

Hayes adds Carter to staff

Carter has been TSU head coach since 2000

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MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Middle Tennessee Head Track Coach Dean Hayes

announced today that Kelly Carter has joined his staff as an assistant coach. "We've been short a coach for a year since Roger Kerr retired," Hayes said. "So it's good to have somebody else on the staff, especially one who can work with the sprints. This way I can help with all the events, but not feel like I'm

shortchanging anyone. "He's a great coach and has a lot of experience. He's big with the family concept, which is a philosophy we have here at Middle Tennessee as well. He's a great addition to the program." Carter brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Blue Raider staff after serving as the head coach for track and cross country at Tennessee State since 2000. But becoming an assistant at Middle Tennessee shouldn't be a big difference for him. "It will not be that



different," said Carter. "I just won't be making all the decisions like I have for the past 10 plus years. I am excited to learn how Coach Hayes' system works but more importantly I get to work a little more with the student-athletes which is something I truly enjoy." During his tenure with the Tigers, he guided his athletes to several OVC awards. He also served as a coach on the national level during the U.S. Paralympic Games in 2007 (Brazil) and 2008 (Beijing, China). Carter joined TSU after a two-year stint as a volunteer assistant coach with his alma mater, Auburn. While there he honed his skills under coaching greats Mel Rosen and Ralph Spry. He was also a part of the staff for the team's fourth and third place NCAA finishes in 1999 and 2000, respectively. As a three-time NCAA All-American, four-time All-Southeastern Conference selection and two-time Penn Relay Champion,

Carter boasts an impressive balance of knowledge and experience. During his freshman year at Auburn, Carter participated in the 1988 Olympic Trials, making it to the quarterfinals. He then finished the summer with an outstanding time of 49.50 in the 400-meter intermediate hurdles in Sudbury, Ontario to become the 1988 Junior World Champion. In 1990, Carter took first place in the 400-meter hurdles in the SEC Championships and third place in the NCAA Championships in the same event. The Atlanta native was a standout at Southwest DeKalb High School where he set numerous school, county, and state records in both the 110-meter high hurdles and 300-meter intermediate hurdles. Both state records stood for over a decade. His 110-meter record was broken by Terrance Tremmell, followed shortly by his 300-meter record falling to Angelo Taylor. Both student-athletes attended Southwest DeKalb and later were medal winners in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. Carter earned his bachelor's of science degree in communications from Auburn and his Masters in sports administration from TSU. His wife Angie was also an All-American at Auburn on the 4x100-meter relay team. The couple has been married since 1991 and has two children, Kyle and Haley. "I'm very happy to be here at Middle Tennessee," Carter said. "I'm very happy to be working with Coach Hayes. He's been a mentor of mine for years. I've known him since I was running in college. It's an honor to work for him."

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