



PASSION PRIDE PACERS

Basketball Staff

JIM O'BRIEN

HEAD COACH



Indiana Pacers President of Basketball Operations Larry Bird had five phone conversations with Jim O'Brien about being the head coach of the Pacers. He then brought him in for a face-to-face interview.

What Bird had heard, he then saw before his eyes: the next coach.

"He's the right guy for the job," said Bird, who, that day (May 31, 2007), hired O'Brien. "The direction I want to go, he's the guy that's going to get us there."

O'Brien, two years removed from coaching at the time, took a direct approach in landing his third NBA head coaching job. "Everybody wants the same thing in a basketball team," he said, "and that is a group of people that will play hard, a team that will be prepared, a team that people will want to root for. And that's what they'll get."

In his two previous stops, that is what O'Brien delivered. In his first full season as head coach at Boston (2001-02), O'Brien guided the Celtics to a 49-33 record, their first playoff appearance since 1991-92 and their first trip to the Eastern Conference Finals since 1987-88. He led the Celtics to the second round of the playoffs again in 2002-03 before resigning in the 2003-04 season.

O'Brien then became head coach of the Philadelphia 76ers in 2004. The Sixers had missed the playoffs the previous year with a 33-49 record, but O'Brien led them to a 43-39 record and the playoffs before being let go. Philadelphia has been in the playoffs just one time since and that was last season, but the 76ers haven't won more than 41 games since O'Brien's departure.

And while the Pacers didn't make the playoffs in O'Brien's first two seasons, the direction the team is headed is clearly evident. The Pacers played hard and they were prepared. And despite injuries to key players the first season and seven new faces and a key injury to Mike Dunleavy last year, the Pacers remained in the playoff chase until the last week of each season. Heading into the 2009-10 season, defense has been targeted for the Pacers to improve and three players – Dahntay Jones, Earl Watson and Solomon Jones – have been brought in for that specific area.

The 57-year-old (born 2/11/52) O'Brien is the 13th head coach in Pacers history. He has a winning record (254-250) and a no-nonsense approach that emphasizes preparation, fundamentals and hard work.

"Discipline and organization are cornerstones of any basketball team at any level," said O'Brien, who spent some of his time out of basketball writing a column for ESPN.com, The Insider. "Our guys will come to the court and they will know what we want of them. They will execute offensively and defensively and they will play on the same page. We will practice hard, be conditioned and they will be prepared for every basketball game."

Those were words Bird loved to hear.

O'Brien is, in the truest sense, a basketball coach. "I've done very little in my professional life other than hang around gyms," he says. His knowledge is honed from playing the game to coaching it.

A standout high school player in Philadelphia, O'Brien attended that city's Saint Joseph's University, where he was a three-year starter, led it to three postseason appearances and was team co-MVP his senior season. He later would be enshrined in the school's Hall of Fame as well as the Philadelphia Big Five Hall of Fame.

After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Management and Marketing in 1974 (he later would earn his MBA from Maryland in 1981), O'Brien's coaching trail began. He was an assistant at Wheeling Jesuit College, Pembroke State College, Maryland, Saint Joseph's and Oregon before becoming the head coach at Wheeling Jesuit for five years.

O'Brien then got his first taste of the NBA as an assistant under Rick Pitino for two seasons. He returned to the collegiate ranks as head coach at Dayton for five years and re-joined Pitino at Kentucky as associate head coach from 1994-97, being part of the NCAA championship team in 1996 and the NCAA runner-up in '97. When Pitino left the Wildcats to coach the Celtics, he took O'Brien with him as associate head coach. Pitino left the team in January of 2001 and O'Brien was named interim head coach and eventually was named head coach at the end of the season.

O'Brien is married to Sharon and they have three children: Jack, Shannon and Caitlyn. Sharon's father is Hall of Famer Jack Ramsay, who coached the Pacers from 1986-88.

DAN BURKE

ASSISTANT COACH



Dan Burke is in his 21st year in professional basketball and his 13th season with the Pacers. During his first eight seasons with the Pacers, the 50-year-old Burke has served as assistant coach and scouting director.

Prior to joining the Pacers, Burke spent eight years with the Portland Trail Blazers (1989-1997) as video coordinator and scout. In his 21 years, he has been fortunate to learn from a variety of successful coaches, including Larry Bird, Rick Adelman, Isiah Thomas, P.J. Carlesimo, Rick Carlisle, Mike Brown and Jim O'Brien.

Born in Lynwood, Calif., Burke calls Sherwood, Ore., home. He graduated from Portland State with a bachelor's degree in history and in social science. He enjoys time with his family, various outdoor activities, fishing, and reading. Burke is married to Peggy and they have two daughters, Melissa and Lindsey.

