



CHAD TARPLEY, ATHLETE, CLASS of 1999

Chad Tarpley was a quiet young man in high school and he let his golf clubs, hockey stick and baseball bat do the talking. Chad still holds Portage Central's record for home runs in a single season. He hit fourteen round-trippers in the spring of 1999. He also holds the record for career home runs with twenty. Chad lettered in three sports, Golf, Hockey and Baseball was an All-Conference performer in Hockey and Baseball. In baseball, he was a member of the 1999 Dream Team. Chad always led by example, both in the competitive arena and away from the competition. He was respected by his teammates and coaches. This is evident from the fact that he was a team captain in both Baseball and Hockey. After high school, Chad went on to star for the Broncos at Western Michigan University. His twenty-four career home runs is the sixth highest in WMU history and his fifteen home runs in 2002 is the third highest for a single season.

Biggest thrill in athletics – A very difficult question to answer but winning conference championships in Golf, Hockey and Baseball was definitely a thrill.

PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE HONORS

Baseball

- USA Today All-American Honorable Mention – 1999
- State of Michigan Dream Team -- 1999
- MHSBCA First Team Class A All-State
- Big 8 All-Conference recognition – 1998, 99
- Team Captain and Big 8 Conference Honorary Captain –1999
- Helped lead PC to the 1999 State Semifinals
- Set the PCHS single season home run record (14 home runs) which still stands -- 1999
- Set the PCHS career home run record (20 home runs) which still stands
- Set a single season RBI record (46 RBI's) – 1999
- Tied for Second in the MHSBCA Record Book for Home Runs in a game (3)
- Played in the MHSBCA East-West All-Star Game at Tiger Stadium

- Received the Matthew S. Vandersalm Memorial Scholarship Award given by the SWMHSBL to the college bound senior defenseman showing the highest quality of play and sportsmanship.
- Portage Central's Most Valuable Defender in 1998 and 1999

Golf

- Varsity letter winner in 1996 and 1997

Western Michigan University Achievements

- All-Conference recognition – 2002
- Team MVP – 2002
- Tri-Captain – 2003
- Hit 15 home runs in 2002 which is 3rd highest total in WMU history
- Hit 24 career home runs which is 6th highest total in WMU history
- Hit 3 home runs in one game which is tied for first in WMU history

Hockey

- First Team All-Conference – 1998, 99
- Team Captain – 1999