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Profile Assessment and Precision Game Plan for Aarnav

Session time - **02/12, 7-8pm PT**
Assessing coach and report by - **Jenny Duan (Head Coach)**, **Andrew Ai (CS, Debate), Summer Royal (CS, Bio)**

Introduction:

Dear Aarnav and Family,

To reintroduce myself– I'm Jenny Duan, a Stanford student studying Artificial Intelligence. It's been a pleasure meeting with you, and I'm excited to share Aarnav's holistic profile assessment and recommendations for us to chart his path to his dream schools. After carefully evaluating Aarnav's profile, based on our assessment call notes, I am confident that–with the right strategies and tactics that I have identified below–Aarnav can build a strong profile to help him get into his dream Ivy, Top UC, T20 schools. I have crafted a very specific strategic & tactical roadmap. I've also proposed a personalized multi-year execution program that Andrew will execute dedicated 1:1 with Aarnav further elaborating, strategizing, and executing this precision game plan.

Profile Evaluation: Aarnav's Standout Extracurricular Strengths

Aarnav's evident and subtle strengths that can shape his unique and strong profile for top schools include:

1. **Computer Science Aptitude:** Aarnav exhibits strengths in Computer Science, as evidenced by his roles as the ACSL Club Secretary, through SteelCityCodes, and his achievement in the USACO Bronze qualification. His involvement and leadership in these areas highlight his technical skills and dedication to the field, enhancing his profile for tech-oriented programs. He was also admitted to the competitive COSMOS summer program in his freshman year, where he researched the Fibonacci Series.

2. **Passion for Debate:** As a skilled debater and public speaker, Aarnav adds value to his profile through his ability to articulate ideas effectively. His role as Director of Tournament

Registration at his school's debate club demonstrates his organizational skills and commitment to fostering intellectual discourse. Debate also challenges Aarnav to think about social issues like the use of algorithms in the justice sector.

3. **Academic Excellence:** Aarnav's academic excellence, demonstrated through his 4.0 GPA and competitive classes, is the foundation of his application, reflecting his intellectual rigor and capacity for academic success at a top-tier institution.

4. **Curiosity and soft skills:** His innate curiosity and leadership skills are evident in his varied interests and initiatives. Aarnav's engagement in research and leadership roles showcases his ability to explore new areas and lead projects, traits highly valued by top colleges. He is also quite friendly and demonstrates high EQ.

Top Weak Spots Identified for Aarnav

Aarnav's dedication to pursuing computer science is commendable; however, there are five specific areas of concern that urgently need targeted strategies and specific plans to address them, especially in light of the intense competition at top schools. Aarnav's most significant areas for growth at this point are addressing his "cookie cutter" profile, deepening his community service, earning awards, taking leadership, and developing his "why" statement.

[Weak Spot 1] Cookie Cutter Profile: While Aarnav has a strong background in computer science and debate, his profile might appear somewhat typical among the highly competitive pool of applicants to top-tier universities. Diversifying his experiences or highlighting unique aspects of his existing involvements could help distinguish him from other candidates.

[Weak Spot 2] Community Service/ Impact Areas: Aarnav's current activities lack a clear focus on community service or creating a broader impact. Engaging in service-oriented projects or initiatives that benefit others can be a significant value addition, demonstrating his commitment to societal contribution and empathy.

[Weak Spot 3] Awards: Aarnav has not yet secured significant awards or recognitions, which could serve as external validation of his skills and achievements. Recognition at a national or international level could greatly enhance his application, offering proof of his excellence and standing out in a competitive applicant pool.

[Weak Spot 4] Leadership: While Aarnav shows potential in leadership, there seems to be a need for more pronounced, impactful leadership roles. Developing and leading major initiatives or assuming higher responsibility in his current activities could strengthen this aspect of his profile.

[Weak Spot 5] Personal Connection / "Why" Statement: Aarnav's application might benefit from a stronger personal connection or a compelling "why" statement that clearly articulates his passions, motivations, and goals. This narrative is crucial to convey his unique personality and aspirations, and how they align with the ethos of the universities he aims to attend.

