

Scott Burrell

Scott David Burrell (born January 12, 1971) is an American basketball coach and former player who is currently the men's basketball head coach at Southern Connecticut State University. He has played internationally and was also a professional baseball player. Burrell was also the first American athlete to be a first-round draft pick of two major sporting organizations—the National Basketball Association (NBA) and Major League Baseball (MLB).

In 1990, Burrell was drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays of MLB. He played in Minor League Baseball during the 1990 and 1991 seasons. After ending his baseball career, he was drafted in 1993 by the Charlotte Hornets of the NBA. He was later traded to the Golden State Warriors and then the Chicago Bulls, where he won a championship ring. He next played with the New Jersey Nets and then finished his NBA career with the Hornets in 2000–01. He played in other professional basketball leagues through the 2005–06 season.

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Early life

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Burrell was raised in nearby Hamden and attended Hamden High School.^{[1][2]} At Hamden High, in addition to basketball, Burrell was a quarterback on the football team and pitcher on the baseball team.^[3] Burrell was drafted by the Seattle Mariners in first

Scott Burrell

Southern Connecticut Fighting Owls	
Position	Head coach
League	Northeast-10 Conference
Personal information	
Born	January 12, 1971 <div>New Haven, Connecticut</div>
Nationality	American
Listed height	6 ft 7 in (2.01 m)
Listed weight	218 lb (99 kg)
Career information	
High school	Hamden (Hamden, Connecticut)
College	UConn (1989–1993)
NBA draft	1993 / Round: 1 / Pick: 20th overall
	Selected by the Charlotte Hornets
Playing career	1993–2006
Position	Shooting guard / Small forward
Number	24, 23, 2
Coaching career	2006–present
Career history	
As player:	
1993–1997	Charlotte Hornets
1997	Golden State Warriors
1997–1998	Chicago Bulls
1999–2000	New Jersey Nets
2001	Charlotte Hornets
2001–2002	Fayetteville Patriots
2002–2003	Shaanxi Gaitianli Kylins

round of the 1989 Major League Baseball draft after graduating from high school.^[4] Burrell initially planned on attending the University of Miami to play baseball, before University of Connecticut assistant basketball coach Howie Dickenman convinced Burrell to commit to Connecticut.^[5]

College career

From 1989 to 1993, Burrell played at guard and forward for the Connecticut Huskies under Jim Calhoun.^[1] As a freshman in 1989–90, Burrell averaged 8.2 points and 5.5 rebounds.^[1] In 1990, Burrell was drafted by another baseball team, the Toronto Blue Jays, and Burrell spent the next two summers playing minor league baseball.^[4]

As a junior in 1991–92, Burrell averaged a career high 16.3 points, and he had a career high 7.5 rebounds in 1990–91.^[1] Burrell became the first player in NCAA basketball history to compile over 1,500 points, 750 rebounds, 275 assists and 300 steals.^[2] Burrell is known for his full-court pass with one second on the clock to Tate George, who hit a shot as time expired to beat Clemson in the East Regional semi-final of the 1990 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament.^{[6][7]}

Burrell went back to school and received his bachelor's degree in general studies from the University of Connecticut on May 8, 2010.^[8]

Professional career

Minor league baseball (1990–1991)

After being drafted by the Toronto Blue Jays in the fifth round of the 1990 Major League Baseball draft, Burrell was a minor league baseball pitcher from 1990 to 1991, first with the St. Catharines Blue Jays in 1990 and splitting the 1991 season between the Myrtle Beach Hurricanes and St. Catharines Blue Jays. Burrell had a 3.71 ERA and 2–6 record as a minor league pitcher.^[4]

Charlotte Hornets (1993–1997)

Burrell was selected by the Charlotte Hornets with the 20th overall pick in the 1993 NBA draft.^[1] With this draft selection, Burrell became the first and only athlete to be a first round draft pick in two different U.S. sports.^[9]

He averaged 4.8 points per game during his rookie season, during which he missed 31 games due to knee, ankle, and Achilles tendon injuries.^[2] In the 1994–95 season, Burrell played in 65 games with 62 starts and averaged 11.5 points and 5.7 rebounds.^[1] Despite a season ending injury on April 1, 1995, Burrell finished third in NBA Most Improved Player Award votes.^[2] On February 11, he also finished third at the AT&T Long-Distance Shootout.^[2] During the 1995–96 NBA season, Burrell was limited to 20 games due to injuries, including Achilles tendon surgery.^[2] After that season, Burrell would play mostly off the bench.^[1]

Later NBA career (1997–2001)

On February 20, 1997, the Hornets traded Burrell to the Golden State Warriors for Donald Royal. Burrell averaged 5.9 points overall in 1996–97.^[1] On September 22, 1997, the Warriors traded Burrell to the Chicago Bulls for Dickey Simpkins.^[1] Bulls general manager Jerry Krause sought Burrell for his ability to play both

