



# 2011-2012 MEN'S



# BASKETBALL



## GENERAL FACTS:

Institution: Spring Hill College  
City/State/Zip: Mobile, AL 36608  
Founded: 1830  
Enrollment: 1,504  
Nickname: Badgers  
School Colors: Purple, white  
Home Facility: Arthur R. Outlaw Recreation Center  
Capacity: 1,600  
Affiliation: NAIA Division I  
Conference: Southern States Athletic  
Division: West  
President: Rev. Richard P. Salmi, S.J.  
Athletic Director: Jim Hall  
Alma Mater: Grinnell College, 1995  
Faculty Athletic Representative: Dr. David Dean  
Athletic Department Phone: 251-380-3485  
Athletic Department Fax: 251-460-2196  
Sports Information Director: Jim Stennett  
Alma Mater: Mississippi State, 1990  
SID Phone: (251) 380-4468  
SID Email: [jstennett@shc.edu](mailto:jstennett@shc.edu)  
Athletic Web Site: [www.shcbadgers.com](http://www.shcbadgers.com)  
Facebook: SHCAthletics  
Twitter: SHDBADGERS

## COACHING STAFF:

Head Coach: Robert Thompson  
Alma Mater: Belhaven, 1992  
Record at school/ years: 125-118/9th season  
Career record/ years: 168-180/13th season  
Assistant Coaches: Reed Davis, Reggie Copeland, Jr.  
Student Assistant: John Redman  
Office Phone: (251) 380-4460  
Athletic Trainer: Jake Jefcoat, ATC  
Office Phone: 251-380-3493

## TEAM INFORMATION:

Overall Record Last Year: 9-18  
Conference/Finish: 3-9/7th  
Starters returning/lost: 3/2

## SPRING HILL COLLEGE

Mobile, Alabama

Spring Hill College is ranked once again in the top 20 Southern universities and colleges, according to the 2011 edition of U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Colleges."

Spring Hill is ranked 17th among the Southern colleges and universities granting master's degrees. The U.S. News rankings are based on several quality measures including academic reputation, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, peer assessment and graduation rate performance. Colleges and universities are listed in various categories depending on their size, location and other factors.

The college is ranked 11th among only 15 schools listed in the South's "Great Schools, Great Prices" category, colleges that offer quality academic programs, affordable tuition and significant financial aid.

Spring Hill College is also listed in the region's "A-Plus Schools for B Students" category, campuses where B students thrive in an engaged student body.

### ON THE COVER:

2011-12 seniors: No. 5 Steve Edwards;  
No. 14 Tyler Schwab and No. 12 Stephen Burches

### PHOTOS BY:

Seth Laubinger





## ROBERT THOMPSON

Entering his 9th season as the head coach for Spring Hill College, Robert Thompson has guided the Badgers to an overall record of 127-119. Thompson led the Badgers to the "Sweet Sixteen" of the NAIA National Tournament in 2005-06 and finished the season with a 22-9 overall record, 11-3 in the GCAC.

Following the season, he was named the GCAC Coach of the Year.

A native of Tupelo, Miss., Thompson came to Spring Hill following a four-year stint as head coach at Arkansas Tech University in Russellville, Ark., where he attained a 43-62 overall record. He took over at Arkansas Tech in 1999 and led the Wonder Boys to their first Gulf South Conference (GSC) Tournament appearance and a No. 8 ranking in the South Region of NCAA Division II during the 1999-2000 season. Following his first season at Arkansas Tech, Thompson was named GSC Coach of the Year.

Prior to his success at Arkansas Tech, Thompson served as Delta State University's assistant men's coach from 1996 to 1999 and helped lead the Statesmen to the GSC West Division title in 1996-'97 and 1997-'98, GSC Tournament Championships in 1996-'97 and 1997-'98, the NCAA Division II South Regional Championship in 1997-'98 and the NCAA Division II Elite Eight in 1997-'98.

Thompson earned his B.S. in Physical Education from Belhaven College in 1993 where he was a 4-year basketball letterman. He received his M.S. in Education from Jackson State University in 1997. He and his wife, Alfreda, have two sons, Joshua Cordell (10) and Justin Lydell (5).



## ASSISTANT COACH REED DAVIS

Reed Davis is in his second year as a Spring Hill College assistant after coaching the 2009-10 season at Altamont High School in Birmingham, Alabama.

## VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT REGGIE COPELAND, JR.



Reggie Copeland, Jr. returns for his 6th season as a volunteer coach for the Badgers in 2011-12.

## STUDENT ASSISTANT JOHN REDMAN



John Redman is a junior at SHC and in his 2nd year as a Student Assistant Coach after spending his freshman year as a redshirt player.

## STUDENT MANAGER KEVIN SMITH



The 2011-12 men's basketball season will be a mix of old and new for Spring Hill College Head Coach Robert Thompson. On one hand, his team welcomes back seven returning players from last season, but on the other hand he must work in 10 new faces and rebuild after a disappointing 9-18 record in the 2010-11 season.

"You could look at last season and not see many positives," Thompson says. "But at the end of almost every game we were in range of winning and just didn't get over the hump." Instead of looking at the negatives, Thompson prefers to see the benefits of the lessons learned. "We were forced to use several players for a lot of minutes who probably would not have gotten that experience if we had a full roster, so that means we'll be even deeper this year," he says.

Thompson's veteran players include senior point guard Tyler Schwab of Panama City, Fla., who handed out 102 assists and scored 7.1 points per game last season and senior guard Steve Edwards of Newton, Miss., who averaged 8.6 points per night. Guard Charles Gordon of Birmingham, Ala., (7.2 ppg, 3.5 rpg), center Blake Taylor of Jackson, Ala., and forward Alex Looney from Mobile's Murphy High School were all freshmen who saw significant playing time last year and should continue to be important cogs in the Badger machine this year.

Senior guard Stephen Burches of Hammond, La., averaged 9.0 points per game before sitting out the spring semester. His return should give a needed boost to the offense along with the addition of sophomore guard Todd Martin who transferred from the University of South Alabama. "Stephen's return is a key to this season and Todd brings back a perimeter game that was missing last year," says Thompson. "Todd makes other teams respect us on the perimeter and opens up the inside."

Newcomer junior Ricky Sears of Decatur, Ala., is a natural scorer according to Thompson. "Ricky will carry a load for us," says Thompson. "But he has the abilities to respond to the challenge."

At center, Thompson has been happy to see freshman Jake Thelan of Edgewood, Ky., emerge as the probable starter to replace graduated four-year starter Nick Brown. "Jake is an intelligent player with good hands. He comes from a terrific basketball family and his development has taken a lot of pressure off our team," says Thompson.

The post position is young, but very deep as Taylor and freshman Frederick Gatson of Riverdale, Ga., are quickly growing into the role. "Both Blake and Frederick are improving and will make a difference for us on the inside," Thompson says.

With a 17-man roster, Thompson does not see depth being a problem this season. "We will be 10 to 12 men deep this year," he says. "And that's a nice advantage." Transfer guards Kyle Watkins of Montgomery, Ala., and junior Brett Williams of Oviedo, Fla., bring added strength to the Badger bench while freshmen Halen Butler of Spring, Texas, Neal Apetrei from Madisonville, La., Ben Redman of Spanish Fort, Ala., John Deloach of Niceville, Fla., and Jayln Woods of Brookshire, Texas, look to gain experience during their first collegiate seasons.

The 2011-12 schedule should be a challenge for the Badgers as 15 of the first 21 contests will be on the road. "The schedule developed that way for two reasons," says Thompson. "First, it was just the way the conference rotation fell this year, but I also designed it that way because we have struggled on the road in the past few seasons and I wanted to work on fixing that problem. This year we will have the attitude that road games are business trips and not field trips."

Overall, Thompson is excited to get his team on the court. "We have good seniors who lead by example and their leadership is understood. Everyone understands their role on the team and in our system," he says. "We are deeper than before and we are an unselfish team that continues to progress every day. We have good players at every position who have formed a very good team."

