

Where Does Byron Scott Rank Among Cavs Coaches?

Written by {ga=tommoore}

Monday, April 15 2013 6:19 PM - Last Updated Monday, April 15 2013 7:08 PM



This week will bring an end to the 2012-13 NBA season for the Cleveland Cavaliers and, for the third consecutive season, the Cavs will be sitting at home when the playoffs begin.

Much has been made over the past few weeks about the future of Cavs coach Byron Scott, who carries a record of 64-164 as he closes out his third year as coach, making him the longest-tenured coach of a Cleveland sports team. It's not so much the losing – after all, the Cavs have openly been in rebuilding mode almost from the day Scott took the job – but the historic nature of the losing.

From blowing 20-plus point leads numerous times – including Tuesday night's in Indiana, when the Cavs became just the second team in the shot-clock era to lose a game that they led by more than 20 points with less than nine minutes to play – to an ongoing lack of attention to defense, many are wondering if Scott will be back for a fourth season when the Cavs return this fall.

All the talk about Scott's coaching future made us start to wonder just where Scott ranks among Cavs coaches throughout the years. We started following sports in the mid-1970s, so we've actually seen every head coach that's ever led the Cavs onto the hardwood.

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The Cavs have had 12 full-time coaches since entering the NBA in the fall of 1970 (we're not counting interims, so sorry Don Delaney, Keith Smart, Brendan Malone, among others. And really sorry, Chuck Daly). While Scott is not the best coach the Cavs have ever employed, he's certainly not the worst.

If you went strictly by winning percentage, here is how the list would break down:

- Mike Brown .663
- Lenny Wilkens .551
- Mike Fratello .539
- Paul Silas .473
- Stan Albeck .451
- Bill Fitch .412
- George Karl .409
- Randy Wittman .378
- Tom Nissalke .311
- John Lucas .298
- Bill Musselman .287
- Byron Scott .282

But where is the fun in that? Plus, just going by wins and losses doesn't take into account the various circumstances that have continually swirled around this franchise since it first took the court in the 1970-71 season.

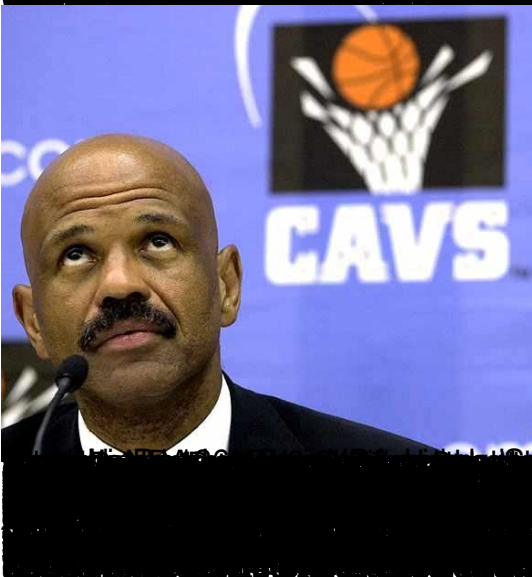
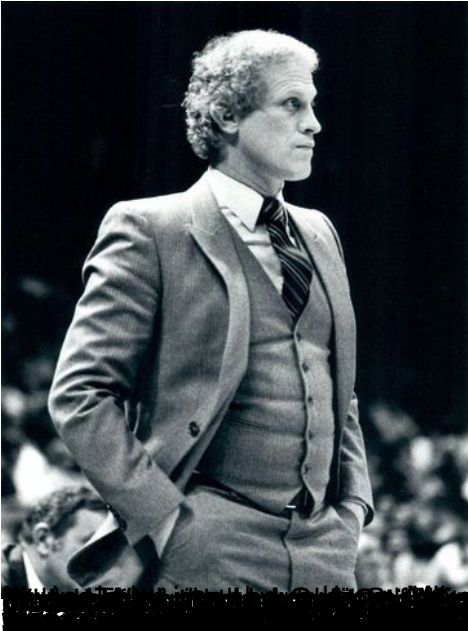
So where does Scott rank? Let's find out. While some coaches, like Scott, worked for other teams both before and after coaching the Cavs, we are only counting the time they worked in Cleveland in our rankings.

No. 12: Bill Musselman. 27-67 record in two seasons (1980-81 and 1981-82). No playoff appearances.

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