

Life of Sarah Purdy

I was born on October 23 of 1987 in Wabash County Hospital at seven forty-two in the morning. I was welcomed home by a big brother and big sister. I have lived in North Manchester my whole life, and during the summers I live at our lake house in North Webster. My life mostly consists of my Christian faith, basketball, and my family. I have lived the average life of a teenage kid, but my uniqueness has made me stand out.

My parents are Gary and Rosemary Purdy. They have been the people who have taught me the values of life and how to live. I look to them for advice because they have been there for me every time I have ever needed anything. I have one older brother, Matthew. He is a graduate from Huntington College and is married to my sister-in-law, Jeri. They have been married for about two years now. I also have an older sister, Katherine. She is a senior at Anderson University this year, and is majoring in sociology. Both of my siblings have been wonderful examples for me to look up to. I also have a dog name Eliza. She is an Alaskan Husky and Golden Retriever mix. Something unique about my dog is that one of her eyes is brown, and the other is bluish white color. I cherish my family very much, and without them I wouldn't be half the person I am. My family spends a lot of time together whether it may be at a sporting event or at the lake.

Summer is my preferred time of the year. For most children its time to start that summer job, but for me it's time to move to the lake. The lake is my sanctuary in this crazy world. The laid back atmosphere and everyone being around is what I love most about it. A typical day at the lake consists of going out in the boat all night and wakeboarding until after sunset, then heading home with all my friends to eat a late supper. Wakeboarding is my passion. There is just something about being out on the water that makes me happy and

stress free. It's my escape.

Throughout my life I have had my disappointments, but many achievements as well. Most of these come from the sports that I participate in. I have been very athletically active since a very young age. I have played in many organized sports from softball to basketball to golf. My main true love is basketball. When I was growing up there was not a girls youth basketball team so I played on the boys AAU team until I was in junior high. The odd thing about this though was that I looked exactly like the boys. I was a big tomboy and most people would mistake me for a boy. Most of my achievements and disappointments came later during high school.

I went to Manchester High School where I was a very dynamic athlete. I played soccer in the fall, basketball in the winter, and ran track during the spring. During my course of playing basketball my team and I had won two sectional titles and won our county tournament twice. Our basketball team was one of the most successful lady basketball teams to play at Manchester High School. In the last three years of playing we had only lost thirteen games out of the sixty-nine we played. With the many successes I had in basketball came many disappointments. Making it to regional twice in my high school career was a life remembering experience, but losing in regional by only one point, both times, was a life remembering moment as well. Basketball has been a life changing opportunity for me. It has taught me many things that I will carry with me throughout life.

Another big disappointment in my life happened my senior year during track season. Coming back from a very successful season of my junior year I was ranked in the top twenty, four hundred runners in the state. I trained all year long, in hopes of making it to state that year. It had been my goal since I was a freshman and I thought that my senior

year was the year. I was right on schedule with my training so if I kept at that pace I would have had a good shot at state. Two weeks before sectionals I came down with bronchitis. Not fully recovered I still ran during sectionals so that I could qualify for regional. Bronchitis took its toll on my body though and I did not make it to state. My dream was shattered and I was never going to get another shot at it again. That night I had to accept that life comes with its advantages and disadvantages so now I am inspired to become a track coach, and impact the lives of young athletes someday just like my coaches did for me.

After a long process of deciding on where I would attend college, I chose Manchester. I mainly chose to come here because I was recruited by the basketball coach. I had wanted to pursue my career in basketball at which ever college I was going to attend, and Manchester felt like the place for me. I also wanted to stay close to home. It may be a little too close to home, but I can manage. I am glad that I chose Manchester as the place for me because I feel like it will teach me the things I need to know to become an outstanding teacher someday.

I have had ups and downs and bumps and bruises in my life, and I would have never been able to get through them without the lessons I have learned from all my experiences. I look at life as you should be passionate about the things that you do. I hope that somewhere in my life I can pursue a career with my passion and that is athletics. Someday I would like to wake up, teach my students new things, make an impact on my players lives, and hope that at the end of the day I had a difference in someone's life.