

March 14, 2016

To Whom It May Concern;

Sports, to me, are everything. I am a good student and sports have always been my motivation to do well in class. Being an athlete is a great honor. I want to represent my town and family while doing something I love.

The end of my sophomore year came the beginning of my health problems. I began to experience extreme pain in my abdomen. Some days the pain was so bad I was unable to even get out of bed. There would be days I wasn't able to eat or drink anything. I tried to start school and football this year but after my third game of the season, only about two weeks into the school year, I had to stop both because the pain I dealt with every day was too severe.

Deciding that there was no way that I could keep going to school and playing sports was one of the hardest things I have ever had to do. During the six months I had to stay home, I made several trips to the hospital to have tests run. My doctor thought that it could have been cancer so I had to have tests for various cancers. Multiple times I had to stay days in the hospital while these tests were being done because I couldn't eat or stay hydrated without an IV. I had a tumor in my stomach removed by arthroscopic surgery. The examination of the tumor showed it was not cancerous.

After a lot of trial and error my doctor was able to find a medication that helped. When I began to recover, my friends would come over and tell me stories about what I was missing out on staying home. It felt good to talk to them but it reminded me of how much I missed everything and how much I wanted things to be normal again. The medication that I have been taking has helped me to return to school and some normal activities. My life has changed a lot and I believe being allowed to play baseball this season would help me to start getting back to my normal life.

Please consider my circumstances for a hardship.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Jacob Butcher