

NCAA DI National Champion Asst. Coach Erica Floyd gives download of Recruiting Road

Recruiting July 6 –July 15 Journals

Our staff here at Maryland sat down in mid June and discussed our travel plans for the recruiting trail in July. We have collected information about tournaments being held in July either by e-mail or web sites. All this information was then placed on a calendar so that we had visual on the days that we had to work with. We made a printout of our database that gives us information on recruits and what tournaments they will be attending. We can pull up just the tournaments on our database and it will give you a list of who will be attending a specific event. This is how our staff figures out how many coaches will attend their event.

Wednesday, July 5th

Flight to Portland, OR (Day before tournament begins)

4:00am Alarm clock went off...time to get up and get ready for flight to Portland

4:45am In a cab on my way to the airport and my phone rings...its Coach (Jeff) Walz checking to make sure I am on my way to the airport. We are both on our way to the End of the Trail tournament in Portland, OR.

6:00am Plane departs BWI

We have a layover in Cincinnati, OH for about an hour.

10:30am We arrive in Portland, OR and we head for baggage claim to pick-up my bag that I checked. Coach Walz is on the road for a few days so he only had a carry-on. As we get my bag and get our rental car we are on our way to the hotel. Coach Walz tries to get in touch with Jill Pizzotti (Nike Rep) to try and meet up to have lunch.

11:30am We arrive at the Nike campus and have a short tour of Jill's office space and have a little lunch right on the premises.

1:30pm We were off to the Nike store and do a little shopping.

2:30pm Flight plans have changed and Coach Walz is now taking a flight to Riverside, Ca for a tournament and will return to Portland on Saturday night and I will stay in Portland with Coach Frese. I dropped off Coach Walz at the airport and then checked in to my hotel.

6:00pm I am in my hotel room making my last phone calls to recruits before the tournament begins on July 6th.

8:00pm Checking brackets on-line to get brackets and schedules together for Coach (Brenda) Frese and I for tomorrow. Coach Frese flew in on a later flight today. We spoke on the phone between her flights about the schedule and I left a schedule for Coach Frese at the front desk so that she would have a copy of it tonight before heading to the gym tomorrow morning.

11:00pm Lights out

(DAY 1)Thursday, July 6th(First day of tournament)

7:00am Alarm clock goes off and it is hard to get out of bed this morning...not a good night of sleep with the time change.

8:00am I am showered and changed and ready to head out of the door for a coffee stop. Definitely need my coffee in the mornings and I located a Starbucks down the street last night so I scheduled my depart time for a stop there first before getting to the gym.

8:30am I pick-up the tournament packet at the Main Site Oregon City high school gym and checked it with my schedule I already made up to make sure there wasn't any changes. So far everything is going smoothly. There aren't any changes.

9:00am Begin watching games. After the first game I meet up with Coach Frese at the same gym to watch the next couple games together.

11:30am There were two games we needed to see going on at the same time on different courts so Brenda stayed on Court 1 and I moved over to watch Court 4. Brenda and I exchanged texts messages to give updates on the score and on who is playing well.

1:45pm I ventured over to another gym site to watch a game that starts at 2:00pm. I watched the next couple of games as well as Brenda stayed at the main site to watch a couple of games and we met up again to watch the 6:15pm game and the 7:30pm game.

7:45pm This court is a little behind schedule and the last game of the night. At half-time of this game I put together our schedule for the next day.

8:30pm Talked to Coach Walz about the tournament he was attending and told him about the games here in Portland.

10:00pm Returned to the hotel and ironed my clothes for the next day.

(DAY 2)Friday, July 7th

7:15am Wake up

8:15am Leave in time for a stop at Starbucks.

9:00am Games begin for us at the Main Site. Watched first couple of games with Coach Frese at the Main Site and then left for another site for the 11:30am game.

1:30pm On our way to our 2:15pm game we stopped and had a slice of pizza for a quick bite to eat.

2:15pm Game begins and Coach Frese and I watched together and talked about what players were playing well today.

