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Midwest Conference News

Knox's Magnuson, Carroll's Weber, Named Sportsmanship Winners

Ripon, Wis. -- The Midwest Conference is pleased to announce Knox College senior Sam Magnuson and Carroll University senior Michelle Weber have been selected as the league's 2010 Sportsmanship Award winners.

Magnuson, an infielder for the Prairie Fire baseball team, appeared in 15 games, starting in 10, while hitting .250 for Knox. According to his coach, he always brings a positive attitude and demands the same from his teammates. Magnuson is described as the ultimate team player by his peers and was well respected by his teammates. Outside of athletics Magnuson was a frequent participant in the Reading Buddies Program where he read frequently to children at local grade schools, as well as serving as Knox Ambassador.

He also served as a student worker in the sports information department where he ran the schools MWCTV and broadcasting duties for football, men's basketball and women's basketball.

In four seasons, Carroll's Michelle Weber has been the model student-athlete for the Carroll cross country and track and field teams. A team captain, Weber is a nine time academic all-conference selection, while also claiming three time conference championships in the distance medley.



Sam Magnuson

Weber was honored with the Midwest Conference 2009 Peterson award, which is presented to the female student-athlete who posted the highest grade point averages during their junior years, while lettering in at least two sports. Her coach Shawn Thielitz also noted she was a supreme motivator, pushing teammates to their limits on the field and off the field. Weber was also an integral part in 13 Pioneers being named to the MWC spring academic all-conference team by devoting extra time to help teammates with classroom work.



Michelle Weber

The pair will advance on as the conference's nominations for the 2010 NCAA Division III Sportsmanship Award. The NCAA Committee will select one male and female student-athlete from each division as finalists and then one male and one female from those six finalists as the NCAA Sportsmanship Award winners.

"We are delighted when we can recognize student-athletes for their positives attributes and contributions surrounding their competitive endeavors," stated Chris Graham, MWC Commissioner. "Mr. Magnuson and Ms. Weber highlight many student-athletes in the conference who exhibit good sportsmanship and positive behaviors each year and I congratulate them for the fine examples they set."

The Midwest Conference proudly supports the annual Division III Commissioners Association Sportsmanship Program. Through seasonal tracking of conduct fouls in many sports to promotion of the "Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive" statement at all conference events, the MWC places special emphasis on competitive but collegial playing environments for thousands of student-athletes each year.

The Midwest Conference is an NCAA Division III organization comprised of ten private, liberal arts institutions in Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. The Midwest Conference sponsors 20 championship sports, for over 3,000 student-athletes and its office is located on the campus of Ripon College. The MWC website address is www.midwestconference.org.

