



# 2008 COUGAR TRACK & FIELD COACHES



# 2008 COUGAR TRACK & FIELD



## ***Rick Sloan***

HEAD COACH

**BORN:** November 10, 1946

**HOMETOWN:** Anaheim, California

**HIGH SCHOOL:** Anaheim High, 1964

**COLLEGE:** Fullerton College, 1964-66; UCLA, 1966-69 (BS);  
WSU, 1978 (MS)

**WIFE:** Sandy

**CHILDREN:** daughter Kim, son Scott

**GRANDCHILDREN:** granddaughter Logan

**COACHING EXPERIENCE:** California Institute of Technology and Pasadena  
City College, 1972; Mt. San Antonio Junior College, 1972-73.

**WSU APPOINTMENTS:** 1973 - Assistant track and field coach; 1982 -  
Associate track and field coach; 1994 - Head coach men's track and  
field; 1995 - Head coach men's and women's track and field.

“At Washington State University our number one objective is the education of our student-athletes. We have an outstanding staff who are motivated and dedicated to the success of our students in the classroom. Our objective is to recruit talented, competitive people who are willing to work hard and with our outstanding coaching staff, develop to their potential. All of our energy is put into developing our student-athletes educationally, athletically and personally.”

*—Head Coach, Rick Sloan*

The student-athletes on the men's and women's track and field teams at Washington State University have found success athletically and academically under the direction of head coach Rick Sloan.

A dynamic coach and skilled technician, Sloan and his Cougar coaching staff have searched far and wide to bring the best student-athletes to Pullman, Washington, and then have worked tirelessly to have each one reach their greatest potential.

The programs' continued success is evident in the consistent accomplishments achieved at the Pacific-10 Conference, NCAA West Regional, NCAA Championships and USA Track and Field levels.

WSU brought home 39 All-America certificates during the past six indoor and outdoor seasons.

Whitney Evans won the women's high jump title at the 2003 NCAA Outdoor Championships with a career-best leap of 6-feet, 1 1/4-inches, and earned her eighth All-America honor making her the most-decorated woman athlete in Washington State University history.

Recognized internationally as a highly successful multi-event coach, Sloan has directed four Cougars to NCAA top finishes in the past six years including Julie Pickler's second-place finish in the 2007 heptathlon, and Diana Pickler and Julie Pickler with third and fifth-place heptathlon finishes in 2006.

As a Head Coach, Sloan has directed 33 WSU athletes to NCAA Outdoor All-American status 57 times, and directed 25 athletes to



# COACHING STAFF

NCAA Indoor All-American status 38 times.

In his 13 years as the WSU Track Program's mentor, Sloan has seen Cougar men set 11 school records and Cougar women set 39 school records. Additionally, 18 men's freshmen and 32 women's freshmen records have been rewritten in this time frame.

When Sloan was named the head track and field coach at Washington State in June of 1994, he had already invested 21 years of service to the program and the university as an assistant coach.

From 1973 until the summer of 1994, he was an assistant coach, directing WSU athletes in field events, hurdles, sprints, and decathlon.

Sloan came to coach at Washington State after a highly successful competitive career. An outstanding athlete while at UCLA, Sloan became the first Bruin to clear 7-0 in the high jump and was an All-American in the pole vault as an undergraduate.

He captained the Bruin track team as a senior and became the fourth American to surpass 8,000 points in the decathlon. As a 21-year-old, Sloan finished seventh in the decathlon at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. A year later he toured Europe with the U.S. National team.

While competing, Sloan held world decathlon records in the pole vault with a height of 16-7, and the high jump with a leap of 6-11 3/4. As a decathlete, he was ranked second in the United States in 1968 and 1969, and ranked 10th in the world in 1969. Sloan's 8,051 points was the fourth best mark in the world in 1969.

This Cougar mentor began his coaching career at California Institute of Technology and at Pasadena City College in 1972. Sloan also coached at Mt. San Antonio Junior College, home of the respected Mt. SAC Relays in Walnut, Calif., before coming to WSU in 1973.

In September of 1994, USA Track and Field accorded Sloan the title of Master Coach, the highest recognition in coaching education.

