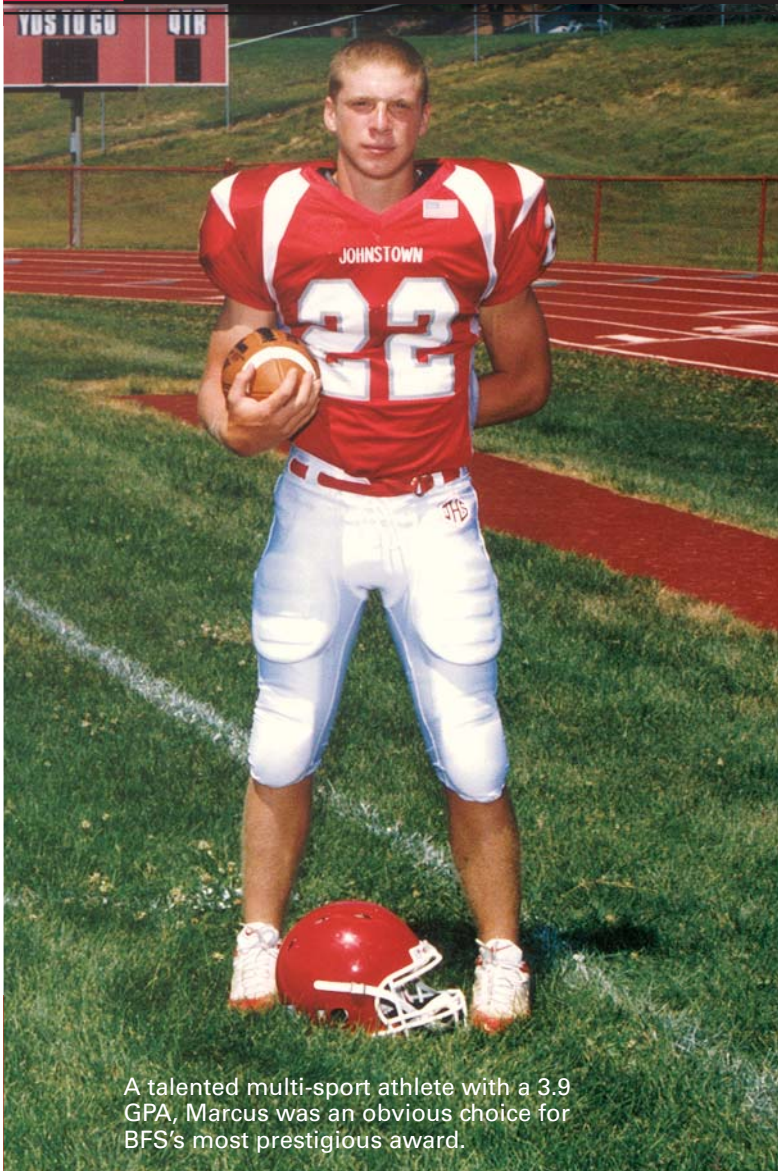


BFS SUCCESS STORY



A talented multi-sport athlete with a 3.9 GPA, Marcus was an obvious choice for BFS's most prestigious award.

Looking for a positive role model for young athletes? Consider Marcus Hendren, a senior at Johnstown-Monroe High School in Johnstown, Ohio. We did, and we were so impressed with this young man that he was BFS's unanimous choice for the 2007 BFS Male High School Athlete of the Year.

Since *BFS* is a magazine about student-athletes, let's start by reviewing Marcus's accomplishments in the athletic arena. First, like all athletes we consider for this award, Marcus is a multiple-sport athlete, competing in football, basketball, baseball and lacrosse. He excels in all four, but the sport that caught our eye – and the eyes of college scouts – is football.

At 5 feet 11 and 185 pounds, Marcus has 4.5 speed and plays running back and defensive back for the Fighting Johnnies. The slogan for the 2006 team, which finished 9-3 and was a regional semifinalist, was "We Are Taking Care of Business." And this year Marcus did exactly that as he ran for 2,900 yards (8.4 yards carry average) and 36 touchdowns, twice scoring six touchdowns in one game. He is ranked as one of the top five leading rushers in Ohio, and he was a finalist for the Mr. Football award, which is given by the media to the young man they believe is the best football player in the state.

In the weightroom, Marcus, pound-for-pound, is one of the strongest players you will find anywhere. Starting with the

