

AARON KETZNER

From High School to the Workforce: Aaron Ketzner Takes his Success to the Next Level

Graduate: Class of 2005

Occupation: Civil Engineer

One word to describe Aaron Ketzner is perseverance. My brother graduated from Forest Park in May of 2005. Currently in his final semester at the University of Evansville, he will graduate in May of 2009 with a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering. He will move to Indianapolis-on the west side-in May of 2009. Interning for Bernardin Lochmueller and Associates in the summer of 2008, Aaron received valuable experience by overseeing the rehabilitation of a steel truss bridge in Indianapolis. The project included installation of 60,000 pounds of steel and 400 cubic yards of concrete. Aaron accepted a job offer from the company in October and plans to start in May of 2009. Aaron stated, "This past summer was a great experience. Internships provide experience, and experience is the best teacher." Aaron not only credits his internships but also praises his achievements in high school and college for the preparation he needs for the future.

Aaron participated in many achievements during his high school career-both academically and athletically. Academically, he served as the president of the National Honor Society during his senior year; he also became vice-president of the Beta Club his junior year. During his senior year in Beta Club, Aaron was nominated and awarded an Indiana Beta Club award. He stated, "This means more to me than any sectional or regional championship I have won."

Athletically, Aaron participated in many triumphs. While at Forest Park, he played as a member of the 2002 sectional baseball team. Two years later, the cross-country team won Forest Park's first ever cross country regional championship. One of Aaron's most memorable moments occurred when someone nominated him as a Wendy's High School Heismen Scholar-Athlete. Since high school, he has continued to share his love of running. Aaron has successfully completed two half marathons and hopes to eventually run a full marathon. Aaron showed maturity by balancing academics and athletics, and continuously reminds me to, "Enjoy Forest Park" and, "to get involved and never to stop learning."

Because of Aaron's love for learning, he continued to pursue his education at the University of Evansville. While at the university, he studied at their campus in Harlaxton, England, during the fall of 2006. Aaron visited these world landmarks: the Eiffel Tower, the Mona Lisa, Acropolis, and the London Bridge. This served as an

enormous opportunity for him, and he recommends studying abroad to all students. To further his engineering career, he participated in the University of Evansville's ACES concrete canoe team. The group of students builds a canoe out of concrete with hopes of it floating. Evansville's team has had recent success by advancing to the nationals Aaron's freshman year.

Although Aaron is only twenty-two years of age, he has experienced many interesting circumstances and continues to learn every day. He has given me such advice as, "Just be yourself." Showing perseverance has helped Aaron strive to reach his goals. He showed me that perseverance can help lead to success-a feeling he has already experienced.