



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

MANY ASSUME THAT THEIR HIGH SCHOOL COACH OR CLUB SOCCER COACH ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR CHILD'S RECRUITING PROCESS. HOWEVER, THE PROCESS IS ULTIMATELY IN THE HANDS OF THE PLAYER AND THEIR PARENTS. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROCESS INCLUDE RESEARCHING SCHOOLS, CONTACTING COLLEGE COACHES AND VISITING SCHOOLS.

YOUR COACHES MAY ASSIST BY HELPING YOU EVALUATE YOUR SKILLS AND MATCHING THEM TO A COLLEGE LEVEL, PLACING PHONE CALLS AND WRITING EMAILS ON YOUR BEHALF.

HOMEWORK

START YOUR RESEARCH EARLY IN THE HIGH SCHOOL YEARS. SUCCESS WILL BE FOUND BY MATCHING YOUR ACADEMIC TALENTS/DESIRES ALONG WITH YOUR ATHLETIC ONES TO A SPECIFIC COLLEGE PROGRAM(S). START WITH A "LARGE" LIST OF WANTED SCHOOLS AND NARROW IT BASED ON YOUR RESEARCH. THERE ARE OVER 1500 D1, D2, D3, NAIA AND JUNIOR COLLEGES AVAILABLE.

REALISTIC

ALL OF THE TIME, MONEY AND PASSION YOU HAVE GIVEN TO YOUR CHILD'S ATHLETIC CAREER CAN OFTEN CLOUD JUDGMENT WHEN IT COMES TO COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS. WHILE YOUR CHILD'S ATHLETIC TALENT MAY GENERATE SOME ATHLETIC MONIES, THERE IS MUCH LESS THAN YOU THINK. COLLEGE COACHES HAVE A LIMITED AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP MONEY THAT IS THEN DIVIDED AMONGST PLAYERS ON THEIR ROSTER. THERE ARE FAR MORE MONEY AVAILABLE FOR COLLEGE IN GRANTS, MERIT AID, OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL AID. YOU AND YOUR CHILD ALSO NEED TO BE REALISTIC ABOUT WHERE THEIR ATHLETIC TALENT FITS ON A COLLEGE LEVEL.



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FRESHMAN TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Freshman Year To Do List
- The Importance of Academics
- Cut to the Chase
- Concentration Focus
- Suggestions and Tips
- Web Sites



FRESHMAN YEAR TO DO LIST

What you should be doing to prepare for college and college soccer.

- Start NOW!
- Academics are VERY important.
- Evaluate your academic weaknesses and work on improvement.
- Study — Study — Study.
- Get a GREAT start on your GPA.
- Read the NCAA publication — *Guide for the College-Bound Student Athlete*.
- Read the NCAA publication — *NCAA Initial-Eligibility Clearinghouse*.
- Meet with your guidance counselor to discuss a solid academic curriculum.
- Identify core courses at your high school — GPA based on these.
- Take “academic” electives — languages/mathematics/sciences.
- Involve yourself in extracurricular activities — clubs/honor society/church group.
- Consider ACT and SAT / PSAT study materials and/or tutoring services.
- Realize that coaches do very little scouting of high school games.
- Be a member of a strong team and a very strong club.
- Coaches rely on what they see and hear at quality club team tournaments.
- Participate in a good club.
- Coaches rely on what they see and hear.
- Consider attending a college’s soccer summer camp.
- Evaluate your soccer weaknesses and work on improvement.
- Practice on your own — fundamentals and ball skills.



THE IMPORTANCE OF ACADEMICS

Becky Burleigh, Head Coach University of Florida Women's team; 1998 NSCAA/adidas National Coach of the Year: Poor academic performance will limit opportunity. Many schools will not even be able to recruit a poor performer and others will choose not to take the risk. Often work habits (or lack of) in the classroom can carry over to the soccer field and for me, personally, I may regard it as an insight into a player's character, especially when I know they are capable students.

Jerry Yeagley, Former Head Coach Indiana University Men's team; All-time NCAA Division I Wins Leader: Academics play a large role in the recruitment process. We want players who are committed to achieving in the classroom. The college season is long and demanding, therefore for student-athletes to succeed they need to be able to perform the work both on and off the field.

Trevor Adair, Former Head Coach Clemson University Men's team: The player's academics are extremely important as you want a player who can handle the daily rigors of class work and still be ready to train. We do not want a student-athlete who will struggle in school and constantly be under pressure to be eligible. This is not fair to the player and the team.

Tracy Leone, Former Assistant Coach USA Women's National Team: They are crucial. You have to be eligible before college and during college to be able to play soccer. You want to be assured they are capable of having the desire to graduate, which is the most important goal.

Chris Petrucelli, Head Coach University of Texas Women's team: Academics are important for getting an athlete in to the school of choice and being able to manage the level of work required there. High school athletes must know that strong academic habits begin during their freshman year and that the middle of their senior year is too late to start.

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Tom Martin, Head Coach James Madison University Men's team: At the competitive academic schools like James Madison University, it becomes critical! Without solid academics a potential player limits his options in two areas – 1. The player may not be admissible, and 2. A specific school may be too competitive for the player. Both can lead to the wrong school for the player.



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Mark Mallon, Former Head Coach University of California Men's team: Cal is one of the best Universities on a global scale so academics are a critical part of the recruiting process. We look for individuals with at least a B average and over 1000 on the SAT. Our typical prospect has a 3.4 GPA and 1150 SAT. Last year's class at Cal had a median SAT of 1360 with a GPA near 4.0. Too many prospects are misinformed and think that any good player can get admitted to the school of their choice solely on the strength of their athletic accomplishments.

Bob Jenkins, Former Head Coach American University Men's team; National Staff Coach for Region I: Very important! Getting a degree is the primary reason my players choose American University, and my players need to possess the skills necessary to be successful in the classroom. I look for grades and test scores -- but I also look for character. How responsible is the guy? Will he apply himself in the classroom? I think these variables can be as important as test scores in evaluating how successful my players will be in the classroom.

Bob Reasso, Former Head Coach Rutgers University Men's team; 1990 National Coach of the Year: A player's academic profile is critically important to all coaches. Every year we find players we would love to have but they are academically good enough to fit into Rutgers. With the new NCAA rules regarding eligibility, prospective student athletes must get serious about their academics early in their academic careers.

Charlie Slagle, Former Head Coach Davidson College Men's team: At Davidson it is extremely important. Many student-athletes are not eligible for Davidson because of its academic selectivity. High school soccer players should strive to excel in the classroom to give themselves more options when college selection begins.

John Rennie, Former Head Coach Duke University Men's team: We can only recruit players who take good courses and get good grades. Test scores such as SATs are important, but nowhere near as important as your high school courses and grades.



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CUT TO THE CHASE

The single most important factor that admission committees look for in the applicant file is the high school transcript.

What does this mean for you, the student who is applying to college?

You have important choices to make through all four years in high school.

When looking at transcripts, admission folks look for the rigor of high school classes, which includes taking honors and AP classes when they are offered and stretching yourself as far as you can go academically. Though most colleges have minimum course curriculum requirements for their incoming freshmen, they like to see applicants that go beyond the minimum!

What if this means getting a lower grade in a tough course verses a higher grade in an easier course?

Most admission committees would still rather see the tougher course. Talk with your counselor when registering for your classes for next fall and think about your schedule with the long-term goal of attending college.

Remember you have options...use them wisely!



CONCENTRATION FOCUS (FRESHMAN)

Tracy Leone, Assistant Coach USA Women's National Team: Youth players need to concentrate on their schoolwork so that they are successful in receiving their degree and are eligible to play in college. Athletically, they need to get technically clean and focus on improving their technical and tactical speed. They should play and compete as much as they can in order to develop their mentality and attitude.

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Clive Charles, Former Head Coach University of Portland Men's and Women's teams: The most difficult step for youth players entering the collegiate game seems to be the ability to adapt to the collegiate level from the youth level. The speed and strength of the collegiate player are the immediate hurdles to which one can and must adapt. In the top recruits these transitions are easier to adapt to as they have probably faced similar situations in their youth careers playing for their country's national team.

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3) The importance of being able to play on both sides of the ball -- all players must be able to defend.

Chris Petrucelli, Head Coach University of Texas Women's team: Youth players should concentrate on their ability with the ball. They must have confidence with the ball at their feet in every situation. Along with individually working on their speed and explosiveness, young players should make sure they are playing with and against quality players as much as possible.

Mike Noonan, Head Coach Brown University Men's team: The most important area of concentration should be on their academics. If a player is academically sound their options are limitless academically, financially, and geographically when they go to choose a school. If a player is technically proficient then the game again is limitless from a coaching and teaching viewpoint.

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SUGGESTIONS AND TIPS ABOUT ADMISSIONS

(FROM ADMISSIONS OFFICERS/REPRESENTATIVES)

Before applying to any selective college, college-bound student should consider these tips from admission office staff/counselors:

- Take challenging courses and build a good foundation throughout elementary, middle and high school.
- The first year in high school is when you start to create a record that will play a role in the college admission decision. A picture is being painted by what you do in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades.
- The 8th grade is when you plan what you will take in high school.
- Not everyone is Harvard-bound. Assess what your skills really are and on what "playing field" you will perform best.
- Pursue volunteer and extracurricular activities that reflect who you are.
- Take the PSAT as a sophomore to prepare for the SAT which will be given during your junior year.
- Familiarize yourself with university settings. Attend summer camps on college campuses. Visit colleges while on vacation.
- See college as a fun place.
- Decide what kind of school you are looking for by the end of your sophomore year or beginning of your junior year.
- Speak with alumni and current students at the colleges that interest you.
- The college application process starts a different time frame. As you begin the senior year, it signals that you're applying to go to a school, and you will receive a letter back that says either yes you can or no you can't.
- Writing the college admission essay is crucial. Don't put it off until the last minute. Start early. Set a self-imposed deadline of Thanksgiving of your senior year to have the rough draft—if not the final draft—complete.
- Parents: talk to students about where they want to go to school, what is affordable and what you are willing to sacrifice. Sit down with the students and help them decide what schools are realistic to pursue.



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- Students' relationships with their parents change as they begin the college search process. Students, take responsibility for your own actions or non-actions. This is usually the first real-life decision you will have to make. Be prepared to deal with this change.
- Your best friend is not necessarily going with you to the next phase of your education. Make your college choice individually. You will become a better person if you are brave enough to strike out on your own. Value and develop your own self-worth.
- It helps if students have learned to take responsibility for themselves at early ages and through their high school careers. Students who seem best suited for college are those who held jobs and had some responsibility for taking care of themselves, for managing themselves. When they reach college, they have to discipline themselves to study, go to class, and turn in papers on time.
- Parents: give your student the opportunity to make intelligent choices.
- Learn to deal with rejection and failure, especially if you are looking at competitive colleges. Not everyone can be in the top 10 percent of the class. Good coping skills will benefit you throughout your life.
- Visit different campuses.
- Read newspapers. Keep up with current events.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions during the college search process. Parents should assist students in the college search, but should not take over. Let the student make appointments for college visits. Let the student complete and mail inquiry cards. Let the student complete and mail the application. Let the student do the work required to gain admission to college.
- Parents should not prevent students from exploring college options for majors and degrees. Let your student figure out what he or she is passionate about.
- The college decision involves an incredible investment of time that can never be repeated: four years of undergraduate education. College is the second or third largest investment of personal resources that parents and students make. Have a plan.
- Know and meet all deadlines. Don't lose an opportunity because you missed a deadline.
- Parents: talk to your students about income so they can understand the concept of spending money for college as an investment versus just "going to a school."



