



N E W S L E T T E R

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January

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ADMINISTRATOR AGENDA

Pastor Dennis D. Campbell
D. Min., M. Div., Central Baptist
Theological Seminary
B.S. Degree SDSU
Bob Jones University 2 years



James Moeller
Supervisor SLC
B.S. Engineering SCSU
MBBC Grad work

Developing Student's Ability

The Holidays are history, and the GCBA students are back at the grind stone enjoying a New Year and the exceptionally warm weather. January 16th marks the beginning of the third quarter, and also is the day for the Eagle Mountain Tubing Reward Activity, as well as 7pm Parent Orientation. There will be a Bible Quiz at Victory in Rochester on the 23rd, and the annual LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST will be at the St. Paul Kelly Inn on the 26th.

The wrestling season will end with the Elk River Tournament on Jan. 21st. The Academy wrestlers have practiced six times with St. Cloud Tech. GCBA is considering a co-op with Tech High School, because there are no Christian schools with wrestling programs. The boys have wrestled in six public-school tournaments this year. Basketball begins the last week in January, with the high-school boys participating in the Basketball Outreach program, along with seven other teams from around the area.

The Academy *Patriotic Program* will be at 6pm on Sunday, Feb. 19th. I trust you are planning to attend!

Why do we want Academy students to be involved in academics, music, drama, and athletics? In Matthew 25:14-30, God says He will hold us accountable to improve the talents He has given the students. Jesus set us an example of developing in all areas in life in Luke 2:52, *“And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man”*. There are many things that can't be learned in the classroom. If parents and students are willing to develop their abilities, they will benefit in four ways.

Each student will benefit by being prepared for service. At this time, students do not know how God wants them to serve Him in the future. Children often do not have the fore-sight to understand the possible responsibilities in the future. 1Corinthians 4:2 says, *“Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful”*. God expects us to be faithful in all aspects of the Christian life.

The second benefit is learning submission. Many times in life you will be expected to do things you would rather not do. The ability to submit at those times will be of great value. Ephesians 5:21 says *“Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God”*. God expects all to submit, even when we don't want to. 1Corinthians 9:17 *“For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation of the gospel is committed unto me”*. A submissive person will be able to do what is not common. Flexibility is a by-product of submission.

Thirdly, when a student develops their ability they grow in self-confidence. Philippians 4:13 states, *“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”*. When individuals get out of their comfort zone and rely on Christ's power, they realize they can do much more than ever anticipated. 1Timothy 1:12, *“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry”*. This self-

WHY DOESN'T GRANITE CITY BAPTIST ACADEMY ELIMINATE THE WRESTLING PROGRAM?

Part 2 of 2

Wrestling is one of the few common school sports in which the small or handicapped boy has a chance to participate. Boys are matched according to weight. Wrestling is a tough sport, but according to National Hospital Reports, it is one of the safest of amateur sports.

Congressman James Leach, who was inducted into the Glen Brand Wrestling Hall of Fame of Newton Iowa in 2003, said, “Wrestling is a pursuit that shares with all sports all elements of competition. What differentiates it is its history,

Administrator continued

its individual discipline and its “equalitarian” efforts. It does not matter how big or small, rich or poor, black, brown, or white a wrestler is or what state he comes from. Wrestling imbues one with instincts for fairness and a necessity of preparation that is hard work. Matches pit individuals of similar size, though there may be dissimilar proportions, strengths, skills, stamina and knowledge. The talented, unschooled athlete can’t prevail over the dedicated partner. Wrestling is not weightlifting, but its participants understand that strength is helpful, very helpful. Wrestling is more technique than muscularity. No activity I know is more of a confidence builder and at the same time more ‘humility training’ than wrestling. It’s the challenge of a match that comes more before than during which makes wrestling a great preparer for the difficult decisions of life.”

Courtesy of W.I.N. Magazine, April 29, 2003

Ben Peterson and John Peterson are models for those who seek to balance wrestling with life. The Petersons were always able to step off the mat and return quickly to the work at hand—which was working for Jesus Christ. John and Ben used their wrestling celebrity and travel opportunities to spread the word about their faith. They have faced the wrath of Soviet officials, yet they have marched steadily forward, unbowed and unrelenting in their effort to spread the Word of God. The two boys grew up in a Christian home in tiny Comstock. Their father was a dairy farmer, but when the farm burned down one night, he gave up that career and operated a feed mill. All members of the Peterson family understood the value of hard work, discipline, and commitment. They gave those characteristics great respect, but they honored the Bible above all else.

The sport of *Jacob* soon became prevalent in the Peterson home. John said, “We all wrestled at home on the living room floor for years.” However, John didn’t even make it to the state tournament as a senior. Ben placed second the next year.

In 1968 both John and Ben were attending Stout State College in Wisconsin, where the ‘Cyclones’ had a reputation not only for wrestling aggressively but also for playing hard off the mat. Sitting in his dorm room late at night during his freshman year, Ben often was invited to partake in various forms of entertainment. He steadfastly refused. He told those who asked that he was at college to get an education and to wrestle, not to party. He wound up as a two-time NCAA champion and three-time All American, serving as captain of the Cyclones team in his senior year in 1972.

At the 1972 Munich Olympics, John was awarded a silver medal at 180.5 pounds, and Ben the gold medal at 198 pounds. In 1976 John won a gold medal at 180.5 pounds, while Ben earned the silver medal at 198. Analyzing the

Petersons’ remarkable careers quickly points to their work ethic – they are extremely hard workers. “I feel it was their strong beliefs that set them apart; faith is a big part of it”, says teammate Dan Gable.

The Petersons have two passions – the Bible and wrestling. Ben taught and coached at Maranatha Bible College in Watertown, Wisconsin, for many years. Today, their **Camp of Champs** is one of the most popular in the nation year after year, and campers learn as much about the Bible as they do the sport of Jacob.

Developing Student’s Ability continued

confidence comes from Christ’s strength and enablement in the life of the believer.

Finally, by working to develop abilities in all areas, students will learn self-discipline. Students have favorite subjects and activities, which are easier and more desirable. While it is easier to do things you enjoy, it takes self-discipline to work on things we do not enjoy. The Apostle Paul needed self-discipline in his life. 1Corinthians 9:27 “*But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway*”. Everyone needs self-discipline to be successful in life.

We desire that students develop every ability that God has given them, so they can become what God wants them to be. If students willingly try to develop in every area of life, they will develop a servant’s heart, a submissive spirit, self-confidence, and self-discipline. These character traits are important. Our desire is to see students walk in God’s will and walk worthy of His calling in life.

Colossians 1:9-11, “For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness.”

| COMING EVENTS | |
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| GCBA Bible Quiz at Victory, Mon | Jan 23 |
| MACS Legislative Breakfast, St. Paul, Th 7a.m. | Jan 26 |
| Kind./JLC Reward Activity: Sledding Riverside Pk | Feb 3 |
| Academy Bible Quiz at Woodcrest | Feb 13 |
| <i>Patriotic Program 7pm Sun</i> | <i>Feb 19</i> |
| Presidents’ Day – No School GCBA | Feb 20 |
| Preacher Boys, Wed 7pm | Feb 22 |
| <i>Set Free Program: overcoming habits/addictions</i> Every Friday 7-9pm | |