Cavalier Coach Is Keen on Commitment

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There is a sheet of paper that is passed out to every basketball player titled, “The 10 Commitments of Cavalier Basketball.” The commitments range from being on time and being in class to eating right and getting rest.

The fourth commitment of the Cavalier basketball team states, “I will study every day.” One way that Head Coach Brad Barbarick can make sure this happens is by requiring his players to spend time in the library each week. “Players are asked to put in 6-8 hours a week in the library,” Barbarick said.

In order for Barbarick to regulate whether his players are indeed spending time in the library, he has them sign in and out on time cards.

“The library personnel signs the card when the player signs out,” Barbarick said. “I check the cards on a weekly basis.”

Freshman center Jeff Ellis said that being required to go to the library really helps him out. “All you can do is study and do your homework,” Ellis said.

Even though some of the players say they don’t mind having the requirement, a few don’t believe it is needed. “I don’t mind it,” junior forward Joey Knauf said, “but I think it’s sorry that coach needs to make this requirement. We’re in college now and we should be responsible enough to do it on our own.”

Senior guard Don Dickenson also said that he doesn’t mind it much, but that he would rather not have it. He lives off campus and prefers doing his work at home. “I’m never around after my classes,” Dickenson said. “I can do my homework in my house. I don’t need the library.”

Barbarick said that if the hours are not completed one week, they are to be made up the following week. If, at the end of the semester, a player is behind in his hours, he could be held out of practices and sometimes even games.

Number three on the “10 Commitments” states, “I will attend chapel as often as I can.”

“Coach strongly recommends chapel,” freshman center Jeff Ellis said. “I think it helps the player build his relationship with God.”

Barbarick said that having his players attend chapel helps the team to be visible. “We bring in players that represent themselves well,” Barbarick said. “A lot of our players get there on a regular basis.”

Overall Ellis said he thought the requirements were fair: “Coach is just looking after the players.”

Tim Brubaker