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## The Bethany College Connection

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### Basketball Time: Part Three of Three Bethany Sports Camps



2013 Above The Rim Basketball Camp

It's Basketball time again! That is, if you were a part of Bethany Sports Camps last week. From July 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, the gym at Bethany College was filled with hard work and excitement as athletes from grades 7 to 12 came to improve their basketball skills. It was the annual **Above the Rim Basketball Camp**, the final week of sport camps at the college.

This year's camp was led by head coaches Brendon Johnston and Tasha Fehr; both are Bethany alumni and have a passion for basketball and for seeing the kids improve their skills. Fehr, a nine-year veteran as a coach at this camp, said "this camp is always the highlight of my entire year!" Cory Braun, another one of the 13 coaches who was back for his fourth year said, "I keep coming back because it was a blast when I came as a camper and I want campers to have a blast as well." Their enthusiasm is hard to miss.



Head Coach, Brendon Johnston

For some coaches, a highlight for them is the chance to get to know the campers better. Phil Braun, a coach for two years, said "my highlight has been singing in the dorm with the kids." Every evening after a full day of events, time in dorm is when coaches can build relationships with the kids as well as encourage them in their walk with God.

But coaches were not the only ones who were enthused about the camp. Denise Froese, a 15-year-old basketball enthusiast from Warman and one of 35 campers attending this year exclaimed, "I love basketball! I came here last year too and it was lots of fun!" Eric Katz, a 16-year-old from Saskatoon, said he has improved his basketball skills and "has grown deeper in my relationship with God."



Head Coach, Tasha Fehr



**Above The Rim camper, Mitchell Klassen, in action**

This week's guest speaker, Kendrew Friesen, continued speaking about the topic of Sacrifice, the theme for this year's Sports Camps. It was Friesen's first opportunity as a speaker at this event and he informed the campers that God wants each of us to succeed and do well. To do this, we are invited to surrender our lives to Him so that God can guide and lead us through life.

In summing up this last week of camps, Alvin Thielmann, the Athletics Director for Bethany College said his highlight "has been seeing the high energy level of all the coaches. The coaches have done an awesome job at setting a great example for all the athletes. They got the campers excited and ready to participate in each activity."

That brings to a close the three weeks of sport camps at the college. Each week brought different challenges and rewards, making each week unique. Many of the coaches and athletes will now eagerly wait for next summer when it happens all over again.

We can't wait to see everyone here next year!

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