



COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Bryce Drew, Head Coach



Bryce Drew became the ninth Commodore basketball coach of the modern era and 27th all-time in April when he was named the head coach of Vanderbilt basketball. Drew brings an impressive basketball resume, from all levels of the game, to the Commodores after spending the last five seasons as the head coach at his alma mater, Valparaiso.

“Our goal was to identify a proven head coach capable of exciting Commodore Nation and perhaps most importantly, able to mirror Vanderbilt’s values and aspirations,” said Vanderbilt Director of Athletics David

Williams. “With Bryce Drew we were able to check all those boxes. We are thrilled to welcome Coach Drew and his family to the Vanderbilt community and the great city of Nashville.”

Drew, a three-time Horizon League Coach of the Year and two-time NABC District 12 Coach of the Year, comes to the Commodores after a five-year stint at Valparaiso, where he averaged 25 wins a season, won four regular season championships, and made four postseason appearances, two in the NCAA Tournament and two in the NIT, with the Crusaders.

In his five seasons at Valparaiso, Drew compiled a 124-49 overall record and in 2016, led the Crusaders to a 30-7 overall record, the most wins in program history, and a berth in the NIT Finals at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

He also coached 15 All-Horizon League honorees, including one Horizon League Player of the Year in Ryan Broekhoff in 2012 and one player, Vashil Fernandez, who in 2015 and 2016 won the Horizon League’s Defensive Player of the Year honor, the first player in the history of the league to win two of the awards.

Drew, the most decorated player in Valparaiso men’s basketball history, spent the six seasons prior to his hiring as head coach in May of 2011 as a member of the Valparaiso coaching staff, helping the Crusaders win 102 games.

COACHING CAREER

2016-present **Vanderbilt**, Head Coach
2011-16 **Valparaiso**, Head Coach
2005-11 **Valparaiso**, Asst. Coach

Horizon League Coach of the Year, 2012, 2015, and 2016, NABC District 12 Coach of the Year, 2015 and 2016

PLAYING CAREER

1994-98 **Valparaiso**
1998-2000 **Houston Rockets**
2000-01 **Chicago Bulls**
2001-04 **Charlotte/New Orleans Hornets**
2004-05 **Reggio Calabria (Italian Serie A)**
..... **Pamesa Valencia (Spanish Liga ACB)**

FAMILY

Wife, Tara; Son, Bryson (2)



1ST SEASON AT VANDERBILT

College
Valparaiso
B.A., Sports Management, 1998
High School
Valparaiso (Ind.)



COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Bryce Drew, Head Coach

Drew joined the Valparaiso coaching staff prior to the 2005-2006 season, and over his six seasons on the bench as an assistant/associate helped lead the Crusaders to 102 victories.

Valparaiso moved into the Horizon League in 2007-2008 and returned to the postseason with a trip to the College Basketball Invitational, where it won its first-round game at Washington. In his final season as associate head coach, he helped guide the Crusaders to 23 wins and a postseason berth in the CollegeInsider.com Tournament while receiving votes in the ESPN/USA Today Top 25 Coaches Poll for four consecutive weeks.

As a student-athlete, Drew cemented himself as the best player in Valparaiso men's basketball history. Drew, who arrived at Valpo after earning Indiana Mr. Basketball honors and being named Indiana Gatorade Player of the Year in 1994, began his career by garnering Mid-Continent Conference Newcomer of the Year and Mid-Con Tournament MVP honors as a freshman.

Drew, a four-time All-Conference honoree, shined during the conference tournaments, earning All-Tournament Team honors each of his four seasons and picking up three Mid-Continent Conference Tournament MVP awards. He was also twice decorated as Mid-Con Most Valuable Player, one of only four players to be so honored twice in their career. Drew's career culminated as a senior by being named a Third Team All-American by the Basketball Times. He led the Crusaders to four Mid-Continent Conference regular season championships, four tournament titles and three trips to the NCAA Tournament.

Drew, Valparaiso's career leader in points (2,142), three-point field goals (364) and assists (626), etched his name into the American consciousness in 1998 when he hit "The Shot" in the first round of the NCAA Tournament to beat Ole Miss. The play, in which Drew caught a tip pass from teammate Bill Jenkins off a full-court feed from Jamie Sykes, won him an ESPY award and gave Valparaiso its first NCAA Tournament win in school history, propelling the Crusaders to the Sweet Sixteen.

