



CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

THOMAS S. VANDER WOUDE MEMORIAL SCHOLAR ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP

Thomas Vander Woude, 66, died on September 8, 2008, in a tragic accident at his house in Nokesville, Virginia, while saving his 20-year-old son, Joseph, from drowning. He gave the ultimate sacrifice of his life so that his youngest son might live and in doing so crowned a life of service to his family and those around him which can only be summed up by the words of Christ Himself, “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. GREATER LOVE HAS NO MAN THAN THIS, TO LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS.” (JN 15:12-13)

As Athletic Director from 2002-2007, Vander Woude coached the men’s basketball and soccer teams. He touched many students’ lives in his time at Christendom, whether it was his textbook smile that he wore at all times or his genuine friendly demeanor that showed an interest in each and every person and their pursuits. Vander Woude was always more concerned with the type of man or woman a person was becoming than the type of athlete they were, to the extent that he would remind his basketball team to go to confession before each road trip just in case something might happen. In addition, Vander Woude always went out of his way to know and care about others’ personal situations and concerns.

In addition to his great love of his Faith and his Family, Vander Woude also had a great love for sports, in particular its role in the development of young men and women. From his days of playing football in South Dakota, to his last days of coaching the junior varsity at Seton High School he always enjoyed sports. Vander Woude loved the competition of sports and how young people could be formed in virtues and character from the participation and competition in athletics. It is for this reason that this scholarship is fitting to be named in his memory. A natural leader, by word sometimes, but always by example, and so this scholarship will help to enable student-athletes to attend Christendom College which Vander Woude loved so much.



PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The goal of this award is to enable potential student-athletes to attend Christendom who have demonstrated excellence in academics, athletics and leadership while being dedicated to the mission of the College “to restore all things in Christ, by forming men and women to contribute to the Christian renovation of the temporal order.” The recipients will be one of high ideals and character who exemplifies the attributes shown by Mr. Thomas Vander Woude, those of integrity, discipline, and self-sacrificing love.

- QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS

- **Freshmen-** Award will be given to two new incoming full-time freshmen students
- **Acceptance-** Student(s) must have already have been accepted by the college or their acceptance to Christendom must come prior to acceptance of this award.
- **GPA-** Students should have a GPA of a 3.0 or higher to qualify. *
- **SAT-** Students should have scored a combined SAT score of a 1650 (all three sections) or an ACT score of a 24 or shown higher excellence on the GED. *
- **Participation-** Student(s) must have participated in at least one varsity level high school sport during their time in high school.
- **Leadership-** Student(s) must have exhibited outstanding character and leadership both in athletics and other arenas such as church or social groups.
- **Character** – Student(s) should exemplify exceptional character especially in the areas of personal decisions, teamwork, service and dedication to Christian values which were evident in the life of Thomas S. Vander Woude.

- APPLICATION PROCESS

- **Deadline-** Applicant will submit a completed application and a letter of recommendation to the Athletic Department no later than March 1st.
- **Review-** Applications and the letter of recommendation will be reviewed by the Director of Athletics and the Scholarship advisory committee to determine recipients.
- **Notification of Award-** Director of Athletics will notify the recipient of the award by April 15

- LOSS OF SCHOLARSHIP

The following items in addition to any specific items as decided by the Director of Athletics may result in the lessening or complete loss of the scholarship:

- Suspension or expulsion from Christendom College for any reason.
- GPA of lower than a 2.5 in any given semester or cumulative.
- Not playing at least 1 varsity intercollegiate sport per academic year.
- Repeated disciplinary problems and any other reasons deemed serious enough by the Director of Athletics or Dean of Students.
- Behavior unbecoming of a Christian including actions which jeopardize or scandalize the scholarship, The Athletic Department or Christendom College.



- SPECIFICS OF THE AWARD

- **Two Scholarships-** Will be awarded per matriculation year to the recipient.
- **Length-** Scholarship is given for a maximum of 4 years.
 - If a student leaves the college for any reason, none of which forced the loss of the scholarship; the student may reapply when he or she returns to the college provided the scholarship for that matriculation year is available.
 - Once the student leaves the college, the award is available for application among other student-athletes in that specific class.
- **Financial-** The scholarship although being merit based may also take into consideration an individual's financial need as well.
- **Amount-** The scholarship award will offer \$4,000 per year to the recipient for all four years as long as the criteria are met.
- **Expectations**
 - Recipients are expected to:
 - Play at least 1 varsity sport per academic year.
 - Communicate often with Athletic Director of team coaches.
 - Strive to grow in leadership centered on service to others especially their teammates and classmates.

IV. Essays

Please complete essays for the following questions on a separate piece of paper and submit with the application. Essays should be between 200-300 words. Please remember you are competing against other applicants for this award so please be extensive in your essays:

- 1. Please write about any leadership programs or outreach events you have participated in and enjoyed, these can be anything from sports, to leadership camps, to other groups.**
- 2. Please comment on how you feel sports can be a way of evangelization in the modern world.**

V. Letters of Recommendation

- 1. Please have 2 letters of recommendation sent to the below address from a coach, teacher or athletic director on the topic of your leadership or character or athletic ability and how you would impact Christendom and the sports team that you would participate in.**

VI. Please email video clips of your performance to athletics@christendom.edu or you mail a DVD to the address below to the attention of: *TVW Scholarship Review*

PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION AND ESSAYS TO:

**CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE
PATRICK QUEST
ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
134 CHRISTENDOM DR.
FRONT ROYAL, VA 22630**