

Michelle's Message Being a True Competitor

Being a "True Competitor" will help you gain an unstoppable faith that packs a punch on the field, in the gym, in the locker room, at home, in the classroom, in the workplace, and in all your relationships.

If I learned anything from being a part of FCA, it's that I never knew that I was a true competitor.... Don't get me wrong, I've run many races, tackled many obstacles, and overcome many failures, struggles, and been hit head on with several quick endings to many of my races; but I've always gotten back up with the resolve granted to me by our Lord. Through these times I have always been ignited with a passion to live intentionally for Jesus in everything I do in my new day and with His grace. He transforms my life daily and each day I awake, I knew I am still in the game for Him, not for me.

With this reflection, God has called for me to prepare this FCA Breakfast season with openness, to share the meaning of living in HIS purpose through my own testimonial and prepare others to be a True Competitor.

Okaloosa Walton FCA looks forward to working with several student leaders for the next couple of months on their presentation for the All-Sports Buck Smith FCA Breakfast for 2016, with the devotional series "True Competitor." We will have several competitors speak with the platform "I am Second" and keeping with our theme this year of "RISE" (Joshua 1:9).

Our theme for the Breakfast will come from 1 Corinthians 9:24 (NLT): "Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win!"

All athletes are disciplined in their training. They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but we do it for an eternal prize. So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just

shadowboxing. discipline my body like an athlete, training it to do what it should. Otherwise, I fear that after preaching to others I myself might be disqualified. Through scriptures and in our lives we have had many great legendary coaches; they have either impacted us or we have witnessed their impact.

Legendary basketball coach John Wooden coined the phrase "Competitive Greatness"; this phrase is learning to rise to every occasion and to push yourself mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually to reach your God-given potential. Coach Wooden defines competitive greatness as a real love for the hard battle, knowing it offers the opportunity to be at your best when your best is required.

These three "Be" principles have helped me grasp competitive greatness:

-Be Prepared! It's not about winning, it's about being prepared. Being prepared is being ready when God opens doors. Having a passion to prepare will help you face the battle as an athlete so that challenges are embraced...never feared.

-Be Disciplined! If integrity is doing the right thing when no one is watching, then competitive greatness is working hard when no one is watching. Competitive greatness is a disciplined life. God loves good, hard, clean competition. Disciplined athletes have great awareness of the abilities God has blessed them with, and they use those gifts to their full potential to please Jesus. They understand there is a merging of self-discipline and God-provision.

-Be Focused! Competitive greatness focuses on a clear vision; it is not sidetracked or distracted. Focus produces a clear picture of the future, and that produces a passion. When athletes have vision burning in their eyes, they become an unstoppable force for the Lord's work. Nobody or nothing can steal the passion that God has placed in your heart as an athlete. By narrowing the focus, the Lord's plan becomes clear because you know the target. When you are focused, you are not sucked into the comparison game and comparing yourself to other teammates. Focus allows you to be the best you by fixing your eyes on the right target - Jesus Christ.

All you have is you. Nothing more; nothing less. Take what God has generously given you and be the best you by unleashing those gifts and talents right where God has placed you. Do it right now...and watch Him do amazing work through you!
Merry Christmas and I can't wait to see everyone next year at the All-Sports Buck Smith FCA Breakfast.

In HIS Grace,
Michelle



2ND ANNUAL OWFCA LEGACY COACHES CLINIC

SAVE
THE
DATE!

