

Mr. Reddick,

I think one of the aspects in the recruiting process that are most important would have to be the academic side of it all. Most student-athletes come to a college or university for four years to earn a degree in a field they are interested in working in at some point in their lives. If they are only coming to a school to play a sport, we aren't getting them ready for the real world. There is a college or university out there for everyone to go to and it has to be the right fit for them academically, athletically, and financially. There are so many aspects that are involved in higher education and each individual student-athlete is different. Just because I am looking for a left handed pitcher that throws 84-86 doesn't mean that the first one I offer is going to say yes. It may take me five or six, or maybe even more recruits to get the one that my university and program fit the best. This student-athlete needs to go to study hall every week for their freshman year, maintain a 3.0 to stay a part of the program, and somehow balance school work, friends, and practices and games. All in all, I am trying to get all of my student-athletes ready for the next level which, at this time juncture in life, becomes getting a masters degree. There aren't too many places that will accept you in to their program with a 2.48 GPA. Having at least a 3.0 will have the majority of masters programs saying yes to a particular student. And that is what we are getting these young individuals ready for. Yes, I want to win like the rest of the coaches I play against. But I am not going to do it at the cost of not having someone on my team the following year because he couldn't get at least a 2.0 in 12 credit hours. Thanks for asking about this and I hope this helps.

Anthony J. Pla'
Head Baseball Coach/Head Men's Soccer Coach/Assistant Compliance
Coordinator
Lincoln University of Pennsylvania

Paul,

The most important aspect of the recruiting process is to find a good fit for the young student athlete academically as well as athletically. Not for the high school coach or the parents but for the student athlete going to school. If he is happy and has a good fit most likely he will be successful at the next level. If a student athlete hurts their arm and can't play anymore is he where he wants to be academically. Role of high school coach is to be honest with the student athlete and accurately assess the player's skill level. Match where the player can perform: D-1,2,3, NAIA, JC. Success in high school does not necessarily mean success in college. College coaches are the ones who determine if the player will be successful in their program. To get noticed a player needs to play on a summer travel team that plays in a lot of tournaments. Also, attend some showcases especially at schools where you have an interest.

Coach Morgan

From: Elmore, Thad

Player needs to contact potential schools via email or mail to start conversation. Students need to be aware of importance of academics for scholarships.

From: Lake, Scott

I think they need to go to tryouts or spotlight camps. But the problem is not having the information of where all these tryouts and camps are so we can get the information to our kids.

Thanks, Scott

From: Foster, Chuck

Beyond the things that they cannot control (height, build) Hustle and field presence are the most important. They look like they know exactly what to do without hesitation. The game looks like it is slowed down for them.

From: Phelps, Sam

Get the process started early, start of Junior year in most cases and keep your options open. Make sure the student-athlete has all the necessary paperwork with NCAA eligibility filled out and are currently eligible. Have video/film/stats ready for prospective coaches/programs.
Sam Phelps, New Paltz HS

From: Chris Conlin

I am not a big proponent of showcases in general. In general, they are a money maker for the company. In reality, a kid has to go to a good one for exposure.
Chris Conlin
University High School, Irvine Ca

From: Fitzgerald, Brian

I feel that parents involvement (positive) is very important along with the player being coachable on and off the field! The more camps that a player can attend the higher his chances are to be noticed. Also our all-area and all-state selections can also help.

From: dgrumich

Paul. I tell my players here at Trinity Catholic High School to be proactive in terms of contacting the schools they are interested in. We also sit down and talk about what schools they should be approaching so we are realistic about ability level and whether or not they can play at the schools of their choice. We make sure if they contact a school that they realistically can compete at those schools. Once we get the list whittled down to three or four I tell them to contact the coaches, make visits and make sure the entire school is what they want and not just the baseball program. I encourage my kids to make sure they will be happy at a school even if baseball does not work out. We send out videos, make calls and make visits to keep our players in front of the eyes of the coaches. I also try to be as cooperative with the college coaches as possible and make it easier on them to recruit. I believe if they have a good experience with Trinity they will come back for more players in the future.
Dan Grumich
Baseball Coach/Trinity Catholic High School, St. Louis, MO

From: Roffi, Michael

The first thing if a player wants to get notice is have great grades, not good grades but great one, Secondly a player must respect the game, by wearing the clothing correctly, running on the field and off the field, but showing respect to their peers, opponent and adults. Finally they must get training and work at it 12 months and then just then they might get notice and play at the next level Here at wLC we have sent a lot of young men to the next level and that is what I preach and do in this program

Coach Roffi

From: Sam Root

from my experience as a high school coach, and also coaching at the junior college level, an athlete needs to play summer ball, and also market himself to get noticed, unless he is exceptional. sending emails,

letters to coaches is a must. If you send out 25, expect to get 5-10 back, as college coaches are on a demanding schedule.

From: Nathan M. Selby

I think the recruiting process is VERY OVERATED. Most of the camps and showcases are simply money making opportunities for the people running the camps. The most important thing a player can do to get noticed is practice and work. I don't know hardly any good player that have been missed. Perhaps if a kid is in a small town, small league they may need to solicit their talents, but if you're playing 4A baseball in Las Vegas you're not getting missed. Practice and hard work, there's no cheating the system. You can be seen by a million guys and if you're not good, it makes no difference. If you are good, they'll find you.

Isn't that the job of a collage recruiter or pro scout?

From: Chiapparelli, Michael

Can I play there, do they want me how bad, what are their needs soph, jrs,

From: Bryan Buckner

From my experience, the best thing a player can do to get noticed is to attend college camps and showcase camps. It also appears that the kids who play travel ball and senior legion (in our area) seem to get noticed more.

From: Todd Smrekar

Hi Paul,

Through my experience, the best thing a player can do to get noticed is do some of the showcases in the area. This can be tricky because some are expensive. Our local coaches association sponsors one that is affordable and gets 90 pro and college scouts to attend. Additionally, legion baseball and tournaments are important for kids to get noticed at. Also, the coach is responsible to get their personnel recruited. This process includes sending out contact information, entering stats on line for all to see, and promoting their program. I hope this helps.

Todd Smrekar

Social Studies Teacher(College Psychology and Sociology, General Psychology)
Head Baseball Coach, Cambridge-Isanti High School

From: Roger Bailey

Players need to ranked by class (school enrollment) We have 4 classes in Indiana and we are the smallest Class A. We are a small school that has a solid player from time to time but they get dismissed due to our size and schedule, as if you have to go to a big school to play ball. The prospect class ranking would help identify players who are slipping through. I feel like I constantly have talk up my guys to anybody and everybody who will listen.

From: Butch Weaver

Players must be seen by schools or scouts! With such a busy spring
Coaches from juco's very seldom make visits. It has been a policy of mine that if a soph. or junior wants to play the next level, they need to go to camps and

combines so these coaches and scouts will see them in the summer and Fall months. It would be great for coaches to see them in games, but with their schedules in the spring it makes it very hard for them.
Butch Weaver

From: Michael Hunt

1. Attitude: An opposing pitcher the other day (a team I used to coach) had a coach from a major DI university in attendance to watch him. He threw terribly, but I told his dad that he got put on the NO list, not so much for how he pitched, but for how he handled himself.
2. Academics: Probably doesn't help get noticed, but makes the whole process a lot easier.
3. Look and Act the Part: Obviously if you have a profile body it helps. Where the uniform right, hustle all the time.
4. Be able to play. If you can play and you do it over and over, people will notice you. Whether it be a recommendation from an opposing coach or your own, you can get noticed. Getting out to play in front of others helps too.

From: Mack, Robert

The high school player must assume that no one is going to go to him. He and his parents must reach out to the colleges and be pro active. The high school player MUST attend an Open House with parents that is open to all high school students AND, on a separate visit, attend a baseball camp or clinic at that college that is put on by the head coach, with the assistance of the players on the team. These experiences gives the high school players and his parents a good sense of what the school can offer, and a feel for what the coach and his team are like. It also gets the high school player in to perform in front of his future coaches and a chance to be noticed. Likewise, these visits provide the coach with a chance to take a good look at the candidate. While telephone calls, emails, letters of recommendation, videos and text messages can help provide the coach with the basic information about the player, they don't tell the whole story.

