

STAR SOUTH

By Ryan Moore / Star correspondent
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ENTREPRENEUR OFFERS WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Jonathan Faber is a guitarist, an attorney, a writer and the president of CMG Worldwide -- and he's only 30.

His quick road to success inspired a crowd of Franklin College students who watched him speak in the campus chapel Tuesday.

Faber told students that if they want to excel in life, they need to believe in themselves so others can believe in them.

He has that part mastered. The son of a recording artist, Faber is the leader of CMG Worldwide, an Indianapolis-based company that protects intellectual property rights. The firm also has offices in Los Angeles and Rio de Janeiro.

His clientele includes the estates of Vince Lombardi, Babe Ruth, James Dean, Marilyn Monroe and Princess Diana.

Faber's job is to protect these people and their estates from others who look to profit from their images.

His career is even more noteworthy, considering Faber's early trials in school. He was the kind of kid who brought trading cards of the rock band KISS to class at his Christian school.

"I think they had some reservations with that," he joked.

But he did know that music was in his future. In eighth grade, he picked up a guitar and found his passion.

Faber wanted to find a way to pursue academics with a music career. And that's where college came in.

Majoring in English and music, he attended Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio, and then decided on law school.

Law school brought him to Indiana, where he received his law degree from Indiana University School of Law. At law school, Faber learned that the power of public speaking was invaluable, no matter what career one chooses.

Faber recalls doing mock court competitions. "It was nerve-racking, but one day a light bulb went off, and I realized this was the best place I could be at that moment in time because of all the same reasons that I didn't want to be there. Learning to confront fear, face it head on, and even welcome it is a sort of mental hat trick."

Senior Kyle Gormon said Faber's career path shows that a law school education can lead to many avenues in the job market.

"His best advice was to live life with a positive attitude each day, to reinvent yourself each day and to speak with conviction and confidence," Gormon said.

"Have faith," Faber told the audience. "Sometimes it felt like a series of accidents, but I believe I was led to CMG."