Drew also excelled internationally during his time on the court with the Crusaders, playing for the gold-medal winning Team USA at the World University Games in 1997. Following his collegiate career, Drew again made school history when the Houston Rockets drafted him

DREW'S OVERALL RECORD VS. OPPONENTS

Akron	1-0	NIU	2-0
Arizona	0-1	North Park	1-0
Arkansas-Pine Bluff	1-0	Northern Kentucky	2-0
Ball State	2-1	Oakland	4-4
Belmont	1-1	Ohio	0-1
Bethune-Cookman	1-0	Ohio State	0-1
Bowling Green	1-0	Oregon	0-1
Butler	3-0	Oregon State	1-0
BYU	1-0	Portland	1-0
Chicago State	2-0	Purdue Calumet	1-0
Cincinnati Christian	1-0	Rhode Island	1-0
Cleveland State	9-2	Saint Louis	0-2
Columbia	0-1	Saint Mary's	1-0
Detroit	7-4	Southeastern U	1-0
Drake	1-0	Texas Southern	1-0
Duquesne	1-0	Trinity Christian	1-0
East Tennessee State	1-1	Trinity International	1-0
Eastern Kentucky	2-0	UCF	1-1
Evansville	0-1	UIC	11-0
Florida State	1-0	Wright State	6-5
George Washington	0-1	Youngstown State	8-2
Georgia Southern	2-0	Cumulative	124-49
Goshen	1-0	Conference	65-19
Green Bay	9-4	Season Openers	4-1
Holy Cross (Ind.)	1-0	vs AP Top 25	0-6
Illinois	0-1	Overtime Games	4-3
Indiana State	1-0	Conference Tournament	6-3
Iona	1-0	NIT Tournament	4-2
IPFW	3-1	NCAA Tournament	0-2
IU Kokomo	2-0	CollegeInsider.com	0-1
IU South Bend	1-0	Vs. SEC Teams	0-1
IUPUI	1-1	Home Games	74-13
James Madison	2-0	Away Games	43-31
Kent State	1-0	Neutral Site	7-5
Loyola (IL)	3-1		
Loyola Marymount	1-1		
Maine	1-0		
Maryland	0-1		
Mercer	0-1		
Miami (FL)	0-1		
Michigan State	0-1		
Milwaukee	9-2		
Missouri	0-1		
Missouri State	2-0		
Murray State	3-0		
Nebraska	0-1		
New Mexico	0-2		



COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Bryce Drew, Head Coach

with the 16th pick in the 1998 NBA Draft, the first time a Crusader had been chosen in the first round.

His NBA career lasted six seasons with the Rockets, Chicago Bulls, and Charlotte and New Orleans Hornets, with his best season coming in 2000-2001 when he started 41 games for the Bulls, averaging 6.3 points and 3.9 assists per game. A prolific shooter, Drew set a Hornet record when he connected on nine consecutive three-point attempts. He competed in the postseason twice as a pro, with Houston in 1999 and with Charlotte in 2002.

Over the course of his NBA career, Drew scored over 1,000 points and made 37% of his three-point attempts. In 1999, he was honored by the NBA with the Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Award for sportsmanship. Drew played alongside 12 NBA All-Stars during his time in the NBA, including three players who were named among the Top 50 NBA Players of All Time.

He also played under a quintet of head coaches who have combined for five NBA Championship rings. Following his six seasons in the NBA, Drew played professionally overseas for a season, playing for Reggio Calabria (Italian Serie A) and Pamesa Valencia (Spanish Liga ACB) before returning to the States to join the Crusader coaching staff.

Drew is twice a member of the Valparaiso University Hall of Fame, as he was inducted as an individual in 2003 and as part of the 1997-1998 Sweet Sixteen team in 2009. He also has been honored as one of the 150 most influential people in Valparaiso University's 150 years.

Drew graduated from Valparaiso in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in sports management and a minor in business. He and his wife Tara have one son, Bryson, age two.

DREW'S RECORD THROUGH THE YEARS					
Year	School	Position	W-L	Conf.	Postseason
2016	Valparaiso	Head Coach	30-7	16-2	NIT Finals
2015	Valparaiso	Head Coach	28-6	13-3	NCAA Second Round
2014	Valparaiso	Head Coach	18-16	9-7	CollegelInsider.com First Round
2013	Valparaiso	Head Coach	26-8	13-3	NCAA Second Round
2012	Valparaiso	Head Coach	22-12	14-4	NIT First Round
2011	Valparaiso	Assistant Coach	23-12	12-6	CollegelInsider.com First Round
2010	Valparaiso	Assistant Coach	15-17	10-8	-
2009	Valparaiso	Assistant Coach	9-22	5-13	-
2008	Valparaiso	Assistant Coach	22-14	9-9	College Basketball Invite 2nd Rd.
2007	Valparaiso	Assistant Coach	16-15	9-5	-
2006	Valparaiso	Assistant Coach	17-12	8-8	-
2005	Valencia (Spain)	Player	38-14		Champions League Second Round
2004	New Orleans (NBA)	Player	41-41		East 1st round
2003	New Orleans (NBA)	Player	47-35		East 1st round
2002	Charlotte (NBA)	Player	44-38		East Semifinals
2001	Chicago (NBA)	Player	15-67		-
2000	Houston (NBA)	Player	34-48		-
1999	Houston (NBA)	Player	31-19		West 1st round
1998	Valparaiso	Player	23-10	13-3	NCAA Regional Semifinals
1997	Valparaiso	Player	24-7	13-3	NCAA First Round
1996	Valparaiso	Player	22-10	13-5	NCAA First Round
1995	Valparaiso	Player	20-8	14-4	-
Head Coach Totals			124-49	65-19	
Totals at Valparaiso (Head Coach)			124-49	65-19	
Totals at Valparaiso (Assistant)			102-92	53-49	
Totals at Valparaiso (playing)			89-35	53-15	
Totals as NBA Player			212-248		



COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Roger Powell, Jr., Associate Head Coach, 1st Season, Illinois ('05)



THE POWELL, JR., FILE

High School

Joliet West (Ill.)