From: Jerod Burns
putting together a good scout tape

From: Galen McSpadden

1. Identifying players and then the initial contact – first impressions are important
2. Building a relationship from that initial contact. Follow up contacts that gains respect both from you as the recruiter/coach as well as from the prospect. Don't call too much, but don't call to less and set a time to call/visit and stick with that time. Don't put unnecessary pressure on the recruit, but let them know they are important.
3. Your approach....be honest, consistent, and genuine. Perform in as many of the 5-tools skills (run, hit, field, throw, power) as possible and play the game with respect to the game. It takes no abilities to play hard only effort. Find players that you don't have to coach effort, attitude, or parents.

Galen McSpadden
Athletic Director/Baseball Coach
Seward County Community College

From: W Burke Broussard

The most important aspects to me are:

1. Being honest about a player's ability (we don't want to waste recruiters time).
2. Getting our better players to realize it is a hard process and takes time. They have to be patient.

Players

The #1 thing that players need to do is get to showcases, tryout camps and to be seen. Some recruiters want to see players with their own eyes and not go on word of mouth from coach. They don't value phone calls about player's because sometimes it is not legit. I was told one time by a college coach to not call him about player's. If he is good, they will contact him because the word will get out.

Thanks

From: Allen, Nick

Kids have to realize that they have to do the leg work. In 6 years as a head coach, 98% of my kids think that the scouts are just going to come. Most of my kids have been above average high school players at best so they need to be looking for JCs and smaller 4 years outside the state of Arizona. They have to market themselves. YouTube video is an absolute must and then they have to contact hundreds of coaches and get there stuff out there. Showcases are a waste of time and money. They have to find the cheap one's that have coaches attending from schools they have been in contact with.

From: Patrick Miller

Player should first and foremost be truthful with themselves about their skill level, second go to as many workouts, camps, etc. as you can and repeat those visits thru-out your HS career, third have the grades at A/B thru-out your HS career, 4th, have a great idea of what the coach is looking for and what you can offer, and last make a video of your highlights because that may save the coach and you some time and money--Thanks for including me in your research--Pat Miller-Head Baseball Coach--Tarboro HS

From: Hackney, David W.

One of the most important things I see in the recruiting process that would help the player and the recruiter is for the recruiter to actually come out whenever it is possible and see the kid in person whether it is in a game or practice. I have a player right now (pitcher and shortstop) who is a senior and led the Houston area in strikeouts last year and was 8-1 this year with a .475---.511 batting average all year long..During his junior year, he was being looked at by Stanford, Texas A&M, Texas State, etc... They would email me ask me about his stats and his character, etc... They seemed very interested until they asked his size and I told them he was about 5'11....They told me they wanted somebody at least 6'2 tall-----they are missing out on a great prospect and he eventually signed with Howard this year... The recruiters would have been wowed by him if they saw him in person and his work ethic..... I believe a player must attend show cases and play select ball to get attention (especially the players who aren't sure-fire Division I prospects)....I encourage my players to attend as many show-cases as possible

From: DENNIS ROBINSON

PAUL THIS IS MY 40 YEAR COACHING BASEBALL,GOD HAS GIVEN ME A GIFT TO BE AROUND GREAT PLAYERS AND BEING ABLE TO COACH WITH MY BROTHER MIKE ,WHO TEACHES HERE AT LAKELAND.LAKELAND IS OVER 3 MILLION DOLLARS IN BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIPS.OUR PROGRAM HAS BEEN RANKED IN THE NATION AND THAT IS HARD ,PEOPLE THINK THE NORTH EAST IS NOT GROUNDS FOR BASEBALL!!!! WE TELL OUR PLAYERS THERE ARE STEPS THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED FOR TO

GO TO THE NEXT LEVEL.WE HAVE HAD 9 PLAYERS SIGNED PRO
CONTRACTS.MOST RECENT IS MY SON A ALL AMERICAN IN HIGH SCHOOL AND
COLLEGE.DRAFTED BY TORONTO HER BUT WENT ON TO COLLEGE AT
UNIVERSITY OF JACKSONVILLE.HIS SENIOR YEAR 13 WINS ONE BEHIND THE
TOP WIN PITCHER WEAVER.HE SIGNED WITH BALTIMORE AND SPENT FOUR
YEARS PLAYING BALL.HE IS NOW THE HEAD COACH AT TERRY PARKER HIGH
SCHOOL IN JACKSONVILLE
THE ATHLETE MUST
BE THE BEST STUDENT HE CAN BE IN THE CLASS ROOM
BE IN THE WEIGHT ROOM
BE ON TIME TO EVERY THING
MUST GET BETTER EVERY DAY ON THE FIELD AND IN THE CLASS ROOM
SUMMER BALL TEST YOUR SELF PLAY UP IN AGE LEVEL
I SPEND MANY MANY HOURS ON THE PHONE WITH COLLEGE COACHES,MY JOB
IS TO SELL THE PRODUCT AND IAM GOOD AT IT
NOT EVERY PLAYER IS A DIV ONE SCHOLARSHIP PLAYER .WHAT IAM PROUD OF
IS THE BOYS WHO LOVE THE GAME AND WANT TO CONTINUE IN COLLEGE
THOSE ARE THE ONES THAT IAM MOST PROUD OF . THE IVY LEAGUER WHO
MANAGES HIS TIME ON THE FIELD AND OFF
TODAY COLLEGE PLAYERS
BECKER COLLEGE
FARMINGDALE STATE
BROCKPORT STATE
MANHATTAN COLLEGE
CORTLANDT COLLEGE
MERCY COLLEGE
NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE
THIS YEAR I HAVE THREE BOYS WHO HAVE SIGNED
JON de MARTE ALL NEW YORK STATE SIGNED WITH RICHMOND
PITCHER,GATORADE PLAYER OF YEAR 2010
JOE ARENA ALL NEW YORK STATE SIGNED WITH C W POST
DAVID JUDISKY ALL NEW YORK STATE SIGNED WITH MANHATTAN
PAUL I COULD TALK BASEBALL ALL THE TIME HEY GO ON THE WEB AND SEE
PRAXISTEPS IT IS A TEACHING SITE FOR THE GAME ITS 3 HOURS LONG
IN BASEBALL
DENNIS ROBINSON
Dennis Robinson, Director of Athletics
Lakeland High School

From: Deon Dinsmore

Paul,

I am very interested in recruiting and worked in the field for 5 years before I started coaching....expectations and being pro active are the most important parts in recruiting. No longer with the old saying if your good enough coaches will find you work. There are so many avenues to help yourself get recruited but 90% of the parents and 90% of coaches have no idea what to do. What I am also finding is most high school coaches want nothing to do with the process.
Deon Dinsmore

From: LeCroy, Joseph G

With all the early commitments these days, the kids better get out and showcase their talents early. I think colleges spend more time recruiting at showcase and travel ball than they do at high school games. Not a lot of late signing for a senior who has improved. So better get on as many publications websites etc. So they will come watch you play.

From: Hillard, Brandon

If a student-athlete has a coach who has built report with college coaches then parents need to allow that coach to work. Pushy parents can turn college coaches off to their kid because they will take the assumption that is how the parents will act while their child is in the program. No college coach in my opinion likes a parent who is over involved. Video has actually become highly important in the college recruiting industry for baseball. Through video analysis of a variety of angles College coaches can tell if they will be able to help a student-athlete grow. Stats: Stats are great but provide them at the college coaches' request. MPH: make sure that you actually have been given solid proof through radar guns that you can throw 94 before you tell a college coach you are throwing well into the 90's when you are barely breaking 82.

