

## News Advisory

Contact: **Lon Swartzentruber**  
**616.574.6383 direct/office**  
**616.516.9870 cell**

### **Grand Rapids Christian Athletic Stadium Closing Ceremony Friday, October 20, 2006**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Oct. 19, 2006** – Members of the news media are invited to attend the closing ceremony of Grand Rapids Christian Athletic Stadium, located on the campus of Grand Rapids Christian High School, 2300 Plymouth SE, where attendees will remember the past and celebrate the future at the closing ceremony of the 35-year old athletic stadium.

**The evening festivities are as follows:**

**Friday, October 20, 2006**

**Grand Rapids Christian High School Athletic Stadium, 2300 Plymouth SE**

**4:30 p.m.**

**JV game: Grand Rapids Christian High vs. Catholic Central**

**Pre-game festivities**

**Tailgate party**

**Face painting**

**Opportunity to purchase old memorabilia and classic, throw-back t-shirts**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Varsity game: Grand Rapids Christian High vs. Catholic Central**

**Half time special moments (approximately 8:15 p.m.)**

**Post-game extravaganza immediately following the varsity game**

**Video highlights**

**Former high school athletes and coaches will be recognized as  
outstanding athletes during their high school career**

This celebration is the part of the *Get Healthy* Funding Initiative for Grand Rapids Christian Schools – which announced on August 29, 2006 the public phase of a \$25 million funding initiative to retire a significant portion of its long-term debt, build endowment, and make needed capital improvements. The *Get Healthy* funding initiative is the largest fundraising effort undertaken by Grand Rapids Christian Schools in its more than 100-year history.

Highlights of the planned capital improvements include completely renovating the 35-year old athletic stadium that is shared by Grand Rapids Christian High and Ottawa Hills Public High School, building a new auxiliary gymnasium to augment athletic and fitness programs, and renovating the existing gymnasium on the campus of Grand Rapids Christian High. In addition, the campaign will provide funding for repairs at all seven Grand Rapids Christian School campuses.

The *Get Healthy* co-chairs leading this effort are Doug '78 and Chris Bouwer, Doug '82 and Maria DeVos, Greg '74 and Betsy Schierbeek and Bob'76 and Cheri '78 VanderWeide.

“We are excited to help lead a campaign that not only will make Grand Rapids Christian Schools financially healthier, but that also will enhance the health and physical well being of students,” said Bob and Cheri VanderWeide, who are helping lead the construction and renovation effort.

**Media interested in attending the closing ceremonies are asked to call Lon Swartzentruber, Executive Director, Grand Rapids Christian Schools Foundation, 616.574.6383 or 616.516.9870.**

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