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- Have your essay proofed.
- Write your essay for yourself. Don't write what you think your admission counselor wants.
- Identify and articulate your accomplishments. Decide what your greatest accomplishment thus far in life is.
- It's important for parents to remember that not every student wants to go to a Southwestern, a selective school. That is not a bad thing. You should support your student in seeking an environment where he or she will succeed—whether that's SU or an Ivy League school, technical institute, community college or state university.
- For first-generation families: Students, follow your dreams. Be realistic about your skills and abilities. Seek colleges that will best benefit your whole life. Don't shy away from applying to a school because you think it costs too much. That's why scholarships and financial aid exist. Parents, seek out professionals—it does not have to be a paid service. Many college and university admission and financial aid professionals are willing to help parents identify resources.
- Use admission counselors as a resource; that's why we're here.
- If you realize a school isn't right for you, don't be afraid to ask an admission counselor for ideas on other schools that may be a better match.
- Admission counselors are not salespeople. We are here to tell you about the college admission process and to give you information on the school we represent. We're not trying to sell you something that is not right for you.
- Mailings that guarantee scholarships for substantial fees are usually scams. High schools, public libraries, the World Wide Web and the college admission offices offer free access to scholarship resources.
- Visit www.fastweb.com, a free scholarship search service on the World Wide Web.
- Education is not certification. It's not a collection of classes. It's a total experience that helps you become a well-rounded person.
- A broad education is the best preparation for the unexpected.
- Major in something you enjoy.
- Seek opportunities for leadership development.



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- Be prepared to have your horizons stretched in college. You will meet people who have different opinions. You may disagree. You may agree. Your values may change or they may not. It's okay to see things in a different light than your parents.
- Understand what a research institution is, what a liberal arts college is, what different types of colleges exist.
- Consider more than just a school's size. Bigger is not necessarily better.
- A good exercise for students is to ask what your parents thought they were going to do when they were 18-years-old. What was their first college major? Their second? Their third? What major did they graduate with? What was their first job? What are they doing today? Then ask them to defend why you should be pressured to know exactly what you are going to do.
- Begin by taking as broad a course selection as possible at the undergraduate level. Don't focus on preparing for one specific career. The career you begin pursuing may not be around in four years when you graduate. Ten years after you graduate college, it's likely that you will be working in a career you didn't perceive as possible when you began college.
- Look for challenges inside and outside the college classroom. Some of your best learning will be done outside of the classroom.
- When a student begins college, parents are doing a disservice to allow him or her to leave before completing at least one semester, and preferably one year. Students sometimes have a hard time adapting to newness and to change and to stress. Homesickness is not a problem.
- Don't expect college to be like television or the movies. It's not like "Beverly Hills, 90210" or, hopefully, not like "Animal House."
- The kind of experience you have will depend on the effort and time you put into college.
- If you are not satisfied with how you are doing in school, the first place to look is at yourself. You might find out a lot by looking inward first, instead of just transferring to another school.
- You can have a great experience any place you decide to go to school.
- Have fun as you search!



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WEB SITES FOR COLLEGE INFORMATION

WWW.QUINTCAREERS.COM – EXCELLENT TOOLS SITE FOR STUDENTS

WWW.COLLEGEQUEST.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGES.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVSOURCE.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGE-SCOLARSHIPS.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVERSITY-DIRECTORY.ORG – COLLEGE DIRECTORY SITE

COLLEGEAPPS.ABOUT.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV – FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.NCES.ED.GOV – NATIONAL EDUCATION STATISTICS

WWW.STATS.BLS.GOV – NATIONAL LABOR STATISTICS

WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV – ALL ABOUT FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.PRINCETONREVIEW.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE PREP TESTS (ACT/SAT ETC)

WWW.AIE.ORG – NEWS ABOUT THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

WWW.ALLSTUDENTLOAN.ORG – LEARN ABOUT GRANTS, LOANS, SCHOLARSHIPS

WWW.FASTWEB.COM – LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS

There are thousands of these, DO YOUR RESEARCH! Remember that some of the web sites out there ask you to do some work before giving you any information and then want you to pay extra for a "report" or "additional information". Choose wisely!



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TRAVEL G.P.A. REQUIREMENT

In an effort to increase the importance that academics play in increasing the opportunities and options at the collegiate level, Rush Soccer has a Travel G.P.A. Requirement. To verify, a player may be asked to provide an unofficial transcript from their high school.

Rush Soccer will begin enforcing the requirement January 1, 2009.

300 10.19.1 C.G.P.A.

Rush Players must maintain a 2.75 C.G.P.A. in order to be eligible to travel and participate in an out-of-state tournament with any Rush Team. This C.G.P.A will be determined, on average, 60 days prior to travel. The 2.75 rule may be modified if a student is showing steady and adequate improvement in their grades. Any player's ability to travel will be at the discretion of their respective DOC and Team Coach.



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SOPHOMORE TABLE OF CONTENTS

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- Cut to the Chase
- The Importance of Academics
- Concentration Focus
- Suggestions and Tips
- College Activity Log
- Cover Letter and Resume Example
- Player Resume Template
- Web Sites



SOPHOMORE YEAR TO DO LIST

What you should be doing to prepare for college and college soccer.

- Academics are VERY important.
- Evaluate your academic weaknesses and work on improvement.
- Study — Study — Study.
- Raise your GPA.
- Involve yourself in extracurricular activities — clubs/honor society/church group.
- Consider ACT and SAT / PSAT study materials and/or tutoring services.
- Take the ACT or SAT by the end of this year
- Prepare your Player profile and/or Resume
- Compile a list of about 10 colleges that you may be interested in attending
- Contact coaches at those schools to express interest and gather information
- Make unofficial visits to schools on your list
- WATCH college games at all levels—honestly evaluate where you can play
- Email coaches prior to Showcase events and invite them to watch you play
- Realize that coaches do very little scouting of high school games.
- Be a member of a strong team and a very strong club.
- Coaches rely on what they see and hear at quality club team tournaments.
- Participate in a good club.
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- The first year in high school is when you start to create a record that will play a role in the college admission decision. A picture is being painted by what you do in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades.
- The 8th grade is when you plan what you will take in high school.
- Not everyone is Harvard-bound. Assess what your skills really are and on what "playing field" you will perform best.
- Pursue volunteer and extracurricular activities that reflect who you are.
- Take the PSAT as a sophomore to prepare for the SAT which will be given during your junior year.
- Familiarize yourself with university settings. Attend summer camps on college campuses. Visit colleges while on vacation.
- See college as a fun place.
- Decide what kind of school you are looking for by the end of your sophomore year or beginning of your junior year.
- Speak with alumni and current students at the colleges that interest you.
- The college application process starts a different time frame. As you begin the senior year, it signals that you're applying to go to a school, and you will receive a letter back that says either yes you can or no you can't.
- Writing the college admission essay is crucial. Don't put it off until the last minute. Start early. Set a self-imposed deadline of Thanksgiving of your senior year to have the rough draft—if not the final draft—complete.
- Parents: talk to students about where they want to go to school, what is affordable and what you are willing to sacrifice. Sit down with the students and help them decide what schools are realistic to pursue.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Students' relationships with their parents change as they begin the college search process. Students, take responsibility for your own actions or non-actions. This is usually the first real-life decision you will have to make. Be prepared to deal with this change.
- Your best friend is not necessarily going with you to the next phase of your education. Make your college choice individually. You will become a better person if you are brave enough to strike out on your own. Value and develop your own self-worth.
- It helps if students have learned to take responsibility for themselves at early ages and through their high school careers. Students who seem best suited for college are those who held jobs and had some responsibility for taking care of themselves, for managing themselves. When they reach college, they have to discipline themselves to study, go to class, and turn in papers on time.
- Parents: give your student the opportunity to make intelligent choices.
- Learn to deal with rejection and failure, especially if you are looking at competitive colleges. Not everyone can be in the top 10 percent of the class. Good coping skills will benefit you throughout your life.
- Visit different campuses.
- Read newspapers. Keep up with current events.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions during the college search process. Parents should assist students in the college search, but should not take over. Let the student make appointments for college visits. Let the student complete and mail inquiry cards. Let the student complete and mail the application. Let the student do the work required to gain admission to college.
- Parents should not prevent students from exploring college options for majors and degrees. Let your student figure out what he or she is passionate about.
- The college decision involves an incredible investment of time that can never be repeated: four years of undergraduate education. College is the second or third largest investment of personal resources that parents and students make. Have a plan.
- Know and meet all deadlines. Don't lose an opportunity because you missed a deadline.
- Parents: talk to your students about income so they can understand the concept of spending money for college as an investment versus just "going to a school."



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Have your essay proofed.
- Write your essay for yourself. Don't write what you think your admission counselor wants.
- Identify and articulate your accomplishments. Decide what your greatest accomplishment thus far in life is.
- It's important for parents to remember that not every student wants to go to a Southwestern, a selective school. That is not a bad thing. You should support your student in seeking an environment where he or she will succeed—whether that's SU or an Ivy League school, technical institute, community college or state university.
- For first-generation families: Students, follow your dreams. Be realistic about your skills and abilities. Seek colleges that will best benefit your whole life. Don't shy away from applying to a school because you think it costs too much. That's why scholarships and financial aid exist. Parents, seek out professionals—it does not have to be a paid service. Many college and university admission and financial aid professionals are willing to help parents identify resources.
- Use admission counselors as a resource; that's why we're here.
- If you realize a school isn't right for you, don't be afraid to ask an admission counselor for ideas on other schools that may be a better match.
- Admission counselors are not salespeople. We are here to tell you about the college admission process and to give you information on the school we represent. We're not trying to sell you something that is not right for you.
- Mailings that guarantee scholarships for substantial fees are usually scams. High schools, public libraries, the World Wide Web and the college admission offices offer free access to scholarship resources.
- Visit www.fastweb.com, a free scholarship search service on the World Wide Web.
- Education is not certification. It's not a collection of classes. It's a total experience that helps you become a well-rounded person.
- A broad education is the best preparation for the unexpected.
- Major in something you enjoy.
- Seek opportunities for leadership development.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Be prepared to have your horizons stretched in college. You will meet people who have different opinions. You may disagree. You may agree. Your values may change or they may not. It's okay to see things in a different light than your parents.
- Understand what a research institution is, what a liberal arts college is, what different types of colleges exist.
- Consider more than just a school's size. Bigger is not necessarily better.
- A good exercise for students is to ask what your parents thought they were going to do when they were 18-years-old. What was their first college major? Their second? Their third? What major did they graduate with? What was their first job? What are they doing today? Then ask them to defend why you should be pressured to know exactly what you are going to do.
- Begin by taking as broad a course selection as possible at the undergraduate level. Don't focus on preparing for one specific career. The career you begin pursuing may not be around in four years when you graduate. Ten years after you graduate college, it's likely that you will be working in a career you didn't perceive as possible when you began college.
- Look for challenges inside and outside the college classroom. Some of your best learning will be done outside of the classroom.
- When a student begins college, parents are doing a disservice to allow him or her to leave before completing at least one semester, and preferably one year. Students sometimes have a hard time adapting to newness and to change and to stress. Homesickness is not a problem.
- Don't expect college to be like television or the movies. It's not like "Beverly Hills, 90210" or, hopefully, not like "Animal House."
- The kind of experience you have will depend on the effort and time you put into college.
- If you are not satisfied with how you are doing in school, the first place to look is at yourself. You might find out a lot by looking inward first, instead of just transferring to another school.
- You can have a great experience any place you decide to go to school.
- Have fun as you search!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

WEB SITES FOR COLLEGE INFORMATION

WWW.QUINTCAREERS.COM – EXCELLENT TOOLS SITE FOR STUDENTS

WWW.COLLEGEQUEST.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGES.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVSOURCE.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGE-SCOLARSHIPS.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVERSITY-DIRECTORY.ORG – COLLEGE DIRECTORY SITE

COLLEGEAPPS.ABOUT.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV – FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.NCES.ED.GOV – NATIONAL EDUCATION STATISTICS

WWW.STATS.BLS.GOV – NATIONAL LABOR STATISTICS

WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV – ALL ABOUT FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.PRINCETONREVIEW.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE PREP TESTS (ACT/SAT ETC)

WWW.AIE.ORG – NEWS ABOUT THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

WWW.ALLSTUDENTLOAN.ORG – LEARN ABOUT GRANTS, LOANS, SCHOLARSHIPS

WWW.FASTWEB.COM – LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS

There are thousands of these, DO YOUR RESEARCH! Remember that some of the web sites out there ask you to do some work before giving you any information and then want you to pay extra for a "report" or "additional information". Choose wisely!



