

# Scott Bruzek leaves his mark at Glenbard East



## Impact player...

SENIOR SCOTT BRUZEK (above) of Glenbard East served as the student manager for the Rams' football and boys basketball teams for the last four years. Bruzek will attend DePaul University, where he will serve as a student manager for the men's basketball team.

Scott Bruzek didn't pull down the rebounds for Glenbard East's boys basketball team...but he did count them.

He didn't wear a helmet for Glenbard East's football team...but he did repair them.

Keeping statistics and fixing equipment were two of Bruzek's many duties as the student manager of the Rams' football and boys basketball programs during the last four years. If there was a hall of fame for student managers, Bruzek would be a likely inductee.

Here's one obvious example of Bruzek's dedication to the two Glenbard East programs—he did not miss a single varsity football or boys basketball game—not one—home or away, during the last four seasons.

In addition to the games, Bruzek was a first-to-come, last-to-go fixture at countless practices. He ran the scoreboard and clock during basketball practices. He also kept track of statistics during basketball games. He then churned out detailed post-game reports after each contest.

Bruzek did not keep statistics during the football season, but he was always working on something—keeping inventory of equipment, setting up the video gear for games, making a quick fix of a helmet during a game, etc.

"Just about anything you needed, he was there," said Glenbard East football coach Dennis Lueck. "His level of maturity and his willingness to take on a task and do it well was more than you would expect."

Bruzek, a Lombard resident who attended Sacred Heart School, played some football and basketball in grade school. He wasn't too interested in playing either sport in high school, but he wanted to stay involved in athletics. The coaches at Sacred Heart helped Bruzek get in touch with Lueck.

"I wanted to be a part of the team, so I thought I could make a contribution by being a manager," said Bruzek.

Glenbard East boys basketball coach Scott Miller met Bruzek during a football practice when Bruzek was an incoming freshman and asked if he would contribute to the basketball program in the winter.

"He's been an integral part of our program for the last four years," said Miller. "He was outstanding for us; a very responsible, mature young man."

Bruzek was a part of the successful Glenbard East boys basketball teams that produced three straight IHSA regional titles from 2005 through 2007, and a DuPage Valley Conference championship during the 2006-07 season.

"I like that basketball is fast-paced, and it always keeps your attention," said Bruzek. "I was very busy and always on the move with basketball."

Bruzek's football tasks included a mid-game equipment issue that required quick attention to get a player back onto the field.

"There's always a moment when something

goes wrong, and a situation has to be dealt with immediately," Bruzek said. "Those were probably the moments when I had to react under some pressure."

Both Lueck and Miller praised Bruzek's dedication and attention to detail. The two coaches said that Bruzek's contributions made their day-to-day duties much easier.

"You never had to tell him anything twice," said Miller. "For the last two or three years, you didn't even have to tell him once. He was always one step ahead."

"I'm a very detail-oriented person," said Bruzek, who produced a comprehensive 71-page media guide at the end of the 2007-08 basketball season. "I spend quite a bit of time to make sure the details are sorted out."

Bruzek recently decided to attend DePaul University, where he plans to study finance. He will also serve as one of the student managers on the men's basketball team.

When asked about his memorable moments as a manager at Glenbard East, Bruzek noted the excitement and energy of home football and basketball games on Friday nights.

"One of my favorite moments of high school is being on the sidelines for a Friday-night football or basketball game," he said. "It's a good feeling to know that I've made a difference; that I've been part of something bigger than myself. If I didn't get what I got out of being part of the program, I would not be coming here three or four hours a day."