

# Heart of an Athlete – September 2012

**Name:** Brandon Coleman  
**Hometown:** Cary, Illinois  
**School:** Drake University  
**Sport:** Football



**Chosen Attribute:** Perseverance

**What is your personal definition of this word?**

The choice to continue and go through, even when suffering is inevitable.

**What are some of your favorite quotes from other people about this word?**

“By perseverance the snail reached the ark.” Charles Spurgeon

**What is your favorite Biblical passage that deals with this characteristic?**

Not only so, but we also glory in our suffering, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character hope.

Romans 5:3-4

**Why did you choose that particular passage?**

Because it shows what is gained by persevering through sufferings.

**Please give an application/example of this word in your life.**

There have been many times in my life where I would have liked to have given into my doubts. In my athletic career, I have come across many people who have told me I couldn't do something...start in high school, play Division 1 Football, Make an NFL roster... and I've been tempted to believe them. It would be easier for me to believe them. It is a fight to continue to believe in myself. What keeps me believing is that I know the God I love is unstoppable, and has better plans for me than I could ever imagine, and he believes in me. If that includes playing professional football, it would be a waste for me to stop working hard, playing hard and giving my life to this sport that he has blessed me with.

**How do you apply this word in your sport?**

Football is a tough game. It beats our body and your will down the best it can. Whether it's fall two-a-days, summer conditioning at 5:00am, or game day, it is hard to make it in this sport if you are incapable of persevering.

**How did you first become involved in FCA?**

My friend Sam and I decided that Drake would be an awesome place to start an FCA, so we did. Our group has grown to around 30 people who genuinely want to know God more.

**How active within FCA are you?**

I lead it along with Sam.

**What is your athletic experience?**

2 year starter at Drake, all-conference.