

Did you know?

NAIA: The hidden gem of collegiate sports

It's true, there are not as many colleges in NAIA as they lean toward smaller institutions. However, what they do offer is a lot of financial and athletic aid. The initial version of the NAIA began with all male athletes in 1937 with basketball, and evolved over the years to include women (in 1980) and a variety of sports.

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Academia

Extracurricular Activities are important!

Yes, if your high school has a swim team you will most likely participate in this extracurricular sport, but what else will you do?
Extracurricular activities will definitely play a part in your college application. Not only that but, being involved in activities outside of school may help you find a passion for a career or at least help you meet new people as you enter high school.

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NCAA News

Official Visit Tips: During your visit:

It is fine for your parents to go with you on an official visit. A lot of coaches will judge you on how you treat your parents. When you meet with the coaches, stand up and look the coaches in the eye. Turn off your cell phone.

Take notes and ask a lot of questions of the coaches and other swimmers.

Spend as much time as you

need to check out the academics and make sure it could be a good fit. Most coaches will appreciate that you value an education.

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Did You Know? NAIA: The hidden gem of collegiate sports(cont....)

NAIA teams compete in 21 different conferences and a National Championship in all 16 sports. Swimming is taken very seriously, and offers a wonderful segway into the world of being a student athlete. There are almost 100 swimming schools offered, and it could be said they are on par with d2 schools!

Just because a school might be smaller, that does not mean they compromise on education, coaches or facilities. Their goal is to give the athlete a wide variety of experiences, and still be able to swim!

Before you say yes, to just anyone, look at the NAIA teams and see how you can help each other!

By Lori Payne

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Academia Extracurricular Activities are important! (cont...)

Colleges want to know who you are outside of a GPA and test score. In fact, colleges will use your experiences as a way to judge your character in ways that grades and test scores cannot. Serving with the student government will show your leadership skills, swimming throughout high school will show you can make a long term commitment, working a part-time job shows you're able to manage your time while keeping your grades up, volunteering helps show you are dedicated to helping others. Extracurricular activities include school, community, work, and volunteer opportunities. In the next few newsletters I will talk about ways to get involved. Stay tuned!....

By Melynda Nash, Academic Advisor, American College Connection Melynda@ACCrecruits.com

NCAANews Official Visit Tips: During your visit (cont...)

Before you accepted the trip you should have asked about scholarship or the cost of attendance. If you didn't, then you need to ask during the visit if the opportunity presents itself.

If you get a chance to watch a practice, actually watch it and stay off your cell phone. This should be a very important part of the trip, but a lot of recruits use the time in the bleachers to catch up on their social media accounts and text messages. Now is NOT the time to check your phone.

Ask intelligent questions of the coaches and please don't ask "how much yardage you do in practice." A good question is to ask who would be your primary coach and in what events they see you helping out the team.

By Rick Paine,

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