



General Information

Name	Sacramento State
Location	Sacramento, Calif.
Founded	1947
Enrollment	28,529
Nickname	Hornets
Colors	Green & Gold
Affiliation	NCAA Division I
Conference	Big Sky
Year in Conference	12th
President	Dr. Alexander Gonzalez
Year at Sacramento State	5th
Athletics Director	Dr. Terry Wanless
Year at Sacramento State	6th
Faculty Athletic Rep.	Dr. David Raske
Athletics Phone	(916) 278-6481
Ticket Office Phone	(916) 278-2222

Basketball Information

Arena (Capacity)	Hornets Nest (1,200)
Press Row Phone	(916) 278-7531
Head Coach	Jerome Jenkins
Alma Mater, Year	Regis, '90
Record at SAC	76-123 (8th yr.)
Overall Record	Same
Office Phone	(916) 278-5345
Assistant Coach	Tarvish Felton
Alma Mater (Yr.)	Southern Utah, '99
Office Phone	(916) 278-5140
Assistant Coach	Kenya Crandell
Alma Mater (Yr.)	Nebraska-Kearney, '96
Office Phone	(916) 278-6133
Assistant Coach	Scott Eitelgeorge
Alma Mater (Yr.)	Saint Mary's, '91
Office Phone	(916) 278-6780
Basketball Operations	Mark Laird

Team Information

2006-07 Overall Record	10-19
2006-07 Big Sky Record	5-11 (8th)
Big Sky Postseason	N/A
Letterwinners Returning/Lost	7/5
Starters Returning/Lost	2/3
Returning Redshirts	2
Newcomers	5

Media Relations

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MEDIA GUIDE CREDITS

The 2007-08 Sacramento State men's basketball media guide was written, designed and edited by Ryan Bjork. Media guide covers also designed by Bjork. Assistance in editing provided by Brian Berger, J.D. Fox and Will Schilling. Photographs not credited provided by Bob Solorio, Sam Parsons, Bruce Clarke and Sacramento State sports information files. Cover photo taken by Parsons. Aerial photo on pg. 69 taken by Clarke. Sacramento information from Chamber of Commerce sources. Printing was provided by Commerce Printing of Sacramento, Calif.

On the cover: Clockwise from the bottom – head coach Jerome Jenkins, junior Loren Leath, senior Justin Williams, junior Randy Adams, senior Jason Davis and senior Roderick Adams. Center – senior Clark Woods.



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HORNETSPTS.COM - All press releases, stats and rosters are available at www.hornetspts.com.

CREDENTIALS - All credential requests must be made to the Sacramento State Media Relations office at least 24 hours before the start of the event. Press row is designed for working media only and accommodations will be made on a priority basis. Credentials can be picked up at will call.

INTERVIEWS - All player interviews outside of post-game or practice situations must be cleared through Hornet media relations. Following games, Coach Jenkins and selected players will be made available for interviews outside of the locker room.

RADIO LINES/WIRELESS - Two courtesy phone lines can be provided to a visiting team's primary radio station broadcasting games from the Hornets Nest. All calls must be made collect or billed to a credit card. Wireless is also available inside the Nest.

DIRECTIONS TO THE HORNETS NEST - From Highway 50 East, take the "Power Inn Road/Howe Avenue" exit. From that two-lane offramp, there is an exit for "Cal State Sacramento." That ramp leads you directly to a light at a "T" intersection (College Town Road). Go left at the light. Come to a stop light, go through the stop light and follow the road to the north side of campus. At the third stop sign, turn right into parking Lot 1. The Hornets Nest is located at the south side of Yosemite Hall which is adjacent to Lot 1. To reach the parking lot from the J Street entrance, make the first available right and then turn left at the stop sign which will take you into Lot 1.

KSAC 1240-AM

Sacramento State enters second year of partnership with KSAC 1240-AM

The Hornet athletics department begins its second year of partnership with KSAC 1240-AM, broadcasting Sacramento State men's basketball and football games for the second consecutive season.

