



## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Thirty days hath September,  
April, June, and November  
All the rest have thirty-one,  
Save February alone,  
Which hath twenty-eight, in fine,  
Till Leap-Year gives it twenty-nine.

- Richard Grafton



## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS continued on page 2

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|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Gerald Biebel, Jr. | To excel in school, Go the whole year without a demerit, get accepted to BJU, and to have a good job. |
| 2. Ted Ernst          | To serve the Lord better in all areas   |
| 3. Ralph Ashe         | To grow in the Lord and prepare for college and a career.   |
| 4. Mark Eichmann      | Pass 11th grade   |
| 5. Jim String         | Pass English and 12th grade, start at BJU, and find a new job.  |
| 6. Brad Hopkins       | Make better grades, and become a Junior.  |



# MORE NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

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7. Chris Field To help the youth council any way possible, the best I can do  
8. Tabitha Eichmann To grow in the Lord, and to be able to gain enough courage to tell people how I really feel.  
9. Jason L. To try to help the youth group in any way possible.  
10. Tim Beverlin Do good in school.  
11. Karla R. Be happy all the time  
12. Jill Jordan To lose 573 pounds and not to gain it back any more, to gain more knowledge about this present world, and to be more aware of my surroundings.
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DAVE BOSWELL JANUARY 2  
JAMIE GROSS JANUARY 7  
DAVE FRANKLIN JANUARY 8  
MATT PURZYCKI JANUARY 20  
PATTY MORAD JANUARY 25  
JULIA TRUSZKOWSKI JANUARY 26



## WHAT'S UP?

by Matt Headley

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 15 - PARENT/TEEN MEETING

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Meet in the youth group trailer right after the Evening Service.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 21 - TEEN BOWLING

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Come out and pulverize those pins! Sorry, no bumpers! If you're really that bad, you could pray, and pray, and pray... We will meet at the church at 2:30 p.m. and be back at 5:30.

## WORDS OF WISDOM

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Quotation: I have studied now Philosophy  
And Jurisprudence, Medicine  
And even, alas, Theology  
From end to end with labor keen;  
And here, poor fool, with all my lore  
I stand no wiser than before. -GOETHE

Verses: Proverbs 16:16 - How much better is it to get wisdom than gold! and to get understanding rather to be chosen than silver!  
James 1:5 - If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him.

## THE BEST OF IN DECEMBER **CAMPUS JOURNAL**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21 "WHAT WILL MY FRIENDS THINK?"  
READ: HEBREWS 10:19 - 39

Do you feel more self conscious than a fat goldfish plopped into a tank of hungry piranhas?  
Hey, you're not alone.

A.C. Green of the NBA's Phoenix Suns once was like that. Even though he was a 6'7" All-American high-schooler, and one popular dude - he still was deeply concerned about what his friends thought of his every move off the court.

He was a follower. If someone else would go first, then A.C. would follow. Now don't get me wrong. A.C. was a very moral, very right-living kind of guy. But sometimes doing the right thing makes you stick out in the crowd - especially when you're taller than 99.9 percent of the population!

Well, AC ended up at a small church one Sunday with 10 members of his high school team - his best friends. At the end of the service the pastor asked people to come forward to receive Christ.

Ooooo, A.C. had been convicted by the Spirit and wanted to go down. But what about his friends? And no one else had gone first! The pastor waited. Minutes passed. A.C.'s stomach churned. Finally he bolted down the steps and made the best decision of his life.

As he turned around to face the audience, he saw the beaming faces of his teammates. They were cheering for him! A.C. had learned to be confident in his own decisions.

If you haven't already learned the lesson of placing your trust in Christ and making decisions based on His truth, learn from A.C. Green.

Be confident in who you are in God. Turn away from sin. Take that first step toward Christ. Like A.C., learn to forget the crowd and focus on Him. The joy and confidence you gain right now and the hope of eternal rewards will make it all worthwhile. (Hebrews 10:35-36). -TF

### 3 Notes from Matt:

1. If you want a copy of the tape I showed at the Christmas party, I need either a blank video tape or 3 dollars for one. *PLEASE SEE ME IF YOU ARE INTERESTED*
2. I would like to have another sports columnist for this newsletter. If you're a sports fan, if you like to write and share your opinions, you're perfect! I don't want anything in specific, so you can be creative! Team up with our other sports columnist, or go at it by yourself! Please see me if you're interested.
3. I would like if you have any opinions, comments, etc., etc. **So** please take 5 seconds to write them down and drop them in the Notepad Can. I don't know how good I'm doing unless you tell me! I don't know if you ~~care~~ care for any of the articles in this newsletter or not! TELL ME!!

# Weird Articles 4

## FROM THE NEWS

"IN FLA., IT WAS ROOT FOR SANTA'S TEAM OR ELSE" By The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - A less-than-jolly Santa Claus at a mall told a 6-year-old boy he wouldn't get any presents if he was a University of Florida football fan.

