

For Immediate Release

September 27, 2006

Flames Basketball Retreat to Alabama

NASHVILLE, TN—The Flames' basketball team scheduled a three-day fall retreat in Alabama that included time at the Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Eldridge, according to Coach Rusty Campbell. The purpose of the September 22-24 trip was three-fold: To serve as a team-building experience, to minister in the Children's Home, and to serve in Winfield FWB Church.

Coach Campbell said, "This experience allowed our fellows to interact in an environment away from the basketball court. We learned a lot about each other and grew closer as a group. The Children's Home staff and members at Winfield Church were open and so accommodating."

The Flames conducted a practice session at the church Saturday where young men from the Children's Home participated in a variety of drills, teaming up with Flames' members in scrimmage situations.

Saturday afternoon, former Flames' member and current house parent at the Children's Home, Chris Willhite, led the basketball team in team-building exercises.

Mr. Willhite said, "It was great having the Flames spend time with our kids. They interacted well and were such positive role models. Our kids looked forward to the visit for weeks and were so excited to have the ballplayers here."

The Saturday evening devotion and fellowship included staff and youth from the Children's Home as well as visitors. Flames' members Jacob Riggs and Bryce Jackman led singing. Riggs brought a brief devotion.

Sunday morning found the Flames at Winfield FWB Church where Reverend Danny Williams pastors. Team members attended the 7-12 grade Sunday School class.

Jacob Riggs, Bryce Jackman, and Caleb Simpkins led the class in singing, and Coach Campbell spoke about the importance of a Christian college education.