In addition to covering all 11 of the Hornets' regular-season football games live this year, KSAC will also broadcast nearly every men's basketball game.

Steve McElroy returns for his 11th season as the radio voice of the Hornets. McElroy, who also serves as the color commentator for Sacramento State football, is scheduled to call every basketball game this season.

McElroy is the director of broadcast services for Sacramento State. In his role for the University, he is responsible for developing the radio contracts and helping generate sponsorships. Steve and his wife, Julie, have two sons (Trenton, 7, and Jason, 5).

Jason Ross is also scheduled to join McElroy for selected games this season. Ross, who handles the play-by-play duties for Hornet football, will serve as the color man for selected basketball games. Ross also serves as the sports director at Sports 1140 KHTK. He and his wife, Alva, have a son, Jackson (5).



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Sports 1140 KHTK (1140 AM)

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KFBK Radio (1530 AM)

Pat Walsh, Sports Director
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Roster Breakdown

By Position

Guards (6)

Roderick Adams, Yannick Kasongo,
Loren Leath, Vinnie McGhee,
Clark Woods, Alonzo Young

Guards/Forwards (2)

Darnell Ferguson, Donald Thomas

Forwards (3)

Randy Adams, Jason Davis,
Justin Williams

Forward/Centers (3)

Wandji Aboubakar, Justin Eller,
Curtis Harrison

By Class

Seniors (5)

Roderick Adams, Jason Davis,
Curtis Harrison, Justin Williams,
Clark Woods

Juniors (3)

Randy Adams, Loren Leath,
Donald Thomas

Sophomores (4)

Wandji Aboubakar, Justin Eller,
Yannick Kasongo, Alonzo Young

Freshmen (2)

Darnell Ferguson, Vinnie McGhee

By Height

6-8 (3) – Randy Adams, Justin Eller,
Curtis Harrison

6-7 (1) – Wandji Aboubakar

6-6 (2) – Donald Thomas,
Justin Williams

6-5 (1) – Jason Davis

6-4 (4) – Darnell Ferguson,
Yannick Kasongo, Clark Woods,
Alonzo Young

6-2 (1) – Loren Leath

6-1 (1) – Roderick Adams

6-0 (1) – Vinnie McGhee

Pronunciations

Wandji Aboubakar

WOND-jee uh-BOO-buh-car

Kenya Crandell

KEN-yuh CRAN-dill

Scott Eitelgeorge

EYE-till-george

Yannick Kasongo

Yuh-NIQUE Kuh-SONG-OH

Numerical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	Hometown/Previous School
0	Yannick Kasongo	G	6-4	200	So.	JC	Los Angeles, Calif./Porterville JC
1	Curtis Harrison	F/C	6-8	210	Sr.	1V	Seaside, Calif./Monterey Peninsula JC
3	Vinnie McGhee, Jr.	G	6-0	165	Fr.	HS	Oakland, Calif./McClymonds HS
4	Randy Adams	F	6-8	220	Jr.	2V	Moreno Valley, Calif./Redemption Christian
5	Darnell Ferguson	G/F	6-4	205	Fr.	HS	Redlands, Calif./Redlands East Valley HS
10	Donald Thomas	G/F	6-6	215	Jr.	1V	Garden Grove, Calif./Daytona Beach CC
11	Alonzo Young	G	6-4	175	So.	1V	Detroit, Mich./Communication Media Arts HS
14	Roderick Adams	G	6-1	185	Sr.	1V	Dallas, Texas/Collin County CC
15	Wandji Aboubakar	F/C	6-7	245	So.	JC	Douala, Cameroon/Panola JC
20	Clark Woods	G	6-4	200	Sr.	1V	Lansing, Mich./Lansing JC
23	Loren Leath	G	6-2	190	Jr.	2V	Oakland, Calif./Los Angeles Valley JC
24	Justin Williams	F	6-6	200	Sr.	2V	Corona, Calif./Santa Ana JC
25	Jason Davis	F	6-5	200	Sr.	1V	Windsor, Conn./Allan Hancock JC
40	Justin Eller	F/C	6-8	235	So.	JC	Yreka, Calif./College of the Siskiyous

