

Arizona Head Coach Lute Olson

Record at Arizona: 589-187 (24 years)

Career Record: 780-280 (34 years)

As Lute Olson enters his 25th season at the University of Arizona, he has established both the Wildcat basketball program and himself as two of the preeminent figures on the collegiate basketball landscape.

Whether it's the 1997 national championship, four Final Four appearances, 23 consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, 11 Pacific-10 Conference titles, or the nation's third-best winning percentage over the past 20 seasons, basketball excellence and the University of Arizona go hand-in-hand.

Olson, now in his fifth decade as a head coach, also has a title that befits those monumental accomplishments – Hall of Famer – as he was selected for enshrinement into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on June 5, 2002. In a career full of individual and team accolades, this honor ranks among the best. True to form, Olson shared the recognition with his family, coaches and players.

"I think it ranks right up there with the NCAA Championship and the 1986 World Championship," said Olson. "This is definitely one of the special things that has happened in my career. I am very thankful for the recognition and opportunity for enshrinement. I want to thank Bobbi and my family for their sacrifices in addition to the former assistant coaches and former players who also share in this honor as well."

Set to begin his 35th season as a head coach on the NCAA Division I level with time spent at Arizona, Iowa and Long Beach State, Olson is one of just 25 head coaches in NCAA history to win 700 or

more games (all divisions). He owns a career record 780-280, which adds up to a gaudy winning percentage of .736. He has tallied a mark of 589-187 (.759) in his 24 years at Arizona, while being named the Pac-10 Coach of the Year seven times (1986, '88, '89, '93, '94, '98, 2003). Olson also has guided Arizona to 20 consecutive 20-win seasons, and is one of only three coaches in NCAA history to record 29 or more 20-win seasons.

Long considered one of the top coaches in Pac-10 history, he has led Arizona to the aforementioned 11 league titles, with the last coming in 2005. He has a career Pac-10 mark of 327-101 (.764), and the 327 conference victories are the most in league history. Olson is the No. 2 coach in Pac-10 history for career winning percentage for conference games with more than two years experience, trailing only the legendary John Wooden (.810/304-74).

As for his Arizona career, he has the most victories (589) in school history and the second-best winning percentage (.759) in school history (minimum two seasons) with the former tally surpassing Fred Enke's 509 from 1925-61 (36 years) during the 2003-04 season.

Olson, who was a finalist for Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame induction in 2000 and 2001, had success long before his days on the collegiate level. In 11 years as a high school coach (1956-69), he compiled a record of 180-76 (.703). After that, there were four years in the junior college ranks at Long Beach City College, where he was 103-22 (.824). Factor in those games, along with the contests as the head coach at Arizona, Iowa and Long Beach State, and he has 1,063 victories heading into 2007-08 and has a .738 winning percentage in 1,442 career games coached. Olson became the 16th coach in basketball history (covering all levels) to register 1,000 career wins, when his Wildcats defeated Utah, 67-62, on Dec. 11, 2004.

His success not only happens on the court, but also in the recruiting process and in the number of former players that currently play in the NBA. For instance, the 2003, 2004 and 2005 recruiting classes were each judged as one of the top 10 in the nation by some analysts. In fact, the two highest-ranked recruits in school history were signed to national letters-of-intent in November 2002, and top-10 recruits have regularly signed since. With 12 NBA Draft picks in the last eight seasons alone, Arizona players routinely hear their names called on Draft Day. Since the NBA Draft was shortened to two rounds in 1989, Arizona leads the nation with 29 total selections. In his collegiate career, Olson has produced 53 NBA Draft picks, including 32 at Arizona. Last year, there were 11 Arizona alums on NBA rosters, and Olson has had 14 former players appear in the NBA Finals in the last 13 seasons. In that time span, nine former Cats have earned world championship rings.

Bolstered by depth and experience, the Wildcats rolled to a 30-7 record in 2004-05, becoming just the third team in school history to reach the 30-win plateau. Behind the leadership of All-Americans Channing Frye and Salim Stoudamire, UA grew into a formidable opponent, at one point winning 21 of 23 games, claimed the Pac-10 championship for the second time in three seasons and advanced to an NCAA Regional final for the eighth time in school history. Arizona ranked among the nation's leaders in free throw percentage (fourth), three-point

