

FATHERS & SONS OF THE FAITH & THE NEXT GENERATION



CAMP 1 JULY 9-13

CAMP 2 JULY 23-27



DENNY DURON



MARIO MURILLO



DONNIE MOORE



DONNY BURLESON



CURT HARLOW



DARWIN BENJAMIN



JASON SMOTHERMAN



RICH SHEPHERD



TERRY DOUGLAS



MATT & HANNAH HEDEN



JOEY STEELMAN

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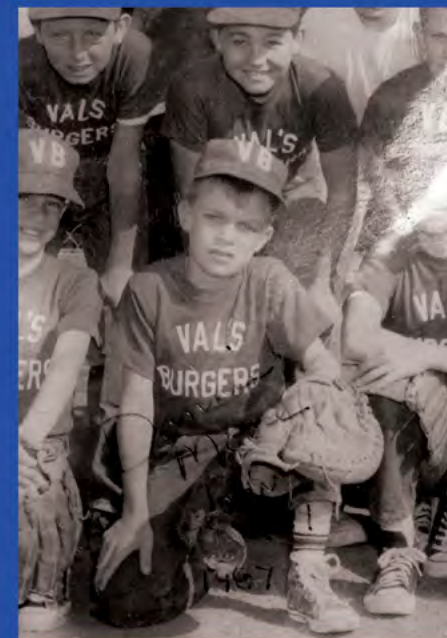
RADICAL REPORT

CELEBRATING 35+ YEARS ATHLETICS AS A PLATFORM

As early as I can remember I have loved sports. Baseball, back then, was my first love. When we lived in Virginia, my dad coached a little league baseball team and, as a seven-year-old, I would go to practice with him every day. He taught me to be a catcher; I thought I was going to be the next Johnny Bench. Although you had to be nine years old to sign-up, dad had me behind the plate catching.

When we moved to California, I was the starting catcher for Val's Burgers. I played baseball until my junior year of high school, when I realized if I wanted to get a college scholarship it was going to be in football. They were not giving out many baseball scholarships. So, I left my first love to play football. My junior year I played varsity as a quarterback and after playing in junior college I received a scholarship to play football at the University of Pacific in Stockton. Spring semester of my last year at UOP, I pitched on the baseball team.

After coming to Christ in 1980 I thought my life in athletics was through. As we started ministry on the UOP campus, my former football coach asked me to do a motivational talk for the UOP Football team. As a teammate, I was always able to inspire our team and since the team wasn't doing well maybe some of that motivation could rub off! It did. Their season began to turn around and since most athletes are very



superstitious he wanted me back to speak again.

Shortly after, the basketball coach asked me to be the team Chaplain I didn't even know what a Chaplain was...or did. I just knew it was a way for me to get the gospel to athletes.

Our college group started a Bible study on campus called "Athletes for Christ" and, as they say, the rest is history. God would use the foundation of sports in my past and the ability he's given me as a motivator to reach athletes.



In Matthew 14, Jesus got into a boat probably, Peters, and the Bible says he used it as a podium to speak. Athletics has been a podium for me to speak for over 30 years. That platform of athletics has opened so many doors for me to walk through in order to challenge, motivate and introduce Christ to many athletes, whether they're professional athletes, college, high school or a little league

baseball team, I love reaching athletes and challenging them to use their platform to reach people for the kingdom of God.

In this newsletter, I want to look back at 35+ years of speaking to athletes. I hope it blesses you as much as it blesses me to relive some of these memories! After all, many of you helped create them!

BACK TO BACK STATE CHAMPS!

Donnie Moore has been arguably the most inspirational person in the Basic Wolves Baseball Program. Without Donnie, I am confident that our 2 state titles and American Legion National Championship would not have taken place. He pushed and challenged our boys to take their efforts to another level. He talked about commitment to each other and preached about the team effort. It has been so lucky for us to have Donnie Moore on our side. We have had the pleasure of him motivating our boys in the biggest stages of their young careers.

The first time, he drove hours, in the snow, to watch our boys capture the first state title in 29 years at Basic High School. The second time, he flew in to Las Vegas to watch us

capture our 2nd straight Nevada state title. The most recent was the biggest. In Shelby, North Carolina on championship day, he prepped our kids for a special moment. After batting practice, Donnie Face-Timed with the entire team and inspired them to victory. The boys knew that no one was going to beat them. Game was nationally televised by ESPN and there was 10,000 people in attendance. Our boys were victorious 2-1 over a team that had beat us 9-1 days earlier. We cannot thank Donnie enough for what he has done for us. We are truly blessed to have met him.

Robert Persona
Basic High School Baseball Coach



I remember it like it was yesterday. Back in 1994, Donnie Moore visited Liberty Union High School in Brentwood, California. As I sat back in the crowded bleachers I watched as he and his team went through their feats of strength and shared their stories of strength and overcoming adversity. Donnie started getting everyone fired up as he did his hot water bottle routine where he takes a thick rubber balloon- type hot water bottle and blows it up with his mouth. He kept blowing and blowing; sure enough, everyone was going nuts as it got bigger and bigger and then – BAM! This thing popped and everyone erupted. In Donnie

style, he took the mouth-piece he had been blowing in, that was still in his hand, and fired it into the crowd. This slobbery piece of rubber landed right in my lap – something I'll never forget!

Fast-forward 20 years and Donnie walks into our batting cages in Stockton, California, looking for tools and advice on helping his son, DJ, and his baseball team. We were able to develop a friendship and I could see Donnie had the same fire, energy and passion for helping others as he had when I was in high school.

Donnie has a unique way of listening and

inspiring not only youth but professional athletes as well. I've gotten to witness first hand Donnie speak to minor league baseball players and instantly get their undivided attention. After seeing this, I convinced him that he had to talk to the players on our Club All Star baseball teams. Right away, he got their attention and talked about, "If your mind can CONCIERGE, and your heart can BELIEVE then you can ACHIEVE"! These words stick true to all aspects of life and have been a staple in how I go about training and developing young athletes.

JD Hardcastle