Head Coach: Jerome Jenkins (Eighth Season)

Assistant Coaches: Tarvish Felton, Kenya Crandell, Scott Eitelgeorge

Director of Basketball Operations: Mark Laird

Alphabetical Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Exp.	Hometown/Previous School
15	Wandji Aboubakar	F/C	6-7	245	So.	JC	Douala, Cameroon/Panola JC
4	Randy Adams	F	6-8	220	Jr.	2V	Moreno Valley, Calif./Redemption Christian
14	Roderick Adams	G	6-1	185	Sr.	1V	Dallas, Texas/Collin County CC
25	Jason Davis	F	6-5	200	Sr.	1V	Windsor, Conn./Allan Hancock JC
40	Justin Eller	F/C	6-8	235	So.	JC	Yreka, Calif./College of the Siskiyous
5	Darnell Ferguson	G/F	6-4	205	Fr.	HS	Redlands, Calif./Redlands East Valley HS
1	Curtis Harrison	F/C	6-8	210	Sr.	1V	Seaside, Calif./Monterey Peninsula JC
0	Yannick Kasongo	G	6-4	200	So.	JC	Los Angeles, Calif./Porterville JC
23	Loren Leath	G	6-2	190	Jr.	2V	Oakland, Calif./Los Angeles Valley JC
3	Vinnie McGhee, Jr.	G	6-0	165	Fr.	HS	Oakland, Calif./McClymonds HS
10	Donald Thomas	G/F	6-6	215	Jr.	1V	Garden Grove, Calif./Daytona Beach CC
24	Justin Williams	F	6-6	200	Sr.	2V	Corona, Calif./Santa Ana JC
20	Clark Woods	G	6-4	200	Sr.	1V	Lansing, Mich./Lansing JC
11	Alonzo Young	G	6-4	175	So.	1V	Detroit, Mich./Communication Media Arts HS



2007 Season Outlook

Fresh off a rebuilding season that saw the Hornets win 10 games and fail to reach the Big Sky Conference Tournament for the first time in five years, the Sacramento State men's basketball squad will look to right the ship with a roster that includes nine players who have previously seen time in the Green and Gold.

The second-longest tenured head coach in the Big Sky, Jerome Jenkins enters his eighth season with the Hornets and will oversee a roster that includes seven returners, two returning redshirts and five newcomers. Jenkins also welcomes a brand new coaching staff that includes first-year assistants Tarvish Felton (Southern Utah), Kenya Crandell (Nebraska-Omaha) and Scott Eitelgeorge (Diablo Valley JC).

For the Hornets to jump back into Big Sky Tournament play (the top six teams in the nine-member conference advance) and contend for the program's first-ever NCAA Div. I Tournament appearance, Sacramento State will have to compensate for the loss of four of the team's top five scorers from last season who combined to average better than 62 percent of the team's average of 75.6 points per game.

Jenkins is not worried about the loss of scoring production, however, as nine play-

ers on the team have at least one year of Div. I basketball under their belts and have had time to get better acclimated to the program.

"The returners have a better understanding of what it takes to play at the Div. I level," Jenkins said. "Last year, we had a bunch of guys that physically looked the part, but didn't have the mental approach. This season, I've been very pleased with the returners' approach to the game and I believe we can get back to playing Hornet Basketball."

Hornet Basketball, a term Jenkins uses to describe his team's style of play, can be described as an up-tempo, run-and-gun offense combined with a feisty, athletic-based defense that forces teams into as many turnovers as possible. That brand of basketball has helped the Hornets average 10.9 wins per season during Jenkins tenure after the program averaged just 4.1 wins from the team's first season of Div. I play (1991-92) until Jenkins was hired on March 14, 2000.

