national poll.

In 2009-2010 Coach Dillon helped lead the Hornets to become the SSAC regular season and Conference Champions, as well as making SPSU's first ever national Final Four appearance with a record of 29-6.

The Runnin' Hornets are the first SSAC team since 2007 to make it to the Final Four. Dillon coached one NAIA All-American, three SSAC All-Conference players, the Conference MVP, and two conference All-Tournament Team members. SPSU Runnin' Hornets were ranked second in the nation in offensive rebounding for the 2009-2010 season and ranked as high as 8th nationally in the country

Dillon, 42, earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Flagler College. He played college basketball at Eastern Kentucky University from 1989-1991 before a knee injury ended his playing career. Dillon was a walk-on his first season and earned scholarships both athletically and academically the following season. He was also a part of the ECU Colonels Tennis team from 1988-1991.

### FRANKIE WILLINGHAM ASSISTANT COACH



Frankie Willingham enters his second season as an assistant for the Hornets where he is responsible for player development, conditioning, practice/ game planning and scouting. Prior to this season, Willingham spent two seasons (2008-2010) as the assistant varsity and head JV basketball coach at Paulding County High School. In 2007 he was the head coach for South Paulding Middle.

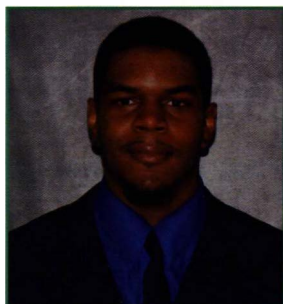
In the spring of 2005, Willingham was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma and required a year of chemo treatment, causing him to miss the 2005-2006 seasons. During the 2004 season, he coached as a student assistant under head coach Kevin Templeton at Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga. Willingham began his coaching career in 1996 after

two serious knee injuries ended his playing career. That same year he founded the Patriot AAU program.

Willingham was a high school four-year letterman (1989-1993) in both basketball and football at Paulding County High School. The 1993 graduate was a sophomore starting quarterback, and he led his team to a GHSA Class A State Championship. Willingham was named to the Georgia Christmas Classic all-tournament team and was the tournament MVP. His junior and senior year he was named to the all county and all region team in basketball.

Willingham graduated with a bachelor's degree in social science from Ashford University and is continuing his education there to obtain his masters degree.

### ERVIN HERRON ASSISTANT COACH



Ervin Herron II enters his first season with the Southern Polytechnic State University Hornets as an assistant coach. Herron will be responsible for scouting, conducting individuals and aiding in recruiting and practice.

In 2010-2011, Herron played his senior season at SPSU. He was a starter and helped lead the Hornets to a record of 23-10 as well as a second place finish in the Southern States Athletic Conference tournament

and the school's 14th NAIA National Tournament appearance. Under Herron's play, the Hornets were ranked as high as 7th in the NAIA national poll.

A native of Memphis, Tennessee, Herron is currently continuing his playing career for the American Basketball Association's Atlanta Aliens. Herron is also in the process of earning his bachelor's degree in psychology here at SPSU.

## AT A GLANCE



#### GENERAL

Located in metro Atlanta  
Diverse student body - 41% minority, 16% international  
Private-school atmosphere at public school prices

#### ACCREDITATION

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)  
The National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB)  
The American Council for Construction Education (ACCE)  
The Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)  
The University Catalog identifies specific programs that hold these accreditations.

#### RANKINGS

Within the University System of Georgia, Southern Polytechnic State University ranks:  
• Among the highest in SAT scores for entering freshmen  
• #4 in earning power of graduates

#### CURRICULUM

Balance of science, lab, and liberal arts  
Most classes have a lab-based component

#### FACULTY

Experienced, dedicated professors  
A teaching institution - teaching is the number one criterion for promotion and tenure  
Small classes - 25-30 in a classroom, more individual attention

#### GRADUATES

• Essentially 100% placement  
• Graduates are well paid  
• Immediately productive

#### HOUSING

Residence halls and apartment housing available on campus - both completely wired for internet access  
Affordable apartments are readily available nearby in Marietta area, many within walking distance

#### COSTS (ESTIMATED)

2011-2012  
In-state tuition: average, full-time undergraduate \$6,524 per year  
Out-of-state tuition: average, full-time, undergraduate \$19,644 per year  
Housing Rates:  
[www.spsu.edu/housing/](http://www.spsu.edu/housing/)  
Meal Plan Rates:  
[www.spsu.edu/foodservice](http://www.spsu.edu/foodservice)  
Books:  
[www.spsu.edu/bookstore](http://www.spsu.edu/bookstore)

#### FINANCIAL AID

HOPE and other traditional forms of financial aid are available. Scholarships are also available related to your major, academic excellence, or need.

For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid at (678) 915-7290.

#### CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Continuing Education offers certificate programs in many technology related fields.

[www.spsu.edu/occe](http://www.spsu.edu/occe)

#### SUSTAINABILITY

SPSU is committed to conserving energy and reducing its carbon footprint.