Lute Olson's Year-By-Year Collegiate Coaching Record

School	Year	Record	Pct.	Conf.	Finish	Postseason
Long Beach State	1973-74	24-2	.923			
Iowa	1974-75	10-16	.385	7-11	7th	
Iowa	1975-76	19-10	.655	9-9	5th	
Iowa	1976-77	20-7	.741	12-6	4th	
Iowa	1977-78	12-15	.444	5-13	8th	
Iowa	1978-79	20-8	.714	13-5	1st	NCAA Midwest 1st Round
Iowa	1979-80	23-10	.697	10-8	4th	NCAA Final Four
Iowa	1980-81	21-7	.750	13-5	2nd	NCAA Midwest 2nd Round
Iowa	1981-82	21-8	.724	12-6	2nd	NCAA West 2nd Round
Iowa	1982-83	21-10	.677	10-8	T2nd	NCAA Midwest Regional
Arizona	1983-84	11-17	.393	8-10	8th	
Arizona	1984-85	21-10	.677	12-6	T3rd	NCAA West 1st Round
Arizona	1985-86	23-9	.719	14-4	1st	NCAA West 1st Round
Arizona	1986-87	18-12	.600	13-5	2nd	NCAA West 1st Round
Arizona	1987-88	35-3	.921	17-1	1st	NCAA Final Four
Arizona	1988-89	29-4	.879	17-1	1st	NCAA West Regional
Arizona	1989-90	25-7	.781	15-3	T1st	NCAA West 2nd Round
Arizona	1990-91	28-7	.800	14-4	1st	NCAA West Regional
Arizona	1991-92	24-7	.774	13-5	3rd	NCAA Southeast 1st Round
Arizona	1992-93	24-4	.857	17-1	1st	NCAA West 1st Round
Arizona	1993-94	29-6	.829	14-4	1st	NCAA Final Four
Arizona	1994-95	24-7	.774	14-4	2nd	NCAA Midwest 1st Round
Arizona	1995-96	27-6	.818	14-4	2nd	NCAA West Regional
Arizona	1996-97	25-9	.735	11-7	5th	NCAA Champions
Arizona	1997-98	30-5	.857	17-1	1st	NCAA West Regional Final
Arizona	1998-99	22-6+	.786	13-5	2nd	NCAA Midwest 1st Round
Arizona	1999-2000	27-7	.794	15-3	T1st	NCAA West 2nd Round
Arizona	2000-01	25-6*	.806	12-2*	2nd	NCAA Runner-up
Arizona	2001-02	24-10	.706	12-6	T2nd	NCAA West Regional
Arizona	2002-03	28-4	.875	17-1	1st	NCAA West Regional Final
Arizona	2003-04	20-10	.667	11-7	3rd	NCAA Atlanta 1st Round
Arizona	2004-05	30-7	.811	15-3	1st	NCAA Chicago Regional Final
Arizona	2005-06	20-13	.606	11-7	T4th	NCAA Minneapolis 2nd Round
Arizona	2006-07	20-11	.645	11-7	T3rd	NCAA Midwest Region 1st Round
Arizona	2007-08	missed season due to a leave of absence				
Overall	34 years	780-280	.736			
Arizona	24 years	589-187	.759	327-101	.764	
Iowa	9 years	167-91	.647	91-71	.561	
Long Beach State	1 year	24-2	.923			

* Reflects Arizona record with Olson on the sideline. UA was 28-8 overall and 15-3 in the Pac-10. Olson took a five-game leave of absence during the year. Associate head coach Jim Rosborough was credited with a 3-2 record in that span.

field goal percentage (eighth) and scoring offense (10th), while Stoudamire led the nation in three-point field goal percentage (.504). Along the way, Frye and Stoudamire earned multiple All-America honors, the 18th and 19th Arizona players to earn such distinction under Olson.

In the ebb-and-flow of college basketball in which rosters seemingly grow younger each year, Olson's Wildcats continue to remain among the game's royalty. Arizona opened the 2003-04 campaign without a senior in its projected 10-man rotation for the third time in five seasons. Despite its relative youth, the Cats posted a 20-10 overall record and continued the nation's longest streaks for NCAA Tournament appearances (20) and 20-win seasons (17). For the second year in a row, UA led the nation in scoring (87.1 ppg) and also ranked second in free throw percentage (.786). All told, two players garnered all-conference accolades, three were all-region picks and one garnered All-America kudos, marking the seventh straight year with at least one Wildcat All-American. Olson posted career win No. 700 on Jan. 3 and became UA's winningest coach (510 wins) on Jan. 17.

Lofty expectations have become commonplace for the Wildcats, and such was the case in 2002-03. Beginning the season as the *Associated Press'* top-ranked team for the second time in three seasons, the Olson-led charges held that ranking for 13 of 19 polling periods, while never falling lower than No. 4 in the *AP* poll. UA won 28 games (sixth-highest in school history) and advanced to the NCAA Tournament's "Elite Eight" for the seventh time in school history. Along the way, Arizona earned the school's 10th Pac-10 championship in the last 20 years with a 17-1 league mark that featured a spotless 9-0 road record. Boasting a lineup that had seven players tally at least 200 points, Arizona led the nation with an 85.2 points-per-game average.

