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Chris Mahoney: 'tough decision' to resign from Oriskany coaching job



After five seasons at the helm, Chris Mahoney stepped down as the Oriskany boys basketball coach Tuesday.

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Posted By: Spencer Davidson

ORISKANY, N.Y. - After five seasons at the helm, Chris Mahoney has stepped down as the Oriskany boys basketball coach



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Mahoney said that due to the birth of a child he is moving to Albany to be closer to his girlfriend, therefore ending his tenure as the head coach of the Redskins.

"It's never easy to make a decision like this, but I'm ready to move onto the next chapter of my life," he said via phone.

Mahoney has been the coach of the Redskins since the 2013-14 season, where he has compiled an 89-26 record, including a 27-0 state championship season in 2015-16.

This past season, Oriskany went 20-3, losing to Madison in the Section III Class D semifinals.

Mahoney said the toughest part of leaving the school is having to say goodbye to the players.

"Wins and losses are one thing, but I think the bonds that I built with my players off the court are what's most important," he said. "I still talk with my players that graduated on a weekly or monthly basis just to check in. Sometimes [it's] just laughs and chuckles about things that happened over the years."

Mahoney informed the school and the players of his decision on Tuesday, and the school has not yet begun a search for a new coach.

He said his favorite memory is winning the Class D State title in 2016, but that overall getting to know his players off the court is what are the precious moments he will take away from the job.

"My favorite times are with my kids when no one is around, when you get to see the kids be natural, be themselves," he said. "Just to sit back and watch them in their own atmosphere, being kids. I think a lot of times especially now-a-days that is something that is forgotten is that they're kids, and they've got to have fun with it."

The New York Mills native said he hopes to continue to pursue a coaching job out in the Albany area, possibly getting back into baseball, which is the sport he played in college.

To him, this isn't necessarily goodbye though, it's more of a "see you soon," as he hopes to work with this group in some capacity during the summer.



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