Tailored 3-Year Strategies with Specific Action Plan to Address Aarnav's Weak Spots

Combining Aarnav's thorough assessment with my personal expertise and previous experience helping students I mentor receive acceptances at Stanford, top UCs, and countless Ivys, I propose the following tailored and specific strategies to address these weak spots head on.

[Strategy 1] Diversifying Profile and Enhancing Community Impact:

Objective: To broaden Aarnav's extracurricular profile and emphasize his community impact.

How: Encourage Aarnav to engage in activities outside his current scope, particularly those involving community service or social impact. This would not only diversify his profile but also demonstrate his commitment to societal contribution.

Why: Admissions officers ultimately want to admit students who will one day change the world. Demonstrating his commitment to societal change will allow his regional admissions officer to make a compelling argument as to why Aarnav will one-day be that change-maker. However, showing this commitment is difficult and it doesn't stop at starting another generic non-profit organization.

Specific Plan: Aarnav could initiate or participate in projects related to climate change advocacy, youth legislative activities, or developing algorithms for social good. These efforts do 2 things. Firstly, enrolling sustainability-related majors is what admissions officers term an institutional priority. This means the school wants a greater percentage of students who are interested in sustainability and as a result will have lower standards for these students. Secondly, this experience would show a balance between his technical skills and social awareness. I would propose Aarnav explore the following impact areas in the following ways, ultimately choosing **one** area to focus his impact on. **Please note that some of these programs have application dates that open/close throughout the school year. Continued application support is highly encouraged to ensure the greatest success rate.**

1. Climate Change Advocacy
   a. Joining or leading a chapter of [Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action](#)
2. Youth Legislative Activities
   a. [YMCA Youth in Government](#) (many positions available)

      b. [FUHSD Intra-District Council](#) (school district representative)
      c. [FUHSD Wellness Council](#)
3. Algorithmic Justice
      a. Joining the Encode Justice [Youth Advisory Board](#)
4. Climate Research
      a. [The National High School Journal of Science](#)
      b. [Journal of Emerging Investigators](#)
      c. [Journal of Experimental Secondary Science](#)
      d. [Journal of Young Investigators](#)
      e. [Journal of Student Research](#)
      f. [Questioz](#), The International Journal of High School Science:

[Strategy 2] Crafting a Compelling "Why" Statement:

Objective: To develop a strong personal narrative that connects Aarnav's interests and aspirations with his choice of college and course of study.

How: Work with Aarnav to explore and articulate his motivations, experiences, and future goals. This statement should reflect his unique personality and how his past experiences have shaped his aspirations.

Why: Admissions officers know students will always try to game the system. By weaving a compelling narrative as to why he does the impactful work that he does, he convinces the admissions officer that he will continue to do so in college. Remember, at the end of the day, colleges want successful students.

Specific Plan: The "why" statement should interweave his passion for computer science and debate with his personal experiences and potentially sustainability initiatives, showcasing how these elements converge to define his academic and career objectives.

The Framework We Propose: Computer Science as Aarnav's **medium** for change, Debate as his **voice** for change and climate as his **reason** for change. Combining his potential for impact with his passion for change.

[Strategy 3] Enhancing Leadership Roles:

Objective: To strengthen Aarnav's leadership profile in both current and new activities.

How: Encourage Aarnav to take on more significant leadership roles within his existing extracurricular activities or seek out new opportunities where he can lead initiatives or projects.

Why: A "natural-born" leader is someone who will make his imprint on society regardless of what they pursue. Fortunately, "natural-born" is a misnomer. Rather, the term should be more aptly named a "well-trained" leader. Students who take responsibility, take initiative and go above and beyond demonstrate the skills of a natural born leader and thereby work towards convincing their admissions officer that their imprint will be left on society.

Specific Plan: Aarnav could lead a major project in his ACSL club or organize a community event related to technology. Alternatively, he could start a new initiative, like a tech mentorship program for younger students, demonstrating initiative and leadership. Regardless of the specific program, we must meet with Arnav to brainstorm potential niche paths to explore. Referencing [Strategy 1], Aarnav can also leverage his social change area for increased leadership opportunities.

[Strategy 4] Effective Time Allocation:

Objective: To balance Aarnav's commitments effectively, ensuring he excels in his pursuits without being overwhelmed.

How: Assist Aarnav in creating a structured schedule that allocates time for academics, extracurricular activities, community service, and personal projects.

