

Transforming Lives: A Player's Perspective

Seeing the words you put down on your CFT Game Plan come to life and hearing players articulate how the principles and practices have impacted their athletic experience is rewarding. Our Director of Program Development, Bill Harmsen, was able to lead his team to a National runner-up finish this past season, and we love to celebrate the accomplishments within our community! I also loved hearing from some of his players on how the implementation of his Game Plan permeated their entire experience on and off the court. Creating a transformative experience for your players is what it's all about. Check out Riley's video below and enjoy reading these responses from Macey Nielson, both members of the DU women's basketball team.



Bill Harmsen's 21-22 women's basketball team

What tangible ways did your team display the Transformative Principles from your Game Plan? (Leading with Love, Serving with Passion, Radiate Positivity, and Christ-like Purpose)

We displayed leading with love by not only sharing so much love with each other during the good and bad days, but also spreading love to people we interact with in the classroom or at work. I hope that while watching us play, people could see the love we have for each other, the game, and our community. A few tangible ways that we served with passion this year were by helping at Atlas a couple times and reading to elementary school students. We also served each other with a great amount of passion that we share for the sport. We radiated positivity through words and actions that kept spirits optimistic even through adversity. Our upperclassmen this year were extremely intentional about checking in with each of us individually to make sure they knew how life was going on and off the court. We displayed a Christ-like purpose by doing team Bible studies and spending time worshiping together at chapel. This team really focused on playing for a purpose that was greater than ourselves and that purpose was found in Christ. When we began to focus on that purpose rather than the wins and the losses, many more pieces of the puzzle fell together as well.

What habits or routines did you most appreciate from your team this year?

When it came to game preparation, this team got into a solid routine of going over the scouting report together and spending time mentally getting ready for specific details of each opponent. Additionally, we spent a lot of time in the locker room before practices and games making jokes and hanging out which ended up being one of my favorite parts of each day.

Do you see any of these things mentioned above carry through to life after Dordt bball?

I love that each of our transformative principles can relate to life off of the basketball court. While playing a sport we love, we are learning so much more that will benefit several different areas of life, whether that be the workplace or while raising a family. Life after Dordt basketball will be full of many blessings but also many unknowns and these principles prepare our hearts to lean on Christ and positively impact the lives of people around us while we enter those next steps.

Most memorable part of your national tournament run?

Personally, the most memorable parts for me were the little things. The feeling of running out to center court with my teammates after a big win is unmatched. I also made sure to take time to just look around and take in all of the people who were there to support us. The Dordt community is so special and having the amount of support that we did was truly amazing.

Anything else unique or special about this year's team that you'd like to share?

One unique thing about this team is the way that we never backed down from a challenge. Whether it was at practice or during a game, we fought with an immense amount of grit and heart. However, I think the most special thing about this team is the love we shared with each other which translated into selfless play on the court.

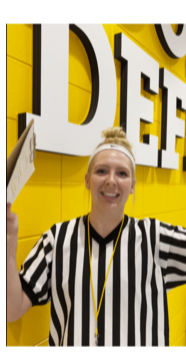


Director of CFT

We are excited to welcome Darin Keizer into the role of Director of Coaching for Transformation! With the continued growth of CFT, we identified the need for leadership in this capacity to best utilize the strength of all of our leadership team members. Darin has extensive knowledge of CFT, being a part of the startup group, implementing it at his own high school, and captaining new schools to do the same. We are excited for the vision and dreams he has to grow CFT into the future.

With this new move, Joel Penner will be our Director of Coaching Development. Joel is passionate about creating resources to equip coaches to be effective with the time they have. Part of this involves further developing our Lead Coach program, which provides one-on-one mentorship opportunities for member school coaches with experts in their field.

Bill Harmsen will now be our Director of Program Development. Bill has a heart for the work of the Athletic Director and can relate to the demands of the job from his own years in that position. As Bill forms relationships with ADs who can benefit from CFT, he also works to continue to provide support and resources for member school ADs to create a transforming experience for athletes amidst all the time and energy of job demands.



More Than Conquerors

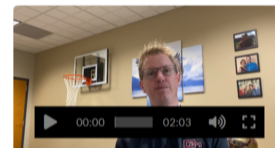
Bill Harmsen uses his Transformative Principles to structure his post season meetings with his players. Have you tried this as an assessment tool to see how well your athletes have internalized your own Transformative Principles?

Watch Riley Van Hulzen explain the purpose of their More than Conquerors camp [here](#). Her words are evidence that she has embodied the Transformative Principles of the DU women's basketball team.

From the Game Plan: Cultivate the Joy of Team

Dan Branderhorst, AD at Pella Christian High School, shares a Transformative Principle called Cultivate the Joy of Team. Hear from Dan on why this principle is important and what it looks like in their athletic program [here](#).

Find many more Transformative Principle and Essential Practice videos highlighted in our [Playbook Resources!](#)



Cultivate the Joy of Team

DAN BRANDERHORST, PELLA CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS ATHLETIC DIRECTOR / APRIL 15, 2021 / TRANSFORMATIVE PRINCIPLES

Playbook Resource: Parent Meetings

Are you are looking for a better way to structure your parent meetings? Do you wonder if there is more information your parents should be receiving at this meeting? Check out the [Sports Information Sheet](#) from Southwest Christian to see what's included in their parent meeting to see if it can be helpful for your athletic department!

Coming up in CFT...

To expand the value of our Power of the Team, we are planning quarterly meetings where ADs and coaches can meet virtually to discuss strategies or current issues affecting their schools, communities and athletes. We are excited about this opportunity for you to connect and support each other virtually throughout the year. Stay tuned for more details to come!



Looking for a past newsletter?

If you are new to CFT or want to refer back to something you read before, our past issues can be found on our website [here](#).

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