Any doubts about Olson's ability on the sidelines were put to rest in 2001-02. He quickly rebuilt a roster that had been decimated by graduation and the NBA Draft, molded a team made primarily of three juniors and six freshmen, and turned it into one of the nation's best. That young Arizona squad exceeded nearly everyone's expectations by winning 24 games, capturing the Pac-10 Tournament title (the school's fourth consecutive), and advancing to the NCAA West Regional semifinal. After starting the year unranked in the *Associated Press* poll for the first time since November 1995, the Olson-led Wildcats served notice by stunning second-ranked Maryland and fifth-ranked Florida in its first two games. UA would rise as high as No. 3 in the polls and remained nationally ranked for the entire season.

Olson guided his charges through a season full of distractions in 2000-01 to one of his most rewarding results. Opening the year as the nation's top-ranked team in five different polls, the 2000-01 Wildcats overcame two NCAA suspensions, the untimely passing of Olson's wife, Bobbi, and his own five-game leave of absence to amass a 28-8 record, earn a berth in the school's fourth Final Four and play in the national championship game. After struggling to an 8-5 start, the Cats finished the regular season with 15 wins in 17 games to emerge as a title contender. The team rolled through the first five games of the NCAA Tournament dispatching four conference champions and stretching its season-long win streak to 11 games, before falling to Duke, 82-72, in the NCAA Final. Through it all, the Wildcats displayed a toughness and determination seen in few teams across the country.

In a career that has been dotted with terrific coaching jobs, the 1999-2000 season may have been one of the best. Whether it was an injury to a key player, someone who left the program or the fact that there were three freshmen in the starting lineup, he was at his best all year in leading the team to a 27-7 record and the program's ninth Pac-10 Conference championship. The season was also highlighted by his 600th career win, his 400th victory as Arizona's head coach and the renaming of the McKale Center playing surface, "Lute Olson Court".

Arizona fans have grown accustomed to success when basketball season rolls around, but believe it or not, this same attitude did not exist before Olson's arrival in the "Old Pueblo" prior to the 1983-84 campaign.

When Olson took the reins in Tucson on March 29, 1983, after nine successful seasons at Iowa, he was given a program that finished just 4-24 the season before. A quick and direct rise to the top would ensue, much to the delight of the legions of hoop-crazed fans in the Sonoran desert.

Simply put, the 73-year-old Olson has reignited a basketball-rich tradition at the University of Arizona and made the Wildcats one program that others attempt to emulate.

In 1997-98, he put together what may have been the best team in Arizona history. His silver anniversary season as a collegiate coach, Olson won his sixth Pac-10 Coach-of-the-Year honor after directing Arizona to the program's eighth Pac-10 Championship during his tenure. That defending national champion club took everyone's best shot throughout the season, and still managed to post a 30-5 record, thanks in part to a school-record-tying winning streak of 19 consecutive games. The Wildcats, who were a last-second, desperation three-pointer away from becoming the first team in Pac-10 history to complete the league schedule 18-0, would get one step away from the school's fourth Final Four before falling to Utah in the NCAA West Regional final in Anaheim, Calif.

In a career that has produced one major achievement after another, it was the 1996-97 season that proved to be the year when Olson reached the collegiate pinnacle of on-court coaching achievements.

After seeing his squad finish with a regular season record of 19-9 and its lowest Pac-10 finish (fifth) since his first year at the UA (eighth), he rallied the troops for one of the most remarkable runs in the NCAA Tournament's history. Going in as a No. 4 seed and with a two-game losing streak, the Wildcats proceeded to do what no team has ever done — beat three No. 1 seeds on the way to the national title.

By the way, the trio of wins didn't come against just *any* group of teams — they came against the three winningest programs in college basketball history.

The excitement started when Arizona knocked off everyone's favorite to win it all, Kansas, in the regional semifinal in Birmingham, Ala. Then, after going into overtime to beat Providence in the Southeast Regional final (96-92), the UA advanced to the Final Four in Indianapolis, where it beat its second No. 1 seed, North Carolina. This win set up the title game against defending national champion, Kentucky.

The Wildcats vs. Wildcats match-up proved to be a battle of epic proportions, one that resulted in the first NCAA overtime title game in seven years. When the dust settled, Olson's club came away with an 84-79 win, a conquest that took place just two days after his 14-year anniversary of being named the head coach at Arizona. The monumental win set off a wild celebration at the RCA Dome, and back home on the streets of Tucson.

That national championship team was built out of the same mold as the man who was in charge — forged with a competitive fire,

Olson's Career at a Glance

	Years	W	L	Pct.
High School	11	180	76	.703
Junior College	4	103	22	.824
Long Beach State	1	24	2	.923
Iowa	9	167	91	.647
Arizona	24	589	187	.759
NCAA D-I Totals	34	780	280	.736
Career Totals	49	1,063	378	.738

intensely driven and dedicated to be the best. Following the year, Olson was awarded with the second annual Chase Winged Foot Award, an honor that is presented to the coach of the national champions by the New York Athletic Club.