COVER LETTER AND RESUME EXAMPLE

What you need:

1. Your name, address, telephone and email
2. Your high school grades, ACT, SAT, and graduation date
3. Your high school information (address, telephone number)
4. Your club team information – team, coach, and a contact number and/or email
5. Athletic Accomplishments
 - a. Don't list the world, they do not need to know that you were a Silver Mug Quarterfinalist in the Bronze division when you were U14
 - b. Be specific and clear – do not put something that only you and your parents understand and know
 - c. Limit the athletic info to MAJOR athletic achievements, don't put you played freshman basketball when you are a Junior, don't put that you ran on the JV cross country team in the spring of your sophomore year and no other time. Limit this space and make it important
 - d. Don't think that you have to have the world, be honest, and realistic
6. Academic Accomplishments
 - a. Again, be honest, do not overstate things, but list everything you have. Academics are important even to National Champs!
 - b. If you are not sure do not list it
 - c. If you are not sure go see your Guidance Counselor and ASK FOR HELP!
7. Additional Accomplishments
 - a. Anything that you feel does not fall under the other categories
 - b. Don't go overboard, and put that you have lots of friends, you smile a lot and you like the snow... these are accomplishments!!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

Monday, May 20, 2008

Clive Charles
Head Men's Soccer Coach
University of Portland
Portland, Oregon

Dear Coach Charles:

My name is Tony McCall and I am writing to you to express my interest in attending the University of Portland and playing for your program.

Currently, I am a junior at Denver City High School and will graduate in 2009. I currently have a GPA of 3.5 and 1100 SAT. Enclosed is a list of my academic and athletic accomplishments.

I am currently playing for the Virginia State and Region II ODP team. My club team is the Sun Bowl Champion Loudoun Soccer U-17 Boys. My personal highlights include the ODP State Team, ODP Regional Camp for Region II, Puma Cup 1st team in Tampa, FL, All-State 1st team in 2005 and 2006 as well as the MVP Award at the Raleigh Shootout. I will be playing in the upcoming Sport Source Jr/Sr Showcase, August 12-14 in the Woodlands, TX. Enclosed with this letter is a current schedule of the showcase events my team will be participating in, my academic/soccer resumes a copy of my transcripts along with my ACT/SAT results.

I hope you will be attending some of these events and you might have the time to evaluate my soccer abilities in a showcase game. If you could send me a soccer media guide and a soccer camp brochure, it would be much appreciated.

I will follow up this letter with a telephone call within the next fourteen days in the hope that I will have an opportunity to talk with you in reference to opportunities that may exist in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony McCall



George Best

Personal Information

George Best
555 So. West St
Denver, Colorado 80020
303.555.5555
Parents: Archie & Lisa

E-mail: jbc@yahoo.net
DOB: March 1, 1991
Position: Striker
Height: 6'6"
Weight: 200 lbs.

Goal

To play College Soccer at a level commensurate to my ability while getting the highest possible level of education to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Academics and Extra Curricular

Class of 2009
St Patrick's Secondary
2135 S. Pearl St.
Denver, Colorado 80210
303.555.5555

SAT: 1690 (Critical Reading 630/Math 620)
ACT: 25 (English-18/Math-27/Reading-31/Science-25)
GPA: 3.5
Honors and Advanced Courses: Honors Poetry, Advanced Biology
Extra Curricular Activities: FCA, Church Youth Group Leader, Skiing,

Club Soccer Experience

Real Madrid Academy U-16 Team - Madrid, Colorado
Coach: Alex Ferguson, Asst. Dir. of Coaching – Real Madrid Youth Academy
Phone: Office – 303.555.5555 Cell - 303.555.5555
Email: aferguson@yahoo.com

2001-2007 – Shamrock Rovers FC, Dublin, CO
Colorado State Cup & U-12 Region IV Champions - 2003
Colorado State Cup Finalist U-13 - 2004
Colorado State Cup Finalist U-14 & Wildcard to Region IV - 2005

ODP & Other Experience

ODP State Team
2005 U-14
2006 U-15
2007 U-16
ODP Region IV Pool
2006 U-15

National Team Pool
U-14 - 8-04
National Team
U-14 - 4-05
Real Madrid U-16 Super Y League Team - Summer 2007

High School Soccer

St Patrick's Secondary School
Coach: Arsene Wenger
Phone: 303.555.5555
Email: awenger@yahoo.com

2005-Freshman - Jr. Varsity Starting Striker & Captain
2006-Sophomore - Varsity Striker
2007-Junior - Varsity Starting Striker
2006 State 3A Finalist



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

2007 State 3A Champion

References

Alex Ferguson	Real Madrid	Dir. of Coaching – Youth Academy - 303-555.5555 - aferg@yahoo.com
Roy Keane	Sunderland	Manager- 555.555.3757 rkeane@hotmail.com
David Beckham	LA Galaxy –	555.555.5555 db@mufc.org
Charlie Kadupski	The Sport Source-	555.555.5555 ckadup@hotmail.com



Mia Hamm

Personal Information

Mia Hamm 555 So. West St Denver, Colorado 80020 303.555.5555 Parents: Archie & Lisa	E-mail: Mg@yahoo.net DOB: March 1, 1991 Position: Striker Height: 5'6" Weight: 130 lbs.
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Goal

To play College Soccer at a level commensurate to my ability while getting the highest possible level of education to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Academics and Extra Curricular

Class of 2009 St Patricks Secondary 2135 S. Pearl St. Denver, Colorado 80210 303.555.5555	SAT: 1690 (Critical Reading 630/Math 620) ACT: 25 (English-18/Math-27/Reading-31/Science-25) GPA: 3.5 Honors and Advanced Courses: Honors Poetry, Advanced Biology Extra Curricular Activities: FCA, Church Youth Group Leader, Skiing,
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ODP & Other Experience

ODP State Team

2005 U-14

2006 U-15

2007 U-16

ODP Region IV Pool

2006 U-15

National Team Pool

U-14 - 8-04

National Team

U-14 - 4-05

Real Madrid U-16 Super Y League Team - Summer 2007

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2006-Sophomore - Varsity Striker

2007-Junior - Varsity Starting Striker

2006 State 3A Finalist

2007 State 3A Champion

References

Alex Ferguson

Roy Keane

David Beckham

Charlie Kadupski

Real Madrid

Sunderland

LA Galaxy -

The Sport Source-

Dir. of Coaching – Youth Academy - 303-555.5555 - aferg@yahoo.com

Manager- 555.555.3757

555.555.5555

555.555.5555

rkeane@hotmail.com

db@mufc.org

ckadup@hotmail.com



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

COLLEGE ACTIVITY LOG

The Activity log is for the player to track activity. Please see sample and duplicate.

NAME	COACH	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS	AGE
COMMENTS				
SCHOOL	COACH NAME, E-MAIL AND PHONE	ACTIVITY		
SAMPLE UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CLARA	SAMPLE TOM TUTTLE TTUTTLE@YAHOO.COM 408-111-1111	SAMPLE 11.21.07 WROTE E-MAIL INTRODUCING MYSELF, SEE COLLEGE LETTER 205 99.; 11.23.07 FOLLOW UP PHONE CALL; THIS COLLEGE IS MY FIRST CHOICE.		

Student Profile

[NAME] E-mail:
[ADDRESS] DOB:
[CITY, STATE, ZIP] Student ID:
Tel: Height:
Parents: Weight:

College Career Objective

Insert Rush photo

Jersey #
POSITION(S)

Academic & Entrepreneurship

Graduation Class of 20??

School:
Address:

Phone:
SAT:
GPA Class Rank:

Honors and Advanced Courses

Awards & Achievements

Employment

Club Soccer, Tournaments & Camps

CLUB EXPERIENCE
Rush Soccer – Denver, Colorado

Coach:
Phone:
Email:
Position:
Other:
Tournaments

Club Team Accomplishments -

High School Soccer

[HIGH SCHOOL]

Coach -
Phone:
Email:
Team Achievements

Personal Achievements:

References and Community Service

Additional References:

-

-

Community Service

-

-

-



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

JUNIOR TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Junior Year To Do List
- Choosing a College
- ACT and SAT Test Dates
- Misconceptions about the Recruiting Process
- Contact Sheet
- Suggestions and Tips
- Phone Call Info
- College Activity Log
- College Decision Chart
- Cover Letter and Resume Example
- Player Resume Template
- Web Sites



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

JUNIOR YEAR TO DO LIST

What you should be doing to prepare for college and college soccer.

- Academics are VERY important.
- Evaluate your academic weaknesses and work on improvement.
- Check in with your guidance counselor and ensure you are on track
- Study — Study — Study.
- Raise your GPA.
- NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse – Register this year
- NCAA Clearinghouse – 1.877.262.1492
- Complete your core course requirement.
- Take the SAT and ACT again – scores will improve.
- SEE – Watch college soccer games – see what it’s like at the next level.
- Update your Player profile and/or Resume
- Narrow your list of colleges to about 5—stay in contact with those coaches
- Email coaches prior to Showcase events and invite them to watch you play
- Schedule Official College visits
- Complete admissions applications to colleges you may want to attend
- Attend College Fairs (Maryville University in April)
- Attend a soccer summer camp at a school you are interested in.
- Evaluate your soccer weaknesses and work on improvement.
- Practice on your own — fundamentals and ball skills.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

CHOOSING A COLLEGE

*It's not a **FOUR-YEAR** decision; it's a **FORTY-YEAR** decision.*

Choosing a college is like choosing a friend. It's important to find one that's compatible with you, one where you can be yourself, and one that will help you achieve your goals.

