**« ( David / 1 Shot / Cam 1 ) »**

Turn on a television today and you might find the WNBA.

You might also see women's college basketball or softball.

This wasn't always the case.

Grant Milner has the story.

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**»**

Title IX is a hot topic this year because 2012 marks the 40th anniversary of the bill.

The bill was passed in 1972 to ensure that no person would be excluded educationally or athletically because of his or her sex.

Today, there are nine women's sports teams at the University of Memphis.

Lynn Parkes, Associate Athletic Director at the U of M, believes athletics have changed for the better with Title IX.

**« Compix Name Super CG#: $$$$**

**Lynn Parkes /Associate Athletic Director »**

**« Take SOT Runs.. 0:16 .."**

**"Studies have proven that young girls and young men that grow up in sport, are more self assured, and end up generally progressing farther in their careers." »**

Two former basketball players, LaTonya Johnson, and Tamika Whitmore have gone on to play in the WNBA.

The women's soccer team has won 5 straight Conference USA Championships, and the dance team has won back to back national titles.

The women's golf team even hosts a tournament in Memphis that is sponsored by FedEx.

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**Grant Milner /Insight News »**

Success on the field is great, but being prepared for the rest of life's journey is even better.

**« Take SOT Runs.. 0:13 .."**

**"As a professional in this field, being a woman sometimes that's hard. Knowing there are athletes out there that are striving to be representative of their gender and their sport is great." »**

Having the opportunity to create news teams like softball gives women more chances to compete, but even better opportunities to learn.

In the University District, I'm Grant Milner, Insight News.