In the year prior to the national championship campaign (1995-96), Olson reached a pair of head coaching milestones, as he won his 300th game as the UA mentor and attained his 500th career victory as a college head coach.

Following the initial season as the Wildcats' leader, the Arizona basketball program began its trek into the local, regional and national spotlight. The excitement that Olson brought to McKale Center has been parlayed into sellout season ticket crowds for the past 20 consecutive years and well-earned respect for Olson among his peers in the coaching profession.

Olson's Wildcat squads have finished the season ranked in the top 10 in one or both major college basketball polls in eight of the last 11 seasons and 14 times overall. In fact, Arizona has finished the season with a national ranking in 18 of the last 20 years. As a testament to his long-term greatness, CBS-TV included Olson on its list of the "Ten Greatest Coaches in College Basketball History" during the 2003 Final Four.

He continues to put his stamp on the NCAA and Pac-10 coaching record books with each passing season. He has coached in the NCAA Tournament 28 times in the last 29 years, including the 23 consecutive appearances at Arizona, and overall he has a 46-27 (.630) NCAA Tournament record. In addition to the appearances with his Arizona clubs from 1985-2007, he led Iowa to trips in each of his final five years in Iowa City, including the 1980 Final Four.

Olson's Arizona teams are 39-21 (.650) in NCAA play with trips to the 1988, 1994, 1997, and 2001 Final Fours. His Iowa teams were 7-6 in NCAA action, including a Final Four trip in 1980. His 46 NCAA Tournament wins place him fourth on the NCAA Tournament's all-time victory list, and he is one of just 11 coaches who have coached in five or more Final Fours. Further, his 27 appearances in the NCAA Tournament (adjusted for a vacated appearance) ranks him second on the all-time head coaching list.

Some teams rebuild, but Olson reloads his Wildcat program — always giving his players the right to approve or disapprove any prospective recruit.

"I have been a firm believer that you build a successful program with good people, Olson said. "We never recruit the great players who are questionable people. Hopefully, they will be great players as well."

Many of these players have utilized the Arizona program to hone their skills and move onto the next level. Under Olson, 32 players have been selected in the NBA Draft (12 in the first round), while numerous others have gone onto play overseas.

It most assuredly has been a successful run at Arizona for Olson. After coming to Tucson, it took just one season for him to energize a dormant program.

In 1984-85, his second season, the Wildcats finished the year at 21-10 and made the first of many visits to the NCAA Tournament under Olson. It had been eight years since an Arizona team had won 20 games and the new head coach was just beginning to scratch the surface.

National recognition came with the 1986 season as the Cats won its first Pac-10 title and put together a 23-9 record. That was the first of 11 Pac-10 titles that Arizona has won since Olson's arrival. The four titles won from 1988-91 marked the first time a Pac-10 team won four consecutive titles since the league expanded in 1979.

With the 1988 Pac-10 title in hand, the season culminated with Arizona's first trip to the Final Four as the Cats put together the finest season in school history with a 35-3 record.

Since that 1987-88 Final Four season, Arizona has won an average of 26 games per season (averaging just seven losses), and the overall record of 519-142 during that same period is the nation's third-best in terms of winning percentage (.785).

The numbers get even better when you look at what the Cats have done at home for Olson. In the last 24 years under Olson, Arizona has amassed a record of 344-40 (.896) in McKale Center, lost only 12 non-conference games and won 272 of its last 296 games. In that span, the Cats had an amazing run of 71 consecutive victories without a defeat, making it the 10th-longest homecourt winning streak in NCAA history.

The streaks haven't built around a light schedule, as Olson does not avoid tough games. Since his arrival, Arizona has played 45 non-conference, regular season games against teams that played in the Final Four later that same season. Further, the Wildcats have matched wits with a team that played in the NCAA title game in 10 of the past 12 seasons.

With the success of the Wildcats throughout the years, the accolades for Olson continue to grow. His resume includes Coach-of-the-Year honors from both the Pac-10 (1986, 1988, 1989, 1993, 1994, 1998, 2003) and the Big Ten (1979 and 1981) in addition to a variety of regional and national honors. He earned the John R. Wooden "Legends of Coaching" and the Clair Bee Coach-of-the-Year awards in 2001. In the summer of 1999, he was also inducted into the Pima County (Ariz.) Sports Hall of Fame.

Olson's success at Arizona mirrors his earlier work at Iowa where in nine years in Iowa City from 1975 to 1983 he became the then-winningest coach in school history (168-90/.651) and took the Hawkeyes to the NCAA five straight times including a Final Four trip in 1980.

Olson was born on a farm just outside Mayville, N.D., on Sept. 22, 1934, and would go on to attend high school in Grand Forks, N.D., for the 1951-52 season, where he led the team to the 1952 state basketball championship.