Academics	
Your Particular Interests	Typical Class Size
School's Focus - Majors Offered	Student/Faculty Ratio
School's Ranking	Graduate Students as Instructors
Big-Name School	Tutoring/Support Services
Admissions Standards (GPA/SAT/ACT)	Military Academy
Enrollment	
Social / Environmental	
Private or Public	School Location (City/Suburban/Rural)
Religious Affiliation	Conservative or Liberal
Ethnic Diversity	Cultural Environment
Coed or Single Sex	Fraternity/Sorority
Distance from Home and Family	Recreational Activities
Campus Atmosphere	Climate
Soccer Considerations	
Division - (I, II, III, NAIA, JC)	Immediate Playing Contribution
Player Turnover	Scholarships Money and Distribution
Coaching Staff Qualifications	Staff Time Commitment
Competitive Schedule	Facilities
Training Schedule	Travel
Coaches Contacts to Next Level	



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

ACT AND SAT TEST DATES

The testing dates for the ACT and SAT should be updated and mailed to all high school age teams by July 15th of each year.

ACT Test Dates - 2011-2012		
Test Dates	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 8, 2012	August 17, 2012	August 18 - 24, 2012
October 27, 2012	September 21, 2012	September 22 - Oct 5, 2012
December 8, 2012	November 2, 2012	November 3 - 16, 2012
February 9, 2013	January 11, 2013	January 12 - 18, 2013
April 13, 2013	March 8, 2013	March 9 - 22, 2013
June 8, 2013	May 3, 2013	May 4 - 17, 2013

SAT Test Dates - 2011-2012		
Test Dates	Test	Regular Registration Deadline (postmark/submitted by)
October 6, 2012	SAT and Subject Tests	September 7, 2012
November 3, 2012	SAT and Subject Tests	October 4, 2012
December 1, 2012	SAT and Subject Tests	November 1, 2012
January 26, 2013	SAT and Subject Tests	December 28, 2012
March 9, 2013	SAT only	February 8, 2013
May 4, 2013	SAT and Subject Tests	April 5, 2013
June 1, 2013	SAT and Subject Tests	May 2, 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION, COSTS AND TESTING SITES, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING SITES:

ACT: [HTTP://WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG/INDEX.HTML](http://www.actstudent.org/index.html)

SAT: [HTTP://WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG/](http://www.collegeboard.org/)



MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE RECRUITING PROCESS

Misconceptions about the Recruiting Process
by Tim Nash

Too many high school student-athletes, the recruiting process can be mysterious and confusing. There are a lot of misconceptions about how to be recruited and what you, as a student-athlete, can do to help the process along.

Several top college coaches in the country offer some sound advice. First of all, learn as much as you can about the schools you are interested in attending. Second, know how much scholarship money is available and third, don't just sit by your phone, and assume it will ring.

Here are five common misconceptions student-athletes have about the recruiting process.

1. Everybody Has 9.9 Scholarships Every Year.

The NCAA allows a Division I soccer program 9.9 scholarships. That does not mean that every year, a coach can give away 9.9 scholarships (for men's soccer. Women are allowed 14). In fact, unless it is a first-year program or if all the scholarship players decide to transfer at the same time, no coach will ever have his full allotment of scholarship money in any given year.

"A lot of kids think that everybody is getting scholarships," says former Virginia coach Bruce Arena. "That's not the case. They have to look at where the program is and what their needs are."

Adds Maryland coach Sasho Cirovski, "Really, we are lucky if we have three or four to give a year." University of Massachusetts women's coach Jim Rudy says, "Sometimes, the kids and the parents think I'm kidding when I tell them we don't have 11 full rides."

One year, a coach may give three scholarships -- and some years they will be shared by four or five players. The next year, he may give two more. Coaches believe they are making the best use of their money if they spread the scholarships out equally between freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

2. Division I Is Always the Best.

"Some kids have don't have a good understanding of what Division I is," says Bruce Arena. "They might say 'I want to play Division I' but I could recommend a good D-II or D-III school. There are some Division I programs that are no better than some Division II or III programs."



Cirovski agrees. "A lot of people have a misconception about the level of play at some universities," says Cirovski who has recruited and signed some of the best high school players in the country since taking over the Maryland program two years ago.

3. All Programs Are the Same

Often, players will contact a college coach about attending their school and know nothing about the soccer team, the players, the coach, or the style of play.

If you are a left midfielder, and the team has three sophomore left midfielders, chances are good that is not the school for you. If another school may have a graduating senior and a junior at your position, you're more likely to get playing time sooner.

"If you are interested in a particular school, I recommend going and watching that team play," Cirovski. "Watching one game will answer a lot of your questions."

Cirovski recommends that student-athletes make a list of five schools they are interested in and then find out as much as they can about each school.

4. I Can't Call the Coach

The NCAA rules regarding recruiting are more difficult to understand than any foreign language class that you are required to take in school. There are rules regarding visits to a university, gifts from a coach, pickup games while you are on your recruiting visits and contact with the coach.

Many student-athletes are worried they will break the rules and somehow risk their college soccer career. However, as University of South Carolina coach Mark Berson points out, most of those rules pertain to the coach and not the player.

"A lot of kids don't think they are able to call a coach on the phone," he says. "They can call the coach any time they want."

Coaches are restricted as to when they can call a player. When the player is a junior, the coach can write him letters. When the player is a senior, the coach can return phone calls to him. But at any time, the player can call or write the coach.

"A lot of the rules deal with off-campus contact with the player," says Berson. "There are times when we will see a kid at a tournament or something and we are not able to talk with him. Sometimes we appear rude, but that's not the case."

5. High School Stars Automatically Become College Stars



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

If you are recruited by a major college, chances are you were the best player on your high school team. You've been the "go-to player," the one, who dictates the pace, the one everybody counts on. It's been a nice ride, but it's over.

"Some kids assume that since they were the star of their high school team, that they will be the star in college, too," says Colorado University women's coach Bill Hempen. "They don't fully understand the level of college soccer. They think they do, and their parents think they do, but they don't.

"The pace of college soccer is like nothing else they've seen before," warns Coach Hempen. "Even kids who come from some of the top club teams aren't used to the demands in college."



SUGGESTIONS AND TIPS ABOUT ADMISSIONS

(FROM ADMISSIONS OFFICERS/REPRESENTATIVES)

Before applying to any selective college, college-bound student should consider these tips from admission office staff/counselors:

- Take challenging courses and build a good foundation throughout elementary, middle and high school.
- The first year in high school is when you start to create a record that will play a role in the college admission decision. A picture is being painted by what you do in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades.
- The 8th grade is when you plan what you will take in high school.
- Not everyone is Harvard-bound. Assess what your skills really are and on what "playing field" you will perform best.
- Pursue volunteer and extracurricular activities that reflect who you are.
- Take the PSAT as a sophomore to prepare for the SAT which will be given during your junior year.
- Familiarize yourself with university settings. Attend summer camps on college campuses. Visit colleges while on vacation.
- See college as a fun place.
- Decide what kind of school you are looking for by the end of your sophomore year or beginning of your junior year.
- Speak with alumni and current students at the colleges that interest you.
- The college application process starts a different time frame. As you begin the senior year, it signals that you're applying to go to a school, and you will receive a letter back that says either yes you can or no you can't.
- Writing the college admission essay is crucial. Don't put it off until the last minute. Start early. Set a self-imposed deadline of Thanksgiving of your senior year to have the rough draft—if not the final draft—complete.
- Parents: talk to students about where they want to go to school, what is affordable and what you are willing to sacrifice. Sit down with the students and help them decide what schools are realistic to pursue.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Students' relationships with their parents change as they begin the college search process. Students, take responsibility for your own actions or non-actions. This is usually the first real-life decision you will have to make. Be prepared to deal with this change.
- Your best friend is not necessarily going with you to the next phase of your education. Make your college choice individually. You will become a better person if you are brave enough to strike out on your own. Value and develop your own self-worth.
- It helps if students have learned to take responsibility for themselves at early ages and through their high school careers. Students who seem best suited for college are those who held jobs and had some responsibility for taking care of themselves, for managing themselves. When they reach college, they have to discipline themselves to study, go to class, and turn in papers on time.
- Parents: give your student the opportunity to make intelligent choices.
- Learn to deal with rejection and failure, especially if you are looking at competitive colleges. Not everyone can be in the top 10 percent of the class. Good coping skills will benefit you throughout your life.
- Visit different campuses.
- Read newspapers. Keep up with current events.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions during the college search process. Parents should assist students in the college search, but should not take over. Let the student make appointments for college visits. Let the student complete and mail inquiry cards. Let the student complete and mail the application. Let the student do the work required to gain admission to college.
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- The college decision involves an incredible investment of time that can never be repeated: four years of undergraduate education. College is the second or third largest investment of personal resources that parents and students make. Have a plan.
- Know and meet all deadlines. Don't lose an opportunity because you missed a deadline.
- Parents: talk to your students about income so they can understand the concept of spending money for college as an investment versus just "going to a school."



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- Write your essay for yourself. Don't write what you think your admission counselor wants.
- Identify and articulate your accomplishments. Decide what your greatest accomplishment thus far in life is.
- It's important for parents to remember that not every student wants to go to a Southwestern, a selective school. That is not a bad thing. You should support your student in seeking an environment where he or she will succeed—whether that's SU or an Ivy League school, technical institute, community college or state university.
- For first-generation families: Students, follow your dreams. Be realistic about your skills and abilities. Seek colleges that will best benefit your whole life. Don't shy away from applying to a school because you think it costs too much. That's why scholarships and financial aid exist. Parents, seek out professionals—it does not have to be a paid service. Many college and university admission and financial aid professionals are willing to help parents identify resources.
- Use admission counselors as a resource; that's why we're here.
- If you realize a school isn't right for you, don't be afraid to ask an admission counselor for ideas on other schools that may be a better match.
- Admission counselors are not salespeople. We are here to tell you about the college admission process and to give you information on the school we represent. We're not trying to sell you something that is not right for you.
- Mailings that guarantee scholarships for substantial fees are usually scams. High schools, public libraries, the World Wide Web and the college admission offices offer free access to scholarship resources.
- Visit www.fastweb.com, a free scholarship search service on the World Wide Web.
- Education is not certification. It's not a collection of classes. It's a total experience that helps you become a well-rounded person.
- A broad education is the best preparation for the unexpected.
- Major in something you enjoy.
- Seek opportunities for leadership development.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Be prepared to have your horizons stretched in college. You will meet people who have different opinions. You may disagree. You may agree. Your values may change or they may not. It's okay to see things in a different light than your parents.
- Understand what a research institution is, what a liberal arts college is, what different types of colleges exist.
- Consider more than just a school's size. Bigger is not necessarily better.
- A good exercise for students is to ask what your parents thought they were going to do when they were 18-years-old. What was their first college major? Their second? Their third? What major did they graduate with? What was their first job? What are they doing today? Then ask them to defend why you should be pressured to know exactly what you are going to do.
- Begin by taking as broad a course selection as possible at the undergraduate level. Don't focus on preparing for one specific career. The career you begin pursuing may not be around in four years when you graduate. Ten years after you graduate college, it's likely that you will be working in a career you didn't perceive as possible when you began college.
- Look for challenges inside and outside the college classroom. Some of your best learning will be done outside of the classroom.
- When a student begins college, parents are doing a disservice to allow him or her to leave before completing at least one semester, and preferably one year. Students sometimes have a hard time adapting to newness and to change and to stress. Homesickness is not a problem.
- Don't expect college to be like television or the movies. It's not like "Beverly Hills, 90210" or, hopefully, not like "Animal House."
- The kind of experience you have will depend on the effort and time you put into college.
- If you are not satisfied with how you are doing in school, the first place to look is at yourself. You might find out a lot by looking inward first, instead of just transferring to another school.
- You can have a great experience any place you decide to go to school.
- Have fun as you search!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

WEB SITES FOR COLLEGE INFORMATION

WWW.QUINTCAREERS.COM – EXCELLENT TOOLS SITE FOR STUDENTS

WWW.COLLEGEQUEST.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGES.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVSOURCE.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGE-SCOLARSHIPS.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVERSITY-DIRECTORY.ORG – COLLEGE DIRECTORY SITE

COLLEGEAPPS.ABOUT.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV – FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.NCES.ED.GOV – NATIONAL EDUCATION STATISTICS

WWW.STATS.BLS.GOV – NATIONAL LABOR STATISTICS

WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV – ALL ABOUT FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.PRINCETONREVIEW.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE PREP TESTS (ACT/SAT ETC)

WWW.AIE.ORG – NEWS ABOUT THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

WWW.ALLSTUDENTLOAN.ORG – LEARN ABOUT GRANTS, LOANS, SCHOLARSHIPS

WWW.FASTWEB.COM – LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS

There are thousands of these, DO YOUR RESEARCH! Remember that some of the web sites out there ask you to do some work before giving you any information and then want you to pay extra for a "report" or "additional information". Choose wisely!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

PHONE CALL INFO (SCRIPT)

THE BOLD AND UNDERLINED AREAS ARE PLACES THAT YOU SHOULD INCLUDE YOUR OWN INFORMATION.

