



PRESTON LAIRD



Assistant Men's Basketball Coach · New Mexico State · Jason Hooten staff

Silver Waves Media: top 50 mid-major assistants in 2022, top 100 in 2026.

CAREER Memphis (player) · NMSU · UNLV · Little Rock · NMSU

WHO WE ARE Truth · Togetherness · Toughness

HOW WE WORK Attack. Earn. Finish.

WHAT WE STAND ON Standard. The Room. The Work.

NMSU

At New Mexico State I coordinate recruiting, own individual workouts, skill development, and offensive concept install, and help build the room, not just the roster.

Recruiting: I organize the board with the staff and stay on the names — High School, International, Transfers, Agents.

Individual workouts: I plan, organize, and lead them — built to support what we work on in practice that day.

Skill development: in-season, tied to his role, not optional.

Offensive concept install: I teach our actions to the roster.

Staff: I help build the room, not just the roster.

Little Rock

Defense: I built, taught, and coached our BLOB defense and our zone. The zone turned our 2023–24 season around. We won the OVC regular season that year.

Offense: I supported the head coach on play calls and actions that attacked coverages. I was not the primary play-caller.



Roster

KK Robinson G

Developed at Little Rock.
Closed at NMSU.

Stephon Payne F

Portal. Seton Hall.

Mark Lavrenov F

Portal. Sacramento State.

NMSU, last two years: Mark Lavrenov, KK Robinson, Adrame Diongue, Jermaine Washington, Stephon Payne, Phoenix Woodson, Elijah Elliott, Jayland Randall.

Little Rock: Ben Coupet Jr., Chris Walker, Daniel Egbuniwe, Johnathan Lawson.

Development

KK: Walked in as a dynamic guard. Relied on athleticism. Missing pace and decisions. Work: pace after the advantage. Film. OVC First-Team. Closed at NMSU.

Siakam: Came in raw. Inefficient jumper. Broke it down and built it back up. Both-hand finishing. Pivot footwork. WAC POY. NBA All-Star and champion.

Winning

"Talent matters. Together matters more." — Mike Macdonald

2024 OVC RS Little Rock · **2020** Sun Belt RS ·

2016 WAC RS · NIT

2015 WAC RS & T · NCAA · **2014** WAC T · NCAA

· **2013** WAC T · NCAA

