

June 18, 2007

## Khadija J. Head Added to Women's Hoops Staff Comes to Middle Tennessee after two years at Arkansas

MT Media Relations

**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - Middle Tennessee women's basketball coach Rick Insell announced the hiring of Khadija J. Head this week as assistant coach. Head comes to the Blue Raiders after spending the last two seasons at Arkansas.

Head was the Director of Basketball Operations for head coach Susie Gardner for two year in Fayetteville, 2006-07, and served as an on-court assistant coach in 2005-06. She was part of a staff that signed the most decorated back-to-back recruiting classes in school history.

She also oversaw all aspects of the Arkansas individual, position and elite camps, which included numerous Top 100 recruits. Head also took part in evaluation and recruitment of prospective student-athletes, in-season and postseason player development, scouting opponents and game preparation, all aspects of team travel and academic assistant for players.

"I am very excited about this opportunity. Middle Tennessee has a great winning tradition and it's an opportunity for me to advance my skill level as a coach," Head said. "It's a chance to be mentored by Coach Insell, who is very advanced in the game of basketball and someone who has enjoyed great success at the high school and collegiate level. It's also about location and is much closer to home for me."

The Atlanta, Ga., native helped Woodward Academy to a pair of Georgia state titles and a 108-11 record in four seasons.

She started all 28 games as a senior at Murray State and was the fourth leading scorer for the Racers with 7.1 points per game. She also set a then single-season school record with 14 assists in a game during her junior year against Southeast Missouri.

During her four-year career at Murray State, Head was twice named to the Ohio Valley Conference Honor Roll and three times to the MSU Dean's List. A cum laude graduate in Organizational Communications in 2003, she earned a Black Coaches Association Postgraduate Scholarship and an NCAA Ethnic Minority Enhancement Postgraduate Scholarship for Careers in Athletics.

Insell said the hiring should be a big plus for the Blue Raider program because of Head's background in coaching and recruiting.

"We're very fortunate to have her. It's not often a coach of her caliber and with her contacts comes across our radar screen," Insell said. "She is very bright and personable. We're always trying to sell our program and that's exactly what we're looking for. She's also been around the game and knows what it takes to be a successful player."

Head completed her master's degree in 2004 while serving on the staff of Laurel Heilman at Slippery Rock University in Slippery Rock, Pa. She coordinated summer basketball camps along with administrative duties, including scouting and film exchange at Slippery Rock. She also helped with the guards, including individual workouts and creating summer workout programs.

She then spent one year as a marketing and tournament intern with the Georgia State Soccer Association in Atlanta, assisting with the logistics of one of the largest and most prestigious youth soccer tournaments in the nation, the Atlanta Cup.

In 2005 Head worked at the Women's Basketball Coaches Association in Lilburn, Ga. She conducted and organized the 2005 WBCA All-American Game presented by Nike, which included Courtney and Ashley Paris from Oklahoma, Marissa Coleman from Maryland and Abby Waner from Duke. Head also oversaw the management and distribution of Nike apparel for staff members, volunteers and participants during her time at the WBCA.



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Arkansas. (Arkansas Media Relations)

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Printed on May 22, 2012

Original URL: <http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/26160>