Travis Frederick  
Center  
*Dallas Cowboys*

**What is your favorite Madison/campus memory?**

Going to the terrace is one of my favorite campus memories. I loved being at union, watching music late at night, hanging out at the terrace overlooking the lake.

**What has helped you achieve success in your career?**

The people I met during my time in UW and the help I’ve gotten throughout was crucial in my success. Coaches and other players helped lift me up when things were hard. My class mates and other team mates aided the learning process greatly. Getting through the projects, and you know how many there were in each semester, was much easier with them. Being in the NFL, it has been the same way too - the people I work with help me get better at what I do.

**Outside of class, what experiences did you find most meaningful?**

The amount of projects and hands-on opportunities we got was extremely meaningful and helpful. The learning process that’s involved in figuring out how to get stuff to work taught me more than reading all the theory ever did and I got so many opportunities to do that. Going to project fairs at the end of year when people had to display experiments and other stuff was also very interesting. All the Engineering fairs (sometimes for kids) and demos at the end of a semester where people displayed their projects showed what my peers were thinking about, both inside and outside of the ECE domain. I found the scope of those ideas and projects very fascinating.

**What excites you about the future of Engineering?**

I do try to keep up with the latest technologies and developments as best as I can, but sometimes it’s hard to do that. It’s fun to watch the way and the speed with which technology is moving ahead now and how Electrical and Computer Engineering is specifically driving innovation. Technologies used in automobiles like self-driving cars these days, artificial intelligence in biomedical applications crosses boundaries between ECE and Biomedical Engineering and it is fun to watch the collaboration that’s happening all over now.

**Besides engineering, do you have another passion you have pursued or would have liked to pursue given the time?**

Well, there is obviously Football. In my case, if I had more time, I would like to move forward in the engineering world. I’d like to use some of that knowledge. As I said before, I do try to keep up with it; I continue to talk to my group mates from back then and see how things are going on in their world. Another thing I did while in UW was that I took a Scuba Diving class over the summer one year and got certified in scuba diving. I’d like to advance my skills there and try to go to some of the more exotic locations to check them out.

**Who was an influential peer/professor from your time at UW-Madison?**

I think all of the team mates I had for my projects were very helpful and influential. As far as professors go, I never encountered one that wasn’t super willing to help or be available by an appointment. All the staff was very willing to help and do whatever need be to help you succeed, they were all awesome.

**What are you most proud of in life? What is your greatest achievement?**
I am very happy and proud of my family. My wife is extremely supportive and helpful; she brings out the best in me as a person and the best I can be in my professions. My son, who is 7 months old now, is the light of my life. I find it ecstatic to see him smile and grow and develop.

**What would be your advice to current students? What do you wish you had known?**

I would advise them to try and take advantage of everything UW has to offer, especially in the department - all the professors are really good at what they do and are always willing to help. I wish I had put in more time to do some extra projects with them, I might have been in an even better shape that I already am.