



MAD DASH BY JOE CHAU

September 2009

It's hard to believe that the semester is upon us. As I write you now, I'm sitting in our the Bluewall Cafe (in the UMass Campus Center) and it's the first day of classes. Already we've had a weekend of planning and activities with incoming and returning students. We've also completed our Fall freshmen survey and looking forward to hundreds of contacts to follow up. But we're not the only ones at work. Talking with a Navigators staff member, they already had an incoming Christian freshmen student who's gotten drunk and blacked out. "I always seem to get to them too late. Talking to this student, I could see the shame he felt, and how it makes him want to hide from God and from fellowship.", lamented Jeff.

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. " 1 Peter 5:8

Last month we asked that you would pray for the incoming freshmen. The Lord has really put Luke 15 on my heart. And how much like the lost sheep, incoming freshmen can be. Entering into college, they want a place to belong and to be known and accepted. They are unsure of so many things, their grades, their classes, their major. Their professors and RAs (who are required to take a 1 day seminar on how to prevent Christian influence in the dorms) will discredit the Bible and all Christian teaching. They are told that they must make their own way, and that there is no loving father who cares for them. It can be a very lonely, stressful time for incoming freshmen.

No wonder 70% of incoming Christian freshmen nationwide walk away from their faith by the end of the 2nd year at a secular college. No wonder we all need to pray.

Our strategy this year is to focus on the freshmen class. In sharing the gospel with those who do not know the Lord yet and in more effectively gathering incoming Christians. Please pray for our various activities and all the students that we meet as we follow up the contacts we have from our survey.

09.09.09 volleyball & ice cream
 09.11.09 UMassCru Amazing Race & bonfire
 09.15.09 real life (campus center)
 09.18.09 root beer keg party & poker night
 09.22.09 real life (campus center)
 09.25.09 camping trip @ mohawk state park
 09.30.09 veritas forum - love146.org
 10.16-18.09 UMassCru fall retreat

Also pray for our weekly "Freshmen Experience", a weekly adventure that connects freshmen and explores the transitions to college life. Our prayer is to see a class of 20 or more freshmen come to faith or grow in their faith.

Please join us this month as we pray for:

- 1) Spiritual awakening on our campuses.
- 2) That the Holy Spirit will convict students, staff and faculty of their sin, they self righteousness and their worldly judgement (John 16:8)
- 3) Wisdom to recognize our limitedness and relying more fully on the Holy Spirit.
- 4) Wisdom on how to lead Epic in reaching lost Asian Americans students.
- 5) Last year we asked for prayer for our Fall retreat and we saw a record 45 students attend. This year, we are praying for 100 students, which is impossible apart from God.
- 6) Please pray for Luke, Josh, Chris, Andrew, John, Tim, Alex and Adam. Freshmen I've already connected with and want to get involved with Campus Crusade here at UMass.



If you would like to financially partner with our ministry, please give us a call or send your check to the address below. Please make checks out to "**Campus Crusade for Christ**" with our staff account number (**#0569044**) in the memo.
 • Joseph & Jenny Chau • 162 Farview Way, Amherst, MA 01002 • 413-230-0189 • mailbox@sillysheep.net •