

Coaching Staff



Coaching Staff



Tara Erickson

**Head Coach
Fourth Year**

Washington, 1996

**2006 Pac-10
Coach of the Year**

Tara Erickson, a former all-Pac-10 player and the 2006 Pac-10 coach of the year, has elevated the Oregon program dramatically in her first three years at the University.

Never falling below .500 during her Oregon tenure, the 2007 squad saw the Ducks post their highest goal total in six years. The team's 0-0 tie with No. 5 Stanford was a highlight to an 8-8-4 mark as Erickson coached defender Dylann Tharp to all league honors.

The 2006 season was a high mark in school history with the Ducks posting their best-ever finish in the Pac-10 -- second with a 6-1-2 record. The team also establish all sorts of defensive marks in allowing just 17 goals (0.81 GAA) and going 12-6-2 overall. Oregon defeated the highest-ranked program in school history - No. 3 UCLA (2-1 in double-overtime) and toppled USC for the first time ever. Erickson also led the Ducks to its first Pac-10 road sweep (at Arizona and Arizona State) and mentored Pac-10 player



of the year Nicole Garbin, also the school's first. Defender Danielle Sweeney was named to the Pac-10 all-freshman team, while Jessie Chatfield, Nicole Dobrzynski and Darcie Gardner were all honored on the Pac-10's all-academic team.

Erickson's first season, 2005, produced just the second non-losing record in program history (9-9-1) and the Ducks recorded their first wins ever over Washington and an Atlantic Coast Conference school (North Carolina State). The Ducks also posted an improvement of five games over the previous year's 3-13-3 mark.

Erickson also helped Garbin earn all-Pac-10 second team honors and goalkeeper Chatfield pick up Pac-10 all-freshman recognition.



Maklain, Tara, Taj and Kraig Erickson

Erickson File

Born: August 26, 1973, in New York, N.Y.

Personal: Husband Kraig, son Maklain (3-15-05), and daughter Taj (8-23-06)

Education: B.A. in Communications, Washington, 1996

Coaching Career - 12th Year: Head Coach, Oregon (2005-present); Head Coach, Portland State (2001-04); Assistant Coach, Washington women (1996-98)

ODP Coaching Career - Head Coach, Region IV (2004-present); Assistant Coach, Region IV (2001-03); Head Coach, Washington State U-16 (1997-98)

Coaching Staff



Her student-athletes have done well in the classroom, with Caitlin Gamble earning the program's first Academic All-America first team award in 2005 -- becoming just the fifth UO woman to accomplish that feat. Gamble was also a District and all-Pac-10 first team all-academic selection. In three years, Erickson has amassed nine Pac-10 all-academic first and second team selections.

Erickson was hired in January of 2005 as just the second head coach in the history of the UO program. She also holds the important position as head coach of the Region IV ODP program.

The 35-year old native of Puyallup, Wash., took over in Eugene after guiding a zero-win Portland State Viking program to a 13-5-4 mark in 2002 and a share of the Big Sky regular season title in 2004.

Overall, she posted a 29-38-10 record in four seasons (2001-04) at PSU and was tabbed Big Sky coach of the year in 2002. Prior to that, she served as an assistant coach at Washington (1996-2000) following a decorated career as a Husky midfielder from 1992-96.

In her four seasons with the Vikings, Erickson transformed one of the Big Sky's least successful teams into one of its best. She inherited a team that went 5-31-0 the previous two years (1999-2000) and two seasons later, had PSU in the Big Sky tournament championship game. Her squad led the league in scoring and allowed the fewest goals against in becoming only the second PSU coach in any sport to receive the leagues' coach of the year award.

She coached the Vikings to a 13-5-4 record in 2002 and an 8-8-3 mark in 2004, when she shared the regular season title with a 4-1-1 conference record.

Individually, her players combined for 10 Big Sky first-team all-conference honors (including five in 2002 and four in '04) seven second-team league honors, three newcomer-of-the-year

awards and 18 player of the week accolades (including a school record eight in '04).

In 2002, Katie Miyake became the first PSU player to win the Big Sky Golden Boot Award as the leading conference point-scorer, and Jamie Blakesley took the honor in 2004. In the classroom, her Portland State players were equally successful with 25 conference all-academic honors.

In Oregon and Washington soccer circles, Erickson is well-known as head coach for the Region IV Olympic Development Program (ODP), and was head coach of the Washington State ODP U-16 team in 1997 and '98. She also served as head girl's soccer coach at The Northwest School in Seattle in 2000 and guided the team to the state playoffs.

As a player at Washington, the former Tara Bilanski was a three-time team MVP, four-year letterwinner and captain during her collegiate career from 1992-95. As a junior and senior, she was tabbed to the all-Pac-10 first team and All-America West Team and helped the Huskies to the first two NCAA tournament appearances in school history.

She finished with school single-season records for goals (12), assists (6) and points (30), and notched a pair of hat tricks and three-assist games. She still ranks among the top five in school history in virtually every statistical category, including third in goals (27), fourth in points (47) and shots (175), and fifth in assists (20), game-winning goals (7) and starts (74).

After college, she was a player-coach for the Washington State Select Women from 1997-99, and played professionally one season in Germany for FSV Frankfurt.

She graduated from Washington with a bachelor's degree in communications in 1996.

Erickson (8-26-73) is married to Kraig Erickson. The couple have a son Maklain and a daughter Taj.

Coaching Staff



Mike Smith
Associate Head Coach
Fourth Year
Southampton, 1991

Mike Smith, one of the architects who guided Oregon to a second place Pac-10 finish in 2006 and Santa Clara to a pair of NCAA Final Four appearances during the first half of this decade, begins his fourth season as associate head coach on the Oregon staff.