Brandon Hillard, Head Baseball Coach, Knox Central Panthers

From: Justin Santich

I would say the most important part of the recruiting process is to go somewhere that you are wanted and somewhere that you fit in. Every college program is different in the style of baseball they play and what their core beliefs and philosophies are. It is important that a student athlete is aware of these things and chooses a program that they best fit in to. For example I played with an Outfielder in college who never played at the school I attended and a year later he transferred and was starting for Oregon State in the college world series. it wasn't that he wasn't a good player at San Jose State, he just didnt fit into the system. As far as getting noticed is concerned there are many showcase baseball camps offered by colleges. So if the student athlete has their eye on a specific school they should attend their camps. Also showcases such as the bay area world series (BAWS) and Nate Trosky's show cases are good opportunities to get seen. College Coach's of Divison 1, 2 and 3schools attend these showcases and are looking for good players. The last thing is to play hard all the time; you never know whose watching.

From: Robbie Centracchio

The most important aspects are: wanting to attend the university (not for baseball), the university is offering a major that the athlete is interested in, the level of baseball that best fits the players collegiate and post collegiate preference, coaching staff/facility/ tradition, and then affordability on the part of the family. I would say in that order of importance as well. In order to get noticed, I think now a days if you can play at the next level you will get noticed if you play two seasons out of the year (with the amount of scouts and through word of mouth). It helps to get noticed at a specific university to go to their showcases and camps. And in South Carolina it's important to go to a Diamond Prospects Showcase. Travel ball versus Legion ball does not factor into getting noticed unless you are talking getting noticed on a national level.

From: BRYAN MILBURN

Paul,

I ordered your recruiting cds and haven't had a chance to listen/ watch all of them but do believe the player should do the leg work and send out info to the coach at the school he is looking to attend. Having a person or coach with connections is always a plus. Having proper mechanics and off season work ethics is key to becoming a player that people will notice. Put the time in to improve your skills and mechanics and good things will happen.

Bryan

From: Jones, Dante

The most important part is being academically ready by your jr. Year. If you're not a freak of nature they will not wait.

From: Brian Runyan

The best way to get noticed by recruiters is to be 6'-4 and a 5-tool player. I speak for most (if not all) coaches, that this is not the case with everyone - if anyone - on our teams. As a player, you have to get your name out there to coaches and teams. They are not going to be interested in seeing you play if they don't know who you are. Send emails, send your stats, find out connections that your coaches have and have them send emails, go on college visits, etc. As a coach, I am not just going to send emails to recruiters for just any of my players. I am most likely to send recommendations/emails to colleges if the player works hard, and has character and integrity – on and off the field. To me, if you don't have those qualities, it is difficult for me to recommend them to a college or university. Also, focusing on your grades and ACT/SAT scores will always open up more opportunities. If your GPA and test scores are low, many colleges won't even give you a second look. So it is best as a student athlete to take care of your schoolwork to make that portion a non-issue. Hope this helps!

Brian Runyan

Whitefield Academy, 6th Grade Math and Science, High School Baseball

From: Parisi, Joseph

Paul,

Recruiting is the major key to both having a successful team and building a successful program. Not only do you have to recruit the most talented student-athletes from good programs, you must make sure that the student-athlete fit the needs of the program, the coaches, and the university climate. I just retired after 16 years as a college wrestling coach, and 12 of them here. I always utilized a five step process in recruiting student athletes for my program. 1-Identify: We will use all of our contacts from coaches, media outlets, recruiting services and gurus to identify players that are the right fit for the program philosophy and the institution. What do they need to do? *Communicate: They need to express interest to the coach through email Junior year in high school. Be persistent college coaches are busy. *Send correspondence: Include information on the best competition/competitors and dates. *Provide contact information: They need to make sure to note when they are available. Provide their cell phone number and an e-mail address and include this for both the student and parent. *Complete admissions process: Get all the paperwork taken care of early. Send in a resume and/or athletic questionnaire online as well. 2-Evaluate: This is the most important aspect of recruiting as we must gauge the level of effectiveness that the specific a specific student-athlete will have on our program. There is no substitute for hard work in player evaluations; we will see the athlete as much as possible to make sure that he will be an impact player. 3-Correspondence: We would start by sending out stock letters and questionnaires to the targeted student-athletes, and then begin sending out weekly mail to show our level of interest. We like to speak once a week with our top recruits, to let them know that we care about them, and that we were the right place for them to continue their educational and athletic goals. 4-Campus Visit: This is all about presentation as the right time, tour guide, and itinerary is all crucial to getting the recruit to sign. 5-Scholarship and Financial Aid Process: By looking at athletic ability, grades, community service and financial aid. I would like to see a copy of the article when it is done.

Joe Parisi, Lindenwood University

From: Brian Hurry

Hi Paul,

I do appreciate all the info you have been sending. I look at your question in regards to the most important aspects of the recruiting process a couple ways.

1. The player that has a HS or travel Coach that is well respected and trusting relationships with many college coaches.

2. The player that has good tools and not the coach with reputation/relationship there to speak on his behalf. For my players its situation 1. I have sent over 60 players to different levels of college in the last 12 years. 18 div 1 players since 2002 and 5draft picks since 2005. This has allowed me to build relationships with many college coaches. I tell the truth. My players know this and the coaches I work with know this. Since we play in the same season it's tough for them to get out and see many HS games. So they rely on showcases. That camn tell them 60 times, arm strength, hands, bat speed. But the showcases don't tell them about make-up which is the most important part they need to know. I tell my guys all the time get the best grades they can and read books and articles that will help them improve their mental games. Most kids want to go hit, lift, speed training and most neglect the importance of building mental toughness. We work hard on this in my program. Hope this helps.

Brian Hurry.

From: Michael O'Keefe

Paul- For players to get noticed they must have good academic standing. They also should play in showcases where the college coaches now go to recruit. While actually playing I think they must hustle on and off the field. Players should respond well to adversity i.e. no temper tantrums when strike outs occur. Hope this helps. Let me know if you were looking for something different. -coach O'Keefe

Michael O'Keefe Social Studies Coach Chelmsford High School

From: Chad Satcher

I think the most important thing is to make sure all the testing (ACT, TAKS, SAT, etc.) and eligibility standards (gpa, NCAA Clearinghouse, etc.). These are the things that they wait too long to take care of. Also, they need to fill out as many Prospect Questionnaire as possible. They're typically found on the athletic website, but it's something coaches always ask for.

From: Baseball

Recruits should find schools that offer what they want to study, and then get themselves seen by those coaches that he has a desire to play for. Contact the coaches and ask where they will look for recruits. If the coach does not respond, find coaches that have interest in your talents - go where you are wanted.

Barry Rosen, Head Baseball Coach, Saint Anselm College

From: Schutter, David **Date:** May 6, 2011 12:29:23 PM EDT

In order of importance:

Grades

ACT or SAT Score

H.S. Class Rank

Strong Basic Skill Set

Work Ethic
Speed
Desire
Strength
Good Parents / Strong Support System

From: Tim Murphy

Paul, I have coached baseball for 11-years and like most coaches I got involved because my son wanted to play baseball. I had the opportunity to watch coaches teach the game, coach my son, and see a lot of ugly experiences in managing the game. I mention this because players/parents experience the ups and downs to the game from what they learn on the field to the overall experience their coaches teach. Example: winning/loosing with class, sportsmanship, proper execution of baseball mechanics, preventing Arm injurers, and most of all enjoying the game just to name a few. No coach will get it right all the time but the experiences players/parents have over the years can impact what coaches will face in high school. That said; I expect players to understand the game and the general working knowledge of the game. Players have a huge advantage if they participated on select teams which hold a high level of standards. I coach a 15/16 team and held tryouts to host a college prep/tournament team this summer. I was disappointed to see players who never played select ball. These players lack the strength and in some cases lack the knowledge to play at this level. Although baseball knowledge is a given, I look for great attitudes, willing to be coached, strong academically, strong athletic ability, and goal of playing college baseball. I also think a show stopper can be the parents. Relationship between the coach and player involves the parents too. If the parents are not on board with the team agenda or present a checker past, it's a show stopper no matter how good the player is to the team. We teach team first player second attitude to ensure all players under athletes first, winning second attitude. The result has proven a huge success story for our Texas Senators baseball team established in 2005. Thank you,
Tim Murphy, Texas Senators 15U-16U Select Baseball

From: Michael Newmann

I would say for me the most important recruitment aspects would be Character and Work Ethic, followed by Leadership ability. I think in order to get noticed players have to play with not only class but a lever of relentlessness that is visible.
Mike Newmann

From: Mac Petty

I think playing as much summer ball and going to as many camps and showcases as possible is very important. It is also the job of the coach to get his players names to as many universities as he can, and sometimes you have to be very persistent with your calls because the college baseball coaches seldom see these kids play in high school. As a high school coach it is very important to be able to evaluate the players and be realistisc as to what level the player can play and not give the college coaches false information.
Mac Petty, Head Coach
Gordonsville High School Baseball

From: Larry Davis

Coaches need to get out and see the person play. They need to be honest with the player on their intentions for them. Talk with the parents to see what they want for their child. Talk to the coaches about the player, this part of the recruiting has really gotten bad if you ask me. I have had three kids go to

colleges and didn't talk to the coach at all. In my mind besides being able to put up the numbers to play, not many kids these days play hard all the time, I think that goes along ways. Grades and school behavior need to be good. Kids need to want to play at the next level, not just think they want to. They don't know how hard and competitive it gets at the next level.

