

BETHEL UNIVERSITY

8 NCAA PLAYOFF APPEARANCES • 5 MIAC TITLES • 2 NCAA WEST REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS

ROYALS FOOTBALL

PERSPECTIVES ON BETHEL UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL

SETH MATHIS

SENIOR • ILB • 6-3 • 240

ANOKA, MINN./ANOKA H.S.

MAJOR: BUSINESS FINANCE AND MARKETING

Senior linebacker Seth Mathis recently completed his college career as Bethel's most decorated inside linebacker in their history. He was named a first-team All-American by the American Football Coaches association for the second consecutive year and also an All-American by d3football.com. In addition, Mathis earned first-team All-MIAC honors for the third consecutive year and finished his career as Bethel's all-time leading tackler with 361.

This past season Mathis finished with a team-high 131 tackles and led the Royals with five interceptions, two of which he returned for touchdowns.



Why I chose Bethel

I initially didn't have much interest in Bethel. Early on I thought I was going to go to a bigger school (Division I) even though my parents always pushed for me to look into Bethel. I had a preconceived notion that Bethel was "soft." Despite this, for some reason I always kept in contact with the coaches at Bethel, but I never gave it serious thought. During the recruiting process I ended up deciding I didn't want to play college football and instead was going to go to a community college. A week after my decision, Coach J called me into his office the day before fall camp started and asked me if I wanted to go to school at Bethel. I never gave him an answer before I left his office, but later that night he sent me a message saying "see ya' tomorrow." I reluctantly showed up on campus the next morning with the clothes on my back and a pair of cleats. Looking back it was the best decision I ever made and my beliefs about Bethel football were quickly forgotten.



What's special about Bethel?

I believe the most special aspect of Bethel is the genuine support and accountability you receive here. The coaches, students, professors and most importantly your teammates are here to help you succeed in life and to grow as a man of God. With that being said, your college years are the most influential time in becoming a man. I wouldn't be who I am today without Bethel and the lessons it has taught me. Over my time here I have learned how to stay grounded in my faith, put others before myself, treat women right and help the less fortunate.

Future Plans

I do have some opportunities to pursue a football career, so I am diving into that this spring. Going to Bethel has opened up many opportunities for me. I don't know what my future holds, but I know who holds my future and in that there is a lot of peace and comfort.

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