

THE INDEX-JOURNAL

Sports

Another Emerald Assistant Wants Job

By SCOTT J. BRYAN/ sbryan@indexjournal.com

Published: Thursday, February 26, 2009 12:33 AM EST

Add one more Emerald High School assistant coach to the list of candidates for the Vikings' vacant head football coach and athletic director job. Offensive line coach David English, who has been an Emerald assistant for two seasons, said Wednesday he has applied for the Vikings' vacancy. English joins former Saluda coach Wayne Bell and Emerald assistants Mark Sorrow and Jeff Thomason as confirmed applicants.

The vacancy was created Feb. 6, when Mike Clowney resigned after three years leading the Vikings to accept a position at Carson-Newman College as assistant head football coach. During Clowney's three-year tenure, he posted a 10-21 record with one playoff appearance.

English, 23, joined the Emerald staff after serving two seasons as a student assistant coach at Coastal Carolina under David Bennett. During his two years at Coastal Carolina, the Chanticleers were 19-3, reached the Division I-AA playoffs for the first time and won back-to-back Big South championships.

A 2003 graduate of Clinton, English received his bachelor's degree in European history in two years, plus earned a master's degree in teaching at Coastal Carolina and a master's degree in education administration from The University of Scranton. Currently a world geography, economics and government teacher at Emerald, English said the Emerald job is intriguing because of the possibility of a bright future. "There's wonderful potential remaining here at Emerald," English said. "From what I understand and what I've witnessed, Emerald has come across a fork in the road. "The program I would bring is about being effective and accountability. "I may not have my program, as far as what I'm bringing in, yet. ... But you'll know what direction it's moving in. It won't have the bells and whistles, but it'll be effective and accountable."

A nine-member selection committee is scheduled to meet in the near future to review applications and conduct interviews.

The selection committee includes Greenwood 50 assistant superintendent for human resources Randy Vaughn, assistant superintendent for business Gary Johnson, assistant superintendent for instruction Pat Ross, assistant superintendent for administration Robert McClinton, Brewer Middle School principal Gerald Witt, District 50 director of secondary education Shirley Boyce, Westview principal Cyndi Storer, Emerald principal Les Gamble and Emerald assistant principal Brad Nickles.

Vaughn said he anticipates the committee will have a recommendation for the board of trustees by the March 16 school board meeting.

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