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Sports information director lands 'ideal job'

By **Dawn Pauli**, *Contributing Writer*

Phil Hess found the ideal job as Oakland University's new sports information director.

"I love sports, and I really enjoy the college atmosphere," Hess said. "I've got the best of both worlds."

Hess joined OU Oct. 21, replacing Amy Hirschman, who now serves as assistant to the athletic director.

Hailing from Augusta, Mich., outside Kalamazoo, Hess graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan and earned his Master's Degree in sport management from the University of Richmond.

Hess has 10 years experience in sport management and comes to OU from East Tennessee State University where he held the same position. Before turning to a sports management career, Hess worked as an aerospace engineer with NASA for nine years.

"I was looking for an opportunity to move back to the Midwest," said Hess. "I'm excited to be a part of OU's growing Athletic Department. It's great to be part of a young and growing Division I program."

Hess' responsibilities include staffing games, compiling statistics, overseeing the Web site, writing releases and developing game notes. He also coordinates public relations efforts for golf, cross country, volleyball, men's basketball and women's tennis. Two graduate assistants handle all other sports.

"I'm planning to spend the rest of the school year easing into the position and taking stock of everything," Hess said.

With just a few days under his belt, he already feels comfortable at OU. "I just love the campus. It's a big university, but has a small feel to it. As I walk around campus and see all the construction, I can see it's growing rapidly."

SUMMARY

Phil Hess found the ideal job as Oakland University's new sports information director. "I love sports, and I really enjoy the college atmosphere," says the native Midwesterner, who comes home after working in the same role at East Tennessee State University. Hess joined OU Oct. 21. Hess graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan and earned his Master's Degree in sport management from the University of Richmond.

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