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Travel Team Testimonials

Well it's all over or better said, it all about to happen. Cameron has accepted his offer to go to Mercyhurst via the academics and we are sending in a check. I wanted to wait until all was confirmed and in writing before I wrote this letter to you. Also, Will has relayed to me that he is expecting to be on the starting lineup for the U. of Cincinnati Club as a freshman.

First, I cannot thank you enough for giving my first son William a chance his first year, but second and most prevalent, I thank you for giving Cameron his chance to play for Burning River. While, I am fully aware of the influences their coach McComish had on you, I will always give the credit to you because you gave them the opportunity. I highly doubt Mercyhurst would have given Cameron a look if it was not for your influence and coaching of his skills and my son Will would probably not be as excited to play for University of Cincinnati Club(which is not a second-rate club). Now it is up to the both of them to make it work.

What my sons learned at Burning River is priceless. From the demands of commitment and dedication they gained the understanding of what was necessary to play for a top lacrosse team and at levels comparable to the best there is available. They weren't perfect but through their trials, they learned to play the game but more importantly, they learned to love the game and probably will play it or coach it in their future. It's not what they learned at Burning River but how they learned the game and what it offers to their lives.

For me there is no other game, as it is the one game every player would rather be doing than watching and that is the connection to the life lessons the game offers. From your tutelage, coaching, demands, yelling and everything else a coach has at his disposal you taught my kids how to be the better player to which they will inevitably cross over into their personal lives in the times ahead. Through you they found the spirit and that is what we lacrosse players hold so dear to our heart.

As a coach myself, I know you also gained some satisfaction of a job well done and in time I know my kids will come to respect that of you. They will see how you transformed their lives from the novice player into a quality individual that can play at the next level. I understand what it takes for a player, and what my sons now possess can only be attributed to your team of coaches, Fallon included, and you. Thank you.

Thank you. It does take more than just a parent to raise a young man into good person and I know now I made the right choice in keeping both of my sons in Burning River and dedicating themselves to its traditions. I will continue to support Burning River and its commitment of developing lacrosse players.

Sincerely Yours,

Bill Happel