

KBCA 2016 Junior College Men's Basketball Coach of the Year



Steve Eck

Hutchinson Community College Seven seasons - 196-44 2016 Jayhawk Conference Champions 2016 NJCAA National Runner-up

Steve Eck, a Reno County native, became the 14th coach in the storied history of Blue Dragon basketball on March 18, 2009.

Through the 2015-16 season, in his first eight seasons leading the Blue Dragons, Eck has already climbed the Blue Dragon coaching ladder to the fourth rung in all-time HCC coaching wins.

Hutchinson is Eck's fourth junior college head coaching position. He is now 196-44 at Hutchinson. His .808 winning percentage with the Blue Dragons is second-best in program history. He became the ninth Blue Dragon head coach to lead the storied junior college program into the NJCAA Tournament and has done so now three times in 2013, 2015 and 2016.

Eck has an overall junior college coaching record of 518-94 over 17 seasons. His overall coaching record is 846-128 in his 37th year of coaching at all levels.

That 800th all-time coaching win came on Jan. 17, 2015, a 101-70 victory at Colby. He garnered junior college coaching victory No. 500 in a Region VI opening-round 86-77 victory over Allen Community College Dec. 5, 2015.

Now Eck has a pair of Region VI championships and a national runner-up finish to add to his already impressive resume.

Hutch's 2013 Region VI championship, the program's first in 16 sea-

Steve Eck – Through the years		
at Hutchinson		
Year	Overall	League
2009-10	27-6	11-5
2010-11	26-7	10-6
2011-12	25-7	10-6
2012-13	31-4	13-3
2013-14	26-8	9-5
2014-15	29-7	11-5
2015-16	32-5	16-3
Totals	196-44	80-33
Junior College History		
Butler County CC	1996-1999	80-22
Redlands CC	2001-2007	182-22
Cowley	2007-2009	60-8
Hutchinson	2009-	196-44
Total	18 seasons	518-94
Other Head Coaching Positions		

1978-86

1986-96

Overall Record: 846-128 (37 seasons)

19 seasons 328-34

Jardine Junior High

Wichita South HS

sons, was Eck's first in his fifth attempt. He's been to nationals twice before, but never as a head coach of a Kansas community college, until 2013. In addition to the 2013 team's gaudy team numbers, this Blue Dragon team also pulled in the individual hardware.

Guard Kadeem Allen (2012-14) was a two-time NJCAA All-American and last season was named both the NJCAA and KABC National Player of the Year

Allen and A.J. Spencer were first-team all-Jayhawk West and Region VI in 2013. Alex Davis, who set both the career and season blocked shots records, was second-team all-Jayhawk West and All-Region. Davis was also the Region VI Tournament MVP.

In 2015, Eck led HCC to a 73-61 second-round national

victory over No. 4 Trinity Valley, Hutchinson's first winners' bracket victory in the national tournament since winning the 1994 national championship game. Freshman Bashir Ahmed earned NJCAA All-America honorable mention honors and DeShawn Freeman captured Region VI Tournament MVP honors in leading the Blue Dragons to a 20th all-time Region VI championship and 18th overall appearance in the NJCAA Tournament.

101-19

227-15



Hutchinson made it back-to-back trips to the national tournament since 1971-73, but didn't win the Region VI title to do so. By virtue of winning the program's first Jayhawk Conference championship since 2004, HCC earned a zone bid and took full advantage of the opportunity. HCC earned an opening-round bye and then defeated Moberly (84-74), No. 2 Northwest Florida State (116-90) and Ranger College (84-81 in overtime) to reach the program's fifth national championship game. The Blue Dragons fell short in that title game, 74-64 to Salt Lake.

Ahmed was named the Jayhawk Conference's Most Valuable Player. He was also a first-team NJCAA All-American. The 2015-16 Blue Dragons finished with a record of 32-5.

Eck came to Hutchinson after a highly successful two-year run at Cowley College, where he produced a 60-8 overall record, one outright Jayhawk East championship, one shared East title and two berths in the Region VI championship game.

After a successful 10-year run at Wichita South High School where he won six Class 6A state championships, Eck entered the college coaching ranks at Butler County Community College in 1996. Eck went 80-22 in three seasons with the Grizzlies, going to the Region VI championship game twice. Eck's 1997 team was ranked No. 1 in the nation for eight weeks. He had three first-team All-Americans and two conference players of the year.

Eck was then an assistant for one season each at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and Newman University before returning to the juco ranks as a head coach at Redlands Community College in El Reno, Okla.

In his first season at Redlands, Eck's team won the NJCAA Division II national championship, going 30-5. One year later, Redlands moved up to Division I.

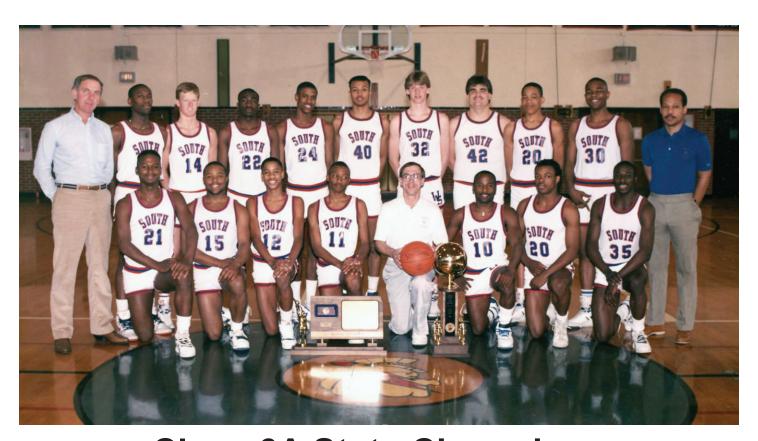
The 2003 Redlands team went 32-3 and qualified for the NJCAA Tournament. In 2004, Redlands advanced all the way to the NJCAA Tournament championship game, losing to powerful Southeastern Iowa in the title game.

Eck spent six seasons at Redlands, amassing a 182-22 record. Redlands reached the Region II title game in 5 of 6 seasons.

Eck is a 1977 graduate of Kansas Newman College where he earned a BA in history and physical education.



Kansas Basketball Coach Association Hall of Fame



Class 6A State Champions Wichita City League Champions

24-0

Front Row (I to r) Calvin Williams; Colin Love; Frank Charles; Rod Pryor; Head Coach Steve Eck; Deon White; Louis Iverson; Demetrius Johnson. Back Row (I to r) Asst Coach Dick Schumacher; James Jimmerson; Tony Phillips; Val Barnes; Wendell Charles-Moore; Jeff Murdock; Gerald Johnson; Mike Steele; Steve Woodberry; **Orlondus Walker; Asst Coach Charles Williams**