# 2010-11 SSAC EAST STANDINGS

SCHOOL	SSAC PCT.		OVERALL	
Lee	10-2	.833	23-9	.719
Emmanuel	7-5	.583	26-7	.765
Southern Poly	7-5	.583	23-9	.719
Shorter	7-5	.583	23-8	.742
Brewton-Parker	4-8	.333	10-20	.333
Southern Wesleyan	4-8	.333	16-12	.571
Truett-McConnell	3-9	.250	12-18	.400



# 2010-11 SSAC WEST STANDINGS

SCHOOL	SSAC PCT.		OVERALL	
William Carey	8-4	.667	18-12	.600
Mobile	8-4	.667	15-14	.517
Belhaven	6-6	.500	16-15	.516
Loyola	6-6	.500	16-14	.533
Faulkner	6-6	.500	13-19	.406
AUM	5-7	.417	8-18	.308
Spring Hill	3-9	.250	9-18	.333



# 2010-2011 RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	RESULT
Nov. 5	Voorhees College	Home	W; 82-80
Nov. 8	at Dillard University	New Orleans, La.	L; 72-78
Nov. 12	at University of South Alabama (EXH)	Mitchell Center	L; 53-81
Nov. 19	at Shorter University	Rome, Ga.	L; 62-81
Nov. 20	at Lee University	Cleveland, Tenn.	L; 58-69
Nov. 27	at University of Southern Mississippi (EXH)	Hattiesburg, Miss.	L; 41-94
Nov. 29	Dillard University	Home	W; 70-63
Dec. 4	Brewton-Parker College	Home	W; 70-57
Dec. 11	Concordia College-Selma	Home	W; 81-72
Dec. 14	at Jackson State University (EXH)	Jackson, Miss.	L; 32-80
Dec. 16	at Southern University at New Orleans	New Orleans, La.	W; 62-46
Jan. 5	at Concordia College-Selma	Selma, Ala.	L; 62-65
Jan. 8	Tougaloo College	Home	L; 59-75
Jan. 10	Southern University at New Orleans	Home	L; 49-65
Jan. 13	*Loyola University (La.)	Home	W; 63-58
Jan. 15	*Auburn-Montgomery	Home	L; 57-60
Jan. 17	at Xavier University (La.)	New Orleans, La.	L; 58-64
Jan. 22	*at Faulkner University	Montgomery, Ala.	L; 41-56
Jan. 27	*at University of Mobile	Univ. of Mobile	L; 58-63
Jan. 29	*Belhaven University	Home	W; 77-62
Feb. 3	*at William Carey University	Hattiesburg, Miss.	L; 54-76
Feb. 5	*at Loyola University (La.)	New Orleans, La.	L; 56-67
Feb. 7	Xavier University (La.)	Outlaw Rec. Center	L; 54-65
Feb. 10	*at Auburn-Montgomery	Montgomery, Ala.	L; 51-68
Feb. 12	Clearwater Christian College	Home	W; 70-57
Feb. 14	at Tougaloo College	Tougaloo, Miss.	L; 47-70
Feb. 17	*Faulkner University	Home	W; 67-64
Feb. 19	*University of Mobile	Home	L; 53-65
Feb. 24	*at Belhaven University	Jackson, Miss.	L; 55-64
Feb. 26	*William Carey University	Home	L; 47-55

\* - SSAC West games



00  
Halen Butler  
G  
Freshman • 6'3



1  
Ricky Sears  
G  
Junior • 6'0



3  
Kyle Watkins  
G  
Senior • 6'3



4  
Todd Martin  
G  
Sophomore • 6'0



5  
Steve Edwards  
G  
Senior • 6'0



11  
Neal Apetrei  
G  
Freshman • 6'0



12  
Stephen Burches  
G  
Senior • 6'1



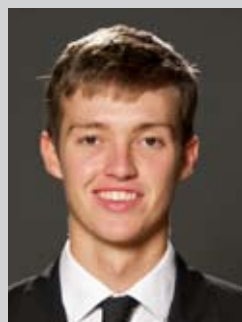
14  
Tyler Schwab  
G  
Senior • 5'9



15  
Frederick Gatson  
G/F  
Freshman • 6'6



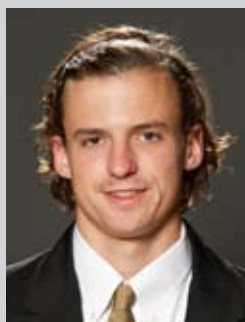
22  
Charles Gordon  
G  
Sophomore • 6'5



