

QUAD

WALKING OFF THE FIELD

Former student-athletes struggle to find a new identity.

BY MADELINE SIMS

IT WASN'T
UNTIL
(I got away)
FROM THE
SPORT
THAT I REALIZED
HOW MUCH
THE SPORT
DEFINED
ME



ESTERN

In late fall of 2014, crowds of Northwestern students filled Ryan Field, standing tall and cheering as their beloved Wildcats rushed onto

the field. One student, however, was sitting down alone in silence. Then-sophomore Zachary Guritz was in tears. It had been months since he

sustained a shoulder injury that ended his one-year football career at NU, but the pain of no longer playing had yet to subside.

"In the essay I wrote to get into Northwestern, I wrote about being a football player

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