

INSIDE THE HUDDLE

WITH COACH CURRIER



Last week the Golden Bears were humbled by the loss to Minot State 38-31. Any time a team loses it's natural to look for the reasons that may have caused the loss. There are always key plays and statistics that lead to the outcome of a game. Football is a team game and a game is never won or lost because of one side of the ball. Our offense always has to score one more point than our team allows and the defense has to allow one less point than our team scores. We continue to emphasize that our offense and defense have to compliment one another.

We focus on getting better every day, making today's performance better than yesterdays. We need to prepare each week and strive for a better team performance than the previous week. In our preparation, we want the focus to be on us instead of the team we are playing. We talk about playing each down like it's 4th and 1, which is one of the most intense down and distances in the game. We want to play each play with that type of intensity.

This Saturday we celebrate Staff & Faculty Appreciation Day as we host Bemidji State University. Each player has selected a staff or faculty member on campus that has impacted that player's experience in a positive way. We are very blessed to have quality people that mentor, teach and work with our student-athletes.

One of the greatest joys of coaching college football is recruiting high school seniors and then watching them grow into mature young men. This week I am going to discuss some processes that our young men attribute to their personal growth.

PERSONAL GROWTH

With experience, maturity and my own personal growth, I have learned that our role as coaches is to help transform our student-athletes while they are under our care. This has been a special year because I have been able to work with this current senior class for four years. Watching them grow, apply to postgraduate programs, interview for jobs, and obtain job offers is exciting to observe. Our players noted that discipleship groups, small school atmosphere, 908, being part of a team focused on building a great brotherhood and serving the community are some of our football program's initiatives that have assisted in their development.

"I've grown spiritually, mentally and physically as a man during my time CSP. I thank God that I got the opportunity to come here and learn from great players. Spiritually, I have grown closer to Christ and in my faith. Physically, I have grown in the weight room, transforming my body. Mentally, I have matured being around people who are trying to accomplish great things in life, like myself". -Lorenzo Kendricks, JR CB

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

We have talked about these groups in the past. To summarize, there have been a few players trained to lead discipleship groups. Other players that aspire to grow spiritually have the opportunity to join one of these groups. Our discipleship leaders have been trained by Jole Miller, from FCA.

Chris Garrett, JR All-American DE, one of our Discipleship Leaders explains, “The Discipleship groups allows for an opportunity to grow in your relationship with Christ. It’s an opportunity to get filled. It’s easy to go through our days aimlessly forgetting about our purpose. The Discipleship groups remind us of our purpose.”



“Jole Miller, from FCA, has been very impactful as he has been someone I can pour into and share my struggles with, while holding me accountable. - Matthew Montgomery, RFR Starting Center

SMALL SCHOOL ATMOSPHERE

The small campus and small classes allow our student-athletes to realize they are not just a number. They are able to build strong relationships with the staff and faculty at CSP. There are numerous people that each student-athlete has in their lives that help them with their personal development (i.e. mentoring, networking, faith development, time management). These people also help them get connected to our community and the resources within the community as many of our kids are far from home.

“A small school has given me the opportunity to expand my network of family and friends through classes, chapel, on campus events and sports team. Here at CSP I have been blessed to have great teachers and even better mentors. The small campus atmosphere in a big city allows you to make the university as big or as small as you want. Concordia is a place that's all about you and that's what I love about it”. - Dylan Wood, SR DLM

TEAM FOCUSED ON BUILDING A GREAT BROTHERHOOD

Our players are intentional about talking to guys they normally may not have contact with (i.e. they talk to guys outside their position group or outside their class). Our leadership has intentionally scheduled events that have provided support and guidance to other players. The team gets together every other Monday night to watch Monday night football together as an example.

My staff and I meet with the freshman on a bi-weekly basis to talk about ways to ensure that they are growing together as teammates and keeping their priorities in order. This past week, we watched a video about Kobe Bryant’s work ethic. It’s imperative that we invest in our players - they then can be equipped to build others.



“Being on a team with high emphasis on brotherhood has opened my eyes to help others on this team to keep doing what they are supposed to be doing. I’ve learned about other guys’ lives, where they come from and what they go through on a day-to-day basis. I’ve learned that this is all necessary in order to have a successful team. Not just an athletic team, but any life team trying to accomplish a goal”. -John Damrow, SR TE

908

908 is a Wednesday night service (9:08 PM) that includes worship music, a message from a guest speaker and fellowship. Many of our young men attend to grow their faith and connect with others.

