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**Ashwaubenon High School Announces Track Dedication to Al Vandenberg
Long time Track Coach who brought home the school's first state title**

Ashwaubenon, WI – April 26, 2023. Ashwaubenon High School is set to honor the 50th anniversary of their first state championship team by dedicating the track to former coach Al Vandenberg. Vandenberg, who led the team to state championship in 1974, has left a profound impact on the school and community.

The dedication ceremony will take place on May 12th, at 4:45 pm as the school plays host to the Al Vandenberg Track and Field Invitational. The dedication ceremony is expected to be an exciting event, with speeches from former teammates, coaches, and community members who were influenced by Vandenberg's leadership. The dedication serves as a tribute to the team's achievements and the importance of dedicated coaches like Vandenberg, who inspire and motivate their athletes to achieve greatness.

“Ashwaubenon High School has enjoyed a legacy of athletic success with 27 state championship titles in a myriad of sports; football, basketball, swimming, hockey, softball and dance, but the first ever state championship came in track under the leadership of Al Vandenberg” said current Activities Director/Associate Principal, Nick Senger. “The Ashwaubenon school board does not rename facilities unless there is a compelling and significant rationale. Coach Vandenberg exemplified what being a student-centered coach is all about,” added Senger.

The track program has been an important part of the school's athletic program for decades with over 290 individual state qualifiers. The decision to dedicate the track to Coach Vandenberg was met with enthusiasm from both the school district and community. Many former athletes credit Vandenberg with instilling a strong work ethic and a commitment to excellence that has stayed with them throughout their lives.

Vandenberg began coaching at Ashwaubenon High School in 1967 and quickly made a name for himself as a dedicated and passionate coach. He coached football from 1967-72 and boys track from 1968-1994. He led the track team to numerous victories and championships, but his impact went beyond the wins and losses. Vandenberg was known for his ability to bring out the best in his athletes, pushing them to reach their full potential and inspiring them to believe in themselves.

The dedication ceremony will include the unveiling of an artist's rendition of the permanent signage that will be placed at both entrances in Vandenberg's honor. Goelz Field, Al Vandenberg Track will be visible for the students and community for many years to come. The ceremony will also feature a special appearance from several members of the championship team, who will be on hand to celebrate the occasion and share their memories of Vandenberg and their time on the team.

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