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Former NFL player Desmond Clark to speak at Billings West



Former National Football League tight end Desmond Clark will be a guest speaker at the Billings West auditorium Monday, March 14, at 7 p.m.

Clark played 13 seasons in the NFL and was on the Chicago Bears' 2006 Super Bowl team.

Now retired, Clark is the president of NFL Alumni Chicago and a financial advisor. He is also a professional speaker who captivates audiences on the power of diversity, principals of sales and the importance of having a personal standard of excellence. He is also the author of the book "Before and Beyond The Game."

Despite not being one of the most naturally gifted athletes on his teams, Clark's hard work paved the way for a 68-game starting streak in the NFL.

His talks highlight his "Six Principles of Excellence" he learned from mentors of his childhood and youth. He enjoys helping high school and college athletes see both obstacles and opportunities and how both can shape character and determine success in sports and beyond. He also shares personal challenges encountered while growing up in Florida.

Billings West football and track coach Rob Stanton said the members of the public are welcome. The event is free of charge. Stanton said Clark would talk about “perseverance through hard work and having a work ethic and staying ahead. Just life lessons he can provide for our guys as well.”

West High football players will be in attendance, along with other athletes from the school. Members of other area high school sports teams have also been invited.

Stanton said the Spungen Foundation of Chicago helped arrange Clark’s visit to Billings.