



Based on what transpired in a few short moments in early 2006, **Coach Jim Johnson** is now an authority on the subject of realizing your dreams. In his many public-speaking appearances, the Rochester, New York resident relates his role in a basketball game that got Hollywood calling. He also emphasizes the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship, delivering his talks with a heartfelt style that has brought audiences to their feet.

Coach Johnson has developed winning high-school basketball teams for 27 years, taking over three losing varsity programs and turning them into winners in short periods of time. Of his 362 career victories, one in particular will surely never be duplicated.

On Feb. 15, 2006, Coach Johnson made the kindhearted gesture of inserting his autistic manager, Jason McElwain, now known to the world as J-Mac into Greece Athena High School's final home game, which the Trojans won 79-43. J-Mac scored 20 points in just over four minutes, including six three-point baskets, to become an instant national celebrity. Coach Johnson, also, was featured in major news outlets around the country.

To make the Hollywood ending complete, Greece Athena captured the first Section V title of Coach Johnson's career a few weeks later. A second sectional crown followed in 2007, and Coach Johnson then coached the Trojans to their third straight league title in 2008 by posting a perfect 12-0 record in league play, netting Coach of the Year honors. His success continued in 2009 with a league co-championship (34-2 league record over a three-season stretch) and third sectional title in four years, with an overall record of 20-5, his first-ever trip to the state quarterfinals and more Coach of the Year accolades. In the recently concluded ...

Jim Johnson

Speech Topics

- Teambuilding
- Inspiration
- Attitude



Testimonials

Your Convocation speech on August 18th certainly exceeded our expectations. Addressing the staff members of three districts at one sitting can be challenging, but the delivery of your message was perfect! Teachers and administrators from all three districts made numerous comments about your presentation on "Dreams Really Do Come True". They were highly complementary and appreciated your willingness to share your personal feelings about the many experiences you have encountered during your career. As educators, we face many challenges every day. The fact that you were a successful teacher facing such challenges gave you a great deal of credibility with the audience. It was so heartwarming to learn about your relationship with J-Mac. After all, it is those types of relationships that allow students to reach their highest potential. I hope that you continue to share your special story with educators throughout the country.

- Superintendent, Port Neches-Groves ISD.

Back in September we were honored to have Coach Jim Johnson give a keynote speech at our yearly convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. Coach Johnson was nothing but pleasant from the time that we picked him up at the airport to the time that we dropped him off. On top of being an all around great guy, Coach Johnson inspired and motivated people to believe in themselves and have the courage to not give up on their dreams. From the first sentence to his closing

remarks Coach Johnson had the audience in a trance. It really was amazing to see someone capture an audience of 4,000 and have them transitioning from crying to laughter in an instant. We were very pleased with his performance and how he handled himself on and off the stage. In our eyes Coach Johnson's speech added a missing link that we feel reached out to people in a way that we were unable to. In closing, we in no way regret having Coach Jim Johnson speak at our event and would recommend him to anyone that is looking to motivate and inspire their group. □

- Senior VP, Agel Americas.
