

SPORTS

Denmon praises God on basketball floor College life moving ahead of schedule

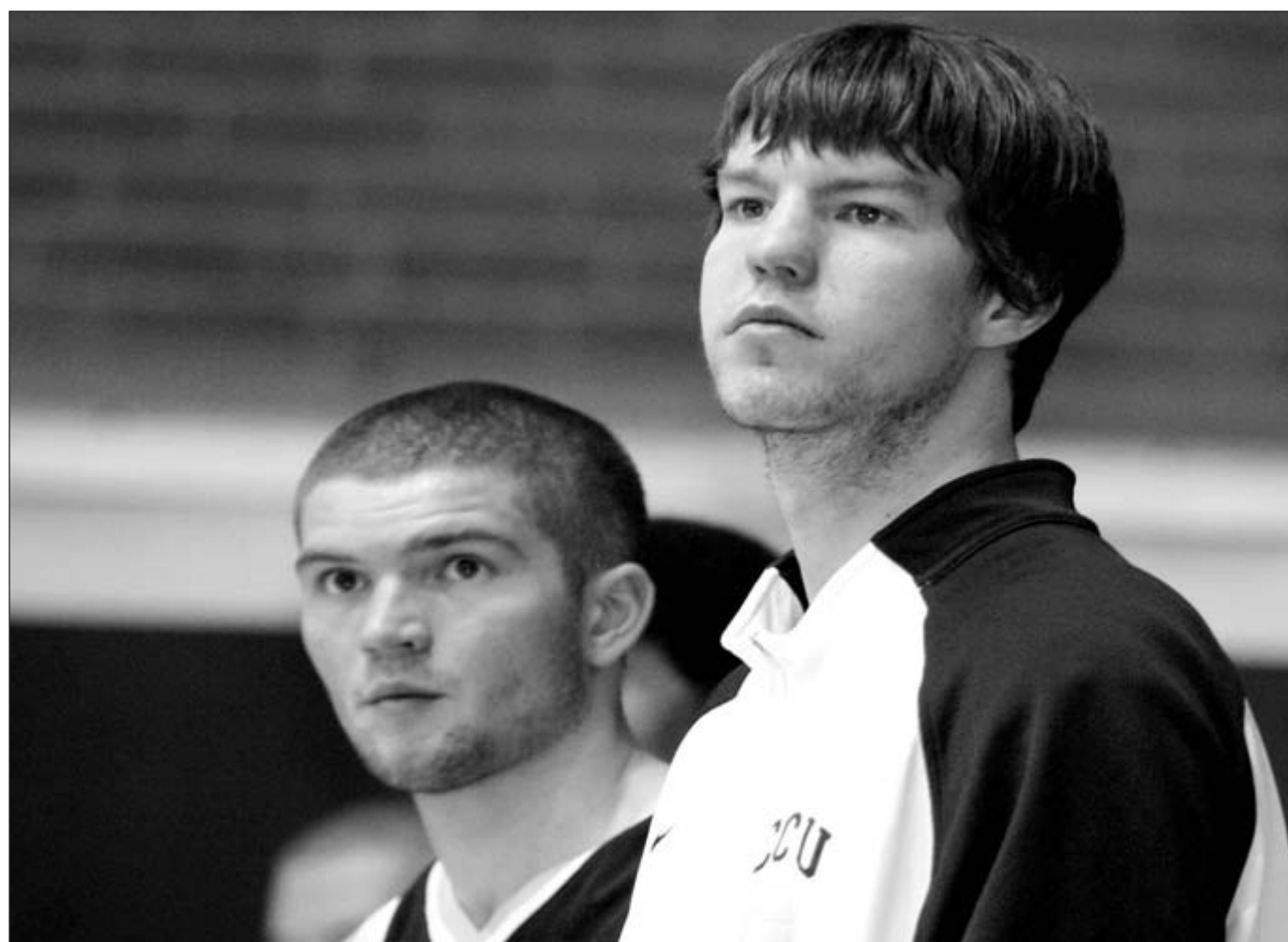


Photo by Matthew Smith

Brook Hill-ex, Spencer Denmon of Colorado Christian University in Lakewood (10 miles out of Denver), has made the roster a true freshman, but has seen only limited time thus far due to illness. Pictured here at the Colorado Christian-Western State College, 68-62 loss, in Gunnison, Colorado recently.

