

College Admission Essay

If life has taught me something, is that there is no success without sacrifice. Everything started four years ago while in seventh grade and decided to join the school's soccer team. I was a bit too tall for my age and didn't have the expertise required, but I was fast and strong. It was those qualities that made one of the team members invite me to try out. After thinking about it, I joined the team as I wanted to prove to myself that I could learn the necessary skills to become an important player but not forgetting that I was joining a very competitive group of friends for whom I had to surpass their expectations.

After the first month, I noticed that the coach started playing a team member that had just recovered from an injury more than me; after all, he was the more experienced striker. For any athlete in general, it is the worst feeling to get ready for a game and not play it. You not only feel bad about yourself, but you feel bad for your family as they have come to watch you play. It was while being at the bench that I thought that I was never going to be part of the team and I seriously considered that quitting was not only the best option that I had, but the only one.

Yes, I have to admit, those were very rough times, but I struggled internally as I have never been a quitter. The unconditional support and motivation of my family as well as the desire that every player has to excel made me want to do better, suppressed my most negative feelings, enhanced my self steam, and convinced me that I could get through those awful times with my head up high by becoming an excellent soccer player.

At first, I started looking what the professional players do to be that good; how to be the best in the world. That is where I came to realize that there is no success without hard work and sacrifice. Therefore, I started training harder than all my peers, I stayed a bit after practice to get better at shooting, technique, and speed drills that made me stronger and faster. I got to the point where I trained until my body said "no", but my heart kept telling me "yes". For the rest of that year, although I was improving, I was still at the bench, but my coach started seeing the potential that I had.

The following year, the school brought a new coach which favoured me in some ways. The new coach was older than my previous one he and showed me how patience and hard work were key to success. He made me play for two years in positions where I wasn't used to play in but one day everything finally paid off. During my junior year of high school, the main striker sustained an injury that ruled him out of the field for many months; therefore, I was given the opportunity. That was when I saw my chance and trained harder than before. Because of that extra dedication, I managed to play in the position that I liked and the reward of my hard work was met. That year, I became the captain of the junior varsity team, went to my first Central American tournament, and became the team's top goal scorer. Since then, I have been the captain and the first choice striker and I am about to compete in my third Central American Tournament.

Not quitting four years ago taught me that success only comes with hard work. Just as Imagine Dragons lead singer Dan Reynolds once said in his song, "The path through heaven runs through miles of clouded hell". That lesson has marked my entire life and will help me in and out the field, forever.

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