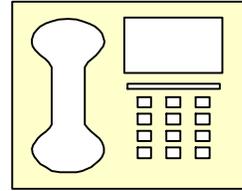


Patrice's Big Day

Story By: Makenzie J.



Great News...

It finally happened, Patrice got the wonderful news, she made the basketball team. Coach Shunda called Patrice's parents to let them know when the first practice would be. When her parents informed her that she had made the team, she could hardly wait for her first practice day.

Waiting Time...

The night before her first practice she could barely sleep. Patrice tossed and turned all night long. She even woke up a couple of times too. One time she looked at her alarm clock and it was only 3:30 in the morning. With a sigh, Patrice wondered if morning would ever come. When morning finally did arrive, Patrice jumped out of bed, and raced into her parent's room to wake them up. She was so noisy and excited, she even woke up her baby sister, Kendall.

Patrice was fully dressed and ready to go by the time the rest of her family got out of bed.

Practice Day...

At practice she discovered, that the team she was assigned to was the OKC Thunder. "Crash!" Her dream to play on the Heat had been crushed. Even though she did not get to play for the Heat, it didn't stop her from wanting to play basketball. Now, the next thing that happened to Patrice was unbelievable. She was placed on an all boys team. She was a little upset about being the only girl on her team. Patrice did not quit though. She practiced for weeks with her new teammates. She would be the star on the team. Patrice had even been practicing at home with her dad in the back yard. By their first game, she knew that she was ready.

Game Day...

On game day, Patrice was so happy to put on her team jersey with her number on it. "Number six," Patrice said excitedly.

Their first basketball game was against the Celtics. Patrice was so nervous because the boys on her team had been playing basketball for years. She also noticed that most of the Celtics were a lot bigger than her. This was her very first year.

All four quarters of the game, Patrice got lots of support from her friends and family that came to watch her play. In fact, fans were yelling for her to get the ball and shoot it. Fans would shout " Get the ball Patrice." "Shoot the ball, Patrice". " Get the rebound Patrice." This really made her even more nervous during the game. She tried and tried to get the ball but couldn't.

Then it happened, she got a rebound. Now, what should I do, wondered Patrice. She did what everybody told her to do. She shot the ball AND made the shot. Patrice was so proud of herself for making her shot, she nearly cried.

The Celtics team's fans and the Thunder fans, all went wild. The Celtic fans were so happy because Patrice shot the ball in their goal. They got the points. The Thunder fans were going wild because they could not believe what had just happened. Patrice was so EMBARRASSED!!! She felt like running out of that gym and all the way home.

After the game was over and the Celtics had won, almost everyone told her that it was just a mistake. They told her that everyone makes mistakes. Then the coach decided to take everyone out to eat to celebrate their first game of the season.