

Young Unificationist Jason Tobkin honored by City Council of Fairfield

Michael Lamson
September 2, 2011



Jason Tobkin, a member of the Unification Church and Columbus LOVIN' LIFE Ministries was recognized for his achievements by the City of Fairfield, Ohio. July 12, 2011 was proclaimed "Jason Tobkin Day".

Jason, a Second Generation Unificationist was recognized as a National Volleyball Champion.

In 2005, in Jason's senior year in high school, he was recruited to play for The Ohio State University Buckeyes Volleyball Team by head coach Pete Hanson. Anyone would jump at such an opportunity, but Jason explained to Coach Hanson that he was going to volunteer for one year with his church (STF) before continuing his studies. Coach Hanson accepted this change, and Jason went to STF for one year. In 2006 Jason started Ohio State University (OSU) and began to practice with the Buckeye Volleyball team as a Red-shirt freshman.

Jason practiced "natural witnessing" while playing sports and attending classes. He was always happy to share his faith and the wisdom it provided. He started with one of his friends the practice of praying together before each game as a friend, and many parents commented on the content of his prayers. Jason became the internal grounding point for the team.

Jason left his mark on the men's-volleyball school records as well. In his final year at OSU he set the Buckeye Men's Volleyball record by serving 8 aces in a match against Princeton University. He was also named the All-Conference Team in this year's conference finals.

On May 5th 2011 Jason and the Buckeyes defeated Penn State University in the NCAA National Semifinals match, which put them in the championship match with the University of California. OSU had made it into the championships only twice before but never won. With Jason's help, this year they did, and for the first time in Ohio State Buckeyes Mens Volleyball history, they became the NCAA National Mens Volleyball Champions .

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The City of Fairfield is pleased to recognize Fairfield High School alumni Jason Tobkin for his recent achievement with The Ohio State Men's Volleyball Team; and

WHEREAS: Jason Tobkin began his freshman year at The Ohio State in the fall of 2006. Having played volleyball for four years in high school, Jason joined the Ohio State Men's Volleyball Team in 2007. The skills he developed in high school were refined in college making him a valuable member of the team. He recently completed his senior season as an outside hitter; and

WHEREAS: On May 7th, the men's volleyball team advanced to a final win against UC Santa Barbara with a score of 3-2. This important win led to the Ohio State Men's volleyball team winning the NCAA Championship for the first time. Jason assisted in his team's victory with multiple kills and blocks; and

WHEREAS: Having recently graduated with a degree in Construction Systems Management, Jason has returned to Fairfield where he now resides with his wife Jennifer; and

WHEREAS: The City of Fairfield is pleased to recognize Jason in the following manner for his recent athletic achievement and the honor he has brought to the Ohio State University Men's Volleyball Team and the City of Fairfield.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronald A. D'Epifanio, Mayor of the City of Fairfield, Ohio, do hereby proclaim

TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2011

JASON TOBKIN DAY

In the City of Fairfield, Ohio and on behalf of the residents of this community, I extend to Jason and the entire Ohio State Men's Volleyball Team, our sincere congratulations on this historic Championship win. Further, I offer best wishes to Jason on all his future endeavors and welcome him home to Fairfield.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Fairfield, Ohio to be affixed this 5th day of July in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eleven.

Ronald A. D'Epifanio
Mayor Ronald A. D'Epifanio
City of Fairfield, Ohio

In recognition of his accomplishments, on January 11, 2011 Jason was asked to attend a meeting of the Fairfield, Ohio City Council, where Mayor Ron D'Epifanio presented Jason with a Proclamation stating July 12, 2011 to be "Jason Tobkin Day" for his athletic achievements and the honor he has brought to The Ohio State Men's Volleyball Team, Fairfield High School and the City of Fairfield.