

"We are assisting families & their student-athletes live the dream of playing college sports while earning a college degree."

-Jim Conway

Collegiate Profile: Getting Sports Scholarships for Student Athletes

By Crista Dockray Staff Writer

Collegiate Profile, started by Jim Conway, is a company that helps high school student athletes secure sports scholarships to universities across the country.

Conway decided to start his business after he helped a young man from Lagos, Nigeria secure a \$185,000 basketball scholarship, with an option to receive a masters degree, to a small, private D1 school on the east coast.

"After I did that I thought, there has got be more families like that out there who need help." said Conway.

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He opened his doors for the first time this April.

Conway describes his business as a two-part company. The first is the education piece. Conway goes around to the high schools in the tri-county area and gives presentations about the opportunities that student athletes have to get scholarships anywhere from \$5,000 a year up to a full ride for playing sports in college. In his presentation, he explains the possibilities for all sports, all divisions, and both gen-

ders. He explains the importance of keeping good grades to provide even better leverage combined with the athletic talent and teaches the students that you don't have to go to the top schools in the country, like Duke or Notre Dame, in order to be successful. He explains that there are many smaller schools that don't get a lot of media that are just as good and willing to pay for an athlete to come play for them.

"I am helping families and their kids to live their dream of playing sports while getting them a great degree," said Conway.

Conway said he has been to about six or seven meetings talking to athletic directors and has received very positive feedback so far.

The second part is the consulting piece. If the student athletes are interested, Conway can help them discover their own personal opportunities.

He said there are fees set up for freshmen and sophomores and a separate fee for juniors and seniors.

Conway said before the talent, he figures out what will be a good fit socially for the



From Left to Right: Coach Rob Krimmel of St. Francis University, Father Joe, and Jim Conway at a game at Mount St. Mary's. Coach Krimmel is the current Head Coach of the Men's Basketball Team. Father Joe is the team's Chaplain and was one of Conway's teachers.



Coach Dave Magarity (Right), who recruited in Jim Conway (Left) in high school back in 1981, at The Naval Academy. Coach Magarity is now the Head Women's Basketball Coach at West Point.

student. He and the student will work to find a school that fits their location, size, and academic preferences and then work to fill out the student's athletic profile sheet. He will also work with local coaches and his consultants to create an assessment of the student.

The next step is to reach out to his contacts from his time in D1 basketball, work with the student to send out letters to the coaches, and in the end create contact between the coach and the student.

"I want to make sure my clients are going to be in the forefront. I want to make sure that when the schools go to pick, my clients are remembered," said Conway. "I want the schools to think 'here's a kid that wants to come here."

Conway said he promises to be a valuable resource that can be reached 24/7 that will help any student athlete achieve their dream.

To find out more information about Collegiate Profiles, visit <u>www.collegiateprofiles.com</u> or call 410-449-6931.

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