



Retired Girls Basketball Coach Miner Webster is Arizona's all-time winningest coach for girls' basketball with 816 wins, but Karen Self, who is still coaching, is in hot pursuit.
Photo credit: Rory Self



Coach Self shares a light courtside moment with Kendall Krick, who won a basketball scholarship last year to play for Marist College, a Division I school.
Photo credit: Rory Self



In addition to being a formidable basketball coach, Karen Self is a devoted mom and wife to Rory, her husband of 23 years.
Photo credit: Cara Self



Celebrating Seton Catholic's 2016 State Championship win! (Pictured left to right: Assistant Coach Tiffany Tate-Eckes, Head Coach Karen Self, player Liz Holter and Assistant Coach Jennifer King). The 2019 season was dedicated to Assistant Coach Tate-Eckes who passed away in September 2018.
Photo credit: Rory Self

coach in Arizona history); 25 consecutive, regular-season division championships; 24 regional championships; more than 705 career wins; 2017 4A-6A Coach of the Year; and a 2017 Arizona High School Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame induction!

While her professional achievements are impressive, even more so is the fact that Coach Self works to address and benefit the whole child, inspiring her players daily through her efforts and her fine example. She shares a quote of the day with her team to motivate and inspire them, encouraging them to be strong, resilient, and to persevere. She keeps the focus for her team well-rounded. The Lady Sentinels practice and play together; they also serve their community together by adopting a team charity each year and volunteering at the charity's events.

Her impressive professional resume, coupled with her belief that "sports teach us so much about relationships, goal-setting, perseverance, accountability, fairness, and overcoming obstacles," make her the stuff legends are made of, for sure. She is truly a winner on and off the court.

Self-described as "passionate and intense, but deeply caring," Coach Self encourages her players to "bring your best every day. Glorify God by using the talents you have been given. Hold yourself and your teammates accountable every day. Compete and have fun!" Obviously, hers is a winning philosophy — among the many notable accomplishments of her coaching career are 10 state titles (more than any other girls' or boys' head basketball



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SETON CATHOLIC PREPARATORY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL VARSITY COACH

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teacher of the month

Story by **Julie Figueroa**
Photos submitted by **Joyce Valdez**; credit noted in captions

Coach Karen Self has been teaching economics and coaching Girls' Varsity Basketball at Seton Catholic Prep for the past 27 years. A graduate of Arizona State University, she became a coach because of her love for the game and the many opportunities it provided her. She has built an amazing career, cultivating relationships with her players and helping them grow in both basketball and life, and she's on track to become the winningest high school basketball coach in Arizona history! During the recently concluded 2019 season, she led the Lady Sentinels to a 24-7 season and the 4A state finals.

In her time at Seton, Coach Self married her husband of 23 years, Rory, and the two raised their four children — now 17-year-old triplets and their older sibling — while she helped to raise countless others, teaching and coaching. She loves the family atmosphere at Seton because they "are a very tight-knit community that supports each other in all of our activities." She values the special bonus moments and life experiences that result from coaching, "Especially getting to attend weddings and baby showers of her former players, and establishing lifelong friendships with them."

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