

Recruited Athlete Profiles

Reporting by Phoebe Harger and Quinn Shirley



UC Santa Cruz



Erik Dodge
Track & Pole Vault

What is one piece of advice that you would give to someone going through the recruitment process?

"I would say just because you don't get recruited doesn't mean it's the end of you playing sports or the end of you doing a hobby that you love. You can find other facets in order to enjoy that hobby. Don't think that it's the end of the line if I don't get recruited."



Carleton College



Sam Higaki
Men's Golf

How did you decide on Carleton College?

"It was between Carleton, UC Santa Barbara, Pacific and Claremont ... Overall I thought that the Minnesota weather would challenge me and make me a better player, and the program worked well with my STEM major."



George Mason University



Delainey Brandt
Women's Swimming

What made George Mason stand out to you?

"Honestly, the community. I felt like when I went and visited and met the girls, it just felt like the right place for me and I stepped on to the campus and I felt like I belonged. I think other campuses just didn't have that same feel. So when I visited Mason, I just kind of knew it was the right fit and the girls on the team were so welcoming."



Colby College



Jordan Lee
Women's Volleyball

What are you looking forward to most about continuing your sport in college?

"I'm looking forward to meeting all my new teammates and experience playing at a higher level than I'm at right now. Also, the new environment of being in a different state."



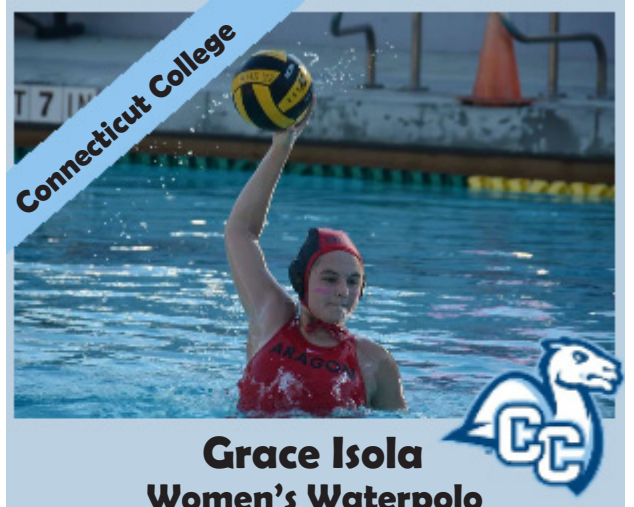
Southern Oregon University



Kaylah Bresee
Women's Soccer

When you visited the campus, what attracted you to the program?

"I liked the idea of going to a smaller school. I didn't want to sit in a huge lecture hall and it's important to choose your academics first over the actual sports program ... it's what's going to help you down the road in life."



Connecticut College



Grace Isola
Women's Waterpolo

Because you are joining a former Aragon teammate there, do you think that the transition onto Connecticut's team will be easier?

"I had the opportunity to go to Conn and I stayed on campus and practiced with the team and I got to meet the coach and all the players in person. I got to have dinner with them and hang out in everyone's dorms and so I think that experience is probably the most valuable in addition to having Ainsley there."



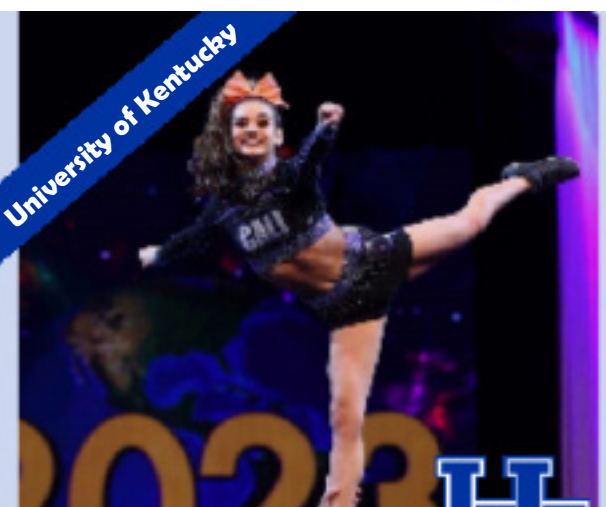
Nichols College



Ashton Moniz-Witten
Baseball

Who has helped support you in your sport?

"My mom. She's really tough on me. She expects a lot out of me. And sometimes I think she expects too much. But I think that nature has kind of brought me to where I am right now and I don't think I'd be here without her."



University of Kentucky



Isabella Franzella
Cheerleading

What is your favorite memory from competitive cheer?

"Definitely winning worlds just because it's what any cheerleader wants to accomplish. Being able to work hard enough to actually achieve it was amazing."



University of Michigan



Ella Sims
Women's Soccer

Do you have any plans to play soccer after college?

"I'd love to play professionally, ideally in Europe. I think that [would] be such a cool experience to play professionally in a place that I love so much ... I don't necessarily want that to be my main career, but I'd like to play for a few years."