

Skidmore College and the  
Hudson Valley Team

August, 2006

## Coming Soon to a Staff Worker Near You...

### September

**NSO:** New Student Outreach. We will hand out water bottles, host dorm receptions, have a table at club fair, and hold a great kick-off meeting to reach out to new students on campus.

### October

**Expedition '06:** Upstate NY will host our fall discipleship retreat, which I will be directing. This is the first time I have had the responsibility of serving as the overall director of a retreat.

### On-going

#### Discipling and Leadership

**Development:** A huge part of my time this semester will be spent building disciples and leaders who are more and more committed to Jesus.

**Supervision:** I continue to supervise the work of IVCF in the Hudson Valley.

## Calling All Pray-ers!

New students will be moving in to Skidmore on September 3rd. This is a crucial time for us to get down on our knees and ask God to move in our midst.

I've purposely kept this letter shorter than usual. My deep desire is that you simply pray for us as we enter the new year. And though the language of these prayer requests is particular to Skidmore, they can easily be used to offer up prayers for any campus God has laid on your heart as a new year of ministry begins on all of our college & university campuses.

Pray for **me and the student leaders** as they return early to pray and plan. Due to some extenuating circumstances, we did very little planning at the end of last year. Simply put, we have a *lot* of work to do this weekend (Sept.1-3) to prepare for new (and old) students to arrive. Pray that the **Holy Spirit is present and active** as we meet and prepare. Pray that the plans that I have on my heart and the plans that the students have on theirs are one in the same, and more importantly that they're the **plans that God has on His heart for His purposes to be done on campus.**

Pray for **Christian freshmen.** Imagine walking into a place where only 1 or 2% of the population (if that) believes the things you believe. And then imagine that of those 1 or 2%, only about half actually have the courage to live it out on campus. Pray for those students who are committed to Christ and are coming into Skidmore this fall, that God will give them a **holy boldness** to live for Him during their time in college. Pray that they **find fellowship** (on campus and in a local church) quickly. Pray that, from the beginning, they would have **eyes to see the campus the way God sees it**, and that they would draw others who might be questioning (roommates, dormmates, classmates) to the Lord.

Pray for **seeking students** (i.e., everyone else). College freshmen are on a quest to "find themselves." Pray that these new students (and the old ones too) would **find themselves quickly.** Pray that they'd be **excited to find that they are loved children of God**, whose lives have purpose and meaning. Pray that the **Christian fellowship will be available to these students**, to help them in their quest, and that **many new relationships with Jesus would be formed** even in the first two months of school.

Pray for **me and Miriam**, a sophomore, as we co-lead the **freshmen small group.** Pray that **many students come**, both who know Jesus and who want to know him. Pray that people **commit** to each other, to being there every week. This is often a big struggle at a place where there are so many options of things to do, but consistency and commitment are crucial to successful community-building. Pray also that this is a great opportunity for **me to help Miriam grow** in faith, discipleship and leadership.

Pray for great **follow-up.** If we follow-up with people, they'll stay, and grow, and our impact and witness on campus will increase. If we don't, well, none of that will happen. Pray that the current students understand the importance of follow-up, and then do it well.

Thanks for your partnership in praying! Keep watching my website, as there will be more prayer requests there in the coming weeks and months...