A closer look at one of America's most inspirational student-athletes

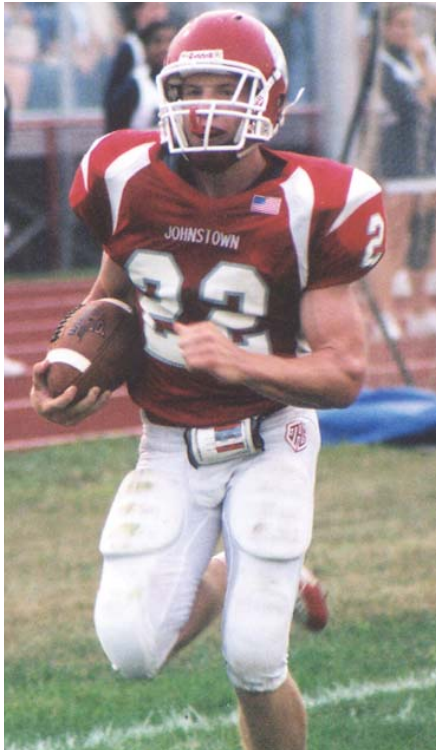
BY KIM GOSS

Marcus Hendren: 2007

BFS Male High School Athlete of the Year

BFS SUCCESS STORY

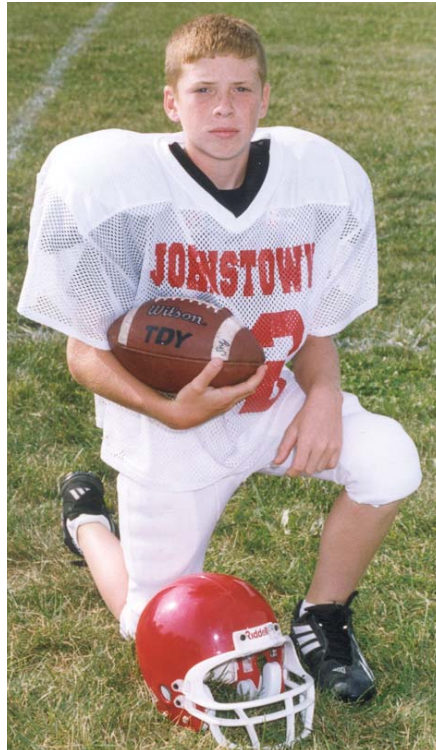
because they were the ones who did it.' Sure enough, he took the linemen up with him for his post-game interview – and that's the way it's always been. All his interviews are never about 'me'; they're about success being a team effort and he's just one piece of the



Last season Marcus rushed for 2,900 yards and 36 touchdowns. This photo was taken on the opening game of the season, where he rushed for 420 yards on 20 carries and scored six touchdowns.

machinery.”

Much of Marcus's success can be traced to a strong, supportive family that includes his mother, Ann; father, Dave; and two brothers, Dustin, 19, and Mitchell, 16. Dustin, who played linebacker for the Fighting Johnnies, is



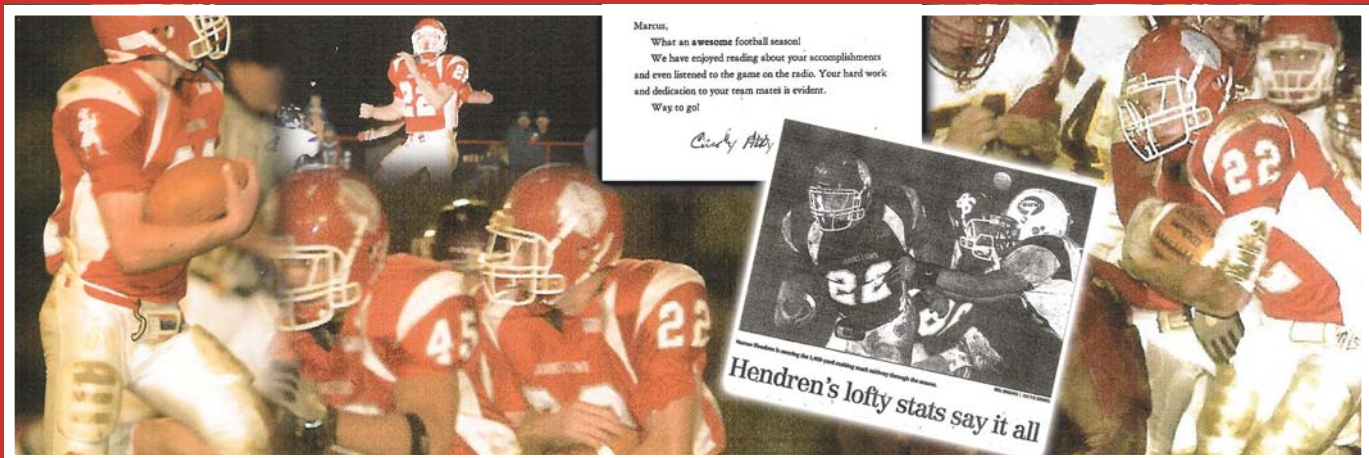
Shown when he was in junior high school, Marcus started with the BFS Readiness program.

now playing for Capital University in Columbus, Ohio. Mitchell, who got to play alongside Marcus this year on the lacrosse team, carries a 4.3 GPA.