Why: Aarnav participates in a plethora of extracurricular activities, many of which are cookie-cutter. To maximize his chances of admission to a top school, Aarnav must make tough trade-offs.

Specific Plan: Design a personalized schedule that dedicates specific hours each week to different activities, ensuring a balanced approach to his academic and extracurricular commitments. This plan would include time for developing his "why" statement and preparing for leadership roles as well as developing the skills necessary for crafting a complete college application.

[Strategy 5] Targeted Approach for Awards:

Objective: To gain recognition in areas aligning with Aarnav's strengths and interests.

How: Identify and apply for awards and competitions in computer science, debate, and leadership.

Specific Plan: Research and target awards like the following Assistance in application preparation, including essays and project submissions, will be crucial. Because Aarnav excels at such a high level technically, I recommend training to reach the following specific awards

(Note: These awards span a huge array of topics and thereby a huge time commitment. Ultimately, we will be honing in on the awards with the success rate and highest return on investment):

1. USACO Gold Medal
2. AIME Qualification
3. Debate ToC Tournament Qualification
4. Intel ISEF Award
5. Regeneron STS Award
6. Davidson Fellowship
7. T-Mobile Changemaker Challenge
8. M3 Challenge
9. Microsoft Image Cup
10. Spellman Clean Tech Competition
11. U Stockholm Junior Water Prize
12. Google Change the Game
13. Junior Science and Humanities Symposium
14. LEGO Rebrick Contests
15. NASA Student Competitions

Aarnav's Ideal Extracurricular Profile

Aarnav's ideal profile combines his technical skills in computer science with his aptitude for debate and public speaking. It leverages his **impact** and **passion**. Here are the three areas I would recommend Aarnav structure his extracurricular pursuits through. Suggested new activities are highlighted in red:

1. Public Speaking/Leadership
    a. Debate – director of tournament registration
    b. FUHSD Leadership Council
    c. YMCA Youth Governor Position
2. Computer Science/Math
    a. CS Club Secretary
    b. COSMOS Research Program
    c. Math Summer Program (Canada-USA Mathcamp, SUMAC, etc)
3. Service/Impact
    a. Climate Research Project
    b. AI Ethics Youth Advisory Board
    c. Internship at Recidiviz
    d. Research with Stanford/Berkeley Professor on algorithmic ethics

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Personalized 1:1 Program Proposal for Aarnav

3-Years College Preparation, College Applications & Admission Success 1:1 Program

Based on Aarnav's holistic assessment, strengths, weak spots, and tailored strategies to address those weak areas and strengthen his profile to maximize his chances to get into UCs, Top 20 schools, I would like to propose a 3-year comprehensive program plan to help Aarnav 1-on-1 with very specific and hands-on help in strategizing, planning, executing, and showcasing/ framing all the identified tailored strategies and goals in this report. Andrew's focus in the next 3-year will be to help Aarnav on the following to execute upon our identified strategies to deliver small and big outcomes:

Sophomore Year: Building Foundations & Strengthening Profile

1. **Academic Excellence:** Monitor and support Aarnav's academic performance. Encourage enrollment in advanced courses or subjects that align with his interests and strengths.
2. **Extracurricular Deep Dive:** Identify and engage in extracurricular activities that align with his interests, particularly focusing on areas that can demonstrate leadership and community impact.
3. **Community Service Project:** Initiate a significant community service project that aligns with Aarnav's interests, such as a technology-driven environmental initiative.
4. **Leadership Development:** Seek leadership roles in current activities and explore opportunities to lead new initiatives or projects.
5. **Personal Growth:** Work on personal development areas such as public speaking, teamwork, and time management.
6. **Early Career Exploration:** Begin exploring potential career paths through informational interviews, job shadowing, or internships in fields of interest.

