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## **FINALISTS FOR 2024-25 JIM PHELAN AWARD**

*The top head coaches in division I college basketball*

BOSTON, MA -- CollegeInsider.com has announced the finalists for the 2024-25 Jim Phelan award. The award is presented annually to the top head coach in division I college basketball.

The Jim Phelan Award is named in honor of a legendary bow-tied coach who spent his entire head coaching career at Mount Saint Mary's University.

Phelan graduated from La Salle University in 1951 and played one season in the NBA with the Philadelphia Warriors. After a brief professional career, Phelan went to Mount St. Mary's as an assistant in 1953. One year later he began his historical career as a head coach.

He led the Mountaineers to 16 Division II NCAA tournaments. Five times they advanced to the Final Four and he led them to the DII National Championship in 1962.

When he retired in 2003, after coaching for 49 years, he had amassed 830 wins (overall record of 830-524) in all divisions. In those 49 years, 19 of his teams amassed 20 or more wins in a season.

In 2008 he was inducted into National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

Phelan passed away on June 15, 2021 at the age of 92 at his home in Emmitsburg, MD.

The recipient of the annual award is determined by a 10-member voting committee, which

consists of current and former head coaches, as well as two senior staff members of collegeinsider.com.

The 2025 award will be announced in San Antonio, TX, site of the men's Division I Basketball Championship.

#### JIM PHELAN AWARD FINALISTS

Randy Bennett	Saint Mary's
Chris Beard	Ole Miss
Brad Brownell	Clemson
Greg Gard	Wisconsin
Dennis Gates	Missouri
Todd Golden	Florida
Penny Hardaway	Memphis
Tom Izzo	Michigan State
James Jones	Yale
Pat Kelsey	Louisville
Dusty May	Michigan
Grant McCasland	Texas Tech
Ben McCollum	Drake
Eric Olen	UC San Diego
Bruce Pearl	Auburn
Richard Pitino	New Mexico
Rick Pitino	St. John's
Kelvin Sampson	Houston
Jon Scheyer	Duke
Kevin Willard	Maryland

#### PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS

Fred Hoiberg, Nebraska (2024); Chris Collins, Northwestern (2023); Mark Adams, Texas Tech (2022); Todd Simon, Southern Utah (2021); Steve Pikiell, Rutgers (2020); Ritchie McKay, Liberty (2019); Chris Holtmann, Ohio State (2018); Frank Martin, South Carolina (2017); Greg Gard, Wisconsin (2016); Bob Huggins, West Virginia (2015); Tim Miles, Nebraska (2014); Dana Altman, Oregon (2013); Mike Brey, Notre Dame (2012); Stew Morrill, Utah State (2011); Jamie Dixon, Pittsburgh (2010); John Calipari, Memphis (2009); Bo Ryan, Wisconsin (2008); Tony Bennett, Washington State (2007); Ben Howland, UCLA (2006); Tubby Smith, Kentucky (2005); Phil Martelli, Saint Joseph's (2004); Mark Slonaker, Mercer (2003).

#### ABOUT COLLEGEINSIDER.COM

Established in 1996, CollegeInsider.com has been at the forefront of promoting college basketball online. In the July 27, 1998, issue of ESPN the Magazine, College Insider was ranked No. 24 on the magazine's list of *99 Things to do Before you Die*. College Insider created the Mid-Major Top 25<sup>®</sup>, the measuring stick for men's and women's programs outside of the proverbial power leagues, and has 18 national awards presented annually, including the Lute Olson Award, Lou Henson Award, and the John McLendon Award. The CollegeInsider.com All-Access series has been nominated for 5 Emmy Awards and won 2013 Emmy, for its' feature on New York City Basketball (Iona, LIU-Brooklyn and Manhattan). CI also created *This Game No Secret*, which debuted during the 2016 CIT and now has become an annual event, which has included programs like Duke, Houston, Miami, Ohio State, Ole Miss, Texas and Virginia.

