



THE TOP 10 CHRISTIAN SPORTS STORIES OF 2008

As the largest Christian sports ministry in the world, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes works with many athletes and coaches throughout sports, both professional and amateur. To bring attention to the outstanding achievements of Christian sports personalities throughout the year, FCA has compiled the Top 10 Christian Sports Stories of 2008.

It was a year of champions, great individual successes and stunning upsets. During these great occasions, Christian athletes and coaches seized the moment to proclaim their faith publicly. FCA – "the Heart & Soul in Sports" - is pleased not just to present a list of heart-felt stories, but to celebrate the impact that these sports figures made on the world by utilizing their platform for God's glory.

1. *Sharing the Victory* cover story, Sam Bradford, wins the 2008 Heisman Trophy, with Colt McCoy and Tim Tebow finishing number two and three. All three men are very active in FCA. ([Sharing the Victory Web site](#))
2. Josh Hamilton overcomes addiction obstacles to fulfill his lifetime dream of starting at an All-Star game. During the home run derby the day prior to the 2008 All-Star game, Hamilton set a single-round record of 28 dingers at the last All-Star celebration in Yankee Stadium. ([Hamilton's article in STV](#))
3. Olympians Michael Redd, Tamika Catchings, Allyson Felix and Hyleas Fountain compete for Christ during the games in Beijing. Redd and Catchings each brought home gold medals, Fountain a silver, and Felix earned one of each (gold and silver). ([Olympic athletes in STV](#)) ([Allyson Felix article](#))
4. Brad "Lights Out" Lidge of the Philadelphia Phillies becomes perfect in terms of save situations throughout the 2008 season and the World Series. Lidge capped his performance by getting the final out to win the ultimate prize for the Phillies. ([Article about Phillies' players speaking for FCA](#))
5. St. Louis Cardinal slugger Albert Pujols convincingly wins the National League Most Valuable Player Award.
6. New York Giants' David Tyree's amazing "helmet catch" in the waning moments of Super Bowl XLII sparks the team leading to a victory over the previously unbeaten New England Patriots.
7. Twenty-seven-year-old Lorena Ocha of Mexico receives the 2008 ESPY as the Best International Athlete. She captured her 24th LPGA championship to secure her place as the number one-ranked female golfer in the world.
8. University of Oklahoma senior center Courtney Paris is named Big 12 Player of the Year and Associated Press Player of the Year for the 2007-2008 season.

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9. Tony Bennett, the head men's basketball coach at Washington State has historic success after taking over for his dad in 2006. Under his guidance, the Cougars have won a school record 26 games in back-to-back seasons and advanced to the regional semifinals for the first time in school history. ([STV article on Coach Bennett](#))
10. Alabama's star running back Glenn Coffee, one of college's leading rushers, helps the Crimson Tide to an undefeated regular season and number one ranking. ([Coffee's testimony featured in STV](#))