

## Dear Spartans,

Football season is finally here! The very first T-shirt we made back in 2010 when we arrived in Bixby stated: "If I had 8 hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend 7 sharpening my axe." That analogy speaks volumes about the preparation our players, parents, and staff invest each year. The 2025 Spartans had an excellent off-season and are ready to kick off the season.

On Saturday, August 16th, we hosted our intrasquad scrimmage and mandatory parent meeting. We had an excellent turnout with over 300 parents in attendance. It was great to host the meeting in the brand-new community room at the high school. Each year I enjoy meeting parents and building relationships that help us better develop our student-athletes. If you were unable to attend, you can review the presentation slides HERE.

Last week, we hosted our JV and Varsity Fall Classics at Lee Snider Field. Our players gained valuable experience against Stillwater, Edmond Santa Fe, Broken Arrow, and Jenks. On Friday's Varsity Fall Classic, we defeated Edmond Santa Fe in a half-game. We collected great film, and it provided an excellent teaching opportunity for our players.

On Saturday, following the Bixby Fall Classic, our Spartan Moms hosted the annual Parent-Son Breakfast for all football players in grades 8–12. This year, the event was held in the new high school cafeteria. The meal was outstanding, and

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the space easily accommodated nearly 400 people. Thank you to everyone who volunteered or provided food—it was truly appreciated.

After breakfast, we welcomed our guest speaker, Tony Swart. Tony has shared his message about the importance of being a good father for many years. We believe it's vital that our young men consistently hear the value of leadership, consistency, and fatherhood. I also want to commend our coaching staff for being strong role models and father figures for many of our players throughout their high school careers.

We are now in our second week of school. Our student-athletes are expected to excel in the classroom, on the field, and during the 21 hours of the day they are not with our program. This week, we began grade checks. Any athlete who does not maintain a 70% or higher in all subjects will be placed on our academic team and receive morning academic counseling at 7:45 a.m. We are fortunate to have outstanding teachers at Bixby High School, and our athletes are expected to maintain positive relationships with them while striving for academic success.

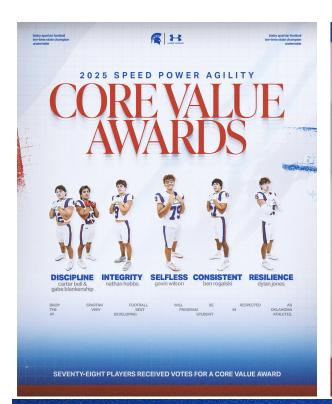
We will open our season Thursday, August 28th, against the Owasso Rams in the Battle of the Burbs at TU's H.A. Chapman Stadium. This much-anticipated matchup is a rematch of the 2024 State Championship game. Both teams return strong players, and it promises to be an exciting game.

Please also mark your calendars for our first home game in Bixby—Friday, September 19th—when we host Military Appreciation Night against the 6All State Champion Choctaw. This event is always a highlight of the season, as we honor our friends and family who have served in the armed forces. Former superintendent Rob Miller plays an important role in this evening, along with many others who have given so much for our freedom.

The strength culture in Bixby is alive and thriving. We are excited to announce new additions to our strength staff. We now have two full-time and two part-time strength and conditioning coaches. Coach Dakota Moran and Coach Drake Gammon have joined as full-time S&C coaches, while Coach Solomon has moved to a half-day role alongside newcomer Tom Scarborough, who is also in a half-time position. At Bixby, all student-athletes in grades 7–12 participate in our strength and conditioning program—the best tool we have for developing student-athletes.

Finally, if you are reading this newsletter, you are likely one of the many supporters of the Bixby Spartan Football Program. Thank you for your support and belief in our mission to be the best program in Oklahoma at developing student-athletes. Bixby Public Schools believes that students connected to extracurricular activities perform better in school. It is our hope that our student-athletes leave this program not only as better athletes, but as better people. Thank you again for your continued support!

Respectfully, Coach Montgomery







STEAK EATER Asa Ankersheil
Carter Bell
Canter Bell
Can

Colton Neuok
Jake Nielsen
Miller Ousley
Kaeden Penny
Joe Peters
Braeden Presley
Ben Puckett
Brock Reagan
Rynnick Rider
Angel Rodriguez
Cole Seager
Brayden Secrest
Cimone Smitherman
Elijah Smitherman
Tacoper Upton
Gavin Wilson
Tyler Wright
Chris Yarbrough
Trae Armstrong
Doug Behrens
Corbin Burchett
Chris Cole
Brian Douglas
Dakota Evans
Rodney Flowers
Drake Gammon
Mike Incremona
Kaden Jackson
Will Maas
Loren Montgomery
Dakota Moran
Terry Quigley
Mike Rogers
Shad Scarborough
Zach Stephens
Taylor Solomon







Overall Top Lifts/Jumps

Increases Top

**Back Squat Average** Max 5.12% 33.3% 1128211

**Back Squat** 

580 555 555

**Back Squat** 

19% 18% **Bench Press** 

Average 6.38%

Max 22.45%

9

450

450

400

22%

19%

**Bench Press** 

**Bench Press** 

Clean Average Max 8.14% 45.16% Clean 345 345 325 Clean 45%

39%

24%

**Vertical Jump Average** Max 4.62% 31.37% **Vertical Jump** 38.6 Trey McGlothlin

38.4 37.6

**Vertical Jump** 

31% 28%

A H



gio jones t-3rd jaxton rice t-3rd hilkyah sampson 4th colton treat SPARTAN FOOTBALL WILL BE RESPECTED AS
VERY BEST PROGRAM IN OKLAHOMA
DEVELOPING STUDENT ATHLETES.







SUDLER





As we move into the heart of the fall, our strength and conditioning program continues to push forward with purpose and precision. After completing our summer testing, we created Eccentric Utilization Ratio (EUR) profiles for all of our athletes. These profiles give us valuable insight into how well each athlete transitions between *eccentric* and *concentric* muscle contractions.

## To break it down:

- Eccentric contractions occur when a muscle lengthens under tension (think controlling your body as you land from a jump).
- **Concentric contractions** happen when a muscle shortens while producing force (like exploding upward during a jump or sprint).
- The balance between the two is critical for speed, power, and durability. Athletes who can efficiently absorb force (eccentric) and rapidly turn it into explosive movement (concentric) tend to be faster, more powerful, and better prepared for the demands of football.

By tailoring training around these EUR profiles and implementing more eccentric rate-of-force development work, we've already seen outstanding results. Leading into the *Battle of the Burbs* against Owasso, 83 of our athletes beat their summer-best vertical jump numbers, showing just how quickly this type of training is paying off.

We also began the school year with movement assessments to ensure that every athlete has an individualized mobility and stability plan. We looked closely at three key areas for performance and injury prevention:

- Shoulder Flexion critical for overhead stability and safe tackling mechanics.
- **Ankle Dorsiflexion** essential for sprinting, cutting, and absorbing impact during change of direction.
- **Hip Mobility (flexion, internal/external rotation)** foundational for efficient running mechanics, squatting, and overall lower-body health.

These assessments allow us to prescribe targeted mobility protocols so that our athletes can move more efficiently, reduce injury risk, and maximize performance on the field.

We're excited about the momentum in the weight room and on the field. The buy-in from our athletes has been tremendous, and we're confident this attention to detail will continue to give the Spartans an edge as the season progresses.

Coach Mo & the Strength Staff