

Magnum Force

Written by Mike Kelly
Saturday, 13 August 2011 10:26

It just a matter of four days, Fred T. Foard High has filled two coaching vacancies in its basketball programs.

On Monday, Rob Bliss, who had a stellar run at East Burke, was named the new men's basketball coach, succeeding Mike Hainrihar, and on Friday, Brad Magnum was named the new women's basketball coach, replacing an excellent coach in Wendy Price, who resigned in April. Price won 182 games and led the Tigers to three Western Regionals and a second-place finish in the Class 3A state championship game during her 11-year stay with the program. She was earned Coach of the Year honors three times.

Magnum, who graduated from Appalachian State, spent the last nine years as an assistant coach at South Caldwell (his alma mater). He coached with women's coach Jeff Parham from 2002-08; he spent the last two years as a varsity assistant and JV coach with the men's team at South. His JV teams went 18-18.

PHILLIPS LEAVES ACR

Billy Phillips turned in his resignation Thursday as head men's basketball coach at A.C. Reynolds High to accept the vacant coaching job at West Henderson. He replaces Rob Bliss, who left for Fred T. Foard on Monday. Phillips spent five years at ACR. He was named the Mountain Athletic Conference 3A/4A Coach of the Year last season, and he led the Rockets (15-8) to their first winning season in four years, and their first conference championship since 2006. Phillips was 49-67 during his five-year stay with the Rockets.

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