# ED THOMAS LEGACY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Aplington-Parkersburg Auditorium, Parkersburg Iowa

### **THURSDAY MARCH 26, 2015**

On Thursday March 26, 2015 the Ed Thomas Family Foundation will expand on it's goal of keeping the legacy of Coach Ed Thomas alive. Coach Thomas was a leader whose main objective was teaching young people to "Do What's Right". He was a great role model who lived his life true to the values that he taught to all. The Ed Thomas Family Foundation will provide an opportunity for high school students to strengthen their positive leadership skills and character by sponsoring the Ed Thomas Legacy, Leadership Academy.

### REGISTRATION

### Registration will be 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Session 1 will be at 9:00 a.m. Sessions completed by 2:00 p.m.

### **WHERE**

Aplington - Parkersburg High School

### **FOUR SPEAKING SESSIONS**

Aaron Thomas Lisa Brinkmeyer Al Kerns James Miller

### FEE

\$10 per participant & supervisors: each participant (including supervisors) will receive a T-shirt, lanyard + name tag, notebook, and pen.

More information and registration at: **edthomasfamilyfoundation.org** 

### LIMIT

Each school is limited to no more than 12 student participants 2 supervisors per school. Registration will be limited to the first 450 participants to register by Friday March 6th 2015.

\*A sack lunch with a sub, fruit, and chips will be provided. Water and sports drinks will be available free of charge.

If the students feel they will need more food than what is provided, they will have to bring extra.

# SPEAKERS

### **AARON THOMAS**

# High School Principal Aplington-Parkersburg

Aaron Thomas is the oldest son of the Late Ed Thomas. At a young age Aaron knew he wanted to go into education and coaching because he saw the impact his father was able to have on young people. Every day he witnessed the passion Ed Thomas displayed while working with young people.

### **LISA BRINKMEYER**

## Assistant Director at the IGHSAU

Lisa is the administrator for volleyball and golf. Lisa also coordinates the co-op sharing agreements, intra-state sanctions, foreign exchange student eligibility, arranges for the national anthem singers for our state tournaments, and assists with all the scripts during the state tournaments.

### **AL KERNS**

### Coach Aplington/Parkersburg

Al Kerns began teaching and coaching at Parkersburg High School in 1978. He retired from Aplington- Parkersburg in 2014 after 36 years of teaching. During his career at Parkersburg/ Aplington-Parkersburg, he was an assistant coach to Ed Thomas for over 30 years, and the head girls' track coach for 29 years.

### **JAMES MILLER**

## Former Wartburg College Wrestling Coach

Coach Miller became legendary during his coaching career at Wartburg College. During his career, Coach Miller led young men to success both on and off the mat. During his college career he became a 2-Time NCAA Champion for UNI. He has spent 37 years coaching wrestling with 22 years at Wartburg.

# ED THOMAS LEGACY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

### **AARON THOMAS**

SPEAKER BIOS

High School Principal Aplington-Parkersburg

Aaron Thomas is the oldest son of the Late Ed Thomas. At a young age Aaron knew he wanted to go into education and coaching because he saw the impact his father was able to have on young people. Every day he witnessed the passion Ed Thomas displayed while working with young people. Shortly after the murder of Ed, Aaron was asked to return to A-P to take his father's roll as activities director at A-P, as well as becoming the director of student services and head boys basketball coach. Aaron and his wife Ellie, along with their three sons, Owen, Gavin and Trevan returned to A-P one month after the shooting.

In high school Aaron was a student athlete at A-P qualifying for state in basketball, track and football. He was coached by his father in the state championship football game his senior year. He went on to Drake University where he was a 4-year letter winner and 3-year starter on the Drake Men's basketball team while being named academic all-conference in the Missouri Valley Conference. Aaron also earned his masters degree from Drake University.

Aaron's first teaching and coaching opportunity was at Union High School where he was hired as the at-risk director, head boys basketball coach and assistant football coach in the 2002-03 school year. In 2006 Aaron became the assistant principal and athletic director at Union. He also guided Union to their only boys state basketball appearance in 2007-08 season. Aaron earned 3A Coach of the Year honors in 2008.

