

“How to Network a Student-Athlete”

Honest vision and understanding is critical to economic, spiritual, and social success for student-athletes. These climates are quickly changing however, a few constants create victory on this leg of one's journey.

Students and their parents need to know about the ins and the outs of recruiting, scholarships, commitments, and contractual signings. Smoke screens, wasted resources, poor focus, and immature character management results in many examples of failure and do-overs for students and their families. If a student-athlete's family understands what is important for their future collegiate, professional, and international warriors, then they will be able to move their young champion onward with confidence. The two questions are: (1) **Does the student-athlete really want to work and play, or does he/she really want to just go explore and get away? AND....(2) Does their best collegiate recruiter/coach/institution really want them as an investment in the future or a pawn in the recruiting world of financial survival?** (simply stated: is your child a number in the recruiting world for the college to fill their “on-campus budgetary needs” or is he a future enlightened life warrior?)

Education is big business. It is a business means to a business end. Never forget this! Everyone wants the student-athlete's money or the governments money that the student-athlete can provide. The secret is finding the collegiate family that appreciates the student-athlete and encourages the student-athlete to discover, grow, and contribute. Ask the Following:

- 1) Do you love the sport?
- 2) Do you play for self or team?
- 3) Do you Adapt, Improvise, Overcome in the classroom?
- 4) Do you show personal responsibility and accountability?
- 5) Do you think statistics are more important than hustle, determination, and vision?
- 6) Do you work to help with finances of the family?
- 7) Do you enjoy learning?
- 8) Do you celebrate or contemplate?
- 9) Is money more important than a job well done?
- 10) Can you answer these questions honestly or in fear of what others think?

Coach! What is the Lay of the Land, when Hunting for Scholarship Game?



You must know where and how to hunt. First if you are not carrying a loaded shotgun of educational skill or academic desire, then visit trade schools that might fit your interest. If you are not ready for a four-year commitment or do not have an academic or athletic scholarship available, then hunting for a junior college or community college will be a good option.

If you have academic skills and average athletic skills, then find a good, liberal arts, D3 School that will allow you to pay to play. If you have academic skills and can demand some athletic scholarship considerations, then find a D2 that will provide opportunity to study and play.

If you are a stallion in academics and in athletics, you have a firm contractual agreement in writing from a school that will pay all your expenses to work for them, then commit and sign with that D1 program that is committed to you.

Bottomline: do not go somewhere to look good to your friends and family back home. Warriors do not like to sit on the bench. Warriors do not pretend to be something they are not. Go where you are needed and wanted or stay home and play club.

WARNING! When hunting for committed collegiate jobs of service, please remember that a verbal commitment is like stepping into quicksand in the middle of the woods. It looks good but it means nothing! It has no legal binding substance, it a smoke screen by those who offer them, and it is a trick of the trade to look good. If you are good, then coaches will sign paperwork, and institutions will provide you with a binding agreement. Anything else is as silly as someone saying at the age of 17: I am early committing to the NY Yankees. Sure, they may want to play for them, but there is no mechanism in the draft, or free agency that allows a USA Citizen to be committed to a Professional Team. An individual either has a contract offered by the professional employer or they do not.

Therefore, our advice? Do not tell others of a personal early committed to “Whats-a-Matter U” at the age of 15 in one’s sophomore year. The only individuals who will think that is cool are the trolls of the Web-world.

VM Global Placement Services

Sometimes the dreamer needs help. Not to imagine or develop but to network and communicate with those in the world who welcomes them into their world. The Program of Global Placement via Sophos International finds the right fit for those who invest time and commitment into their future. We work to bring individuals to programs, teams, locations that will challenge, engage, embrace, and create opportunities.



We develop personal relationships, discover strengths and weaknesses, improve and enhance portfolio of character, then network to the appropriate opportunities. Simply Explained: We put a real pro with a real scout, a real student with a real college and a great warrior with a great team. We analyze our clients, we develop their skills, and we march them onward into the next levels of participation. Here are a few of our success stories.

-Adrian Hatami comes to Virginia from Canada, survives the heat, and finds Averett University to claim as his new home

-Richard De La Cruz comes from the Dominican Republic to learn and network and land a scholarship from Radford University

-Tsyuama Matsuma was recruited after pitching only one inning in cc competition then finished his college career as productive member of the Clarke College Pitching staff.

-Wes Edwards retools his game with the VMarlins and goes to Pitch for two years in Japan with the Guyens Giants

-The Esersky brothers find success in collegiate and Independent Baseball after winter sessions with VMarlins

-Martin Nicolay goes from Belgium to Averett University on academic scholarship

-Keito Hamanaka comes from Japan to learn, play, and experience Baseball in the USA then return to educate the youth of Japan in the ways of positive play

-Britney Cedelland returns to Australia to compete successfully and play for the Australian National Women's Baseball Team

-Janick Petry works out in German Batting cage and ends up at WVTI to Play Collegiate Baseball

-Jake Brewer goes from summer backup to MVP/Captain for PGCC and Strafford University

-Robbie Ingram finds a professional career playing baseball in Germany

-Simone Willemse lands a position on the Netherlands Women's National Team

-Jessi Locklear becomes the first Native American to play Baseball in Europe

-Zack Roll, finds his positive passion and Returns to Southern Maryland College

-Jose Humbello makes a home in the USA after playing baseball for the Atlanta Braves and works with youth to develop a VMarlins Latin American Approach

-Joshua Welcher, attends Virginia State University to lead team on the mound

-Jason Martinez, of the Cherokee Nation, finishes strong at Virginia State University.

-DJ Lowery, Warrior of the Lumbee Nation, returns to battle at Greensboro College

-Ozzie Sailor served tours in China, Guam, Australia, Korea, and Virginia

-Daniel Voss lands a scholarship to play baseball at Florida Southwestern State

The GPS Collegiate History

Zack Devon	Louisburg JC
Luke Haines	Louisburg JC/Wagner
Rich De La Cruz	Radford University
Jose Sanchez (Ger)	Milligan College
Michael Reiland	Lynchburg College
Steve Fondeur	Prince George CC
Josh Welcher	Virginia State
Adrian Hatami (Can)	Averett University
Shag Bryant (VI)	Lemoyne Owen
Thomas Lee, Jr	Bluefield College
Daniel Voss (NL)	Florida SW State
Tyler Burns	CACC
Trey Carlton	Victor Valley CC
Samus Walsh	Prince George CC
Jake Brewer	Prince George CC
Martin Nicolay (Bel)	Averett University
Jessie Locklear	RCC
Austin Elledge	Bluefield College
Tucker Sorenson	Kentucky Christian
Zack Roll	Southern Maryland

Janick Petry (Ger)	WV Tech
Tyler Wyrusu	Longwood University
Harold Marte	Prince George CC