If leaving a message, be brief but leave detailed information. Speak clearly and say what you mean, do not have a large number of pauses and "um's".

Example #1:

Hello Coach **Schulz**, my name is **John Doe** and I am a **Junior** at **Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, CO**. I play for **Erik Bushey** on the Colorado Rush **U17 Nike Team** and I would like to talk to you about the **University of Hawaii** and your soccer program. I will try to call and reach you again on **DAY** at **TIME**. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Example #2:

Hello Coach **Schulz**, this is **Jim Cofer**. As you may remember from our last conversation I told you that I would update you on my whereabouts this season. I will be attending the **Nike Friendlies in Bradenton, December 5th through the 8th; the Disney Showcase the 27th through the 30th; and Nomads, March 19th through the 21st**. If you are attending any of these I would appreciate any time you might have to come and see me play. I will e-mail you the game schedules for these tournaments. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

If you get the coach on the phone make sure to be courteous and very straight forward. Make sure that you have your **FACTS and INFORMATION** as well as any **QUESTIONS** that you have. **ALWAYS** make sure to ask at least two or three questions. Your questions can show how much research and effort you have put into this call. Having said this **DO NOT**, I repeat **DO NOT** call a coach back without having done some research on BOTH the institution AND the soccer program. Remember that the soccer program is only an extension of the institution and your questions about the school and the soccer program are important.

Important things to remember:

1. ALWAYS answer an e-mail, letter or return a call to a coach, even if you are not interested. They know each other and they DO TALK!
2. Always do your research, coaches know when you don't
3. Make sure to take the time and write out or rehearse what you are going to say if you think you will leave a message.
4. Do not call without your notes and questions handy.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

5. Make sure to know who you are calling. Make sure you know which coach is responsible for what (2nd Asst Coach and GK coach is different than the 2nd Asst Coach and Strength Coach), and know their names

Some examples of questions to ask:

1. How is this year's recruiting class looking?
2. Where do you see the program going in the next four years?
3. What is your 4 year retention rate for students?
4. What do you see as my strongest athletic asset?
5. You have not had a chance to see me play, but I am very interested in your program. Where are you planning on being in the next six months?
6. What does your graduation rate look like?
7. What is your team GPA?
8. The school has been in the news lately for NCAA violations, I realize that these are not about the soccer program but how has this affected your program?
9. Your program is graduating 4 starting seniors, how do you see this affecting next years' team.
10. How does your transfer rate in compare to your transfer rate out, and what do you think this could be attributed to?
11. What are the next steps for me with regards to the application process?
12. Without some sort of financial aid I will need to find employment, can the soccer program help with that?
13. I see myself as a defensive midfielder, is there anything that you think I should be working on now to help with my transition to the college level at that position or at any other?
14. You have been with the soccer program for eight years, what do you think has been your greatest achievement with this program?
15. You are one of four programs that I am seriously considering. What makes your program different? Why should I attend your school?



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

COLLEGE DECISION CHART

Attribute	College Choice #1	College Choice #2	College Choice #3	College Choice #4	College Choice #5	College Choice #6	College Choice #7
Degree(s) Offered							
Majors/Minors							
Location/Distance from home							
Size of school							
Public or Private							
Cost (tuition, books, fees, room and board)							
Financial Aid Packages							
Campus Resources (labs, libraries)							
Graduation Rate/Time							
Placement							
Quality of Program(s)							
Pressure to Excel							
Admissions Requirements							
Accreditation(s)							
Average Class Sizes							
Amount of Faculty Contact							
Courses taught by Faculty							
Student Body Characteristics (gender, diversity)							
Social Activities							
Safety Concerns							
Housing Options (on vs off, dorms and apt)							
Athletic Facilities							
Athletic Programs							
Soccer Program							
Other...							

Use this page to rate the college in any way you want (1 to 10 or 1 to 5, which ever number is higher for you). Add any criteria that you want...



COVER LETTER AND RESUME EXAMPLE

What you need:

1. Your name, address, telephone and email
2. Your high school grades, ACT, SAT, and graduation date
3. Your high school information (address, telephone number)
4. Your club team information – team, coach, and a contact number and/or email
5. Athletic Accomplishments
 - a. Don't list the world, they do not need to know that you were a Silver Mug Quarterfinalist in the Bronze division when you were U14
 - b. Be specific and clear – do not put something that only you and your parents understand and know
 - c. Limit the athletic info to MAJOR athletic achievements, don't put you played freshman basketball when you are a Junior, don't put that you ran on the JV cross country team in the spring of your sophomore year and no other time. Limit this space and make it important
 - d. Don't think that you have to have the world, be honest, and realistic
6. Academic Accomplishments
 - a. Again, be honest, do not overstate things, but list everything you have. Academics are important even to National Champs!
 - b. If you are not sure do not list it
 - c. If you are not sure go see your Guidance Counselor and ASK FOR HELP!
7. Additional Accomplishments
 - a. Anything that you feel does not fall under the other categories
 - b. Don't go overboard, and put that you have lots of friends, you smile a lot and you like the snow... these are accomplishments!!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

Monday, May 20, 2008

Clive Charles
Head Men's Soccer Coach
University of Portland
Portland, Oregon

Dear Coach Charles:

My name is Tony McCall and I am writing to you to express my interest in attending the University of Portland and playing for your program.

Currently, I am a junior at Denver City High School and will graduate in 2009. I currently have a GPA of 3.5 and 1100 SAT. Enclosed is a list of my academic and athletic accomplishments.

I am currently playing for the Virginia State and Region II ODP team. My club team is the Sun Bowl Champion Loudoun Soccer U-17 Boys. My personal highlights include the ODP State Team, ODP Regional Camp for Region II, Puma Cup 1st team in Tampa, FL, All-State 1st team in 2005 and 2006 as well as the MVP Award at the Raleigh Shootout. I will be playing in the upcoming Sport Source Jr/Sr Showcase, August 12-14 in the Woodlands, TX. Enclosed with this letter is a current schedule of the showcase events my team will be participating in, my academic/soccer resumes a copy of my transcripts along with my ACT/SAT results.

I hope you will be attending some of these events and you might have the time to evaluate my soccer abilities in a showcase game. If you could send me a soccer media guide and a soccer camp brochure, it would be much appreciated.

I will follow up this letter with a telephone call within the next fourteen days in the hope that I will have an opportunity to talk with you in reference to opportunities that may exist in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony McCall



George Best

Personal Information

George Best
555 So. West St
Denver, Colorado 80020
303.555.5555
Parents: Archie & Lisa

E-mail: jbc@yahoo.net
DOB: March 1, 1991
Position: Striker
Height: 6'6"
Weight: 200 lbs.

Goal

To play College Soccer at a level commensurate to my ability while getting the highest possible level of education to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Academics and Extra Curricular

Class of 2009
St Patrick's Secondary
2135 S. Pearl St.
Denver, Colorado 80210
303.555.5555

SAT: 1690 (Critical Reading 630/Math 620)
ACT: 25 (English-18/Math-27/Reading-31/Science-25)
GPA: 3.5
Honors and Advanced Courses: Honors Poetry, Advanced Biology
Extra Curricular Activities: FCA, Church Youth Group Leader, Skiing,

Club Soccer Experience

Real Madrid Academy U-16 Team - Madrid, Colorado
Coach: Alex Ferguson, Asst. Dir. of Coaching – Real Madrid Youth Academy
Phone: Office – 303.555.5555 Cell - 303.555.5555
Email: aferguson@yahoo.com

2001-2007 – Shamrock Rovers FC, Dublin, CO
Colorado State Cup & U-12 Region IV Champions - 2003
Colorado State Cup Finalist U-13 - 2004
Colorado State Cup Finalist U-14 & Wildcard to Region IV - 2005

ODP & Other Experience

ODP State Team
2005 U-14
2006 U-15
2007 U-16
ODP Region IV Pool
2006 U-15

National Team Pool
U-14 - 8-04
National Team
U-14 - 4-05
Real Madrid U-16 Super Y League Team - Summer 2007

High School Soccer

St Patrick's Secondary School
Coach: Arsene Wenger
Phone: 303.555.5555
Email: awenger@yahoo.com

2005-Freshman - Jr. Varsity Starting Striker & Captain
2006-Sophomore - Varsity Striker
2007-Junior - Varsity Starting Striker
2006 State 3A Finalist



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

2007 State 3A Champion

References

Alex Ferguson	Real Madrid	Dir. of Coaching – Youth Academy - 303-555.5555 - aferg@yahoo.com
Roy Keane	Sunderland	Manager- 555.555.3757 rkeane@hotmail.com
David Beckham	LA Galaxy –	555.555.5555 db@mufc.org
Charlie Kadupski	The Sport Source-	555.555.5555 ckadup@hotmail.com



Mia Hamm

Personal Information

Mia Hamm 555 So. West St Denver, Colorado 80020 303.555.5555 Parents: Archie & Lisa	E-mail: Mg@yahoo.net DOB: March 1, 1991 Position: Striker Height: 5'6" Weight: 130 lbs.
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Goal

To play College Soccer at a level commensurate to my ability while getting the highest possible level of education to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Academics and Extra Curricular

Class of 2009 St Patricks Secondary 2135 S. Pearl St. Denver, Colorado 80210 303.555.5555	SAT: 1690 (Critical Reading 630/Math 620) ACT: 25 (English-18/Math-27/Reading-31/Science-25) GPA: 3.5 Honors and Advanced Courses: Honors Poetry, Advanced Biology Extra Curricular Activities: FCA, Church Youth Group Leader, Skiing,
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Club Soccer Experience

Real Madrid Academy U-16 Team - Madrid, Colorado
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 Colorado State Cup & U-12 Region IV Champions - 2003
 Colorado State Cup Finalist U-13 - 2004
 Colorado State Cup Finalist U-14 & Wildcard to Region IV - 2005



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ODP & Other Experience

ODP State Team

2005 U-14

2006 U-15

2007 U-16

ODP Region IV Pool

2006 U-15

National Team Pool

U-14 - 8-04

National Team

U-14 - 4-05

Real Madrid U-16 Super Y League Team - Summer 2007

High School Soccer

St Patricks Secondary School

Coach: Arsene Wenger

Phone: 303.555.5555

Email: awenger@yahoo.com

2005-Freshman - Jr. Varsity Starting Striker & Captain

2006-Sophomore - Varsity Striker

2007-Junior - Varsity Starting Striker

2006 State 3A Finalist

2007 State 3A Champion

References

Alex Ferguson

Roy Keane

David Beckham

Charlie Kadupski

Real Madrid

Sunderland

LA Galaxy -

The Sport Source-

Dir. of Coaching – Youth Academy - 303-555.5555 - aferg@yahoo.com

Manager- 555.555.3757

555.555.5555

555.555.5555

rkeane@hotmail.com

db@mufc.org

ckadup@hotmail.com



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

COLLEGE ACTIVITY LOG

The Activity log is for the player to track activity. Please see sample and duplicate.

