

## XXII. Thought for the Day/A Dose of Positive Each Day

Accepting roles: Keep things in the proper perspective and no one will remember how many runs you hit, how many touchdowns you scored, or how many slam dunks you did. All they will remember is whether you were a good person or how you treated people.

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To win championships, a team has to be obsessive about fundamentals and the little things.

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If **YOU** haven't worked out in practice, don't expect to see it happen in the game!

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A funny thing about basketball, when you try to make everybody else better, you end up getting better too.

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Two men come to a river

- One sees it as a  
problem

- One sees it as a  
challenge

- Which man gets to the  
other side first ?

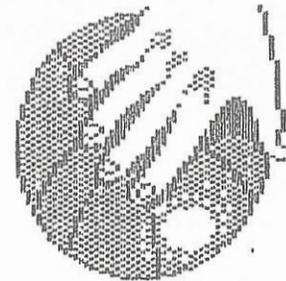
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# NEGATIVE PEER PRESSURE

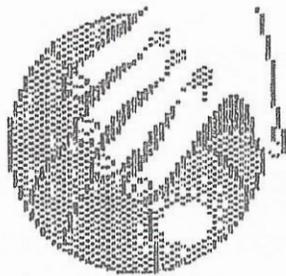
Go down to the fish market and look into the crab barrel. They never have to put a lid on it because if one crab starts to crawl out, the others will grab on to him and pull him back down. That's what negative peer pressure does.



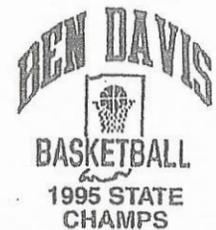
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I want our players to be so familiar with their roles and responsibilities that when the game begins they don't have to worry about what they are supposed to be doing. They can simply relax, turn themselves loose mentally and physically to do whatever it takes to help the team be successful.



*Coach Witty*



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Talent will win  
games

- Talent execution of fundamentals and proper mental attitude wins the big game /championship

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AS A COACH, YOU'LL  
RECEIVE A HUGE AMOUNT  
OF UNJUSTIFIABLE  
CRITICISM AND A LARGE  
AMOUNT OF UNDESERVED  
PRAISE, AND YOU SHOULD  
NOT BE UNDULY  
AFFECTED BY EITHER.

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**NOTHING  
IS AS GOOD AS IT  
SEEMS, AND  
NOTHING  
IS AS BAD AS IT  
SEEMS; BUT  
SOMEWHERE IN  
BETWEEN  
REALITY FALLS.**

**BEN DAVIS**  
BASKETBALL  
PURPLE PRIDE

**BEN DAVIS**  
BASKETBALL  
PURPLE PRIDE

***THIS TOO  
SHALL  
PASS***

**BEN DAVIS**  
BASKETBALL  
PURPLE PRIDE

**BEN DAVIS**  
BASKETBALL  
PURPLE PRIDE

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**There are four things that any organization needs to possess to be number one.**

**First and foremost, you have to make a commitment to excellence.**

**The second thing is complete attention to detail.**

**The third thing is to be fundamentally sound.**

**The fourth requirement is discipline.**

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**No matter what happens,**

**if things go wrong,**

**if mistakes are made,**

**everyone must believe that somehow,**

**someway,**

**somebody will find a way to make up for it.**

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"No one can win consistently without good talent. But not all coaches win consistently when they have good talent either!"

John Wooden

EVERYDAY  
ORDINARY  
PEOPLE  
ACCOMPLISH  
EXTRAORDINARY  
THINGS

## THE FOLLY OF ATTEMPTING TO SATISFY CRITICS

There was an old man, a boy and a donkey. They were going to town and it was decided that the boy should ride. As they went along they passed some people who exclaimed that it was a shame for the boy to ride and the old man to walk.

The man and boy decided that maybe the critics were right, so they changed positions. Later they passed some more people who then exclaimed that it was a real shame for that man to make such a small boy walk.

The two decided that maybe they both should walk. Soon they passed some more people who exclaimed that it was stupidity to walk when they had a donkey to ride.

