

*“Dreams are what get you started. Discipline is what keeps you going.”*

*-Jim Ryun*

### Dream it, Do it

Everyone has a dream. Some may think it's unattainable and are content to merely think and wish upon it late at night with that wistful smile and feeling of invincibility when they can't sleep. Others, the ones you hear about in the papers, strive for years for the moment when their dream becomes their reality. That turning point, that feeling of satisfaction that comes with realizing your hard work wasn't for naught and that you came out ahead, is what keeps us striving for our dream. That's why we need discipline.

“Dreams are what get you started.” My freshman year, I started to play golf. I soon had success and decided then and there that I was going to play college golf. Now, I could have just gone to practice during the season and allowed myself to have that secret wish at night where I imagined myself as a big golf star at a college and that would've been that. But I didn't. When golf season ended, I pushed myself to go to the course every day and continued that trend into the summer.

Golf became something of a necessity to me. If I didn't golf, I became cranky, like someone trying to quit smoking and craving a cigarette. It was an addiction. I loved the contented feeling I got after shooting a low score, and that relaxed, adrenaline fueled rush, that cocky puff of my chest, of feeling so proud of myself that I could float on air. It's what kept me going. It became my form of discipline.

“Discipline is what keeps you going.” The feeling of contentment wasn't the only factor that kept me on the path to my goal. To get scouted and recruited, you must play in tournaments that are outside of school, called junior tournaments. Through these tournaments, I met so many of my closest friends. And they were kicking my butt. To avoid being the one getting beat every time, I had to keep practicing and playing to get better. Every time I was able to beat my friends, I knew I was still on the right path. It's what lit the fire within.

On November 18, 2014, my dream became my reality. I signed my letter of intent to play golf for Dominican University of California in San Rafael. My friends came over and they helped to celebrate my discipline that led to my dream coming true. And in that moment, and every moment after that I stop to think about what I've accomplished, I can't help but grin and allow that satisfied, relaxed feeling to overwhelm me.

As for my next dream, who knows? Maybe it'll be to be the best golfer Dominican has ever seen. Maybe it won't even be golf related. But once I find that new dream, I know that I'll be able to have the discipline and determination that it takes to achieve it.