3:30pm I made my way to another site to watch games. Before going into the gym I had to make a couple phone calls to confirm next flight and hotel plans for the Basketball on the Bayou tournament in Birmingham, AL.

4:00pm Back in the gym to watched games until 10:00pm

10:30pm Returned back to the hotel and put together our schedule for tomorrow and called Coach Frese to discuss what games we needed to attend. Talked to Coach Walz as his flight just landed back in Portland and wanted to give him the schedule for tomorrow as well.

11:30pm Lights out

(Day 3)Saturday, July 8th

7:15am Wake up

8:15am Leave for gym and coffee stop.

8:45am Sitting in the gym waiting for Game 1 to begin and watching the teams warm-up.

10:15am We separated ourselves to watch other games at different sites to see if we could catch any other kids during this time and met up together at 1:00pm

1:00pm We watched the next couple of games together until 5:15pm

6:15pm There were two games that we needed to watch that were at different sites so I went to a site to watch a game and Coach Frese and Coach Walz went to another site to watch another game together. At half-time I called the airline to check to see if there were any earlier flights to Birmingham, AL than what I had since I was finished with games by 3:30pm on Sunday. There weren't any earlier flights so I had to stick with my red-eye flight Sunday night.

7:00pm Coach Walz stayed at the same site to watch a game and Coach Frese met me at the other site to watch our last game of the night.

8:30pm Coach Frese and Coach Walz said their goodbyes to me as they were leaving on 6:00am flights in the morning and I was staying for the rest of the tournament. Coach Walz was on his way home so that Coach (Joanna) J could meet up with Coach Frese at a tournament in Atlanta, GA

10:00pm I had my schedule together for tomorrow and called the hotel front desk to ask for a late check-out for tomorrow evening.

11:00pm Lights out

(Day 4) Sunday July 9th

Flight to Birmingham, AL

8:00am Wake up and left in time for a stop for coffee

9:00am Watched games through the Championship game that was held at 3:15pm.

2:45pm Left the game and went to get lunch before returning for the championship game. Also called the hotel in Birmingham to make sure I was able to check in to the hotel early.

3:15pm Championship Game

5:30pm Returned to the hotel and pack for Red-eye flight this evening. Checked the brackets again for the tournament in Birmingham to see if there have been any changes.

7:00pm Tried to take a short nap because I can not sleep on planes and its going to be a long flight.

8:45pm Departed hotel for Airport

10:47pm Flight to Birmingham, Al through Atlanta, Ga. There were quite a few coaches on this flight either going to Birmingham tournament or Atlanta tournament. So I had people to talk to along the way.

(DAY 5) Monday July 10th

6:00am Arrived in Atlanta, Ga and had a two hour layover. Had to look for some coffee of course. Can't do anything without my coffee.

8:45am Departed Atlanta for Birmingham.

8:30am Arrived in Birmingham with the time difference. The games didn't begin until noon so I had a short window to take a quick nap after not being able to sleep on the plane.

11:00am I left in time for a quick bite to eat before getting to the gym.

11:30am I arrived at the gym and it took me forever to find parking. I rode around the block a few times until I finally found a meter to park and I walked two blocks in the hot sun. Once I got to the arena I of course went to the wrong door because every door I tried was locked. Then I wondered if I was at the right place. I tried one more door and it opened. Thank Goodness I was at the right arena.

12:00pm Games began and last game was scheduled for 7:40pm. All the games I needed to see were located at the same gym.

9:00pm I was on my way back to the hotel and needed to find something to eat.

9:30pm Stopped in the restaurant at the hotel for dinner and checked the brackets for tomorrow.

11:00pm Lights out

(DAY 6)Tuesday, July 11th

8:00am Wake up

9:15am Departed for the games

10:00am Watched games all day starting at 10:00am and the last game was scheduled for 7:40pm. During the day I sent e-mails to the rest of the staff to let them know how the tournament was going and who was playing well. I called Coach J and Coach Frese to see how everything was going in Atlanta and to discuss plans for the next day on our travel plans for the next tournaments.

9:00pm Returned to the hotel to pack for flight tomorrow. Spoke with Coach Walz to discuss the schedule for AAU 16's in Orlando, FL.

