

# CHALKMARKS

Vol. 5, October 12-18, 2005

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### Lights Up! Sound On! The Elementary Talent Show Is About To Begin!!

The first-ever DCS Elementary Talent Show is coming soon. You will want to set aside Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM, for this spotlight event of our 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders! You won't want to miss this!!

### Christmas Is Coming...

The DCS sophomore and junior classes are eager to help you get ready for the Christmas season. Evergreen wreaths, swags, centerpieces, and poinsettias begin selling Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>.

All profits from this sale go toward the Washington, D.C. trip. Thank you!!

### Concert Coming

There is an awesome opportunity coming as Derek Webb will be appearing in concert at Central Bible Church, Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 PM. This should be an amazing, intimate evening with Derek and his wife as they share their music, art and lives with us. Tickets are \$5 and will be sold at the door beginning at 6:30 PM. This event is sponsored by Multnomah Bible College. For more information, check out Derek's website at [www.derekwebb.com](http://www.derekwebb.com).

### *When Is Out of Bounds Really Out of Bounds?*

"How far can I go? How close to the edge can I get?" These types of questions are often asked by teens – how far can I push the boundaries? The following is a recent article from Focus on the Family's *PluggedIn* magazine. It clearly addresses this issue – how far can I go.

"Dew glistened on freshly cut grass. The fall chill whispered warnings of winter. A bird warbled...then dove for cover as a screaming throng of 4-year-olds, arms and legs flailing like wind socks in a hurricane, chased after a large black-and-white ball. So much for tranquility.

Still, you haven't lived until you've seen an 'organized' pee-wee soccer game. It's like watching ants swarm a Raisinette and drag it toward their hole without the same spirit of cooperation. Madness. Chaos. Thank goodness for the adults' dedication to enforcing something vaguely resembling rules. Sort of.

Although the coaches had marked off boundaries to indicate where the ball had left the field of play, they let action continue even after kids had dribbled it two, four, *six*, feet outside the lines. I kept waiting for a whistle. These were not boundaries; they were *suggestions*. No doubt the children went past the markers thinking, 'When am I going to have to stop and turn around?' Even preschoolers know a white, chalky sideline when they've crossed one. But in an attempt to be gracious and keep from having to stop play every 15 seconds, the adult leadership gave them extra latitude, figuring, 'They'll learn to play by the rules later.'

I fear some adults may be sending teens similarly confusing signals about dating, partying, curfews and standards for choosing entertainment. When is 'out of bounds' *really* out of bounds? Do young people know? Are there consequences for crossing the line?

In Focus on the Family's *Parents' Guide to the Spiritual Mentoring of Teens*, youth expert Joe White tells of a rebellious 17-year-old girl whose parents rarely disciplined her as a child. If a school official or friend criticized her, Mom and Dad rushed to her defense. Her parents' rules for dating were wishy-washy, so the girl dove headfirst into relationships at 14 and had a steady boyfriend a year later. At 16 she got a car and made breaking her midnight curfew a habit. She became sexually active, drank compulsively and got into drugs. Her life was a mess.

Why didn't her parents blow the whistle when she crossed the line? Were they afraid of interrupting her fun? Did they figure she'd learn the rules later? Or, after laying down that chalky sideline, did they second-guess themselves and wonder if it was in the right place?

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I'm not sure it matters. The fact remains that they created boundaries, then failed to enforce them. Their unwillingness to stop play and administer consequences for going out of bounds abetted their daughter's self-destruction.

As Joe White concludes, 'She, like all kids, preached one message to her parents' increasingly deafened ears: "I know your boundaries. What I want to find out is, how serious are you about them?" They cry out for parents who will enforce those rules with fairness, firmness and forthrightness. Their cries can be heard in the keg parties, the bedrooms and the dance clubs.'

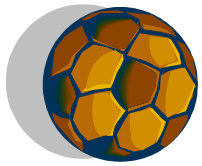
I often get letters from teens eager to follow Christ yet just as committed to their favorite secular entertainment. They ask me questions like, How much profanity does a movie need to have before it's wrong to watch it? When listening to a hip-hop CD, how much sexuality is unhealthy? Or, How many hours can a person spend playing a gory point-and-shoot video game before it's a problem? Deep inside they know a sideline exists. They want their fun, but they also want us to care enough to hold them accountable. They're asking us, 'How far out of bounds is really out of bounds?'

The answer is as close as the list of virtues in Philippians 4:8. Or check out Galatians 5:19-26, which clearly distinguishes between acts of the sinful nature and the fruits of the spirit. If you're trying to establish logical, loving limits in your home, let Scripture help. If you've already drawn boundaries, be sure to enforce them. Your teens are watching...and waiting for the whistle."

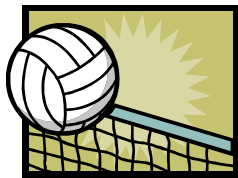
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### DCHS Scholar Athletes Earned High Marks

For each athletic season, we submit our student-athletes grade point average (GPA) to the Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) to be entered in to the Academic All-State Award.



*Our boys' soccer team had a cumulative GPA of 3.62!*



*Our girls' volleyball team came in at a cumulative 3.94.*

These marks are very impressive when you consider all that our students are involved with and the academic load they carry.

*Good job!!*

### Help Send Our Boys Away!

**Aloha Coffee Company** (down the mall from Bi-Mart) is hosting an Open House for the **DCS Boys' Basketball team**, Thursday, November 3rd, 3-7 PM.

- Come and sip your favorite coffee specialty drink or Italian soda and support our team for their ministry trip to Europe this coming summer.
- Aloha Coffee Company will be donating a percent of each drink purchased to help the team.
- Visit with coaches and team members.
- Set aside this time to help show your enthusiasm for our guys!

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### Lost And Found Items Going Away - Every Friday

Something is wrong!! Each week, we accumulate a huge amount of items left behind by DCS students. Shoes, coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, pants, etc., etc., etc. We are no longer going to stockpile these articles. Anything left behind on Fridays will be given to a charitable ministry to pass along to those less fortunate. The Lord charges us with being good stewards of the things He has entrusted to us. Please remind your child to make sure he or she has *all* their things *before* heading home each afternoon. Thanks!