Sloan is well-known internationally in the decathlon circuits because of his 14 years as coach for four-time world champion, Olympic champion and American record-holder Dan O'Brien.

Sloan is a much sought-after clinician who is the author of *Track and Field Techniques and Training*, and has produced nine instructional video tapes. He served as the head coach of the U.S.A. decathlon team which competed in the USSR in 1983. In 1988, he conducted clinics for the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) in Georgetown, Guyana.

In the fall of 2002, Sloan served as an assistant men's coach for the United States team competing at the International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) World Cup in Madrid, Spain.

## COUGAR HIGHLIGHTS under Head Coach Rick Sloan

1994 - Named Head Coach for the Washington State men's Track & Field Team.

1995 - Named Head Coach for the combined Washington State men's and women's Track & Field Program.

1996 - Dominique Arnold won the men's 110m high hurdles title at the NCAA Outdoor Championships.

1998 - Men's team won the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Indoor Championships title...Men's team earned third place at the NCAA Indoor Championships with the distance medley relay team winning that event with a world record time...Sloan named MPSF Coach of the Year (men and women), selected District 8 Men's Coach of the Year.

1999 - Women's team won the MPSF Indoor Championship...Sloan named MPSF Women's Coach of the Year...Men's team finished 10th at the NCAA Indoor Championships as Bernard Lagat won both the mile and 3000m...Lagat named Male Athlete of the Year...Women's team finished third at the Pac-10 Conference Championships and went on to place 20th at the NCAA Outdoor Championships...Men's team finished 11th at the NCAA Championships...Lagat won the NCAA men's 5000m title...Sloan selected United States Track Coaches Association (USTCA) Region VIII Women's Coach of the Year.

2000 - Women's team repeats as the MPSF Indoor Champions...Sloan selected USTCA Region VIII Women's Coach of the Year.

2001 - Men's team won the MPSF Indoor Championship...Sloan named MPSF Men's Coach of the Year...Women's team finished fourth at the Pac-10 Championships and went on to an 18th place finish at the NCAA Outdoor Championships...Sloan named USTCA Men's West Region Coach of the Year.

2002 - Women's team finished tied for 15th at the 2002 NCAA Outdoor Championships...Ellannee Richardson and Anson Henry named Mondo West Region Outdoor Track Athletes of the Year...Pac-10 champions include Whitney Evans (high jump), Richardson (heptathlon) and Henry (100m, 200m)...Sloan named USTCA Men's West Region Coach of the Year.

2003 - Women's team takes 12th place at NCAA Outdoor Championships...Whitney Evans wins high jump, Ellannee Richardson heptathlon runner-up after winning Pac-10 titles...Darion Powell (decathlon) and Eric Dudley (intermediate hurdles) earn All-America...Anthony Buchanan (100m) and 4x100m relay (Lamar Kirk, Bennie Chatman, James McSwain, Buchanan) also win Pac-10 championship.

2004 - For the third consecutive year, a WSU sprinter won the Pac-10 men's 100m dash...Anthony Buchanan won his second consecutive 100m dash title and placed seventh in the 100m at the NCAA Championships.

2005 - Diana Pickler NCAA indoor All-America (pentathlon)...Pac-10 champions Julie Pickler (heptathlon), Darion Powell (decathlon) and Robin Mikesch (high jump)...All-America honors to Julie Pickler and Diana Pickler (heptathlon), Tamara Diles and Tyson Byers (pole vault).

2006 - Julie Pickler NCAA indoor All-America after runner-up in pentathlon...NCAA outdoor All-America honors to John Cassleman (400m hurdles), Matt Lamb (discus), Diana Pickler and Julie Pickler (heptathlon)...Diana Pickler fifth in heptathlon at USA Track & Field Championships with school record 5,855 points.

2007 - At the NCAA indoor championships, Diana Pickler third and Julie Pickler ninth in pentathlon, Tyson Byers third in pole vault...Diana Pickler wins Pac-10 heptathlon and sets school records in pentathlon, heptathlon, and 100m hurdles...she places second heptathlon at the USA Track & Field Championships...Julie Pickler runner-up in NCAA heptathlon, places sixth at USA T&F Championships...discus throwers McKenzie Garberg and Matt Lamb reach All-America.