"The 908 has been an amazing experience! More and more football guys show up every time. Since a lot of us don't get to church on Sundays or maybe haven't been in the word often, 908 has opened a lot of spiritual doors for us."
- Davaris Cheeks FR DB

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community Service is one of the 7 pillars of "Building on the Rock." We refer to this area of our program as GB^2 (GB Squared - Golden Bears Give Back). Our goal is to educate our student-athletes to be servant-driven. Providing service to others in our community has given our men an opportunity to give back to those in need. Seeing other people amidst a struggle provides them with an attitude of gratitude.

I was talking to Jim Miley, a former no-nonsense linebacker who graduated in 2003. He was reminiscing about the young boy he was mentoring in a reading buddy program during his time at CSP. When the young boy told him he didn't have Christmas or receive Christmas presents because his parents couldn't afford them, Jim was impacted forever. He realized that even though he had challenges in life, he was very blessed.



"Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an act and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Go Bears!

Coach C



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

ROBEL EZANA #86 - TE



Robel was born and raised in San Diego, California with his mother Mary and sister Melat, who are both actively involved in Robel's life and support his college career. His mom instilled hard work and work ethic. Her high expectations of Robel and her abilities to teach him to respect people and use good manners, has helped Robel become a high character young man. Robel believed it would have been very difficult without his mom's support. His sister plays basketball and runs track at the University of Jamestown in North Dakota.

He said that he is happy with his decision to transfer to Concordia in the spring of 2017, because it has been a positive experience in every aspect of his life. He enjoyed his time playing football and will cherish the many friendships that will continue throughout his lifetime. Robel appreciates the coaching staff as they have helped him find his internship and jobs.

Robel is a criminal justice major and is wrapping up an internship with the Ramsey county sheriff's office. He completed enough college credits in high school which will allow him to graduate a semester early. He plans to join the military after he graduates. His end goal is to work for the FBI.

Fun fact about Robel: In middle school, Robel went on a glider allowing Robel to experience zero gravity.

CSP FOOTBALL ALUMNI- WHERE IS HE NOW?

NICK SUNDSMO

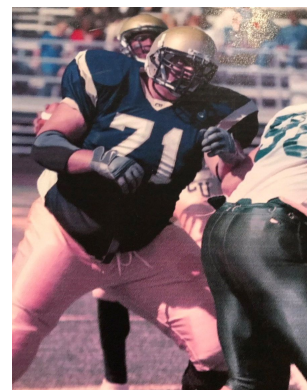


Former Golden Bear Nick Sundsmo played for CSP from 2001-2003. On the gridiron, Sundsmo was a three year starter and a two time NSIC All Conference player at offensive guard. The teams he played on were some of the best teams in program history.

Nick is an extremely engaged CSP football alumni who is consistently around the program. His financial support and time commitment has been instrumental for the program! He is part of the mentor program and is seen around the practice field frequently. Most recently he has been instrumental in initiating our pregame tailgates, obtaining funds to ensure the festivities take place. It's been enjoyable to see Nick raise his family and continue to thrive.

Nick's favorite moment while playing at CSP was winning the NSIC Conference Championship in 2003, but it was the win over Winona at home that clinched the championship that he cherishes the most. Nick's time at CSP taught him sacrifice, teamwork and selflessness and today he finds himself teaching these exact same qualities to his son's.

Nick currently works at Lloyds Automotive in St. Paul. Nick has been married to his wife Randi since 2005 and he has 2 sons Eli (10) who plays Football, Hockey and Baseball and Aiden (5) who according to Sundsmo will be a big strapper himself.



