

Meet The Coaches



## Head Coach Keith Shumate

*Keith Shumate returns to North Carolina A&T for his 13th season as the Aggies head baseball coach. A year ago, Shumate helped the Aggies break the school record in victories for the sixth time in his tenure. Consistent improvement, while producing some of the best power hitters the conference has ever seen has been the standard for Shumate baseball teams.*

*Shumate has earned a well-earned reputation of taking local and in-state “athletes” and shaping them into quality pitchers, hitters and overall better baseball players. More than 90 percent of the players during the Shumate era have been from North Carolina and more than two-thirds of those have been from the Piedmont area.*



*Most come to North Carolina A&T without being highly recruited, but many leave Shumate’s program with impressive numbers and accolades. In the last five seasons the Aggies have had two Louisville Slugger Freshman All-American (John Primus and C.J. Beatty) and three players (Charlie Gamble, Jeremy Jones and Tim Johnson) who appeared on the preseason Brooks Wallace Watch List, which makes them candidates for National Player of the Year.*

*Jones was a preseason third-team All-American and following the 2007 season*

# The Shumate File

**SEASONS AT N.C. A&T:** Entering thirteenth season  
Hometown: Greensboro, NC.

## EDUCATION

Western Carolina University, 1988, B.S.Ed.

## COACHING EXPERIENCE

Three straight winning seasons in the MEAC  
Five 20-win seasons

Gamble was named a third-team All-American. In two out of the last three seasons, Charlie Gamble and Jones made the list as candidates for *cstv.com* Player of the Year. In 2007, Charlie Gamble was selected by the Houston Astros in the 25th round.

Beatty is a two-time first-team All-MEAC selection, plus he earned MEAC Rookie of the Year honors in 2007. Beatty is also a two-time home run champion in the MEAC. Jones, Gamble, Beatty and Primus are all from North Carolina. His in-state recruiting has not slowed.

Jones broke the Aggies single-season hits record in 2005 only to see Gamble break his record in 2006 and again in 2007. Gamble also holds nine other Aggies records and in 2006 Jones was selected in the 25th round of the Major League Baseball Draft. When Shumate arrived at N.C. A&T, he took over a program that won four times in 49 tries the previous year.

In 2005, he guided the N.C. A&T program to its first-ever appearance in a NCAA Regional, while winning the MEAC regular-season and tournament championships. It marked the Aggies first MEAC title since 1993. In the regionals, Shumate and his Aggies gave host Clemson a scare until the seventh inning when his starting pitcher tired. Also, in 2005 Shumate was named the MEAC Tournament's Most Outstanding Coach.

In the last four seasons, two different Aggies have earned MEAC Player of the Year honors. Over the last five seasons, the Aggies have placed at least two players on the all-conference first team.

The Aggies have also made two appearances in the MEAC Championship Game over the last four years.

Shumate has also put together three straight winning seasons in the MEAC as well as five 20-win seasons. The Aggies program had never had a 20-win season before Shumate arrived.

Individual success has also come to N.C. A&T's way since Shumate took over the program. Eleven players have signed professional contracts under Shumate's leadership with three players being drafted in the MLB Draft. Gamble was the latest. Prior to him, Duron LaGrande signed with the Montreal Expos after being a 10th -round pick in 2004.

The other players signed during Shumate's helm include Cory Lima, Deron Featherstone, Garry Templeton, David Nelson, Michael Hauff, Joe Locklear, Johnson, Jones, Ronald Phelps and McIntyre.

Shumate graduated from Western Carolina University in 1988 with a B.S.Ed. degree with a concentration in Spanish. He was also a member of the Western Carolina baseball team that won the Southern Conference title four consecutive years.

Shumate is no stranger to Greensboro baseball. He coached Grimsley High School to two conference championships in three years, coached numerous Palomino Teams to the World Series and was an assistant coach on the 1995 Palomino World Series Champion. Shumate, a Greensboro native, also played in the Palomino World Series and the Pony League World Series.

Coach Shumate resides in Greensboro and is married to Sharon Shumate. They have two children, daughter Kolby (16) and son Kory (14).



## Assistant Coach Austin Love



Austin Love became the first full-time assistant coach in the history of the North Carolina A&T baseball program on October 3, 2005. Love played collegiate baseball under current Aggies head coach Keith Shumate. Before Love, Shumate used volunteer assistants to help him with the program, and there were times he had to do things on his own.

Love made an immediate impact, helping the Aggies pitching staff and handling all the logistics from the program such as travel and keeping track of the players' academic progress. Love helped develop Marquis Frink into a reliable reliever and starter for the Aggies, while keeping a veteran starting rotation on track for another MEAC run. Under Love's tutelage, the Aggies put together a strong starting rotation in 2008 with Tim Johnson, John Primus, Marquis Frink and Chris Eggers. "Austin is energetic, has pitched, played infield, and outfield," said Shumate. "He knows our system and relates well to our players. He is loyal to the coaching staff and has a deep love for A&T"

Love earned four letters under Shumate from 2001-04 as primarily a leftfielder and first baseman. He was also a starting pitcher

and a reliever during his career. Two of his four-seasons, he helped the Aggies break the school record for wins. In 2001, Love hit .300, with three homers, 40 RBI, and stole 27 bases. He earned second-team All-MEAC honors following the season.

He put together another superb season in 2004, and earned second-team MEAC honors again by leading the team in batting at .358. He also earned Team MVP honors in 2004. During his N.C. A&T career, Love played for the Thomasville Hi-Toms of the Coastal Plain League, a summer league designed to help collegiate players develop while using wooden bats. 2001 played for the Thomasville Hi-Toms of the Coastal Plain League.

In 2002-03, he played for Kernersville Bulldogs of the Southern Collegiate Baseball League. He participated twice in the league's All-Star Game.

The Statesville, N.C. native was a Dean's List honoree and a two-time MEAC Commissioner's Award Winner for carrying a 3.0 grade-point average. He earned a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering. ■

## Volunteer Assistant Coach Tim Wilson



Tim Wilson is a volunteer assistant for the N.C. A&T baseball team. His full-time position is as a North Carolina State Trooper. The responsibilities he undertakes for the Aggies baseball team includes assisting with hitting and outfielders.

Wilson has a two-year degree from Southeastern Community College, and he earned his undergraduate degree from N.C. A&T in 1999. Wilson played baseball for the Aggies from 1998-1999. Wilson, a Greensboro native, is married to Allison Wilson. ■