

November 11, 2009

Local standout inks with Blue Raiders

Hammonds looks to continue father's legacy

MT Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. - Murfreesboro standout Kerry Hammonds Jr., has signed a National Letter of Intent to play men's basketball at Middle Tennessee as announced by head coach Kermit Davis on Wednesday.

"Obviously it is terrific to get a player that is an excellent talent on the floor and one we feel is the best perimeter shooter in our state. He is an outstanding student who has already been accepted into our honors college," Davis said. "We feel Kerry will impact our program immediately as a freshman."

Hammonds a 6-foot-5 forward at Siegel High School has a basketball background as his father, Kerry Hammonds Sr., played at Middle Tennessee from 1984-89 and is second all-time in career scoring and rebounding.

"Kerry comes from an unbelievable family. His father, Kerry, who may be the most productive player to play at Middle Tennessee and a future Hall of Famer and his mother, Veronica, who is just an unbelievable mom and her family is very entrenched in the Murfreesboro community," Davis said. "What you have is an outstanding player and student who is a local player and I think it was just an absolute perfect fit for Kerry to come here."

Hammonds was a Mr. Basketball finalist last season after averaging 19.7 points a game and 8.2 rebounds per game as a junior at Siegel High School.

Hammonds told the *Daily News Journal*, "I am going to Middle Tennessee State University. I like (MTSU coach Kermit Davis) and his staff and his style of play. And I want to go somewhere I can go and play some big minutes."

"I think he is going to attract an unbelievable amount of interest from our fan base. His high school coach, Ben Dotson, is a Middle Tennessee graduate and has done an outstanding job at Siegel High School. I know they have great aspirations of winning the Tennessee state tournament this year," Davis said.

Middle Tennessee will open the 2009-10 regular season on Friday, Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. when it plays host to King College at Murphy Center on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University.



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