October, 2018

"Big TEAM, little me"

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When I worked for UGA Football in the 1980s, Coach Dooley's motto was "Big TEAM, little me." He put that motto on everything: it was on t-shirts and posters; it was everywhere. Back in those days, I never really paid attention to it; I just liked all the free stuff they gave us with the motto on it. Now, thirty years later, I understand completely what Coach Dooley was trying to emphasize.

When you are on a team, the team should be bigger than the individual. I am sure that was a hard sell for Coach back in the 80s, but I think it is a harder sell today. Everything in our culture is about "me," as in, "What is in it for 'me'?" One of the great aspects of team sports is the necessity of learning to put others ahead of "me." Do our athletes ask, "What's in it for me," or do the athletes think of others? As parents, do our words and actions teach our children to think of others?

Successful teams are comprised of individuals who put others' needs ahead of their own. It is obvious to onlookers when a real "team" is made up of members who really care

for each other. It is VERY obvious when a team is made up of a bunch of "me"s. Which team would you rather play for?

Which team has a higher ceiling? When people watch us play or practice, do they see a big "me" or a big "TEAM"?

So here is the question: Are you a big "me," little "team" person, or are you a big "TEAM," little "me" person? The crazy thing is that all the "me"s have more success and fulfillment when they think about others more than themselves! I recall a man named Jesus who lived over 2,000 years ago and taught us that basic concept. Philippians 2:3 says "Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves."

As the year progresses, try thinking of others more than yourself……try thinking big "TEAM" little "me." You might be surprised what happens!

Go Wolverines!

2018 3rd and 4th grade Football Champions