

True to the Game
By: Poetic_Muse

Defense
Offense
Rebound
Score!

Are commands that are often used in the game of Basketball, but to one man, Edward Allin Jr, they represented his life and the way he would run his unforgettable teams.

They are the commands that have since then, made the man a legend in his own right...the way he never gave in to petty politics, racial tricks, or discriminating circumstance...he gave everyone a chance in spite of their skin, some may say that back in those days he would be considered a rebel, a chance taker, a pain in the side of injustice...But on this day, he is honored for crossing those barriers of prejudices.

* * * * *

Defend! Defend! Here I am yelling again to this knuckleheaded team that seems to not want to listen to my way, not understanding that the day I decided to play my five best men first would be the day I was cursed by so many ignorant folks who care more about the color of a man's skin than the win of the game,

It's a shame that talent is secondary to political, whimsical natures of men here,

Don't seem to want to give my young guys a chance here,

But I plan to play them anyway cause fair is fair and I want a win today.

Can't win the game if some of my best players are benched for political fame...

If I want them to run a great defense on the floor, I have to run an even greater defense behind the door of racial divide, besides...

I get a kick out of the faces that fill the spaces in the crowd...

And how the noise goes from non-existent to LooouuuuuD! Kinda funny,,,how shooting winning baskets can change attitude from glum to chummy! Maybe this won't be so bad after all...

* * * * *

Offense! Offense! Go for the score! Attack the basket! Secure the shot, here they go again, good listener's they're not! Perhaps I will bring them to the sideline and use some of that colorful language of mine....I hear I need a sensor beep when I speak whenever I feel dismayed, said my mouth is tough as nails, sound like sailors on parade...whatever, it gets the point across, gets my baskets made.

I wonder if they are aware of the offensive plays I do, one that does not require a court or a pair of basketball shorts and chuck tailor shoes.

One where I attacked community "who's" for their chance to play ball

If they knew my fight as their basketball coach, I'm sure I wouldn't have to curse at all.

But I would do it anyway, because it makes me feel...powerful.

* * * * *

Are you crazy!!! Rebound! Rebound! Recover the ball and go!!! Need to fight for the right to score, ball don't just bounce in your hands on this floor, gotta go get it, got to take possession,, with this team of misfits, no wonder I am stressing...guess back to basics.

Perhaps if I explained the way I rebounded this team, fought for their talents, and for their abilities not only as athletes but as promising young men, I would never have to yell REBOUND!!! Again, but hey.. they don't need to know everything.

I see that my my stern abilities have not gone ignored, that my straight walk, loud talk, and distinctive sense of humor have made volatile impacts on this ol' floor, because now that they have listened, and have changed all their ways, the falls in our court, the speed is on our side, the fans have opened the door...

The forward's in motion despite political devotion

And all that is left is to....Score!!!

And according to history...We did!

In dedication to Coach Ed Allin Jr.

Poetry by The Muse

A Desioriginal Exclusive

Contact Info: Desiree Jackson

Desiree.jackson75@gmail.com