

In the TMA Spotlight

November 2008



COACH TONY PITTS

*Upper School Bible
Head Boys' Basketball Coach*

Tony Pitts is enjoying his first year at TMA as an upper school Bible teacher and the Head Boys' Basketball Coach. Coach Pitts was nominated to be this month's spotlight because of the following student request.

"I would like to nominate Coach Pitts, my Bible teacher, to be the next person in the spotlight...he has made a massive impact on my life and walk with God. He really understands me and my peers and focuses on the important things, while giving real answers not just textbook-Sunday School answers. Bible is now my favorite class because not only do I feel spiritually fed, but I look forward to just being in such a loving environment everyday when I walk into his room. Whenever I'm there I can be myself, and ask anything I'm curious about, with no condemnation. He also has given me a completely different outlook in my relationship with God. I understand God so much more because of Coach Pitts...He sets an example of a good Christian to me and my peers everyday. If anyone deserves the spotlight it's him!"

Coach Tony Pitts came to TMA from Dayton Christian High School where he had been the Head Men's Basketball Coach/Athletic Director since 2005. Some of the accomplishments of his teams include top ten rankings in the Dayton city polls as well as many individual player placements, recognitions, and awards. Previous to Dayton Christian, Tony was the Assistant Men's Basketball Coach at Cedarville University for three years. Cedarville University is one of the top NAIA teams in the country. In 2000-2001 Coach Pitts was named "Conference and District Coach of the Year" at Dayton Jefferson Public High School. Coach Pitts himself was signed out of high school with the University of Charleston, transferring to Wilberforce University where he was the three time captain leading the team in Ft%, 3Pt% and assists. Coach Pitts has worked a multitude of basketball camps including the Tubby Smith Basketball Camp at the University of Kentucky. Current University of Minnesota and former University of Kentucky head coach Tubby Smith says this about Coach Pitts:

"I have worked with Tony for eight years through my camps at the University of Kentucky where he acted as commissioner of the camps. He is an impeccable leader with integrity and class. He is an outstanding court coach who I would love to have on my staff currently and at the University of Minnesota. He has my highest recommendation and is a high quality guy to work with."

Coach Pitts was born and raised in Cincinnati, Ohio and is the oldest of five children – 3 sisters and 1 brother. All of their names start with the letter "T" – Tony, Tanya, Timothy, Tracey and Tricia. Tony met his wife, Akilah, in college. They now have two children – Genesis (9) and Joshua (almost 2 years old). Coach Pitts likes to read, exercise and loves comic book movies like Superman, Ironman, Spiderman, Batman etc.

Coach Pitts is really enjoying the warm weather in Florida and the atmosphere of excellence at TMA. He knows God called him here and he is happy that this is the assignment God has for him. He enjoys teaching Bible and feels it is an awesome responsibility that he does not take lightly.