NAME	COACH	PHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS	AGE
COMMENTS				
SCHOOL	COACH NAME, E-MAIL AND PHONE	ACTIVITY		
SAMPLE UNIVERSITY OF SANTA CLARA	SAMPLE TOM TUTTLE TTUTTLE@YAHOO.COM 408-111-1111	SAMPLE 11.21.07 WROTE E-MAIL INTRODUCING MYSELF, SEE COLLEGE LETTER 205 99.; 11.23.07 FOLLOW UP PHONE CALL; THIS COLLEGE IS MY FIRST CHOICE.		

Student Profile

[NAME] E-mail:
[ADDRESS] DOB:
[CITY, STATE, ZIP] Student ID:
Tel: Height:
Parents: Weight:

College Career Objective

Insert Rush photo

Jersey #
POSITION(S)

Academic & Entrepreneurship

Graduation Class of 20??

School:
Address:

Phone:
SAT:
GPA Class Rank:

Honors and Advanced Courses

Awards & Achievements

Employment

Club Soccer, Tournaments & Camps

CLUB EXPERIENCE
Rush Soccer – Denver, Colorado

Coach:
Phone:
Email:
Position:
Other:
Tournaments

Club Team Accomplishments -

High School Soccer

[HIGH SCHOOL]

Coach -
Phone:
Email:
Team Achievements

Personal Achievements:

References and Community Service

Additional References:

-

-

Community Service

-

-

-



SENIOR TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Senior Year To Do List
- Choosing a College
- ACT and SAT Test Dates
- Misconceptions about the Recruiting Process
- Questions to ask on a Recruiting Visit
- The Visit
- Contact Sheet
- College Decision Chart
- Phone Call Info
- Suggestions and Tips
- Choosing a Major
- Cover Letter and Resume Example
- Player Resume Template
- Web Sites



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

CHOOSING A COLLEGE

*It's not a **FOUR-YEAR** decision; it's a **FORTY-YEAR** decision.*

Choosing a college is like choosing a friend. It's important to find one that's compatible with you, one where you can be yourself, and one that will help you achieve your goals.

Academics	
Your Particular Interests	Typical Class Size
School's Focus - Majors Offered	Student/Faculty Ratio
School's Ranking	Graduate Students as Instructors
Big-Name School	Tutoring/Support Services
Admissions Standards (GPA/SAT/ACT)	Military Academy
Enrollment	

Social / Environmental	
Private or Public	School Location (City/Suburban/Rural)
Religious Affiliation	Conservative or Liberal
Ethnic Diversity	Cultural Environment
Coed or Single Sex	Fraternity/Sorority
Distance from Home and Family	Recreational Activities
Campus Atmosphere	Climate

Soccer Considerations	
Division - (I, II, III, NAIA, JC)	Immediate Playing Contribution
Player Turnover	Scholarships Money and Distribution
Coaching Staff Qualifications	Staff Time Commitment
Competitive Schedule	Facilities
Training Schedule	Travel
Coaches Contacts to Next Level	



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

ACT AND SAT TEST DATES

The testing dates for the ACT and SAT should be updated and mailed to all high school age teams by July 15th of each year.

ACT Test Dates - 2011-2012		
Test Dates	Registration Deadline	(Late Fee Required)
September 8, 2012	August 17, 2012	August 18 - 24, 2012
October 27, 2012	September 21, 2012	September 22 - Oct 5, 2012
December 8, 2012	November 2, 2012	November 3 - 16, 2012
February 9, 2013	January 11, 2013	January 12 - 18, 2013
April 13, 2013	March 8, 2013	March 9 - 22, 2013
June 8, 2013	May 3, 2013	May 4 - 17, 2013

SAT Test Dates - 2011-2012		
Test Dates	Test	Regular Registration Deadline (postmark/submitted by)
October 6, 2012	SAT and Subject Tests	September 7, 2012
November 3, 2012	SAT and Subject Tests	October 4, 2012
December 1, 2012	SAT and Subject Tests	November 1, 2012
January 26, 2013	SAT and Subject Tests	December 28, 2012
March 9, 2013	SAT only	February 8, 2013
May 4, 2013	SAT and Subject Tests	April 5, 2013
June 1, 2013	SAT and Subject Tests	May 2, 2013

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION, COSTS AND TESTING SITES, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING SITES:

ACT: [HTTP://WWW.ACTSTUDENT.ORG/INDEX.HTML](http://www.actstudent.org/index.html)

SAT: [HTTP://WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG/](http://www.collegeboard.org/)



MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE RECRUITING PROCESS

Misconceptions about the Recruiting Process
by Tim Nash

Too many high school student-athletes, the recruiting process can be mysterious and confusing. There are a lot of misconceptions about how to be recruited and what you, as a student-athlete, can do to help the process along.

Several top college coaches in the country offer some sound advice. First of all, learn as much as you can about the schools you are interested in attending. Second, know how much scholarship money is available and third, don't just sit by your phone, and assume it will ring.

Here are five common misconceptions student-athletes have about the recruiting process.

1. Everybody Has 9.9 Scholarships Every Year.

The NCAA allows a Division I soccer program 9.9 scholarships. That does not mean that every year, a coach can give away 9.9 scholarships (for men's soccer. Women are allowed 14). In fact, unless it is a first-year program or if all the scholarship players decide to transfer at the same time, no coach will ever have his full allotment of scholarship money in any given year.

"A lot of kids think that everybody is getting scholarships," says former Virginia coach Bruce Arena. "That's not the case. They have to look at where the program is and what their needs are."

Adds Maryland coach Sasho Cirovski, "Really, we are lucky if we have three or four to give a year." University of Massachusetts women's coach Jim Rudy says, "Sometimes, the kids and the parents think I'm kidding when I tell them we don't have 11 full rides."

One year, a coach may give three scholarships -- and some years they will be shared by four or five players. The next year, he may give two more. Coaches believe they are making the best use of their money if they spread the scholarships out equally between freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

2. Division I Is Always the Best.

"Some kids have don't have a good understanding of what Division I is," says Bruce Arena. "They might say 'I want to play Division I' but I could recommend a good D-II or D-III school. There are some Division I programs that are no better than some Division II or III programs."



Cirovski agrees. "A lot of people have a misconception about the level of play at some universities," says Cirovski who has recruited and signed some of the best high school players in the country since taking over the Maryland program two years ago.

3. All Programs Are the Same

Often, players will contact a college coach about attending their school and know nothing about the soccer team, the players, the coach, or the style of play.

If you are a left midfielder, and the team has three sophomore left midfielders, chances are good that is not the school for you. If another school may have a graduating senior and a junior at your position, you're more likely to get playing time sooner.

"If you are interested in a particular school, I recommend going and watching that team play," Cirovski. "Watching one game will answer a lot of your questions."

Cirovski recommends that student-athletes make a list of five schools they are interested in and then find out as much as they can about each school.

4. I Can't Call the Coach

The NCAA rules regarding recruiting are more difficult to understand than any foreign language class that you are required to take in school. There are rules regarding visits to a university, gifts from a coach, pickup games while you are on your recruiting visits and contact with the coach.

Many student-athletes are worried they will break the rules and somehow risk their college soccer career. However, as University of South Carolina coach Mark Berson points out, most of those rules pertain to the coach and not the player.

"A lot of kids don't think they are able to call a coach on the phone," he says. "They can call the coach any time they want."

Coaches are restricted as to when they can call a player. When the player is a junior, the coach can write him letters. When the player is a senior, the coach can return phone calls to him. But at any time, the player can call or write the coach.

"A lot of the rules deal with off-campus contact with the player," says Berson. "There are times when we will see a kid at a tournament or something and we are not able to talk with him. Sometimes we appear rude, but that's not the case."

5. High School Stars Automatically Become College Stars



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

If you are recruited by a major college, chances are you were the best player on your high school team. You've been the "go-to player," the one, who dictates the pace, the one everybody counts on. It's been a nice ride, but it's over.

"Some kids assume that since they were the star of their high school team, that they will be the star in college, too," says Colorado University women's coach Bill Hempen. "They don't fully understand the level of college soccer. They think they do, and their parents think they do, but they don't.

"The pace of college soccer is like nothing else they've seen before," warns Coach Hempen. "Even kids who come from some of the top club teams aren't used to the demands in college."



SENIOR YEAR TO DO LIST

What You Should be Doing to Prepare for College and College Soccer

- Improve your GPA. Grades! Grades! Grades!
- NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse – Are you registered? Is it in order?
- NCAA Clearinghouse – 1.877.262.1492
- NCAA – 317.917.6222
- Complete your core course requirement.
- Take the SAT and ACT again – scores will improve.
- SEE – Watch college soccer games – see what it's like at the next level.
- BE SEEN – travel with your club team – It's not too late!
- Make "unofficial" visits.
- Make "official" visits.
- Ask questions.
- Become familiar with the "Scholarship" process.
- Become familiar with the Financial Aid process. 1-800-4-FED-AID www.ed.gov
- Be prepared to complete the Financial Aid forms.
- Continue to participate in State Select.
- Continue to practice.
- Continue to play at the highest level available to you.
- Know your Academic and Soccer abilities. Be honest with yourself.
- Do not place too much emphasis on athletic scholarships.
- Does the school "fit" your needs?
- Will you be happy there? Without Soccer? Without the academic/social environment?
- Finalize your school "wish list."
- Get a calendar! Plan!
- Know the consequences.



QUESTIONS TO ASK ON A RECRUITING VISIT

*Don't Be Afraid To Ask Questions.
Ask Different People the Same Question.
Speak With Everyone – Not Just Soccer People.
Don't Be Shy. Be Assertive.*

ACADEMIC ISSUES

- What percentage of players with scholarships graduate in four years?
- What is the typical class size?
- Describe the academic support program.
- Does a tutor travel with the team?
- Describe the typical day for a student-athlete.
- How good is the department in my planned major?
- Is there a team study hall?

COLLEGE LIFE ISSUES

- What are the residence halls like? Clean? How many to a room?
- Will I be required to live on campus throughout my athletics participation?
- Is everything within walking distance?
- Will I need a car? Does the campus have a bus system? Is there a charge?
- Are students friendly? Are students relaxed?
- How do you feel about Fraternities and Sororities?
- Is it an active campus or do kids go away for the weekends?
- Are athletics (particularly soccer) popular on campus?
- Is there any crime on campus? Safety issues?