Smith joined the Santa Clara staff as the top assistant coach in 2002, and helped the Broncos to three NCAA appearances, including two Final Four trips, and an appearance in the 2002 national championship game.



Outside collegiate circles, Smith served three seasons as Olympic Development Program (ODP) Regional IV Head Coach for the USA's 14 western states. He has assisted with the U-17 women's national team, been a part of the U.S. Soccer National Instructional Staff since 1999, and holds a US Soccer Federation 'A' License – the nation's top coaching qualification.

Prior to his college work, the Scotland native oversaw the Minnesota and Oregon youth soccer programs and worked with the state's ODP program.

In his three seasons as a player at Southampton University in England, he was named Player of the Year as a senior after he helped the team finish second in the 1991 British Universities Indoor Soccer Championships. He graduated from Southampton with a bachelor's in geography, and added a master's in sociology of sport at the University of Leicester the following year.

After his playing career, he worked as an assistant coach for the Southampton and Leicester women's teams, then served as head coach for the Premier Boys Club Newcastlewest in Minnesota.

Smith has two children, Brogan (12) and Fiona (10).

Smith File
Born: Dec. 31, 1969, in Dundee, Scotland
Personal: One daughter Fiona (8-12-98), and one son Brogan (3-6-96)
Education: B.A. in geography, Southampton University, 1992; Master's in sociology of sport, University of Leicester, 1993
Coaching Career - Seventh Year: Associate Head Coach, Oregon (2005-present); Assistant Coach, Santa Clara (2002-04)

Coaching Staff



Nicole Wilcox

**Assistant Coach
Fourth Year**

**Washington State,
2004**

Nicole Wilcox completes Oregon's staff as assistant coach. The former all-Pac-10 player helped lead Oregon to a second place Pac-10 finish in 2006.

The Battle Ground, Wash., native served as Portland State's volunteer assistant in 2004 and helped the Vikings to an 8-8-3 record and a share of the Big Sky regular season title (4-1-1) after a decorated collegiate career as a forward for Washington State and Iowa State.

Wilcox also serves on the coaching staff of the Region IV ODP program, and added coaching experience with the Lake Oswego Soccer Club, Lake Oswego Academy and Youth Development Programs, as well as with Columbia Premier Soccer Club. She owns a U.S. Soccer Federation 'C' coaching license.

She played her final two collegiate seasons with the Cougars in 2002 and '03, and was an All-Pac-10 Second Team choice at forward in '02. She still ranks among the WSU top 10 in single-game assists (first, 3, 2002 vs. Gonzaga), season categories for assists (first, 8, 2002) and points (10th, 24, 2002), and career categories in goals (seventh, 13) and points (seventh, 36).

She was named the team's offensive MVP in 2002, and career-wise racked up 13 goals and 10 assists in 39 starts for WSU. As a



junior, she led the team in goals (8), assists (8), points (24), shots (55) and shots on goal (26), and as a senior she also paced the team in goals (5), assists (2) and points (12), and ranked second in shots (51), shots on goal (23) and game-winners (1).

Prior to her WSU stint, she led Iowa State in scoring in both 2000 (5 goals, 7 assists, 17 points) and '01 (8 goals, 2 assists, 18 points). She started all 36 matches her freshman and sophomore seasons, and was an All-Big 12 Second Team honoree as a freshman.

She was also a Pac-10 All-Academic First Team pick in 2003 and a Pac-10 medal winner in 2003-04 for WSU, and a two-time Big 12 All-Academic selection in 2000 and '01 for Iowa State.

As a prep at Battle Ground High School, she was a two-time St. Helen's League player of the year, and led the conference in scoring as a sophomore and senior.

Wilcox (5-16-82) graduated with a degree in communications from Washington State in 2004.



Wilcox File

Born: May 16, 1982, in Portland, Ore.

Education: B.A. in communications, Washington State, 2004

Coaching Career - Fifth Year: Assistant Coach, Oregon (2005-present); Volunteer Assistant, Portland State (2004)

Coaching Staff



**Joe
Beeler**

**Volunteer
Coach
First Year**

Cal State San Bernardino

Joe Beeler is in his first season as Oregon's volunteer goalkeeper coach.

Beeler holds a USSF "A" license. Collegiately, Beeler has coaching experience as a volunteer assistant for Cal State San Bernardino, the University of Redlands and Southwestern University in Texas.

He is also the head coach and goalkeeper coach for the Eugene Metro Futbol Club and is a Region IV ODP staff coach.

Beeler played college soccer for Cal State San Bernardino 1988-91, and was the starting goalkeeper for the Coyotes.

He currently resides in Cottage Grove with his wife Tricia and daughter Hannah.



**Heather
Garris**

**Athletic Trainer
Fourth Year**

Chico State, 2000

Heather Garris begins her first season as athletic trainer for the soccer program and fourth overall at the University.

The Dunsmuir, Calif., native has also worked with Oregon's national championship cross country teams and Pac-10 champion track and field programs, as well as Oregon's lacrosse, wrestling and rally teams.

Garris received her undergraduate degree in physical education from Chico State in 2000. She then went on to earn her Master's degree in 2003, and spent four years as a graduate assistant and assistant athletic trainer for the Broncos before coming to Oregon.



**Eric
Fasbender**

**Grounds
Manager
Fifth Year**

Roosevelt, 2004



**Geoff
Ginther**

**Strength &
Cond. Coach
21st Year**

Miami (Ohio), 1984



Kenny Farr

**Assistant
Equipment Manager
First Year**

Oregon, 2008



Tessa Martin

**Graduate Assistant
Athletic Trainer
First Year**

North Dakota State, 2008



Dylann Tharp

**Undergraduate
Assistant
First Year**



Megan Watson

**Undergraduate
Assistant
First Year**



Alex Dakers

**Manager
First Year**