

**Subject: Athletic Recruiting and Scholarship Seminar**  
**From: Richard Novitch <RNOVITCH@burke.org>**  
**Date: Tue, 05 Dec 2006 10:32:07 -0500**  
**To: WMazz22@aol.com**

Dear Coach Mazzoni,  
Thank you for the follow up email and the discussion. I have a sophomore male swimmer who has expressed an interest in swimming in college and I think it is important for parents to be involved early to facilitate their child's aspirations with some behind the scenes work so that the child is focused on academics and enjoying playing the sport today.

I think you made some excellent points last night. You were right on about athletics in high school being the most fun. I have a friend at work whose son played baseball at Mamaroneck HS and Cortland State and compared to HS, he thought college athletics was a grind.

The other point you made about competitiveness was also right on. My 8 year old son swims with my 15 year old on a club team. I see an intensity and drive to compete in the 8 year old that I have never seen in the older boy. He is more naturally athletic and has more of an athlete's personality of confidence and swagger even at a young age.

Aside from helping individuals and schools where you speak you are also performing a service for people who think of athletics as a ticket. The real ticket is academics which you stressed.

The point you made about bus rides I thought was an outstanding point and one which I shared with my wife.

I hope that you can come back and speak again next year.

Best of luck with your baseball program. Sacred Heart is fortunate to have you as a coach and educator.

Rich Novitch

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