

Jay Osmundson honored with MIAC's Mike Augustin Award

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Jay Osmundson covered the MIAC and every sport at Concordia for The Forum from 1982 until his death from a heart ailment in 1996. Like Mike Augustin, for whom this award is named, Jay was well known throughout the MIAC for both the quality of his writing and his obvious respect for the mission and principles of Division III athletics.

Jay was raised in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was a baseball player while attending Luther College, where he graduated in 1975. Beginning in 1975 Jay worked as a reporter in Decorah covering Luther for three years. He then spent four years at the New Ulm Daily Journal before joining The Forum's sports staff in 1982. He won numerous awards for his writing from the North Dakota Newspaper Association and Minnesota Associated Press Sports Writers and Broadcasters Association.

Jay was a wise sports fan, a man of deep decency, a man of his word, a man of dry humor and a man of compassion. He was a talented writer who invariably got the story right. He also understood the role of sports in the MIAC and honored it. Jay respected our institutional decisions to treat sports as an integral facet of a well balanced student's education. He thought MIAC student athletes, all of whom play without athletic scholarships, deserve a deep degree of respect for their dignity, their effort and their privacy.

Jay wrote about what the winning team and winning athletes did to win, not how some 19-year-old might have come up short. He wrote for the readers who were looking to see the true depth of excellence in our nation's young people.

Jay was 42 when he died. He is greatly missed by all who knew him.

| [Mike Augustin Award](#) |

