

## Allred Retires

Written by Mike Kelly

Thursday, 30 January 2014 07:39

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Dale Allred, who has coached the Watauga Middle School football team for seven years, announced his retirement from coaching on Wednesday. Allred, who joined the football program in 2007 as an assistant coach, took over as head coach in the fall of 2010. He replaced Drew Denton.

"It was a lot of fun working with the kids," Allred said. "And we've sent a lot of good football players to the high school. But we've also made a lot of strides establishing a middle school program. We've put up the goal posts and there's a press box going up at Hardin Park (Middle School), and a grandstand, so the kids will have a place to call their home field. We're also working on plans for a locker room.

"Things like this bring a lot of pride to our program. But we're not done yet. There's still a lot of work to do. And even though I'm retiring from coaching, I still want to do all I can to help football grow in this area."

Watauga High football coach Ryan Habich and middle school Athletic Director Jim Godwin are conducting the search for a new head coach.

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"I don't know who it will be, but I can tell you this, it's going to be someone that can teach the game, and someone that can teach Ryan's schemes (the triple option on offense and the 4-3 on defense)," Allred said. "He's fully involved in this search. The middle school is an excellent feeder program for his team, and he knows that. I'm just glad I got to work with him this season. And I hope he can use me at some of his camps. I still want to be involved, but in a different role."

Allred spent eight years as an offensive line coach at Denton High School (now known as South Davidson) before he moved to Lexington, where he was an offensive line coach, a co-offensive coordinator and the school's athletic director.

Allred worked for Adrian Snow, Tim Pruitt and Ryan Habich at WHS. And he also had a solid friend and co-worker in Steve Brienstein.

"I had a lot of fun working with Steve," Allred said. "He's great with the kids, and he made it fun for the kids. He took over for me as head coach for one season (in 2012) before we switched roles last year. I had a lot of fun, and I feel I'm leaving the program in good shape. It's come a long way from what it was. And to have a successful high school program, you've got to have a strong middle school program. It's not a finished product, but we're getting there."

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