

October 14, 2011

Captain Adam Leavitt Sanders
Springwood School Class of 1996
2011 Springwood Athletic Hall of Fame Inductee



Adam Sanders, #44, holds the football rushing and scoring records for Springwood School. He gained 4,095 yards rushing in 3 years as Springwood's fullback. He gained 1,989 yards rushing his senior year. He rushed for over 100 yards in 23 games. Adam scored 54 touchdowns and 335 points in his years at Springwood. He played on 3 AISA State Runner-up Teams in 1993, 1994, and 1995. The intensity with which Adam practiced and played encouraged those around him to do likewise.

In 1995, Adam's senior year, he was recognized by the Alabama Sportswriters as the "AISA Football Player of the Year" and "AISA 1st Team All-State". He was the 1995 "AISA All-Star Team Captain". Adam was recognized by *Opelika-Auburn News* as "Finalist for Player of the Year" and as a member of the "Millennium Men All-Star Team for the 20th Century". He received the 1995 "Dan Washburn Gridiron Award for Valley Area Player of the Year".

Below is a summary of Adam's other high school athletic awards:

- 10th Wrestling: 180 lb. AISA State Champion
Football: Springwood Most Improved Back Award, *Valley Times-News* 2nd Team All-Valley, All-District VI Team Honorable Mention
- 11th Football: Springwood Most Valuable Offensive Backer, *Valley Times-News* 1st Team All-Valley, *Columbus Ledger-Enquirer* Honorable Mention Team E. AL, *Opelika-Auburn News* 1st Team All E. AL, First Team All-District IV, Academic All-State
- 12th Football: Springwood Most Valuable Offensive Backer Award, Springwood Golden Helmet Award, First Team All-District IV, *Valley Times-News* 1st Team All-Valley, *Columbus Ledger Enquirer* 1st Team All E. AL, *Opelika-Auburn News* 1st Team All E. AL
Lettered in Golf
Most Athletic Senior

After high school, Adam attended Furman University on a football scholarship and was a 4 year letterman as a full back from 1996 to 2000. He was named to the Southern Conference Academic Honor Role in 1996-1997. He played on the 1999 Southern Conference Championship Team. In 2000, Adam received the Christian Leadership Award for the Furman Football Team. In 2001, he graduated with a Business Degree.

Adam is a Captain in the United States Marine Corp. He served as Artillery Officer in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2006-2007. He returned home in August 2011 after serving as Commander of Rocket Battery K, 2d Battalion, 14th Marines in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

In 2010, Adam received an MBA from Samford University and a Law Degree from Cumberland School of Law. Adam was presented the "Daniel Austin Brewer Professionalism Award" which recognizes the graduating senior who best exemplifies the attributes of professionalism that embody the ideals of a Cumberland lawyer. He is now a licensed attorney in Alabama and Tennessee.

Adam and his wife, Deanna, live in Birmingham with their two children, Reece and Mariemma. Adam is the son of Leavitt and Debra Sanders. His siblings, Priscilla, Jake, Hannah, and Pete all attended Springwood.

Adam's accomplishments speak for themselves. Beyond the records, Adam's life in high school and now, represents the ideals which Springwood strives to cultivate in our students. **At the end of the 2011 football season, #44, Adam's number, will be retired. This is the first football jersey in the history of Springwood School to be retired. Congratulations Adam.**