

Dave Campbell's **TEXAS** **FOOTBALL**®

LEP

Special Edition
Presented by

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LUBBOCK-COOPER PIRATES

COMMUNITY  **CONNECTORS**

The Lubbock-Cooper Pirates Embrace Their Hometown Like None Other



Q & A

WITH

T.C. SPRUIELL

Q. How did you get involved at Lubbock Cooper High School?

"I began to get involved at Lubbock Cooper High School immediately once my three sons started elementary school at Lubbock Cooper West. I initially helped with the watchdog program in elementary school which led to volunteering in middle school. It was always a goal and an honor to help Mrs. Gunset and Mrs. White with fundraising for the Pirate Pantry to help those in greater need over the holidays. I was also able to assist Coach Davis in the athletic department with many events and it just followed into my sons' high school years. I loved helping organize team dinners for the baseball and football programs for players and coaches. But probably, the most joy came when the then current president of the Athletic Booster Club, Dustin, asked me to help with the tunnel crew and was then elected President of the Booster Club in 2022. After my sons completed their final football season in 2023, Coach Darden and Max Kattwinkel asked if I would like to continue to be a part of the football program. Of course, without hesitation, I told them they were stuck

with me until they kicked me out and no longer needed me. My motto is 'Once a Pirate always a Pirate!'"

Q. What makes the Lubbock Cooper Community Special?

"I would say the Lubbock Cooper community is special because of the culture they have created. It's a big 5A school with a small town feeling. It's been shaped by its values, traditions, and the people within it. To be a part of a community where parents are so involved and kids are able to excel in so many areas is indescribable. When you see people who genuinely care about each other and say they will help in any way they can... they mean it. Everyone has a strong sense of belonging no matter what your background might be. This is why Lubbock Cooper is so special to me."

Q. What is your proudest moment as a member of the Lubbock Cooper Community?

"My proudest moment of being involved with Lubbock Cooper is when the coaches and administrators asked me to continue to be a part of the Lubbock Cooper Football Program. To continue to serve the community even after my three sons graduated is a huge honor. From being able to participate in the breakfast of champions to getting the Run Through Tunnel ready for game time; it's truly about interacting with the kids on the football team under the Friday Night lights that is so meaningful."

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LUBBOCK-COOPER - COMMUNITY  CONNECTOR AWARD

DAVE CAMPBELL'S TEXAS FOOTBALL

LUBBOCK-COOPER PIRATES COMMUNITY CONNECTORS

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CONNECTING WITH Coach Chip Darden

Q. Who is your Community Connector selection and how are they involved with the Lubbock-Cooper community?

"T.C. Spruiell is our Community Connector selection. TC has been involved in our community for many years. Recently, he has been in charge of our athletic booster club. TC has also volunteered his time in working with our football program and baseball program. He supports everyone at Lubbock-Cooper ISD and has continued to do so even after his children have graduated."

Q. What do you talk to your team about when you talk about representing your community, and how is your team involved with the community?

"We talk to our team a lot about having a lasting impact on the community beyond the game of football. Our Leadership Council is designed to make sure that traditions and norms are passed down for generations to come. We hope that how we do things will have a positive impact on our school, community, and city. We know that the burden is heavy when you are in this role, so we try to represent Lubbock-Cooper High School in the best manner possible."

Just as Optimum has been a source of keeping the community connected through its award-winning high-speed internet, Dave Campbell's Texas Football has been a "bible" source for millions of football fans across the Lone Star State.

During this year's Texas high school football season, Optimum is keeping score on local individuals who are making a difference in their community. As a result, Optimum is proud to have partnered with Dave Campbell's Texas Football to do so.

Leveraging Dave Campbell's insight and expertise in scouting, Optimum's partnership with Dave Campbell's Texas Football is nothing short of a "winning connection." The partnership enabled the creation of the Community Connector Award in order to celebrate the achievements of community difference makers year-round – both on and off the field.

Optimum is proud to recognize

T.C. Spruiell

for his contributions to the community

Optimum is a proud founder of this award as it celebrates committed students, teachers and parents who stay connected in their community and honor them for their generous hard work and support to make their community a better place.

Q. Why is it important to you to teach your young men about giving back to the community?

"Having an impact on the community is far greater than winning games or having great stats. We can change lives and help people through the game of football. That is how our team sees our role. Our community does so much to support us and our program. It is only fitting that we do what we can to give back as well."

Q. What is unique about your school and community?

"Our school has gone from a small, rural 3A high school to a large 5A in a short number of years. During that growth our values and our small-town feel have not changed. All of our programs still support each other, we still have students participating in multiple extracurricular activities and we have a community that supports everything. It is a family atmosphere even though we've gone through explosive growth."

Q. What does staying connected to the community mean to you?

"We always want to be connected with our community. There are so many people in our community that want to help kids so it is important for us to stay close to them and to let them impact our programs. Our football program, athletic department and school doesn't belong to one single person or a few people. They are the community's, and we want them to feel that and be a part of that."

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of Texas High School Football.**

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