Marcus's family lives on a dairy farm; the family business is a dairy-and-grain operation that Marcus would like to help carry on after a college career that will focus on business and agriculture. And Dave, who works alongside his own father in the business, says he is thrilled that Marcus wants to return to the farm after college. "There's nothing greater than working alongside your

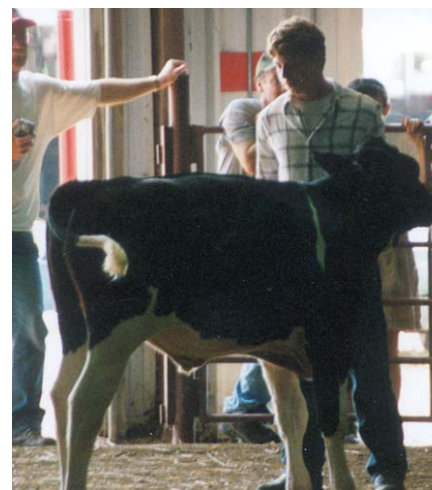


Head Football Coach Mike Carter presents Marcus with the award for All-Ohio 1st Team Division V Offensive Player of the Year.

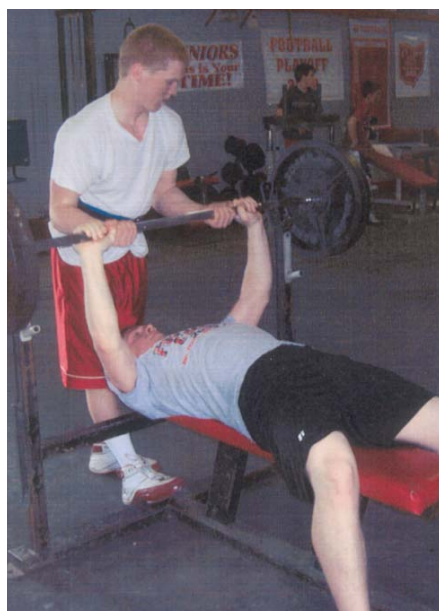


children.”

Hard work and a matter-of-fact belief in yourself is a strong trait in the Hendren family. Ann, agrees. “Marcus is very focused and has goals. When he does something, he does it 110 percent. Marcus leads by example.” About the success of his children, Dave adds, “Marcus and his brothers simply have a lot of pride in what they are doing – they want to do the best they can for themselves. I’ve never forced Marcus or his brothers to study – they just do it. That’s the way it’s supposed to be.” **BFS**



An early photo of Marcus and his brother Dustin helping pour cement at their farm, and Marcus showing one of his animals at the fair.



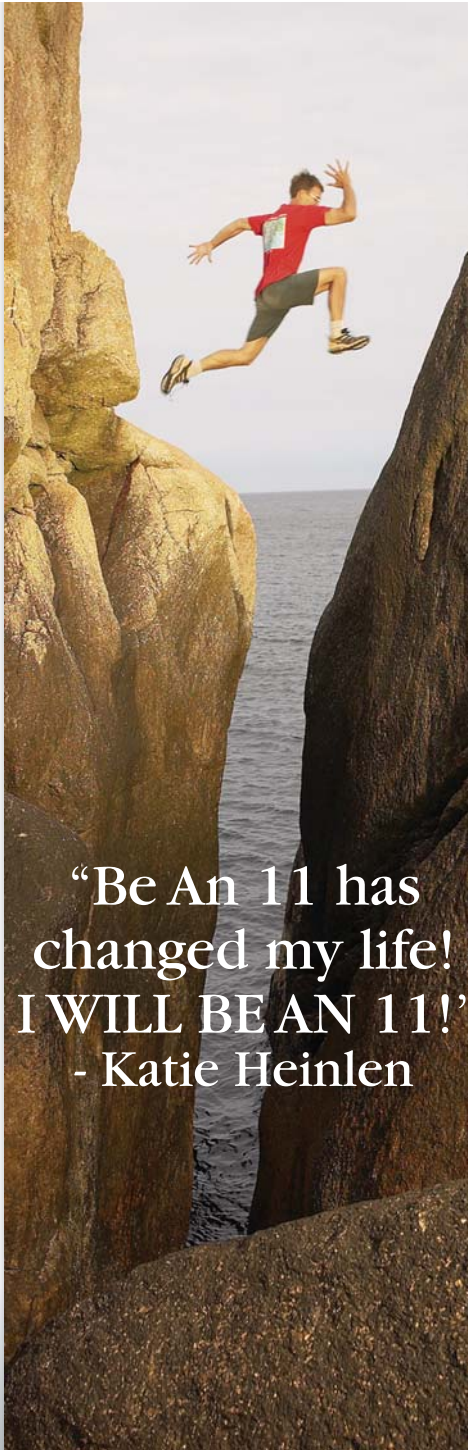
Although he weighs only 185 pounds, Marcus can bench 320, squat 500 and power clean 275.



The Hendren family (left to right): Dustin, Ann, Marcus, Mitchell, and Dave.



In his spare time, Marcus coaches basketball for the Johnstown Youth Athletic Association.



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- Katie Heinlen

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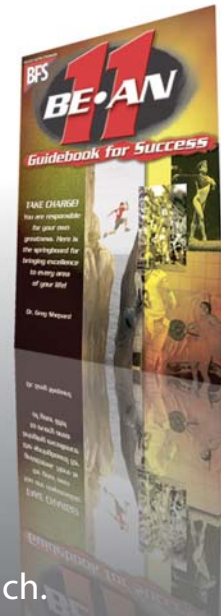
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