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WILLIAMS NAMED KHSAA ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER; COPE PROMOTED

LEXINGTON – Bardstown High School Athletic Director Roland Williams has been hired as an Assistant Commissioner with the Kentucky High School Athletic Association, KHSAA Commissioner Brigid DeVries has announced. Williams fills the vacancy created with the naming of DeVries, formerly Executive Assistant Commissioner, to the Commissioner's role earlier this month.

Williams comes to the Association with over 29 years of experience in high school athletics, the last 12 as Athletic Director for Bardstown. He has previously served on the KHSAA Board of Control, including serving as president 2000-01; worked with the Kentucky Coaches Education Program, the Kentucky High School Athletic Directors Association, the Fifth Region Coaches Association and other professional organizations.

In addition to his administration experience in athletics, Williams has coached, officiated and participated in a variety of sports at the interscholastic level. He also served as Fast Pitch Softball coach until his resignation from Bardstown.

"Roland brings a great deal of experience to our staff," DeVries said. "We get a great deal of input from our member schools and he will provide additional insight from the school-administrators' perspective."

Williams has managed numerous athletic events including KHSAA postseason district, region and semi-state level competition. The Milwaukee, Wisconsin-native holds degrees from Morehead State University and Western Kentucky University.

"I'm very excited about the challenges this new opportunity will bring," Williams said. "I look forward to working for the KHSAA and the member schools of the Commonwealth of Kentucky."

Williams is married to the former Rita Franklin of Ashland. They have two children, RaShawn, a sophomore at the University of Louisville, and Monika, a senior at Morehead State University.

Williams will assume his duties on July 29.

Commissioner DeVries also announced the promotion of Sports Information Director Butch Cope to Director of Promotions and Media Relations.

Cope, a graduate of the University of Kentucky, joined the Association in 1995 as Sports Information Director. He will continue to serve in that capacity with added duties that will include supervision of fulfillment of corporate partner agreements and special programs as well as managing the day-to-day efforts of the KHSAA's marketing partner, iHigh, Incorporated.

Cope will continue to handle the KHSAA Student Leadership Conference as well as coordinating the Dawahares/KHSAA Hall of Fame program, the First Southern National Bank Sportsmanship Recognition Program and the Academic All-State Program as well as in-house marketing and public relations efforts.

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For more information, contact Butch Cope at (859) 299-5472 or Mr. Williams at (502) 348-5433.