From: Dill, Tom

In my experience in Sothern California, the good players are always noticed. The ones who are not noticed usually need to look at Junior College or D3 schools. The biggest thing I tell parents in our league, since I have had over 40 D1 prospects signed and almost 20 signed pro contracts is that they should never pay anyone to help promote their son. In some cases the colleges look down on them for sending unsolicited DVD's. Many D1 players tell me their coaches say privately that this is a joke. They laugh at the DVD's and sometimes have disc throwing contests. So I believe the ones who can play at a high level in our area are always recognized. The East Coast D3 schools need some help with some of our guys, but I always call and have gotten in each player I needed to....Most of our guys have good grades. The main thing I say is it is better to get the coach involved because since I do not get paid, I will always be honest with my assessment of their abilities. Once someone is paid that goes out the window. Hope this helps

From: David White

Be upfront and honest. Tell them your needs and how they fit those needs. We want them to want to be a part of what we are doing and have to make them believe, as we do, that this will make them better. Players need to put up numbers! That will get their names out. Get on the phone and go to try outs. Get seen. Have them due research on schools. See which school develops and which go out and get mid-term guys for example. Find one that fits and get in front of those Coaches. Give me a call if you need to.

From: Marty.Olmstead

Having been an associate scout for 7 years I have learned that there are a few things too look for. offensively-bat speed, being timed to first base, big trunk of a hitter for torque.-def, of course running speed, arm strength and being timed pop to pop for a catcher and footwork for a second basemen and s.s.

From: Manuel Cobarrubias

Coach,

On the recruiting process,
the player needs to:

1. Be willing to work hard.
2. Wanting to put the needs of the team before his.
3. Motivated
4. Be vocal
5. Show case off his talents

From: Benitez, Oscar

Talent and grades. The player with talent will be looked at, but the player with grades will be signed. College coaches cannot afford to have student athletes not doing well in school. Their administrations will react negatively. No head coach wants to deal with that. Good way to get fired.

From: Merrell, Bill R.

Player need to understand it's ALL the aspects of the game. Talent will get you there put what keeps you there. Work ethic/Attitude/Grades/Dependability/ Team guy or me guy/Grades/Attendance/Hustle/Respect for the game/What are you doing when people aren't watching?/Extra mile. These are the things they need to know, that is what scouts and colleges are looking for.

From: Geoffrey Marcone

1. Knowing what division you are capable of playing. Athletes must be realistic when picking a college to participate in athletics. Everyone wants to play for a D1 program, but no everyone is going to play at D1. I think one problem athletes have is that they get hung up of Division. There are some great athletic programs in D2 & D3 and they sometimes offer you more than a D1 school can. Whether it be facility or academics,
2. Pick a school not based solely on athletics; make sure you really like the school & students that attend that school. Also, make sure that it carries the majors you are looking for academically. You never know what tomorrow holds. An athlete's career could take a drastic turn, if they pick a school just based on athletics they will mostly transfer.
3. Be selective on combines, showcases, camps etc... The people who run these events maybe very qualified & some may not. Remember the people running these events are also running a business.
4. Your coach should be involved in the process no matter what Division you are going to play. If he/she is not, then ask them to help you.
5. Be comfortable w/ the coach who is recruiting you, if you feel uneasy w/ the head coach or the coach that is recruiting you should trust your instinct. Sometimes College recruiting can be a dirty business. College recruiting can be very hard, but as long as you have a good support system (parents, HS coach, guidance counselor etc...) that is honest w/ you & looking out for your best interest you should be alright.

Hope this helps
Geoff Marcone

From: Gibson, Alan

Paul,

The most successful avenue we have found in our program is to recruit the college rather than expect the college to recruit you. College coaches are much more receptive and cooperative when they know a Player is interested in their program. Once we contact the coach, we set up a time to visit the campus and work out and/or practice with the team. This approach has netted four scholarships this year alone, not to mention 11 others in our program since 2006. We were able to use our spring trip to Phoenix this year to get three kids signed, just by telling the coaches we were going to be in the area and asking for an opportunity to come visit and work out. I think it's worth mentioning that none of our players have ever been signed via a showcase event. We have found these events to be huge money-makers for the organizers and huge disappointments for our kids. Also, only two of our 15 scholarship kids have been signed after a performance in a summer tournament or competition on a travel team.

Alan Gibson
Head Baseball Coach, Roosevelt High School

From: Tony Galucy

- There are many important aspects. I listed them below.
1. Be an athlete. Do not limit yourself to one sport. Recruiters love athletes. They are better prepared and can handle pressure.
 2. Attitude counts! You must go 100% every play. If a recruiter sees you not hustling, they will see you as an attitude problem.

3. Work on your grades first. One, there are more academic scholarships out there than athletic. Two, the first question college

coaches ask me pertains to grades. They are not going to bother recruiting you if they can't get you in. Also, being disciplined in the classroom usually means discipline everywhere else.

4. Be careful of academies and personal trainers. If you pay money for instruction, you are going to be told what you want to hear.

The bottom line is if you are a good player, you will get noticed. Don't believe the paid instructors that tell you they can get you the scholarship. Remember, they are running a business so they will tell you whatever you want to hear to get your money.

5. There are certain things scouts look for, the main one being speed.

Speed includes running, arm, and bat. Those are things that cannot be taught.

6. Stats mean nothing to scouts. They can be fabricated.

7. If you are a good player, you will get noticed. The coaches in our area receive calls every year from college scouts. When they call me, they do not just want to know about my players. They want to know about all prospects in our area.

Sincerely,

Tony Galucy

Mathematics Teacher/Baseball Coach, Parkland High School

From: Pannell, John

Paul,

I think first and foremost one of the greatest assets a player needs to have is good grades, this greatly increases their marketability to schools. Now I will list the questions most asked by pro and college scouts:

What kind of kid is he? (first question asked every time)

What is his GPA?

What is his ACT score?

Is he a hard worker?

How does he get along with teammates and coaches? (don't ever lie for a player, you never want to burn a bridge with a scout by giving false information about a player)

Does he have a good family background?

I have discovered over the last 16 years as a high school and American Legion coach that athletic ability is not the only criteria scouts look for. Jim Walton with the MLB scouting bureau, who visits our stadium frequently, has told me that if you can play, you will be found, word of mouth is still the best tool for scouts. Players do need help from their coaches but the simple fact is some just don't. Our coaches here at Bartlesville will always help our kids to get recruited and we have good relationships with several colleges and professional scouts. Here is how we approach the recruiting process with our kids when they come to us about wanting to play at the next level. Questions we ask our kids: (as a coach you have to know your players ability level when helping determine what schools are the best fit for that player)

Do you want to go to a JUCO or 4 year? (most kids say D1 because that's all they know)

We let kids know that you can get drafted or move on to a D1 from smaller schools. We have to be honest and just let them know they are not at that level yet.

Do you want to stay near home or go far away?

Do you know what you want to major in? What you want to do after baseball?

What is your GPA and ACT score?

Now it's our job to pick up the phone or shoot out some emails to these schools we think would be a good fit.

