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All Sport Huddles Expand in the New School Year

FCA All-sport huddles are back up and running at secondary schools across Laramie County! We continue to build on the foundation that has been laid over the past number of years. Each school continues to grow its program and create a discipleship culture based on its unique circumstances. Here is a thumbnail sketch of each huddle if you'd like to relay info to anyone interested:

Carey JH (Tifaney Jenkins) - meetings every other Tuesday morning 6:45 am. 20-25 student/athletes; two student leaders

McCormick JH (Phil Bennett, Erica Moncrief, Luke Vaporis) - meetings every other Wednesday morning 6:45 am. 15 - 20 student/athletes; in the process of building a student leadership team.

East HS (Nicole Cameron, Alex Sween, Morgan Palser) - meets during enrichment period on Friday afternoons. Have had up to 75 students. Developing student leadership team.

Central HS (Kyle Brightman, Dana McIlvain) - meetings every other Wednesday, both lunches. 50-60 student/athletes; growing student leadership team nearing 15. Football, volleyball, basketball, and wrestling team huddles.

South HS (Nikki Basart, Bri Fuller) - meetings every other Thursday at lunch; 20 student/athletes,

4 student leaders

Burns HS/MS (Eric Allen, Anna Eklund, Shawn Mollett) - meeting every other Wednesday at lunch. 70 student/athletes, 12 student leaders.

Pine Bluffs HS/MS (Brian Anderson, Tyler Anderson) - meetings every other Wednesday at lunch. 30 - 40 student/athletes, 4 student leaders



Huddle Spotlight - Central Football Team Huddle

Team huddles are another form of FCA ministry to athletes and coaches. The team huddle is based on the 'chapel' model of ministering to college and pro sports teams. Huddles meet before games or after practices. The first team huddle was held during the 2018 football season at Central. Huddles have since expanded to include volleyball, basketball, and wrestling. Our vision is to see team huddles at all Cheyenne high schools. This month's huddle spotlight is on the Central football team huddle.



Dustin Gochenour - Assistant Football Coach

Dustin is an assistant coach and Defensive Coordinator for the Central HS football team. Dustin played his HS football for Central and has been coaching football and basketball for 10 years. He has been teaching for 11 years, the past five at Central. Dustin is a great example of what it means to be a Christlike coach and role model.

As a football coach the Team Huddles have become an integral part of gamedays. It provides an opportunity for our athletes and our coaches to focus on the Word of God in preparation of a big game. Kevin is great at connecting scripture and athletics and teaching valuable life lessons that Young Christians need to hear. As a coach, it's an opportunity to evaluate priorities and ensure that you are leading young men in the correct way as a Christian Role Model.

Team Huddles have helped relate coaching to my faith journey because it shows and reinforces the power that the Word of God can have on young people. Students that hear (the pregame) messages are touched in a powerful way and it shows that if I model what it means to be a Christian, players and students will follow and become closer to God.

Mason DeHoff - Student Athlete/Huddle Leader

Mason has been an all-sport and team huddle leader since being introduced to FCA as a sophomore. He excels in basketball and football, and is a football team captain and defensive leader. He has also served as a leader at our summer Power Camps for 3rd - 6th graders the past two years. Mason is a great example of how FCA helps empower student athletes to share their faith with others. Here's what Mason has to say about the role FCA team huddles have played in his development as a Christian athlete:

I have been a part of FCA team huddles for the past 3 years. These huddles have helped me develop spiritually and athletically. After my first huddle meeting my freshman year, I haven't missed a single one.

I first started going to huddle meetings my freshman year - at this time my faith was not the strongest. I battled a short temper and lack of confidence I was struggling with my attitude in both football and basketball, taking my frustrations out on teammates and coaches. This was not healthy for the team. Through our huddle meetings, I was introduced to scripture and ways that I can control my attitude.

I grew up going to Church but we stopped going when I started playing travel basketball. This made me grow distant from God, which was the cause for my poor attitude in my sports. When I started growing my faith again through FCA, I noticed improvements not only in my sport, but in my everyday life. I was happier, and less stressed knowing God had a plan for me.

Huddle meetings have truly changed my life for the better. I am a completely different person than I was when I walked into my very first one. My attitude, and the way I approach my sports are very different now. I am able to focus more because I am not nervous, because I know God has my back. This peace of mind has helped me be very successful on my teams, and helped me become a leader. My faith is stronger than ever, and continues to grow. Huddle meetings brought me back to God, at a time when I was very distant from him. Our relationship today is very strong, and I have been able to grow his kingdom through FCA.



FCA Gameday

Over 300 students along with adult sponsors, including over 50 from Laramie and Platte counties, gathered on a beautiful fall day in Laradise for this year's FCA Game Day. With so many in attendance, the pre-game events were moved outdoors to Washington Park. After sitting thru near zero temperatures last year, the weather was a welcome change! Attendees took advantage of the beautiful day to enjoy plenty of outdoor games, some pizza, and listen to the testimony of former Cowboy QB and FCA State Director Kartsen Sween. Attendees heard the good news of the gospel

and were given the opportunity to respond.

After watching the Pokes defeat the Lobos, students and adults were inspired by hearing brief testimonies of multiple Cowboy players, including former Cheyenne Central standout Andrew Johnson. Great Day of fellowship and inspiration!!



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