The man and the boy decided that they both should ride. They soon passed other people who exclaimed that it was a shame to put such a load on a poor little animal.

The old man and the boy decided that maybe the critics were right so they decided to carry the donkey. As they crossed a bridge they lost their grip on the animal and he fell into the river and drowned.

The moral of the story is that if you try to please everyone you will finally lose your ass.

**PRINCIPLE  
ALWAYS  
MATTERS  
MORE  
THAN  
VICTORIES**

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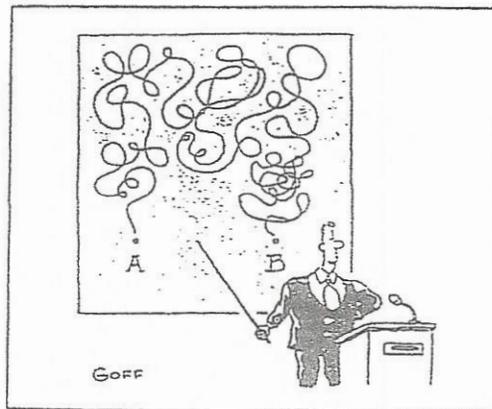
## 'Team player' receives top spot in survey

A survey of 125 companies in 34 industries reveals that employers rate "team players" as the No. 1 workplace value.

The work-trait study was conducted by Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc., an international outplacement firm located in Chicago.

Nearly 40 percent of the bosses and managers who were surveyed ranked "team player" as top among seven desirable work traits. Moreover, 80 percent chose it as either first, second, or third on their wish lists.

The other traits covered in the survey were: "self-starter," "dependable," "company-focused," "responsible," "adaptable," and "likable."



*"And so that's the shortest path between points A and B without teamwork."*

## Its Only One Possession

It was only one possession,  
Why must my coach scream,  
My poor defense permitted the basket  
But what can one hoop mean?  
As the pass comes my direction,  
And I fumble it into the stands,  
The coach's voice rings loud and clear  
"Catch with your eyes and hands!"  
C'mon coach, it's a single possession,  
Our team will be okay.  
It's just the first two minutes,  
My gosh, we've got all day.

At the 10 minute mark I remember,  
That the center is strong and stout.  
A putback for us, quite simply due  
To my failure to turn and blockout.  
But it was only one possession,  
I didn't commit a crime,  
My team is ahead and I'm playing well;  
and there's still plenty of time!

As the halftime buzzer is sounding,  
And I watch the ball bank in,  
I know I will hear from my loving coach  
Of my questionable effort to defend.  
But it was only one possession  
Coach-don't have a heart attack!  
We're down by one, but we're having fun,  
I know we'll get the lead back!

The second half mirrors the first,  
But it's early, it's not a big deal,  
That my failure to use a pass fake,  
Results in an unlikely steal.  
But quickly I sink a jumper,  
I'm greeted by high fives and slaps,  
But the next possession I give up a layup.  
While suffering a mental lapse.  
But it's only one possession,  
C'mon Coach, "Chill Out."  
It's crazy to see you disgusted  
As you slap the assistant and shout.

"Victory favors the team making fewest mistakes.  
Single possessions are the key.  
So treat them like gold and do as you're told,  
And play with intensity."

I step to the line for one and one,  
But I'm having a concentration lapse..  
The ball soars through the air, Good Lord, it's a brick!  
I'm afraid the support will collapse.  
In post game I sit at my locker,  
Pondering what more could I do.  
I realize the value of each possession,  
What a shame that we lost by two.

by Jeff Smith  
Assistant Womens Basketball Coach  
University of Dayton

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Winners work  
at things the  
majority of the  
population are  
not willing to  
do.

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Character  
doing what  
your suppose  
to do even  
though no one  
is watching

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**SOME PLAYERS MAKE  
EASY THINGS LOOK  
DIFFICULT.**

**GREAT PLAYERS MAKE  
DIFFICULT THINGS  
LOOK EASY!**

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**The difference between  
Good athletes/teams and  
GREAT  
athletes/teams is that  
the GREAT  
athletes/teams  
practice beyond their  
comfort zone**

Winners solve  
problems  
losers are  
defeated by  
them

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About the time  
you think you are  
pretty good, you  
can get your butt  
kicked real good  
real quick. Are  
you satisfied?

