

## **FORMER DUKE STAR ENLIGHTENS STUDENTS AT ST. PETER'S SPIRIT WEEK**



JERSEY CITY, NJ (February 5, 2010) – Former Duke University Basketball star and current ESPN studio analyst Jay Williams recently inspired the students of St. Peter's College by chronicling his journey towards success and describing the numerous challenges he faced along the way.

After earning national champion honors, as well as being recognized as an All-American for both the 2000-01 and 2001-02 seasons, Williams stepped up to the hardwood of the NBA as the second overall pick in 2002 for the Chicago Bulls. As a Bull, Williams had a short-lived, yet highly commendable career before a nearly fatal traffic accident that would ultimately lead to his departure from the NBA.

Williams visited St. Peter's College on January, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to take part in Spirit Week activities. He spoke to the students about his own development as a highly talented student-athlete, and the successes that can be found when a strong work ethic is paired with leadership and determination. He also motivated the students with the idea of overcoming adversity, something he has grown to be very familiar with.

In June of 2003, he was involved in a horrific motorcycle accident, tearing three of the ligaments in his knee, breaking his pelvis, and causing excessive nerve damage to his leg. He knew it would be a long road back to the basketball court, but Williams wouldn't let that stop him. And that's the message he passed along to the student body of St. Peter's College last month.

Currently, Williams is a commentator and studio analyst at ESPN, covering collegiate matchups and tournaments such as March Madness. He has since returned to his home state of New Jersey, and now resides in Jersey City.