# 2008 COUGAR TRACK & FIELD



## **Debra Farwell** **Associate Coach**

**BORN:** June 29, 1961  
**HOMETOWN:** Renton, Washington  
**COLLEGE:** Washington State University (B.A., 1983)  
**COACHING EXPERIENCE:** Washington State University, 1983-86, graduate assistant coach; University of Iowa, 1987-91, assistant coach; Penn State, 1994-95, assistant coach.  
**WSU APPOINTMENT:** 1995 - Assistant track and field coach; 1998 - Associate coach

Debra Lombardi Farwell is a 1983 Washington State University graduate who joined the Cougar coaching staff in the fall of 1995 after a successful stint at Penn State University. Farwell coaches the men and women throwers and during her coaching stint at WSU, 12 school throwing records have been set.

Last spring, two of Farwell's throwers reached All-America status. Sophomore Matt Lamb repeated as a discus All-American with a sixth-place finish after taking third place at the NCAA Championships in 2006 and throwing a freshman school record. Junior McKenzie Garberg earned All-America honors in 2007 with her eighth-place finish in the women's discus at the NCAA meet.

Farwell coached eight-time All-American thrower Ian Waltz throughout his collegiate career as Waltz rewrote Cougar history in the shot put and discus events. Waltz was a member of the 2004 US Olympic Team after a second place finish in the discus at the Trials. In 1999, Farwell had two athletes win championships at the Pacific-10 Championships with Waltz taking the men's discus event and Molly Monroe winning the women's javelin crown. Andrea Thornton achieved All-America status in both the outdoor discus and hammer events in 2001 while Tim Gehring (shot put) and Curt Borland (javelin) earned All-America certificates in 2004. Gehring finished 15th in shot at the 2004 US Olympic Trials. Javelin thrower Jenna Dean broke the school record with a toss of 169-7 in 2005.

Originally from Renton, Wash., Farwell held the WSU women's outdoor shot put record of 14.70m/48-2 3/4 from 1981-86. She was an AIAW national qualifier in the shot put in 1982.

Farwell was also a pioneer in the woman's hammer thrower as one of four Cougars competing against two women from the University of Montana in the first collegiate women's dual meet hammer throw event in Pullman on March 27, 1982. She threw a 35.74m/117-3 on that day and the following week set an unofficial collegiate women's world record of 38.34m/125-9 in Eugene, Ore. In 1994, the NCAA added the women's hammer throw as an official event for the 1995 season.

Farwell was a graduate assistant coach for the WSU track and field program from 1983-86 under head coaches Jessica and Rob Cassleman. She also was a teaching assistant in the WSU physical education department in 1985, instructing beginning weight training and conditioning, and field event classes.

From 1987-91, Farwell served as an assistant track and field coach at the University of Iowa where she was responsible for coaching the throwers along with the multi-event athletes and developing a strength and conditioning program for all track athletes. She received her USATF certification for levels I and II in 1990 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado.

Farwell was the assistant track and field coach and exercise science and sport activity instructor at Penn State University in 1994-95.

Also committed to community involvement, the Cougar throwers have washed cars and raised over \$6,100 to donate to local community members in need in the past five years.

Farwell and her husband George enjoy the company of their two dogs, Wolfie and Fergie.



## **Jason Drake** **Head Coach, Cross Country**

**BORN:** May 30, 1971  
**HOMETOWN:** Gillette, Wyoming  
**COLLEGE:** University of Colorado (B.S., 1994)  
**COACHING EXPERIENCE:** University of Colorado, 1995-2002, assistant track and cross country coach; recruiting coordinator, 2000-02.  
**WSU APPOINTMENT:** 2002 - Assistant cross country and track and field coach, 2004 - Head coach cross country.

Jason Drake is in his fifth season with the Cougar distance corps and the 2006 cross country season was highlighted by the WSU men's team's at-large berth to the NCAA Championships for the first time since 1998.

