

Twenty-five Years and Counting...

“When Bart asked me out for our first date, he was so shy that he did not even ask me in person. He sent a friend to ask me.” This was one of many funny stories that Cherrie Starr told about her husband and NFL legend, Bart Starr.

In honor of the 25th anniversary of The NFL Sanctioned Super Bowl Breakfast, Bart and Cherrie were interviewed during this year’s Breakfast. They were also presented a framed poster with pictures and autographs from the twenty-five previous Bart Starr Award winners.



Bart Starr presenting award to London Fletcher, Washington Redskins linebacker

Washington Redskin’s linebacker, London Fletcher received the Bart Starr Award, which is presented to an NFL player voted on by his peers for outstanding character and integrity both on and off the field.

A standing ovation was given when Marine Corporal Josh Bleill was introduced and walked across the stage on two prosthetic legs for an interview. While on patrol duty in Fallujah, Iraq in October 2006, Josh’s Humvee was struck by an improvised explosive device.



Josh Bleill being interviewed

When he woke up five

days later, he was informed that two of his fellow Marines were killed in the explosion and he had suffered many injuries, including the amputation of both of his legs. After a two-year recovery, Josh was offered a job as the community spokesperson for the Indianapolis Colts, where he currently works. He speaks boldly of how God spared his life.



Three Indianapolis Colts Players being interviewed by Emcee, Brent Jones

Part of what made this event go so smoothly was the numerous volunteers who came to help with various roles. As the volunteer coordinator, Debbie enjoyed giving leadership to the over seventy people who volunteered on Friday night and Saturday morning.

Partnerships with other Cru ministries are a critical part of this event, as well. A ministry called Priority Associates is coordinating the follow-up for those who indicated a decision to accept Christ as well as those who requested more information or want to be in a small group study.



Friday night set-up crew of volunteers



Super Bowl Breakfast crowd

Thank God For...

- ❖ Over 600 high school and college students were drawn into a deeper relationship with God through weekend retreats at our conference center in January.
- ❖ Lives were changed through the Super Bowl Breakfast

Please pray for...

- ❖ Ed's work in following up with people at the Super Bowl Breakfast who indicated an interest in becoming AIA Game Changer Partners. Pray he will get in touch with people and God will call many of them to partner with AIA.
- ❖ Debbie's surgery on Feb 24 and for a quick recovery afterwards.
- ❖ Effective ministry for each upcoming retreat being hosted at our facilities.
- ❖ Our co-workers, Ben and Susie Thomas, as Susie undergoes treatment for a malignant brain tumor, which was recently removed. She is pregnant and they have 4 young children.

Upcoming Events

February 24: Debbie's surgery

February 26: AIA All-star Breakfast

March 10-11 & 17-18: Ohio Galaxies Showcase Soccer Tournament

March 12-15: AIA March Meetings- All AIA staff from around the USA will gather at our headquarters in Xenia for three days of meetings.

March 31-April 1: Anthony Munoz Impact for Eternity football camp. They will be using the low and high challenge course during this camp.

March 31-April 3: Saline High School (MI) baseball retreat. They will do the challenge course on April 2.

Super Bowl Breakfast Results

- ❖ Tickets sold: 2,100
- ❖ People in the room: 2,000 (approx.)
- ❖ Decisions made to accept Christ: 57
- ❖ Wanted more info about a relationship with Christ: 340
- ❖ Desired to be in a small group study: 172
- ❖ Wanted information about "Game Changers" program: 440 (Ed's job is to follow up with these people)
- ❖ Total Comment Cards received: 1,306

To God be The Glory!

From The Heart (by Debbie)

Ed and I had a wonderful time helping with the Super Bowl Breakfast. My trip to Boston to attend a challenge course conference was also inspiring. However, to be honest, since returning from these trips, I've been thinking a lot about my surgery that is coming up this Friday, February 24. It is not a life-threatening surgery, but it is a major surgery, which will require about two weeks of being home-bound followed by four more weeks of limited activity.

When I think about my surgery in comparison to some co-workers of ours whose pregnant wife recently underwent surgery to remove a malignant brain tumor or in comparison to another friend whose nine-year old son is going through chemotherapy for leukemia, I feel humbled. My surgery seems so inconsequential in comparison to these life-threatening scenarios. Nonetheless, there is still a certain amount of anxiety about going through any surgery,

Both of these families are walking in complete dependence on the Lord. They are resting in God's goodness and being carried through the prayers of numerous people around the world.

I desire to walk through this time with the same confidence that God will take care of me and will provide for every need that me and Ed have. I know He has a plan for us and trust that His ways are higher than mine. We are grateful for the net of caring friends that He has cast around us to support us through this time.

We are truly grateful for your investment in our lives and our ministry as you pray and give so that we can fulfill God's call on our lives!

In His Love,

Ed & Debbie



We had a wonderful time on our delayed honeymoon in the Dominican Republic. I even got my hair braided.