

Dear Aaron -

Just let the ball go out of bounds. You love basketball, so I know better than to tell you not to play in that pick-up game on the outdoor court at Neal Paw Elementary on Jan. 2, 2000, in Chico, CA. But there will be a fast break, and a bad pass, and instead of letting the ball go, you're gonna try to make a play. So you'll turn and plant and try to pass it back toward the rim. That's when your knee gives out.

Thanks to that injury, achieving your dreams will be just much more difficult. You're gonna sneak into your high school library and log onto Rivals.com thinking, "Maybe I'll see my name on the list of top college recruits." You won't find it.

At one point you'll get so frustrated that you'll actually consider giving up football altogether to pursue a baseball career. Bad idea. Having to go the JC route will be humbling, 'I'm better than this' you'll think. Even Mom won't think Butte College is a good idea at first. But just wait til you get to know Coach Rigsbee. Everything in life is an opportunity for you, make the most of them. At Butte you will gain a ton of confidence, and your knee will get better; you will realize your dream of playing D1. You will realize your NFL potential being coached by an incredible QB mind in Coach Tedford, listen and take notes.

And in the end, after a rough start to your NFL career, finally throwing your first

NFL TD in 2007 on National TV, to
standing on the podium in Dallas; and all the
frustration, heartache, and disappointment in between....

the journey is sweet, so try and enjoy it as
much as you can.... and if that doesn't work
out, The winning numbers to the \$600 million
Powerball lottery in May 2013 are 10, 13, 14, 22, 52...
nevermind, it's gonna work out.