With a team comprised of only his recruits, Drake is seeing the rewards of four years of enticing prep state champions from seven different states to join the Cougar cross country program. His teams have matured and are racing against the best in prestigious meets across the nation as well as competing well at the Pacific-10 Conference and NCAA West Regional Championships.

After implementing a training program with the Cougar distance runners during his first season, Drake saw senior Anna Blue earn All-America honors at the 2003 NCAA Track & Field Championships as well as break four school records (indoor 3000m and 5000m, outdoor 5k and 10k) and qualify for the NCAA Cross Country Championship that fall. Danny Wolf reached All-American status with his 10th place finish in the 3k at the 2004 NCAA Indoor Championships. In 2005, sophomore Haley Paul became WSU's third woman to earn All-America cross country honors with her 14th place finish at the national championships.

Born in Aberdeen, S.D., Drake had a stellar prep career at Campbell County High School, in Gillette, Wyoming. He is a 1994 graduate of Colorado, where he was a middle distance runner for the Buffalos and earned seven letters while competing in cross country, indoor and outdoor track. He earned All-America honors as a member of CU's 1994 indoor distance medley relay team. Drake earned several Academic All-Big Eight Conference accolades on his way to earning a bachelors of science degree in environmental conservation.

Drake spent seven years as a distance coach and the recruiting coordinator at the University of Colorado. He became the recruiting coordinator for Colorado's cross country and track and field programs in 2000, in addition to his long and middle distance coaching duties. At CU he coached All-Americans Lesley Higgins (second in mile at NCAA Indoor), Steve Slattery (second in steeplechase at NCAA Outdoor), and Sara Gorton (fourth in 5k at NCAA Outdoors). Drake recruited and assisted in coaching all members of the Colorado women's 2000, and men's 2001 national championship cross country teams.

In 1999, Drake founded the Colorado Elite Track Club, a nonprofit club for post-collegiate female middle and long distance runners. Among the professional members are several outstanding runners: Shayne Culpepper (2000 Olympic team 1500m and two World Cross Country teams), Janet Trujillo (2002 World Cross Country team and fifth place in 2001 USATF 1500m Outdoor Championships), and Sarah Toland (2002 World Cross Country team).

Drake has also worked part time as a geographic information systems (GIS) consultant. He is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys mountain biking, water and snow skiing in addition to running. Drake and his wife, Colleen, have a daughter, Riley Elizabeth (7/8/05).

# COACHING STAFF



## **Mark Macdonald** **Assistant Coach**

**BORN:** April 15, 1969  
**HOMETOWN:** Spanaway, Washington  
**COLLEGE:** Washington State University (B.A., 1992; M.A., 1993)  
**COACHING EXPERIENCE:** Washington State University, 1992-94, graduate assistant coach, 1994-95, assistant track and field coach.  
**WSU APPOINTMENT:** 1994 - Assistant track and field coach

Mark Macdonald was an outstanding Cougar track and field student-athlete who returned to coach at his alma mater where he works with the hurdlers and sprinters, and serves as the program's recruiting coordinator.

Macdonald is credited with bringing in back-to-back women's recruiting classes ranked among the top ten nationally by *Track & Field News*. In the past four years, WSU's recruiting classes have included 43 state or junior college champions. He also helped to sign five prep athletes for the 1999 Cougar season that finished among the top five performers nationally in their events.

WSU had three consecutive champions in the Pac-10 men's 100m dash including two-time champ and 2004 US Olympic Trials competitor Anthony Buchanan (2003, 2004), and 2004 Canadian Olympian Anson Henry (2002). Additionally, Macdonald coached Ellannee Richardson in her transition from heptathlon to the 400m hurdles where she achieved a PR of 55.61 and finished ninth at the 2004 Olympic Trials.

Macdonald coached current USA high hurdles record-holder Dominique Arnold to the men's 110m hurdles title at the 1996 NCAA Outdoor Championships, and Arend Watkins to two top-eight national finishes. Two-time All-American intermediate hurdler Eric Dudley, the 2003 CoSIDA/Verizon Track & Field Academic All-American of the Year, finished 18th at the 2004 US Olympic Trials.

