

Scott's First Missionary Journey (with CSI).



I wanted to let you all know what has gone on in my ministry with CSI over the last month. Needless to say it has been busy and exciting. In this newsletter, you will find a summary of a trip to Oxford, UK and Nigeria as well as my latest journey to Orlando, Florida. Thank you for your prayers and support for myself and my family during this busy month. -

Oxford/Nigeria Trip Summary: This was a two part journey. The **first leg** was in Oxford, England for the annual Church Sports and Recreational Ministers (CSRSM) Conference. A great chance to attend seminars on evangelism, history of sport, etc taught by the leading experts in the field of sports ministry. The conference also provided the opportunity to network with members of ministries such as Uncharted Waters (soccer ministry based in Colorado), Christians In Sport and Ambassadors in Sports (both football, I mean soccer Ministries in the U.K.) as well as Sports Ministers from around the world. I also met 3 of CSI's Global Network Partners for the first time.

The **second leg** of the trip was to Nigeria where Rodger and I had the privilege of leading Sports Ministry conferences for 200 pastors and lay leaders in 3 different regions. We covered about half of the country and while in the North we were able to train and encourage pastors who work among the Muslim community. Pray for fruit within the Nigerian church as the seeds for sports ministry have been planted. Since returning I have received numerous emails expressing thanks for the training and excitement about the ministry opportunities that lay ahead. I share these quotes not to boast but to provide a glimpse of the ways your support of CSI touches the world.



GNP Lyn and Peter Mackay, GNP Merja, Rodger and myself, GNP Bryan and Judith Mason

"I also want you to know that the meetings have really added more to my Christian life and sports." – Jiddah, From Zaria

"Thanks for coming to Africa and being a blessing to us." – Peter Ottache, Pastor from Togo

"We are so grateful to God for sending you all the way from the USA to come bless us and our ministries here." -

Lawson Sampson, Pastor from Badagry, Nigeria

What is a GNP? Global Network Partners are minister's, leaders and missionaries in other countries who are involved in the strategic use of sports for ministry. Each GNP has been trained in CSI curriculum and represents CSI in their Region

Strange and interesting facts:

- The ratio of pounds to dollars is about 2:1 these days – ouch! The Nigerian currency, the Naira, is about 100:1 – good for us.
- There is a "baseball tonight" type show for Cricket that usually spends 45 minutes on highlights and commentary from one match!
- You can survive on rice and french fries (don't let my boys know this) for a week. But you may want to stay away from the roasted grasshoppers unless you are bolder than I am.
- Oxford is a wonderful place surrounded by history and grace.
- There is nothing on this earth that can prepare you for a car ride in Nigeria!
- It was 95 degrees in Nigeria, "but it's a wet heat..."



Rodger and Scott on Nigerian TV



Deaf/Sports Ministry in Benin City



The Leaders in Jos, Nigeria

Orlando: This past Wednesday through Sunday I was in Orlando with a group of ministers and leaders in sport from around the world. There were 32 nations represented in the sessions I attended. This was a great opportunity to meet with those that CSI has helped in the past and to forge new relationships. One of those relationship is with Edina Hajner of Bosnia who started a sports ministry to children. When I returned home I sent a box of soccer shirts, 3 balls, shoes and a devotional book for her to take back to Bosnia. Additionally CSI received invitations to lead sports ministry training in Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Jamaica and the region surrounding Brunei. CSI has also been asked to bring a basketball team and resources to Tajikistan which may coincide with our invitation to the Caucasus region.



C.S. Lewis' Home in Oxford

News from the Home front: My wife loves me! The night I left for Nigeria, a house that we really liked suddenly fell out of escrow and became available. Annette had to act quickly and despite other offers, ours was accepted and we are set to move in by June 12th! Please keep our transition in your prayers.



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What is coming up in 2005/2006:

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| August (TBD) | CSI Dessert Concert |
| September 12 | CSI Golf Tournament |
| Fall (TBD) | Malawi Sports Conference |
| Oct28-Nov 5 | Cuba Baseball Mission |
| Fall (TBD) | Mindanao Conference with S.A. |
| December | Tajikistan/Kazakhstan Pastors Conference |
| January 2006 | Pakistan Pastors Conference |
| May (TBD) | Tajikistan/Caucasus Basketball Team |

Who do you know that would like to join the CSI team? Pray and ask God to reveal who you can ask about supporting CSI. Please contact me for further information.



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