#### ATHLETICS

Baseball, Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Soccer

1100 South Marietta Parkway  
Marietta, Georgia 30060-2896  
678-915-4601 PHONE  
800-635-3204 TOLL FREE  
[spsu.edu](http://spsu.edu)





## SPSU Men's Basketball 2011-12 Schedule

10/31/11	Georgia State <sup>^</sup>	Atlanta, GA	7 PM
11/10/11	Southeastern Univ.	Lakeland, FL	7 PM
11/12/11	St. Leo University	Tampa, FL	4 PM
11/15/11	<b>Carver Bible</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>7 PM</b>
11/18/11	<b>University of Mobile*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
11/19/11	<b>Bellhaven*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>7 PM</b>
11/22/11	Carver Bible	Atlanta, GA	7 PM
12/2/11	AUM*	Montgomery, AL	7:30 PM CST
12/3/11	Faulkner*	Montgomery, AL	5 PM CST
12/9/11	Georgetown College**	Georgetown, KY	5 PM
12/10/11	Georgetown College**	Georgetown, KY	TBD
12/17/11	Coastal College	Brunswick, GA	7:30 PM
12/21/11	Concordia Selma	Selma, AL	7 PM CST
12/31/11	Columbus State <sup>^</sup>	Columbus, GA	3 PM
1/6/12	<b>Spring Hill*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
1/7/12	<b>Loyola*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>5 PM</b>
1/11/12	<b>Concordia Selma</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>
1/14/12	<b>Mountain State Univ</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>4 PM</b>
1/17/12	Southern Wesleyan*	Central, SC	8 PM
1/19/12	Shorter University*	Rome, GA	8 PM
1/21/12	<b>Lee University*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>4 PM</b>
1/26/12	Truett McConnell*	Cleveland, GA	8 PM
1/28/12	<b>Brewton Parker*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>4 PM</b>
1/30/12	Emmanuel*	Franklin Springs, GA	8 PM
2/4/12	<b>Morris College</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>4 PM</b>
2/6/12	<b>Coastal College</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>8 PM</b>
2/11/12	<b>Southern Wesleyan*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>4 PM</b>
2/13/12	<b>Shorter University*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>8 PM</b>
2/16/12	Lee University*	Cleveland, TN	8 PM
2/18/12	<b>Truett McConnell*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>4 PM</b>
2/23/12	Brewton Parker*	Mt. Vernon, GA	8 PM
2/25/12	Emmanuel*	Marietta, GA	4 PM
3/1-3/3/12	SSAC Conference Tourn.	Rome, Ga Forum	TBD
3/15-3/20/12	NAIA National Tournament	Kansas City, Mo.	TBD

## SPSU Women's Basketball 2011-12 Schedule

11/1/11	Kennesaw State <sup>^</sup>	Kennesaw, GA	7 PM
11/4/11	Coastal Georgia	Mt. Vernon, GA	2 PM
11/5/11	Saint Thomas	Mt. Vernon, GA	Noon
11/11/11	Georgetown†	Georgetown, KY	6 PM
11/12/11	Indiana Wesleyan†	Georgetown, KY	2 PM
11/15/11	<b>Univ. of Cumberlands</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>5 PM</b>
11/18/11	<b>Univ. of Mobile*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
11/21/11	Voorhees College	Denmark, SC	6 PM
12/2/11	AUM*	Montgomery, AL	5:30 PM CST
12/3/11	Faulkner*	Montgomery, AL	2 PM CST
12/19/11	Univ. of West Georgia	Carrollton, GA	5:30 PM
12/21/11	<b>Reinhardt College</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
1/3/12	<b>Xavier (LA)</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>6 PM</b>
1/6/12	<b>Spring Hill College*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>5:30 PM</b>
1/7/12	<b>Loyola University (LA)*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>3 PM</b>
1/14/12	Brenau University*	Gainesville, GA	2 PM
1/17/12	Southern Wesleyan*	Central, SC	6 PM
1/19/12	Shorter University*	Rome, GA	6 PM
1/21/12	<b>Lee University*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2 PM</b>
1/26/12	Truett-McConnell*	Cleveland, GA	6 PM
1/28/12	<b>Brewton Parker*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2 PM</b>
1/30/12	Emmanuel College*	Franklin Springs, GA	6 PM
2/4/12	<b>Morris College</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2 PM</b>
2/6/12	<b>Coastal Georgia</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>6 PM</b>
2/9/12	<b>Brenau University*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>6 PM</b>
2/11/12	<b>Southern Wesleyan*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2 PM</b>
2/13/12	<b>Shorter University*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>6 PM</b>
2/16/12	Lee University*	Cleveland, TN	6 PM
2/18/12	<b>Truett-McConnell*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2 PM</b>
2/23/12	Brewton Parker*	Mt. Vernon, GA	6 PM
2/25/12	<b>Emmanuel*</b>	<b>Marietta, GA</b>	<b>2 PM</b>
3/1-4/12	SSAC Conference Tourn.	Rome, GA Forum	TBD
3/14-20/12	NAIA National Tournament	Frankfort, KY	TBD

### Home Games

\* SSAC games

<sup>^</sup> Exhibition Games

\*\* Jim Reid Classic

† Chick-fil-A Classic

[spsu.edu/mensbasketball](http://spsu.edu/mensbasketball)



[spsu.edu/womensbasketball](http://spsu.edu/womensbasketball)