In college, he was a three-sport athlete (basketball, football and baseball) at Augsburg (Minn.) College from 1953-56. As a senior in 1956, Olson was recognized with the Augsburg Honors Athlete Award, which is given annually to the top male student-athlete. Since that time he also has been honored by his alma mater with induction into the Augsburg Athletic Hall of Fame in 1977 and received the Augsburg College Distinguished Alumni Award in April 1986.

After five years of prep coaching in Minnesota, he moved west and coached for six years in Anaheim and Huntington Beach, Calif., high schools. Olson was inducted into the Two Harbors, Minn., Sports Hall of Fame in July 2001.

He then guided Long Beach City College to three league titles and the 1971 state junior college crown and was the conference coach of the year in three of his four seasons. Olson followed that with a one-year stint as the head coach at Long Beach State (1973-74), where he led the 49ers to a 24-2 record. That got the attention of Iowa, which hired him for the next season.

Olson was married the former Roberta (Bobbi) Russell for 47 years. Bobbi passed away in January 2001. Olson has five grown children — daughters Vicki, Jody and Christi, and sons Greg and Steve — and 14 grandchildren.

NCAA Division I Coaching Records

Winningest Active Coaches, By Percentage

(minimum 10 Division I seasons coached)

Rnk	Coach, school	Yrs.	W	L	Pct.
1.	Roy Williams, North Carolina	20	560	134	.807
2.	John Calipari, Memphis	16	408	135	.751
3.	Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	33	803	267	.750
4.	Lute Olson, Arizona	34	780	280	.736
5.	Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	32	771	278	.735
	Bob Huggins, West Virginia	26	616	222	.735
7.	Rick Pitino, Louisville	22	521	191	.732
8.	Tubby Smith, Minnesota	17	407	159	.719
9.	Bill Self, Kansas	15	349	137	.718
10.	Billy Donovan, Florida	14	319	131	.709

NCAA Division I Coaching Records

Winningest Active Coaches, By Victories

Rnk	Coach, school	Years	Wins
1.	Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	33	803
2.	Lute Olson, Arizona	34	780
3.	Jim Calhoun, Connecticut	36	774
4.	Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	32	771
5.	Bob Huggins, West Virginia	26	616
6.	Gary Williams, Maryland	30	604
7.	Tom Penders, Houston	34	608
8.	Homer Drew, Valparaiso	31	593
9.	Ben Braun, Rice	31	556
10.	Mike Montgomery, California	26	547

NCAA All Division Coaching Records

Winningest Coaches, By Victories

Rnk	Coach, last school	Yrs.	W	L	Pct.
1.	Bob Knight, Texas Tech	42	902	371	.709
2.	*Don Meyer, Northern State	36	891	299	.749
3.	Dean Smith, North Carolina	36	879	254	.776
4.	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	41	876	190	.822
5.	*Herb Magee, Philadelphia Univ.	41	855	339	.716
6.	Jim Phelan, Mount St. Mary's	49	830	524	.613
7.	Clarence Gaines, Winston-Salem	47	828	447	.649
8.	Jerry Johnson, LeMoyne-Owen	47	821	447	.647
9.	Eddie Sutton, San Francisco	37	804	328	.710
10.	*Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	33	803	267	.750
11.	Lefty Driesell, Georgia State	40	786	394	.666
12.	*Lute Olson, Arizona	34	780	280	.736
13.	Lou Henson, New Mexico State	41	779	412	.654
14.	*Jim Calhoun, Connecticut	36	774	337	.697
15.	*Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	32	771	278	.735
16.	Henry Iba, Oklahoma State	41	767	338	.694
17.	Ed Diddle, Western Kentucky	42	759	302	.715
18.	Forrest C. "Phog" Allen, Kansas	48	746	264	.739
19.	John Chaney, Temple	34	741	312	.704
20.	Norm Stewart, Missouri	38	731	375	.661
21.	*Glenn Robinson, Franklin & Marshall	37	730	284	.720
22.	Jerry Tarkanian, Fresno State	31	729	201	.784
23.	Ray Meyer, DePaul	42	724	354	.672
24.	Don Haskins, Texas-El Paso	38	719	353	.671
25.	*Dave Robbins, Virginia Union	30	713	194	.786

* active

DID YOU KNOW?

* Olson's Wildcat squads have finished the season ranked in the top 10 in one or both major college basketball polls in eight of the last 11 seasons and 14 times overall. In fact, Arizona has finished the season with a national ranking in 18 of the last 20 years.

* Lute Olson is one only three coaches in NCAA history to record 29 or more 20-win seasons. His streak of 20 consecutive is the longest active streak in the nation for any one coach.

* At Arizona alone, 20 of his players have earned a total of 61 All-America accolades. Additionally, Arizona players have earned all-Pacific-10 Conference honors 47 times since 1984.

