

# Coaches

## Doug Cornelius

Title: Head Coach

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### Bio:



Going into his 16th season at Yuba, **Coach Doug Cornelius** is no longer rebuilding the Yuba College Basketball program. Now he has the yearly task of keeping the *49'ers* as one of the top programs in all of California.

**In the past 13 seasons the *49'ers* have established themselves as a state contender by going a combined 315-98 overall and 172-25 in the Bay Valley Conference with 10 Bay Valley Titles including 9 of the last 10 seasons!**

In **2002-03**, the *49'ers* won the Bay Valley Conference title, the schools first conference title since 1985 and set the record for most victories in school history with 22.

In **2003-04**, the Yuba College basketball team broke more school records by finishing the year with the best season in school history. The *49'ers* finished 24-7 and made the **California Community College "Elite 8"** for the first time ever and were 2 points away in a tough overtime loss from making the California "Final Four".

The **2004-05** season started well as the *49'ers* were picked as the preseason #1 team in all of California, also a first for the Yuba program. The season was tainted with a barrage of key injuries and Yuba finished second in league with an 11-3 record. The *49'ers* made their fourth straight playoff appearance and were a couple points away from making it's second straight "Elite 8".

In **2005-06** the *49'ers* finished with **23 wins** and a fifth straight playoff appearance since Cornelius has arrived on campus.

In **2006-07** The *49'ers* won the BVC title for the second time in his tenure at Yuba and also advanced to the **California Community College State Championships "Elite 8"** for only the second time in Yuba College history. They also set a new record for wins as they celebrated the best season in school history finishing **27-8**. On November 12th, 2006 Coach Cornelius recorded his **100th career win** against Skyline 105-58 at the San Jose Tip-Off Tournament.

**2007-08** surpassed everyone's expectations as the Yuba College Men's basketball team again broke almost every school record finishing 32-4. The 32 wins were the second most wins in the State of California in 2007-08 and the first time Yuba College has hit the 30 win mark. The *49'ers* again won the Bay Valley Conference Title and also went to another **California Community College State Championship "Elite 8"**. Yuba has gone to 3 Elite 8's in the last 5 years.

**2008-09** the *49'ers* again won a Bay Valley Conference Title making it **3** straight. The *49'ers* again went to a state "Sweet 16" beating Diablo Valley in the 1st round of the California State Playoffs eventually losing to CCSF to cost the Yuba program from making a 3rd straight "Elite 8". The Yuba team finished 25-10 which made 6 20+ win seasons in the last 7 years.

**2009-10** Once again the Yuba College Men's basketball team finished at the top of the Bay Valley Conference making it **4 straight titles and 5 overall**. After losing 1 sophomore and 4 freshman to Division 1 schools as well as 3 other sophomores to scholarships, the 49er's were planning on a rebuilding year. Not the case as team chemistry proved to provide wins as the 49'ers finished with a suprising **25-5 record** and a "Sweet 16" state finish. Coach Cornelius also picked up his **200th win** of his career at Yuba on Jan.22nd with a 100-86 win over Contra Costa College.

**2010-11** Started great as Street and Smith Magazine predicted Yuba College as the #6 ranked preseason JUCO team in the country. Then 3 players including 2010 BVC MVP Mike McChristian went down with what were thought to be season ending injuries. The 49'ers rallied strong to finish 26-6 overall including a perfect 13-0 in Bay Valley Conference play and won the schools FIFTH straight conference title. Yuba's last five years in the Bay Valley Conference are an incredible 71-6.

**2011-2012** Was a season to remember for Coach Cornelius and the entire Yuba-Sutter area. The 49'ers capped off the best season in school history with a 33-4 record and a place in the California State Championship game. Along the way the 49'ers won the Monterey Tournament, won the Santa Rosa Tournament, finished a perfect 14-0 in the Bay Valley Conference, won the Bay Valley Conference tournament for the second year in a row and won 22 straight games before losing in the State Championship game to Fresno City College. It was a dream season for Yuba College Men's basketball and was highlighted with Coach Cornelius being named the Bay Valley Conference Coach of the Year for the sixth time, and also being named the **2011-12 California Community College Coach of the Year**.

**2012-2013** The Yuba College 49'ers were supposed to be rebuilding after losing 9 full-scholarship players from their 2012 State Championship run. Even so, with ten new freshman

faces on the roster the 49'ers shocked everyone by going 15-1 in the Bay Valley Conference and winning the programs 8th BVC title under Cornelius, including the last 7 in a row. The Yuba Men's Basketball team also made the California State playoffs for the 12th straight year after being picked to finish 5th in their conference. Yuba finished the year 21-8 overall.

**2013-2014** Yuba College won their 8th consecutive Bay Valley Conference Championship in a row. Yuba finished 21-6 overall and 15-1 in BVC play. Coach Cornelius received his 9th conference "Coach of the Year" award and Yuba made the playoffs for the 13th year in a row! Coach Corn also picked up his 300th career win in a 90-79 victory over Los Medanos College on Jan. 16th 2014.