11:00pm Lights out

(DAY 7)Wednesday, July 12th

9:00am Wake-up

9:30am Departed for games

10:00am Watched the next two games before leaving for the airport

2:30pm Left gym for the airport. I had a flight from Birmingham, AL, to Orlando, FL

3:30pm Checked in and through security. I found a Pizza Hut Express and enjoyed a cheese pizza for lunch while waiting for flight.

4:45pm Flight to Orlando

6:30pm Arrived in Orlando and called Coach Walz to see what gym I needed to be for the rest of the games for the evening. Coach Walz had been at the main site for the last day and a half so I went to another gym for the 8:45pm game.

7:15pm I had gotten my bag from baggage claim and picked up my rental car and on my way to the gym.

8:45pm Watched the game and the gym is freezing cold. Trying to concentrate on the game and almost can't because the gym is so cold.

10:00pm On my way to hotel to check-in and to meet up with Coach Walz and go over schedule for tomorrow.

10:30pm Had to iron some clothes for the next couple of days before going to bed.

Enjoyed some chocolates off my pillow for dinner tonight.

11:00pm Lights out

(DAY 8)Thursday, July 13th

7:45am Tried to wake-up and hit the snooze button a couple of times.

8:00am I finally get up and ready to go. I am meeting Coach Walz in the lobby at 8:45am.

9:15am First game of the day. We watched games until 1:30pm. Coach Walz and I went to get a bite to eat before our next set of games began at 2:15pm. Coach Walz and I discussed who played well. We also called Coach Frese and talked to her about who was playing well in Atlanta. We also changed Coach Frese and Coach Walz's travel plans. As we looked at the schedule it was better if Coach Walz stayed in Orlando to watch games until tomorrow afternoon and Coach Frese stay in Atlanta until evening so that we would not miss any games we needed to see.

2:00pm We were back at Disney to watch games until 10:30pm. There were 6 courts being used at the same time so Coach Walz and I watched different courts to catch the games we needed to see.

11:00pm Returned to hotel

(DAY 9) Friday, July 14th

8:00am Wake-up

9:00am Games began and watched games at the same site until 1:45pm.

I called Coach Walz at half-time of the last game to see what his half-time score was and to see where we were going to meet up to get his tournament packet before his flight.

1:45pm Game was behind schedule so by the time I finished my game it was too late to meet Coach Walz as Coach Walz was already on his way to the airport for his flight. I got a bite to eat before my next game.

3:00pm I was back in the gym and ready for my next game at 3:30pm

After the 5:15pm game was over it was the end of the day for games. I kept checking the schedule to make sure that was the last game. It just seemed too early to end the day.

Not that I was complaining, but I wanted to make sure that I wasn't missing any games.

7:00pm I was back in my hotel and Coach Walz was calling me to see if I was sitting by the pool by now. Of course not, I was on the computer checking the scores and trying to put the brackets together and the schedule before Coach Frese arrived tonight.

7:40pm Coach Frese called and was able to get on an earlier flight and was on her way to the hotel. I went downstairs to make sure she had a reservation for the evening.

8:00pm Met Coach Frese in the lobby for dinner and discuss the schedule for tomorrow

10:00pm We found the business center to print out our boarding passes for tomorrow's flight home before heading to our rooms.

11:00pm Lights out

(DAY 10) Saturday, July 15th

9:00am Wake-up

9:45am Checked out of the hotel and departed for the gym

10:15am Games begin. We watched games at the same site for the first three games of the day. Court 1 was behind an hour so Coach Frese had to leave early for another game and I stayed until the game was over and then met her the the next game.

5:15pm. I met Coach Frese at half-time to finish watching this game. After the game we stopped by the gas station to fill up our rental cars and headed to the airport.

7:00pm Again we had pizza...not sure if you can tell I like pizza.

9:20pm Flight to Baltimore, Md

11:30pm Arrived at BWI and waiting for my bag at baggage claim and Coach Frese offered me a ride home so that I didn't have to take a cab.

12:30am Home Sweet Home until we hit the road again on July 22.