

It is not the size of the dog in the fight, it is the size of the fight in the dog.

-Mark Twain

As I sit here and ponder my own childhood, I think about all the excuses I made because I believed I was undersized. I would say there was always someone bigger or that there was always someone stronger. This was just an attempt to get out of working harder. It is true, there may always be someone bigger or stronger, but instead of using that reality as a rationale to give up, it should be motivation. There is something to be admired about those who don't make excuses and consistently work hard no matter what. The old adage, "There is always someone working harder", is meant to inspire and fuel motivation, not serve as just another excuse to skip hard work. The drive to work hard is important in all aspects of life; school, employment and sports. Our Athlete of the Month, Cam Carter, has never uttered an excuse, consistently putting forth his best effort and always striving to do better.

Cam has been a constant presence at the facility since the doors opened four years ago. If there was a cot at the club he would probably sleep in it. Cam will sign up for any clinic he believes is going to help him improve his skills. There really is no obstacle or barrier that can or will prevent him from perfecting his craft. Last year Cam broke his leg and still, he was there every day working with his team and helping any way he could. Bill Berman, Cam's Bandit Coach stated, "*Camden receiving the Athlete of the Month is a well-deserved honor. He has been a leader for several years with our Bandit teams, at the BBC and off the field. His attitude is always positive. His work ethic is second to none and he is always engaged with his teammates, the task at hand and making the most of his opportunities. He is the ultimate Bandit. He personifies the grit we are trying to teach*".

Coach Jay Schnabel also had some kind words to say about Cam. He said, "*I started working with Camden last year. We specifically worked on hitting and defense. I realized early on that his heart and desire outweigh his physical appearance. Like any young player, we focused on development. We paid particular attention to developing his confidence. I emphasized on teaching Camden how to "play big" and get the most out of his size. The past year has been a pleasure and honor pushing Cam to his limits and watching him continue to push himself. Lately, I have seen in Cam more passion and desire than ever before. He is at a point with his training now where both of us can't wait for the season to begin. I am very impressed with the intensity Camden has brought to the club and I anticipate a great season ahead. Keep up the great work Cam!*"

Cam's work ethic is not limited to the baseball diamond. Cam as a 6th grader at South Middle School has transitioned smoothly to the new school and environment and excels in his classes. He has also implemented values learned from his coaches to his own life, assisting with his sister's soccer team in the fall and helping with Challenger program at Braintree American Little League. We are very proud of Cam and he is very deserving of Athlete of the Month.

Thanks for being a great role model to your fellow peers,
Jim Joyce