

Mississippi high school standout inks with Blue Raiders

Phillip Jones to join MT for 2012-13 season

May 11, 2012 · Athletic Communications

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. -

Mississippi high school basketball standout Phillip Jones has signed a National Letter of Intent to play for Middle Tennessee next season, announced head coach Kermit Davis on Thursday. Jones averaged 27 points, 12 rebounds and three blocks for Piney Woods High School during his senior campaign.



“We’re really excited about Phillip joining our program,” Davis said. “He comes from a winning background, having won a state championship at Piney Woods. He has played for an excellent high school coach in Lemeul Jones, who has done a great job developing him over two years.

“Phillip is the most athletic player in state of Mississippi and has put up some unbelievable offensive numbers. When you ask high school coaches around the state of Mississippi, they say one of his biggest assets is the motor he has and how hard he plays.”

Jones, a 6-7 forward, led the Golden Tornadoes to the state title in 2011 as a junior. A native of Freeport, Bahamas, Jones was named the district MVP last season and earned honorable mention all-state honors. He also participated in the 2011 Mississippi North vs. South All-Star Game.

“Middle Tennessee is a nice school with a great academic program,” said Jones of his decision. “I really liked the coaching staff and with the players that are coming back next year, I feel as if we have a chance to make the NCAA tournament because they had a really good record this year. I just want to focus on academics and basketball and do whatever I can to contribute to the team as a freshman.”

A two-sport athlete at Piney Woods, Jones has also been a star for the track and field team. He won the state title last year in the triple jump and will look to defend his title this weekend. Jones also runs

the anchor leg for the 4x100 and 4x400 relay teams.

“Phillip has been a joy to coach,” Lemeul Jones said. “He is a very talented young man with a hard-hat mentality. Not only is he a very exciting player, but he’s also a tough individual. Phillip has a high motor and plays hard all the time.”

Jones began his high school career in Florida before moving to Mississippi. He was a highly recruited prospect who ultimately chose MT over Louisiana, UT-San Antonio and Northwestern State. To see video of Jones making his decision, click [here](#).

Printed on July 30, 2014

Original URL: <http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/61091>