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The Bethany College Connection

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Bethany Sports Camps: Demonstrating God's Character through Sport



2013 Attack Volleyball and On The Pitch Soccer Camp

The second week of Bethany Sports Camps is now behind us. From July 15th to 19th thirty-two volleyball and soccer players from grades 7-12 arrived on the campus for **Attack Volleyball** and **On the Pitch Soccer** Camps.



Attack Volleyball players in Skill Session

Kate Chillog, from Grand Prairie, AB made her debut as the Head Coach for the Attack Volleyball Camp. While leading skill sessions and daily devotions she was assisted by eight assistant coaches. With a small ratio of campers to coaches, the coaches were able to provide very personal feedback to their athletes and increase the opportunity for individual skill development.

This week also marked the first annual **On the Pitch Soccer** Camp for Bethany College. Both Volleyball and Basketball camps are a long-standing tradition at the college but after a big push this year, soccer camp became a reality. In fact, participants and assistant coaches

came from as far as Vauxhall, AB. Head Coach **Austin Gagne** says that for a first run “we couldn’t have had a better group.” With athletes who have a passion for the game and a coachable attitude Gagne has been able to work with the athletes to “develop their love for God first and their soccer skills second.” Local community members and Bethany Alumni also got involved coaching the players in both their personal faith walk and soccer-playing skills.

This first run had challenges due to having only a small group and a couple days of inclement weather, however Gagne considers this camp a success and anticipates an increase in campers next year. His hope is to see the relationship grow between Bethany Sports Camps and the surrounding soccer teams. By organizing games with local teams, campers would have the opportunity not only to play competitive soccer but also to “demonstrate the character of God by the way they play.”

A highlight for campers was hearing Bethany student **Evan Peters** sharing about his love and knowledge of God in Courtside Chapel sessions. As a member of Team Canada’s ball hockey team and the floor hockey coordinator for Youth for Christ in Saskatoon, Peters used his experience as an athlete to connect with the young people attending the camp. In his “Soul Food” sessions he discussed the questions of who God is, who humans are in relation to God, and how followers of Jesus learn to offer up their lives as “living sacrifices.”

The week ended off with an exciting play-off series of soccer players vs. volleyball players in their respective sports. In good camp camaraderie each team got an opportunity to show what they had been learning throughout the week. Both teams put up a good fight but in the end each team proved their excellence within their own sport.

Stay tuned for our final week of Sports Camps, **Above the Rim Basketball Camp** July 22nd to 26th!



Skill Training Session with Greg Klassen



Courtside with Bethany student, Evan Peters



On The Pitch Camper in Action

Nurturing Disciples and Training Leaders to Serve

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