

Will Linberg

I am so pleased to have been asked to provide a letter of recommendation for Will Linberg. I have had the good fortune to know and be part of Will's life since we met when he was just four years old. Being a friend of the family, Will and I have spent countless hours together at family gatherings, on vacations and of course on the ball field. I treasure the time I have been able to spend with Will over these past 13 years. While I hope I have had a positive impact on Will's life, I know for a fact he has had a positive impact on mine.

Anyone who has a chance to meet Will will immediately be struck by his purposeful, serious demeanor. Will is stoic. When I see him these days, I feel like he has fast-forwarded 10 years in maturity in just the last two. Will is built for the long run, capable of handling daily challenges by being able to stay laser focused on his life goals. Few kids who I have known, coached or mentored exhibit the maturity to handle life's challenges with the calm and dignity that Will has shown. I believe that Will is exceptional in this regard because of his ability to see how hard work and determination trump daily challenges. From the first time you meet him you will realize that you are dealing with someone who is serious about success be it with grades or batting average. This translates to leadership by example in the classroom and on the field. It is this unique long-term perspective for a kid his age that I believe will make Will successful in whatever life goals he decides to pursue.

Will's athletic ability has been evident since I first met him. I had a front-row seat for many of his younger years to watch him develop on the baseball field from raw talent to a refined player. Will's combination of athletic talent, instinct and intelligence separate him from the rest of the players on the field. Will works tirelessly to continuously improve which is what typically separates talented players from successful players at the next level. While I have coached many kids with talent, few were able to truly use that raw talent consistently to make a real impact on the field. ***Will is able to change outcomes in games beyond any player I have ever coached.*** This has continued through his high-school career and I am confident it will translate on the next level.

From the time I met Will he has been one of the singularly most determined and competitive people I have known. Will's determination on the athletic field is matched by his pursuit of high achievement in the classroom. Will is an excellent student and has challenged himself academically throughout his school years taking advanced curriculum including the international baccalaureate program in middle school and advanced placement and honors courses in high school. All this, while maintaining top-tier grades and academic standing at a challenging and academically-competitive high school.

If I had to bet on a kid being successful, I would go all-in on Will. Will is THE definition of a scholar athlete and would undoubtedly be a tremendous addition to any school's program.