Thursday, February 16 (early registration available) -
Saturday, February 18, 2017

Clinic is accredited for Continuing Education Requirements

New! Simultaneous Women's Conference for Coaches' Wives

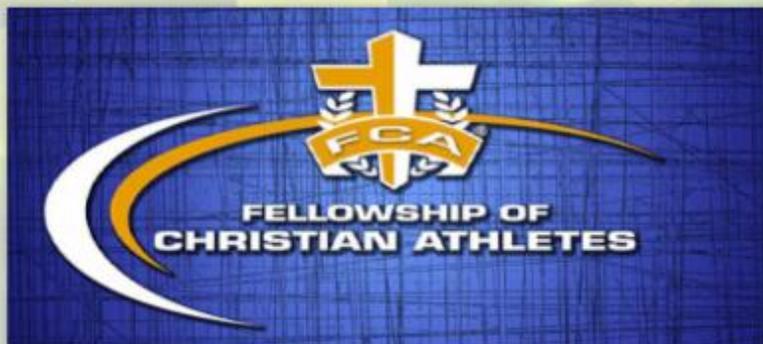
Sign up for this clinic and you will receive **three days**
of the **best Xs and Os** along with **3D Coaching!**

Our top speakers in 2016:

Burton Burns (Alabama), Peter Shinnick (UWF), Charles Kelly (FSU),
Tim Horton (Auburn), Vic Koennig (Troy), Jeff Scott (Clemson),
Tommy Bowden, Maurice Harris (Ole Miss), Joey Jones (USA).

Speakers included in our line-up this year from:

FSU, Clemson, Georgia Tech, West Florida, Alabama, just to name a few.



Cost: \$100 Per Coach

Register: owfca.org or contact **Michelle Carmical, OWFCA Area Director:**
mcarmical@fca.org; 850.217.0391

Clinic held at: Emerald Grande at Harborwalk Village Conference Center
10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, Florida

Reserve condo: 888.556.4359 | emeraldgrande.com | code "FCA Coaches Clinic"

[Click to Register!](#)

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NIGHT OF INTEGRITY

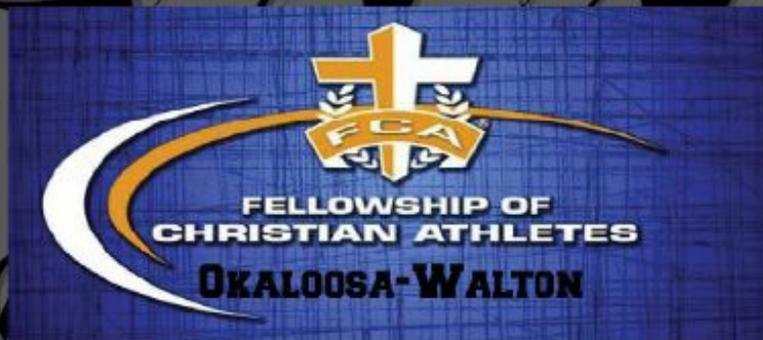
May 3, 2017
6:30-8:00 pm

OPENING MUSIC BY
SHAKE THE CITY

SPEAKER:
INKY JOHNSON



Northwest Florida State College Arena
100 E. College Drive, Niceville, FL



Contact Michelle Carmical:
MCarmical@fea.org | 217-0391

Sponsored by Okaloosa Sheriff Department,
Sheriff Larry Ashley, and All Sports



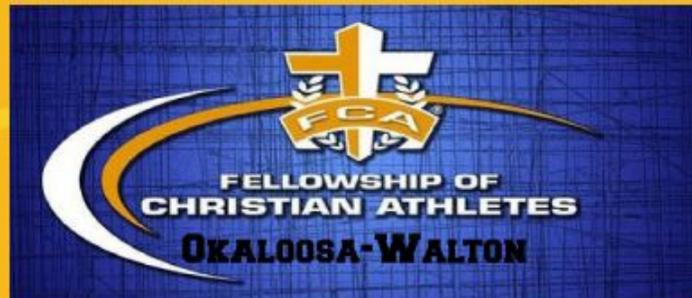
Rise & Shine

ALL SPORTS BUCK SMITH FCA BREAKFAST

**Friday, February 10th
7:30-9:30 am**

Speakers from Okaloosa-Walton Schools

**Northwest Florida State College Arena
100 E. College Drive, Niceville, FL**



**Contact Michelle Carmical:
MCarmical@fea.org | 217-0391**

**“Haven’t I commanded you: be strong and courageous?
Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God
is with you wherever you go.” - Joshua 1:9**



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