



Dear Prospective Student,

I would like to take this opportunity to tell you about the rugby program here at Vassar College in the hope that you will consider our institution as the place where you can pursue both your academic and rugby ambitions.

Vassar College Rugby is unique in the U.S.A. as it is supported by the Office of Athletics. You will be treated as a varsity sport student-athlete. We have a dedicated full size rugby field and access to indoor practice facilities. We have a Predator 65 scrum machine, tackle bags, and shields. As a Vassar College rugby player you will be supported by the sports medicine staff and receive pre-game taping as well as care during and after games. Student-athletes can earn a varsity letter in rugby.

Vassar competes in the Metropolitan New York Conference and is a member of the Northeast Rugby Union. We try to play an open attacking style of rugby that gives every player an opportunity to develop their game. We tour regularly and have played rugby in Ireland in 1999, England in 2001, Australia in 2002, Wales in 2003, Argentina in 2005, France 2006, the Bahamas in 2007, and this year we are going to Ireland in March.

In 2006-07 the Vassar Men won the Metropolitan New York Division II Championship going undefeated, 8-0, in divisional games. The team was ranked as high as # 12 in the nation and won the prestigious Beast of the East Tournament in April 2007 finishing number 1 among over 30 teams. We qualified for the playoffs in 2008 and 2009 finishing second in the conference those years. Every game is reported to the press, parents, alumni, and players. **You can go to the Vassar web site and read all about the program just go to <http://www.vassarathletics.com> and then click on Men's Sports and then Rugby.**

I can promise you an excellent rugby experience that will go far beyond learning the skills and tactics of the game. The program also has an outstanding assistant coach in Mark Griffiths, a former professional player with Premiership team Bristol.

Vassar has earned an international reputation for academic excellence and upon graduation you will possess a prestigious undergraduate degree that will serve you admirably in your chosen field. As a member of the rugby squad you will be able to combine your academic studies and athletic pursuits in a balanced manner as the team has mandatory rugby practice three times a week and two weights sessions during the season. Should you choose to attend Vassar you will receive an education second to none both in the classroom and as a rugby player.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at work (845) 437-7804 or home (845) 437-7090. You can also e-mail me at: [tobrown@vassar.edu](mailto:tobrown@vassar.edu) .

Sincerely,

*Tony Brown*

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