

## **COUGAR NATION NEWSLETTER**

## **Upcoming Home Event Schedule**

- April 27
- Softball vs Sterling JV

#### April 28-29

• Baseball vs Garden City Tailgate begins at noon

#### May 1

• Athletic Banquet - 6pm Call the Athletic Office for details. Web stream will also be available for those unable to attend.

#### NOTE:

Spring sports approaching end of regular season and entering post season play. Keep checking the Barton Sports web for the latest in scheduling.

# **Summer 2012** Camps / Clinics: Volleyball, Basketball,

Cheer, & Soccer available Visit website for dates and details.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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# From the Athletic Director

Tis' the time of year when students start to get real antsy about the end of the school year. No more class and time for summer break! It is also the time of year when things start to get real hectic in the athletic department making sure we button up everything pertinent to a solid year end. It has been a great 2011-2012 for the Cougars! We plan to celebrate all of our accomplishments as a department on May 1<sup>st</sup> by hosting our annual Cougar Athletic Banquet. I hope you can join us for this special event to be hosted at the Great Bend Convention Center. Admission is free for Cougar Booster Club Members and/or \$12 at the door for non-members. The event kicks off @6:30pm. Admission includes a fantastic meal and a star studded program as all of your Barton Community College head coaches highlight their seasons!

Spring sports continue to be in full swing as all of our teams jockey for post-season position. Region VI playoff competition starts next week and continues into the middle of May. You can catch all regular season and playoff results for any Barton team by logging on to BartonSports.com.

Many Cougar Nation fans are unaware of the partnership that exists with Fort Riley. Did you know that Barton Community College actually has a campus at Fort Riley??? To include our Cougar Nation following in the greater Flint Hills area, the athletic department plans to host a number of sporting events in the coming years near the Fort Riley campus. On April 17<sup>th</sup>, Barton Baseball hosted Brown Mackie College at Junction City's Rahert Stadium (see details on pg. 3). It was an incredible night of baseball action with plenty of entertainment between innings. Fans enjoyed great baseball, great hot dogs and over 75 prizes that were given away during nine innings of action. Many prizes were donated by greater Flint Hills area businesses. Todd Moore, Brooke Thompson & the entire Barton Baseball staff are to be commended for their efforts in promoting this inaugural event. Plans are already in the works to host a Cougar Basketball game in the Flint Hills this fall!

Barton Community College Athletics is about winning! Any quality collegiate athletic program prides itself on winning. We certainly embrace that here at Barton. When I took this job, I also wanted to make it clear to our staff that as we mold young people and serve a greater purpose, sometimes we need to look at more than just winning. Giving back to the communities we serve is an important part of what we should be about. The efforts by all of our staff members & student athletes within the community this academic year have been nothing short of amazing! We are obviously "proud" of winning, but should be equally as "proud" of serving and giving back. If you own a computer, I ask you to take the time to view just one of the many community service projects our student athletes & coaches were engaged in this year. Go to http://youtu.be/PbpVhV6lpRQ and view the Big Brothers & Big Sisters event organized by our very own Kathy Boeger. Trust me, it will be well worth your time to look at this amazing footage!

Another touching story in regards to giving back can be viewed on page 4. Long time Barton Baseball coach Mike Warren took upon himself to "give back" to some local young people who experienced tragedy. This heart warming story is yet another example of how we can not only affect the lives of those who are in need, but also make lasting memories for our student athletes as they grow into successful young men & women.

Be sure to check this month's edition of the "Compliance Corner" (see details on pg. 2). Major changes have been approved regarding NCAA transfer eligibility status starting next year. These changes will not only affect the student athlete, but also all those who work to ensure academic success for our student athletes while attending Barton.

As I close this month's letter, I would like to thank all those individuals within the Cougar Nation who have given their time & talents this school year to improve the overall experience for our student athletes that we pride ourselves in. Barton Community College is a special place and it is you people who make it that way. Again, Thank You!

Until next time, be proud! The Cougar Nation is "Takin it Back"!

Respectfully Yours,

Trevor Rolfs

www.BartonSports.com

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# Compliance Corner "New NCAA eligibility standards"

## New Two-Year College Transfer Standards (Effective Date: August 1, 2012) Timeline for Increased Standards

- Changes apply to students who initially enroll full-time after August 1, 2012.
- Student-athletes currently attending two-year colleges (full-time) are <u>NOT</u> impacted by these changes.

## **Qualifiers – Competition**

(Qualifiers defined as though who meet NCAA competition standards coming out of high school)

- Increases the transferable grade-point average requirement from 2.000 to 2.500
- Expands physical education activity course limit of 2 credits to ALL sports (currently applies only to men's basketball)
- All other current requirements would remain in effect
- Athletics aid and practice permissible upon transfer based on qualifier status

### **Non-Qualifiers – Competition**

(Non-Qualifiers defined as though who do not meet NCAA competition standards coming out of high school)

- Increases the transferable grade-point average requirement from 2.000 to 2.500
- Requires completion of transferable core credits as follows: 3-Math, 3-Natural/Physical Science, and 6-English. (Science coursework is a new requirement)
- All other current requirements would remain in effect:
  - Earn Associate of Arts degree or equivalent academic two-year degree;
  - 48 semester/72 quarter transferable credit hours;
  - Minimum of 3 semesters or 4 quarters of enrollment at two-year institution;
  - Meet all applicable NCAA progress toward degree requirements; and
  - Meet all applicable Conference requirements