A good example was last summer. Our number one pitcher, now a senior, was also the kicker for our football team, wanted to go to Division 1 Missouri State to kick and pitch. We happened to be playing a

tournament in Springfield, Missouri soon so I emailed and called their coach. He was intrigued and they showed up the day Zach was scheduled to pitch. Zach signed his national letter of intent to pitch for MSU two weeks ago. It can be a very easy process, but coaches need to fit the player with the right school. One thing that kids can do is go to as many showcases as possible, preferably the FREE ones, and ones that have several schools and/or professional scouts there. I do not believe in showcases that charge kids big \$\$\$, all it is is a money maker for someone. I am also not a fan of Prospect teams. They usually cost \$2000 and up and lead players and parents to believe if you pay this money you will get drafted or get a D1 scholarship. The grass isn't always greener on the other side. I speak with a few years experience but I surely don't know it all. What I do know is that in the last 3 years I have had 2 players drafted, one at D1 Texas A&M, one at D2 Southeastern Oklahoma State, two at Oklahoma Wesleyan University, one at D1 JUCO Cowley County, 3 at D1 JUCO Independence Community College and one who closed for D2 Central Missouri State University and was picked up by the River City Rascals in the Frontier League (his older brother also played for me and was just inducted into the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Athletic Hall of Fame, and he spent 3 years with the Reds organization). Hope some of this helps.

Sincerely,

John Pannell, Bartlesville High School Baseball Coach

From: Providence Baseball Academy

Paul,

Here's my two and a half cents: As a coach, I like someone who is respectfully persistent, that is, periodically communicates that he is out there. Communication should be respectful and without pretense, in other words, no boasting. I want to hear confidence but it must be backed with visual, objective evidence (video). It also helps if the player has qualifying references (scout, relatively known coach or academy trainer, etc). I'd recommend doing a video resume. On the resume a player should record all that they do and with the relative measurement displayed (pitch speed, ball exit speed, 40/60, home to first, first to third). This shouldn't be more than a couple of minutes long (like MLB game highlights), with the player's name, contact info, vitals, and academic stats as well. The player should avoid being cool, watch his language, wear the uniform correctly (if in uniform) and take 20 seconds to say why he loves baseball.

Best to you,

Michael

Practice Perfectly...Think Positively...Encourage One Another...

From: Joe Wilkins

Paul,

I think the best thing a recruit can do is mass email/text coaches when and where he is playing 24 hours prior to game day so if a coach is making last minute plans to see a game, that player is on his mind..too many kids JUST send schedules and we all know there are schedule changes and rain dates and make-ups...whatever else can happen. Kids need to do this for their top 5/10 choices if they want to get a good look.

Joe Wilkins

From: Petersen, Richard

Hi Paul,

I recruit very heavily for our elite travel baseball program. This program is not a business like many of the other programs that we compete against. We have teams to develop individuals in preparation for high school, college, and professional situations. To me, recruiting consists of identifying potential players

through recommendations from current and former players. This is important since players that have been in our program understand the type of player that would be a good fit. We then contact and show continued interest in these recommended players. These players have many options but we must try to identify what motivates them in baseball and confirm that we are prepared to help them achieve their goals. We have current and former well known players (our graduates consist of MLB players, college coaches, MLB front office personnel, college players) contact them individually to speak about their history with our program. The recruits are provided with reference explaining our history, achievements, alumni, recommendations, and program objectives. It is essential to operate a very successful and highly regarding program to be able to support everything that is said. I would estimate that a very larger percentage of the players we get in our program come from recommendation from people knowledgeable with our baseball history. These recruited players get noticed by how they present themselves both on and off of the baseball field. We look for not only good player but good people.

Best regards,

Rick Petersen, Head Coach & Assistant Director, Lightning Baseball of New England

From: James White

Thank You Mr. Reddick for asking for my input. One thing I try to teach my high school kids is that they can only control what they can control. Meaning that my kids can only control their hustle, their effort, and their temper. One thing I notice and one thing that helped me out when I got recruited is how much a kid hustles. A kid that bust his tale to his position and back to the dugout in between innings really catches my eye. A kid like this wants to be out there playing wants to be involved in the game. Also when they ground out or pop out that they are running as hard as they can to first base because they have in their mind no one is going to beat them. I also like to look at their effort kids that dive for a ball just to see if they can make a play kids that are willing to risk it are willing to do things right more than likely kids that have made risk have put themselves in a position to succeed. The last thing I talk about is temper kids that lose their temper are always looking for something or someone to blame whether it be themselves or an umpire or the field or the wind or etc...I think of a kid that has a good attitude does what he has to do to succeed and he doesn't let the factors that he can't control affect him. If he messes up once the next time he's going to correct it. Another big thing if I was a college coach I would ask what type of parents the kid has. Parents are a major factor in a kids life put when the kid gets to college the parents aren't more than likely going to be able to come with him. If the parent has a big influence on the kid, meaning he talks bad about the coach doesn't like the coach's coaching style or other things that affect the coach or the team. I don't think is a very good kid I want to recruit. Yes I would want to top caliber players, but I would want players that want to risk things for me as a coach and risk things for those he plays with. I hope this helps you with what you are looking for. Thank you again Mr. Reddick for asking for my input.

Thank You

Coach James F. White

From: Kyle Bundy

For me personally I would look at 2 things, ability and grades. I don't think that there is enough emphasis put on students grades now days. If I were a coach at the upper levels, I would look hard at that aspect because it tells you more about the kid than a stat sheet will. If a student athlete has great stats and has good grades, that athlete is someone worth going after. It tells you that they will work hard and do what is asked. They are usually the coach-able athletes that have their heads on strait and have goals of where they want to go and are willing to work hard to reach those goals. I have seen my share of very talented baseball players who are too lazy to work hard for what they want. All of these get bad grades and almost all of them are un-coach-able. Sports is important on our team, but we do a grade check every week.

Students who are struggling are left off of the roster until their grades are up. We tell them at the first of the year that school comes first. I get so frustrated at parents around here who think that their 9-14 year old kid is going to make it to the next level and will be their little gold mine to retire on. They have their kids play on traveling teams that are playing between 150-190 games a year. Most of these are 3-4 day tournaments and they are pulling their kids out of school for 2 days so they can play in these games. That is just plain crazy. I have a son that we allow to play in two tournaments a year where he misses no more than 3 days of school. He is also has a 3.9 GPA and we think those couple of days will not put him behind if they are spread out. Parents need to understand that school should come first. All baseball players will retire at some point, and most do in the first couple of years. They will need some skill to fall back on. If they have no schooling and bad grades, then they will be hard pressed to find a good job. That is just my 2 cents on your question.

Coach Bundy
Enterprise High School Baseball

From: Chris J. Bishop

1. I think players should understand that baseball is very different than football and baseball in that the money offered is very little unless you are a legitimate pro prospect(early draftee)
2. I think it is important for kids to be evaluated by nonbiased organizations (MLB etc.) in order to have a realistic idea about their skills and what they can do to enhance them.
3. Get out and compete against players so you can see what you are competing against to earn the opportunity to play at the next level.
- 4.If you do all thing possible to complete the 3 above statements then baseball people will find you and get you the opportunity at the next level!

Chris Bishop, Statesboro High, Head Baseball Coach

From: ELWOOD CHAMPAGNE

Paul

1. Work hard/work ethic
2. send letters to programs of interest/let them know who you are
3. show cases-be carefully some just want your money
4. you don't have to play select baseball
5. Remember if you are a player they will fine you.

Woody

From: JEast

Paul;

First time writer here. Our son was heavily recruited, and signed his NLI with Tulane University last November.

First - the most important aspect is - Treat the process like a business. (Because it is!) Answer every letter, even if they sent you a form letter. Thank them. As you know, there are many aspects, but the one thing we left this process with was that if you show interest in the school, they will continue interest in you.

This allows you to compare each schools process, and decide which one you are most comfortable with.

