



NAMELINE: Travis McAvene

## **McAvene takes helm as new SSCC men's basketball coach**

Travis McAvene has been named the new head coach for men's basketball at Southern State Community College. McAvene brings a strong reputation of winning basketball games and coaching elite talent.

"I'm very excited to take over the men's basketball program at Southern State and make it a winner," said McAvene. "I love the atmosphere and facilities at Southern State. It will give our student-athletes a great platform to achieve nothing but success on the court and in the classroom."

Recently, McAvene was named United States Minor League Coach of the Year, which included a list of NBA D-League coaches who were nominated for the award. This past season, he led his Cincinnati Slam team in the UBA to a 19-1 record, along with winning the Eastern Conference Championship.

"My goal at Southern State this upcoming season is to take our men's basketball program to the USCAA National Tournament and compete for a national championship."

McAvene's teams are known for their fast-paced aggressive style of basketball, adopted from former Arkansas head coach Nolan Richardson.

Putting his own time in on the court, McAvene played for North Florida Junior College, Indiana Wesleyan University, Sinclair Community College and Taylor University at Fort Wayne, snagging an NCCAA Division I National Championship in 1995.

He served as an assistant coach for Lincoln High School, Clark State College and Coppin State University, and as a head coach for Indiana University East, Jefferson High School, New Creations Prep, Christian Center Prep Academy, Harmony Prep School, Wilberforce University, Westfall High School, Eurobasket Summer League (Vegas), Columbus Crush, Kentucky Pro Am, and Eurobasket Summer League (Houston). His most recent role was as head coach and general manager of Cincinnati Slam.

McAvene boasts a full slate of accomplishments, including NJCAA State Final Four in 2002, NACA National Champion in 2003 and 2004, No. 4 ranking in National Prep School poll in 2004, No. 7 ranking in National Prep School poll in 2005, No. 2 ranking in National Prep School poll in 2006, SVC Conference Champion in 2009, and SVC Coach of the Year in 2009. In 2012 alone, he earned UBA All-Star Game Head Coach, UBA Eastern Conference Champion, three times as UBA Coach of the Month, All United States Awards (voted on by all USA sports reporters) Coach of the Year, and USBasket.com All-UBA Coach of the Year.

For more information about the athletics program at Southern State, please visit [www.sccc.edu/athletics](http://www.sccc.edu/athletics) or contact Athletic Director Adam Holbrook at 1-800-628-7722, ext. 2697, or [aholbrook@sscc.edu](mailto:aholbrook@sscc.edu).

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