



Mar 29 2023 Page 01 Clip resized 108%

Derick Kelly joins Courier Press as sports news reporter



By Melissa R. Collum

Derick Kelly comes to the Courier Press with sports experience that dates all the way to his little league days. A 2010 graduate of Prairie du Chien High School, he played high school baseball for the Blackhawks all four years and his senior year was the statistician for the wrestling team.

A 2014 graduate of UW-Milwaukee with a degree in history, Kelly earned the Tose-laff scholarship to attend the Society for American Baseball Research annual summer conference. He was one of four

college students national wide to receive the honor. Kelly was able to travel to Houston, Texas and do research on baseball. While at UW-Milwaukee, Kelly started a booster club for university alumnus, in order to get fans involved with the athletics programs.

Seven years ago, Kelly started a very popular Facebook and Twitter pages, entitled from Maroons to Blackhawks to help give the Prairie du Chien high school athletics broader coverage. He believes

See KELLY, page 6

KELLY, from page 1

it important for rural schools to get the sports coverage they deserve. Thought out his reporting, Kelly hopes to share his love for research by providing sports fans with history and stats that go along with game coverage.

He has a self-published book entitled, "From the Maroons to the Hawks" which is a chronology of Prairie du Chien high school athletics from 1897- 2016. Kelly hopes to digitize the manuscript and also work on updating the contents.

Kelly is excited to use his knowledge of Prairie du Chien athletic history and high school sports in general to bring people sports coverage they will enjoy. Kelly is looking forward to the idea of branching out to cover other local sports teams. He believes that schools even smaller than Prairie du Chien are having a difficult time making sure that their programs are adequately covered and that their students are recognized by the media.

He hopes to change this with his reporting and coverage.

A member of the Prairie du Chien Booster Club since 2010 and an active since 2015, Kelly has served as secretary for a number of years. Kelly essentially works doing whatever he can to support Prairie du Chien athletics; aiding with the membership drives, the Blackhawk Blast, and much more.

Kelly is looking forward to building new skills related to the job. His strong research background and love for stats will provide a strong base for his work as a reporter.

An avid collector of autographs and sports cards, Kelly has attended numerous signing events and even sends requests for signatures through the mail. One of his pet projects is collecting signatures of all the UW-Milwaukee men's basketball players for each season. His collection goes back to the early 1970's and includes not only former players but also coaches.

Mar
29

2023

Page
06

Clip
resized
100%

From
01