



DAVIDSON BOYS BASKETBALL

WINTER C.A.T.S. CLIPS

Committed

Aggressive

Tough

Selfless



Head
Coach



Cort
Hamilton

COACH'S CORNER-

Commitment to the Process

As with every basketball season this one has proved to provide a plethora of daily obstacles and opportunities. Our young players have been persistent in their approach to daily growth and resilient when faced with adversity both on and off of the basketball court. We are growing, and learning as a group and approaching each day with an attacking and optimistic mentality.

We continually reflect back on our core values as we work together through both our successes and setbacks, remembering that we must stay the course as C.A.T.S. (Committed, Aggressive, Tough, and Selfless) program members regardless of the situation. At every level in our program we have enjoyed watching our players improve as individuals through both practice and competition. As we unify as a team we realize we have the ability to consistently compete at a level that gives us a chance to win every time we take the floor when we stay together and focus on the process.

In this edition of C.A.T.S. clips I would like to focus on our 1st core value symbolized by our letter C. and share a few of my own thoughts on commitment. In addition, I will note a few key concepts on commitment as articulated by well known college coach and personal friend Shaka Smart.

This season we have strived to simplify our approach even further as we focus on the so called "little things" daily. Things such as closing out with our hands up, finishing our cuts,

and being great communicators are just a few of the areas we strive to excel in every single play every single day. We are not perfect, but our growth in these areas has been evident. The daily practices and opportunities to compete have been rewarding as we get to observe our young athletes recognize the importance and impact of consistent attention to detail. We constantly refer to these three, three letter acronyms as we prepare for our challenges. CTC, DYJ, and PWP have become symbols of who we aspire to be on the court. To us, these are simple reminders that our process will yield the desired results and that we must excel in the "little things" to achieve our goals. Control the Controllables, Do Your Job, and Play with Passion are three things we ask our players to demand of themselves and their teammates daily.



Commitment is a big part of anything worthwhile in life. It is something in a team sport we constantly reinforce. Commitment to the details: in the classroom, on the basketball court and in our community are equally important to our young men's development as they work daily to reach their utmost potential. In the game of basketball and life there is a 100% certainty that we will face adversity and how we respond to that adversity will ultimately determine the height of our accomplishments. We realize this and by focusing on unwavering commitment to the process we are hoping to



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equip our players with the ability to both sustain and prolong periods of success, while also being prepared to persevere through the tough times on and off the court.

Shaka Smart on Commitment

I was fortunate enough to play for Coach Smart (Head coach University of Texas) for two years in college when he was a young, up and coming coach. He was one of the most energetic and passionate people I have ever met. He is a firm believer that success on the court is a bi-product of high character and high energy players being committed to a shared vision.



In the article, Shaka shares some thoughts on commitment from his time as the head coach at VCU.

“We talk to our guys all the time about the difference between interest and commitment. When you’re interested in something, you do it when it’s convenient. When you’re committed to something, you do it all the time, even when you lost that feeling that you originally had when you made the original commitment.”

“But the problem with today’s society, and especially in our basketball culture, is kids grow up learning to be conditionally bought in. In other words, ‘if things are going well for me then I will listen and I will follow the plan and I will do what

you ask me to do coach. If things are going well for me then I’m going to have a good attitude; I’m going to be coachable. But if they’re not, I’m going to get off the page and I’m going to do what I want. It’s okay for me to violate team rules; it’s okay for me to not be coachable; it’s okay for me to take a bad attitude; it’s okay for me not to be a good teammate.”

“And the reality is that it’s a disease that impacts the vast majority of teams. What most fans don’t realize is this is the number one thing that we fight as coaches every day. It’s a daily battle. People think it’s about pick and roll and dunking the ball and making jumpers. If our guys have a clear head for being committed to what goes into winning, then we’re going to win most of the time, unless we play a team that’s just that much better than us.”

C.A.T.S. in the Classroom

Our young men certainly succeeded this fall in the classroom and finished with an incredibly impressive academic resume. The commitment they show as a group to balance both their academic, athletic, and social demands speak volumes for the type of character our young men possess. The investment in their educational opportunities will ensure they are successes long beyond their hardwood days.

Grades 9-12 we had 29 of our players achieve a 3.0 or higher in the classroom.

3.0+ Eight Players

3.5+ 14 Players

4.0+ Seven Players

Grades 7-8 we had 35 of our players achieve a 3.0 or higher in the classroom.

3.0+ 10 Players

3.5+ 17 Players

4.0+ Eight Players

As a staff we could not be prouder of these numbers and the way our young people are taking advantage of the wonderful education that they have the privilege to experience.



