

STAND YOUR GROUND. North defends their ground by trying to not let the other team get any farther. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



HELP OUT. Senior, Tan Nguyen runs as fast as he can to help out his teammate from getting tackled. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



KICK IT AND SCORE. Senior, Deavin Hilson has to try his best to get a point to keep up with the other team. He does. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



STAY AWAY. While the other team tries to stop senior, Deavin Hilson, he pushes them away. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



TAKE DOWN. Senior, Tharon Locure gets ready to tackle his opponent to get the ball back. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



READY TO JUMP IN. To prevent the other team from advancing, junior, Israel Kelai lunges into the huddle to help out. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



HUDDLE UP. The team gets together quickly to plan out their next play. PC: Alyssa Manriquez



SENIOR SIGNINGS. Four football players signed with colleges in February. Deavin Hilson (left) is the first football player in 30 years to go D1 and play for University of Iowa. Kevon Bickham (second) and Terrance Shakir (far right) will head to Briar Cliff University, and Mohamed Bass (third) will go to Grand View University. PC: Bri Crane

26 Football



RUNNING Touchdowns

NHS Story.docx

Even when all hope is lost, there is still light at the end of the tunnel. Deavin Hilson proved that for us this year. He's been offered a D1 football scholarship and all through a worldwide pandemic. This is North High School's first D1 scholarship in 30 years, after Andre Allen went to University of Northern Iowa in 1991. Hilson will be joining the University of Iowa football team come fall 2021. We interviewed Hilson to see how he has gotten through all of this while dealing with a pandemic and to see how it has impacted his life in good and bad ways. The COVID-19 pandemic has definitely been an obstacle in all our lives, but Hilson pushed through all of it.

The football team's season was cut short because of DMPS going virtual. "I would've never thought that this would happen. Like everything we worked so hard for is thrown away, down the drain. I'm just grateful I could get this opportunity to still go somewhere regardless," Hilson said. Through his doubt, he still has been able to achieve so much.

"I've gotten my college paid for playing football, it's impacted my life a lot knowing that I won't be in debt coming out of college," he said.

Deavin wants to try to major in accounting or business, but wants to see where his scholarships can take him. So, like most teenagers, he's still somewhat undecided on what he wants to do and where he wants to go in life.

Although, for the last game this season, Deavin has goals. "I have to give my all so I can get more film out November 17th (their last next game), it will be the best game I've ever played," he said.

Over the summer he trained for his senior year, saying "This summer has been the hardest I've ever worked before, like I transformed my whole body to what I always wanted it to be." A question we all might be asking, though, is why? Deavin explained that due to the pandemic, there was no way of getting a weight room. He said "Because of COVID we couldn't get into a weight room, so we were working outside with some dumbbells just grinding." Over the 2020 summer, with his hard work and dedication to the sport, he was able to earn some scholarships and transform his body.

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