AND...as with our older daughter - when offers are made players (& parents) can (as any business would do) used & be leveraged to garner additional incentives - money - from Universities. ie; School A offered \$5, University B offered \$2. Player was more interested in school B, and so a copy of school A's offer was sent to school B, and school B matched (or came up a little) school A's offer.....again, it's a business.

Second - Play Travel Ball - carry your High School Baseball Schedule, or at least contact info - must

include at least your GPA. Being seen is nothing more than just being out there playing. Do NOT rely on your High School Coach - for anything - maintain a good relationship, because part of the process will eventually involve your H/S coach...but remember....he IS ONLY a High School coach for a reason. Choose your travel ball coach wisely... sometimes hard to do, but he will have DIRECT contact with College recruiters, again, make certain your Travel Ball coach has your contact and pertinent information at hand. Sorry for the lengthy answers here, but thank you for asking. It has been a long process, but we are thankful for being part of the recruiting experience, for our son, it turned out exactly the what he worked for.
Joe in Alabama

From: Rick Olivas

Exposure early, Freshman, sophomore year. Stats, you have to have numbers that make you stand out.
GRADES

From: Gilbert, Donald

I tell all my ballplayers that there is a system to be prepared to be recruited by college and professional scouts.

1. Be sure your grades are in order from day 1 when you step into school. The hardest thing for students to understand is the importance of having good grades in the 9th and 10th graders so it is easier to maintain a high G.P.A.
2. Get yourself on every free website that has to do with recruiting. Keep it up to date at all times, and try to include as much information as possible including academic stats, baseball stats, times, awards, camps/showcases, etc.
3. Handwrite letters to coaches of universities you are interested in. A form letter with a signature is okay but personal letters always work the best. We had good success with this recommendation.
4. Learn how to fill out as many applications as possible for every university. You never know who will read your information and like what they see.
5. Lastly, which is the most important I feel is to go to showcases and tryouts as many times as possible. Also, off-season mini-workouts or camps are great ways to introduce yourself to a college coach and his staff.

Thanks,
Coach Don Gilbert, Dunbar HS Baseball

From: Frith, Robert - El Toro High School

Hi Paul,
Glad to help. First and most important, players need to seek the advice of their high school's varsity head coach. He, his parents, and the coach must be on the same page working cohesively on the project. My advice to any player is to put together a highlight film that includes their their two best quarters of football film. Scouts want to see you when you are bad too. The highlight should be attached to a YouTube or other Internet link. The player should have his transcripts and test scores ready and in an electric format. Obtaining the help of a professional recruiting company is not a bad idea, but there are many out there. Families need to do their research and make sure their contact person is viable and following through with their end of the agreement. Combines are another avenue. My advice to my players is go to as many camps and combines as possible. However, I discourage my players from attending full contact camps. If they get hurt, not only will they not earn scholarship at that college but will lose time with their high school team as well. Hope this helps.

From: Thomas Burnett

Paul,

My son and I used your college recruiting DVD set. It worked! The only thing I would add is if the students has good grades, 3.0 or better apply to a few schools early. We found that most schools have a mid April cutoff date for academic scholarships. (We also discovered if you have good grades and are trying out for sports most schools will waive the application fee. My son is a decent catcher. He had three offers. The lowest was US 4,000 for Florida Memorial University. One school we applied early to offered 7,000 just because of the grades. But the real bonus was McMurry University. They gave my son \$22,000 a year for four years and it was all academic based as my son had a 3.75 GPA! So the coach was pleased he did not have to use any of his money. Note Thomas finished his senior year batting .533 in 18 games. He was top of his team and fifth in County. He had five home runs, 20 hits, 20 RBI. Anyway thanks for your help.
Tom Burnett

From: Bill Sinacore

Hey Paul.

I will be brief. Most important aspects of the recruiting process and how to get noticed (not in any order although the first one is the most important): 1) GRADES!!!! GRADES, GRADES, GRADES!!!!!! Without very good grades the rest does not matter. 2) A great attitude toward the game and people in general. 3) Having great respect and admiration for others and being appreciative that as a player you get to play this great game of baseball instead of you have to play baseball. 4) Have an open mind to new ideas, concepts and learning practices. 5) Be a great player in practice. Have the mindset that every pitch, catch, throw and at bat is like the last out of the world series and you are playing at Yankee Stadium or Fenway Park.... 6) Be a great teammate. Meaning you help when needed. You lend support when a teammate is struggling. You congratulate a teammate when they succeed. 7) Be a leader. Take younger players and give them all of the knowledge you have accumulated over a lifetime. 8) Give back to your community. Get involved in charity work or a worthy cause that will help others in need. 9) Play the game with passion and heart. It's contagious!!! 10) Don't ever take the easy way out. Put your time in and challenge yourself. Set goals for offseason, in season and post season. Continually monitor your goals and implement strategic plans to achieve them. Make them attainable but also they need to challenge you. The game knows who puts the time and who does not. If you do these things (among others) you will succeed and prosper and be a very attractive player not only for your success on the field but most importantly the contributions you make to your team and your community.

Thanks for asking.

Bill S.

From: Joe Wilkins

Paul,

I think the best thing a recruit can do is mass email/text coaches when and where he is playing 24 hours prior to gameday so if a coach is making last minute plans to see a game, that player is on his mind..too many kids JUST send schedules and we all know there are schedule changes and rain dates and make-ups...whatever else can happen. Kids need to do this for their top 5/10 choices if they want to get a good look.

From: Deon Dinsmore

Paul,

I am very interested in recruiting and worked in the field for 5 years before I started coaching....expectations and being pro active are the most important parts in recruiting. No longer with the old saying if your good enough coaches will find you work. There are so many avenues to help yourself get recruited but 90% of the parents and 90% of coaches have no idea what to do. What I am also finding is most high school coaches want nothing to do with the process.

Deon Dinsmore

From: Marty.Olmstead

having been an associate scout for 7 years I have learned that there are a few things too look for. offensively-bat speed, being timed to first base, big trunk of a hitter for tourque.-def, of course running speed, arm strength and being timed pop to pop for a catcher and footwork for a second basemen and s.s.

From: LeCroy, Joseph G

With all the early commitments these days, the kids better get out and showcase their talents early. I think colleges spend more time recruiting at showcase and travel ball than they do at high school games. Not a lot of late signing for a senior who has improved. So better get on as many publications websites etc. So they will come watch you play.

From: Brian Runyan

The best way to get noticed by recruiters is to be 6'-4 and a 5-tool player. I speak for most (if not all) coaches, that this is not the case with everyone - if anyone - on our teams. As a player, you have to get your name out there to coaches and teams. They are not going to be interested in seeing you play if they don't know who you are. Send emails, send your stats, find out connections that your coaches have and have them send emails, go on college visits, etc. As a coach, I am not just going to send emails to recruiters for just any of my players. I am most likely to send recommendations/emails to colleges if the player works hard, and has character and integrity – on and off the field. To me, if you don't have those qualities, it is difficult for me to recommend them to a college or university. Also, focusing on your grades and ACT/SAT scores will always open up more opportunities. If your GPA and test scores are low, many colleges won't even give you a second look. So it is best as a student athlete to take care of your schoolwork to make that portion a non-issue. Hope this help!
Brian Runyan, Whitefield Academy, 6th Grade Math and Science, High School Baseball

From: Michael Hunt

1. Attitude: An opposing pitcher the other day (a team I used to coach) had a coach from a major DI university in attendance to watch him. He threw terribly, but I told his dad that he got put on the NO list, not so much for how he pitched, but for how he handled himself.
2. Academics: Probably doesn't help get noticed, but makes the whole process a lot easier.
3. Look and Act the Part: Obviously if you have a profile body it helps. Where the uniform right, hustle all the time.
4. Be able to play. If you can play and you do it over and over, people will notice you. Whether it be a recommendation from an opposing coach or your own, you can get noticed. Getting out to play in front of others helps too.

