



Inspired, Inspiring in Dothan, AL

BCI and BCI Edge are thrilled to have participated in the first Boys to Men Summit, held in Dothan, Alabama from July 31 - August 2. Our players, representatives, and special guests served as leaders and mentors to at-risk youths and their families, supporting the events' ambitious theme: Preparing a Legacy of Noble Men for Future Generations. We shared our faith, our temptations and challenges, our advice about attitude and integrity, our love for basketball, and - crucially - our personal attention with young men who were truly inspired by the BCI message. Our players opened up to at-risk youths, and these young men responded with enthusiasm and rare vulnerability.

BCI contributed to the Boys to Men Summit, organized by Rosalind James of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES), in four key ways:

1. BCI Edge played against local basketball celebrities in a spirited game, while at-risk youth and their families cheered. "For the record," reported the Dothan Eagle, "BCI Edge stars beat the local celebrities 129-82." BCI Edge players included Reed Rawlings, Mike Wilks, Roger Powell, Dan McClintock, Kelly McCarty, Glen Whisby, T. J. Doyle and Honorary Coach Sean Loomer.
2. Alan Houston, Pastor Blake Wilson, and Mike Wilks appeared on the BET Rap-it-Up HIV/AIDS prevention seminar panel on behalf of BCI, sharing their personal experiences with faith and temptation.
3. BCI Edge players and Sharm Scheuerman hosted a student breakout session on life skills called "Faith in Action." This session included a good deal of small group interaction and meaningful sharing.
4. BCI and BCI Edge players interacted with youths on and off the court throughout the weekend, including small group and one-on-one opportunities. We were able to integrate a wealth of inspiring moments into our workshops and informal "shoot-arounds."

The Boys to Men Summit was a success according to Rosalind James, She told us, "All of the players with BCI Edge were just great with the young men. They were so positive, and true role models! I am so impressed with the BCI players. This program has made a great impact on these young mens' lives. I have received numerous telephone calls from parents saying that the summit has changed their sons' attitudes." Rosalind did a great job of coordinating the event and has a passion to take this same concept to other states, in partnership with BCI.

We have also received feedback from many of the young men, some simply thanking us for spending time with them. Others have described, in detail, the fundamental shift they've experienced in their attitudes toward life, family, school, and faith.



BCI is honored to have played an important role in this inaugural event, which brought players, pastors, coaches, and other mentors together for a noble goal. Our team and guests gathered after the event for a wrap-up and fellowship, where we talked about our shared vision and the possibilities ahead for the BCI organization. One BCI player remarked, “Can you imagine what influence a team like this, composed of pro players playing at the top level around the world, can have?” A team, united in both faith and action for this inspiring weekend, was a true blessing.