At the 2001 NCAA Outdoor Championships, Macdonald had Cougars competing in all four hurdles events - the only Division I program to accomplish that feat.

He also directed the school's record-holders in the women's 4x100m relay team - Attrina Higgins, LaTroya Mucker, Ellannee Richardson and Francesca Green - to a 44.50 time to win the title at 1999 at the Pac-10 Meet. The 2003 4x400m relay team of Tiffany Giles, Monique Jessie, Angelita Green and Ellannee Richardson set the school indoor record of 3:35.49 and finished seventh at the NCAAs. With Tamara Gulley running in place of Green that same year, the relay set the WSU outdoor record of 3:33.65.

Macdonald protégé Randi Smith finished second in the women's 400m hurdles at the 2000 USATF Junior National Championships with a school record time of 57.07 which was also the fifth-fastest time in the world that year for a junior competitor (ages 14-19).

After a successful prep career as a multi-sport athlete at Bethel High School where his father Mike was the track and field coach, Macdonald achieved All-America status as an intermediate hurdler at Washington State. A four-year letterwinner, Macdonald's 400m hurdles seventh place finish in the 1992 NCAA Championships at Austin, Texas, was his third appearance at a national championship.

He served as the team captain of WSU's 1992 National Dual Meet Champion squad. Macdonald also competed in the 400m hurdles at the 1992 U.S. Olympic Trials.

An accomplished scholar, Macdonald was twice named to the All-Pac-10 Academic Track and Field Team. He was honored as WSU's Pac-10 Conference Medal Winner in 1992.

Macdonald graduated from WSU with a B.A. in Social Studies Education in 1992. He completed his master's degree in Athletic Administration in 1993.



## **Ellannee Richardson** **Assistant Coach**

**BORN:** March 18, 1980  
**HOMETOWN:** Gladstone, Oregon  
**COLLEGE:** Washington State University (B.A., 2002)  
**WSU APPOINTMENT:** 2003 - Assistant track and field coach

Ellannee Richardson is achieving prominence as a Cougar coach just as she did as a student-athlete. She joined the WSU Track & Field coaching staff as a fulltime assistant in 2003 after an illustrious athletic and academic career as a student-athlete and works with assistant coach Mark Macdonald in the sprints, hurdles and relays, as well as on administrative duties.

Richardson was named the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) West Region men's sprints/hurdles 2006 Coach of the Year. In 2006, James McSwain, Jaycee Robertson, Justin Woods and Martin Boston advanced to the NCAA Championships in the sprints and 4x100m relay.

In addition to her coaching duties, Richardson finished fifth in the 400m dash at the 2004 USA Indoor Track & Field Championships and competed on the USA National Indoor Track and Field 4x400m relay at the IAAF World Indoor Championships at Budapest, Hungary. At the 2004 US Olympic Trials, she missed the 400m hurdles final after running a PR time of 55.61 in the prelims and 56.27 in the semifinals, just 24/100s of a second from qualifying for the final.

Richardson was a five-time All-American heptathlete and sprinter at WSU. She is a four-time All-America heptathlete taking second place at the 2003 and 2002 NCAA Championships and earned an All-America certificate at the 2003 NCAA Indoor Meet anchoring the women's 4x400m relay to seventh place with a school-record time of 3:35.49. She also anchored the 1600m relay to a school record outdoor time of 3:33.65 for second place at the NCAA West Regional and a trip to the national meet with teammates Tiffany Giles, Monique Jessie and Tamara Gulley.

Richardson currently holds school records in the 400m relay (44.50), 1600m relay for indoor and outdoor races, but during her career also reached school records in the heptathlon, 100m hurdles and the indoor 400m dash. In WSU all-time records, Richardson's performances are in the top five in eight different events and eighth in the long jump. A three-time Pac-10 heptathlon champion, Richardson was ranked as the third-best heptathlete (top collegiate) in the United States in 2003 by *Track & Field News*.

