

## Matthew Graves, Indiana State University



Matthew Graves recently completed his first season as head coach of the Indiana State University men's basketball program by leading a new group of Sycamores to a 14-18 record that included an 8-12 finish in the Missouri Valley Conference. He now is 79-114 as a college head coach, including a 65-96 mark in five seasons at South Alabama.

Graves was named ISU's 27th head coach on April 12, 2024, after working the three previous seasons as ISU's associate head coach for head coach Josh Schertz.

A Switz City native, Graves totaled 1,804 career points while leading White River Valley to three sectional titles and two regional crowns during high school. A 1993 Indiana All-Star, Graves averaged 16.0 points (354), 3.8 rebounds and 4.3 assists as a freshman at Switz City Central in the final year before the school consolidated with L&M and Worthington into White River Valley. He then starred the next three seasons at WRV before going to Butler University, where he was a team MVP, helped the Bulldogs to the NCAA Tournament, averaged 8.8 points over his career and converted 84.6 percent of his free throws over five seasons.

He began his coaching career in 1998-99 at North Central High School, which was the 1999 Class 4A state champion. He assisted the next two seasons at Ben Davis before returning to Butler for 12 years, 2001-03 as director of basketball operations and 2003-13 as an assistant (or associate head) coach. He helped the Bulldogs to seven NCAA Tournament berths and national runner-up finishes in 2010 and 2011.

Graves served as head coach from 2013-18 at South Alabama. He then was an assistant coach for one season at Evansville, two seasons at Xavier University and three seasons at Indiana State before being named the Sycamores' head coach a year ago. As the ISU associate head coach, he helped the team progress from an 11-20 ledger in 2021-22 to 23-13 and the postseason College Basketball Invitational in 2022-23 and 32-7 with a Missouri Valley Conference regular-season title and NIT runner-up finish in 2023-24.

Graves graduated from Butler in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in education (chemistry), earned his master's degree in education administration in 2003 and was inducted into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame in March 2025.

Graves and his wife, Susan, have two daughters – Abby and Lily.