Reynolds shows the right way to do things

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If you are a fan of Scituate sports, you have probably heard Jake Reynolds’ name at some point.

Reynolds, a senior, is a three-sport athlete with tremendous leadership skills.

During the winter, you can find Reynolds on the basketball court, where he’s helped lead the team to a 4-0 start this season from the shooting guard spot. In the fall he runs cross country and plays lacrosse in the spring. He is a captain in each sport.

“Jake is an exceptional athlete, leader and captain,” Scituate basketball coach Matt Poirier said. “Jake is a winner. When I wrote recommendations for him this fall for college, I frankly stated to each school’s admission board that they better sign him before someone else does. Do you want to compete against him or do you want him on your side? I want him on your side. I want to compete against him or do you want him on your side? I want him on the basketball court, but he teaches that through teamwork. Off the court you can be a great person who gives back to the community. You learn life lessons.”

“Jake is a very tough basketball player, has a very nice shot and is as tough a defender as there is on the south shore,” Poirier says. “He gives his utmost and does so without needing pushing, prompting or reminders. I actually have to say very little to him on the court. Jake let me know his freshman year that lacrosse was his passion, his main sport and one that he needed to pursue in his off-seasons in order to achieve his dream of playing college lacrosse. I have loved being able to read and watch him succeed on the lacrosse field and cross-country as well. I was not surprised at all that he achieved his dream and is off to Carbrini College next year. Good for him. I guess they took my advice.”

Reynolds takes his sports seriously. All of them, and understands his role.

“Jake understood also that a skill sport such as basketball he needed to continue working on his skills in whatever time he had left over and he has truly made a remarkable effort to do so,” Poirier said.

Believe me, Jake worked for me this summer. He did not have a lot of free time, but he learned early on to manage his time properly,” Poirier said. “Being a three-sport athlete is a very difficult thing to do, but it can be done. Jake is proof, Jake is a role model and a true student/athlete. He is not an athletic/student and never misses that up. He has always dedicated himself completely to his main task: Academics. Being a student/athlete is not easy either these days, but Jake makes it look easy.”

Poirier said Reynolds is a good motivator.

“He just goes at it,” Poirier said. “I always ask my teams at some point to stop needing the coaching staff’s energy for motivation. Many of my fellow coaches here at Scituate have moved on to run their own programs and all of us have who have had the chance to coach Jake since his freshman year would say this about him, ‘Jake is a winner.’ Why? At some point as an athlete you can not rely on anyone to motivate you except yourself. Jake is someone who regardless if it is a drill, a practice routine or the last 30 seconds of a tied game, it is all the same situation to him. It all matters just the same to Jake. He is going to compete to his fullest with a complete sense of urgency — always. He is going to make the winning effort — always. Folks have this competitive edge or they don’t. Jake has it. This is why he will be fine among the college level and Jake will love playing along side people with the same mindset.”

Poirier loves that leadership. “What else makes him a great leader?” Poirier said. “That unique competitive fire Jake possesses is contagious. Jake inspires his fellow teammates. Jake inspires me, Coach Jordan, Coach Phillips, Coach Larnard and Brendan Barry our program manager. I mean it. Our younger teams and players are lucky to have him as a captain of our varsity team.”

Kathleen McCarthy is the coach of the cross country team. She said Reynolds’ personality makes him the perfect leader.

“Jake’s leadership ability is second to none and couple that with his raw talent and work ethic and you have the perfect athlete to motivate,” McCarthy said. “People have so much respect for him: peers, teachers, other coaches, parents because they see how hard he works and what a great person he is. He wasn’t just an athlete, he really acted as an assistant coach with me and I will miss his wisdom, personality, leadership and recruiting ability. A good number of our team joined because Jake reached out to them.”

On the lacrosse field, Reynolds is a goalie who has been starting since he was a freshman. He’s been through some good times, and hopes for more.

“This year we’ll be senior heavy,” he said. “We’ll miss Tucker (Ciesau). He was a major scorer, but we’ll try now to spread out the scoring. It will be bittersweet not having his scoring, but it won’t be as much pressure in one place.”