Primarily using a three-guard lineup, the Hornets have averaged better than 75 points per game each of the last two seasons, including six 100-point efforts during that span. Leading the offensive attack this year will be junior shooting guard **Loren Leath** (12.8 ppg last season), senior shooting guard **Clark Woods** (7.3 ppg in 2005-06) and senior combo guard **Roderick Adams** (5.8 ppg last season).

Leath knocked down 72 three-pointers last year, the third most in Sacramento State's Div. I history, and ranked fifth in the Big Sky with 2.5 three-pointers per game. Woods is coming back from a knee injury that forced him to redshirt last season after averaging 7.3 points and 1.2 three-pointers per game as a junior in 2005-06. Adams averaged 12.8 points, 4.5 rebounds, 4.3 assists and 3.8 steals per game during the final four games of last season.

One of the Hornets' glaring weaknesses over the years has been the team's lack of a post presence and Jenkins believes that problem will be rectified with the addition of 6-8, 235-pound sophomore center **Justin Eller** (College of the Siskiyous) and

6-7, 245-pound center **Wandji Abouabakar** (Panola JC), the emergence of 6-8, 210-pound senior center **Curtis Harrison** and the return of 6-8, 220-pound junior forward **Randy Adams** who redshirted last season.

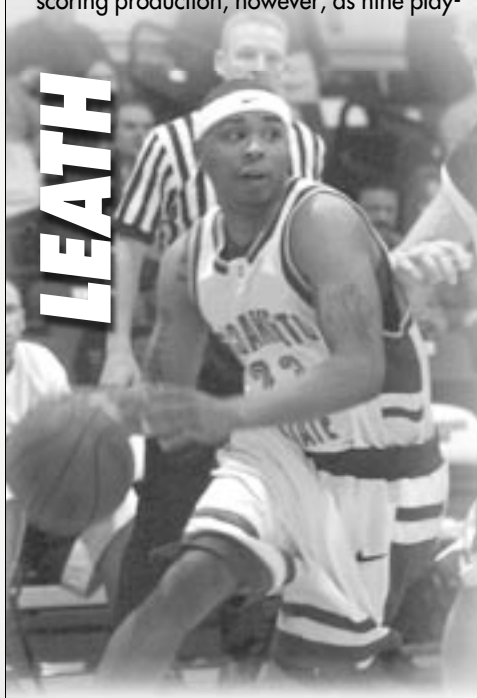
Eller was a first team all-league selection at the College of the Siskiyous last season after averaging 17.7 points, 8.0 rebounds and 1.8 blocked shots per game. Randy Adams has been with the program since 2004-05, and provides the type of athleticism that allows him to defend any position from point guard to center. Harrison, who played sparingly in 24 games in 2006-07, has shown the most improvement on the team from last year, according to Jenkins. Abouabakar, who might redshirt, shot 54.4 percent from the field for Panola Junior College last season.

"Teams will try and make us play in the half court again this year, and that is fine because we have bigger guards and post players who are more physical," Jenkins said. "We will have the ability to post guys more than in the past, and I believe our combination of big men will be the best during my time at Sacramento State."

Defensively, the team's in-your-face style of defense produced a program-record 11.03 steals per game, which was also the second best mark in the nation. In fact, the Hornets, who have led the Big Sky in steals every year during Jenkins' tenure, forced teams into an average of 20.3 turnovers per game last season. Don't expect that to change this year, as Sacramento State will again be one of the most athletic teams in the Big Sky.

"Although we lead the conference in steals every year, we are going to turn it up another notch this season," Jenkins said. "We need to score off opponents turnovers as much as possible to be successful."

One aspect of the game the Hornets look to improve upon from a year ago is rebounding. Sacramento State was out-rebounded by 6.9 boards per game last season, and the Hornets suffered in the second-chance points department. Jenkins is hoping the team's bigger front line will help alleviate the rebounding disparity.





"We are really honing in on our rebounding problems this year," Jenkins said. "We absolutely have to limit our opponents to one shot at the basket, and we had a problem doing that last year. We are trying to instill (rebounding) into our players now more than ever, and we will get the problem fixed."