Santa also pointed his white-gloved finger at the boy's father and challenged him to a fight. Santa then walked off the job, leaving expectant children stunned.

Chip Crabtree said he and his wife took their sons - ages 2, 4, and 6 - to The Avenues mall on Friday.

When Santa saw the children's mother, Lori, wearing a University of Florida Gators sweatshirt, he said: "Santa Claus doesn't like Gator fans... Santa Claus wishes that Florida State would beat the Gators in the Sugar Bowl," according to Crabtree.

When the children's mother told Santa he was being rude, the red-faced chief elf retorted: "Lady, if you don't like it, you can get them (the children) off my lap," Crabtree recounted.

The family asked for their money back and began to leave. Crabtree, who was videotaping the visit from 10 feet away, told Santa he didn't like his remarks.

That's when Santa jumped from his chair and allegedly thumped Crabtree's chest with his finger and taunted: "You want to do something about it, right now, pal? Right here on stage?" according to Crabtree.

Crabtree said he didn't.

When mall security jumped in, Santa told a nearby elf. "Just tell them (the children) to go home. I'm out of here," Crabtree recounted.

Mall general manager Tom Funari apologized.

"Santas are trained that they are supposed to be impartial," he explained. He didn't know the Santa's real name.

The Santa operation is run by Suncoast Photography, not the mall. Tom Lane, co-owner of Suncoast, also said he didn't know the name of the grumpy Santa.

Crabtree later told his children that this wasn't the real Santa.

"Sometimes, Santa uses helpers, and this one was an impostor," he said.

Crabtree's 6-year-old said that he knew it wasn't Santa, because "there wasn't any magic in his eyes."

"SANTAS SAVE CYCLIST" From

*Associated Press reports*

NEW YORK - He not only knows when you've been bad or good- he knows CPR, for goodness' sake.

Ten sidewalk Santas rallied around a bicyclist who collided with a van Tuesday, tending to his injuries and directing traffic around the scene.

"He asked me, 'Am I in the North Pole?'" recalled pseudo-Santa Lawrence Raichard, an emergency medical technician who was part of a Claus cluster handing out promotional fliers for a store.



### Eight not-so-tiny cylinders pull this 'sled'

Associated Press Photo

Fred Salcines checks out his "Santa Mobile," a 1974 Cadillac limousine, before setting out from his Hasbrouck Heights home Saturday. Salcines has

been traveling through New Jersey and New York for ten years in the car, dressed as Santa Claus and giving out gifts to children.

# PRAYER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS? (part 1 of 2) *by Matt Headley*

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## INTRODUCTION

Many of you have gone to a Christian School all of your life, but there are some of us who go to a public school and know all about the pressure and influence that is put upon us sometimes by so many unsaved students. I have had some experience of being in both Christian and public schools.

Those of us who have had experience going to public school know how important prayer in school could be, but also realize how hard it would be for such a diverse public.

Public school prayer has been a hot topic in the news recently, and I thought I should include some of it in the newsletter. I will divide this topic up into 2 parts. Part 1 includes this introduction, a summary of news articles, and some opinions about this very controversial topic. Part 2, which will be in next month's issue, will have an article written by a news columnist that has a very important message.

## WHAT'S GOING ON?

Newt Gingrich, the Georgia Republican congressman who has become the House speaker, has called for hearings and a House vote by July 4 on a school prayer amendment to the Constitution. He has said the amendment will allow "voluntary prayer" in schools.

The Supreme Court ruled in 1962 that organized prayer in public schools violated the First Amendment's separation of church and state. For years Republicans, backed by the religious right, have sought to re-introduce voluntary prayer in schools. Many Catholic, Protestant and Jewish groups have supported the 1962 ruling and subsequent Supreme Court church-state decisions that followed it.

Brent Walker of the Baptist Joint Committee says, "We are not opposed to prayer, it is precisely because we believe so fervently in prayer that we do not want the government to meddle in it."

Before the 1962 ruling, schools across the nation featured prayers to start each day, recitations of the Lord's Prayer before all assemblies, and use of state-written prayers.

In order for Constitutional amendments to pass, they must be approved by a two-third majority of the House and Senate, and then ratified by three-fourths of the states. The president cannot veto them.

## OPINIONS

- The Clinton administration is leaning toward legislation allowing a moment of silence in schools. "The president has long supported this moment of silence, and I think its something he will look at seriously," said Joel Klein, deputy White House counsel.

- Attorney General Janet Reno said that any effort to return organized prayer to public schools "must protect the religious freedom of the many different faiths in this country."

- Four Republican governors, William Weld of Massachusetts, Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey, Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin and Pete Wilson of California - said they had no objection to a moment of silence before starting the school day, and were not necessarily opposed to legislation or a constitutional amendment as long as prayer was voluntary.

