



Bigots, Billionaires, and Ballers: That NBA Life

BY: Chris Harper, AD

Let me be clear; Donald Sterling is an idiot. An 80 year old billionaire who, upon seeing posted pictures of his 23 year old mistress posing with other men, loses his mind. Donny calls his girl, berates her, chastises her choice of “friends”, specifically her choice in photo-mates due to

zip codes. The truth is, Donny’s choices, rants, and behavior all lineup; estranged wife, mistress, more property than the Vatican, his money trumps his senses and his lack of character is put on full display when another one of his “ladies” acts out beyond his control.

Something strange happens when teams and athletes are idolized... They begin to see themselves as gods. Gods do not extend gratitude, they receive gratitude.

the color of their skin, and overly states his distaste for such people. Donny in a jealous rage, petulantly, like a scorned 17 year old boy, tells his girl to do whatever she wants with those guys, everything except bring them near him or his arena...

I expect as much. Donny is a misfit toy living in the land of misfit toys. Donny and King Moonracer practically share

What I didn’t expect is the league and player response. Misfit toys, historically, stick together. Not this time. Apparently Donny went too far. It appears as if Donny may be voted off the island for good.

Interesting. A jealous, self-absorbed billionaire, rages about his mistress’s selfie obsession with other self-absorbed billionaires;

Upcoming events

•••

5/2/14 – HS Track @ North Harrison

5/5/14 – HS Baseball at Lanesville

5/5/14 – HS Track @ CAL

5/5/14 – MS Track at SC

5/6/14 – HS Track at Charlestown

5/8/14 – HS Baseball vs. Crawford Co.

5/8/14 – MS Baseball @ Henryville

5/10/10 – MS Baseball Triple header

5/10/14 – Special Olympics Track Meet

revealing his true character in a rendering of “the white man’s burden”. Instantly, his family, coaches, team, and the league he has served for 30 years abandons him. Yet, the very members of the NBA who are bewildered, angry, and threatening boycott over Donny’s rant, commonly ignore, if not condone moral failure. Case in point: Jason Kidd. Kidd, a former player turned coach of the Brooklyn Nets, beat his wife and there was little to no outcry. No boycott, no banishment, no refusal to play for him. And this is the least of examples. Volumes could be written on the various broken homes, countless affairs, corrupted officials, illegitimate children, violence, drug use, and other nefarious deeds that could represent the NBA.

It seems the league wants to draw the line of morality here. Donny Sterling will become the NBA’s case study for its pursuit of all that is good and righteous. Unfortunately, for commissioner Silver and the players union, the NBA is way out of its wheelhouse. Moral

goodness, righteousness, and equality have not exactly been staples in the world of professional athletics. The bible tells us why:

“For though they knew god, they did not glorify Him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless minds were darkened” – Romans 1:21

My guess is that Donald Sterling forgot about gratitude a billion dollars ago. The NBA as a whole isn’t overly “grateful.” Something strange happens when teams and athletes are idolized... They begin to see themselves as gods. Gods do not extend gratitude, they receive gratitude.

Donny believes that “these poor black kids” (his words) should be thankful for the life and opportunity he has given them. “These poor blacks kids” (his words) believe Donny owes them for making his team successful. Either way, in the land of misfit toys, everyone is entitled and no one is grateful. Gratitude

allows us to draw near to God, anything short of thankfulness separates us from God. Our approach to God doesn’t end with thanksgiving, it begins with thanksgiving and carries on from there... When you have everything it’s hard to be thankful for anything. Let this be a lesson for us all, everything is from God and to Him be all the glory. The giver of gifts is the one to be worshipped not the gifts themselves. In expressing our gratitude we acknowledge the greatness of God. Donny, like so many others, have yet to believe in the greatness of God.

King Donny will be criticized, fined, and likely banned from the NBA...rightly so. But, no matter where Donny ends up, he still will be ignorant, ungrateful, and rich; prerequisites for residence in the land of misfit toys... a senseless and darkened land full of former and current “millionaires and superstars.”

Be well,

C. Harper