



# Weekend Chit-chat with St. Charles North lacrosse's Judson Huxtable

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Judson Huxtable became the latest member of his family to decide on a college sports program, choosing Division-II men's lacrosse program Adams State University in Alamosa, Colo., on Wednesday. Like older siblings Jayde (volleyball) and Jordan (football), Huxtable is on track to graduate from St. Charles North, although Judson started his high school career at St. Charles East before transferring to North part way through his sophomore year, once his family relocated to Campton Hills. Huxtable, a senior offensive midfielder, spoke with Kane County Chronicle sports editor Jay Schwab earlier this week for the Weekend Chit-chat about his college decision, switching high schools and the state of lacrosse in the Midwest. The following is an edited transcript:

## **How long have you been playing lacrosse?**

I've been playing lacrosse, I want to say for about 10 or so years now. I've been playing it since I was in pee-wee lacrosse, so it's been about 10 or nine years.

## **What triggered your commitment (to Adams State) Wednesday?**

I took an official visit out there with my dad and just really loved the campus. It's a really upbeat program we felt was moving in a great direction. ... It was either between them and a few other schools I considered, and I just really liked the coaching staff and the [campus out there] so I just decided to commit to Adams State.

## **What does Alamosa, Colo., have going for it?**

The town is basically centered around the university. ... It's really cool, I saw sporting events when I was there, and the whole town kind of rallies around the university so it's just like a community feel.

## **Being so far from home, is that a concern at all for you?**

I mean the other schools I was looking at are mostly East Coast. It's kind of something you have to deal with. There are some very talented schools out there, but I wanted to go to the school that just fits me well. I know it's the farthest away, it's about a two-hour flight and about a 16-hour drive, so the distance is a factor but I can definitely deal with that because I'm going to be independent in college anyway.

## **Do people generally still look down on Midwest lacrosse or has it grown enough where there's some respect out there?**

I would say that Midwest lacrosse is a lot [more respected] than it used to be. One of the best teams in the nation is out in Indiana (Culver Academy) for high school. ... I definitely see a lot of kids on my travel team from the Midwest committing to very talented teams on the East Coast. ... I don't see how it can go backward at this point. I feel like it's just going to be full-throttle forward.

**How has the transition from East to North agreed with you?**

I went to Thompson Middle School, we were the middle school that got split up [for high school], and we had a lot of athletes in our school. My mom said we were going to move and my parents gave me the choice, sat down and talked with me. ... I'd always been very close with Andy Thompson (former St. Charles co-op lacrosse coach, now on staff at North), and I knew North was going to be a very quality program and be very good the next two years, next three years, and I had a bunch of friends at North, so I just decided to go over and make the transition. But I have a lot of friends at East, too. I have nothing against East.

**When did you give up trick-or-treating?**

I want to go trick-or-treating this year but I'm a little too old now so I'll be the one passing out the candy this year.

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