

Cory Rice McGraw Foundation Emergency Financial Aid

Devin Rice ACI General Scholarship Quincy University

Cory Rice and Devin Rice are fraternal twins from St. Louis who chose to attend <u>Quincy University</u> in Western Illinois. They chose the school because it was



Cory Rice

Devin Rice

near home, they could play on the university's football team and family members could attend most of their games. To help with their studies, each was awarded a scholarship through ACI -- Cory was awarded a McGraw Foundation Emergency Financial Aid grant and Devin, an ACI General Scholarship.



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At first, neither knew much about Quincy University, Cory says. But the university and the scholarships helped convince Cory and Devin to attend. "Our mom was able to come to every game. It's easier for her and financially, Quincy has been helpful," he says.

"Quincy felt like a family," says Devin. "When I met the coaches, they really brought us in. They were the main school that reached out to us. They kind of took us under their wing. I decided to take the journey with them and be a Hawk."

Cory and Devin were raised by their mother, Dawn, with help from supportive family members. They have a younger brother who attends Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Missouri, and plays basketball. "It's hard for a single mom to raise three kids by herself and put them into college," Cory says. Devin adds that he is grateful for his family, including a grandmother, aunts, uncles and cousins. "Everybody helped us on this journey. I can't thank my mom enough," Devin says.

Today, both men are sports management majors. It's a natural for both, because the family has been heavily involved in sports most of their lives, says Cory. After college, he wants to become a physical therapy assistant, which keeps him involved in sports. Devin says both started criminal justice majors at Quincy. He switched to exercise science and then to sports management. "My goal is to have my own gym one day and train kids to be athletes," he says.

Their scholarships through ACI make a difference for both. "With the scholarship, it obviously helps," Cory says. "At the end of the day, it's going to help, and it's going to make you a better student and make your education better. That's the number one goal."

Family support has also been a big factor in their college success. "Without the support, without the scholarship, I don't know where my life would be right now," Devin says. "It's truly a blessing."

The Quincy University experience has meant a lot to the brothers. Devin says he has learned from professors who have guided his academic studies. "If you're willing to put in the work, then you'll succeed at anything you do. The journey at Quincy has been really fun," he said.

"We have a lot of teachers that are willing to help you reach your goals and give you a personal connection," says Cory. "It's like a family here, and that's one thing I like about Quincy."