College

Illinois (2001-05)

Valparaiso (2016)

Education

B.A., Speech Communications, 2005

Masters in Sports Administration, 2016

Playing Experience

2001-05 - Illinois

2005-06 - Rockford Lightning (CBA)

2006 - Utah Jazz (NBA)

2006-07- Arkansas Rimrocks (D-League)

2007-08 - Siviglia Wear Teramo (Italy)

2008-09 - Hapoel Jerusalem (Israel)

2009-2010 - Murcia (Spain)

2010 - JDA Dijon (France)

2010-11 - Skyliners Frankfurt (Germany)

Coaching Experience

2016-present - Vanderbilt

Associate Head Coach

2011-16 (5 years)- Valparaiso

Assistant Coach

Hometown

Joliet, Ill.

Family

Wife, Tara, daughter Bria (5), son Liam (2)

Former University of Illinois standout and Valparaiso assistant basketball coach Roger Powell, Jr., joined the Vanderbilt basketball staff as associate head coach in April of 2016 after a successful five-year stint with current Commodore head coach Bryce Drew at Valparaiso.

“Coach Powell is a former NBA player who brings great energy to the program,” said Drew. “He is fantastic on the floor with the players and does a tremendous job on the road recruiting with players being drawn to his positive personality. After coaching with Roger for the last five years, I am very happy he is at Vanderbilt.”

Powell has helped lead the Crusaders to 122 wins in his five seasons as a member of the Crusader coaching staff, including 28 victories in 2014-2015 and a school-record 30 wins in 2015-16. Valpo captured the Horizon League regular season title in four of his first five seasons, while the Crusaders’ 2012-2013 and 2014-2015 squads also won the Horizon League tournament championship. The Crusaders have appeared in the postseason in each of Powell’s five seasons on staff, making two trips to the NCAA Tournament, two to the Postseason NIT and one to the CIT. Powell was named the top assistant coach in the Horizon League by Next Up Recruits in the summer of 2013.

With the Crusaders, Powell worked with both the post and perimeter players in skill development. He also was heavily involved with the Crusaders’ recruiting efforts. In the summer of 2013, Powell served as head coach of an Athletes in Action team which toured Lithuania, and in the summer of 2015, he led an AIA team as head coach on a tour of Poland.

“I am extremely excited and blessed to be a part of Vanderbilt University,” said Powell, Jr. “The program has everything I could have hoped for and more in a university. Vanderbilt University has outstanding academics, a great basketball tradition and is located in a truly amazing city. I look forward to being a part of the staff that will help continue to elevate this program to the next level.”

A three-year starter for the Illini, Powell earned Honorable Mention All-Big Ten recognition in each of his final two seasons after being named to the Big Ten All-Tournament Team as a sophomore. Powell helped Illinois to three Big Ten regular season titles and a pair of Big Ten tournament championships during his time with the Illini, as well as berths in the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Tournament in 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.

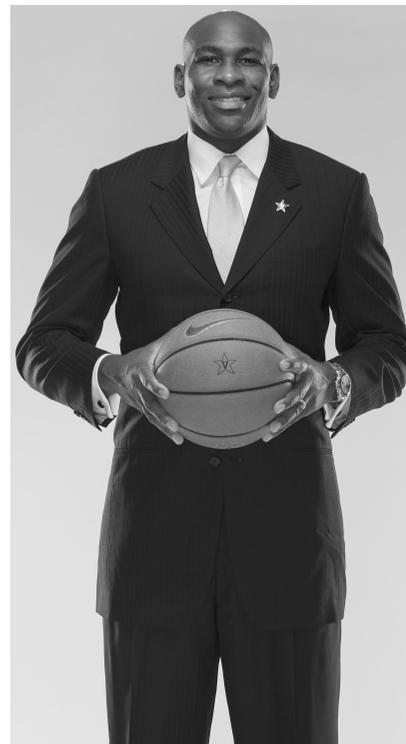
Powell’s career at Illinois culminated in his senior year of 2004-2005, when he started all 39 games that season for the Illini, averaging career bests of 12.0 points and 5.7 rebounds per game. Powell helped Illinois to the most successful season in program history, as the Illini won 29 straight games to open the season en route to finishing 37-2, spent most of the season ranked #1 in the nation and advanced to the national championship game of the NCAA Tournament. Powell closed his four-year Illinois career with 1,178 points, among the top-30 scorers in Illini history, and 531 rebounds.