Since 2010 Aaron has traveled the country doing motivational speaking for different schools, communities, church, business and corporate events. (aaronwthomas.com)

The Ed Thomas family was awarded the Aurthur Asche Award for Courage at the 2010 ESPY Awards and Aaron received the Missouri Valley Conference Most Courage award in 2010 as well.

### **LISA BRINKMEYER**

### Assistant Director at the IGHSAU

Lisa Brinkmeyer, Assistant Director at the IGHSAU. Lisa is the administrator for volleyball and golf. Lisa also coordinates the co-op sharing agreements, intra-state sanctions, foreign exchange student eligibility, arranges for the national anthem singers for our state tournaments, and assists with all the scripts during the state tournaments. Lisa is also our direct link with the lowa Farm Bureau, the sole title sponsor of the IGHSAU. Lisa was an all-state athlete at Hubbard-Radcliffe High School and later a star basketball player at Drake University.

Brinkmeyer, who was a 5-10 forward and is a member of the IGHSAU Basketball Hall of Fame, was named 1993 lowa Miss Basketball and went on to collegiate success at Drake (lowa) University. She is in the unique position of being able to examine the game both as a high school player and as a state high school athletic association administrator.

# ED THOMAS LEGACY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY SPEAKER BIOS

### **AL KERNS**

Coach

### Aplington-Parkersburg

Al Kerns began teaching and coaching at Parkersburg High School in 1978. He retired from Aplington-Parkersburg in 2014 after 36 years of teaching. During his career at Parkersburg/Aplington-Parkersburg, he was an assistant coach to Ed Thomas for over 30 years, the head girls' track coach for 29 years, and also coached girls' 6 on 6 basketball for a time.

During their 30 years of coaching together, Coach Kerns and Coach Thomas both shared an uncanny ability to motivate young people to help them reach their maximum potential and achieve things that they previously thought were impossible. This ability led to a very successful football program at A-P. His gift of motivation also led to a successful girls track program. The 2001 A-P Girls Track team won a state title and the 1997, 1999, 2000, and 2007 teams finished as the State Runner-Up.

Over his teaching career, Mr. Kerns has taught Psychology, Sociology, At-Risk and Character Development and Leadership. He currently helps implement the Character Development and Leadership curriculum to schools in the Midwest. In the past two years, Mr. Kerns has helped the Ed Thomas Family Foundation offer a coach's clinic that helps to carry on the coaching values of Coach Thomas. He also does motivational speaking for schools, communities, and businesses.

### **JAMES MILLER**

### Former Wartburg College Wrestling Coach

Coach Miller became legendary during his coaching career at Wartburg College. During his career, Coach Miller led young men to success both on and off the mat. During his college career he became a 2-Time NCAA Champion for UNI. He has spent 37 years coaching wrestling with 22 years at Wartburg. Coach Miller's accomplishments speak for his outstanding career. He has an amazing 413-34 dual meet record and holds 21 consecutive lowa Conference Championships from 1993-2013. He has coached his team to 10 NCAA championships since 1996 (including the last 5 out of 6 years from 2008-2013). Coach Miller is a five time National Division III Coach of the Year and a two time Dan Gable Coach of the Year.

Aplington-Parkersburg Auditorium, Parkersburg Iowa 610 N. Johnson Rd. Parkersburg, Iowa 50665

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(Return Bottom Only)

### **REGISTRATION FORM - DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR SCHOOL COLORS!**

School Name:		 	
Names of STUDENTS attending (\$10 o	each)		
1		 	
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
Names of SUPERVISORS attending (			
1			
2			
		VIADOE	OVLADOE
Total Number of Shirts: SMALL		X-LAKGE	ZX-LAKGE
Total Amount Due:		 	

Please mail your registration form and payment made out to the Ed Thomas Family Foundation to:

Ed Thomas Family Foundation c/o Al Kerns P.O. Box 536 Parkersburg, IA 50665