

Nativity shows colors abroad

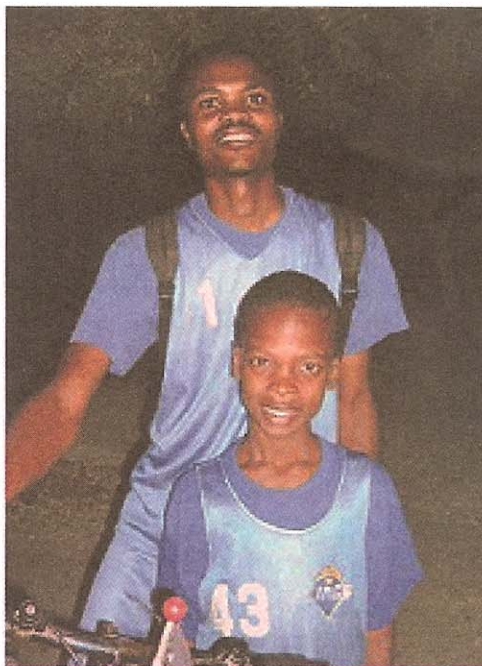
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Student athletes in Haiti and Guatemala are sporting Nativity blue and white thanks to the Nativity Boosters.

Earlier this year, coaches Mark Reese and Bill Hagerty and girls basketball coordinator Missi Bain rounded up used basketball team uniforms, discarded when all the boys' teams and the third-fourth- and fifth-grade girls teams received new uniforms.

Reese, the immediate past president of Boosters who co-coordinates Nativity baseball and coaches his son's teams in baseball and daughter's team in basketball, sent one batch to school children in The Lifeline Christian School in Grand Goave, Haiti, through Lifeline Christian Missions. The Westerville, Ohio-based group (www.lifeline.org) carries out mission work in Haiti, as well as Honduras, Cuba, El Salvador and the United States.

Hagerty, coordinator of basketball and a longtime coach, sent another



Junior Pinchinat (back) and Claubento Gateau (front) wear Nativity blue and white on Haitian playing fields.

batch of Nativity uniforms to Guatemala, where girls and boys in a Village of San Vicente Buenebay school are wearing them for basketball and soccer. He coordinated the donation through Cooperative for Education (www.coeduc.org), a Cincinnati-based group that provides textbooks and other educational assistance to fight poverty in Guatemala.

The motivation for the donation was simple, according to Reese. "Even though the uniforms were 'old and worn out' for use as Nativity basketball uniforms, they still had plenty of life left for less fortunate children," he said.

The lightweight jerseys are especially appreciated in the Haitian heat, he noted.

The donation to the Basic Education Establishment in Guatemala was appreciated, too, in a village where agriculture is the primary source of income and where the average family, numbering eight people, earns \$3 a day.

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