

Mark Miller was born on March 12, 1963 in Appleton, Wisconsin. He attended St. Therese Grade School, St. Mary Middle School and Xavier High School in Appleton, graduating in 1981. He then attended the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, graduating in May of 1985 with a degree in journalism.

His love affair with basketball began during the 1971-72 season when he, his three siblings and his parents attended home and away basketball games for Xavier High School. His father, Richard, was a freshman coach at Xavier at the time and the family made annual treks to the old WISAA State Tournament in Milwaukee from the early 1970s until WISAA's final year in 2000.

Mark continued to follow the Hawks through his senior year of high school, and then started following the UW-Oshkosh Titans as well as the high school teams in the area. He regularly covered Lourdes Academy, Oshkosh North and Oshkosh West for the Appleton Post-Crescent while attending college.

Mark has built his extraordinary career around the game of basketball, earning a reputation for honor, decency, and sportsmanship that transcends the daily work he undertakes. Mark's full-time career in journalism began in the spring of 1985 at the Marshfield News-Herald. It was during this time that he also began the Wisconsin Basketball Yearbook, the state annual previewing the high school and college basketball season. The Wisconsin Basketball Yearbook has become a staple on the high school scene in Wisconsin and will enter its 32nd year of publication this fall.

Mark also worked at newspapers in Oshkosh, Waukesha and Sheboygan and thoroughly enjoyed covering high school sports, especially basketball.

For the past decade or so, Mark has also worked with WisSports.net. Together with Nicholas Kartos, Rick Hamilton, Travis Wilson and Norbert Durst, WisSports.net has become THE source for high school sports in Wisconsin.

As boys' basketball editor for WisSports.net, Mark covers the sport 12 months of the year, writing on high school and AAU teams as well as standout players.

Eleven years ago, Mark also helped to start the WBY Shootout, an annual Christmas basketball event that attracts some of the top teams and players in the state each season. Summer tournaments and a camp at Viterbo have also evolved with the support of WisSports.net and Mark.

By far the most enjoyable part of the experience in covering high school basketball in Wisconsin for the past 30-plus years is the relationships Mark has developed with coaches, players and

parents. Many of those relationships have developed into life-long friendships.

Mark met his wife, Pat, at the newspaper in Oshkosh. They have been married for 26 years and he credits her as a significant reason for the success of the Yearbook. Mark and Pat have been blessed with two daughters, Gwen, a sophomore at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Sonia, a freshman at Edgewood High School in Madison.

Mark's nomination was supported with letters from sports figures from all over Wisconsin. There was a recurrent theme with all letters-Mark's integrity. One letter stated that Mark weaves the teachings, positive examples, and values he learned from Xavier into the tapestry of his life. Many letters stated that those who Mark meets are better because they have been touched by the passion, professionalism and class of Mark Miller.