* Olson is one of just 16 coaches to win 1,000 or more games in a career, covering all levels of basketball from high school to professional. He is the only one of the 16 mentors to win a majority of his games on the collegiate level, as 780 of his 1,063 victories (73.4 percent) have come on the NCAA Division I level. Of the other 15 coaches, nine earned the majority of wins in professional basketball, while six accomplished the feat exclusively on the high school level.

* Olson's 780 career victories rank second and his .736 career winning percentage ranks fourth among active NCAA Division I coaches with at least 10 years of experience.

* Lute Olson is one of 10 coaches in college history to coach in five or more Final Fours.

* Olson is one of 11 coaches who have taken two different teams to the Final Four. Olson's five Final Four appearances are tied for the most in that group of 11 coaches.

* Olson's (23) and Arizona's string of 24 consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances is the longest current streak in college basketball. Further, it's the second longest in NCAA history, trailing only North Carolina's 27 consecutive appearances (1975-2001).

* Olson's 27 NCAA Tournament appearances rank first among active coaches.

* Olson's 46 NCAA Tournament wins are the second-most among active coaches (Mike Krzyzewski, 69).

* Olson's 1997 Arizona National Championship team was the first and only squad in NCAA history to beat three No. 1 seeds in the same tournament.

* Olson has guided Arizona to 11 NCAA Sweet 16 appearances in his last 21 years and a 24-11 record in the Cats' last 35 NCAA tournament games.

* Olson has produced 53 NBA Draft picks, including 32 at Arizona. No school in the Pac-10 has produced as many first round picks in the last 25 years than Arizona's 13.

* Since the NBA Draft was shortened to two rounds in 1989, Arizona leads the nation with 29 total selections. Thirteen of those selections were first-rounders, including nine Lottery Picks.

* Olson has had 14 former players appear in the NBA Finals in the last 13 seasons. In that time span, nine former Cats have earned world championship rings.

Most NCAA Tournament Appearances

28	Bob Knight, Indiana/Texas Tech	1973-2007
27*	Lute Olson, Iowa/Arizona	1979-2007
27	Dean Smith, North Carolina	1967-97
26	Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	1977-2007
25	Eddie Sutton, Creighton/Arkansas/Kentucky/Okla. State	1974-2005
24	Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	1984-2008
23	Denny Crum, Louisville	1972-2000
20	Adolph Rupp, Kentucky	1942-72
20	John Thompson, Georgetown	1975-97

Most Consecutive NCAA Tournament Appearances

23	Dean Smith, North Carolina	1975-97
23	Lute Olson, Arizona	1985-2007
19	Roy Williams, Kansas/North Carolina	1990-2008
15	Bob Knight, Indiana	1986-2000
14	John Thompson, Georgetown	1979-92
14	Bob Huggins, Cincinnati	1992-2005
14	Tubby Smith, Tulsa/Georgia/Kentucky	1994-2007

Most NCAA Tournament Games

92	Dean Smith, North Carolina	1967-97
90	Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	1984-2008
73*	Lute Olson, Iowa/Arizona	1979-2007
70	Bob Knight, Indiana/Texas Tech	1973-2007
67	Roy Williams, Kansas/North Carolina	1990-2008
65	Denny Crum, Louisville	1972-2000
65	Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	1977-2007
62*	Eddie Sutton, Creighton/Arkansas/Kentucky/Okla. State	1974-2005
57	John Wooden, UCLA	1950-75
56*	Jim Calhoun, Northeastern/Connecticut	1981-2007
53	John Thompson, Georgetown	1975-97

Most NCAA Tournament Wins

69	Mike Krzyzewski, Duke	1984-2008
65	Dean Smith, North Carolina	1967-97
49	Roy Williams, Kansas/North Carolina	1990-2007
47	John Wooden, UCLA	1950-75
46	Lute Olson, Iowa/Arizona	1979-2007
45	Bob Knight, Indiana/Texas Tech	1973-2007
42	Denny Crum, Louisville	1972-2000
40	Jim Boeheim, Syracuse	1977-2007
39*	Jim Calhoun, Northeastern/Connecticut	1981-2007
37	Eddie Sutton, Creighton/Arkansas/Kentucky/Okla. State	1974-2005
34*	John Thompson, Georgetown	1975-97

* Records adjusted for vacated games.

Lute Olson in NCAA Tournament Action

Arizona head coach Lute Olson has coached in the NCAA Tournament 28 times in the last 29 years, including 23 consecutive seasons at Arizona. Overall he has a 46-28 (.622) NCAA Tournament record. In addition to the appearances with his Arizona clubs from 1985-2006, he led Iowa to five consecutive trips in his final five seasons in Iowa City. Olson's Arizona teams are 39-22 (.639) in NCAA postseason play with trips to the 1988, 1994, 1997 and 2001 Final Fours. Olson's Iowa teams were 7-6 in NCAA Tournament action including a Final Four trip in 1980. Here is a breakdown by year.

