

Fancher named full-time assistant with Vols

Written by Mike Kelly
Thursday, 15 July 2010 19:49

Former Appalachian State University men's basketball coach Houston Fancher is now a full-time assistant coach with the University of Tennessee.

Head coach Bruce Pearl of the Volunteers made the announcement on Wednesday that Fancher, who was a graduate assistant last season, will be a full-time member of the coaching staff. He will be Director of Video Scouting.

"Houston and his family fit in so well as a part of the Tennessee basketball family," Pearl said. "He's had a lot of success as a former head coach, and he also has a lot of ties to this community."

Fancher has more than 20 years of coaching experience, including a 12-year stint as head coach of the Mountaineers. During his tenure with ASU, Fancher was 137-136, and his teams won three North Division titles in the Southern Conference (2003, '05 and '08).

They also produced a school-record 25 wins in 2006-07, won the San Juan Classic and received an invitation to the National Invitational Tournament that year. He was named Mid-Major National Coach of the Year for his efforts.

The Mountaineers also defeated Vanderbilt and Arkansas that season, which is the only time ASU has beaten a Southeastern Conference school in team history.

"I am so excited to be a part of this staff," Fancher said. "I feel very fortunate and I feel that my experience will allow me to make significant contributions to the continued success of the program."

Fancher's duties will include oversight of all opponent scouting, recruiting data and assisting with on-campus recruiting. Fancher began his coaching career at Division III Maryville (Tenn) College (1988-1992). He was also the head coach at North Greenville College (1993-95) before he accepted an assistant coaching position at Vanderbilt (1995-96).

He also worked as an assistant coach and later as an associate head coach under Buzz Peterson (during his first go-round with the program) at ASU (1996-2000). He took over in the 2000-01 season, becoming the 14th head coach in ASU history. He was dismissed following a 13-18 campaign on March 16, 2009.