**2014-2015** The 2014-15 was a crazy year as Yuba ended up winning its 9th straight conference championship. Yuba was awarded the championship after gaining two forfeit wins after College of Marin was forced to lose the entire year because of sanctions handed down from the CCCAA. The Yuba team finished 17-8 overall with a 14-2 record in the BVC. The 49'ers ended up with three freshman on the All-BVC first team and two players found their way to Division 1 schools!

**2015-2016-** This was a year I'm sure most coaches would like to forget. After starting the season with the number 1 and number 20 ranked JUCO players in the country as well as a talented group of players around them, the season quickly turned into a nightmare. With season ending injuries to multiple players including Utah signee Jojo Zamora, and Iowa State pulling star player Emmanuel Malou from the program to concentrate on academics, Yuba ended the season with only 6-7 healthy players. The players battled hard and even made the championship of the BVC tournament but ran out of gas to try and win Yuba it's 10th consecutive championship. The 49'ers finished the year 6-5 in the BVC and 16-13 overall. Yuba finished with 2 more D1 signees and 2 players on the BVC 1st team!

Coach Cornelius has a wide variety of experience including 22 years at the Community College level, 3 years in the WNBA with the Sacramento Monarchs, 2 years as a video coordinator/scout with the Sacramento Kings and 13 years coaching in the Sacramento Pro Developmental League.

### **Things you should know about “Coach Corn”–**

-Has coached 22 years in California Community College- Six as an assistant at American River College and the last sixteen as head coach of the **Yuba College 49ers**.

-During those 22 years Coach Corn has **13** Bay Valley Conference Titles and made **5** “Elite 8” appearances as well as the State final four and State Championship game in 2012.

-Festus Ezeli who spent two years at Yuba learning the game and training as a greyshirt just won a World Championship in 2015 with the Golden State Warriors of the NBA!!

-Made the WNBA Western Conference finals 2 of the 3 years he coached with the Sacramento Monarchs.

-Has already placed 34 Yuba players at **Division 1** schools

-The teams he coaches in the summer pro league features Sacramento Kings players like Kevin Martin, Francisco Garcia, Donte Green, Jason Thompson and Bobby Jackson. It also includes former King Ron Artest and some former Yuba 49'ers who are currently playing professionally overseas.

Coach Cornelius has been married to his wife Victoria for 19 years and have 2 children. Maggie is 14 and Cooper is 10. Victoria was a standout basketball player at Fullerton Community College and UC Riverside and is currently the Academic Athletic Counselor at Sacramento City College.

Coach Cornelius has an overall record at Yuba College of 344-128. **This is an average of 22 wins a season!**

# Ken Griffin

Title: Associate Head Coach

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“Coach Griff”

## **Bio:**

Associate Head Coach-“**Coach Griff**” has made a huge impact on the Yuba College Men’s Basketball program. As a local coach at Marysville High School for the past 28 years, “Griff” is a local coaching legend. For starters “Coach Griff” is the winningest coach in school history at Marysville HS and its pretty safe to say that his records probably won’t be broken. He has amassed **429 wins** at Marysville with 10 league titles, 2 section titles, 3 California State “Final 8” appearances and 2 California State “Final Four” appearances.

**“Having Coach Griff around has been immeasurable for me” says head coach Doug Cornelius.” He is a calming influence on me and is a wealth of knowledge. He keeps things in perspective. We work really well together and have a lot of fun- and that’s what it’s all about.”**

In addition to his many coaching records “Coach Griff” was a heck of an athlete who just recently was inducted into the **Yuba College Hall of Fame** and the prestigious **Northern California “Old Timers” Hall of Fame** for his outstanding play as a point guard on the basketball team and as a record setting second baseman on the baseball team. He was inducted in the spring of 2005.

Since Coach Griffin has joined Coach Cornelius at Yuba College(2003-present), Yuba has enjoyed 8 BVC titles, 4 Elite Eights, and a California State Runner-Up in the past 10 seasons!

# Nate Stephens

Title: Assistant Coach

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## Bio

Coach **Nate Stephens** is entering into his fourth season as a coach for the YUBA Men's basketball program. A native of Sacramento. He began his coaching career serving as Head coach at Global Youth Charter High School (DIV 5). In just 2 years as boys' basketball coach he lead the Global Youth Charter High School Bulldogs to the Sacramento Metropolitan Athletic league title, with a final school record of 22-2 for that year. In 2009, he was Named Coach of the year by the Sacramento Bee for Sacramento Metropolitan Athletic League within the SAC-JOQUIN Section. While coaching at Global youth, Coach Stephens has coached 6 All League Players, league MVP, and 6 honorable mentions. Coach Stephens then moved on to one of the largest AAU programs in Northern California YBA Dawg's where he serves as the top Varsity travel team's head coach. He is entering his 5th year serving in that position. While serving in that position he has had the opportunity to coach several current college players, as well as won several big tournaments. Coach Stephens has served as a key note speaker at many local area basketball camps. Coach Stephens brings a passion for the game and his players. Coach Stephens is extremely excited and feels blessed for the opportunity to be a part of the YUBA 49ER's men's basketball program.

Nate is currently starting his second year as the head varsity coach at Lindhurst High School and is trying to rebuild that program.