

For Immediate Release

November 14, 2008

### **Mike Phillips Accepts Tennessee Tech Position**

NASHVILLE, TN—Dr. Mike Phillips, exercise science program director and athletic director at Free Will Baptist Bible College, has accepted a position with Tennessee Technological University (Cookeville) to head up a new graduate program in Sport Management. He begins his TTU duties as assistant professor in the Exercise Science, Physical Education, and Wellness Department, effective January 2009.

Provost Greg Kettelman said, “We wish Mike well in his new role, and we will miss his influence on campus. He has been a vital part of the faculty and FWBBC family since 2002, and has been an example as a Christian gentleman and a professional in his field. He put biblical principles first and lived what he taught the students in matters of moral and spiritual values, as well as health, exercise, and diet. We learned to trust and depend on him.”

Phillips completed a Ph.D. program in October 2007 at Middle Tennessee State University. His degree in Health and Human Performance included concentrations in Physical Education and Sport Management. Before joining the FWBBC faculty, he served as adjunct faculty member at Roane State University and at Tennessee Tech.

Dr. Phillips said, “FWBBC has been my home for six years, and I consider the faculty, staff, administration, and students part of my family. I gained so many relationships here, and I appreciate the support the college has given me. I can never say enough good things about this institution and will always love and support the college. It’s hard to leave FWBBC, but I feel that God is moving me in this direction.”

While Phillips will teach several classes at Tennessee Tech, his primary responsibility will be heading up the new graduate program in Sport Management. The university contacted him a year ago about teaching, but he declined their offer. When the school approached him again this fall, he agreed to be interviewed and was subsequently offered a full-time position.

The Phillips family plans to relocate to the Cookeville area as soon as feasible. Dr. Phillips' wife, Amanda, grew up in Cookeville and for many years was a member of Cookeville Free Will Baptist Church. While Mike taught at FWBBC, the family was active in local community outreach at Donelson Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville.