

## Features



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# Bearcats Will Wear No. 20 Decal to Honor Athlete

SEPTEMBER 04TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Drexel, Missouri - We all know too well how cancer has touched each and everyone of our lives. We either have been directly affected or know someone who has battled the terrible disease. On Saturday, the Dexter Bearcats football team will travel to Bolivar, Missouri to take on the Drexel Bobcats. Each player will have the #20 on their helmet in honor of one very special Bobcat.

Our boys of fall will be playing in honor of Wyatt Deel. Wyatt is a senior this year at Drexel High School and on May 31, 2017 he was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor called DIPG (Diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma)

Since July 14, 2017 he has been fighting his illness at St. Jude's Childrens Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

Though St. Jude's provides some housing it does not provide all the expenses incurred with a hospitalized child from a different state.

Wyatt's Warriors was created to help support Wyatt and his family during this difficult time. Several fundraisers and benefits have been set up to raise much needed funds to help the family with travel, food, and lodging expenses. **Follow Wyatt's Warriors on Facebook by clicking [HERE](#).**

18ForeLife based in Dexter will be giving a Love Offering to the family of Wyatt Deel on Saturday, September 9th during the Dexter vs Drexel Football game in Bolivar, Missouri.

"We will be presenting Wyatt with a Love Offering on Saturday." stated Scott Kruse, 18FORELife founder. "It should be a special moment and I hope to meet him and his family. That spirit is what our charity is all about!"

Wyatt is like many of our Bearcats he plays multiple sports. Whether he is on the football field or on the basketball court he wears the #20 proudly. He also has played baseball.

Due to his illness this year he is sidelined, but that has not dampened his spirit and drive for sports. He may even give golf a try for the Bobcats come Spring. He will never give up what he loves to do, Wyatt is a fighter just like anyone who is battling cancer.

Wyatt is described as a character, never knows a stranger, and always full of energy.

He enjoys sports, fishing and hunting.

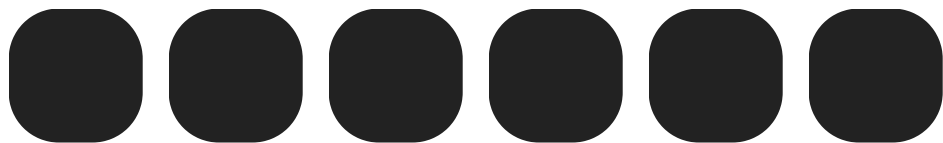
His parents are Dennis Deel and Katesa Hocker and he is the grandson of Jan Rush of Butler, Bill Hocker of Drexel, and the late Wayne and Dorothy Deel of Drexel. He also has an older brother Hunter who is 19 years old and three step-siblings, Mandy who is 23, Jon who is 19 and Nick who is 18.

His mother, Katesa said, "We are currently getting treatments at St. Jude's Children Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. We have been so blessed in our journey and thank you to everyone for your support. Wyatt is truly amazing!!"

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