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Local man appears on Spike TV show

Kevin Stock gets to experience three out of 10 things every guy should experience

By *CONNIE MAKLED*

Bedford Now

When Kevin Stock moved to Santa Monica, Calif., he had no idea that he would end up on television. Stock graduated from Bedford High School in 1998 and played on both the football and baseball teams for the Mules. He also played a bit of basketball until sophomore year, when he decided to concentrate his efforts more on the other two sports. To his surprise, however, it would be basketball that would bring him some newly found fame.

About three weeks ago, when Stock and his college friend, Tim Newell, visited a beach bar at Hermosa Beach, headhunters from Spike TV approached the two about auditioning for a TV show called "Ten Things Every Guy Should Experience."

"It was so surreal," Stock said. "I never expected that in less than a year, I would go from living in the small town of Bedford to being on national television and hobnobbing with celebrities."

Both Stock and Newell graduated from Bowling Green State University, where Stock pitched for the baseball team and Newell was the catcher. Now, the duo would once again team up to try to win an ultimate prize — courtside seats at the NBA finals in Los Angeles, where the Detroit Pistons are battling the L.A. Lakers.

The two were paired up all week facing challengers to win a series of prizes.

"The first contest was a dribbling contest," Stock said. "I was the last one standing in that competition and won a shopping spree with Carmello Anthony, rookie for the Denver Nuggets."

Having won that, the duo was geared up to see what else they could win.

"It was weird, really," Stock said. "The whole experience was unbelievable. At first, it was strange to have all these cameras follow you around everywhere we went, but after a few hours, we got used to it and started being ourselves."

The second competition was the toughest, Stock said. He and Newell had to dress up in mascot uniforms, Stock as the San Diego Chicken and Newell as a Philadelphia Eagle. The costumes weighed about 35 pounds each and the heat

was unbearable. They were required to jump on a trampoline and throw a basketball into a hoop.

"I've been in sports all my life," Stock said. "But that was the hardest thing I've ever had to do. But we did it and we won."

And his prize — an evening with two Los Angeles Clippers cheerleaders and the opportunity to "hang out" with Kareem Rush, Luke Walton, and Brian Cook of the L.A. Lakers. "We played ping pong and pool and hung out with them for about four hours. It was a lot of fun. And the cameras were rolling the whole time. And we took the ladies ice skating."

As the competition progressed, the last challenge was to play 2-on-2 for two sets of 3 minutes. The champion won an evening with Bill Walton, one of the top 50 basketball players of all time, best known for playing with the Boston Celtics, the Portland Trailblazers and the L.A. Clippers. Also on the list of prizes were courtside seats to the NBA playoffs.

"We spent the whole evening with Bill Walton, had dinner at his estate, received all kinds of signed memorabilia from him. It was the highlight of the entire experience," Stock said.

On Sunday, June 6, Stock and Newell sat courtside to witness the NBA playoffs and their clean sweep of all three events on Spike TV allowed them to walk away with the memory of a lifetime.

"I'm a big Pistons fan," Stock said. "And I get to sit courtside in seats that even movie stars couldn't get their hands on."

But that may not be the end of the story. Stock has been asked to audition for more shows on Spike TV, owned by Viacom.

"I came out here to sell pharmaceutical supplies," Stock said. "I don't know if I want to be an actor. But we will see what happens."

"Ten Things Every Guy Should Experience" has aired on Spike TV, but likely can be seen in reruns.

