

SPORTS

UWS Baseball Player Raises Awareness for Heart Conditions

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When David Dibble was 18 years old, he collapsed while pitching at a high school baseball game and went into cardiac arrest.

Immediately, his coach started cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and continued doing this for about 9-12 minutes. An ambulance rushed Dibble to a Kenosha, WI, hospital, where a flight for life helicopter rushed him to a hospital in Milwaukee, WI.

Dibble was in the hospital for approximately seven to eight days. According to the doctors, if his coach didn't start CPR when he did, Dibble would not be alive today.

After being released from the hospital his aunt started an organization called Dibbs17, a name that is a combination of Dibble's name and his baseball player number.

The organization strives to bring awareness to heart conditions and

encourage CPR certifications. Within ten months of the organization's founding, Dibbs17 got 1,700 people CPR certified.

The organization also participated in the Saving a Life Marathon, where people took turns giving CPR on dummies for 17 hours straight to raise awareness of the importance of CPR.

Additionally, Dibbs17 attended the Milwaukee Heart Ball, a fundraiser for cardiovascular medical research by the American Heart Association.

Dibble gave a speech at the Milwaukee Heart Ball about his accident and the importance of being CPR certified. Boosters donated around half a million dollars by the end of the night.

Despite being told he would not play baseball again Dibble now pitches for the UWS baseball team.



TJ Oakes, Yellowjackets baseball head coach.

Photo provided by Yellowjacket Athletics

New UWS Baseball Coach

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The holiday season is in full swing, making for the busiest and most stressful times for those working in the athletic department. A native of Jordan, Minnesota, TJ Oakes graduated from the University of Minnesota earning a Bachelor of Science degree in sports management.

"Being the head coach entails everything in overseeing the entire program," said Oakes, the new head baseball coach.

"A lot of the job entails helping develop baseball players to be able to reach success on the field, but the job requires much

more than that. My goal is helping mold young men off the field and helping them overcome the challenges that life brings."

Challenges are always in play when running a program. "Not having assistant coaches there to help you daily put on a lot on my plate with having to manage 35 student-athletes as well as recruiting, fundraising, getting trips set up, and the whole works. There is always something to do," said Oakes.

You can find Oakes in the Markovich Wellness Center (MWC) on the second floor in room MWC 2418.



David Dibble pitching in game.

Photo by Holden Law

Stressed? Intramural Sports have your back

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Taking a break is important because the stress levels coming from school can be heavy, especially once we get to the end of the semester.

For many of these schools and the University of Wisconsin-Superior, intramural sports are a sta-

ple in bringing students together while sharing a relaxing environment.

As the Recreation Program Manager, Sean Monnier is in his first year at UWS. His position includes much more than intramurals, but Monnier himself participated in college and made sure to shine a light on this opportunity for students.

He understands what students deal with daily, which helps recreate and participate in an activity many students loved to be a part of but did not get the chance to play at the high level of college athletics.

His empathy also means he tries to hold the organization to a high standard. "I try to build a culture that is welcoming, everyone feels safe, conflicts get resolved easily, and to show respect to players, fans, and the referees," said Monnier.

Many intramural participants have laid-back personalities. "The best part about [recreational sports] to me is just being able to hang out with friends and do something with them. I don't really care about the sport we are playing that much. I just enjoy being around others and being able to



Students participate in a volleyball game.

Photo by University Relations

have a good time," said Ryan Leifer, a basketball participant.

Many people have the same mentality and view intramural sports as more of a stress reliever and do not want to deal with the conflicts they may

have to face. The registration for block 2 ended on Oct. 28, but if you are looking to take a break from school and get into recreational sports, Block 3 will open for registration on Feb. 3.



Sean Monnier

Photo by Holden Law

Up Next in Sports

Women's Basketball

- 12/10 vs. Bethany Lutheran Home, 5:30 p.m.
- 12/11 vs. Martian Luther Home, 3 p.m.
- 12/29 vs. Finlandia Home, 5 p.m.
- 1/8 @Northland Ashland, WI 3 p.m.
- 1/11 @Finlandia Hancock, MI, 4:30 p.m.
- 1/14 vs. Crown Home 5:30 p.m.
- 1/15 vs. Minnesota Morris Home 3 p.m.

Women's Hockey

- 12/10 @St. Catherine St. Paul, MN 7 p.m.
- 12/11 vs. St. Catherine Home 2 p.m.
- 1/7 @Saint Benedict St. Cloud, MN 7 p.m.
- 1/8 @Saint Benedict St. Cloud, MN 2 p.m.
- 1/11 @Hamline St. Paul, MN 7 p.m.
- 1/13 vs. UW-Eau Claire Home 7 p.m.
- 1/15 @UW-Eau Claire Eau Claire, WI 2 p.m.

Men's Basketball

- 12/10 vs. Bethany Lutheran Home 7:15 p.m.
- 12/11 vs. Martian Luther Home 4:45 p.m.
- 12/18 @Lawrence Appleton, WI 1 p.m.
- 12/28 @Saint Mary's Las Vegas, NV 5 p.m.
- 12/29 @Whittier Las Vegas, NV 3 p.m.
- 1/8 @Northland Ashland, WI 4:45 p.m.
- 1/11 @Finlandia Hancock, MI 6:30 p.m.
- 1/14 vs. Crown Home 7:15 p.m.

Men's Hockey

- 12/10 vs. Northland Home, 7:05 p.m.
- 12/11 @ Northland Ashland, WI 7 p.m.
- 12/30 vs. Marian Home 7 p.m.
- 12/31 vs. St. Scholastica/Aurora Home 3/7 p.m.
- 1/6 @Saint John's St. Cloud, MN 7 p.m.
- 1/8 @Concordia Moorhead, MN 2 p.m.
- 1/14 vs. St. Scholastica Home, 7:05 p.m.
- 1/15 vs. Gustavus Adolphus Home 7:05 p.m.