

August 23, 2008

Blue Raider Network Personnel

Charlie McAlexander

Play-by-Play (Football, Men's Basketball)

McAlexander, who earned the Lindsey Nelson Award in 2006, has worked the previous four years handling play-by-play for selected Jefferson-Pilot Sports and Fox Sports Net South games and begins his third season with the Blue Raiders. Prior to his involvement with JP and Fox Sports, he served as the Voice of the South Carolina Gamecocks from 1995 to 2003. He handled USC's football and men's basketball broadcasts, along with hosting television shows for football, basketball, baseball, and women's basketball. McAlexander was tabbed South Carolina's Sportscaster of the Year in 1996, 1999, and 2002.

The Delta State University graduate handled the play-by-play television duties for the Kentucky Wildcats from 1992 to 1995 and called the 1994 and 1995 SEC Basketball Tournament championships for the SEC Network. During his stint with the Wildcats, McAlexander was elected to the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Board of Directors and earned Kentucky Sportscaster of the Year honors in 1992, 1993, and 1994.

No stranger to middle Tennessee, McAlexander worked in the Nashville market for 14 years from 1978 to 1992 as the play-by-play voice of the Vanderbilt Commodores and was the state's Sportscaster of the Year in 1990 and 1991. From 1978 to 1986 he doubled as the Sports Director at WSMV-TV 4 before taking over as Sports Director at WLAC radio from 1986 to 1992.

McAlexander also served as the play-by-play voice of the Ole Miss Rebels from 1972 to 1978 where he earned Sportscaster of the Year honors in 1975.

Dick Palmer

Play-by-Play (Women's Basketball, Baseball, and Pregame for Football)

Dick Palmer is in his 27th season of calling the play-by-play action of Middle Tennessee basketball. Palmer, a 1960 graduate of Middle Tennessee, has been broadcasting sporting events for the past 49 years and ended a 25-year run in 2005 of calling Blue Raider football.

From 1971 until his return to Murfreesboro, Palmer was the voice of the Memphis Blues Class AA baseball team, the Memphis Pros (later the Tams) in the American Basketball Association, and the Memphis Grizzlies in the World Football League.

Earlier, he worked in Jackson, TN, for nine years, broadcasting a wide range of high school sports, as well as Union University's basketball games.

Palmer, who co-hosted the first sports call-in show in Nashville during the mid-70s, was the studio host for Vol Network Football Broadcasts for five years and has called the TSSAA Basketball State Tournament on the Tennessee Sports Radio Network every year since 1982.

A little league baseball coach for over 40 years, Palmer is operations director for Palmer Wholesale. Palmer and his wife DeLois have three sons, Richard, Mike, and Jon, and one granddaughter, Kaitlyn.

Chip Walters

Color Analyst (Football)

Providing the color analysis is MTSU graduate Chip Walters. Now beginning his 17th season in the booth and his sixth as color analyst, Walters holds the third-longest tenure for MTSU broadcasters behind only the late Monte Hale and current broadcaster Dick Palmer.

In addition to these duties, Walters hosts the Kermit Davis television show and emcees various Blue Raider events.

Walters, a 1985 graduate of MTSU who also serves as the media and public relations director for the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, served as the marketing and promotions director at MTSU from 1994 to 2003.

Prior to working for MTSU, Walters worked several jobs in sports broadcasting including serving as sports director of the Tennessee Radio Network from 1986 to 1991. Walters called play-by-play for minor league baseball affiliate the Nashville Sounds and did freelance television work for WNAB and WSMV.

Kelly Holcomb

Color Analyst (Football)

Kelly Holcomb, a 1994 graduate of MTSU, is the newest member to the Blue Raider Network. A 15-year veteran of the NFL, Holcomb begins his first season as sideline reporter for BRN.

Holcomb attended Lincoln County High School in Fayetteville, Tenn., before signing with the Blue Raiders in 1991. A four-year starter for the Blue Raiders, Holcomb set nearly every passing record at MTSU before heading to the NFL.

In his career, Holcomb played for the Colts, Browns, Bills, Eagles, and Vikings. Holcomb owns one of the most memorable passing performances in NFL history when he threw for a record 429 yards in a Wild Card game against Pittsburgh.

Printed on November 22, 2008

Original URL: <http://www.goblueraiders.com/content.cfm/id/2175>