L	72-74	Iowa-Toledo	1979 Midwest
W	86-72	Iowa-Virginia Commonwealth	1980 East
W	77-64	Iowa-N.C. State	1980 East
W	88-77	Iowa-Syracuse	1980 East
W	81-80	Iowa-Georgetown	1980 East
L	72-80	Iowa-Louisville	1980 Final Four
L	58-75	Iowa-Purdue	1980 Final Four
L	56-60	Iowa-Wichita State	1981 Midwest
W	70-63	Iowa-NE Louisiana	1982 West
L	67-69 (ot)	Iowa-Idaho	1982 West
W	64-59	Iowa-Utah State	1983 Midwest
W	77-63	Iowa-Missouri	1983 Midwest
L	54-55	Iowa-Villanova	1983 Midwest
L	41-50	Arizona-Alabama	1985 West
L	63-73	Arizona-Auburn	1986 West
L	91-98 (ot)	Arizona-UTEP	1987 West
W	90-50	Arizona-Cornell	1988 West
W	84-55	Arizona-Seton Hall	1988 West
W	99-79	Arizona-Iowa	1988 West
W	70-52	Arizona-No. Carolina	1988 West
L	78-86	Arizona-Oklahoma	1988 Final Four
W	94-60	Arizona-Robert Morris	1989 West
W	95-68	Arizona-Clemson	1989 West
L	67-68	Arizona-UNLV	1989 West
W	79-67	Arizona-South Florida	1990 West
L	55-77	Arizona-Alabama	1990 West
W	93-80	Arizona-St. Francis	1991 West
W	76-61	Arizona-BYU	1991 West
L	77-81	Arizona-Seton Hall	1991 West
L	80-87	Arizona-East Tenn. St.	1992 Southeast
L	61-64	Arizona-Santa Clara	1993 West
W	81-55	Arizona-Loyola (Md.)	1994 West
W	71-58	Arizona-Virginia	1994 West
W	82-70	Arizona-Louisville	1994 West
W	92-72	Arizona-Missouri	1994 West
L	82-91	Arizona-Arkansas	1994 Final Four
L	62-71	Arizona-Miami, Ohio	1995 Midwest
W	91-51	Arizona-Valparaiso	1996 West
W	87-73	Arizona-Iowa	1996 West
L	80-83	Arizona-Kansas	1996 West
W	65-57	Arizona-South Alabama	1997 Southeast
W	73-69	Arizona Coll. of Charleston	1997 Southeast
W	85-82	Arizona-Kansas	1997 Southeast
W	96-92 (ot)	Arizona-Providence	1997 Southeast
W	66-58	Arizona-North Carolina	1997 Final Four
W	84-79 (ot)	Arizona-Kentucky	1997 Final Four
W	99-60	Arizona-Nicholls State	1998 West
W	82-49	Arizona-Illinois State	1998 West
W	87-79	Arizona-Maryland	1998 West
L	51-76	Arizona-Utah	1998 West
L	60-61	Arizona-Oklahoma	1999 Midwest
W	71-47	Arizona-Jackson State	2000 West
L	59-66	Arizona-Wisconsin	2000 West
W	101-76	Arizona-Eastern Illinois	2001 Midwest
W	73-52	Arizona-Butler	2001 Midwest
W	66-56	Arizona-Mississippi	2001 Midwest
W	87-81	Arizona-Illinois	2001 Midwest
W	80-61	Arizona-Michigan State	2001 Final Four
L	72-82	Arizona-Duke	2001 Final Four
W	86-81	Arizona-UC-Santa Barbara	2002 West
W	68-60	Arizona-Wyoming	2002 West
L	67-88	Arizona-Oklahoma	2002 West
W	80-51	Arizona-Vermont	2003 West
W	96-95 (2ot)	Arizona-Gonzaga	2003 West
W	88-71	Arizona-Notre Dame	2003 West
L	75-78	Arizona-Kansas	2003 West
L	76-80	Arizona-Ston Hall	2004 Atlanta
W	66-53	Arizona-Utah State	2005 Chicago
W	85-63	Arizona-UAB	2005 Chicago
W	79-78	Arizona-Oklahoma State	2005 Chicago
L	89-90 (ot)	Arizona-Illinois	2005 Chicago
W	94-75	Arizona-Wisconsin	2006 Minneapolis
L	78-82	Arizona-Villanova	2006 Minneapolis
L	63-72	Arizona-Purdue	2007 Midwest