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**THE DIFFERENCE  
BETWEEN SUCCESS  
AND FAILURE,  
IN MOST CASES,  
WILL BE  
DETERMINED BY  
WHETHER YOU DO  
THINGS ALMOST  
RIGHT OR  
EXACTLY RIGHT**

*In this world of  
give and take, there  
are not enough  
people willing to  
give what it takes.*

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***“If you really want to do  
something, you’ll find a  
way; if you don’t, you’ll  
find an excuse.”***

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A great deal  
can be  
accomplished  
when no one  
cares who gets  
the credit.

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## Twelve Rules for Raising Delinquent Children

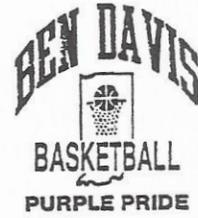
The Houston, Texas police department used to distribute a little leaflet with the above title. It was a satire on parents who don't control their children.

Let's take a look at what the Houston Police department finds are the causes of delinquent children. HERE THEY ARE:

1. GIVE THE CHILD EVERYTHING HE WANTS. In this way, he will grow up to believe that the world owes him a living.
2. WHEN HE PICKS UP BAD WORDS, LAUGH AT HIM. This will make him think he's cute. It will also encourage him to pick up cuter phrases that will blow off the top of your head later.
3. NEVER GIVE HIM ANY SPIRITUAL TRAINING. Let him wait until he is 21 when he can "decide for himself."
4. AVOID USING THE WORD "WRONG." It may develop in him a guilt complex. This will condition him to believe later when he is arrested for stealing that society is against him and he is being persecuted.
5. DO EVERYTHING FOR HIM so that he will be experienced in throwing all responsibility on others.
6. LET HIM READ AND WATCH ANYTHING HE WANTS TO. Be careful that the silverware and drinking glasses are sterilized, but let his mind feast on garbage.
7. QUARREL FREQUENTLY IN HIS PRESENCE. In this way he will not be too shocked when his own home is broken up later.
8. GIVE A CHILD ALL THE SPENDING MONEY HE WANTS. Never let him earn his own. Why should he have things as tough as you had them?
9. SATISFY HIS EVERY CRAVING. Denial may lead to harmful frustration.
10. TAKE HIS PART AGAINST NEIGHBORS, TEACHERS, POLICEMEN. They are all just prejudiced against your child.
11. WHEN HE GETS INTO REAL TROUBLE, APOLOGIZE FOR YOURSELF by saying, "I never could do anything with him."
12. PREPARE FOR A LIFE OF GRIEF. You will be likely to have it.

—John Thiesen

# What I Won't Do for My Friends



1. I won't steal for my friends.
2. I won't cheat for my friends.
3. I won't act dumb for my friends.
4. I won't do drugs for my friends.
5. I won't disrupt the class for my friends.
6. I won't disrespect, laugh at or ridicule others for my friends.
7. I won't intentionally fail for my friends.
8. I won't behave irresponsibly for my friends.
9. I won't knowingly hurt others for my friends.
10. I won't destroy my life or anyone else's for my friends.

**Anyone who would ask me to do any of these things,  
is not my friend.**

A FUNNY THING  
ABOUT  
BASKETBALL,  
WHEN YOU TRY TO  
MAKE EVERYBODY  
ELSE BETTER, YOU  
END UP GETTING  
BETTER TOO.



Attitude is 10%  
what happens  
to me and 90%  
how I react to it



## LIONS OR GAZELLES?

Every morning in Africa, a gazelle wakes up.

It knows it must run faster than the fastest

lion or it will be killed. Every morning a

lion wakes up. It knows it must outrun the

slowest gazelle or it will starve to death.

It doesn't matter whether you are a lion or gazelle: when the sun come up, you'd better

be running.