Following his collegiate career, Powell earned a spot in the Seattle SuperSonics training camp before eventually playing the 2005-2006 season for the Rockford Lightning of the CBA, where he earned CBA Rookie of the Year accolades. He then made the roster of the Utah Jazz for the 2006-2007 NBA season and spent the first half of the season with the Jazz before joining the Arkansas Rimrocks of the NBDL. Powell concluded the 2007 season with the Rimrocks, leading the NBDL with 22.3 points per game and earning the league’s Jason Collier Sportsmanship Award, which is awarded to the player who best represents the ideals of character and conduct on and off the court.

Powell spent time in the training camp of the Chicago Bulls in both 2008 and 2010, and spent much of his last four year professional-playing years abroad. He played in the top leagues in Italy (Teramo Basket), Israel (Hapoel Jerusalem), Spain (CB Murcia) and France (JDA Dijon). In his final professional season, Powell played for the Deutsche Bank Skyliners of the Basketball Bundesliga in Germany, where he helped the Skyliners to a second-place regular season finish and a berth in the league semifinals.

Off the court, Powell founded RPJ Ministries Organization, which mentors and trains young leaders to be Godly examples on their sports team and school campuses. He also founded Integrity Sports Corporation, a company focused on building basketball skills and integrity of high school and junior high athletes. Powell is a 2005 graduate of the University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign with a degree in speech communications, and also received his master’s degree in Sports Administration from Valparaiso University in 2016. While also at Valpo, he received a certificate in Sports Media.

Powell and his wife, Tara, have a daughter, Bria (5), and a son, Liam (2).





COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Jake Diebler, Assistant Coach, 1st Season, Valparaiso ('09)



THE DIEBLER FILE

High School

Upper Sandusky (Ohio)

College

Valparaiso (2005-09)

Valparaiso (2010-11)

Education

B.A., Marketing, 2009;

Masters in Business Administration, 2011

Playing Experience

2005-09 - Valparaiso

Coaching Experience

2016-present - Vanderbilt
Assistant Coach

2013-2016 (3 years) - Ohio State
Video Coordinator

2011-2013 (2 years) - Valparaiso -
Assistant Coach

2010-2011 (1 year) - Valparaiso -
Director of Operations

2009-2010 (1 year) - Valparaiso
- Student Assistant

Hometown

Upper Sandusky, Ohio

Family

Wife, Jordyn

Jake Diebler joined the Vanderbilt coaching staff as an assistant coach in April of 2016 after spending three years as the video coordinator for Ohio State basketball and the previous two seasons as an assistant coach on Bryce Drew's staff at Valparaiso, where he helped Drew and the Crusaders to Horizon League regular season titles in 2012 and 2013. "Coach Diebler has great experience in basketball well beyond his age," said Drew. "The son of a coach, he has a passion for the game and in improving others, which our perimeter players will benefit from."

While at Ohio State, Diebler helped the Buckeyes advance to two NCAA Tournaments and also helped mentor the National Defensive Player of the Year in 2014, Aaron Craft, and the 2nd overall pick in 2015 NBA Draft and 2015 first-team All-American, D'Angelo Russell. In the offseasons in Columbus, Diebler would train Craft, Russell, Evan Turner, Mike Conley, Jared Sullinger, Greg Oden, his brother Jon Diebler, Deshaun Thomas, Byron Mullins, and others in on-the-court workouts.

Prior to his stint with the Buckeyes, Diebler coached at Valparaiso with Bryce Drew, where he was part of a staff which helped lead Valparaiso to 22 wins and the regular-season championship in 2012, the first by Valpo since joining the Horizon League. Diebler also helped the Crusaders to a berth in the 2012 Postseason National Invitational Tournament. In the 2012-13 season, the Crusaders posted a 26-8 overall record, won the Horizon League regular season championship for consecutive years, and a berth in the 2013 NCAA Tournament.

Diebler served as director of basketball operations during the 2010-11 season, helping the Crusaders to a 23-win season, finishing just one game out of the regular-season title, and a berth in the CollegeInsider.com Tournament. As a student assistant in 2009-10, Diebler helped guide the Crusaders to 15 wins and a fourth-place finish in the Horizon League standings.

"I'm blessed to be a part of the rich tradition at Vanderbilt University," said Diebler. "Coach Drew has established himself as one of the best coaches in the country and I'm looking forward to reuniting with him and being a part of the future of Vanderbilt Basketball."

Known as one of the Crusaders' hardest-working players on both ends of the court during his time as a player, Diebler set a Valpo Division I record by starting each and every one of the Crusaders' 98 games over the final three seasons of his career. He also had a string of 278-consecutive minutes played over seven games in the final half of his senior season, believed to be a Valpo record as well.

Diebler ranked among the Horizon League Top 10 in a trio of categories as a senior, finishing fourth in minutes played (33.8/game), sixth in 3-pointers made (1.8/game) and eighth in steals (1.3/game). He finished his Crusader career 10th in Valpo history with 130 career steals and 16th all-time at Valpo with 229 career assists. He also holds the all-time Ohio high school career records in assists and steals.