LESTER CONNER

ASSISTANT COACH



Lester Conner is in his 11th season as an assistant coach, having reunited with Jim O'Brien in 2007 after spending the previous two seasons as an assistant coach with the Milwaukee Bucks.

Prior to joining the Bucks, Conner was on O'Brien's staff at Boston and Philadelphia. With the 76ers, Conner served as associate head coach. He has also been a scout for the Miami Heat and an assistant coach for the Magic Johnson All-Stars.

Conner played 13 seasons in the NBA and played for the Pacers in 11 regular-season games and six playoff games in 1993-94. The 49-year-old Conner (born 9/17/59) was a first-round draft pick (14th overall) of the Golden State Warriors in 1982. He also played with Houston, New Jersey, Milwaukee, the L.A. Clippers and the L.A. Lakers.

He attended Oregon State, leading the Beavers to a 52-6 record and consecutive Pac-10 titles in two seasons while earning Pac-10 Player of the Year and All-America honors. He was the California State Junior College Player of the Year while playing at Chabot College. He is in the Oregon State University Hall of Fame and the California State Junior College Hall of Fame.

Conner and his wife, Stacy, are parents of twin daughters, Simone and Alana. He enjoys playing chess, ping-pong and poker.

JAY DeFRUSCIO

ASSISTANT COACH



After a successful 18-year head coaching career at Wheeling (West Virginia) Jesuit University, DeFruscio will be in his third season in the NBA.

While at Wheeling Jesuit, DeFruscio compiled a 311-212 record with four straight 20-win seasons and two NCAA Division II tournament appearances. He was named

West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Coach of the Year twice and NAIA District 28 Coach of the Year once. He also served as the school's athletic director for 20 years.

The 48-year-old (born 11/4/60) DeFruscio is a native of Drexel Hill, Pa., and earned a degree in economics from Ursinus College. He was a four-year letter winner at Ursinus while playing in the Division III Final Four in 1981 and Elite Eight in 1982. He is a member of the Ursinus College Athletic Hall of Fame and the Monsignor Bonner High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

He also has an MBA from Wheeling Jesuit and served as an adjunct professor in the business program. In 2008, he received the school's Distinguished Alumnus Award. While at Wheeling, he wrote a regular column for the local newspaper on the value of athletics and sportsmanship.

DeFruscio is married to Cathy and they have four children, Katie, Hooter, Annie and Lucy.

DICK HARTER

ASSISTANT COACH



Dick Harter in his 13th stint with the Pacers as an assistant coach.

Harter, regarded as one of the top defensive coaches in the game, had previously been a Pacers' assistant under Jack Ramsay (1986-88) and Larry Bird (1997-00). He not only brings a familiarity with the franchise but also with head coach

Jim O'Brien. Harter was an assistant under O'Brien at Boston and Philadelphia.

He has also served with Chuck Daly at Detroit, Pat Riley with the New York Knicks and P.J. Carlesimo in Portland. In 1988, Harter became the first head coach of the expansion Charlotte Hornets and was with the team until 1990. Harter has coached in 146 playoff games.

Prior to entering the NBA in 1983 with Daly and the Pistons, Harter was the head coach at Rider (N.J.) University, the University of Pennsylvania, the University of Oregon and Penn State University. His collegiate record is 295-196 (.601) with two Ivy League Championships and two NCAA appearances at Penn.

Harter is a member the Big Five Hall of Fame in Philadelphia, the University of Oregon Hall of Fame, the State of Pennsylvania (Pottstown Chapter) Hall of Fame and the Pac-10 Hall of Fame. He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and is also a member of that school's Hall of Fame.

The 78-year-old (born 10/14/30) Harter and his wife, Mari, are avid golfers.

FRANK VOGEL ASSISTANT COACH



Another familiar face on Coach Jim O'Brien's staff is 36-year-old (born 6/21/73) Frank Vogel, who will be entering his 13th NBA season and seventh as an assistant coach.

He rejoined O'Brien in 2007 after spending the previous two seasons as an advance scout for the Los Angeles Lakers (2005-06) and Washington Wizards (2006-07). He was with O'Brien as an assistant coach in Philadelphia and Boston. It was with the Celtics that Vogel got his start in the NBA as the head video coordinator under Rick Pitino. He served in that role from 1997-2001 before becoming an assistant coach.

Vogel is a graduate of the University of Kentucky, with a degree in biology and became the Wildcats video coordinator after graduation. He attended Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa., where he was a three-year starter for the Division III Eagles. He then transferred to Kentucky, became a student manager and played on the junior varsity team in 1996.

Frank and his wife, Jenifer, have two daughters, Alexa and Arianna.

SAM PERKINS VICE PRESIDENT OF PLAYER RELATIONS



Sam Perkins is in his second year as the Pacers' vice president of player relations.

