

# Roginski Joins Men's Basketball Staff

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Rich Roginski, who served as the Eleva-Strum High School boys basketball head coach for 23 years, will join the UW-Eau Claire men's basketball team this year, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons announced.

"Rich Roginski is one of the most successful high school coaches in the state," Gibbons said. "We are very excited to have him join our staff."

Last season Roginski led the Cardinals to a perfect season (27-0) and the WIAA Division 4 state championship. He retired from coaching following the season. For his efforts he was named the 2008 Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Coach of the Year and the AP Coach of the Year in Wisconsin.

During his tenure, Roginski captured 14 conference championships, eight regional championships, four sectional championships and made four state tournament appearances. Before becoming state champions in 2008, the Cardinals earned runner-up honors in 2007 and 1990 (Division 3) and made it to the semifinals in 2006. Over those four seasons, Roginski's teams compiled an overall record of 103-5.

After the 1990 season he earned UW-La Crosse's Alumni Coach of the Year award. Roginski graduated from UW-La Crosse in 1978 with a health major and coaching minor. In 1993, Roginski was an assistant coach for the south at the WBCA All-Star game while he was the head coach in 2003.

Overall, Roginski coached basketball for 29 seasons at Eleva-Strum, serving as the seventh, eighth and ninth grade coach for the first six years. He also coached football at Eleva-Strum for the last 29 years, most recently serving as the defensive coordinator until retirement. The same year his boys basketball team won the state title, the football team also won the WIAA Division 7 championship, going undefeated on the season as well. With the two state titles, Eleva-Strum became the first high school in state history to win both football and basketball titles in the same school year.

In his retirement, Roginski is still helping out at Eleva-Strum, serving as the part-time Athletic Director.

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