Never known as a coach to duck opponents, Jenkins has the Hornets embarking upon a schedule that could be the toughest in program history. The docket features four opponents who reached last year's NCAA Tournament (Oregon, Marquette, Stanford and Weber State) and one that reached the NIT (Kansas State). Not to mention that 15 of the team's 28 games will be on the road, including nine of the first 13 contests.

Guards

As has been the case since Jenkins took over the program, Sacramento State's roster is filled with players who can play the guard position. A total of eight players could see time at guard this season, with the starting point guard position still up for grabs.

Jenkins will usually employ a three-guard lineup, with the possibility of four guards being used at once. Most likely to start at two of the three guard spots are shooting guard Loren Leath and combo guard Roderick Adams.

Leath is the Hornets' deadliest perimeter shooter, and the Oakland, Calif., native is already tied for eighth in school history with 127 three-pointers despite being just a junior. Leath's 389 field goal attempts last season were 59 more than any other player on Sacramento State's roster, and he had five games with at least 20 points.

"Loren has a great knack for scoring and we are looking for him to have a big year," Jenkins said. "He has really worked hard and improved his defense. I give him a lot of credit for putting in work during the offseason and he looks better than ever right now."

Adams started all but one game last season, and after scoring in double figures just once through the first 25 games, he tallied at least 10 points during each of the final four games. Adams, who is one of the Hornets' best defenders, finished third in the Big Sky with an average of 2.03 steals per game. In addition, his 59 steals were

tied for the 10th best mark in the nation among players who appeared in less than 30 games.

"Rod is a very good all-around player, and we would like to see him score more this year," Jenkins said. "He has a good feel for getting to the basket. He is our best defensive guards and we usually have him defend the other team's best player."

Woods, who will complement Leath as the two most proven outside shooting specialists on the team, is back for his senior season after redshirting last year with a knee injury. During his junior season of 2005-06, Woods was one of six Hornets to appear in all 30 games, averaging 7.3 points, 2.4 rebounds and 1.2 three-pointers in 20.3 minutes per game. He averaged 9.9 points during the final eight games of the season.

"We missed Clark a lot last year and I am very happy to have him back," Jenkins said. "Along with Loren, he gives us another threat on the outside. He can rebound on both ends and is a good character guy who helps keep the team in line."

The starting point guard position is still up for grabs according to Jenkins, and that role could fall to freshman **Vinnie McGhee, Jr.** A 6-0, 165-pound bundle of nonstop energy, McGhee could become the first starting freshman point guard since DaShawn Freeman in 2002-03. McGhee, who is one of the hardest workers and most intense players on the squad, led Oakland's McClymonds High School to its first-ever state championship game appearance last year after averaging 15.8 points, 5.0 assists and 3.5 steals per game.

"Vinnie is one of the hardest workers I've ever coached," Jenkins said. "He is a very tough minded kid who wants to be coached. I would like Vinnie to take over the legacy of DaShawn Freeman as a point guard that will lead this program for four years."

Sophomore **Alonzo Young**, who is a 6-4, 175-pound point guard, was the only freshman on last year's squad and returns for his second season. Young played in all 29 games, averaging 3.4 points, 1.2 rebounds and 1.3 assists in 13.7 minutes per game. The Detroit native showed glimpses of early stardom, including a 13-point effort at Washington, who was ranked 17th in the nation at the time.

"We're hoping this is a breakout season

for Alonzo," Jenkins said. "He is a very explosive player off the dribble, and he can get to the rim whenever he wants."

Returning for his second season with the program, 6-6, 215-pound junior swingman **Donald Thomas** played sparingly in 25 games last season. The Garden Grove, Calif., native was the team's best free



ROD ADAMS



throw shooter, knocking down 12 of his 13 attempts (.923).

"Donald is a very strong player who has improved and really worked hard on his outside shot and overall game," Jenkins said.

