

UPWORD REPORT

UPWORD COMMUNICATION TO COACHES, SPONSORS, OFFICIALS & PLAYERS—JUNE 1996

FAITH WINS FIRST TITLE!

Fellowship & Cornerstone Follow

The first time is always the sweetest! Faith Presbyterian captured their first-ever March Day of Champions title in their many years of quizzing over a tough, balanced Fellowship 3 team, as well as a strong Casey Rice-led Cornerstone team. They did it with great team work, but most importantly, with good attitudes that please and glorify their heavenly Father.

Their team consisted of Captain Emma Hostetter, Co-captain Jennie Church, and Lauren Raetz. These three quizzers had a great day to make it into the finals, capturing 5 first-place wins (two with bonuses), and just one second place in the preliminaries. They finished with 216 points through all 21 preliminary quizzes, averaging more than 10 team points per quiz! Each team member brought her talents and abilities together to contribute to the championship win.

Fellowship jumped out to the early lead with Rachel Volpe taking the first question. However, as she had done all season, Emma swung the pendulum back to Faith direction on #2 to tie. Of course, the top quizzier for the past 3 years can't be held down for very long, and so Casey Rice jumped in for Cornerstone with his first 20 pointer of the finals to lock the 3 teams at 20 points each.

Showing their balance and teamwork, Faith's Lauren Raetz out jumped the competition to take #4 and the lead. After a Cornerstone slip on #5, Emma scored her second 20 pointer to put Faith up by 40 points in the early going. Casey Rice was not to be denied, however, and copying Emma's feat, he pushed Cornerstone's score to 40, compared with Faith's 60, and Fellowship's 20.

After errors by Fellowship and Cornerstone, Faith's Jennie Church (can you have a better last name than that!) contributed a free question to put her team up by 30 points, with just 5 questions left in the quiz.

Cornerstone's Casey Rice took #11 to freeze his chair, a tough accomplishment in a junior varsity final. However, this meant he would have to wait for Fellowship or Faith to error before he could get back in the action. Casey's partner, Caleb Sheng, followed on #12 with a great effort, but came up short with an error.

Fellowship's Jessy Seck, the 1994-95 junior varsity rookie of the year, made an attempt to turn the tide in Fellowship's favor on 12A, but to no avail. Emma picked up the freebie to take a commanding 40-point lead with just 3 questions left.

By question #13, all three teams could still win. Fellowship needed all three answers to tie. Cornerstone needed Nicole Mah & Caleb Sheng to come up big with their captain frozen. Faith was focused and ready for the next question, on the verge of clinching their first championship.

As the question was read, just about every quizzier jumped, but only one name was called—Emma. She concentrated, she quoted the material, and the quizmaster awarded her with her third correct 20-point question without an error, giving her the extra 10-point bonus for an errorless quiz and clinching the 1995-96 title.

Fellowship's Rachel Volpe, in her first year, took the last two questions to freeze her chair and end this exciting quiz and close out the 1995-96 junior varsity season. UpWord Bible quizzing looks really good for the near future as some of these quizzers, and many more, make their way up the ranks in memorizing God's Word.

Remember, like Paul, we don't do this for trophies that will not last, but for something that will last forever: the Lord's words in our lives!

FINALLY IN THE FINALS, AN EMMANUEL WIN!

Heart and Fellowship Make Second Straight Varsity Final Appearance

There's an acronym that spells out TEAM. Together Everyone Accomplishes More. I have seen a lot of championship teams come through the local March Day of Champions Tournament, and the one thing almost all of them have in common is teamwork. Every person on the team contributes. And Emmanuel, perhaps more than any other team in the varsity division this year, has shown us how this acronym works. They used this formula to take their first-ever March Day of Champions!

The three "Big Mac's," Derek and Ian MacPherson, and Rachel MacFadyen, put together a glorious finale to an excellent season in which they were near the top all season long. One of the most amazing facts about this victory is that all three quizzers were in their first year of varsity competition—a feat rarely accomplished.

