Blue Raider Network Personnel

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Chip Walters
Play-by-Play (Football, Men's Basketball)

Chip Walters begins his 18th season in the booth for Middle Tennessee and his first as the "Voice of the Blue Raiders." Walters, who spent the previous six years as a color analyst for football, took over the play-by-play duties for football and men's basketball in April 2009. Walters holds the third-longest tenure for Middle Tennessee broadcasters behind only the late Monte Hale and current women's basketball and baseball broadcaster Dick Palmer. In addition to these duties, Walters hosts the Rick Stockstill and Kermit Davis television shows and radio shows, emcees various Blue Raider events, and is the host of the Two-Minute Drill on GoBlueRaiders.com. Walters also sells corporate sponsorships for Nelligan Sports Marketing. Walters, who held the position of director of Public and Media Relations for the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration for six years, served as the marketing and promotions director at Middle Tennessee from 1993 to 2003. The Columbia, Tenn., native worked to expand Middle Tennessee's overall corporate sponsorship program while overseeing the entire Blue Raider Network, coaches television shows, and gameday publications. Prior to working for Middle Tennessee, Walters worked several jobs in sports broadcasting including serving as sports director of the Tennessee Radio Network from 1986 to 1991. Walters called play-by-play for minor league baseball affiliate the Nashville Sounds and did freelance television work for WNAB and WSMV.

Dick Palmer
Play-by-Play (Women's Basketball, Baseball, and Postgame for Football)

Dick Palmer is in his 28th season of calling the play-by-play action of Middle Tennessee basketball. Palmer, a 1960 graduate of Middle Tennessee, has been broadcasting sporting events for the past 50 years and ended a 25-year run in 2005 of calling Blue Raider football.

From 1971 until his return to Murfreesboro, Palmer was the voice of the Memphis Blues Class AA baseball team, the Memphis Pros (later the Tams) in the American Basketball Association, and the

Memphis Grizzlies in the World Football League.

Earlier, he worked in Jackson, TN, for nine years, broadcasting a wide range of high school sports, as well as Union University's basketball games.

Palmer, who co-hosted the first sports call-in show in Nashville during the mid-70s, was the studio host for Vol Network Football Broadcasts for five years and has called the TSSAA Basketball State Tournament on the Tennessee Sports Radio Network every year since 1982.

A little league baseball coach for over 40 years, Palmer has enjoyed a long career with Palmer Wholesale. Palmer and his wife DeLois have three sons, Richard, Mike, and Jon, and one granddaughter, Kaitlyn.

Kelly Holcomb
Color Analyst (Football)

Kelly Holcomb, a 1994 graduate of MTSU, is beginning his second season as a member of the Blue Raider Network. A 15-year veteran of the NFL, Holcomb will serve as the color analyst for the Blue Raider Network during football season. Holcomb was a member of the television announce team for the 2008 Blue Cross Bowl for Comcast, and also served on the as a commentator for the Music City Bowl Preview Show. Holcomb attended Lincoln County High School in Fayetteville, Tenn., before signing with the Blue Raiders in 1991. A four-year starter for the Blue Raiders, Holcomb set nearly every passing record at MTSU before heading to the NFL. In his career, Holcomb played for the Colts, Browns, Bills, Eagles, and Vikings. Holcomb owns one of the most memorable passing performances in NFL history when he threw for a record 429 yards in a Wild Card game against Pittsburgh.

Football Pregame and Postgame Shows

Dick Palmer, Duane Hickey and Thom Abraham will handle pre-game and post-game programming, including the Wendy's Countdown to Kickoff prior to each game and the popular Raider Wrap-Up Show where fans can call in with their questions and comments. Abraham and Hickey will host the Wendy's Countdown to Kickoff prior to each game while Palmer and Hickey will take care of the postgame. Palmer and Hickey, both MT alums, are veterans of Blue Raider broadcasts with Palmer having nearly 30 years behind the microphone while Hickey is in his seventh season of work. The duo works together during basketball season as they bring the exciting action of Lady Raider basketball to fans across the midstate. Palmer also handles play-by-play for Blue Raider baseball. The veteran broadcaster has handled numerous assignments throughout the years, including MT football and men's basketball, minor league baseball with the Memphis Blues, ABA basketball with the Memphis Tams, and WFL football with the Memphis Southmen.

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