2003–2004	Red Bull Barako
2004–2005	Idaho Stampede
2005	Bilbao Berri
2005–2006	Hitachi SunRockers
As coach:	
2006–2007	Colorado 14ers (assistant)
2007–2015	Quinnipiac (assistant)
2015–present	Southern Connecticut

Career highlights and awards

As head coach:

- Northeast-10 Southwest Division champion (2016)
- ECAC Coach of the Year (2016)

As player:

- NBA champion (1998)

Career NBA statistics

Points	2,649 (6.9 ppg)
Rebounds	1,332 (3.5 rpg)
Assists	527 (1.4 apg)
Stats (https://www.basketball-reference.com/players/b/burresc01.html) at Basketball-Reference.com	

forward spots.^[10] During the season, in which the Bulls won the NBA championship, Burrell played 80 games with three starts and averaged 5.2 points and 2.5 rebounds.^[1] On February 2, 1998, Burrell scored a season high 24 points in 18 minutes in a 111–72 victory over the Denver Nuggets.^[2] *The Last Dance*, a 2020 ESPN and Netflix documentary series on Burrell's Bulls teammate Michael Jordan, depicts Burrell as a common target of Jordan's competitive banter.^[11]

Shortly after the 1998–99 NBA lockout ended, the Bulls released Burrell on January 25, 1999.^{[1][10]} Burrell signed as a free agent with the New Jersey Nets nearly a week later on February 3; he would average 6.6 points in 1999 and 6.1 points in 1999–2000 with the Nets.^[1] Burrell had successful hand and knee surgery on April 27, 2000.^[2]

On April 10, 2001, Burrell returned to the Charlotte Hornets, where he played four games off the bench in what would be his final NBA season.^[2]

NBDL and overseas career (2001–2006)

Burrell signed with National Basketball Development League (NBDL, now NBA G League) team Fayetteville Patriots on March 8, 2002.^[12] In six games with five starts, Burrell averaged 5.5 points and 3.7 rebounds in his only NBDL season.^[13]

After leaving the NBDL, Burrell finished much of his professional basketball career internationally, starting with the Shaanxi Kylins of the Chinese Basketball Association where he averaged 18.0 points and 6.2 rebounds in 2002–03.^[14] In 2003–04, Burrell played for the Batang Thunder of the Philippine Basketball Association, averaging 25.1 points and 5.0 rebounds.^[14]

Burrell returned to the U.S. signing with the Idaho Stampede of the Continental Basketball Association on November 30, 2004.^[15] Burrell played 14 games for the Stampede, averaging 6.9 points and 3.9 rebounds.^[16] In 2005, Burrell signed with Bilbao Basket of the Spanish Liga ACB, where he played eight games and averaged 5.0 points.^{[16][17]} On January 24, 2005, Burrell signed with the Hitachi Sunrockers of the Japanese JBL Super League.^[18] Burrell averaged 6.2 points in his final pro basketball season with Hitachi in 2005–06.^[14]

Coaching career

In the 2006–07 season, Burrell was an assistant coach for the Colorado 14ers of the NBA D-League (now G League).^[19]

On August 17, 2007, Burrell became an assistant coach for the Quinnipiac Bobcats men's basketball team at Quinnipiac University in his hometown of Hamden, Connecticut, under former UConn assistant coach Tom Moore.^[19] Burrell helped Quinnipiac win the regular season Northeast Conference title and qualify for the NIT in the 2009–10 season.^[20]

On July 13, 2015, Burrell was hired as head men's basketball coach at Southern Connecticut State University, a Division II school in New Haven.^[21] Inheriting a 24–8 team from former head coach Mike Donnelly, Burrell led the Southern Connecticut Fighting Owls to a 22–8 (17–3 conference) record, Northeast-10 Conference Southwest Division title, and NCAA Tournament appearance in his first season; as a result of this success, Burrell earned Eastern College Athletic Conference Coach of the Year honors.^{[22][23]} Burrell followed up with an 18–13 record and second straight NCAA Tournament under his tenure (fourth overall for the program) in 2016–17.^{[23][24]}

As of the 2019–20 season, Burrell has a 91–56 cumulative record at Southern Connecticut .^[24]

