

Muggsy Bogues Reading Comprehension

Name _____

Tyrone “Muggsy” Bogues was the shortest player in the history of the National Basketball Association (NBA). At 5’3” Bogues was noticeably shorter than even the shortest players. Spud Webb was the second shortest player in the NBA during Bogues’s career, and he was 5’7”.

Muggsy Bogues grew up in inner-city Baltimore, Maryland. Although his parents called him “Apple,” he earned the nickname “Muggsy” because of the toughness and leadership he showed during pick-up basketball games on the outdoor courts in Baltimore. His high school team, the Dunbar Poets, was arguably one of the best of all-time. Including Bogues, Dunbar’s 1981-1982 team featured four future NBA players. During his senior season, Dunbar went 31-0. Bogues earned a scholarship to Wake Forest University, where he would become the school’s star point guard. Bogues left Wake Forest as the ACC (Atlantic Coast Conference) career leader in steals and assists. The Washington Bullets drafted him 12th overall in the 1987 NBA draft. Interestingly, he was on the same team as Manute Bol – the tallest player in NBA history. Bol was two feet and four inches taller than Bogues.

Bogues had a successful and notable NBA career that spanned 13 years, ten of which were spent with the Charlotte Hornets. He was known for his incredible speed, passing ability, quickness, and knack for stealing the ball from opponents. Bogues holds several Hornets records including career steals and assists. In the 1993-1994 season, he averaged 10.8 points per game and 10.7 assists! Despite his lack of height, he managed to block 39 shots, including a shot attempted by 7’0” center Patrick Ewing. Bogues was said to have a 44” inch vertical leap and could nearly dunk a basketball on a ten foot hoop. Bogues retired after the 2000” 2001 season as a Toronto Raptor. During his career, he played for four teams: The Washington Bullets, Charlotte Hornets, Golden State Warriors, and Toronto Raptors.

Since his retirement from the NBA, Bogues has coached basketball, worked in the real estate industry, and made appearances in various movies and television shows.

1. Why does the author mention Spud Webb in the first paragraph?

- A. To emphasize that short players could be successful in the NBA
- B. To emphasize that Muggsy Bogues was shorter than the shortest NBA players
- C. To emphasize that Muggsy Bogues was a great player
- D. To compare his career to that of another short player

2. What can be inferred from the passage?

- A. Muggsy Bogues had his most successful seasons with the Charlotte Hornets
- B. Muggsy Bogues was one of the best players in NBA history
- C. His most successful season was likely with the Toronto Raptors
- D. Muggsy Bogues was probably much taller than 5'3"

3. Muggsy Bogues was not...

- A. quick and fast.
- B. a great passer.
- C. a great scorer.
- D. great at stealing the ball.

4. What does “arguably” mean in the following sentence?

His high school team, the Dunbar Poets, was arguably one of the best of all-time

- A. It means people from Dunbar High School often argue
- B. It means Bogues’s high school team was unquestionably the best of all-time.
- C. It means Bogues’s high school team was good, but probably not the best of all-time
- D. It means Bogues’s high school team may have been the best of all-time, although some might consider other teams the best of all-time

5. What question is answered in the third paragraph?

- A. How high could Muggsy Bogues jump?
- B. What did Muggsy Bogues do after he retired?
- C. Who was Manute Bol?
- D. How many seasons did Muggsy Bogues play with the Toronto Raptors?

6. Which is NOT true about Muggsy Bogues?

- A. He went to Wake Forest University
- B. He was originally drafted by the Charlotte Hornets
- C. His parents gave him a different nickname than Muggsy
- D. He once blocked a shot by someone who was seven feet tall

7. Which word in the third paragraph means “skill?”

- A. knack
- B. notable
- C. records
- D. incredible