Lute Olson vs. All Opponents

Alabama	0-2
Alabama-Birmingham	1-0
Alaska-Anchorage	1-0
Arizona (at Iowa)	1-0
Arizona State	43-7
Arkansas	2-3
Arkansas-Little Rock	1-0
Assumption	1-0
Auburn	1-0
Augustana	1-0
Austin Peay	1-0
Baylor	2-0
Boston College	4-0
Boston University	1-0
Bradley	2-0
Brigham Young	4-0
Butler	2-0
California	41-11
California-Irvine	2-0
California-Santa Barbara	3-0
Cal Poly Pomona	1-0
Cal State-Los Angeles	2-0
Cal State-Northridge	1-0
Canisius	1-0
Chaminade	1-0
College of Charleston	1-0
Cincinnati	3-0
Clemson	2-0
Colorado	0-1
Colorado State	1-1
Connecticut	0-4
Coppin State	1-0
Cornell	1-0
Davidson	1-0
Dayton	3-0
Delaware	1-0
Delaware State	1-0
Denver	2-0
Detroit	2-0
Drake	11-1
Duke	3-3
Duquesne	1-0
East Tennessee State	1-1
Eastern Illinois	1-0
Eastern Washington	1-0
Evansville	2-0
Florida	1-1
Florida International	1-0
Florida State	1-1
Fordham	1-0
Ft. Hays State	1-0
Fresno State	2-0
Fullerton State	0-1
Georgetown	2-1
Georgia Tech	0-1
Gonzaga	2-0
Hawaii	2-0
Hawaii-Hilo	2-0
Hawaii-Pacific	2-0
Holy Cross	2-0
Houston	3-2
Houston Baptist	1-0
Idaho	0-1
Illinois	18-8
Illinois State	1-0

Illinois Wesleyan	1-0
Indiana	7-11
Indiana State	1-0
IUPUI	1-0
Iowa	2-1
Iowa State	10-2
Jackson State	1-0
James Madison	2-0
Kansas	3-5
Kansas State	2-0
Kent State	3-0
Kentucky	3-1
LaSalle	1-0
Liberty	1-0
Long Beach State	3-0
Long Island University	1-0
Louisiana-Lafayette	1-0
Louisiana State	3-3
Louisville	2-0
Loyola-Chicago	1-0
Loyola-Maryland	1-0
Loyola Marymount	2-0
Manhattan	1-0
Mankato State	1-0
Marquette	5-1
Maryland	2-0
Memphis	1-0
Miami (Fla.)	2-0
Miami (Ohio)	0-1
Michigan	12-12
Michigan State	10-13
Minnesota	11-9
Mississippi	1-0
Mississippi State	2-1
Missouri	2-1
Montana	1-0
Navy	1-0
Nebraska	3-0
Nebraska-Omaha	1-0
Nevada-Reno	1-0
New Mexico	5-6
New Mexico State	2-0
New Orleans	3-0
Nicholls State	1-0
North Carolina	3-3
North Carolina-Asheville	1-0
North Carolina-Wilmington	1-0
North Carolina State	1-0
Northeast Louisiana	2-0
Northern Arizona	13-0
Northern Illinois	4-0
Northern Iowa	3-0
Northwestern	16-2
Notre Dame	4-0
Ohio State	9-9
Oklahoma	1-4
Oklahoma State	3-0
Oral Roberts	1-0
Oregon	36-13
Oregon State	43-8
Pacific	2-0
Pan American	1-1
Pennsylvania	2-0
Penn State	1-0
Pepperdine	2-0
Pittsburgh	3-1

Princeton	1-0
Providence	2-2
Puget Sound	1-0
Purdue	10-14
Rhode Island	2-0
Richmond	2-0
Robert Morris	2-0
Rutgers	2-0
St. Bonaventure	1-0
St. Francis (Pa.)	1-0
St. Joseph's	1-0
Saint Louis	2-0
Saint Mary's	3-0
Sam Houston State	1-0
Samford	1-0
San Diego	1-0
San Diego State	7-1
San Francisco	1-0
San Francisco State	1-0
San Jose State	3-1
Santa Clara	2-1
Seton Hall	2-1
South Alabama	1-0
South Carolina	1-0
South Florida	1-0
Stanford	36-15
Syracuse	2-2
Temple	2-0
Tennessee	2-1
Texas	7-0
Texas A&M	1-0
Texas-San Antonio	1-0
Texas Tech	3-0
Toledo	0-1
Towson State	1-0
Tulane	1-0
Tulsa	1-1
UCLA	28-24
UNLV	2-5
U.S. International	1-0
USC	39-14
UTEP	2-2
Utah	5-3
Utah State	2-0
Valparaiso	2-0
Vermont	1-0
Villanova	2-2
Virginia	2-2
Virginia Commonwealth	2-0
Wake Forest	0-2
Washington	34-17
Washington State	43-5
West Virginia	1-0
Western Illinois	1-0
Western Kentucky	2-0
Wichita State	2-1
Wisconsin	16-3
Wisconsin-Eau Claire	1-0
Wright State	1-0
Wyoming	3-0