

Thursday, October 23, 2008

By Reggie Cajayon

Another early morning had us on the road around 7:00am, but morning traffic was not kind to our attempt at beating it. In fact, for about an hour there was more traffic in the express lane than there was in the regular lane. Go figure...

While the rest of us attempted to nap throughout the day, hoping to use the volleyballs to find some padding and comfort, John took on driving duties all day. Our sixth passenger, "Garmin" the GPS and navigation queen, was the topic of conversation throughout the drive, as she always sounded burdened and inconvenienced whenever she said, "Recalculating" if we happened to take a route different than the one she had mapped out for us. After a restroom stop, she actually guided us through about ten minutes of corn fields before taking us back to the highway. All of us are certain she was toying with us and decided to go without her services the rest of the day.

Our lunch choices were White Castle and Steak & Shake, neither of which a couple of our crew had enjoyed, so we decided on Steak & Shake and were seated by our friendly waitress Leann. I had grabbed a couple of crayons on the way to our table, and John promptly began to caricaturize Denise in a lovely hue of blue.

A caricature of me followed, and then Leann walked by and hilariously identified the third and final drawing in red as Steve from TCA. If you were there, you'd know why it was gut-busting funny.



After a long day on the road, we finally arrived at Xavier University and met up with Rich Z. from Team Z. We quickly unloaded and set everything up in about 30 minutes and were ready to go. Even though the group was smaller than expected, they still participated with the same enthusiasm and effort that we enjoyed in Milwaukee the night before. Again, they loved the obstacle course, but this group showed some great improvements in such a short time regarding quickness, coordination, focus and effort, and all of the coaches were impressed with the non-stop, high-energy design of the program.



Another quick break-down – probably no more than 15 minutes – and we were off to a sports grill to relax and enjoy some food and down time after a long day on the road. And, not surprisingly, a few of us had another early morning ahead because of 7:00am flights the next day, so it was another evening of little sleep at the end of the second and another incredible day of Volleytots!

A great bit of thanks to Rich Zeciski & Team Z for their organization, support and

hospitality, and Steve from TCA is a soldier for taking Denise and I to the airport at 5:00am Friday morning. From this point forward, Amanda and Laura will take over as Denise and I pass the torch, and John, Barbara & Steve welcome them to work with more kids at Morehead State, then Indianapolis, and finally Kansas City.