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LAKEWOOD, COLO. - It was just a year ago at this time that Spencer Denmon was putting up double-digits in points and rebounds in just about every game for the Brook Hill Guard.

Those efforts resulted in Denmon becoming The Brook Hill School's first-ever, basketball signee, inking on with Colorado Christian University.

Expecting a red-shirt freshman year originally has already progressed into traveling and playing a role as a true freshman.

Currently the Cougars are 6-4 on the year, and 2-1 in Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) play. CCU is a Division II program.

Although the minutes will improve as the year progresses for the freshman, Denmon feels like the experience as a true freshman will payoff in the long run.

"Every season is a process, and getting in a rhythm," said the 6'8, Denmon. "I don't think we have reached our full potential yet, but I do think we are where we need to be in the process."

"It looks to be a promising season, and hopefully we will be in the big dance come March," Denmon added. "It has also been a little bit humbling to sit and watch on the bench when you used to be a go-to-guy back in high school, but that's another challenge for me to work harder for."

Making a move to Colorado is a commitment in itself, with home trips few and far between. Denmon however has adjusted to the different terrains and academic expectations.

"Adjusting to the scenery of the Rocky Mountains every morning on my way to class hasn't been tough, but learning to juggle school, basketball, and the college life has been," Denmon said. "In college you are no longer under the rule of your parents so you have to make a choice to study, or go hang out with friends, but it didn't take too long for me to start going to bed earlier when I knew I had 5:00 a.m. practice."

Denmon also commented on the difference in the first of the year workouts, and the practices during the schedule.

"Our practices differ from pre-season to seasonal practices mostly in how long we go," Denmon said. "Other than that,



we are expected to go hard every-day, whether its the week of a game or the day before."

When asked what has been maybe the most challenging thing he has dealt with to date while Denmon keeps his focus on both the classroom and the hardwood.

"If I have learned anything from being a student athlete it is scheduling your time wisely," Denmon added. "That means no more spontaneous nights staying up until 3 a.m. playing xbox. All of your time is valuable in some way."

There are many similarities to Brook Hill and CCU, both in size and spirituality. Denmon feels Brook Hill made him not only a better person, but got him ready for the next level.

"Brook Hill prepared me in many ways for college, but mostly academically," the freshman post continued. "If it weren't for Brook Hill I wouldn't be at CCU, or any college for that matter."

"I learned an incredible amount in two years at Brook Hill," Denmon concluded.

Being away from familiar ter-

ritory, family and friends, Denmon also has found a new appreciation for his Christian upbringing.

"I feel that my dependence and faith in God has grown since I have been at CCU, Denmon said in closing. "I have been away from family and friends, and I alone, have had to make the choice to follow God. While at Brook Hill I followed God the same way, but with the support of my peers."

"Although Colorado is beautiful, Texas has been dearly missed. It really makes you appreciate the simple things in life when you come back like Southern Hospitality, and enjoying Texas tradition."

We wish Denmon the best in his career at Brook Hill, and with the perspective this young man has on life, Spencer Denmon is destined for success be it on the basketball court, classroom, or in some spiritual venue.

OUTDOOR SPORTS BRIEFS

FISHING

Hall Nominations Sought
Individuals or organizations that have made a lasting contribution to freshwater fishing in Texas may be nominated through Feb. 27 for induction into the Texas Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. Nominees may be anglers, fisheries professionals or organizations. The nominee must be a Texan or Texas organization. Individuals may be either living or deceased. One nominee will be chosen by an independent selection committee and formally inducted during the annual Hall of Fame banquet at the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center in Athens. Nomination forms and instructions are available on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Web site or by calling (903) 670-2228.

HUNTING

Ram Hunt to benefit Bullard FFA
The Bullard Future Farmers of America Buyers Group is sponsoring a chance for you to win a shot at a trophy at the Bullard FFA Ram Hunt. You could be the winner of two nights at the Pineywoods Trophy Ranch in Nacogdoches, TX., and the possibility of bringing home a Ram for your wall. All proceeds benefit Bullard FFA students exhibiting agriculture projects at the Smith County Youth Expo. Tickets are \$20 per ticket, and the raffle drawing will be held March 6, 2009 during the Sale of Champions. For more information contact (903) 360-1881 or (903) 780-1224.

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