Also a standout in the classroom, Diebler earned Academic All-League honors and Horizon League Academic Honor Roll mention during his career, as well as being named to the NABC Honors Court. Diebler graduated with a bachelor's degree in marketing from Valparaiso in May 2009 and with an MBA in 2011. His brother Jon, played for the Buckeyes from 2008-11, and is the Big Ten All-time leader in made threes and the all-time leading scorer in Ohio High School basketball history. Jon was also the 51st pick in 2011 NBA Draft.

Coaching runs in the family for Diebler. His father Keith, coached high school basketball in the state of Ohio for almost 40 years, while his older brother Jeremiah coached high school basketball as well.

Diebler was recently married to his wife Jordyn in August of 2016.





COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Casey Shaw, Assistant Coach, 1st Season, Toledo ('98)



THE SHAW FILE

High School

Lebanon (Ohio)

College

Toledo (1994-98)

Moody Theological Seminary (2009-11)

Northwestern University School of Continuing and Professional Education (2011-12)

Education

B.A., Education, 1997; Master in Biblical Studies, 2011; Certified Financial Planner Certification (2012)

Coaching Experience

1994-98 - Toledo

1999 - Philadelphia 76ers

1999-00 - Tisettanta Cantu (Italy)

2000-01 - Telit Trieste (Italy)

2001 - Wurth Roma (Italy)

2001-02 - Armani Jeans Milano (Italy)

2002 - Sacramento Kings

2004-05 - Eurofiditalia R. Calabria (Italy)

2005-06 - Caja Banca (Spain)

2006-07 - Tisettanta Cantu (Italy)

2007-08 - Armani Jeans Milano (Italy)

2008-10 - Scavolini Spar Pesaro (Italy)

2010-11 - Banca Tercas Teramo (Italy)

Hometown

Lebanon, Ohio

Family

Wife, Dana, Anna (15), Isaiah (14), Caleb (13), and Luke (10)

Casey Shaw joined the Vanderbilt basketball staff in April of 2016 as an assistant coach after a successful playing career as a professional athlete in the NBA/FIBA and as a student-athlete at the University of Toledo.

“Coach Shaw is a former NBA draft pick who has a wealth of experience and knowledge from his playing career and through the relationships he has made in the NBA,” said Drew. “Being 6’10, he will be outstanding in working with our post players and developing them.”

Shaw’s wealth of basketball experience began in 1998 when he was drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers with the 37th overall pick after a stellar four-year career at Toledo, where he ranks sixth all-time with 1,562 points and fifth with 871 rebounds. He also ranks second in Toledo history with 107 blocked shots and sixth in field goal percentage (.546). He was named second team All-MAC in 1996-97 and 1997-98, and made the MAC All-Freshman team in 1994-95. He also was an outstanding student, earning third-team Academic All-America honors as a senior in 1997-98, and making the Academic All-MAC team in his junior and senior seasons.

After a stint in the NBA, Shaw began what became an 11-year international professional career in 2000 with stops in the Italian and Spanish leagues along the way.

“Having the opportunity to play professional basketball for 13 seasons was a dream come true and I am thankful that I can now use all those years of experience to be a better coach for players who hope to realize that same dream after their Vanderbilt playing days are over,” said Shaw.

Prior to his arrival in Nashville, Shaw worked at Balasa Dinverno Foltz, LLC, in Chicago, where he served as the Director of the Professional Athlete Service Team, providing business, career, and investment guidance to professional athletes. He is also a member of the National Board of Directors for the NBA Retired Players Association, which assists NBA players in their transition from playing to life after the game.

On the court, Shaw was the Director and Head Coach of the Athletes in Action Basketball Camp from 2003-2010, served as a Global All-Star Challenge Head Coach in 2012, and coached the Midwest Elite AAU team in Merrillville, Ind., in 2013 and the 180 Elite AAU team out of Chicago from 2015-16. In addition, he served as a National Basketball Developmental League Tryouts Coach and was a member of the NBA Assistant Coaches Program in 2014.

Shaw graduated with an undergraduate degree in Physical Education, from the University of Toledo, in 1997, and a Master’s degree in Biblical Studies from the Moody Graduate School in Chicago, Ill., in 2011. He also graduated from the Northwestern University School of Continuing and Professional Education to become a Certified Financial Planner in 2012.

Shaw and his wife, Dana, have four children, Anna (15), Isaiah (14), Caleb (13), and Luke (10).





COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Omar Mance, Director of Recruiting and Player Personnel, 1st Season, Rice ('03)



THE MANCE FILE

High School

Lithonia (Ga.)

College

LSU (1998-1999)

Rice (1999-2003)

Education

B.A., Mathematics, 2003

Playing Experience

1998-99 - LSU

1999-2003 - Rice

Summer 2004 - China

Summer 2005 - Russia

Coaching Experience

2016-present - Vanderbilt Director of Recruiting and Player Personnel

2013-16 – Liberty Assistant Coach

2010-13 – Army – Assistant Coach

2008-10 – North Shore Country Day H.S. – Head Coach

2007-08 – Rice – Assistant Coach

2007 – Rice – Director of Basketball Operations

2007 – Rice – Director of Basketball Operations

2007 – Rice – Director of Basketball Operations

Hometown

Stone Mountain, Ga.

