

Message Four

Dear Liza,

*I am very pleased to learn of your interest in our athletic program. Your accomplishments in your sport and in the high school classroom are quite impressive. We look forward to continuing a correspondence this year and evaluating you at various competitions. Please return the enclosed profile sheet as soon as possible and include your schedule so we can arrange to see you compete.*

The coach is responding to a letter from you. He/she saw something in the material that you sent that got his/her attention. He/she intends to make the effort to evaluate you. Fill out the profile form, send your schedule and keep in touch. The mention of your accomplishments in the high school classroom could indicate that they might be able to you get some academic money.

Message Five

Dear Liza,

*Thank you for your interest in our college program. Our recruiting is on a national level and we are looking for talented students who can meet high-level athletic and academic demands of a challenging program. Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return it as soon as possible. Include a schedule of events where you will be competing. If you have videotape available you may send it to us at your convenience.*

Again, the coach is responding to your letter. He/she has not seen you compete. Their comment that their recruiting is "on a national level" implies that they expect to recruit players who are considered at the very top of the graduating class. While they have asked for your schedule and offered to view a videotape, they haven't made any actual commitment to evaluate you in the future. Pursue your interest in this school but be sure to keep all of your options open.

Message Six

Dear Liza,

*Thank-you for your interest in our program. We feel that the history of our program is truly unique. We have produced thirteen All-Americans, and made ten NCAA appearances, including two trips to the Final Four. If you continue to have an interest in our program, please return the enclosed player questionnaire. Again, thank you for your interest and good luck in the recruitment process!*

Your letter to them didn't make much of an impression. Nothing has been said about evaluating you in the future. They sent you a profile form because college admissions departments frown on college coaches who ignore prospective students. It is possible that they are hoping that their letter will discourage you. If you are still interested, fill out the form and pray that something you write will make an impression. But, you had better start writing to other coaches who might make more of an effort to evaluate you.

Message Seven

Dear Liza,

*Thank-you for writing us about our program. We appreciate your interest but want you to know that we only expect to add two athletes to our squad this next year and we have identified those. We wish you the best of luck in your college search.*

This very negative response is very rare. I have only seen it once. It means "look somewhere else!"

Read your recruiting mail carefully. If you don't like what you are reading in the letters that you are receiving, broaden your search and approach a wider range of college coaches. Don't give up!

CollegeInfo

Kent & Ramona Barber 1001 Woodland Pk. Dr. W. Des Moines, IA 50266 (515) 223-0987

© Copyright 2001