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C.A.T.S. in the Community

On January 17th our staff and players were invited to be guest clinicians for St. Brendan's youth basketball program. Several coaches and players lead two separate clinics for 2nd and 3rd grade boys and girls. Our players did a tremendous job of sharing their love and expertise for these aspiring players.



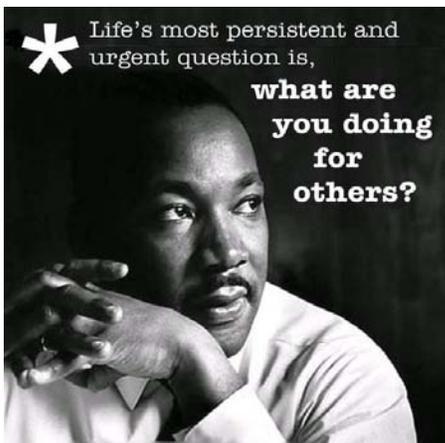
The willingness to give to others has been a consistent character trait of our young men one that is noticed by many and is a direct reflection on the type of young men our families have raised. With the event taking place the day before Martin Luther King day it was a great topic for reflection on the importance of impacting others.

The St. Brendan's skills staff including Coach Snyder, Coach Diblasio and Matt Hoersten were very welcoming to members of our program. Two days after our visit we were surprised with "THANK YOU" cookies that our players enjoyed during our film session.



C.A.T.S. Youth

Once again the excitement this winter for our youth travel teams has been beyond measure. The passion for basketball in our Davidson community can be seen from grades 3-12. Our youth program directors Coach Ted Paris, and Coach Jared Emery along with various other individuals that have volunteered to lead youth teams continue to invest countless hours in our young players. The teams typically practice twice a week and play multiple games on the weekend. As a high school staff we enjoy stopping in and catching some of these young C.A.T.S. in action.





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In addition to working on their individual game these young people are creating lasting friendships and sharing experiences such as attending the OSU game over Christmas break as a group.



Following the season we will take some time off and then get right back to work with our Spring Skills Series (April/May) followed by our C.A.T.S summer camp (June 6-9).

Senior Spotlight Luke Mayer



Senior Forward Luke Mayer has emerged as a consistent producer on the court this season. Luke has earned the respect of his teammates and coaches with his continual improvement and personal growth. Luke is a young man that is considered a late bloomer in basketball circles and he continues to improve daily. For our

program he brings an inside presence on both ends of the court and plays with a very high motor at 6'7. He is undecided with his future plans. When asked what he would recommend for young players in the program as they continue on their journey he stated, "take advantage of your support and opportunities, buy in early and you'll be successful."

Looking Back (MM & C.A.T.S. Christmas)

Midnight Madness was once again a HUGE success. We not only got to enjoy a fun filled evening with all players in our program and several hundred supporters, but were also able to collect and donate over 1000 canned goods to our local Hilliard food Pantry.

Our young C.A.T.S. showed up in force and participated in several competitions. Our OSU and CAVS tickets were claimed by some clutch free throw shooters and the night was highlighted by some varsity spotlight routines. A few video clips were captured and posted on twitter below if you missed them the first time.



<https://twitter.com/NMLivingston5/status/669576715790893056>

<https://twitter.com/Maxwelhuber/status/669652309916393473>

<https://twitter.com/ellittle11/status/669544364964749312>

During the holiday break several families got together and organized our first C.A.T.S. Christmas get together. The event was attended



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by 80+ of our players and families. Schmidt's catering was a big hit and the organizers had several fun competitive games to help us share in some holiday cheer. Special thanks to all that helped make this evening a success and the Kazmerzak family for hosting.



Looking Forward (ALUMNI GAME)

After a great turnout last year for our alumni game we have once again scheduled one. This year due to us having no home Saturday evening games after Christmas scheduled we have decided to have it on Saturday February 13th. Set details will be emailed out soon, but we are shooting for a 10:00 a.m. tip! We look forward to seeing many of these familiar faces as well as some new ones that could not make it last year. Dust of the shoes, and spread the word!



Emails coming soon with specifics for times and format.

Stay Connected

Our program is working at all levels to reach our goals. We genuinely appreciate all of your support.

Please stay connected with our program by following us on Twitter @HDCatsHoops and also on the web at hdcatshoops.weebly.com

In addition, if you are a member of the high school team or would like notices please sign up for the appropriate remind 101 group listed on our web page. Any urgent messages or changes in the high school schedule will be communicated through the use of this tool.

2015-2016 Juniors, Seniors and Coaches



Important Spring Dates on the Horizon

February 5th Senior night Vs. Thomas Worthington

Feb 13th Alumni Game (appx 10:00 a.m.) Social after

Feb 18-27th Sectional tournament game TBD

April/May Youth Skills Clinic Times TBD

June 6-9 C.A.T.S. Camp (youth)