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IMPORTANT JUNE RECRUITING DATES

6-1: SAT Test (SAT I and II)

6-11: ACT Test.

6-15: Division II coaches may begin making telephone calls to 2006 Grads.

6-21: Div. I men's and women's Basketball coaches may make 1 telephone call to 2006 Graduates.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO CPOA Pennsylvania

Eric Sharrow – Soccer – South Fayette
Ashley Bates – Soccer – Greater Latrobe
J.D. Higgins – Baseball – Waynesburg
Rick Dlubak – Football - Ambridge

NCAA News

NEWS ON INDIVIDUAL COLLEGES

Montana State University-Billings, NCAA Division II in Billings, MT, is starting up a baseball program that will take the field in the spring of 2006. The school has not sponsored a baseball team since 1974.

Montclair State University, NCAA Division III in Montclair, NJ, has reinstated its wrestling and men's lacrosse teams as varsity sports after downgrading them to club status in January to save money.

The men's tennis program at Division III **MacMurray College** in Jacksonville, IL has been given the "death penalty" by the NCAA for improperly awarding scholarships. Athletics-based scholarships are prohibited in NCAA Division III. The tennis program will be shut down for two years with a separate two-year postseason ban to follow if the team is reinstated.

Financial Aid News

Private Scholarships Play a Growing Role in Providing Access to College

Although we do not endorse attempting to rely on them exclusively, scholarships from private sources are playing a more important role in opening doors to higher education according to a report by the Institute for Higher Education Policy and two other groups. The main reason why: Rising tuition costs exacerbated by reduced federal and state government aid.

The report, "Private Scholarships Count: Access to Higher Education and the Critical Role of the Private Sector," is based on an Internet survey of private-scholarship providers and data from the U.S. Department of Education. It is described as the first national study of the impact of such scholarships.

Although private scholarships receive a lot of attention – we have all heard the many accounts that “billions of dollars go UN - awarded each year”, which is bunk – students must count on them only as a supplement to their overall financial aid award. Private scholarships make up just 7 percent of all scholarships awarded, and many times colleges will deduct the private awards from their package resulting in the student receiving the same amount of net aid. Still, in many cases, every little bit helps and students should explore all possibilities. Local organizations and businesses everywhere often provide small awards to qualifying students. The public library and the student’s high school are good sources for these local awards.

Most private aid goes to traditional undergraduates -- those under the age of 25 from low and middle-income families who are full-time students at four-year institutions. But, the report says, private aid also benefits students with disabilities and members of minority groups.

The report recommends private scholarship providers could enhance their standing by:

- Increasing the number of scholarship programs in order to help more types of students.
 - Enhancing communication among providers of private scholarships.
 - Increasing the capacity of existing programs of private aid.
 - Fostering more research on private aid.

NCAA Board Votes for 12 Football Games

Despite some opposition, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors has voted to allow Division I-A football teams to play 12 games per season, up from 11 under current rules. Robert E. Hemenway, chairman of the board, described the conversation on the 12th game as "energetic and lively," and insisted that the move would not lengthen the

football season. Instead, he said, it would simply eliminate an off week for most teams. To play in bowls, teams playing a 12-game schedule would have to win at least seven games. The board approved the 12th game beginning in 2006.

The board also diluted membership requirements for Division I-A. A rule that was supposed to go into effect last fall, but was suspended, would have kicked colleges out of the top division if they did not attract at least 15,000 fans per home football game. In its place, the board passed a new rule requiring colleges to sell 15,000 tickets per game, on average, every other year. Colleges can count student tickets as well as tickets sold at a discount, as long as the final cost is at least one-third of the cost of the highest-priced ticket.

College and NCAA officials, including the association's president, Myles Brand, also criticized new rules issued by the U. S. Education Department in April regarding changes to the Title IX rules. One way athletics departments can comply with Title IX is to demonstrate that they are "fully and effectively accommodating the interests and abilities" of female students, and the new guidelines say that doing so requires only that a college give a survey to its student body in a way designed to elicit a high response rate.

That appears to be a retreat from earlier guidelines, which said that the department would assess participation rates at a college's "feeder" high schools and community colleges and would interview students, coaches, and administrators. The department has insisted that the new guidelines merely clarify how a college may comply without reducing any requirements.

The board is urging colleges to follow the department's older guidelines, which were issued in 1996.

Other changes approved include updates to recruiting calendars for men's and women's basketball and plans to allow coaches to conduct more practices in the off-season.

The board, which consists of college presidents, has now wrapped up its business for the academic year.

LOCAL CPOA NEWS

CPOAPA in the News

Please check out the articles posted on the website that the Mt. Pleasant Journal and Latrobe Bulletin wrote about CPOA and Martin Rock.

College Signings:

The following CPOA Clients have signed on to continue their athletic careers:

Ashley Scanga – Softball – Allegheny College
Natalie Jenerski – Tennis – Allegheny College
Joel Palko – Basketball – Carnegie Mellon

Mike Lingenfield – Baseball – James Madison
Eric Mueseler – Basketball – Randolph Macon
Ryan Zarichnak – Soccer – Thiel
Ryan Bashour – Golf – Washington and Jefferson
Dan Novak – Baseball – Liberty
Mike Sedunov – Football – Duquense
Jay Hagerman – Football – Gettysburg
Tara Maxwell – Track – Robert Morris
Jacque Moser – Track – Robert Morris

CONTACT SHEETS

Remember to keep track of all questionnaires, calls, etc from college coaches with the contact sheets found in your STUDENT PACKET. Email me at martin.rock@cpoapa.com if you need additional copies!

NCAA ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE

Every CPOA PA Student-Athlete has received a NCAA Guide for the College Bound Student Athlete as part of the STUDENT PACKET you received when you joined the program. In this guide, you find instructions on how to apply for your NCAA Eligibility Clearinghouse Number. Eligibility is based on what core courses have been completed, SAT scores and overall GPA in core courses. NCAA approved core courses, by high school, can be found at <http://actrs7.act.org/ahs>. STUDENTS APPLY FOR THEIR NCAA ECN AT THE END OF THEIR JUNIOR YEAR. HOWEVER, IT IS A GOOD IDEA TO REVIEW ELIGIBILITY AS EARLY AS THE SOPHOMORE YEAR TO ENSURE THE CORRECT COURSES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED! For more information about the process, email martin.rock@cpoapa.com for a NCAA Guide or call 888-ASK-CPOA (CPOA Program Members Only).

INTERNET UPDATES

If you have update information for your Internet profile, please forward to martin.rock@cpoapa.com. Remember that you automatically receive (2) two free updates per year. If you've upgraded your program to receive unlimited updates you can send updates every day/week if you'd like. Updates take approximately 72 hours to be made online.

REFERRAL PROGRAM

Do you know of a high school student athlete with the ability to perform at the collegiate level? A teammate from high school? Club team? From the newspaper? If so, contact your CPOA representative at martin.rock@cpoapa.com and if that athlete signs with CPOA PA, **you receive a \$50 referral fee!**

Season End Updates

Attention fall sport athletes, your season end update forms which were mailed to you are **now overdue**. There are hundreds of coaches out there awaiting an update on your

stats, awards and accomplishments from the past season. Please complete these and return to your CPOA representative immediately.

RECRUITING SEMINARS

CPOA Pennsylvania is planning to conduct several recruiting training sessions over the next few months. These sessions will include the basics of the recruiting process, how to choose the right college, review of NCAA rules and regulations, and how to best navigate this important process of college selection. Please let us know if you have interest in hosting one of these sessions for your teammates (students/parents) or teams/booster clubs (coaches).