



CAI vs. CAL

BY: Chris Harper, AD

This Friday, January 10, our sister schools will take part in what is becoming a very exciting rivalry. Every year, about the time we return from winter break, the Warriors of CAI square off against the Centurions of CAL in a river city grudge match on the basketball court. Every year, people ask me who on our basketball schedule I would

the recesses of my heart to beat big brother CAL healthy? Is the fact that I have shirts designed in my mind that depict big brother faintly tapping out as little brother tightens the chokehold with the caption, "Jesus didn't tap", is that healthy?

Well, maybe the shirt is a

"I wanted God to approve of my behavior!"

little much...
enjoy beating the most, and without hesitation my top three are always:

- 1) CAL
- 2) Anyone Catholic
- 3) CAL

I don't know what it is about a rivalry that brings out the best in me, or maybe it's the worst. So, I asked myself this week; "self, is this healthy?" Is this fire burning deep within

little much...

In preparing for this article disappointment crept into my spirit, because my studies were defying my positions. I wanted God to approve of my behavior! I really thought the t-shirt was a great idea! According to scripture, though, God does not particularly care for rivalries (Phil 2:3), or the word "competition" as we know it; that word is not found in the

Upcoming events



1/9 – G JV/V vs. Crothers, 6 p.m. tip @

1/9 – B MS @ Parkview (B game at 6 p.m., A to follow)

1/9 – WR V @ Jennings, 5:30 p.m.

1/10 – MS B @ HLS (B game at 4:45 p.m., A to follow)

1/10 – B and G JV/V @ CAL, 4:30 p.m. tip

1/11 – MS B and G @ Rock Creek, 10 a.m.

1/14 – G JV/V @ Hanover, 6 p.m. tip

1/14 – G MS @ Parkview (B game at 6 p.m., A to follow)

1/16 – B JV/V vs. Trimble, 6 p.m. tip

1/16 – G V vs. St. Francis, 6 p.m. tip

Bible. I could find no basis for a "healthy competition", even when concentrating on Paul's words about training and physical competition, as the focus was on sharing the gospel, not playing a sport. But, I really want to print those shirts, especially after we win two years in a row. There's got to be something, and then I discovered F.B Meyer. Meyer was a great Bible teacher and pastor who lived a century ago. He was pastoring a church and began to notice that attendance was suffering. This continued until he finally asked some members of his congregation one Sunday morning why they thought attendance was down.

A member volunteered, "It is because of this new church down the road. The young preacher has everyone talking, and many are going to hear him speak."

The young preachers name was Charles Spurgeon. Meyer, rather than seeking to discourage this, exhorted the entire congregation to join him and go participate in

seeing this "move of God" as he described it to his congregation.

"If this be happening, then God must be at work", Meyer reportedly said. Os Hillman, author of *Change Agent* wrote, "Meyer, even though he was an accomplished preacher and teacher, recognized where God was at work and joined Him in it." Can you imagine this story taking place in our spiritual climate today?

Competition has penetrated the Church so much that many churches and Christian organizations approach ministry like a sports event. They view their mission as a business that seeks to gain market share among Christians - donors, members, influence - all under the name of God. I am sure God looks down at us and asks, "Whatever happened to John 17:23?"

Sometimes, I must remind myself that we are all on the same team. I should be seeking to impact the Kingdom of God, not concerning myself with the

glory of one program. After all, "Jesus did tap", that's the point. He tapped, surrendered and died so that one day, all who call upon his name, can live together in unity.

That is a better reason to come out on Friday. Come support CA, our system, our family.

"What is the greatest catalyst that allows the unsaved to make a decision for Jesus Christ? It isn't prayer, though this is important. It isn't good deeds, though deeds indicate a fruitful relationship with God. It isn't good behavior, though Christ commands us to be obedient as sons. The greatest power God's children have over darkness is unity. Jesus talked a great deal about His oneness with the Father, and the importance of unity in the Body of Christ. It is the most difficult command Jesus gave to the Church, because it wars against the most evil aspect of our sin nature: independence."—Os Hillman

See you Friday night-

Chris Harper, AD