

Talented Freshman Christian Scruggs Plays in WSU Marching Band

by Edmund "Frazer" Myer



Chris Scruggs and his mellophone during the WSU vs. Wyoming football game. Go Cougs!

WSU freshman Christian "Chris" Scruggs, 18, from Eatonville, Washington, said he's always been musically inclined, and he had the chance to display his talents as he performed in WSU marching band fall semester.

Scruggs is a Cheyenne River Sioux tribal member and son of Georgine and Zarak Scruggs.

He played the mellophone – an instrument similar to French horn – in the marching band. He also plays the xylophone, trumpet, piano, and French horn. His favorite instrument is the piano.

"I've been playing since I was about 7," Scruggs said.

As a performing arts major, he said his goal is to be "an actor on a live action Broadway production."

His dream job though, is to work for "Cirque Du Soleil," which is the world's largest producer in the theater industry.

Scruggs said being "disciplined" is how he stays focused on his goals. Additionally, he said in times when he is facing adversity or significant change—"I accept the challenge and face the change head on."

One moment that shaped him into the person he is today was the first day of seventh grade.

"I decided to take a chance in stepping outside of my comfort zone," explained Scruggs. "I didn't know it at the time, but I introduced myself to the new kid in school who would later become my best friend. This moment changed my life because I continued to take chances and that formed me into the optimistic character I am today."

As a part of the WSU marching band, Scruggs said he performed at "all home football games, the National Lentil Festival, the team arrivals, Feast of the Arts, Cougar alumni meetings, Northside Commons, WSU All-School Picnic, public concerts, marching expeditions and other various events."

His most memorable moment of performing in the marching band was when numerous schools came to a competition hosted by WSU.

"We were the final performance and as soon as the band formed the large W on the center of the field, the students watching went crazy!" Scruggs said. "Band nerds are ridiculous. They always have so much spirit and appreciation for what we do as performers."