

Alumni Pride: Baumgartner exercises athletics leadership

by **Tim Holdsworth - Monday, August 27, 2012**

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For University of Wisconsin Oshkosh alumnus Corey Baumgartner '02, MS '05, hard work and diplomacy have fueled his success as a teacher, coach and educational administrator.

Baumgartner serves as associate principal, co-curricular activities at Kaukauna High School. Last year, he was recognized as District IV Athletic Director of the Year by the Wisconsin Athletic Directors Association (WADA).

He will be one of four recent graduates to receive the UW Oshkosh Alumni Association's Outstanding Young Alumni Award—given for professional and civic accomplishments and future promise—at a reception and dinner on Oct. 12, as part of Homecoming 2012 events.

Baumgartner began his career in his hometown, teaching special education and coaching multiple sports teams at Kewaunee High School. One year into his term, he added athletic director to his responsibilities.

Since 2008 he has been at Kaukauna, where he oversees the school's athletic teams, clubs and all other activities in addition to his associate principal duties. During his tenure, the school has achieved more conference, regional, section and state championships than any time in the school's history.

“Corey is a student-centered leader who expects nothing out of the people he leads that he would not expect of himself,” said Jeff Matczak, physical education teacher and head wrestling coach at Kaukauna High School.

“His care, sincerity, honesty and concern allow him to bring the best out of the people he is leading. People trust him because he is a very good communicator and even though people may not like a decision he has to make, they will feel they were heard, understood and not forgotten.”

These traits have also translated well into Baumgartner's leadership roles with local regional, state and national groups, including board of control member for the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association's, leadership training instructor for the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, mentor for the WADA and liaison for the Fox Valley Association Conference.

Baumgartner credits his UW Oshkosh education for helping him in his career.

“The education I received from UW Oshkosh has opened numerous doors professionally,” he said. “I sincerely believe my experiences with UWO helped provide a solid foundation to build my career from.”

For more information about the alumni awards dinner or Homecoming 2012, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at (920) 424-3449 or send an email to alumni@uwosh.edu for information.

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