FINANCIAL AID ISSUES

- Is financial aid available for summer school?
- What are the financial aid details?
- What does my scholarship cover?
- What can I receive in addition to the scholarship? Camps?
- How do I get more aid?
- What happens to my financial aid or scholarship if I'm injured?
- What are the opportunities for employment while I'm a student?



QUESTIONS THE SOCCER COACH MAY ASK YOU

- What are your strengths/weaknesses?
- Where does our school rank on your list?
- What other schools are you considering?
- What schools are looking at you?
- Are you looking for a scholarship? How much?
- Have you received offers from any other school?
- Have you completed a financial aid form?
- Are you or your parents willing to borrow money to fund your education?
- When will you make a decision?

QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO ASK THE SOCCER COACH

- What position(s) do you see me playing for your program?
- Describe the other players competing at the same position.
- Is the program supported and fully funded by the Athletic department?
- Can I "red-shirt" my first year? Does the school red-shirt you if you are injured?
- What are the physical requirements each year?
- Is there a summer conditioning program.
- Does the team have to fundraise for any of their soccer gear?
- How would you best describe your coaching style?
- What is the team's style of play?
- Do you, as the head coach, plan on staying for the four years I would be here?
- Describe the walk-on situation. How many make it, compete, and earn a scholarship?
- What are training sessions like? How long are they?
- Are there curfews?
- What are the team rules and how are they enforced?
- What is preseason training like?
- What is spring season like?
- Where does the team stay on road trips?
- How does the team travel to away games?
- Where do we live and eat on road trips? Who pays?
- What do you have to buy for road trips?



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Will I miss many classes for road trips? Will professors “put up” with this?
- How many other recruits have made visits? What positions do they play?
- Are any players transferring to the school?
- Have any players transferred from the school? Why?
- Am I required to play soccer in the off-season? Summer? Where?
- What is the availability and chance of receiving a scholarship?
- How much is the school prepared to offer?



CHOOSING A MAJOR (SENIOR)

Get to Know Yourself – Become Familiar with Your Career Personality

- Determine your interests.
- Determine your skills and abilities.
- Explore your work values.
- What's important to you?
- Visit the college career placement center.

Research and Investigate Different Fields and Careers of Interest

- Determine job requirements.
- What companies employ this kind of work?
- Where are these companies located?

Talk with Advisors, Teachers, Friends, People in the Field

- Why are they in the field?
- What do they like about the job?
- Has their experience been enjoyable?
- What has been the most difficult or unpleasant about the job?
- If they had to do it again . . .

Consider Internships, Job Shadowing, Volunteering, Summer Jobs

- It's never too soon to gain experience.
- Make the most of summer vacation. Find related jobs.
- Volunteer to gain experience.

Consider the Job Opportunities Available with Each Major

- Talk with and visit the college career advisor.
- Use the college library.
- Get information available with each major, estimated starting salary, the projected job outlook, and the best geographic location.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

THE VISIT

*Living Someplace for Four Years Can Be a Long Time,
Especially If You Don't Like It There. So, Take a Good Look!*

The Best Time To Visit Is When School Is In Session.

THE CAMPUS	
Campus Maps	Campus Transportation
Campus Location	Dorms - Elevators - Stairs - Safe
Campus Size	"Personality" - Student Union
Distance - Bank - Post Office - Laundry	Weather - All Year
Distance - Dorm - Classrooms - Cafeteria	Transportation - Bus - Airline
Distances - Mall - Theater - Restaurants	Freshman Classroom - Size
Cars - Parking - Safe	School Newspaper
THE COMMUNITY	
Newspaper - Editorial Page	School's Relationship
Community Issues	Do you fit?
THE SOCCER ENVIRONMENT	
Coach - Style? - Four Years?	Your Position - Compare - Versatile
Players - Do you fit?	Soccer Team Media Guide
Team - Are They? - Listen - Locker Room	Training Facilities - "Home" Field
Soccer Game - Style of Play	



SUGGESTIONS AND TIPS ABOUT ADMISSIONS

(FROM ADMISSIONS OFFICERS/REPRESENTATIVES)

Before applying to any selective college, college-bound student should consider these tips from admission office staff/counselors:

- Take challenging courses and build a good foundation throughout elementary, middle and high school.
- The first year in high school is when you start to create a record that will play a role in the college admission decision. A picture is being painted by what you do in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades.
- The 8th grade is when you plan what you will take in high school.
- Not everyone is Harvard-bound. Assess what your skills really are and on what "playing field" you will perform best.
- Pursue volunteer and extracurricular activities that reflect who you are.
- Take the PSAT as a sophomore to prepare for the SAT which will be given during your junior year.
- Familiarize yourself with university settings. Attend summer camps on college campuses. Visit colleges while on vacation.
- See college as a fun place.
- Decide what kind of school you are looking for by the end of your sophomore year or beginning of your junior year.
- Speak with alumni and current students at the colleges that interest you.
- The college application process starts a different time frame. As you begin the senior year, it signals that you're applying to go to a school, and you will receive a letter back that says either yes you can or no you can't.
- Writing the college admission essay is crucial. Don't put it off until the last minute. Start early. Set a self-imposed deadline of Thanksgiving of your senior year to have the rough draft—if not the final draft—complete.
- Parents: talk to students about where they want to go to school, what is affordable and what you are willing to sacrifice. Sit down with the students and help them decide what schools are realistic to pursue.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Students' relationships with their parents change as they begin the college search process. Students, take responsibility for your own actions or non-actions. This is usually the first real-life decision you will have to make. Be prepared to deal with this change.
- Your best friend is not necessarily going with you to the next phase of your education. Make your college choice individually. You will become a better person if you are brave enough to strike out on your own. Value and develop your own self-worth.
- It helps if students have learned to take responsibility for themselves at early ages and through their high school careers. Students who seem best suited for college are those who held jobs and had some responsibility for taking care of themselves, for managing themselves. When they reach college, they have to discipline themselves to study, go to class, and turn in papers on time.
- Parents: give your student the opportunity to make intelligent choices.
- Learn to deal with rejection and failure, especially if you are looking at competitive colleges. Not everyone can be in the top 10 percent of the class. Good coping skills will benefit you throughout your life.
- Visit different campuses.
- Read newspapers. Keep up with current events.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions during the college search process. Parents should assist students in the college search, but should not take over. Let the student make appointments for college visits. Let the student complete and mail inquiry cards. Let the student complete and mail the application. Let the student do the work required to gain admission to college.
- Parents should not prevent students from exploring college options for majors and degrees. Let your student figure out what he or she is passionate about.
- The college decision involves an incredible investment of time that can never be repeated: four years of undergraduate education. College is the second or third largest investment of personal resources that parents and students make. Have a plan.
- Know and meet all deadlines. Don't lose an opportunity because you missed a deadline.
- Parents: talk to your students about income so they can understand the concept of spending money for college as an investment versus just "going to a school."



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Have your essay proofed.
- Write your essay for yourself. Don't write what you think your admission counselor wants.
- Identify and articulate your accomplishments. Decide what your greatest accomplishment thus far in life is.
- It's important for parents to remember that not every student wants to go to a Southwestern, a selective school. That is not a bad thing. You should support your student in seeking an environment where he or she will succeed—whether that's SU or an Ivy League school, technical institute, community college or state university.
- For first-generation families: Students, follow your dreams. Be realistic about your skills and abilities. Seek colleges that will best benefit your whole life. Don't shy away from applying to a school because you think it costs too much. That's why scholarships and financial aid exist. Parents, seek out professionals—it does not have to be a paid service. Many college and university admission and financial aid professionals are willing to help parents identify resources.
- Use admission counselors as a resource; that's why we're here.
- If you realize a school isn't right for you, don't be afraid to ask an admission counselor for ideas on other schools that may be a better match.
- Admission counselors are not salespeople. We are here to tell you about the college admission process and to give you information on the school we represent. We're not trying to sell you something that is not right for you.
- Mailings that guarantee scholarships for substantial fees are usually scams. High schools, public libraries, the World Wide Web and the college admission offices offer free access to scholarship resources.
- Visit www.fastweb.com, a free scholarship search service on the World Wide Web.
- Education is not certification. It's not a collection of classes. It's a total experience that helps you become a well-rounded person.
- A broad education is the best preparation for the unexpected.
- Major in something you enjoy.
- Seek opportunities for leadership development.



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

- Be prepared to have your horizons stretched in college. You will meet people who have different opinions. You may disagree. You may agree. Your values may change or they may not. It's okay to see things in a different light than your parents.
- Understand what a research institution is, what a liberal arts college is, what different types of colleges exist.
- Consider more than just a school's size. Bigger is not necessarily better.
- A good exercise for students is to ask what your parents thought they were going to do when they were 18-years-old. What was their first college major? Their second? Their third? What major did they graduate with? What was their first job? What are they doing today? Then ask them to defend why you should be pressured to know exactly what you are going to do.
- Begin by taking as broad a course selection as possible at the undergraduate level. Don't focus on preparing for one specific career. The career you begin pursuing may not be around in four years when you graduate. Ten years after you graduate college, it's likely that you will be working in a career you didn't perceive as possible when you began college.
- Look for challenges inside and outside the college classroom. Some of your best learning will be done outside of the classroom.
- When a student begins college, parents are doing a disservice to allow him or her to leave before completing at least one semester, and preferably one year. Students sometimes have a hard time adapting to newness and to change and to stress. Homesickness is not a problem.
- Don't expect college to be like television or the movies. It's not like "Beverly Hills, 90210" or, hopefully, not like "Animal House."
- The kind of experience you have will depend on the effort and time you put into college.
- If you are not satisfied with how you are doing in school, the first place to look is at yourself. You might find out a lot by looking inward first, instead of just transferring to another school.
- You can have a great experience any place you decide to go to school.
- Have fun as you search!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

WEB SITES FOR COLLEGE INFORMATION

WWW.QUINTCAREERS.COM – EXCELLENT TOOLS SITE FOR STUDENTS

WWW.COLLEGEQUEST.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGES.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVSOURCE.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.COLLEGE-SCOLARSHIPS.COM – COLLEGE SEARCH SITE

WWW.UNIVERSITY-DIRECTORY.ORG – COLLEGE DIRECTORY SITE

COLLEGEAPPS.ABOUT.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

WWW.FAFSA.ED.GOV – FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.NCES.ED.GOV – NATIONAL EDUCATION STATISTICS

WWW.STATS.BLS.GOV – NATIONAL LABOR STATISTICS

WWW.STUDENTAID.ED.GOV – ALL ABOUT FEDERAL STUDENT AID

WWW.PRINCETONREVIEW.COM – ALL ABOUT COLLEGE PREP TESTS (ACT/SAT ETC)

WWW.AIE.ORG – NEWS ABOUT THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

WWW.ALLSTUDENTLOAN.ORG – LEARN ABOUT GRANTS, LOANS, SCHOLARSHIPS

WWW.FASTWEB.COM – LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS

There are thousands of these, DO YOUR RESEARCH! Remember that some of the web sites out there ask you to do some work before giving you any information and then want you to pay extra for a "report" or "additional information". Choose wisely!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

PHONE CALL INFO (SCRIPT)

THE BOLD AND UNDERLINED AREAS ARE PLACES THAT YOU SHOULD INCLUDE YOUR OWN INFORMATION.

If leaving a message, be brief but leave detailed information. Speak clearly and say what you mean, do not have a large number of pauses and "um's".