Head coaching record

Statistics overview

Season	Team	Overall	Conference	Standing	Postseason
Southern Connecticut Fighting Owls (<i>Northeast-10 Conference</i>) (2015–present)					
2015–16	Southern Connecticut	22–8	17–3	1st (Southwest) ^[25]	<u>NCAA Division II First Round</u>
2016–17	Southern Connecticut	18–13	13–7	3rd (Southwest) ^[26]	<u>NCAA Division II Second Round</u>
2017–18	Southern Connecticut	16–12	11–9	4th (Southwest) ^[27]	
2018–19	Southern Connecticut	19–12	12–8	4th (Southwest) ^[28]	
2019–20	Southern Connecticut	16–11	11–8	T–2nd (Southwest) ^[29]	<i>No postseason held</i>
Southern Connecticut:		91–56 (.619)	64–35 (.646)		
Total:		91–56 (.619)			
<input type="checkbox"/> National champion <input type="checkbox"/> Postseason invitational champion <input type="checkbox"/> Conference regular season champion <input type="checkbox"/> Conference regular season and conference tournament champion <input type="checkbox"/> Division regular season champion <input type="checkbox"/> Division regular season and conference tournament champion <input type="checkbox"/> Conference tournament champion					

Personal life

Following the Chicago Bulls' 1998 championship, Connecticut Governor John G. Rowland issued a proclamation of October 20, 1998 as "Scott Burrell Day," after the town of Hamden presented Burrell with a "key to the city."^[30] Burrell is married to SportsNet New York reporter Jeané Coakley.^[31] They have two children.^[32]

Career statistics

Legend

GP	Games played	GS	Games started	MPG	Minutes per game
FG%	Field goal percentage	3P%	3-point field goal percentage	FT%	Free throw percentage
RPG	Rebounds per game	APG	Assists per game	SPG	Steals per game
BPG	Blocks per game	PPG	Points per game	Bold	Career high
†	Won an <u>NBA</u> championship				

NBA

Regular season

Year	Team	GP	GS	MPG	FG%	3P%	FT%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	PPG
1993–94	Charlotte	51	16	15.0	.419	.333	.657	2.6	1.2	.7	.3	4.8
1994–95	Charlotte	65	62	31.0	.467	.409	.694	5.7	2.5	1.2	.6	11.5
1995–96	Charlotte	20	20	34.7	.447	.378	.750	4.9	2.4	1.4	.7	13.2
1996–97	Charlotte	28	2	17.2	.344	.345	.792	2.8	1.4	.5	.4	5.4
1996–97	Golden State	29	0	15.8	.379	.361	.652	2.7	1.2	.5	.3	4.9
1997–98†	Chicago	80	3	13.7	.424	.354	.734	2.5	.8	.8	.5	5.2
1998–99	New Jersey	32	0	22.1	.361	.389	.810	3.7	1.4	1.3	.3	6.6
1999–2000	New Jersey	74	9	18.1	.394	.353	.780	3.5	1.0	.9	.6	6.1
2000–01	Charlotte	4	0	10.3	.467	.333	.250	.8	.3	.8	.0	4.3
Career		383	122	19.8	.418	.373	.723	3.5	1.4	.9	.5	6.9

Playoffs

Year	Team	GP	GS	MPG	FG%	3P%	FT%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	PPG
1998†	Chicago	21	0	12.4	.438	.300	.909	2.0	.5	.9	.1	3.8
2001	Charlotte	2	0	6.0	.667	0	.500	1.5	.5	1.0	.0	2.5
Career		23	0	11.9	.447	.286	.846	2.0	.5	.9	.1	3.7

College

Year	Team	GP	GS	MPG	FG%	3P%	FT%	RPG	APG	SPG	BPG	PPG
1989–90	Connecticut	32	20	25.8	.386	.313	.623	5.5	1.8	1.9	.9	8.2
1990–91	Connecticut	31	–	34.7	.440	.343	.592	7.5	3.1	3.6	1.3	12.7
1991–92	Connecticut	30	30	35.3	.453	.396	.611	6.1	2.9	2.5	1.0	16.3
1992–93	Connecticut	26	–	33.1	.411	.345	.760	6.0	2.1	2.4	1.1	16.1
Career		119	50+	32.1	.426	.357	.640	6.3	2.5	2.6	1.1	13.1

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External links

- [Scott Burrell \(https://twitter.com/sburrell24\)](https://twitter.com/sburrell24) on [Twitter](#)
 - [Scott Burrell player profile \(https://web.archive.org/web/20011026101734/http://www.nba.com:80/playerfile/scott_burrell/index.html\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20011026101734/http://www.nba.com:80/playerfile/scott_burrell/index.html) at [NBA.com](#) via [Wayback Machine](#)
 - [Scott Burrell \(https://www.basketball-reference.com/players/b/burrel001.html\)](https://www.basketball-reference.com/players/b/burrel001.html) at [Basketball-Reference.com](#)
 - [Career statistics and player information from Baseball-Reference \(Minors\) \(https://www.baseball-reference.com/minors/player.cgi?id=burrel001sco\)](https://www.baseball-reference.com/minors/player.cgi?id=burrel001sco)
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