23  
Ben Redman  
G  
Freshman • 6'2



25  
Brett Williams  
G  
Junior • 6'4



32  
Alex Looney  
F  
Sophomore • 6'6



33  
John DeLoach  
C  
Freshman • 6'8



34  
Jayln Woods  
G  
Freshman • 6'3



41  
Jake Thelen  
F  
Freshman • 6'6



55  
Blake Taylor  
C  
Sophomore • 6'8

## 2011-2012 ROSTER

NO.	PLAYER	POS.	CLASS	HT.	WT.	HOMETOWN
00	HALEN BUTLER	G	FR.	6'3	180	SPRING, TEXAS/OAK RIDGE HIGH
1	RICKY SEARS	G	JR.	6'0	180	DECATUR, ALA./AUSTIN HIGH/WALLACE ST. CC-HANCEVILLE/BEVILL ST. CC
3	KYLE WATKINS	G	SR.	6'3	185	MONTGOMERY, ALA./ST. JUDE/MARION MILITARY
4	TODD MARTIN	G	SO.	6'0	175	MOBILE, ALA./ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL/SO. ALABAMA
5	STEVE EDWARDS	G	SR.	6'0	180	NEWTON, MISS./NEWTON HIGH/EAST CENTRAL CC
11	NEAL APETREI	G	FR.	6'0	165	MADISONVILLE, LA./MANDEVILLE HIGH
12	STEPHEN BURCHES	G	SR.	6'1	185	HAMMOND, LA./ST. THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH/SE LA. UNIV.
14	TYLER SCHWAB	G	SR.	5'9	165	PANAMA CITY, FLA./ARNOLD HIGH/CHIPOLA COLLEGE
15	FREDERICK GATSON	G/F	FR.	6'6	200	RIVERDALE, GA./OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC HIGH
22	CHARLES GORDON	G	SO.	6'5	185	BIRMINGHAM, ALA./VESTAVIA HILLS HIGH
23	BEN REDMAN	G	FR.	6'2	170	SPANISH FORT, ALA./SPANISH FORT HIGH
25	BRETT WILLIAMS	G	JR.	6'4	190	OVIEDO, FLA./HAGERTY HIGH/FLA. GULF COAST
32	ALEX LOONEY	F	SO.	6'6	200	MOBILE, ALA./MURPHY HIGH
33	JOHN DELOACH	C	FR.	6'8	230	NICEVILLE, FLA./NICEVILLE HIGH
34	JAYLN WOODS	G	FR.	6'3	210	BROOKSHIRE, TEXAS/ROYAL HIGH
41	JAKE THELEN	F	FR.	6'6	215	EDGEWOOD, KY./COVINGTON CATHOLIC HIGH
55	BLAKE TAYLOR	C	SO.	6'8	225	JACKSON, ALA./JACKSON HIGH

# 2010-2011 FINAL STATS



Record	Overall	Home	Away
All Games	(9-18)	(8-6)	(1-12)
Conference	(3-9)	(3-3)	(0-6)
Non-Conference	(6-9)	(5-3)	(1-6)

#	Player	GP	GS	MIN	AVG	TOTAL			3-PT			REBOUNDS						PTS	P/G						
						FG	FGA	PCT	FG	FGA	PCT	FT	FTA	PCT	OFF	DEF	TOT			R/G	PF	A	TO	BLK	ST
1	Rico Dread	24	2	276	11.5	17	40	.425	0	0	.000	18	30	.600	21	37	58	2.4	38	6	16	3	14	52	2.2
3	Kyle Watkins	8	7	244	30.5	32	83	.386	9	33	.273	23	39	.590	6	31	37	4.6	23	17	26	0	13	96	12.0
4	Brandon Blake	8	8	201	25.1	40	89	.449	3	8	.375	29	35	.829	6	29	35	4.4	27	13	28	1	12	112	14.0
5	Steve Edwards	27	18	597	21.3	82	250	.328	47	164	.287	21	36	.583	19	50	69	2.6	39	36	34	3	18	232	8.6
11	Jonathan Barlow	1	0	1	0.9	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
12	Stephen Burches	6	5	179	29.8	21	50	.420	3	12	.250	9	18	.500	7	19	26	4.3	17	26	19	0	22	54	9.0
14	Tyler Schwab	27	18	746	27.0	51	168	.304	35	121	.289	55	71	.775	8	52	60	2.2	57	102	83	0	18	192	7.1
22	Charles Gordon	27	21	630	22.3	76	166	.458	0	8	.000	42	98	.429	33	61	94	3.5	71	50	60	14	19	194	7.2
32	Alex Looney	27	4	569	21.1	54	128	.422	6	27	.222	27	57	.474	34	52	86	3.2	42	21	46	4	13	141	5.2
33	Sylvester Twiggs	26	3	474	18.2	27	52	.519	0	0	.000	24	32	.750	51	64	115	4.4	32	17	31	5	8	78	3.0
34	Nick Brown	27	25	643	22.5	154	305	.505	0	2	.000	81	133	.609	72	116	188	7.0	78	20	78	10	17	389	14.4
41	Greg Gardner	27	14	367	11.9	24	66	.364	1	4	.250	9	19	.474	27	56	83	3.1	40	15	23	11	7	58	2.1
55	Blake Taylor	23	0	224	9.7	11	27	.407	0	0	.000	15	22	.682	14	18	32	1.4	50	3	14	7	4	37	1.6
TEAM															41	58	99					11			
Spring Hill College		27		5149		589	1424	.414	104	379	.274	353	590	.598	339	643	982	36.4	516	326	469	58	165	1635	60.6
Opponents		27		5157		619	1508	.410	157	533	.295	370	556	.665	321	613	934	34.6	522	329	375	67	225	1765	65.4