Heart seemed to come out aggressively, pushing the competitive edge on the location of their jumps, not getting much of the question to work with. This led to two early errors, followed up by 20 pointers by Emmanuel's MacPherson combo, Derek and Ian, to give Emmanuel the quick 40-point lead.

An Emmanuel and Fellowship error on the next two questions gave a freebie to Heart, to which Tim Kucejko responded with the correct answer. This put Heart on the board and moving in the right direction.

Ian went on to score 40 points on the next three questions to give Emmanuel a comfortable 70-point lead. A timeout was called, and Heart and Fellowship focused on the last half of the quiz to make adjustments to go for first place.

After an Emmanuel slip up, Fellowship's Meghan Volpe, who had a great tournament, got Fellowship on the board with her first 20 pointer on #12. Fellowship started to make their move. Question #13's jump went to long-time veteran Beth Marino. She gave it her best shot, but came up with an error.

This left the door open for Emmanuel to clinch the quiz if they took the next question. Ian MacPherson, staying true to form, took the toss up on 13A to clinch the 1995-96 varsity championship. Heart's Michelle Ruehl put 40 points on the board in 2 of the last 3 questions to put Heart in second place, with Fellowship proudly bringing home the third place trophy.

The Lord tells us to endure hardship. I don't know if quizzing for nearly 15 years without winning a championship is what the Lord meant by hardship (in fact I know it wasn't), but we can celebrate with Emmanuel in their endurance and the way they won: with teamwork, good attitudes, and a love for God's Word! Congratulations to all three teams!

CHICAGO '96 JV SWEEP!

Detroit Takes the Top Three Spots in JV

Another Chicago Tournament has come and gone, and another junior varsity title has been secured for the 8th time in 20 years. Not only that, but a junior varsity team representing Detroit has landed in the finals in 14 of those 20 years, as well. This is a solid statement that Detroit comes prepared, and that God blesses those who commit their ways to Him and work to His glory!

Detroit 7, made up of Tim Thurmond, a 9th grader out of Brighton in his third year of quizzing, Matthew Stroup, an 8th grader from Romeo in his second year, Chris Rock, an 8th grader from Washington in his second year, and Coach Kathy Thurmond a ?th grader from Brighton in her umpteenth year coaching (just kidding around, Kathy!) came out on top after an uphill climb from fifth place after the 6 preliminaries. Coach Thurmond made the comment about how the team really stuck together when it looked as if they were falling apart. Chris rose to the front as the leader of this team by finishing in sixth place individually with a 40-point average. Great support from Tim and Matt helped push them on throughout the playoff brackets.

Detroit 1 consisted of the 1996 local Rookie of the Year Andrea Bleil, a 7th grader from Sterling Heights, Rachel Volpe, a 6th grader from Sterling Heights in her first year, Naomi Sigler, a 9th grader from Sterling Heights in her second year, Josh Cook, a 7th grader from Flat Rock in his first year, Corey Buryta an 8th grader from Taylor in his first year, and Coach Mike Miller. This team had the top spot after the preliminaries and got into the finals first. Naomi captained this team and took third place individually with a 66.7-point average. Andrea and Rachel came up with answers in key times to get bonus points, while Josh and Corey provided some great emotional pump through their excitement for quizzing.

Detroit 4 was made up of a top local Detroit performer, Emma Hostetter, a 9th grader from Lake Orion in her fourth year, Jennie Church, an 8th grader from Rochester in her second year, Lauren Raetz, an 8th grader also from Rochester in her second year, Sarah Mitchell, a 9th grader from Troy in her second year, Lauren Young, a 6th grader from Livonia in her first year, Lisa Brancheau an 8th grader from Livonia in her first year, with Coach Linda Hostetter and Coach Nancy Watson. The amazing thing about this team is the "never-say-die" attitude they had as they climbed all the way from ninth place, a bottomless pit in the quizzing bracket world, into the finals! They helped complete the Detroit sweep by winning four consecutive quizzes to reach the coveted finals.

