

Wizards vs. Bobcats

By Ellen
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“DE-FENSE!” boom, boom. “DE-FENSE!” screams the crowd. The stands roar in approval as the Wizards make a rebound, stealing the ball from the Bobcats. I scream and shout with the crowd. The score is 102 to 104 with the Bobcats in the lead.

I am in the MCI Center, watching the basketball game Wizards versus the Bobcats. The Washington Wizards represent my metro area, and I dearly want them to win. The stadium is huge! There are so many seats and so many people! My seat is at the topmost tier. It is really high and far from the court, but thankfully doesn't impede me from seeing the game as I lean over and closely examine what is going on below me.

The Wizards seem to be everywhere at once. Arenas passes the ball to Jamison, Jamison to Haywook. The ball flies through the air and ends up on the other side of the court. *Come on, I pray, Come on, you can do it! Don't drop, not now!* It was down to the last three minutes.

Hughes slowly jumps upwards. His arms' muscles brace themselves and then release as the ball flies out of his hands. The ball soars upwards. Everybody's eyes follow the ball. *Make it in, PLEASE!* All the noise disappears. All my focus is on the ball. The basketball reaches the hoop...and goes in. “YEAH!!!” I scream as my fists punch the air in triumph. Now the two teams are tied and the Wizards have a chance of winning!

The ball went back and forth, but nobody scored. First it is in the possession of the Bobcats, then the Wizards. It goes on and on. The crowd begins to get restless. We all want the Wizards to win! “DE-FENSE!” boom, boom “DE-FENSE!” everyone shouts. Sound seems to echo through the stadium as I find myself caught up in the rush and yelling as well.

The Bobcats move in for the kill. They have finally gotten the ball back and are passing it to each other with incredible dexterity. The ball is thrown and intercepted by Arenas. I whoop with joy. The Wizards could win.

It's down to the last thirty seconds. Arenas jumps up and tries to make a three pointer. No luck as the ball bounces off the hoop. The crowd groans disappointedly. Ten seconds left, Hughes leaps up into the air, catches the ball, and dunks it in.

The crowd explodes. I yell. I whoop. I scream. *THE WIZARDS HAVE WON THE GAME! THEY HAVE WON!!! YIPPEEE!!!* A euphoric atmosphere envelops the crowd in our moment of triumph and glory that occurs whenever the team has won. It is like you have personally won against the opposing team. The feeling is wonderful like I am floating away.

There are two seconds left in the game. And the Bobcats make a good show of trying, but they know that they couldn't get in for a shot in only two seconds. So when the buzzer rings, everybody cheers once more as the Wizards celebrate their win by hugging their teammates and coaches.

As I walk out of the MCI Center, I think about life. Life is like the basketball game. You will win some and lose some. Whenever you receive a ball, you need to toughen up and beat the odds in order to win!