

DESIRE, DETERMINATION, DEDICATION

DELTA STATE BASKETBALL

HEART

To become a winning athlete, you must be hungry: hungry for success, hungry for victory, hungry to simply be the best you can be. It starts with a dream, but somehow, somehow, you must be inspired or you will never be able to reach your dream, your goal.

Desire is sometimes more important than talent or even a healthy body. Desire is what motivated the boy with burned legs to set the world record in the mile run and the young girl with polio to become an Olympic champion swimmer. These stories go on and on and on, because the human spirit and its thirst to overcome the near impossible is unquenchable.

I believe that sometimes not to be handicapped however is to be handicapped. If somehow you are not inspired, you will never do it ... you will never get your edge, the winning edge, and you will never reach your goal. Because, without a true love for your sport and a burning desire to be great to accomplish something outstanding, to something special with your life, you will never be able to push yourself to do what must be done. It will be too easy to just cruise through a practice now and then, to take a day off, to not work your hardest. A coach can help you by telling you what needs to be done and how often to do it. But you have to supply the rest. Only you, you with your burning desire to succeed, can push yourself when you're tired, can make yourself work when outside distractions start to come your way. Only you can focus your desire upon achieving your goals no matter what!

Once you have the desire, it's the determination and dedication that will carry you to your goal. Keep your mind on the things you want and off the things you don't want. It sounds simple doesn't it?

The relentless quest, the energy that keeps you going day after day, is your sheer determination. There are no short cuts in the world of athletics – only goals to be set and goals to be achieved, competition to be faced, adversity to overcome. Only the truly will ever come close to attaining their goals.

Lack of opportunity is often nothing more than a lack of purpose or direction. You have set a goal, you have a purpose, you have direction, you know where you are going and how you are going to get there. Now be more determined than the next guy or the next team to stay the course and steadfastly reach your goals and achieve what is yours to have. Accomplish something special with your life, something that no one can take from you, something that you will treasure forever and ever – **A Championship!**