

Fancher, Morgan and Ealy find new homes

Written by Mike Kelly
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Three former Appalachian State basketball coaches have found new homes for the upcoming 2009-10 season.

Former head coach Houston Fancher, who stepped down March 16, has been named a graduate assistant at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. He will work on Bruce Pearl's staff. Fancher, who despite stepping down, will be paid for the final year of his contract at ASU this season. He spent 13 years at ASU, two as an assistant coach and two as an associate head coach under former and now current head coach Buzz Peterson. He took over the program in 2000-01, when Peterson moved on to Tulsa. In nine years as head coach, Fancher was 137-136, but he also led ASU to a school record 25 wins, an NIT bid and he also guided the Apps to the San Juan Shootout tournament championship in 2006-07.

Former ASU assistant coach Josh Ealy, who actually spent the last two years as a graduate assistant, has been named an assistant coach at Carson-Newman College, a Division II school in the South Atlantic Conference; and former assistant coach Richard Morgan has been named the new head coach at Bluefield College in West Virginia, a Division II NAIA school and a member of the Appalachian Athletic Conference. Morgan spent three years as an assistant coach at ASU. Before he came to ASU, Morgan was an associate head coach at Hampton University, a Division I NCAA school in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.