She garnered these awards in 2003: WSU's Pac-10 Medal Winner, Cougar Pride Academic Salute Trophy, Senior Excellence in Academics, Pac-10 Postgraduate Scholarship, Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar First Team, NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship, nominee for NCAA Woman of the Year, and Verizon/CoSIDA National Academic All-American second team. A 2002 WSU graduate with a B.A. in sociology, Richardson is currently working on her master's degree in criminal justice.

# 2008 TRACK & FIELD COACHING STAFF



## **Matt McGee** **Assistant Coach**

**BORN:** September 27, 1979  
**HOMETOWN:** Berkeley, California  
**COLLEGE:** College of Marin (A.A., 2001), Washington State University (B.A., 2003)  
**WIFE:** Karla  
**COACHING EXPERIENCE:** Diablo Valley College, 2003-04, assistant coach; Washington State University, 2004-05, volunteer assistant coach.  
**WSU APPOINTMENT:** 2005 - Assistant track and field coach

Coach McGee is developing a reputation as one of the top young jumps coaches in the country demonstrating great ability to teach all four jumping events.

Always looking to develop proper mechanics, McGee encourages his athletes to become students of their events, learning the components necessary to reach great performances.

He also teaches that all athletes are unique in their strengths and that these unique strengths need to be utilized effectively in order for each individual to develop properly.

McGee said, "Learning is an individual process for each athlete. As the coach it is my job to ensure that performance does not suffer while learning proper technique by carefully selecting adjustments to make, and also making sure the athletes understand the needs for the adjustments."

He was promoted to a fulltime assistant coaching position in the summer of 2005 after spending the previous year as a volunteer. McGee became responsible for coaching all of the jumping events before the 2007 season after coaching high jump and assisting Sloan with the other jumps and multis in 2006.

In 2006 three of McGee's four high jumpers scored at the Pac-10 Championships with McKinnon Hanson also advancing to the NCAA Championships.

During the 2007 season, his first responsible for all jumping events, the WSU jumps group showed great improvement in all events.

Tyson Byers reached the 18-foot mark with 5.50m (18-0 3/4) placing third at the NCAA indoor championships becoming an All-American for the second time.

Moreno Zapata and Trent Arrivey both placed in the top three at the Pac-10 championships with Zapata also second at the NCAA West Regional championships and advancing to the NCAA Championships. Zapata improved nearly three feet from his previous season to a best of 15.78m (51-9 1/4W).

In 2007 WSU had three women over 40-feet in the triple jump, the first time in school history; Sarah Burns at 41-5, Catie Schuetzle at 41-3 1/4, and Kaylee Gardner at 40-10 1/4. All advanced to the NCAA West Regional Championships.

A former Cougar, McGee returned to WSU after spending 2004 coaching at Diablo Valley College working with jumps, throws, and multis, in addition to developing the strength training program.

Born in San Francisco California, McGee attended College of Marin and Diablo Valley College, competing as a decathlete. He transferred to WSU walking on the team as a junior. He was a two-time Pac-10 scorer and NCAA Regional qualifier for the Cougs finishing second in the javelin at the 2003 Pac-10 Championships.

McGee graduated in May 2003 with a B.A. in philosophy. He was named to the Pac-10 All-Academic team, Arthur Ashe, Jr. Sports Scholar second team, and awarded a Pac-10 post-graduate scholarship. He is currently working to complete his thesis for his master of exercise science degree with an emphasis in biomechanics at the University of Idaho.

McGee is married to former Cougar teammate Karla McGee, and they have one son, Liam Karim (10/19/07).



## **Diana Pickler** **Volunteer** **Assistant Coach**

Diana Pickler is a four-time All-American heptathlete who graduated from Washington State University in May 2007. While competing as a Cougar, Pickler set three school records - 100m hurdles, pentathlon, and heptathlon - and made her way into the

WSU women's top 10 in seven other events (200m, 60m hurdles, 400m relay, 1600m relay, high jump, long jump and javelin).

Her senior season was a breakout year that began with her NCAA Indoor Championships pentathlon runner-up placing with a school-record 4,339 points. A month later Pickler won the heptathlon at the Texas Relays with a school record, Pac-10 record, and United States-leading 6,205 points. That score was the fourth-best heptathlon by a collegian in-season in addition to being an "A" Qualifier for 2008 Beijing Olympics.

