



Monday, September 23, 2002

New sports information director named

Oakland University's Athletic Department has named a new sports information director to replace Amy Hirschman who has taken the position of assistant to the athletic director at Oakland.

Phil Hess, the new sports information director, begins at OU on Oct. 21. He is a Kalamazoo, Michigan, native who currently is the director of athletic media relations at East Tennessee State University.

"We are excited to have Phil join our staff," OU Athletic Director Jack Mehl said. "Phil's experience in sports information and his technical background are a great fit for our vision. We have come a long way technically and Phil is the person that is going to continue that advancement."

At ETSU, Hess was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the athletic media relations office and supervised a staff of two employees and numerous student workers and game staff. He primarily worked with football, men's basketball and baseball. He was involved in the development of new and improved radio and television opportunities. He also served as ETSU's athletics Web site webmaster and as the department's spokesperson as needed.

Hess' sports information career spans the past decade and other full-time stops include The College of William & Mary, West Virginia University and Utah State University.

A 1982 graduate of the University of Michigan, Hess received his bachelor's of science degree in Aerospace Engineering. Upon graduating from Michigan, he spent 10 years working for NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) in Huntsville, Alabama.

Following his 10-year career with NASA, Hess decided on a career change and went to graduate school at the University of Richmond. Hess graduated from Richmond with a master's of sports management in 1993.

SUMMARY

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