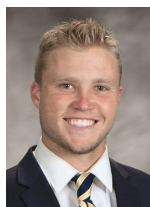
PLAYERS OF THE GAME - vs. MINOT STATE



**OFFENSIVE SCOUT PLAYER
OF THE WEEK**
DJ PERRIN -FR
WR #86



HOG OF THE GAME
ETHAN AUNE - SR
OL #72



**OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE
GAME**
JARED OLSGAARD- JR QB/WR
#7



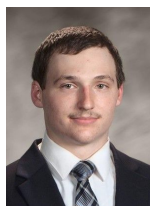
**DEFENSIVE LINEMAN OF THE
WEEK**
DYLAN WOOD - SR
DL #91



**DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE
GAME**
GABE NKUMU - SO
LB #4



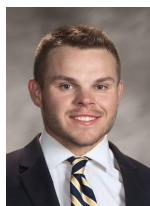
**DEFENSIVE SCOUT PLAYER OF
THE WEEK**
DAVARIS CHEEKS - FR
DB #31



**SPECIAL TEAMS SCOUT
PLAYER OF THE WEEK**
SAM BARNACK - FR
LB



LIFTER OF THE WEEK
ELLIOTT WOLFE - FR
OL #62



REHAB PLAYER OF THE WEEK
COLE KIRCHOFF- SR
RB #43

Each week the CSP coaching staff selects players of the game. The Players of the Game are selected based on film review, demonstrated excellence in play, their game performance evaluation and their impact on that particular game. As important are the Scout Players of the Week. These young men prepare our game day performers for the upcoming opponent, which is paramount to our team's success. The Hog of the Week and D-Line player of the week are highlighted because of their position's importance to winning football games. The Lifter of the Week is a young man that demonstrates his understanding of the importance of the off-field work necessary for one to be at their very best. Finally, the Rehab Player of the week is the player that works diligently with the training staff to rehab an injury to works towards getting healthy. Injuries are part of the game and it's important for our injured players to be committed to improving their health

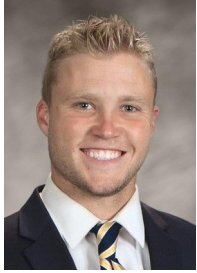
GAME CAPTAINS- CSP VS. BEMIDJI STATE



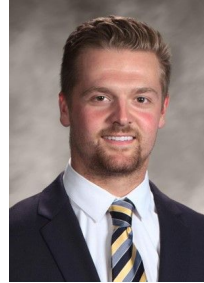
CHRIS GARRETT - JR
DE #52



DEZ BASSETT- SO
DB #23



JARED OLSGAARD- JR
QB / WR #7



MAXON HUTTON- SR
QB #3

EXTRA POINTS

LIVE AUCTION/SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS NEEDED

We are still seeking donations of a variety of items (large or small) to be included in the auction(s). Large items will be auctioned off individually and smaller items may be packaged together. Some items we are hoping to receive; tickets to sporting events, gift cards (retail, restaurants, etc.), experiences, themed gift basket items, etc. The money raised will directly support our football program. If you have a connection to an auction item, we would really appreciate your help!

All donors will be recognized during the auction and at the year end banquet. In addition, donors will receive a special thank you gift. All donations are tax deductible!

If you would be willing to provide an auction item, please email Coach Currier at scurrier@csp.edu.

TAILGATE RESUMES THIS WEEKEND

This week's Tailgate which will serving a taco bar will be by sponsored by two different families. Hall of Fame linebacker Brian Doyle and parents Jamey and Karen Quinn. The tent is back to its original location (south end zone and in the back of the parking lot. The tailgate is free! Donations are appreciated.

If you are looking to sell or buy a home call Brian Doyle, owner of MN Reality at 651-283-7133

2019 END OF THE YEAR BANQUET

Friday, Dec. 6th we will be hosting the 2019 Football Banquet. It will take place at Midpointe Event Center, near campus: 415 Pascal St N, St Paul, MN 55104. More information will be coming soon!



2019 GAME SCHEDULE

9-5	6 pm	vs	Sioux Falls	W 41-17	10-19	3 pm	at	Minot State	L 38-31
9-14	6pm	at	Upper Iowa	W 28-23	10-26	12pm	vs	Bemidji State	
9-21	12pm	vs	Minnesota State	L 29-3	11-2	1pm	at	Augustana	
9-28	6pm	at	Wayne State	W 28-21	11-9	12pm	vs	SMSU	
10-5	1pm	at	St. Cloud State	L 18-15	11-16	1pm	vs	Winona	
10-12	12pm	vs	MSU Moorhead	W 24-17					

TOUCHDOWN CLUB UPDATE

GAME 1 - 5 TD'S	GAME 2 - 4 TD'S	GAME 3 - 0 TD'S	GAME 4 - 3 TD'S
GAME 5 - 0 TD'S	GAME 6 - 3 TD'S	GAME 7 - 4 TD'S	