

# LATHAMS' LOG

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## CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH ACTIVITIES



State Champions

We hosted the second state free-style wrestling tournament in our church building. Seventy wrestlers were involved. These are the state champions.

The Central Baptist Church Warriors took first place again. **Rude's** family had seven state champions, including **Carla**. I won my first state title. Next year we will have a new age group—those over 60. Our youngest state champion is three-year-old **Igor**, the son of **Gilson** and **Presilla**. We will start wrestling again in March when the public schools begin classes. We will form a team in a school of 1,700 students. We are still looking for wrestling singlets. If you can help us contact public schools during this wrestling season, let us know, and we will send you a letter of introduction to give to the schools. We are also inviting any wrestlers and coaches to come here and visit us, to teach us some new moves. You can also invite your local schools to come down. It would be a great experience for all of us. If they want to contact me, give them my e-mail address.



Seventy Wrestlers at Our State Tournament



1. Walking with the Lord - our #1 priority
2. Our forms of evangelism will be blessed by visitors in church
3. Someone to come and help us with music—possibly Joy Baxter
4. Our wrestling will be blessed and bring Brazilians to Christ
5. The playground will bring people to Christ
6. Our ladies will be blessed for their passion and kindness
7. Health sufficient to do what God wants
8. Funds to purchase a 25-passenger minibus
9. Offerings to make our loan payment for the purchase of our building

Praise For:

1. Several wrestlers saved
2. New visitors in church
3. A church body who loves us and works well with us
4. People ready for baptism
5. Improved health conditions for Tom
6. Praying stateside friends who make our work possible

C U T A L O N G I N E A L A C E I N D A N E P L A C E I N B I B L E

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## CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH ACTIVITIES

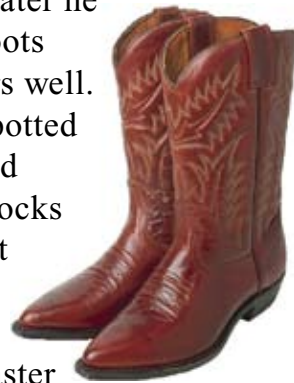


In December we had over 500 public school children use our property. I only allow the public school to use it. They are always calling me to schedule a day. The teachers sit in the shade and drink “chimarrao,” the famous Brazilian green tea served in a green gourd. These preschool kids came with more supervisors than students. They were from a local daycare center. We are making friends for eternity with these contacts

from the public schools. I need to make some repairs on the grounds but cannot do so because the dollar is so low. If you can help us with this project, let us know.

### MAKE YOURSELF CLEAR

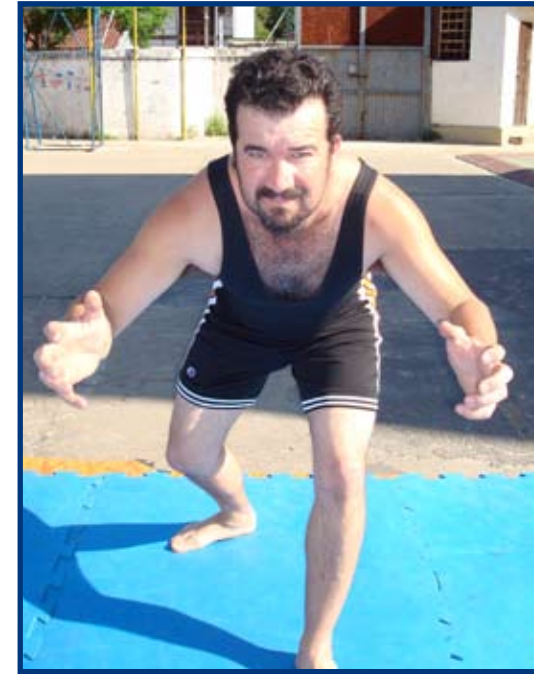
When **Shane** was two years old, he was a cowboy. One day I noticed his cowboy socks could stand up on their own. “Shane, go put on some clean socks,” I ordered. A few hours later he complained, “My feet hoirt.” “How could your feet hurt? I just bought those boots last week. Lay down so I can pull off your boots.” Shane always followed orders well. After pulling the boots off, I noticed the clean socks. Upon pulling off the unspotted socks, I noticed he had just put clean socks on over the dirty ones! He explained himself, “You didn’t say to take the dirty socks off, you just said to put cyean socks on.” He was right! This sounds like the biblical principle of making the trumpet signal clear, so the army knows to attack rather than retreat. When I preach in Brazil, there is no junior church, so I have to be able to stimulate the thinking of the adults and make myself clear to the kids. This is a task I have tried to master in order to keep the kids from falling asleep.



Each prayer letter will feature one wrestler from the public school. This is **Jaciara**. She weighs 154 lbs. She won the state championship. She got saved about a month ago. Her whole family is deeply involved in spiritism. Therefore, she spends a lot of time at Carla’s house. She has drastically changed her lifestyle, including attire, sufficiently enough to cause her parents to ask questions. “What did you do to my daughter?” Her priorities have also changed. She is 17 and starting high school. We have great expectations for her. Pray for her. She recently brought her sister to a youth activity and is always inviting her to church. Jaciara is a blessing to the whole church with her sparking attitude of a new convert.



## CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH ACTIVITIES



**Rude - Assistant Coach**



I have never known anyone with such a demonstrative gift of evangelism as **Rude** and **Carla**. They worm their way into the hearts of kids and their parents. American missionaries living in the next city were teaching sports to use children in immoral ways. Some parents of our wrestlers were concerned. Having Rude and Carla working with us is a positive way to earn confidence, which must be maintained. I find the kids in the public schools, then Rude and Carla love them and win the confidence of their parents. We make a good team. **Jaciara** and **Rayani** are standing in the back. Rayani’s mother is sitting to Carla’s left. The girls spend a lot of time at Carla’s house on weekends, learning to walk the Christian life and how to dress properly. They are having lunch outside under a shady tree.



**Church Members in Action**



We had our second Christmas Walkthrough. It was well done but poorly attended. We did the best we could to get the event advertised, but still only 150 people came and only 25 non-Christians. Since it cost the church over \$1,000 to put it on, we have decided our time and money would be better used if we took the colorful nativity story to the public school where we will have thousands watching. We need a Christmas Chick tract to give them. We can have our address printed on the back if we order 10,000. It takes three months for the shipment to get here. If you can help us with this project, let us know.