Example #1:

Hello Coach **Schulz**, my name is **John Doe** and I am a **Junior** at **Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, CO**. I play for **Erik Bushey** on the Colorado Rush **U17 Nike Team** and I would like to talk to you about the **University of Hawaii** and your soccer program. I will try to call and reach you again on **DAY** at **TIME**. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Example #2:

Hello Coach **Schulz**, this is **Jim Cofer**. As you may remember from our last conversation I told you that I would update you on my whereabouts this season. I will be attending the **Nike Friendlies in Bradenton, December 5th through the 8th; the Disney Showcase the 27th through the 30th; and Nomads, March 19th through the 21st**. If you are attending any of these I would appreciate any time you might have to come and see me play. I will e-mail you the game schedules for these tournaments. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

If you get the coach on the phone make sure to be courteous and very straight forward. Make sure that you have your **FACTS and INFORMATION** as well as any **QUESTIONS** that you have. **ALWAYS** make sure to ask at least two or three questions. Your questions can show how much research and effort you have put into this call. Having said this **DO NOT**, I repeat **DO NOT** call a coach back without having done some research on BOTH the institution AND the soccer program. Remember that the soccer program is only an extension of the institution and your questions about the school and the soccer program are important.

Important things to remember:

1. ALWAYS answer an e-mail, letter or return a call to a coach, even if you are not interested. They know each other and they DO TALK!
2. Always do your research, coaches know when you don't
3. Make sure to take the time and write out or rehearse what you are going to say if you think you will leave a message.
4. Do not call without your notes and questions handy.



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5. Make sure to know who you are calling. Make sure you know which coach is responsible for what (2nd Asst Coach and GK coach is different than the 2nd Asst Coach and Strength Coach), and know their names

Some examples of questions to ask:

1. How is this year's recruiting class looking?
2. Where do you see the program going in the next four years?
3. What is your 4 year retention rate for students?
4. What do you see as my strongest athletic asset?
5. You have not had a chance to see me play, but I am very interested in your program. Where are you planning on being in the next six months?
6. What does your graduation rate look like?
7. What is your team GPA?
8. The school has been in the news lately for NCAA violations, I realize that these are not about the soccer program but how has this affected your program?
9. Your program is graduating 4 starting seniors, how do you see this affecting next years' team.
10. How does your transfer rate in compare to your transfer rate out, and what do you think this could be attributed to?
11. What are the next steps for me with regards to the application process?
12. Without some sort of financial aid I will need to find employment, can the soccer program help with that?
13. I see myself as a defensive midfielder, is there anything that you think I should be working on now to help with my transition to the college level at that position or at any other?
14. You have been with the soccer program for eight years, what do you think has been your greatest achievement with this program?
15. You are one of four programs that I am seriously considering. What makes your program different? Why should I attend your school?



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COLLEGE DECISION CHART

Attribute	College Choice #1	College Choice #2	College Choice #3	College Choice #4	College Choice #5	College Choice #6	College Choice #7
Degree(s) Offered							
Majors/Minors							
Location/Distance from home							
Size of school							
Public or Private							
Cost (tuition, books, fees, room and board)							
Financial Aid Packages							
Campus Resources (labs, libraries)							
Graduation Rate/Time							
Placement							
Quality of Program(s)							
Pressure to Excel							
Admissions Requirements							
Accreditation(s)							
Average Class Sizes							
Amount of Faculty Contact							
Courses taught by Faculty							
Student Body Characteristics (gender, diversity)							
Social Activities							
Safety Concerns							
Housing Options (on vs off, dorms and apt)							
Athletic Facilities							
Athletic Programs							
Soccer Program							
Other...							

Use this page to rate the college in any way you want (1 to 10 or 1 to 5, which ever number is higher for you). Add any criteria that you want...



COVER LETTER AND RESUME EXAMPLE

What you need:

1. Your name, address, telephone and email
2. Your high school grades, ACT, SAT, and graduation date
3. Your high school information (address, telephone number)
4. Your club team information – team, coach, and a contact number and/or email
5. Athletic Accomplishments
 - a. Don't list the world, they do not need to know that you were a Silver Mug Quarterfinalist in the Bronze division when you were U14
 - b. Be specific and clear – do not put something that only you and your parents understand and know
 - c. Limit the athletic info to MAJOR athletic achievements, don't put you played freshman basketball when you are a Junior, don't put that you ran on the JV cross country team in the spring of your sophomore year and no other time. Limit this space and make it important
 - d. Don't think that you have to have the world, be honest, and realistic
6. Academic Accomplishments
 - a. Again, be honest, do not overstate things, but list everything you have. Academics are important even to National Champs!
 - b. If you are not sure do not list it
 - c. If you are not sure go see your Guidance Counselor and ASK FOR HELP!
7. Additional Accomplishments
 - a. Anything that you feel does not fall under the other categories
 - b. Don't go overboard, and put that you have lots of friends, you smile a lot and you like the snow... these are accomplishments!!



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

Monday, May 20, 2008

Clive Charles
Head Men's Soccer Coach
University of Portland
Portland, Oregon

Dear Coach Charles:

My name is Tony McCall and I am writing to you to express my interest in attending the University of Portland and playing for your program.

Currently, I am a junior at Denver City High School and will graduate in 2009. I currently have a GPA of 3.5 and 1100 SAT. Enclosed is a list of my academic and athletic accomplishments.

I am currently playing for the Virginia State and Region II ODP team. My club team is the Sun Bowl Champion Loudoun Soccer U-17 Boys. My personal highlights include the ODP State Team, ODP Regional Camp for Region II, Puma Cup 1st team in Tampa, FL, All-State 1st team in 2005 and 2006 as well as the MVP Award at the Raleigh Shootout. I will be playing in the upcoming Sport Source Jr/Sr Showcase, August 12-14 in the Woodlands, TX. Enclosed with this letter is a current schedule of the showcase events my team will be participating in, my academic/soccer resumes a copy of my transcripts along with my ACT/SAT results.

I hope you will be attending some of these events and you might have the time to evaluate my soccer abilities in a showcase game. If you could send me a soccer media guide and a soccer camp brochure, it would be much appreciated.

I will follow up this letter with a telephone call within the next fourteen days in the hope that I will have an opportunity to talk with you in reference to opportunities that may exist in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tony McCall



George Best

Personal Information

George Best
555 So. West St
Denver, Colorado 80020
303.555.5555
Parents: Archie & Lisa

E-mail: jbc@yahoo.net
DOB: March 1, 1991
Position: Striker
Height: 6'6"
Weight: 200 lbs.

Goal

To play College Soccer at a level commensurate to my ability while getting the highest possible level of education to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Academics and Extra Curricular

Class of 2009
St Patrick's Secondary
2135 S. Pearl St.
Denver, Colorado 80210
303.555.5555

SAT: 1690 (Critical Reading 630/Math 620)
ACT: 25 (English-18/Math-27/Reading-31/Science-25)
GPA: 3.5
Honors and Advanced Courses: Honors Poetry, Advanced Biology
Extra Curricular Activities: FCA, Church Youth Group Leader, Skiing,

Club Soccer Experience

Real Madrid Academy U-16 Team - Madrid, Colorado
Coach: Alex Ferguson, Asst. Dir. of Coaching – Real Madrid Youth Academy
Phone: Office – 303.555.5555 Cell - 303.555.5555
Email: aferguson@yahoo.com

2001-2007 – Shamrock Rovers FC, Dublin, CO
Colorado State Cup & U-12 Region IV Champions - 2003
Colorado State Cup Finalist U-13 - 2004
Colorado State Cup Finalist U-14 & Wildcard to Region IV - 2005

ODP & Other Experience

ODP State Team
2005 U-14
2006 U-15
2007 U-16
ODP Region IV Pool
2006 U-15

National Team Pool
U-14 - 8-04
National Team
U-14 - 4-05
Real Madrid U-16 Super Y League Team - Summer 2007

High School Soccer

St Patrick's Secondary School
Coach: Arsene Wenger
Phone: 303.555.5555
Email: awenger@yahoo.com

2005-Freshman - Jr. Varsity Starting Striker & Captain
2006-Sophomore - Varsity Striker
2007-Junior - Varsity Starting Striker
2006 State 3A Finalist



COLLEGE ADVISORY PROGRAM

2007 State 3A Champion

References

Alex Ferguson	Real Madrid	Dir. of Coaching – Youth Academy - 303-555.5555 - aferg@yahoo.com
Roy Keane	Sunderland	Manager- 555.555.3757 rkeane@hotmail.com
David Beckham	LA Galaxy –	555.555.5555 db@mufc.org
Charlie Kadupski	The Sport Source-	555.555.5555 ckadup@hotmail.com



Mia Hamm

Personal Information

Mia Hamm 555 So. West St Denver, Colorado 80020 303.555.5555 Parents: Archie & Lisa	E-mail: Mg@yahoo.net DOB: March 1, 1991 Position: Striker Height: 5'6" Weight: 130 lbs.
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Goal

To play College Soccer at a level commensurate to my ability while getting the highest possible level of education to pursue a degree in Engineering.

Academics and Extra Curricular

Class of 2009 St Patricks Secondary 2135 S. Pearl St. Denver, Colorado 80210 303.555.5555	SAT: 1690 (Critical Reading 630/Math 620) ACT: 25 (English-18/Math-27/Reading-31/Science-25) GPA: 3.5 Honors and Advanced Courses: Honors Poetry, Advanced Biology Extra Curricular Activities: FCA, Church Youth Group Leader, Skiing,
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 Colorado State Cup Finalist U-14 & Wildcard to Region IV - 2005



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ODP & Other Experience

ODP State Team

2005 U-14

2006 U-15

2007 U-16

ODP Region IV Pool

2006 U-15

National Team Pool

U-14 - 8-04

National Team

U-14 - 4-05

Real Madrid U-16 Super Y League Team - Summer 2007

High School Soccer

St Patricks Secondary School

Coach: Arsene Wenger

Phone: 303.555.5555

Email: awenger@yahoo.com

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2006-Sophomore - Varsity Striker

2007-Junior - Varsity Starting Striker

2006 State 3A Finalist

2007 State 3A Champion

References

Alex Ferguson

Roy Keane

David Beckham

Charlie Kadupski

Real Madrid

Sunderland

LA Galaxy -

The Sport Source-

Dir. of Coaching – Youth Academy - 303-555.5555 - aferg@yahoo.com

Manager- 555.555.3757

555.555.5555

555.555.5555

rkeane@hotmail.com

db@mufc.org

ckadup@hotmail.com

Student Profile

[NAME] E-mail:
[ADDRESS] DOB:
[CITY, STATE, ZIP] Student ID:
Tel: Height:
Parents: Weight:

College Career Objective

Insert Rush photo

Jersey #
POSITION(S)

Academic & Entrepreneurship

Graduation Class of 20??

School:
Address:

Phone:
SAT:
GPA Class Rank:

Honors and Advanced Courses

Awards & Achievements

Employment

Club Soccer, Tournaments & Camps

CLUB EXPERIENCE
Rush Soccer – Denver, Colorado

Coach:
Phone:
Email:
Position:
Other:
Tournaments

Club Team Accomplishments -

High School Soccer

[HIGH SCHOOL]

Coach -
Phone:
Email:
Team Achievements

Personal Achievements:

References and Community Service

Additional References:

-

-

Community Service

-

-

-