She went on to win the Pacific-10 Conference heptathlon champion with 6,018 points and also finished second in high jump and third in 100 hurdles. She reached NCAA Regional Qualifying marks in five events and at the West Regional placed third in 100m hurdles prelim (13.31w - did not run final), eighth in long jump, and 13th in javelin.

Competing at the 2007 USA Track & Field Championships in Indianapolis, Pickler was second with 6,029 points, and was selected to the Team USA roster for the IAAF World Outdoor Track & Field Championships. She placed 25th in heptathlon at 2007 Osaka World Championships with 5,838 points.

Among Pickler's honors include being named WSU's 2007 Pacific-10 Conference Medal Winner, the U.S. Track and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) NCAA Division I Co-Women's Field District Athlete of the Year, USA Track & Field Athlete of the Week (April, 2007), and three-time Pac-10 Athlete of Week.

Pickler's career was launched at Rowlett High in Sachse, Texas, where she was a state 100m hurdles champion and earned All-American honors in the heptathlon. A member of the US Junior National and Junior World Championship teams, Pickler was a ranked the No. 1 junior heptathlete in 2001, winning the Junior Olympic heptathlon.

Diana Pickler is currently ranked the number one U.S. heptathlete while her twin sister Julie, a five-time WSU All-American, is ranked No. 7, by *Track & Field News*.



# 2008 COACHING STAFF



Cougar Coaches



# WSU ATHLETICS ADMINISTRATION

## ELSON S. FLOYD

### PRESIDENT



Elson S. Floyd is Washington State University's 10<sup>th</sup> president. He took office in the summer of July after serving as president of the four-campus University of Missouri during 2002-2007.

"Affordability, accessibility and accountability" are keystones to his administration leading WSU. He puts high priority on WSU being a research leader and having a global presence. Furthermore, he endorses diversity of thought, opinion, perspective, viewpoints, race and ethnicity as characteristics of a world-class university.

Floyd, 51, served as president of Western Michigan University from 1999 to 2002, and held several administrative positions at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, including deanships in student affairs and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Previously, he spent two years as executive director of the state of Washington Higher Education Coordinating Board, the agency responsible for statewide coordination, planning, oversight, policy analysis and student financial aid programs for Washington's post-secondary education system. From 1990 to 1993, he served as vice president for student services, vice president for administration and executive vice president at Eastern Washington University.

He began his career in 1978 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he held deanships in the Division of Student Affairs, the General College and the College of Arts and Sciences. From 1988 to 1990, he was assistant vice president for student services for the UNC system office, where he helped develop and articulate student affairs and academic affairs policy for the 16-campus university system.

A native of Henderson, N.C., Floyd holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science and speech, a master of education degree in adult education, and a doctor of philosophy degree in higher and adult education, all from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Floyd and his wife, Carmento Floyd, have two grown children.

## ANNE MCCOY

### SENIOR ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS/ SENIOR WOMAN ADMIN.



Veteran intercollegiate athletics administrator Anne McCoy has served Washington State University since 2001, and was promoted from associate director to senior associate director of athletics in 2004. Her appointment to senior woman administrator came in the summer of 2007.

In her capacity as senior associate director of athletics, she is charged with overseeing all aspects of WSU's athletic budget and supervises several areas within the department including the business office, equipment, computer and football operations, and event management and facility operations. She also serves as a liaison for men's and women's basketball.

McCoy serves on several Pacific-10 Conference committees including the Executive Committee as vice president-elect for the Pac-10 Council, and on the Medical Care, Student-Athlete Advisory and Senior Woman Administrator committees.

A Wisconsin native, McCoy earned a bachelor's degree in sports management in 1989 from the University of Massachusetts. While an undergraduate, she worked for the Pittsburgh Penguins professional hockey organization, expanding the club's season ticket base. McCoy also served an internship as the assistant athletic business manager at the University of Connecticut, and was instrumental in designing and implementing a comprehensive computerized budget-tracking system.

