

A New Era in UWEC Men's Basketball by Coach Kyle Green August 15, 2011

In May, **Kyle Green** was named UW-Eau Claire's Men's Basketball Coach, replacing Terry Gibbons, who retired at the end of last season. Green is only the ninth men's basketball coach in Blugold history and just the fourth since 1928.

Green is excited to have made the move, along with his wife and two children, from Cedar Falls, Iowa, where he was an assistant coach for the University of Northern Iowa for the past five seasons. Green is looking forward to getting the passion back in Blugold basketball, and to have Zorn Arena rocking again like it was in the 60's 70's and 80's. He wants to get out into the community and build the excitement, and he wants the outstanding local basketball players to play for UWEC.

Green admits that being hired in May was quite late in the recruiting season. Nevertheless he is pleased with the way his team is shaping up for the 2011-12 season. A solid group of returning players, along with a couple of freshman and a couple of transfers, should make for an exciting and competitive team. Green's challenge will be to change Eau Claire's basketball culture and mold a talented group of individual players into a successful basketball team and ultimately into an outstanding program.



Kyle Green
UWEC Men's Basketball Coach

To accomplish this, Green intends to instill in his team what he refers to as the "Pillars of Character":

- Teamwork – working together as a team can accomplish a great deal more than individual players working by themselves.
- Trust – Green's number one job is to get his players to trust each other, especially on defense. He refers to this as everyone "holding the rope".
- Toughness – while it is important to be physically tough, it is more important to be mentally tough. Green intends to spend a lot of time in the classroom with his players watching film and teaching.
- Thankfulness – be appreciative for the opportunity to be a Blugold and to be a part of this basketball team, and show it by giving back to the community.

Coach Green wants people who interact with his players and who watch Blugold basketball to see these "Pillars of Character", and if they do, they will see a successful group of young men and a successful basketball team.