Target Goals (initial draft to evolve):
1. **Qualify for ToC Debate Competition**
2. **Begin nonprofit involvement**
3. **Begin new research project**
4. **Achieve high score in standardized test**

Summer Program (initial draft to evolve):
1. **Debate Summer Camp**
2. **Continue service impact**
3. **Research Project with UC Berkeley/Stanford Mentor**

Junior Year: Intensifying Focus & Preparing for College Applications

1. **Standardized Test Preparation:** Start preparing for SAT or ACT exams. Aim to take the test by the end of the junior year.
2. **Extracurricular Leadership:** Strengthen leadership roles in extracurricular activities and seek to make measurable impacts in these roles.
3. **Community Service Continuation:** Further develop the community service project started in sophomore year, aiming for tangible results and impact.
4. **Summer Enrichment:** Participate in summer programs or internships that align with Aarnav's interests and academic goals.
5. **College Research & Visits:** Begin researching potential colleges and universities. Plan campus visits if possible.
6. **Initial College List Development:** Start compiling a list of potential colleges and understand their application requirements.
7. **Profile Documentation:** Start documenting achievements, activities, and experiences to be used in the college application process.

Target Goals (initial draft to evolve):
1. **Competitive STEM Research Summer Program**
2. **Qualify for AIME**
3. **Qualify for TOC**
4. **National Service Award (based on previous summer's service project)**
5. **Social Justice writing award**
6. **Draft CommonApp Statement**
7. **Apply for competitive scholarship programs (Cameron Impact, Davidson Fellows, etc)**

Summer Programs (initial draft to evolve)
1. **RSI**
2. **SSP**
3. **Stanford Summer CS Research**
4. **AI Scholars**
5. **SUMAC**
6. **Canada-USA Math Camp**

Senior Year: Concentrate on College Application & Admission

1. **College Application Mastery:** All Common App and UCs - targeting various colleges, programs.
2. **Essay Elevator:** All Common App & UC - Crafting compelling personal statements and supplementary essays.

3. **Decision Making:** Weighing college offers and making the final choice. Waitlist, Appeal support included.

Program Cadence Options

- **Weekly or Bi-weekly based on coach and student preference:** 1-hour 1:1 sessions, with continuous support throughout the week for hands-on execution, roadblock removal, progress checks to drive outcomes.

Why IvyLevel for Aarnav & why a 3 year journey together?

1. **Shared STEM Background:** Our foundations in STEM mirrors Aarnav's interests, providing him with relevant guidance based on shared experiences in CS.
2. **Interdisciplinary Approach:** Aarnav's varied activities can be woven into a singular, compelling narrative. We specialize in this kind of storytelling, with coaches from varied academic disciplines.
3. **Navigating the "How" of executing all the strategies:** Aarnav may not yet know the intricate steps of seeking extracurriculars, structuring them, and aligning them with his overall profile. we're here to demystify those with very specific and hands-on help.
4. **Leveraging a Large Public School Experience:** Drawing from our experiences, I can provide strategies tailored to students from larger public schools, ensuring Aarnav stands out.
5. **Coherent Framing and Showcasing:** Our expertise lies not only in helping Aarnav execute and excel on all identified goals and tracks, but throughout connecting all his work coherently, framing and showcasing in a way that's optimized for each of his target school
6. **Long-term Engagement Benefits:** Three years might seem lengthy, but this time frame is needed at the least to make significant progress on all the 5 weak areas identified:
   - **Strategizing and Cohesion:** We'll weave every accomplishment and pursuit into a cohesive narrative.
   - **Accountability & Progress:** With recurring check-ins, we'll ensure Aarnav stays on track and evolves his profile effectively.
   - **Specific Guidance:** From summer programs to academic pursuits, we'll be there every step of the way.
   - **Comprehensive College App Preparation:** Gathering materials, strategizing for letters of recommendation, and more take time. Starting in junior year ensures thoroughness.

By partnering with us, Aarnav accesses more than just our proven frameworks and coaches; he secures a dedicated ally, committed to highlighting his strengths, addressing his challenges, delivering small and big outcomes, positioning him ideally for his dream college.

I look forward to the opportunity to help Aarnav achieve his goals over the next two years through this custom plan. During our sessions, I hope to instill a sense of personal accountability, motivation, and drive for Aarnav. I look forward to the opportunity to further develop his passion, impact, and involvement toward future personal and academic success.

Best Regards,

Andrew Ai (Dedicated 1:1 Coach)
Ivylevel Coach (CS, Debate Specialist)

Jenny Duan
Ivylevel Head Coach (Overseeing and mobilizing more specialist coaches on outcome basis)