

This is supplementary material for Jenn Stewart, Emily Thompson, Anna N. McDonald, and Andrea Schurr's webtext, "Developing Symbiotic Institutional Partnerships: An FYC and Library Collaboration to Increase Multimodal Instruction," published in *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy*, 28(2), available at <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/28.2/praxis/stewart-et-al/index.html>

MY BASKETBALL EXPERIENCES

BY:



COVER LETTER

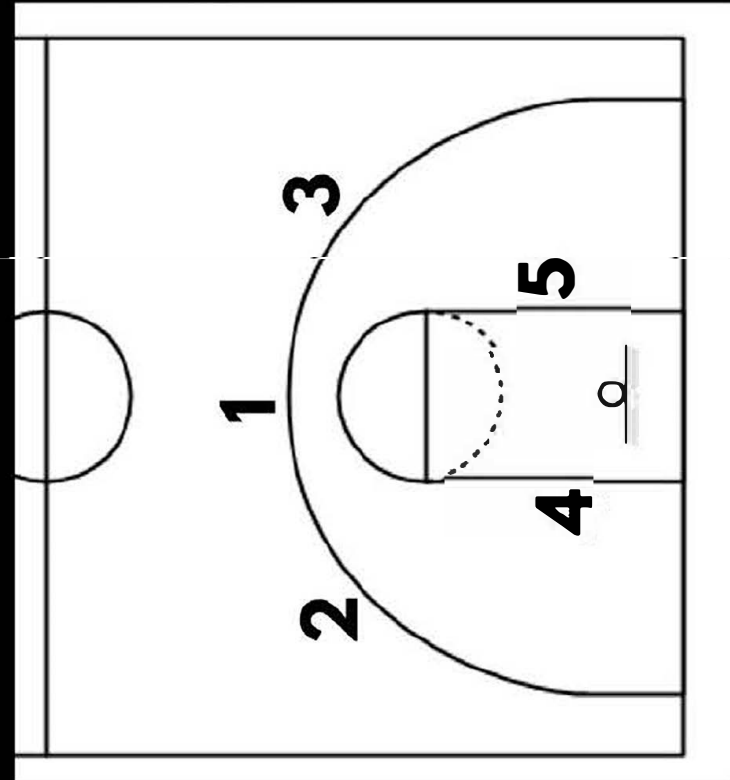
- I drew the reader in with emotion and I feel like this is something a lot of people can relate to that have played sports.
- I think I did a good job presenting my project visually and with drama.
- It was very easy for me to tell my story and to set the scene. The most difficult part was trying to get it to flow together.
- I choose old pictures of me playing basketball and I also created a image showing the positions in basketball.
- A connection to their life.
- I learned about sponsors and how they really do have a big impact.
- My audience is young sport athletes because I feel like that's who will connect with this the most.

When I was younger I started off playing softball and being a cheerleader. I figured out very early on that wasn't what I wanted to do. Then one day my uncle told me that he was going to sign me up for basketball at the YMCA. I was only in first grade and I didn't know anything about it and on top of that I had to play with all boys. I was scared at first but I ended up adjusting to it and fitting in just fine with them. At the YMCA, they are pretty lenient with the rules of basketball so I honestly didn't learn much as far as how to play the game.



I played everyday at school during recess and during gym with the boys and I feel like that's really when it all started. They didn't treat me any differently or go easy on me because I was a girl but I'm glad they didn't. Boy's are naturally stronger and faster than girls so I had to go harder when I was playing just so I could keep up with them. I had the biggest heart and drive out of all of them. I felt like I had something to prove. They taught me almost everything I know.

BASKETBALL POSITIONS



1. Point Guard - Ball handler who acts as a playmaker.
2. Shooting guard - Usually the best shooter. Helps support the point guard.
3. Small forward - Main scorer
4. Power forward - Usually one of the tallest people. Blocks shots and scores easy baskets
5. Center - Usually one of the tallest people. Blocks shots and scores easy baskets

I saw this one boy shoot and lean back and yell, "Fade". I went home and searched up, "What is a fade in basketball?" I learned that it was a move to create space from a defender when shooting the ball and it's short for "Fadeaway". The next day at recess I was shooting fadeaways the whole time. They would yell out "Buckets" everytime I made it or "Swish" if the ball went into the net without touching the rim. I played point guard because dribbling just came natural to me. They would all tell me I had "handles" which means I was good at handling the ball. They ended up making me better because whenever I played with the girls my age it was a lot easier for me.

When I went to middle school no one my age could keep up with me. I was in the 6th grade and my coach moved me up to play with the 8th graders. I was so small and skinny compared to them but I still held my own. I just felt like I wanted it more than everyone. The 8th graders didn't like the fact that I was playing up with them but I didn't care, I was just having fun. The kids at school would call me a "Walking Bucket". That basically means a person is good at basketball and that they can score the ball with ease. People would always tell me that if I stuck with basketball that I would go far.



When I entered high school everything was going good at first. I was a freshman starting for varsity. I was where I wanted to be but that made the other girls upset. They all started to talk about me behind my back and be mean to me. On top of that I feel like my coach would like for us to compete against each other and argue. We were supposed to be a team and work together and not hate each other.

I started dreading going to basketball practice and even playing in games. I would cry sometimes because I was good and I felt like it was meant for me to play but, my love for the game was starting to "fade".

It was starting to consume my life. I was playing because everyone said I should, not for me. It was hard because it was all I've ever known. I know everything about basketball, all the terms, the slang, the rules, and I'm the point guard so I have court vision that other people wouldn't have. I will always have love for the game because it has taught me many life lessons that I will carry with me for the rest of my life. Now I feel like it's time for a new chapter in my life.

