

Jordan Barrett

“Raising the bar” in his athletic pursuits, both in high school and college, has ultimately earned Jordan Barrett induction into Columbia High School’s Hall of Honor in his first year of eligibility. The 2007 graduate of Columbia High never settled for second best while representing the Roughnecks in powerlifting competition and always gave his best effort both on the football field and in track while wearing the maroon and white.

“Bear” qualified for the regional track meet in the shot put and earned All Region, All District and All County honors in football in high school, but it was his Herculean performances on the powerlifting stage that were by far the most impressive.

Jordan won back-to-back state championships in powerlifting his junior and senior years at Columbia High School. “Bear” broke former Olympic weightlifter Mark Henry’s state record of 2,000 total pounds that had gone unbroken for 17 years when this former Roughneck great lifted a total of 2,005 pounds at the 2007 state powerlifting competition.

As a sophomore at Columbia High Jordan Barrett placed second at the state meet behind a senior. He squatted 700 pounds, benched 450 pounds and deadlifted 550 pounds at the 2005 state meet. Refusing to settle for second best, Jordan was named the Division II Texas High School Powerlifting State Meet Champion in 2006 his junior year, and successfully defended his state title in March 2007 to claim his second consecutive state championship.

“Bear” credits his Columbia High powerlifting coach Leland Surovik for keeping him focused in reaching his full potential in the weight room. “He brought it out of me,” Jordan says of the former Roughnecks’ head football coach who, according to Jordan was both his workout partner and mentor while he was in high school. “Coach Surovik always pushed me to the max.”

Jordan moved up to the super heavyweight class his senior year at CHS and annihilated the competition by winning most powerlifting meets by at least 200 pounds. At the state meet his senior year, “Bear” set a new Division II state squat record with 820 pounds and a new bench press record of 525 pounds on his way to being named state champion for the second consecutive year.

As a freshman in high school, Jordan Barrett won several varsity powerlifting meets and placed fourth in the regional 275-pound class. He won the regional tournament and placed second in the state tournament as a sophomore, then won every meet he attended as a junior at Columbia High. And at his gold medal performance at the state meet in 2006, “Bear” was 300 points ahead of his closest competitor.

Although some of his records have been broken over the past 10 years that Jordan has been out of high school, he is still the Region IV, Division 2 champion in several categories. Jordan's 2006 lifts at the regional tournament his junior year remain to this day the best in the 275-pound bodyweight division in the squat at 775 pounds, the bench press at 475 pounds and total weight lifted at 1,860 pounds. And his 2007 lifts in the super heavyweight division at the regional tournament his senior year are still records in the squat at 815 pounds, the bench press at 505 pounds and total weight lifted at 1,895 pounds.

"My Mom, Len Barrett, has always been my biggest supporter," Jordan says. "I love her so much. My Mom is the biggest reason I achieved the success that I did in high school. She always taught me to set good examples for others and always try to be the best that I could possibly be."

As a defensive lineman for Coach Brian Lane's Roughnecks football teams, Jordan Barrett was named co-defensive MVP his senior year, was a team captain and earned first team All-District honors three years in a row, first team All-County two years in a row and was second team All-Region his junior year as a Roughneck.

"Bear" laments the Roughnecks' loss in the third round of the playoffs at Kyle Field in College Station but boasts that the team that beat the Necks had three offensive linemen blocking him most of the game. "We lost our first two games that year. Bellville beat us bad early in the season. But Coach Lane believed we could do great things. We believed in ourselves so we turned the script. That first round playoff win over Bellville at Katy Stadium was really sweet."

He credits the bond he developed with his position coach, Chris Miller, led to him displaying vast improvement as a defensive lineman for the Roughnecks. "He believed in me," Jordan says of Miller. "He instilled in my mind that I could not be stopped."

And Jordan Barret did not stop playing football when he graduated from Columbia High School in 2007. He was a defensive lineman at Blinn College in Brenham, at Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, Texas, and for the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton.

The Crusaders won two American Southwest Conference championships and advanced to the NCAA Division III semifinals two years in a row while Jordan Barrett played football for Mary Hardin-Baylor between 2012 and 2014.

While playing college football in Belton "Bear" set Mary Hardin-Baylor school records in the bench press with a lift of 515 pounds and by squatting 765 pounds.

Jordan presently lives in Clute and works at the BASF refinery. He is the proud father of sons Ayden and Jayden and daughter Asia.