

CofC Names Doug Wojcik Head Coach

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Doug Wojcik (pronounced WO-jick) has been named the 22nd all-time head men's basketball coach at the College of Charleston, as announced by Director of Athletics Joe Hull on Saturday. Wojcik, 47, previously spent

the last seven seasons at the University of Tulsa where he became the all-time winningest head coach in program history with 140 career wins, surpassing legendary coaches Clarence Iba (137) and Nolan Richardson (119). He held a career winning percentage of 60 percent and an average of 20 wins per season with the Golden Hurricane.

"We had strong candidates, and a difficult choice to make," said George Benson, President of the College of Charleston. "But Doug Wojcik stood out. Doug has had success at every level throughout his career, as a player, an assistant, and a head coach.

"More importantly, as a head coach, he has run a clean program, and has done so over many years at a university with an excellent academic reputation. Doug has been strongly recommended to us by some of the most successful coaches in college basketball. We believe Doug is an excellent fit for the College of Charleston."

In seven years with the Golden Hurricane, Wojcik took a nine-win squad before his arrival and posted four consecutive 20-win seasons including back-to-back 25+ win campaigns, advanced to the championship game of the Conference USA Tournament in 2008 and 2009, won the inaugural College Basketball Invitational title in 2008 in his third season and appeared in the NIT twice in 2009 and 2010.

During his tenure, Tulsa was one of C-USA's top defensive teams and ranked among the top defenses in the country. Wojcik developed two future NBA players in Ben Uzoh and Jerome Jordan as well as Conference USA leading scorer Justin Hurtt. He also recruited and developed three of the top nine all-time leading scorers in Tulsa history in Uzoh (No. 3), Hurtt (No. 7), and Jerome Jordan (No. 9). In addition to his team's success on the court, all 17 of Wojcik's senior student-athletes at Tulsa accomplished a seven-year graduation rate of 100 percent.

"This is an exciting time for my family and me to be the head coach at the College of Charleston," Wojcik said. "It is a dream come true. It is a great job, in a great city with a great basketball history with Coach (John) Kresse and Coach (Bobby) Cremins as well as a great group of student-athletes coming back next season. My family and I look forward to being heavily involved with the college and Charleston community. I appreciate President Benson and Athletics Director Joe Hull for this wonderful opportunity to continue to build on Charleston's rich basketball tradition."

Wojcik spent 15 years as an assistant coach at his alma mater Navy along with stops at Notre Dame, North Carolina and Michigan State. He spent two seasons with Michigan State under Tom Izzo before his appointment at Tulsa. Wojcik was instrumental in their run to the 2005 NCAA Final Four, defeating Old Dominion, Vermont, Duke and Kentucky before losing to eventual national champion North Carolina in the semifinals. MSU finished the season with a 26-7 record and a 13-3 Big Ten Conference mark.

In the spring of 2003, Wojcik served as a floor coach under Izzo for the USA Basketball Under-20 tryout period.

Before his stint at Michigan State, Wojcik spent three years as an assistant coach at North

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Carolina from 2000-03. In his first season, North Carolina earned a No. 1 national ranking late in the regular season, posted a 26-7 overall mark, a 13-3 league record and won a share of the ACC regular-season championship title.

Wojcik's recruiting expertise and ability was clearly evident while at UNC. He helped bring in recruiting classes ranked second in the nation in both 2001 and 2002. These classes included one McDonald's All-American in 2001 (Jawad Williams) and three in 2002 (Raymond Felton, Rashad McCants and Sean May). Wojcik also served as head coach of the junior varsity program at North Carolina for three years.

While in Chapel Hill, Wojcik was named a "Head Coach in the Waiting" by Athlon Sports in 2001 and by ESPN's Jay Bilas in 2003. He was also named as an "Assistant Coach on the Rise" by ESPN.com's Andy Katz.

"We are thrilled to have Doug Wojcik as our new head coach," Hull said. "Doug is energetic, smart and passionate about the game of basketball and the young men who play it. Our goal is to have a championship program at The College and Doug shares that vision. We will work every day to bring the Southern Conference championship back to Charleston."

During his collegiate playing career from 1983-86, Wojcik led Navy to the NCAA Tournament three-straight seasons including a 1986 East Regional Final appearance. He started every game at point guard for three seasons, helping Navy post a 26-6 record as a sophomore, followed by marks of 30-5 and 26-6 in his final two seasons. Overall, Navy was 82-17 in his three years as a starter.

In 1986, teammate David Robinson turned over his Colonial Athletic Association MVP Award to Wojcik, citing his unselfish play and leadership abilities. During his career, Wojcik established school records for most assists in a single game (14), season (251) and career (714). A native of Wheeling, W. Va., Wojcik is a 1987 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy earning a bachelor's degree in physical sciences. He was commissioned as a Naval officer and attended Surface Warfare Officer School in Newport, R.I.

He was assigned to the USS W.S. Sims out of Mayport, Fla., where he served as First Lieutenant and Engineering Officer for two years prior to beginning his coaching career. Wojcik and his wife, Lael, are the proud parents of two sons, Paxson (11) and Denham (9). A formal press conference to introduce Wojcik is set for Wednesday, April 4 at 1 p.m. (ET) at TD Arena.

Photo Courtesy: Doug Wojcik, SoCon Athletics