

## **Kenosha Unified Athletics – Hall of Fame Inductee – Class of 2003**

### *Rudy Ruffolo – 1993*

Competition in three sports kept Rudy Ruffolo busy during his three years at Tremper High School. He participated in football, basketball and track and earned seven varsity letters—three in football, three in track and one in basketball. In football, Ruffolo anchored an offensive and defensive line that cleared the way for Tremper to compile a record of 36 wins to just 3 losses. During his three-year tenure, Tremper won a WIAA state championship, 1991, and were runner-ups twice, 1990 and 1992. Tremper's team also captured 3 Big 9 Conference Championships. As a junior, Ruffolo was named First Team Big 9 All-Conference and to the Kenosha News' First Team All-County.

As a senior, Ruffolo capped his stellar high school football career by being named All-State on both offense and defense and he was selected to play in the High School Shrine Game. He picked up additional honors by being named Milwaukee Sentinel Player of the Year, Big 9 Conference Lineman of the Year, First Team All Conference, offense and defense, Kenosha News' First Team All-County, offense and defense and he picked up a captain's star. In track, Ruffolo again displayed his outstanding athletic ability. He was the only athlete in the eight-year history of the Big 9 Conference to win a conference championship three years in a row. Ruffolo, competing in the discus placed 6<sup>th</sup> at the WIAA state meet as a junior and set a discus record at the 1993 Janesville Parker Invitational with a toss of 161'-7". With his help Tremper's track team won their first WIAA Sectional Track Meet in 1992.

After graduating in the top 25 percent of his class, Ruffolo accepted a football scholarship to Iowa State University. He continued his outstanding football career by starting all 11 games for the Cyclones as a sophomore and junior as either a defensive end or outside linebacker. Five times he was selected as the game's MVP, twice as a sophomore and three times as a junior. Ruffolo was looking forward to playing his senior year until a shoulder injury ended his football career. He graduated from Iowa State with a degree in Sociology and he now lives in Schaumburg, IL where he is a professional pharmaceutical sales representative.