

C. Vivian Stringer

Abridged Version/Bio

A coal miner's daughter, C. Vivian Stringer learned a valuable lesson from her parents growing up in the small town of Edenborn, Pa. "Work hard and don't look for excuses, and you can achieve anything." The lesson has stuck with the legendary college basketball coach who has turned tragedy into success.

The first coach - male or female - to take three different schools to the NCAA Final Four, Stringer has been a visionary and pioneer by winning more than 800 victories while leading three programs to national prominence. In 1971, barely out of college herself, Stringer began her coaching career at Cheyney State where she coached alongside John Chaney, sharing a gym and a coaching philosophy. Stringer led the historically black college into the first NCAA women's Final Four in 1982 and just eleven years later arrived there again, this time at the University of Iowa.

Stringer headed back east to Rutgers University in 1995, helping the Scarlet Knights reach two Final Fours and 12 NCAA Tournaments. Stringer and the 2007 squad – fresh off the program's first national championship game – captured the nation's respect when faced with the disparaging comments of a shock jock. Stringer was inducted into the coveted Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on September 11, 2009.

A member of the Alumni Hall of Fame at Slippery Rock University, her alma mater, Stringer and the late William D. Stringer have three children - David, Janine and Justin.

Highlights and Milestones

- First coach to lead three different schools to the NCAA Final Four
- National Coach of the Year, 1982, 1988, 1993
- Third-winningest women's coach all-time
- Led three teams to 29 20-win seasons in her first 39 years
- Has appeared in 23 of 29 NCAA Tournaments, including 10 regional finals
- Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, 2001
- Assistant Coach, U.S. Olympic gold-medal winning team, 2004
- Named one of 101 Most Influential Minorities in Sports, 2003
- Named one of the 100 Most Influential Sports Educators in America, 2007
- International Women's Sports Hall of Fame, 2006
- Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, 2009

Coaching Career

Cheyney State (1971-83)	251-51 (.837)
University of Iowa (1983-95)	269-84 (.762)
<u>Rutgers University (1995-)</u>	<u>322-160 (.668)</u>
	843- 295 (.741)