## Non-Qualifiers – Financial Aid & Practice

- Transferable grade-point average of 2.000
- Earn Associate of Arts degree or equivalent academic two-year degree;
- 48 semester/72 quarter transferable credit hours;
- Minimum of 3 semesters or 4 quarters of enrollment at two-year institution;
- Meet all applicable NCAA progress toward degree requirements; and
- Meet all applicable Conference requirements

## 4-2-4 Transfers – Competition

- Increases the transferable grade-point average requirement from 2.000 to 2.500
- Adds Math, English, and Natural/Physical Science requirement (for Non-Qualifiers)
- All other current requirements would remain in effect:
  - Complete an average of at least 12-semester or -quarter hours of transferable degree credit;
  - Earn Associate of Arts degree or equivalent academic two-year degree;
  - Minimum of 1 calendar year must elapse since departing previous four-year institution;
  - Meet all applicable NCAA progress toward degree requirements; and
  - Meet all applicable Conference requirements



# Summary of major changes:

- 1) The GPA requirement to transfer has increased from a 2.0 to a 2.5. (A 2.0 is equivalent to a student averaging a "C" in his/her classes)
- 2) Limits the amount of physical education classes a student may take to count towards a transfer GPA
- 3) Requires student to complete outlined core classes before transferring

# **Case Scenario:**

Student-Athlete "Gary" graduates high school but doesn't fulfill the required scores to qualify for the NCAA. Gary comes to Barton and after assessment testing is placed in Basic Math and English.

#### Before NCAA changes:

Gary begins his climb through Math and English reaching an intermediate level (one level below "college level" classes) while obtaining a 2.0 grade point average which enables him to transfer to an NCAA school.

#### After the new NCAA changes:

Gary must complete his climb through Math and English lower level classes to complete the required "college level", increase his GPA to a 2.5, and complete an additional Natural/Physical Science 3-credit hour course before he is eligible to transfer to an NCAA school.



Source: NCAA.org





Members of the men's and women's soccer programs regularly visit grade schools including pictured here at Riley Elementary.



Barton Baseball took the show on the road as they scheduled their April 17th game at Junction City's Rathert Stadium. Brainchild of Head Coach Mike Warren, the game provided a free family night at the ballpark in which they honored our military. Over 30 Junction City businesses and individuals contributed to the success of this community outreach.



Jason Harris delivering a 1st inning pitch. Also pictured is third baseman Ryan Tracy

Members of Barton's Phi Theta Kappa, which includes student-athletes, provided a free Easter egg hunt April 1st on the Barton campus while also collecting donations for the local food bank

Barton history instructor and retired Army Sergeant Major Mike Cox throwing out Tuesday evening's ceremonial first pitch



# It's more than a game...

In the game of baseball a curveball can buckle a batter's knees. In the game of life a curveball can take one to his knees. The date was March 4, 2012, and Jeff (father) and his two boys, Chance (12 years old) and Cade (8 years old) returned home from Chance's baseball practice. Jeff, the coach of Chance's baseball team and highly regarded youth coach in Wichita, wanted to get a short nap before his wife DeeDee was to return home from the store and had asked his son Chance to awaken him in fifteen minutes. Fifteen minutes had passed and the Little family was thrown the biggest curveball of their life as Jeff had passed during his nap.

#### **Connection to Barton Baseball**

Shelby Stout, a sophomore from Olpe, KS, and the Barton Baseball team's student athletic trainer and manager, received the news her family's longtime friend had passed away. Growing close to the Little family throughout the years as the two families shared a common interest through the cattle industry, Stout informed Barton Head Coach Mike Warren the following morning of the news.

Throughout his twenty-eight years at the Barton helm Coach Warren has faced many curveballs on the diamond and in life. His heart not only wanted to reach out to his team's

manager but to a family who needed a few home runs in their life.

Warren, along with Stout and sophomore players Federico Castagnini and Adam Geisick, attended the funeral for Mr. Little but more importantly spent hours following spending time with the family and in particular the two boys. An experience that not only impacted Warren but the players as well.





#### Impact on life and baseball

In its March 24<sup>th</sup> weekend Series with Colby CC, the team invited the Little family to spend the weekend and have the opportunity to "get away" and let the two boys experience the fun and outlet the game of baseball can bring. Getting to spend time fielding and batting which included the youngest boy Cade lining a shot off of Assistant Coach Brent Biggs, the opportunity of being the team's batboys and players of the game, and dinner with some of the players, the two boys' love of baseball and the outreach of support brought smiles and laughter throughout the weekend.

"Jeff's passing puts a lot of things in perspective," said Warren. "If there is something I wish all my players would take with them it's the fact of **it's not what you get in life, but what you GIVE in life**. We are blessed by the opportunity

to give those two kids and their mother times of joy when they really needed it."

The impact resonates throughout the team and has provided more life wisdoms for the players to serve them throughout their life

"Coach Warren always stresses to us the importance of giving more than we take," said sophomore Adam Smith who along with fellow sophomores Jason Harris and Jordan Hill accompanied the family to dinner during their weekend stay. "It was a special time to give the boys a chance to escape, bond with the team, and spend time having fun. There's a number of us who plan to see some of the boys' baseball games this spring and to keep in touch with them beyond this experience."



