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The Journey Of An Upcoming Star By: Nick Young

My name is Nick Young and my passion is about basketball. When I was very young I always wanted to be a football player. That all ended when I literally couldn't grow any muscle because of my fast metabolism. My mom didn't want me playing that sport so I stopped playing it. My passion for football had left me and I grew a new passion for basketball. My dad was a great basketball player and a lot of people know him. It's kind of annoying now because everywhere I go I can hear people calling him from across the street. It's very aggravating. My dad started teaching me how to play in 3rd grade and I hated it at first. Football came naturally to me and when ball didn't it was infuriating. My first league was in an intramural basketball league which was a league at my school, Discovery Charter School. I was soooooo horrible. Out of the whole league, I remember only scoring once and that was a wide open layup on a fastbreak. I was also the tallest on the team so people were looking at me like "You have all that height for nothing" and I took it personally.

We come back next year so I'm in the 4th and I'm coming at everybody's neck. I just came back from a summer of me doing dribble drills outside in 95 degree weather. I went outside to a court to shoot for a couple of hours. I was ready, fast forward a couple months later and now the league has started again. I was one of the first person's that were picked up because of my height but when the people from last year saw me there again they took me lightley. I averaged about 20 against people that were older than me. I showed out and got the respect that I deserved.

Fast Forward a couple years because in 5th 6th and 7th I was just working out a lot. In 5th I couldn't play with the varsity which I know I would've tried. In 6th grade we played in a little league and I averaged about 17 a game but we lost every game, I couldn't play AAU basketball because of covid and 7th was the deep covid year so nothing was available.

In 8th grade I played with the SLA Center City basketball team. Going in since I was going against seniors and all I thought the competition was going to be out of my league. Once I met my teammates and started playing the first couple minutes I started getting comfortable with the feeling of high school ball. The first game with SLA I had 17 and that really boosted my confidence for the rest of the games and the season. I built some connections with Coach Kay and the teammates and game after game after game, it felt like I've been with this team for a while now. I've gained their respect with my skill. I also played AAU basketball this year and I got some looks from some catholic teams. One of the biggest ones was a team called Father Judge.

My next league was a summer league at Tustin Rec Center. This area where this court is, is a very bad neighborhood so at first my parents weren't trying to let me play there. Once we watched a few games and saw that the environment was cool, they let me play in the league with my team. Now, the first game I played I didn't start and this was because our coach has a rule. If you haven't been to any practices you will not be starting. The past week I haven't gone to any practices and I got no play time. When he finally did put me in I got an easy 3 buckets like it was nun and a couple assists and the game was over. I really didn't sweat at all. The second game was the same way, I didn't start and once I got in I fried everybody. It wasn't until the first game that coach let me start again. It was a red team and me and their star player were going head to head. We both had about 23 but we fell short. That was my favorite game in the past couple years

With basketball, I realized
that I really have a really
long way down but I am
ready for the ride



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This is my inspirtation



Also my inspiration



Congratulations Melvin Jr