On the individual side of things, Cornerstone's Casey Rice took top junior varsity quizzer, and Kristen Pope from Highland Park took seventh place to round out the Detroit top finishers.

The varsity teams gave it their best shot. There is always next year, you guys!

1996-97 Season

Pray for the leadership of quizzing as we look to God for guidance on next year's plans.

GAIN SUPPORT FOR YOUR TEAM

Eight Things That Will Help Your Team Gain Support

1. List your regular practice time and day in the church bulletin and church calendar.
2. Print your team and individual scores in the church bulletin, along with a list of who is on the team.
3. List each UpWord session date, time and place in the church calendar so that others might be encouraged to attend and cheer for your team.
4. Start a quiz team bulletin board. Include a picture of your team, the team and individual standings, the full season schedule, a biographical sketch of each team member, etc.
5. Schedule a teens versus the pastors/elders quiz.
6. Have a team dedication prayer during a regular service at the beginning of the season.
7. Recruit prayer partners for each of your team members.
8. Volunteer to host an UpWord session next season.

BIBLE QUIZ RESOURCES

1. WBQA QUIZ GENERATOR

* Makes individual practice quizzes on computer disk
* Cost: \$99
* John Isett (412-824-8245)

2. Key Word List

* Jay Chupp (703-943-1686)

3. Matthew Concordance

* John Isett (412-824-8245)

4. Electronic Blue Quizbox

* Steve Kirkman (810-398-1161)

5. Quiz-Time Systems Red Quizbox

* Ibba Glaske (616-925-1357)

6. Bible Memory Challenge

* Computer assisted memorization

* Games and tournaments

* Doug Howe (517-882-1821)

7. Matthew Quote Cards

* 2 x 3 inch index cards for each verse

* Assemblies of God Youth Department (417-862-2781)

8. Matthew Cassette Tapes

* Assemblies of God Youth Department (417-862-2781)

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1995-96 Final Results

Year At A Glance

Junior Varsity Division

March Day of Champions—Team Champions
Faith Presbyterian, Rochester, Michigan

- Emma Hostetter
- Jennie Church
- Lauren Raetz
- Coach Linda Hostetter

Junior Varsity Dream Team

- Kristen Pope, Highland Park, 520-6
- Casey Rice, Cornerstone, 480-7
- Naomi Sigler, Fellowship 2, 410-2
- Emma Hostetter, Faith Pres 1, 410-6
- Andrea Bleil, Fellowship 1, 370-2

Junior Varsity Rookie of The Year

- Andrea Bleil, Fellowship 1, 1490-7, 70.95

Junior Varsity Most Improved

- Sarah Klassen, Brighton 2, raised her avg. 9.81 pts.

Junior Varsity Top Quizzer

- Casey Rice, Cornerstone, 1910-13, 90.95 avg.

Junior Varsity Red Division Regular Season Champions

- Fellowship 3, 230 team points, 21 quizzes

Junior Varsity White Division Regular Season Champions

- Cornerstone 1, 218 team points, 21 quizzes

Junior Varsity Blue Division Regular Season Champions

- Faith Presbyterian 1, 216 team points, 21 quizzes

Varsity Division

March Day of Champions—Team Champions
Emmanuel Baptist, Chatham, Ontario

- Ian MacPherson
- Derek MacPherson
- Rachel MacFadyen
- Coach Debbie Lashbrook

Varsity Dream Team

- Jennifer Walker, Cornerstone, 520-1
- Dave Willick, I-696, 450-7
- Meghan Volpe, Fellowship 1, 420-4
- Ian MacPherson, Emmanuel, 360-7
- Michelle Ruehl, Heart, 350-7

Varsity Rookie of The Year

- Rachel MacFadyen, Emmanuel, 540-12, 25.71 avg.

Varsity Most Improved

- Meghan Volpe, raised her avg. by 7.07 pts.

Varsity Top Quizzer

- Jennifer Walker, Cornerstone, 1450-16, 69.05 avg.

Varsity Regular Season Division Champions

- Heart 3, 197 team points, 21 quizzes