McCoy served in several capacities at the University of Maine from 1989-1995, lastly as associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator. At Maine, she supervised men's basketball, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's swimming and softball in addition to the athletic business office, ticket office, retail store and cheerleading staff and operations. She took a similar administrative position at the St. Louis University from 1995-1996.

In 1996, McCoy moved west, joining the staff at Portland State University as associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator, and was promoted to senior associate director of athletics in 1998. At PSU, she managed all internal staff and the daily operations of the department, representing the director of athletics as needed. McCoy also supervised men's and women's golf, cross country/track and field, and women's volleyball, soccer, tennis and softball.

McCoy and her husband Brian have two children, daughter Taylor and son Jake.

## JIM STERK

### DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



Washington native James M. Sterk was appointed Washington State University's director of athletics in June of 2000. In his six years, Sterk has seen unprecedented growth and success by the Cougars' 17 intercollegiate teams and 450 individuals who compete for WSU annually.

On the academic front, WSU earned 113 selections to Pacific-10 Conference All-Academic teams in 2004-05. That figure represented the most student-athletes to earn such an honor during an academic year in school history. WSU nearly reached this standard in 2005-06 with 109 selections to conference all-academic teams.

On the field, Cougar Athletics has enjoyed extraordinary achievements highlighted by three consecutive 10-win seasons by the football program from 2001-03. Most recently, 10 sports were represented either as a team or individually in NCAA postseason competition during the 2005-06

season. Featured in this group was the rowing team's fourth place finish at the NCAA Championships, the highest finish ever by a WSU women's team in NCAA postseason competition.

Facility improvements have also been among projects Sterk has tackled. Following the 2006 football season, the initial phases of a renovation to Martin Stadium, the home of Cougar football, will commence. WSU recently completed a major baseball field renovation, becoming the first collegiate field to feature FieldTurf as a playing surface. In addition, plans are underway for an ambitious capital improvement plan that will enhance many other WSU sport facilities.

A 1980 graduate of Western Washington University, Sterk received his master's degree in sports administration from Ohio University. His professional career has included positions at North Carolina, Maine, Seattle Pacific, Tulane and Portland State, the latter as director of athletics for five years before joining the Cougar staff.

The foundation of Sterk's leadership plan is based on five areas: the student-athlete experience, resource acquisition, personnel, political dynamics, and facilities. All five areas have enjoyed growth in his first six years at Washington State University.

Sterk currently is a member of the prestigious NCAA Championship/Competition cabinet and has served on numerous Pacific-10 Conference committees during his tenure at WSU.

## KEN CASAVANT

### FACULTY ATHLETICS REPRESENTATIVE



Professor Ken Casavant, a member of the Washington State University family since 1967, currently serves as WSU's Faculty Athletics Representative to the Pacific-10 Conference and the National Collegiate Athletic Association. He is a past president of the Pac-10 and was recently chosen to serve on the NCAA Division I Management Council.

Casavant came to WSU as a graduate research assistant in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. He was named an assistant professor in 1971, an associate professor in 1975 and a full professor in 1980.

In 2004, Casavant received the honor of giving the Distinguished Faculty Address, the University's oldest award and also received the Sahlin Excellence in Public Service award for the University. In 1979, Casavant received the R.M. Wade award for outstanding teacher in the college of agriculture at

WSU, and in 1990, he earned the distinguished WSU Faculty of the Year award. Casavant was elected vice-chair (1991-92) and chair (1992-93) of the WSU Faculty Senate and has been accorded the Distinguished Teacher award by the American Agricultural Economics Association. He was named Distinguished Scholar by the Western Agricultural Economics Association in 2003 for his nationally recognized work as a transportation economist.

During his tenure at WSU, Casavant has served as associate director for the Washington State Transportation Center (1984-87) and the interim Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs and interim Vice-Provost for Research (1998).

The North Dakota native is a 1965 graduate of North Dakota State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics. He received his master's degree from NDSU, followed by a Ph.D., from WSU in 1971.

Ken and his wife Dorothy have two grown daughters, Michele and Colette.