Perkins is a 17-year veteran of the NBA having played for Seattle, the Los Angeles Lakers, Dallas Mavericks and, concluding his career, the Indiana Pacers (1998-2001). In his career, Perkins scored more than 15,000 points and currently holds

the Mavericks' record for most points and rebounds in a single game (30 points, 20 rebounds vs. Houston). He played at the University of North Carolina and while there became the school's all-time leading rebounder (1,167), second-leading scorer (2,145), and first-team All-America and All-ACC from 1982-84. He was the ACC's Rookie of the Year and tournament MVP in 1981; was part of two ACC championship teams (1981, '82); a national championship team ('82); and earned gold medals in the 1983 Pan-Am Games and 1984 Olympics. He graduated from North Carolina in 1984.

Since his retirement from playing, Perkins has been active in the NBA Cares program, which is the league's social responsibility initiative that builds on its long tradition of addressing important social issues in the United States and around the world. As a representative of the program, Perkins has traveled throughout the world, including Europe, China and several countries within Africa. Perkins serves on the Board for the National Special Olympics and is also on the Board of the University of North Carolina. He is also involved with the United Way, Boys & Girls Clubs and Habitat for Humanity. Perkins is also a philanthropic supporter of the United Negro College Fund, Lupus Foundation, breast cancer research and pediatric HIV/AIDS research.

RYAN CARR DIRECTOR OF SCOUTING



Ryan Carr is entering his ninth season with the Pacers and his first as Director of Scouting. Carr will be responsible for the team's college, international, and pro scouting efforts. He will also assist Larry Bird and David Morway with the team's draft.

Carr, who grew up in Sumner, Wash., last season worked as the Assistant

Director of Scouting and from 2003-08 served as a scout. After graduating from Indiana University in 1996 with a B.S. in Kinesiology, Carr went to work for the Pacers as a video intern in the basketball department. After one season, he became the video coordinator but left the team in 1999 to become an assistant coach at the University of Texas-El Paso. He returned to the Pacers in 2003.

While at Indiana, Carr was a student manager for the basketball team under Coach Bob Knight.

Carr is married to Kim and they have 4-year-old twins, Caitlin and Austin.

JOSH CORBEIL HEAD PHYSICAL THERAPIST/ATHLETIC TRAINER



Josh Corbeil enters his fifth season as the Head Physical Therapist/Athletic Trainer for the Pacers.

In 2004-05, he served as the team's physical therapist/assistant trainer. Corbeil graduated from Boston University in 2000 with a bachelor's of science degree in health studies and 2002 with a master's in physical therapy. Corbeil

then gained his Athletic Training Certification as an intern with the Boston Celtics for three seasons, while working as a physical therapist at Pro Sports Therapy in Waltham, Mass. He is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Physical Therapy through the Massachusetts General Hospital Institute of Health Professions and is expected to graduate in January, 2010.

In addition to being a licensed physical therapist and licensed athletic trainer, Corbeil is also a certified strength and conditioning specialist, performance enhancement specialist and corrective exercise specialist.

Josh lives in Indianapolis with his wife, Ellen.

MEL DANIELS

DIRECTOR OF PLAYER PERSONNEL



Mel Daniels has 29 seasons of experience as part of the Pacers' basketball staff and, again, has provided his keen, no-nonsense, approach to basketball talent.

The former two-time American Basketball Association MVP (1969, 1971), and the ABA's first Rookie of the Year (1968), averaged 19.5 points and 15.9 rebounds a contest from 1968 to 1974 for the Pacers. He was a four-time all-ABA selection, being named to the first team in 1969, 1970 and 1971, and the second team in 1973. He was also the ABA All-Star Game MVP in 1971.

He is the ABA Pacers' all-time leading rebounder (7,643) and also holds the Pacers' ABA record for re-

bounds in a single season (1,475 in 1970-71). On March 18, 1969, vs. the New York Nets, he had 37 points and 26 rebounds in the second half, both club ABA records, ending the game with 56 points and 31 boards. In that game, he also set Pacers' ABA records for most two-point field goals in a quarter (10), half (16) and game (25). His No. 34 has been retired by the Pacers, he has been honored on the Pacers Wall of Fame, and in 1999 was named one of the 50 greatest players to have played in Indiana.

A Detroit native, Daniels was an assistant coach at Indiana State from 1978-82 and was part of ISU's 33-1 NCAA championship runner-up team in 1978-79. Former Sycamore star and former Pacers' coach, Larry Bird, credits Daniels with preparing him for the NBA.

Daniels, 64, who has been an assistant coach and scout for the Pacers, is an avid horseman. He and his wife, CeCe, live in Sheridan, Ind., at the Circle M Ranch. He lists his favorite horses as Keep, Eddie's Webb and Sauce.

BASKETBALL STAFF



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