2009-10 Men's Basketball Recruits Announced

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EAU CLAIRE, Wis. - Head men's basketball coach Terry Gibbons has announced the names of eight high school student-athletes who will continue their academic and athletic careers at UW-Eau Claire.

"We are extremely pleased with this recruiting class," said head men's basketball coach Terry Gibbons. "The class of 2009 provides great athleticism, size, quickness, defense and shooting ability. These young men come from great high school programs and we look forward to working with and developing them within our program. They will help us in our rise towards the top of the Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (WIAC)."

Gibbons also commented on the academic strength of this recruiting class. "This is a strong academic group that has succeeded in both the classroom and on the court."

"Not only does this class offer some of the best talent in Wisconsin, but it also has a local flare of players that our fans from the area can identify with."

2009-10 Blugold Recruits

Name

Pos.

Ht.

Wt.

Yr.

Hometown

Sean Gilbert

G

6-3

185

Fr.

River Falls, WI

Dustin Kalien

G

6-5

185

Fr.

Chippewa Falls, WI

Andy Kleist
F

6-6

210

Fr.

Eau Claire, WI/North

John Mielke
G

6-5

175

Fr.

Appleton, WI/East

Alex Rau
F

6-6

210

Fr.

Eau Claire, WI/Altoona

Marcus Ruh
G

6-3

170

Fr.

Green Bay, WI/Bay Port

Branden Tachick
F

6-5

225

Fr.

Green Bay, WI/Bay Port

Charlie Warnes
F

6-5

180

Fr.

Alexandria, MN/Jefferson

Sean Gilbert

Sean Gilbert, a guard from River Falls High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-3, 185-pound Gilbert played for head coach Greg Gaulke and was a Special Mention All-Northwest selection this past season. Gilbert earned second team All-Big Rivers Conference honors last season averaging a team-best 12.4 points per game. Gilbert earned the team Mr. Offense award as a senior and junior.

A three-sport athlete, Gilbert earned second team All-Conference honors in both football and track and field.

Gilbert is the son of Cheryl Gilbert and Sean Holloway.

Dustin Kalien

Dustin Kalien, a forward from Chippewa Falls High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-5, 180-pound Kalien played for head coach Luke Madsen and was a three-year starter for the Cardinals. As a team captain last season, Kalien averaged 16 points, six rebounds and three assists per game on his way to earning first team All-Big Rivers Conference, second team All-Northwest and Chippewa County Player of the Year honors. Kalien has also been selected to compete for the Division 1 North All-Stars at the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-Star Game to be held June 20 at the UW-Fieldhouse in Madison.

A three-sport athlete, Kalien has also lettered in football and baseball. In football Kalien was a member of back-to-back Big Rivers Conference championships teams in 2007 and 2008.

Kalien is the son of Tim and Barbara Kalien.

Andy Kleist

Andy Kleist, a forward from two-time Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Division 1 state qualifier Eau Claire North High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-6, 210-pound Kleist played for head coach Pat Hammond and was a fifth team All-Northwest selection this past season. A three-year starter for the Huskies, Kleist was an honorable mention All-Big Rivers Conference selection last season. Last season Kleist averaged 9 points per game.

A three-sport athlete, Kleist is a first team All-Big Rivers Conference selection in soccer and track and field. Kleist earned first team All-Northwest honors in soccer.

Kleist is the son of Dave and Barb Kleist.

Johnny Mielke

Johnny Mielke, a guard from Appleton East High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-5, 175-pound Mielke played for head coach John Mielke and earned second team All-Fox Valley Association honors in addition to being named to the FVA All-Defensive Team. Last season Mielke led the Patriots scoring 9.3 points per game in addition to leading the team in rebounds and assists.

A two-sport athlete, Mielke is also a member of the Appleton East golf team.

Mielke is the son of John and Kris Mielke.

Alex Rau

Alex Rau, a forward from Altoona High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-6, 210-pound Rau played for head coach Andy Riechers and was a three-year letterwinner for the Rails. As a senior Rau earned Team MVP and All-Cloverbelt Conference honors in addition to being named fifth team All-Northwest region. On June 8 Rau will compete in the Chippewa Valley All-Star Classic to be held at UW-Stout. Rau has also been selected to compete for the Division 2 North All-Stars at the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-Star Game to be held June 20 at the UW-Fieldhouse in Madison.

Rau is the son of Mark and Debra Rau.

Marcus Ruh

Marcus Ruh, a guard from Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Division 1 state semifinalist Bay Port High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-3, 170-pound Ruh played for head coach Nate Rykal and was a team captain and MVP for the Pirates. Last season Ruh averaged 13.4 points, four assists, 3.5 rebounds and 2.7 steals per game shooting 71% from the free throw line, 45% from the floor and 42% from the three-point line. A first team All-Fox River Classic Conference selection, Ruh also earned first team Green Bay Press-Gazette All-Area and honorable mention All-State honors last season. Ruh has also been chosen as an alternate for the Division 1 North All-Stars at the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) All-Star Game to be help June 20 at the UW-Fieldhouse in Madison.

A two-sport athlete, Ruh was an All-Fox River Classic and honorable mention All-Area selection for soccer.

Ruh is the son of Tracy and Beth Ruh.

Branden Tachick

Branden Tachick, a forward from Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association Division 1 state semifinalist Bay Port High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-5, 225-pound Tachick played for head coach Nate Rykal and averaged 12.9 points, 6.4 rebounds, three assists and 1.8 steals a game while shooting 59% from the floor and 32% from the three-point line for the Pirates. A first team All-Fox River Classic Conference selection, Tachick also earned first team Green Bay Press-Gazette All-Area and honorable mention All-State honors last season.

A two-sport athlete, Tachick was a second team All-Fox River Classic tight end and first team All-Area selection in football.

Tachick is the son of Kevin and Tracy Tachick.

Charlie Warnes

Charlie Warnes, a forward from Jefferson High School, will attend UW-Eau Claire and play basketball next fall, Blugold head coach Terry Gibbons has announced.

The 6-5, 180-pound Warnes played for head coach Forest Witt and was a three-year varsity player and two-year team captain for the Cardinals.

A three-sport athlete, Warnes is an All-Conference performer in track and field while also being a team captain for the soccer team.

Warnes is the son of Peter and Julie Warnes.