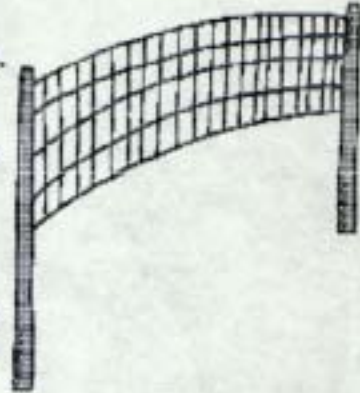
- Ralph Reed, president of the conservative Christian Coalition, said on CBS that the government had "taken the phrase 'freedom of religion' and turned it into 'freedom from religion'".

- Forest Montgomery of the National Association of Evangelicals said a constitutional amendment "may or may not be the best way to address a basic problem in our society - public schools have been sanitized of all mention of God and our nation's religious heritage. There could be a statutory solution, or perhaps some other better way."

## WHAT'S HAPPENING? by Robin Gross

### THE GYM NIGHT

On December 2, most of the youth group met at G.C.C.S's gym and had a great time. We played basketball, volleyball, and some of Pastor Mark's famous crazy games, such as shuffle-your-buns and the fruit basket game. In our basketball tournament of four teams, the guys had to hop on one foot whenever Pastor Mark told them to. It was so funny! After a very competitive night of games we left at 9:30 p.m. To sum it all up, we had a great time and can't wait until next gym night!



### THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 23, the whole youth group gathered in the Baumeister's basement for our annual Christmas party. At this event we played some pool and basketball, but the funniest part of the evening was the video tape look back at this past year compliments of Mr. Video himself, Matt Headley. After the video we had our gift exchange. Some of the funniest gifts were a very large box with a brick and 95 inside, and an even larger box with tons of little boxes each wrapped inside of each other that finally lead to a hand-held video game. After the annual reading of the yearly predictions, we made next year's. I can't wait to see if mine comes true, but I'll just have to wait!



### THE SCULPTOR SUBMITTED BY KAREN NEHER

*The following poem was found in China written out by hand in the flyleaf of a missionary's Bible:*

A block of marble stood  
 Before the sculptor where He would.  
 He smote with hand well skilled  
 And thus with blow on blow fulfilled  
     The vision of his mind.  
 At first with chisel coarse and stroke  
 Unspared, the corners off he broke,  
 And soon the form appeared.  
 And then, with finer tools he wrought  
 And finer yet, until he brought  
     The perfect image forth.  
 So, with unerring skillfulness,  
 With cunning hand and sure,  
 'Tis as the marble groweth less  
 The likeness groweth more.  
 So God divinely works with those  
 He, in the eternal ages chose  
 To show His work of grace,

And thus with blow on blow to trace  
     The image of His Son!  
 How blest to know that He who holds  
 His tools, before His eyes beholds  
 His own beloved One!  
 The cares and sorrow day by day,  
 The troubles that o'ershade the way  
 Together work for good;  
 And nothing e'er by chance befalls  
 The one whom God in purpose calls  
     In Whom His love is found.  
 And when we have the glory gained,  
 And Christ's full image have attained,  
 We'll praise his sovereign grace,  
 And bless the hand that dealt each blow  
 Upon the marble here below  
     In working out His will!



PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE PARENTING!! By Karen Neher

This brand new article discusses what brand new parents, current parents of teenagers, and parents who have already raised their children, think about topics that we as teenagers are interested in. Some topics will be as follows:

- What is curfew on a school night? ... weekend?
- Parents' view of what we think is the most important things in our lives.
- Parents' guidelines on dating.
- What age can you single date?
- What parents think about the President?
- Parents' opinions on drugs, sex, education, etc.]

This article is here for your information. I always like to know what parents think about different things. Stay tuned to this article for these answers and more!!!! If there are any questions you would like to ask the parents of our church, please jot them down. I would love to include them in the next edition of our newsletter. Please hand all questions to either Matt or Karen. Thanks for your help.

The first topic of this article is:

*What are your guidelines for your teenager concerning dating?*  
(This is the answer I received.)

I want my kids to think if the rapture happens right now, would Jesus be pleased with where I am, who I am with, and what I am doing? If not, I should make changes in friends, activities, and standards in my life. Parents can't be there all the time to oversee dates. Eventually, everyone is responsible for their actions. Proverbs 22:6 and Colossians 3:20 sum this topic up pretty well.

Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."  
Colossians 3:20 - "Children, obey your parents in all things: for this is wellpleasing unto the Lord."

- a teen's father.

Please check back next month for new answers to new questions!!!!!!!





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### NFL

According to the survey taken during Sunday School about Rich Kotite, a unanimous decision was made for him to leave. Well, he's gone! Hopefully we can have Dick Vermeil for next season. As for this season, the Eagles didn't do squat.

Dallas just upset the Green Bay Packers, but they will be defeated as they go to take on the 49ers next week (my prediction).



### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Penn State did it again with another undefeated season without coming in first. Why don't they send those pollers home and let Penn State and Nebraska duke it out on the field!



### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Settlements are being made for the strike right now. Hopefully by next season everything will be situated and we'll see some action.