Mason Conroy

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Assignment 1

Business Idea: Basketball Recruiting database

Basketball is a sport of taking data and then creating statistics out of it, and while all of this is important, you need players in order to get this data. Recruiting is a big part of college athletics and keeping track of the different players can be a difficult task without a proper system. So, this is what I am trying to achieve, creating a database system that allows coaches to easily track and pull data about potential players.

The company that I will be creating this database for is Kishwaukee College’s basketball program. Kishwaukee college is a community college in Malta, Illinois. Kishwaukee was established in 1968. It is a place for students to find their place in education and figure out what they would like to do in their careers. They have many different options from general education courses to automotive classes. While the college has been around for that long, the farthest back that I could find any data on their basketball program dates back to 1980. The basketball team is constantly evolving and changes every year. This is because Kishwaukee is a two-year college and so every year, one group of students leave and a new one comes in. This is a lot of information being constantly changed and updated. Trying to organize all this data can be a painful process without the proper tools.

The basketball program is a mix of different people. We have a team of 15 players. The number of players on the team will vary year to year but 15 is the number that is usually on the roster for college level sports teams. There is a group of five coaches; there is a head coach, assistant coach, and three volunteer assistant coaches. For this database, we will be focusing on what goes on during recruiting season, which is usually during the offseason. This is the time where coaches go out and find players that they feel would be a good fit for the basketball team the next season. When you are dealing with prospect players, there is a lot of information that needs to be tracked.

The database is going to replace the current system of tracking this data. Currently, everything is tracked within spreadsheets and either shared or sent via email. Problems are common as some spreadsheets are more out of date and when information is transferred, sometimes the data is lost for specific players. Players have a lot of information that can be tracked, such as name, contact information, high school, current basketball team, and important game stats. The information being processed is not just limited to these items though. There can be tons of other information and notes that can be collected on a player. Without a proper way of tracking this, most of the time it reduces the coach’s efficiency for sharing data.

I have been trying to think about ways that this database can be adapted and grow to be more useful. While I want to focus on the recruiting side of basketball, there is plenty of data that needs to be tracked during the season. At Kishwaukee, there are plenty of other sports as well. This database could be expanded to be used by the other sports teams as well. I do not know much about the other sports systems for recruiting, but I feel the process cannot be much different other than the basketball process. This is an adaption that I have been thinking about and could probably achieve, given that I can successfully complete the basketball recruiting database.