From: Keeton, Graig

Based on the short 7 years I have been in the coaching profession, I would say the number one factor for most baseball players at the 3A level or lower is simple not being afraid to put yourself out there. Making connections to people, who know people, who know people..... can be a plus in the end to be honest because coaches are a huge network of people. I encourage my guys to challenge themselves in the summer/fall by playing on select teams that go play some tip-top competition. I also encourage them to go to showcases, mainly b/c this puts in their heads the reality that there are tons of other guys out there that are just like them, and they see the work they have to put in to outwork their peers to have the best chance to go play at the next level. And of course, the other thing that they MUST do early on is take the ACT and SAT and know that academics can be the difference between you and another player of the same/

similar playing ability. We haven't had a ton of guys go play from Gatesville to be honest, but I we would have had more if they would have committed to these things.

Graig Keeton
Gatesville HS Baseball

From: Allen, Nick

Kids have to realize that they have to do the leg work. In 6 years as a head coach, 98% of my kids think that the scouts are just going to come. Most of my kids have been above average high school players at best so they need to be looking for JCs and smaller 4 years outside the state of Arizona. They have to market themselves. YouTube video is an absolute must and then they have to contact hundreds of coaches and get there stuff out there. Showcases are a waste of time and money. They have to find the cheap one's that have coaches attending from schools they have been in contact with.

From: Chad Satcher

I think the most important thing is to make sure all the testing (ACT, TAKS, SAT, etc.) and eligibility standards (gpa, NCAA Clearinghouse, etc.). These are the things that they wait too long to take care of. Also, they need to fill out as many Prospect Questionnaire as possible. They're typically found on the athletic website, but it's something coaches always ask for.

From: Jerod Burns

putting together a good scout tape

From: Sam Root

from my experience as a high school coach, and also coaching at the junior college level, an athlete needs to play summer ball, and also market himself to get noticed, unless he is exeptional. sending emails, letters to coaches is a must. If you send out 25, expect to get 5-10 back, as college coaches are on a demanding schedule.

From: Foster, Chuck

Beyond the things that they cannot control (height, build) Hustle and field presence are the most important. They look like they know exactly what to do without hesitation. The game looks like it is slowed down for them.

From: Chris Conlin

I am not a big proponent of showcases in general. In general, they are a money maker for the company. In reality, a kid has to go to a good one for exposure.

Chris Conlin
University High School
Irvine Ca

From: Mack, Robert

The high school player must assume that no one is going to go to him. He and his parents must reach out to the colleges and be pro active. The high school player MUST attend an Open House with parents that is open to all high school students AND, on a separate visit, attend a baseball camp or clinic at that college that is put on by the head coach, with the assistance of the players on the team. These experiences gives the high school players and his parents a good sense of what the school can offer, and a feel for what the coach and his team are like. It also gets the high school player in to perform in front of his future coaches and a chance to be noticed. Likewise, these visits provide the coach with a chance to take a good look at the candidate. While telephone calls, emails, letters of recommendation, videos and text messages can help provide the coach with the basic information about the player, they don't tell the whole story.

From: wscott

The most important thing to being recruited is having a good day when a scout or someone with connections is in the stands. For example, years ago my team was playing a team that was perennially a top notch team. One of my kids hit a homerun (a bomb!) and we won the game. The opposing coach had connection with some of the college coaches in the area. The next morning I was called to the office to take a phone call from one of the college coaches. Soon there were scouts looking at him. One day, a scout was in the stands with a radar gun when he was pitching. They clocked him at 92 mph. It was all over. From then on, scouts were continuously calling my house. Therefore I preach to my kids: 1. You never know who's going to be looking at you, and 2. If you want to get noticed, have a good day against a good team.

Wally

P.S. I think showcases are overrated. Camps are a little better because it gives the coaches a chance to get to know you a little, but the head coach is usually not there for the most part. The main thing like I said: have connections, have good days against good teams.

From: Tim Murphy

Paul, I have coached baseball for 11-years and like most coaches I got involved because my son wanted to play baseball. I had the opportunity to watch coaches teach the game, coach my son, and see a lot of ugly experiences in managing the game. I mention this because players/parents experience the ups and downs to the game from what they learn on the field to the overall experience their coaches teach. Example: winning/loosing with class, sportsmanship, proper execution of baseball mechanics, preventing Arm injurers, and most of all enjoying the game just to name a few. No coach will get it right all the time but the experiences players/parents have over the years can impact what coaches will face in high school. That said; I expect players to understand the game and the general working knowledge of the game. Players have a huge advantage if they participated on select teams which hold a high level of standards. I coach a 15/16 team and held tryouts to host a college prep/tournament team this summer. I was disappointed to see players who never played select ball. These players lack the strength and in some cases lack the knowledge to play at this level. Although baseball knowledge is a given, I look for great attitudes, willing to be coached, strong academically, strong athletic ability, and goal of playing college baseball. I also think a show stopper can be the parents. Relationship between the coach and player involves the parents too. If the parents are not on board with the team agenda or present a checker past, it's a show stopper no matter how good the player is to the team. We teach team first player second attitude to ensure all players under athletes first, winning second attitude. The result has proven a huge success story for our Texas Senators baseball team established in 2005.

Thank you

Tim Murphy, Texas Senators 15U-16U Select Baseball, College Prep Tournament Team

From: Dave Mammel

1) the player has to have talent. Generally overall athleticism is the key. There is no truth that if I practice enough I can be a major leaguer. No amount of money or private lessons will allow a player with substandard skills to reach a level many parents want their child to reach. 2) If the ability is there

(athletic) and the player is already at the top % of his/her competitive level than that extra practice and instruction can pay big dividends. 3) If a player has the ability or potential to reach the next level, then they will be found I believe. 4) There is such a network of coaches and scouts that word gets around fast. 5) Having a great work ethic and attitude is very important. I have had many conversations with higher level coaches who go to practices and watch who the first players are to arrive and who the last ones are to leave. 6) Can never underestimate the level of luck. Being in the right time and the right place by chance. Kirk Gibson spoke at the MHSBCA this January that he got recruited by MSU to play football because they came to a game he was playing in to watch another player and Kirk outplayed him in that game. Kirk got the scholarship and the other kid did not. 7) Have fun, give it your best and never look back. By being able to say you gave your best and the chips fell where they did will never have you guessing to what might have been.

From: BRYAN MILBURN

Paul,

I ordered your recruiting cds and haven't had a chance to listen/watch all of them but do believe the player should do the leg work and send out info to the coach at the school he is looking to attend. Having a person or coach with connections is always a plus. Having proper mechanics and off season work ethics is key to becoming a player that people will notice. Put the time in to improve your skills and mechanics and good things will happen.

Bryan

From: Manuel Cobarrubias

Coach,

On the recruiting process,
the player needs to:

1. Be willing to work hard.
2. Wanting to put the needs of the team before his.
3. Motivated
4. Be vocal
5. Show case off his talents

From: Justin Santich

I would say the most important part of the recruiting process is to go somewhere that you are wanted and somewhere that you fit in. Every college program is different in the style of baseball they play and what their core beliefs and philosophies are. It is important that a student athlete is aware of these things and chooses a program that they best fit in to. For example I played with an Outfielder in college who never played at the school I attended and a year later he transferred and was starting for Oregon State in the college world series. it wasn't that he wasn't a good player at San Jose State, he just didnt fit into the system. As far as getting noticed is concerned there are many showcase baseball camps offered by colleges. So if the student athlete has their eye on a specific school they should attend their camps. Also showcases such as the bay area world series (BAWS) and Nate Trosky's show cases are good opportunities to get seen. College Coach's of Divison 1, 2 and 3 schools attend these showcases and are looking for good players. The last thing is to play hard all the time, you never know who's watching.

From: Kevin Alexander

Hello Coach. Besides being a Coach I am a Dad who has a son who is a Frosh playing D1 Baseball so we just went through this process. The most important thing is to do all you can to put yourself in the best academic situation as possible, where you can be successful with the goal

Of earning a degree. Be realistic about life after college. Take SAT & ACT exams as early as possible!! Get the best score you can get. I think there are several things a family needs to do. That is to be supportive of your student athlete's decision about where they want to play but at the same time encourage them to consider all options before making a hard line decision. Take your trips as many as possible!!! This will confirm or deny thoughts about where they want to be. Make sure that the coaching staff is recruiting your kid for the right reasons & be wary of false promises, if it sounds too good to be true it probably is. As far as getting noticed I think you have to be doing the right things when no one is looking, play hard. Continue to play hard, be a good team player & a good citizen before & after you give a verbal commitment. Obviously it helps if you have the tools!!

