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Lakeland hosts college recruitment event

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By Amelia Skimin
STAFF WRITER

Lauren Memmer, a senior at Lakeland High School, wants to be a doctor. Her athletic skills will help her achieve this goal.

Memmer was recruited by U of D-Mercy to play softball. While she talked to representatives from other schools, the coach from U of D-Mercy made her the best offer. Plus, she said, she felt comfortable with the softball program and academics at U of D-Mercy.

"I just want to go where I'm comfortable," she said.

Deciding where to go for college is a challenge for any high school student and his or her parents. Adding athletics into the mix just makes the process more complicated.

That's why Greg Michaels, Lakeland's athletic director, has put together a meeting for parents with Rick Wire, a nationally recognized expert on college recruitment.

At the meeting, open to all area

students in grades 8 to 12 and their parents, Wire will explain the recruiting process for college athletes. Athletes and their parents will also learn how to "market" themselves to college coaches and how to receive scholarship offers. Wire will also give advice on how to prepare physically to be a college athlete.

Another important item covered at the meeting, held at 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 14 at the Lakeland High School Fieldhouse, will be the differences in divisions. An

athlete may not be able to play at a Division I school, but could do very well at a Division III school, Michaels said.

Memmer said her parents attended several meetings to help them get a handle on the college recruitment process. The meetings, she said, were helpful.

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