Family

Wife, Rebecca, son Zion (2)

Omar Mance joined the Vanderbilt basketball staff in April of 2016 as the Director of Recruiting and Player Personnel after spending three seasons as an assistant coach at Liberty University.

“Coach Mance is a great addition to our staff and we are thrilled to have him,” said Drew. “He has great connections in the south and a tremendous reputation across the country.”

While at Liberty, Mance helped the Flames clinch the No. 5 seed and a first-round bye in the 2016 Big South Championship, finishing 10-8 in conference play. Liberty’s win total marked the first time the program had garnered 10 Big South victories since the 2010-11 season. He was also instrumental in Liberty’s Big South slate that was highlighted by a seven-game win streak, marking the fourth-longest streak in program history. The Flames entered postseason play second in the conference in scoring defense, holding opponents to 68.0 points per game. As the recruiting coordinator this past season, he helped Liberty sign one of its most highly touted recruiting classes in school history. Mance was also a member of the 2016 Big South Coach of the Year Ritchie McKay’s staff.

“I am so thrilled to join such a prestigious institution and rich basketball tradition here at Vanderbilt,” said Mance. “I am excited to work under the leadership of Coach Drew, who throughout his career has proven to be a winner, champion, and most of all, having great character. He’s one of the best young coaches in the country, and I am excited to work with him and the staff here. I’ve always admired the high academic reputation of Vanderbilt and its great basketball tradition. I’m so humbled to have the opportunity to work with this staff and with these outstanding student-athletes.”

Prior to coming to Liberty, Mance spent three seasons as an assistant at Army under head coach Zach Spiker. While at Army, Mance helped lead the Black Knights to its most successful Patriot League season at 8-6 and its best overall regular season in 28 years at 16-15. Army’s eight regular season wins in Patriot League play marked a school record, securing the team’s first winning season in league history. The Black Knights also garnered Army’s first overall winning season since 1984-85, while starting 4 freshman in the rotation throughout the entire conference season in 2012-13. The Black Knights won the coveted “Star Game” against Navy in back-to-back seasons, becoming the first coaching staff since the Mike Krzyzewski era to accomplish the feat. Mance worked with the program’s guards.

During his tenure, he coached the Patriot League Rookie of the Year as well as three Patriot League all-rookie team members. Mance also helped develop two-time first team All-Patriot League performer Ella Ellis, who finished his career fifth all-time in scoring with 1,558 point and 190 three-pointers. He was also instrumental in the recruitment and development of Kyle Wilson, Tanner Plomb, Kevin Ferguson and Dylan Cox, who later became the first four classmates in Patriot League history to all score 1,000 career points. Wilson finished his time fourth all-time in scoring in Army history, Plomb ended 11th all-time, while Ferguson became the all-time leader in blocked shots, and Cox finished first all-time in assists. In addition to working with position players, Mance also served as a recruiting coordinator and was instrumental in game preparation.

Before arriving at West Point for the 2010-11 season, Mance served as the head varsity coach for the North Shore Country Day (Ill.) boys’ team. In his two seasons, Mance led the squad to its two best finishes in school history, winning 16 games and making the regional championship game in 2009. Mance guided seven players to all-league honors and placed two of his charges on the honorable mention all-state squad. He also served as the school’s Dean of Multicultural Affairs during the 2009-10 school year.

Prior to his work at Country Day, Mance was on the staff of his alma mater, Rice. He served as Director of Basketball Operations from January-May 2007 before being named an assistant coach for the 2007-08 season. Mance served as the Owls’ recruiting coordinator and helped land the first Houston public school recruit to attend Rice in 40 years and also recruited former Liberty great and 2011 Big South Player of the Year, Jesse Sanders, who committed to Rice before becoming a Flame. In addition to his coaching and recruiting duties, Mance oversaw the Owls’ academic progress. Under his watch, Rice posted a 98 percent graduation rate, the best mark in the country. In his first year on the college sidelines back at Rice, Mance coached with Rice great, Morris Almond, who was a NBA first-round pick of the Utah Jazz and Conference USA Player of the Year in 2007.

Before entering the collegiate ranks, Mance was the athletic director at Joseph Sears School in Kenilworth, Ill., from 2005-07. He oversaw every aspect of each of the school’s programs and also served as the head coach of the eighth grade boys’ basketball squad. While working at the school, Mance also helped found the Robison-Mance Group, a company that worked with leagues, camps and teams to provide mentoring services to more than 900 youth in the Chicago area. Mance was the co-director and coach of the RMG Elite AAU team.

In 2006 and 2008, Mance worked with Athletes in Action in Nairobi, Kenya. He toured schools, academies and orphanages while helping coach college and club teams. The trip to Africa was just one of his international experiences. Mance played on professional tours in Europe, Asia and Canada during the summers of 2004 and 2005. He was named the tournament MVP of the International Cup in Moscow in 2005.

