



Back in the USA!

June 29, 2005 - While international basketball events are exciting and worthwhile, we are also committed to working with local organizations here in the United States. Our plans to tour the Middle East and Taiwan this summer have changed - we are now considering participation in Taiwan's William Jones Cup Tournament, as well as a tour in the Middle East in 2007 - and so our focus is now on what we can accomplish here at home over the next few months before we tour China in September.

Camp in Chicago!

From August 3-5, BCI Edge is partnering with Roger Powell (Illinois '05) for the RPJ Ministries/BCI Edge Leadership Basketball Camp in Chicago. This event is an invitation-only camp for Illinois high school seniors, designed to challenge their basketball skills while preparing them for the life transition from high school to college. The students will have opportunities to discuss university-level pressures with successful basketball role models in this fun, athletic forum. Sharm Scheuerman will be on hand, and BCI Edge full-time and auxiliary players will be among the camp's coach counselors: David Booth, Matt Lottich, Rob White, Antwon Hall, and Reed Rawlings.

Players on the Move

When they are not traveling with the team, BCI Edge players willingly get involved in their hometown communities, with a challenge to use the powerful medium of basketball to influence players, youth, and fans. Our full-time and auxiliary players are involved with camps and other meaningful activities around the United States this summer. Two notable examples:

Josh Hall has been working with Dan Dickau (NBA - Portland Trailblazers) for the last two years to develop his All Star Charity Classic in Spokane, Washington. The highly anticipated event will be held on July 27. And Matt Lottich brings us exciting news from San Carlos, California. Lottich is holding four sessions of The Matt Lottich Life Skills Basketball Camp in July - now in its third year. His camp combines high-level basketball instruction with value life lessons to encourage life skills improvement in children from ages 7 to 16. Lottich says, "Through positive coaching, motivation, reinforcement, and fun-filled activities, young basketball players have a chance to learn the basics of the game, as well as some of the qualities necessary to succeed in many aspects of life."



A New Challenge in China

In association with Sports Ambassadors, China will host BCI Edge from September 13 to 29. Once more, we will challenge the top-tier teams in China's professional league. Stay tuned to www.bciedge.org for details as they are announced.

In the Works

We are discussing a tournament trip to Beijing as well as a tour in Mexico with their National Basketball Team for the fourth quarter of this year.

BCI Edge is working with Dr. Bruce Main of UrbanPromise USA to potentially organize a basketball camp in Camden, NJ in the summer of 2007. We were introduced to Dr. Main by Tony Campolo, a prominent educator, author, and organizer of urban schools and social missions around the world. The mission of UrbanPromise: "to equip Camden's children and young adults with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, spiritual growth, and Christian leadership."

Congress is Talking!

In March, Senator Charles Grassley (IA) wrote a letter to Karen Hughes, Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs at the State Department, introducing BCI Edge and encouraging the State Department to consider including BCI Edge in strategies for international diplomacy. In April, Secretary Hughes responded with an enthusiastic letter which mentioned embassy involvement in youth sports activities and included a personal note: "Thanks so much for bringing this to my attention. I'm a big believer in sports diplomacy!" BCI couldn't be more thrilled.