One of two true freshmen on this year's team, 6-4, 205-pound swingman **Darnell Ferguson** begins his first season in the Green and Gold. Ferguson walked onto the program during the summer and has proved to coaches in fall practices that he belongs on the squad. A native of Redlands, Calif., Ferguson was named all-county, all-league and team MVP during his senior season at Redlands East Valley High School after averaging 15.4 points, 11.6 rebounds, 1.2 steals and 2.7 blocked shots per game.

Sophomore guard **Yannick Kasongo** enters his first season with the program after playing his freshman year at Porterville

Junior College in 2005-06. Kasongo can play three positions (point and shooting guard, and small forward), and posted 7.5 points, 4.3 rebounds and 3.6 assists per game at Porterville before taking a redshirt last season.

Forwards

The Hornets' roster features three true forwards in seniors **Justin Williams** (6-6, 200) and **Jason Davis** (6-5, 200) as well as power forward Randy Adams. Aboubakar, Eller and Harrison will be used at both power forward and center, and Ferguson, Kasongo and Thomas can play both the guard and forward positions.

Williams averaged 4.6 points, 3.3 rebounds and 0.9 blocked shots per game while shooting 50.0 percent (55-110) from the field last season. The high flyer, who picks up a good portion of his points on dunks, ranked ninth in the Big Sky in blocked shots.

"Justin is one of our best defensive players," Jenkins said. "He can dominate a game with just athleticism alone, and he is very active on the defensive end."

Davis, who enters his second and final season with the Hornets, played in all 29 games last season, averaging 8.4 minutes, 2.2 points and 2.1 rebounds per game. The Windsor, Conn., native spent his freshman season (2004-05) at Div. I Longwood University and his sophomore year (2005-06) at Allan Hancock JC before transferring to the Hornets.

"Jason is very strong around the basket and has the ability to pull rebounds and get to the free throw line," Jenkins said. "He is an undersized power forward, but he gives us an opportunity to play small ball and is playing with a lot more confidence this season."

Adams returns for his fourth season with the program after redshirting last season. The Moreno Valley, Calif., native brings intensity to the defensive end and played in all 58 games during his first two years with the program.

"Randy is an unbelievable athlete who can guard any position from point guard to center," Jenkins said. "We really missed Randy's work on the defensive end last season, and I'm happy he is back this year. He continues to work hard every day, has improved on the block and will score better this season."

Centers

Three players - Aboubakar, Eller and Harrison - will each see time at center, and could also play power forward.

Harrison is the only player among the trio to have experience in a Div. I uniform. A transfer from Monterey Peninsula Junior College, Harrison played sparingly last season (4.7 minutes per game), but has been the most improved player on the Hornets' roster, according to Jenkins. Harrison will be looked upon to rebound and block shots this season, and the starting center spot could fall into his hands.

"Curtis really hit the weights during the offseason and came back with a different approach to the game," Jenkins said. "He is blocking shots and protecting the paint much better than last year, and that is something we really need."

Eller had 11 games with at least 20 points last season for College of Siskiyous, and averaged 21.8 points and 8.7 rebounds during his final 13 games of the year. Eller has both inside moves, and can step back and knock down an outside shot, as his 20 made three-pointers last year can attest. Many of Eller's 17.7 ppg average came at the free throw line where he attempted 7.5 freebies per contest.

"Justin is our X factor because the sooner he adapts to the Div. I level, the more success we will have," Jenkins said. "He is very physical and coachable, and we will throw the ball to him down low and let him score. He has an inside game, but he can also step outside and knock down the 15-footer as well as the three-pointer. Justin can also guard on the block and his inside presence will help us a great deal."

Aboubakar moved to the United States in 2004 from his native Cameroon, and has made great strides with his play. He played for a Panola Junior College team last season which had four players signed by Div. I institutions. He started 27 of 30 games while averaging 4.8 points and 4.2 rebounds per game.

Aboubakar, who speaks five languages fluently and maintained a 3.4 gpa at Panola despite learning the English language three years ago, was more of a defensive stopper for Panola and could play in that same role for the Hornets. The Douala, Cameroon, native had his knee scoped in early October and might not play during the first month of the season.

WOODS

