



Jon Tan
Boys Basketball

When did you start playing your sport/how did you get introduced to it?

I started playing basketball ever since I was around the age of 5, and I got involved in this sport because my older brother would always be playing it, and my dad was a huge basketball fan, so it was kind of in the family.

Do you play any other sports?

I only play basketball

What has your sport taught you/what lessons have you pulled from it?

This sport has taught me many important life lessons, such as the importance of hard work, how to work well with others, and just how to overcome adversity.

What do you wish you knew when you were just starting?

I wish I knew how long I would be playing organized basketball for, because although playing from the age of 5 til my senior year of high school might seem like a long time, my basketball journey has gone by pretty fast, and I wish I had known when it would end so I could cherish/enjoy those memories even more.

What quote/inspiration do you resort to when things get really hard?

My main inspiration for working hard in basketball is mainly my family. My parents started off as immigrants from China with zero understanding of the English language, and little to no money at all, and they were then able to carve out a living for themselves and eventually start and raise a family, and in my eyes, this is extremely difficult and requires a lot of hard work and effort. Therefore, whenever I'm in the need for inspiration I just think back to my parents and the process that they went through to start a life in America.

Where do you go from here? College plans?

I don't yet know which college I will be attending next fall, as I am still awaiting on the results from my University of California applications, and I don't find out until March. Hopefully I plan on attending either one of the University of California schools that I applied to, or either going to UIUC, which I have gotten accepted to.

Do you have a role model?

My role model is my brother because of his hard-working demeanor, and mainly because of his good-natured personality. He is extremely outgoing, but at the same time extremely hard working and determined on reaching his goals that he set out for himself, and I strive to be like him in the future.