



THE PENTONS' PROGRESS

Your Monthly Newsletter For The Community Ministry of Central Ohio Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Volume 25

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February consisted of ministry events as close to home as Columbus, Ohio and as far away as Fort Walton Beach, Florida.



Joel and Ryan in FWB

Fort Walton Beach, FL

Midway through February Joel and Ryan took a trip down to Fort Walton Beach, Florida for an evening youth event. This is the third year in a row that Joel has spoken in Fort Walton but this is the first time Ryan was able to come along. The event kicked off this year's theme for the youth group about carrying their faith into all areas of their life, not just church and youth group. Joel and Ryan chose to do a presentation entirely about Jesus. Joel argued that we all need to make Jesus the true center and foundation of our lives. If our whole lives aren't reflecting our faith in Christ then He must not truly be our foundation. Joel focused on three aspects of Jesus: His life, His death, and His resurrection. The students responded very well and the youth pastor said it was a perfect evening. Ryan flew back to Ohio the next day but Joel stayed in Florida for the Danny Wuerffel Trophy festivities. Joel and the two other previous winners had the privilege of welcoming Florida quarterback, Tim Tebow into the growing fraternity of Wuerffel winners.



Westville

On the last day of February, Joel, Ryan and Emily were able to travel to a small town close to Urbana, Ohio called Westville for an evening youth event. This event was special for a number of reasons—Joel and Ryan had no time limit, lots of nonbelievers were present, and the youth were focused because they were in the middle of a 30-hour famine! Now, I know what you are thinking: “Joel without a time limit *and* hungry teenagers? That sounds like a terrible combination!” Surprisingly though, the event went extremely well. The students and adults were ready to listen. One lady commented, “We weren't going to stay but my husband wouldn't leave because Joel was so good.” How flattering! (although it sounds like she did want to leave!) Honestly though, this comment shows how captivating the event was and how presence of the Holy Spirit was felt throughout the night. Around 40 people made commitments or recommitments to follow Christ and accept His gift of salvation. Praise God!

Holiday Blog

With all that has been going on lately, we forgot to mention that the Hollidays have started a blog about the ministry! This is a great opportunity to share even more news about the ministry from a different viewpoint. Please visit their site at :

<http://www.holidayfca.blogspot.com/>

Until next month ,

-Bethany Penton

Please Pray For...

- The Main Event (see below)
- Evening event bookings
- Endurance for a busy spring

Message From Joel

Teammates,

I shared with you in the November Pentons' Progress that there was a possibility of taking The Main Event to a national level. It appears as though that vision will become a reality at least in part this fall. We have been contacted by Chris Maragos, a senior safety at The University of Wisconsin about doing The Main Event in Madison this fall. Chris was reading Coach Tressel's book, The Winner's Manual, and was very inspired by the story about The Main Event. He immediately decided that he wanted to do a similar event for Wisconsin. He began working on pulling the necessary people together and contacting us. By the time I got a chance to speak with Chris, he already had the band, cheerleaders, and campus ministry leaders on board. I am planning on flying out to Wisconsin for a day or two this Spring to spend time with Chris and share some of the things I've learned about the endeavor. Chris has some great ideas and I can't wait to see how they take what we've done here in Columbus to the next level. Please pray for Chris and his team in Madison. I will keep you updated.

God Bless,

- Joel