Mance started his coaching career as an assistant coach at Martin Luther King High School in Atlanta, Ga. He helped the squad to a 5-A state final four in 2004. Mance worked for his father, Eric, an Albany (Ga.) Hall of Fame Inductee who has won more than 500 games in his career.

The Stone Mountain, Ga. native played one season at LSU before finishing his career at Rice. Mance was a second-team All-WAC pick in 2003 and was named the Owls’ MVP in both 2002 and 2003. Just as decorated in the classroom, Mance was a two-time member of the WAC All-Academic Team and was named the Rice Scholar-Athlete of the Year in 2002 and 2003. Following his senior season, Mance was honored with the Bob Quin Award as Rice’s Top Male Student-Athlete and was a finalist for the Creamland Dairies National College Basketball Student-Athlete of the Year award.

A three-time all-state performer at Lithonia High School, Mance was the 1998 Metro Atlanta Player of the Year and the state’s AAA Player of the Year. He finished his career as the school’s all-time leading scorer and graduated as his class’ valedictorian while playing for his father, legendary coach Eric Mance. He played for the Atlanta Celtic AAU program and helped his team to a pair of national championships.

Mance earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from Rice in 2003. He and his wife Rebecca have one son, Zion (2).





COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Luke Simons, Director of Operations, 1st Season, Purdue ('10)



THE SIMONS FILE

High School

Shelbyville (Ind.)

College

Purdue (2001-06)

Hometown

Shelbyville, Indiana

Luke Simons joined the Commodores in April of 2016 as the Director of Basketball Operations after spending one season with Bryce Drew at Valparaiso in the same capacity, where he helped the Crusaders to a single-season win record, a Horizon League championship, and a postseason NIT finals appearance.

“Luke has a very good background in basketball operations from his previous positions,” said Drew. “He is extremely organized and efficient while handling big workloads.”

Before beginning his tenure with Drew in 2015 at Valparaiso, Simons spent nearly a decade working with Athletes in Action as an international team director and coach, as well as a regional coordinator. In his time with AIA, Simons helped assemble and direct multiple international competitive tours throughout Europe and Asia. He also created Captains Camp, an AIA leadership initiative to serve influencers in basketball.

“My wife and I could not be more thrilled to join the Vanderbilt family and its rich history of excellence in athletics and academics,” said Simons. “We look forward to making Nashville our home, and are excited to carry the Vanderbilt tradition of excellence throughout the country. Anchor Down!”

Outside of AIA, Simons served as director of operations for the USA team at the last three World University Games and helped found the International Basketball Coaches Experience, held annually at the NCAA Final Four. He also brings a good deal of coaching experience with him, having worked as an assistant coach and director of player development for the Mongolian national team – which he helped lead to the final round of 2015 Asian Games – since 2012. Simons also previously spent one season as interim head coach at Black Hawk College and five years as an assistant coach at West Lafayette H.S.

Jeremy Anderson, Strength and Conditioning, 1st Season, Liberty ('11)



THE ANDERSON FILE

High School

Warren Central (Kentucky)

College

Liberty (2008-2011)

Virginia (2011-2013)

Hometown

Bowling Green, Ky.

Jeremy Anderson joined the Vanderbilt men’s basketball staff as the team’s strength and conditioning coach in June of 2016 after spending the previous two seasons as the men’s basketball strength and conditioning coach at the University of New Mexico.

“Jeremy comes highly recommended and will be a great asset to our program,” said Vanderbilt head coach Bryce Drew. “He is extremely knowledgeable and has a passion to get players better.”

While with the Lobos, Anderson helped mentor two New Mexico players, Elijah Brown and Tim Williams, to all Mountain West Honors in 2015-16, and in his first season with the program in 2014-15, he helped the Lobos post one of their best defensive scoring seasons in three decades by holding opponents to just 60.2 points per game. It was the second lowest points allowed average since the 1983-84 season with the 2011-12 Lobos holding opponents to 59.3 points per game.

“I am excited and blessed to join Coach Drew and the Men’s Basketball program, and to be a part of such a high caliber staff,” said Anderson. “Vanderbilt University is an extremely special place, with outstanding academics and rich basketball tradition in a great city. I am eager to utilize my experience to better prepare our basketball student-athletes for their experiences in the Southeastern Conference and beyond.”

Prior to his stint at New Mexico, he spent three seasons at the University of Virginia assisting with the men’s and women’s basketball programs. He joined the Cavaliers for the 2011-12 season as a graduate assistant before being promoted to assistant strength and conditioning coach. He moved to Charlottesville after a three-month stint as a strength and conditioning intern at his alma mater, Liberty University.

Anderson played guard for the Liberty Flames from 2007 to 2011. Team captain his last two seasons at Liberty, he graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. He was also a member of the 2007-08 Big South Conference All-Freshmen Team.

A native of Bowling Green, Kentucky, Anderson earned his Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Exercise Science from Liberty University in 2011. He graduated from Virginia with a Master’s degree in Kinesiology and Exercise Physiology in 2013.



COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

Matt Olinger, Director of Basketball Administration/Video Coordinator, 1st Season, Liberty ('07)



THE OLINGER FILE

High School

Bethesda Christian School (Ind.)