# 2011-2012 SPRING HILL COLLEGE MEN'S BASKETBALL



## 2011-2012 SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	SITE	TIME
NOV. 2	AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA (EXH)	USA MITCHELL CENTER	7:05 P.M.
NOV. 4	SELMA UNIVERSITY (EXH)	HOME	7:30 P.M.
NOV. 7	AT TOUGALOO COLLEGE	TOUGALOO, MISS.	7 P.M.
NOV. 10	SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS	HOME	7 P.M.
NOV. 12	AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI (EXH)	HATTIESBURG, MISS.	12 P.M.
NOV. 15	AT SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY (EXH)	HAMMOND, LA.	7 P.M.
NOV. 18	AT TRUETT-MCCONNELL COLLEGE	CLEVELAND, GA.	6:30 P.M.
NOV. 19	AT SOUTHERN WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY	CENTRAL, S.C.	4 P.M.
NOV. 22	AT CONCORDIA COLLEGE-SELMA	SELMA, ALA.	7 P.M.
NOV. 29	AT DILLARD UNIVERSITY	NEW ORLEANS, LA.	7 P.M.
DEC. 2	EMMANUEL COLLEGE	HOME	7:30 P.M.
DEC. 3	LEE UNIVERSITY	HOME	5 P.M.
DEC. 9	CARVER BIBLE COLLEGE	HOME	7 P.M.
DEC. 10	CONCORDIA COLLEGE-SELMA	HOME	5 P.M.
DEC. 17	AT SAMFORD UNIVERSITY (EXH)	BIRMINGHAM, ALA.	4 P.M.
DEC. 19	AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS	NEW ORLEANS, LA.	7 P.M.
DEC. 29	AT LOUISIANA TECH (EXH)	RUSTON, LA.	1 P.M.
JAN. 6	AT SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE	MARIETTA, GA.	6:30 P.M.
JAN. 7	AT BREWTON-PARKER COLLEGE	MT. VERNON, GA.	4 P.M.
JAN. 12	*AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY (LA.)	NEW ORLEANS, LA.	7:30 P.M.
JAN. 14	*AT AUBURN-MONTGOMERY	MONTGOMERY, ALA.	4 P.M.
JAN. 21	*FAULKNER UNIVERSITY	HOME	4 P.M.
JAN. 26	*UNIVERSITY OF MOBILE	HOME	7:30 P.M.
JAN. 28	*AT BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY	JACKSON, MISS.	4 P.M.
FEB. 2	*WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY	HOME	7:30 P.M.
FEB. 4	*LOYOLA UNIVERSITY (LA.)	HOME	4 P.M.
FEB. 9	*AUBURN-MONTGOMERY	HOME	7:30 P.M.
FEB. 13	DILLARD UNIVERSITY	HOME	7 P.M.
FEB. 16	*AT FAULKNER UNIVERSITY	MONTGOMERY, ALA.	7:30 P.M.
FEB. 18	*AT UNIVERSITY OF MOBILE	PHARR GYMNASIUM	7 P.M.
FEB. 23	*BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY	HOME	7:30 P.M.
FEB. 25	*AT WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY	HATTIESBURG, MISS.	4 P.M.
MAR. 1	AT SSAC TOURNAMENT	COLUMBUS, GA.	TBA

\* - SSAC WEST GAMES