

1.) Catch us up on what you've been doing and where you've been doing it since you last walked off the court in the red and black.

I can't believe it has been soooooo long since I played basketball. Let's see... I finished my graduate degree in Communication Disorders in December of 1993 at the Tech Health Sciences Center. I wanted to move to Charlotte, NC, so I found a job and moved here. I have been working as a speech pathologist with children who have a variety of communication delays/disorders ever since. After working for a clinic and then a hospital, I decided to start a private practice, "Pediatric Expressions, Inc." I travel to children's homes, schools, and daycares and provide speech-language therapy. I really love what I do! Children are amazing and it is gratifying to see how much progress they make in therapy.

Besides my career, I have made some wonderful friends in Charlotte and love my life here. I have a great church home, I get to travel a little here and there (although not as much as when I played!), and have some time to explore hobbies.

2. What means the most to you about having played basketball for Tech when you did? What's your fondest memory?

Making the transition from a good team to a top 25 team was awesome. The program seemed to turn about that time and it was neat to be part of that. (Coincidentally, that was when Sheryl Swoopes came to play!)

My fondest memories are: 1) the first sellout crowd for our victory over Texas A&M to win the Southwest Conference title my senior year. I'll never forget getting to hold the trophy over our (the seniors) heads to show the crowd. 2) Beating Texas in the SWC tournament that year, and 3) getting to be part of the SWEET 16 team that year.

4. Have you been back to see the Spirit Arena and the overall progress of the Lady Raider program? If so, what did you think?

Yes, I have seen the Spirit Area. I went back for a Lady Raider reunion and was amazed at the facilities at Spirit Arena. It seems like the perfect arena. When I played, we had locker rooms the ATC and the coliseum, and we practiced at the women's gym, the coliseum or the ATC. We also had weight training in the ATC so we were all over the place. It is so cool to see the practice gym, locker rooms, weight room, and coaches offices all in one incredible place. And while I'm on memory lane, I also remember the day when we had a "Season Ticket Committee" that tried to get people to buy tickets. From what I hear, selling season tickets or single-game tickets for that matter, is not a problem!!

Everywhere I go, I get the same questions, "wow, how tall are you?" and after that "did you play basketball", and finally "where did you play?" Once I say "Texas Tech", people always say "oh yeah I know that team, they are really good." People all over know about the strong program at TTU. I am so proud to have had the opportunity to play under

Coach Sharp and be part of a Lady Raider program. Coach Sharp and her staff have accomplished so much and undoubtedly they will continue that tradition.

5. What comes to mind when you think about Coach Sharp and her impact on your life?

Words cannot describe the impact Coach Sharp had on my life. First of all, she gave me an opportunity to be part of a great program. She helped me grow as not only a player but as a member of society. By being a part of her team, I was given many wonderful opportunities to meet people, travel, and play the wonderful game of basketball. Coach Sharp will always have my respect and admiration.

6. What does the future hold for you?

I hope to continue my practice, expand my professional expertise, travel a little more and maybe just maybe get married and have children... But who knows!!?? (I don't know if you should put the married thing in there, if my boyfriend reads it he might freak out! haha)

At this time I can very honestly say I can't imagine my life without playing at Tech and I am and I will always be grateful for that opportunity.

I almost feel bad that I do not coach or play anymore. Although after thinking about it a little more, I guess I do coach... just not basketball. I coach children everyday, teach them new skills that we practice in therapy and controlled situations, and then generalize those skills to everyday communication situations. I cheer them on, push them as much as I feel they can handle, make sure they have fun doing it, and ultimately hopefully make a positive difference in their lives. Coach Sharp did that for me and even though I don't play anymore, I use the skills and lessons I learned at Tech every day. I can't think of a better impact, can you???

Keep in touch Gus.....thanks for making me smile!!!

Jennifer Buck #54