

The Time for Winners

We had about 4 seconds on the clock. My teammate Norman Hughes was looking for somebody to inbound it to. I was running through all the screens I could. Finally, I got open, Norman found me. I caught the ball, and dribbled to the three point line. I pulled up from the three in the right wing. I got the shot of just in time. It soared through the air. Up, up, up. Bang! With double zeroes on the clock. Game winner.

So, my teammates and I were hyped. We had finally lead our team to the championship. We had just one more game. I got in our car, and we drove home. We got home and I had some mac n' cheese. "Hey dad, I'm gonna get some shots up." "Okay Stephen, but be careful." So, I had no energy left in the tank, but I started shooting, and I kept playing, layups, threes, dunks, mid-range, deep threes, they were all there. All of them were my weapons.

Finally, it got dark I headed inside, and went upstairs. I watched the game winner over and over again. I thought to myself, "Just one more game Stephen, and then you have the championship." I clearly knew what I had to do.

I woke up the next morning, today was a Friday. I woke up got some breakfast and headed to the bus stop. When I got into the classroom, everybody was clapping and yelling " Stephen is clutch bum bum bum bum bum." The teacher, Mrs. Roberts, had everybody stop yelling and said, "Congratulations Stephen, great game." So, the school day went on and it was a normal Friday. I came home and went to my room. I knew that tomorrow was the big game. It was the Warriors my team against the Celtics.

Game day. Today was the big game. Warriors vs Celtics. I got to the arena a bit early, I challenged my inner Kobe and got some shots up. After a few hours I was ready. It was tip-off time, the Celtics won the tip-off. They put up a lot of points, but it was still a close game. I ran to the hoop and threw down a monster dunk. "Wow, what a dunk," the commentator yelled. But, Kyle Walker the Celtics' star, couldn't be stopped. "Walker for three. BANG!" It was the end of the first quarter. The score was 35-30, the Celtics were winning. In the second half, we came out hot , going on a 16-7 run. The score was now 57-47, we were winning. We had about 6 minutes left in the first half. The Celtics were starting to mount a comeback. The score was now 60-58. There was 2 minutes left in the first half. I dribbled to the corner and shot a mid-range shot. It went in and we were up by four. Kyle Walker, though, just walked down to the logo and shot the three and made it. The score was now 62-61. We dribbled out the clock, and now it was halftime.

Halftime ended, and we were getting ready for the 3rd quarter. We started out with the ball and we started out slow. The Celtics and Kyle Walker came out hot. The score was 72-65. We had the ball and I caught the pass. I dribbled to the three point line and took the shot and made it. The score was now 72-68. Time passed by and the score was now 84-87, we were winning with about 3 minutes left in the 3rd quarter. The 3rd quarter ended and the score was 90-92.

The 4th quarter started and the Celtics had the ball. Kyle Walker shot a three and missed it. I got the rebound and drove to the hoop. When I was driving my ankle rolled and I fell to the ground. I was holding my ankle and thinking to myself "We've lost, we've lost, we've lost." I was helped off the court. But, as soon as I got inside the tunnel I thought to myself "I am not losing." I headed back out to the court. Everyone was surprised, "Stephen Russell does not want to quit." I came back in and as soon as I did, Kyle Walker knocked down a three to make the score 93-92. I got the ball and I ran as fast as I could, I leapt up and I layed it in. There was 6 minutes left. With about three minutes left, the score was 101-101. The game was tied. I got the ball and shot a deep three. It went in. But, Kyle Walker came right back and hit a three of his own. He had 28 points, I had 30. I came back and dunked the ball. We had just a minute left. The score was 108-108. Kyle Walker shot the ball and made it. 2 points. I came back and shot a mid-range. 2 points. Score is 110-110. We had 32 seconds left. Kyle Walker shot a three but he

missed it. I came back and shot a three. I made it. The score was 113-110. Kyle Walker came up and shot a three, but this time he made it. The game is tied with 10 seconds left. I get the ball and I dribble. Kyle Walker is defending me. I dribble for about 3 seconds. I go to the logo. I cross Walker up. I then gear up. I shoot the ball with 2 seconds left. It sails in the air and it drops down into the hoop. Everybody is going crazy. Fans are yelling. I look up and say to myself "Mom, this is for you." We all celebrate as we won the championship. I won the Finals MVP as well. I hugged my teammates and felt like I had accomplished my dream goal. A championship.