College

Liberty (2003-07)

Hometown

Brownsburg, Ind.

Matt Olinger enters his first season as the Director of Basketball Administration and Video Coordinator at Vanderbilt after 11 seasons on the Liberty University basketball staff. Olinger spent his last eight seasons at Liberty on the coaching staff, and served in various other capacities that include assistant coach, director of basketball operations and graduate manager while being a part of two NCAA Tournament appearances in 2004 and 2013.

"I am both humbled and excited for the opportunity to join Coach Drew and his staff as well as the rich tradition at Vanderbilt," said Olinger. "I have always followed Coach Drew and his program from afar and have always respected not only their success, but also their attention to character. The future of Vanderbilt basketball is bright and I am truly honored to have the opportunity to be a part of it."

Olinger worked his way up the ranks of the program with the Flames, beginning with serving as manager and head manager during his undergraduate studies at Liberty. Understanding the time, energy, and work that goes into building a successful program, Olinger became a valuable asset to the Flames.

Olinger first joined the coaching staff in 2008 as the director of basketball operations under then head coach Ritchie McKay. During the 2008-09 season, the Flames garnered their first 20 win season since 1991 and also their first postseason appearance since the 2004 NCAA Tournament in the College Insider Tournament.

Olinger served as an interim assistant coach during the spring of 2008 and the spring and summer of 2009. In the fall of 2011, Olinger was promoted to assistant coach where he served until the 2013 season. During his time as assistant coach, Olinger's responsibilities included post player development, individual workouts, opponent scouting and recruiting.

A 2007 graduate of Liberty with a degree in Sport Management, Olinger went on to receive his MBA in 2011. He is married to the former Kathryn Farris and they have one son, Preston.

Brock Williams, Asst. Vice Chancellor, 11th Season, North Carolina ('79)



A 33-year veteran at Vanderbilt University, Assistant Vice Chancellor for men's basketball is in his 11th year as Director of Sport Operations for men's basketball.

Williams' sports duties include day-to-day operations, budget control, department staffing and alumni relations.

Previously, Williams worked many years as Associate Dean of Residential and Judicial Affairs at Vanderbilt.

A 1979 graduate of North Carolina, Williams earned his master's degree from Vanderbilt in 1984.

Williams and his wife Andrea, have three children: Corbin (24), Carolina Grace (21) and Christian (18).



SUPPORT STAFF

Neal Clark, Academic Counselor, 12th Season, Kentucky ('92)



After arriving at Vanderbilt in February 2005, Neal Clark now serves as an Assistant Director of Academic Support and Senior Academic Counselor for Men's Basketball and Bowling. Clark is entering his 11th full season as the academic counselor for the Commodore men's basketball team and 12th overall with Vanderbilt.

Clark returned to Vanderbilt after spending one season at the University of Minnesota in 2009 working with their men's and women's basketball team.

Prior to joining Vanderbilt, Clark had worked in a similar role with the football squad at the University of Kentucky, assisting as a liaison between the university's central advising service and the athletic department. Clark also served as the Assistant Director of Student-Athlete Services for football at James Madison University from June 2002 to July 2003.

Clark earned both his bachelor's degree (1992) and master's degree (2002) in Social Work from Kentucky. He worked two years with the athletic department's Community Outreach Program from 1999-2000 before serving as an Academic Graduate Assistant from 2000-2002. Clark is currently enrolled in the Western Kentucky University Leadership Doctoral Program with an emphasis in Organizational Leadership.

Clark is married to Renee Williams Clark. They are the proud parents of Corrine Renee Clark, who was born June 10, 2011.

Shannon Gordon, Athletic Trainer, 11th Season, Indiana State ('93)



Shannon Gordon is in his 11th season as the athletic trainer for Commodore men's basketball and 12th at Vanderbilt. He worked with the nationally ranked VU baseball team in 2006-07.

Gordon came to Nashville after working as an athletic trainer at Ohio University. He worked closely with the men's basketball team as well as the football and women's soccer squads.

This is his second stint in Nashville as he served as outreach coordinator for high school athletic training programs through Columbia Sports Medicine from 1994-99. He also worked with the Nashville Kats from 1997-99.

Gordon has a bachelor's degree in physical education with an emphasis on athletic training from Indiana State in 1992. He earned his master's degree in kinesiology/athletic training from Indiana and is currently pursuing his PhD.

He is the proud father of Landon Cole, who was born on February 8, 2012.

Debbie Green, Administrative Assistant, 20th Season



Debbie Green, a 20-year veteran of the Vanderbilt athletic department, serves as the program's administrative assistant.

Green is in her fifth season as administrative assistant after working as the assistant director of ticketing in the Commodore Ticket Office for 15 years.

A native of Franklin, Tenn., Green is in charge of the day-to-day duties of the basketball office.

Debbie and her husband Houston are the proud parents of Angie Beasley and Tiffany Fisher, and grandparents of Maggie Beasley, Maddox Fisher, and Brady Fisher.