From: Galen McSpadden

1. Identifying players and then the initial contact – first impressions are important
 2. Building a relationship from that initial contact. Follow up contacts that gains respect both from you as the recruiter/coach as well as from the prospect. Don't call too much, but don't call too less and set a time to call/visit and stick with that time. Don't put unnecessary pressure on the recruit, but let them know they are important.
 3. Your approach....be honest, consistent, and genuine.
Perform in as many of the 5-tools skills (run, hit, field, throw, power) as possible and play the game with respect to the game. It takes no abilities to play hard only effort. Find players that you don't have to coach effort, attitude, or parents.
- Galen McSpadden
Athletic Director/Baseball Coach
Seward County Community College

From: Phelps, Sam

Get the process started early, start of Junior year in most cases and keep your options open. Make sure the student-athlete has all the necessary paperwork with NCAA eligibility filled out and are currently eligible. Have video/film/stats ready for prospective coaches/programs.
Sam Phelps, New Paltz HS

From: Geoffrey Marccone

Whatever you need
are some great athletic programs in D2 & D3 and they sometimes offer you more than a D1 school can. Whether it be facility or academics, 2. Pick a school not based solely on athletics, make sure you really like the school & students that attend that school. Also, make sure that it carries the majors you are looking for academically. You never know what tomorrow holds. An athlete's career could take a drastic turn, if they pick a school just based on athletics they will mostly transfer.

3. Be selective on combines, showcases, camps etc... The people who run these events maybe very qualified & some may not. Remember the people running these events are also running a business.
4. Your coach should be involved in the process no matter what Division you are going to play. If he/she is not then ask them to help you.
5. Be comfortable w/ the coach who is recruiting you, if you feel uneasy w/the head coach or the coach that is recruiting you should trust your instinct. Sometimes College recruiting can be a dirty business. College recruiting can be very hard, but as long as you have a good support system (parents, HS coach, guidance counselor etc...) that is honest w/ you & looking out for your best interest you should be alright. Hope this helps

Geoff Marccone

From: Merrell, Bill R.

Player need to understand it's ALL the aspects of the game. Talent will get you there put what keeps you there. Work ethic/Attitude/Grades/Dependability/ Team guy or me uy/Grades/Attendance/Hustle/Respect for the game/What are you doing when people aren't watching?/Extra mile. These are the things they Need to know, that is what scouts and colleges are looking for.

From: Jason Hawkins

visits and camps are where i believe we convince kids about their fit, paul.

From: Gary B.

Paul, thanks for asking for my opinion on this. I don't have much experience with this facet of baseball, but I think most of what you are wanting is pretty much common sense. The player wants the opportunity to play at a higher level, with appropriate rewards for his efforts, in whatever venue he is striving for. The recruiting institution wants guarantees that their moneys are not wasted. If it stayed this simple throughout the process, everything would be fairly straightforward, right? The player get the attention of recruiters by demonstrating the appropriate game skills, coachability, willingness to improve, and of course, the academic and social skills to succeed at the next level. The records of his previous accomplishments, both on and off the field, and, hopefully, the recommendation of his current/previous coaches should be readily available. (I know from my own high school experience, if your coach is not your biggest fan, you have trouble getting past it. I had the support of my position coach, and I lucked into an offer a year after graduation.) Unfortunately for most of today's players, their minds are NOT on what they need to show a recruiter, or on their past accomplishments, so a strong support system is necessary for ANY player to be successful at ANY level. Is it any wonder that pro player's children often end up being pros? Thanks again for this opportunity. Hope it helps!

From: Shane Lasseter

In Baseball the most important thing a kid must do is play with an elite summer and fall program. Go to showcases. If a kid wants to go D1 it is more than likely not going to happen if they stay in their school district and just play local teams in the spring and on their high school summer team. But kids getting on elite travel teams going to showcase tournaments is the easiest and best way of getting noticed by some big school.

From: Woodward, Jason D

Resume writing. A sports resume. I have told all my athletes and their parents that you must treat your kid like a used car that you want to sell. We always have our students send out a cover letter, schedule and sports resume to at least 20-30 schools they are interested in. Some are long shots for sports and some are long shots with academics but you never know until you try. Then we always follow up once during the season with a quick note on how they are doing as a team and individual. We then follow up with a letter letting the schools know what camps they are going to and a copy of their summer sports schedule. I tell our parents and athletes that it is your job to keep your name in front of the coaching staff as much as possible. Facebook has also changed the way kids are recruited and putting highlight and workout tapes on YouTube.
Jason Woodward, Gaithersburg High School

From: New, Barry

I don't think a player getting noticed is an issue. From the player's standpoint, they need to make sure they qualify by taking the right classes in high school, score on ACT / SAT, and Financial Aid. From the college coach or pro scout standpoint, I would contact the player's high school coach about the player in questions work ethic, ATTENDANCE, and attitude. You will get a better perspective about the player from the high school coach than the summer coach because the high school coach deals with the player on a daily basis in more areas than the summer coach.

From: Quintin Hall

I feel that making sure that kids are on task with grades, in order to show that they are willing to do it in the classroom as well as the field. One of the difficult things is small towns away from the I-5 corridor getting recognized. A lot of good raw talent out there but getting kids noticed is a huge challenge.
Quintin Hall, MHS

From: Harvey McIntyre

I was wondering what do you think are the most important aspects (references, video, summer, fall, and spring schedules, high school coaches cell #, the YouTube links are the best, very convenient and always available, pitchers from home plate view and rhp from the 3rd base side even with the rubber, lhp from the 1b side even with the rubber, hitters from home plate view, rhh from 1st base side, lhh from 3b side) of the recruiting process and what you think a player needs to do to get noticed.
Harvey McIntyre, Head Baseball Coach, Blinn College

From: David Perez

Paul I truly believe that when recruiting an athlete you need to see how versatile he/she is. I would look for how many sports the athlete played, and when I go to scout how serious does the athlete take preparation. It has been my experience that any scout that goes to see a player the scout already knows the athlete can play whatever sport it may be. Just as an example: If you go to scout an outfielder who is a potential 5 tool player you shouldn't go to see if he can play. You should go to see how he prepares to play by watching infield/outfield before the game. Does he throw the ball with a purpose, does he hustle and work technique to make sure he stays sharp. Things like that. Just a thought.
David Perez, Physical Education, O'Donnell Elementary

From: P Stephen J. Musso

Paul,

In response to your question about recruiting:

I have found that unlike football, where college coaches often come to visit high schools, players are required to get themselves noticed. The advice I give to my players is always to start early and put thought into where it is they want to go and what it is they want to do after baseball. I coach in the Northeast and most of our players are not going to a big time DI school or sign a professional contract, so it is up to the player to target schools they want to go to and then make contact. I always tell my players the first thing they need to do is sit down in a quiet place and think about what it is they want in terms of a college. They need to decide if they want a big/small school, if they want urban/rural environment, if they want to be close/far from home, if they want to join a successful program/coach and wait to play or play right away regardless of the program/coach, if the school has their major. After they answer some of those questions they should write a college wish list, list all the schools they want to go to, then sit down with their parent/guardian and discuss what schools are feasible financially, academically, and athletically. After they narrow the choice down I counsel the player to make contact with the coach(es) and visit the schools. When players go on visits I tell them to be mindful of three things in this order: 1) Does the school fit academically? 2) Does the school fit

athletically? and 3) Does the school fit socially? After the visits have taken place and the coaches have been contacted it comes down to mutual interest between the player and the coach, and the admittance process. I always offer my services to my players. I am up front with the player about where I see them fitting athletically and I speak candidly to coaches about the student-athlete. In the end I believe it is the player that is recruiting the school as much as the coach recruiting the player. Hopefully at the end of this process the player is happy and the school gets a quality recruit both on and off of the field.

Stephen J. Musso, Fayetteville-Manlius High School