

Superior football player survives broken neck

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(9/10/2008) By Ginger ten Bensel - A Superior high school athlete is thankful to be alive Wednesday. 18 year old Spencer Trapp broke his neck while playing football last Friday night.

It is a miracle that Spencer is walking again.

His doctors said that he is lucky to even be alive.

Spencer suffered the kind of injury that could have paralyzed or killed him. But instead he was at the school for a while Wednesday getting his assignments from his teachers.

As Spencer Trapp stands and looks at all the get well cards from family and friends he is amazed by the community support.

"So many people calling and wondering how I am. That is what is so good about a small town. Everybody cares about everybody," said Spencer.

Spencer broke his neck in the second quarter.

"When I went back and twisted I broke my 5th vertebrae and twisted it so it was going into my spinal cord. It felt like a strained neck. You do not want to go out with a strained neck," said Spencer.

He did not show symptoms of a broken neck and after half time he made two more plays.

"I just could not believe it when the doctor told me that I had a broken neck. I played a football game with a broken neck," Spencer said.

Spencer later had a CAT scan that night and ended up in surgery on Sunday morning.

"For the trauma team and all the trauma doctors they do not understand how I walked in there and how I am still alive and how I am not paralyzed," said Spencer.

For Spencer's family watching it all unfold before their eyes was overwhelming.

"For the family the whole experience has been a miracle," said Spencer's dad Bob Trapp.

Spencer wears the number 10 jersey. To show support his fellow teammates shaved the number 10 on the back of their heads.

Spencer is an honor student and even though he will not be playing football anymore he will on the side lines helping the athletes.

It is also homecoming week and Spencer is one of the nominees for Homecoming King.