

Coach Murphy

Written by
Shawn Decker

Email shawndoc1996@gmail.com

FADE IN

INT. COACHES OFFICE - DAY - PRESENT

Head Coach CHRISTINE MURPHY, 30s, is looking over plays on a clipboard as she walks towards the locker room. Christine is coaching a wild-card game after a crazy season of her becoming the head coach.

SUPER: NFL WILD CARD GAME. PRESENT DAY

INTERCUT MONTAGE AND CHRISTINE WALKING

INSERT NEWSPAPER CLIP 1

"Local Pop Warner Coach Tod Palmer dies in a car crash. Tod is survived by his wife Lori Palmer and young daughter Christine Palmer."

INSERT NEWSPAPER CLIP 2

"Christine Palmer first girl to join the JV football team for X middle school."

INSERT NEWSPAPER CLIP 3

"X High School's football sensation Christine Palmer varsity kicker, helps X go 8-0 but can a girl take them to state?"

INSERT NEWSPAPER CLIP 4

"X High School takes the State title when varsity kicker Christine Palmer put up the winning score to X's win over X 17-14."

INSERT NEWSPAPER CLIP 5

"College football, not for girls, local athlete and varsity football star Christine Palmer will not be scouted by college football programs but has been offered a Soccer scholarship to X University."

INT. LOCKER ROOM

Christine enters as the players are getting ready. Assistant Coach BENNY WILLIAMS, 50's see's Christine walk in and calls the players together.

BENNY

All right team huddle up coach has some wisdom to impart.

SUPER: MURPHY HOME, FIVE MONTHS EARLIER

INT. MURPHY HOME/BATHROOM - DAY - PAST

Murphy home at the start of the football season. Christine is checking out her BLANK team jersey in her mirror. She looks at her watch.

CHRISTINE

Okay everyone, get up its game day!

INT. HALLWAY - DAY - SAME

BRET MURPHY daughter, 16, and JOHNNY MURPHY, son, 14, enter from their rooms.

JOHNNY

Oh god, I forgot we have the home game.

BRET

It's too early for anyone to be this excited.

Christine enters from her room.

CHRISTINE

(excitedly)

Let's go, kids. We have to get to the stadium for tailgating; it's the first game of the season in our new home. Anything is possible so let's get ready to cheer BLANK on to victory.

Christine exits.

JOHNNY

Victory; it's been so long since they won a game I think they forgot what that word even means.

BRET

If the team were a sick dog, they would've put it down to end its suffering.

JOHNNY

And moms.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY - SAME

Christine is with her husband IAN MURPHY, 40's, dressed in his football gear.

CHRISTINE

Baby, don't forget the charcoal for the tailgate.

IAN

Hey honey, maybe we could stay home and watch the game on TV, you know, let the kids relax?

CHRISTINE

Sweetie, this is the first game of the season in a brand-new stadium, and we are season ticket holders. It's a tradition.

Christine kisses him on the cheek and runs off. Bret and Johnny enter dressed in their team jerseys.

BRET

Dad, can we skip football this year? I wanted to spend the day at the beach before it gets cold.

JOHNNY

Yeah, and I wanted to hang out with my friends.

IAN

Look, guys, your mom does a lot for us and this well it's her...

BRET

(interrupting)
It's her crazy time.

JOHNNY

Yeah, from now until the Super Bowl we either have to spend every Sunday at the game.

BRET

Or we are stuck at home while mom yells plays at the TV as if the coach could hear her, then acts surprised when he doesn't call her plays.

IAN

Kids when a man and a woman love each other they often do things for each other that they don't want to. And you take the good with the...

JOHNNY AND BRET

(loudly.)

Fanatical.

Johnny and Bret fist bump each other.

IAN

But you do those things and your mom well, we love her, and this is what we do. Besides, it's just one day a week.

BRET

(sounding ill)

I don't feel good. The idea of all that tailgate food and those drunk guys leering at me makes me want to puke.

Christine enters the kitchen.

CHRISTINE

Come on, let's get going. We need to get to the stadium and get set up. It's not game day without mom's ten-layer kale dip.

Bret starts to gag.

Christine runs out of the room screaming the TEAM NAME. Ian, Johnny, and Bret follow her out.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY - SAME

SUPER: FIRST DAY OF THE NFL SEASON.

Several FOOTBALL PLAYERS are getting ready. COACH SKIP, 60's, enters and call's out to QB's KRIS JETTLER 20'S, and BUCK DECKER 30'S.

SKIP

Okay Buck, Jettler, let me have a word with you both.

The two QB's follow Skip away from the other players.

SKIP (CONT'D)

Well, I know you both have worked hard these last few months. I was going to start you Jettler, but after some long thought, I am going to start Buck instead.

Buck gives Jettler a smile Jettler looks away dejected.

SKIP (CONT'D)

Now Jettler I know how you feel, but you need more time and Buck here knows the defense of BLANK better than anyone. It will throw them off, might be the greatest trick in football.

BUCK

I won't let you down Coach.

SKIP

Yep, I know. Now both of you finish getting ready. I think this is going to be my best season ever.

The three men separate and Jettler heads to his locker and starts to slam his gear around. Assistant Coach Benny walks over to Jettler.

BENNY

Hey Kris, don't let Skip get you down.

JETTLER

To hell with him. I am the best damn player on this team, and he knows it. Buck must have his head up coach's ass.

BENNY

Kris, I know you are pissed, but you watch it. You're a part of this team; you need to calm that ego.

(MORE)

BENNY (CONT'D)

You might have been a football god in College, but here you're just a rookie.

JETTLER

No, I am the young gun stuck with a bunch of losers.

BENNY

Now look, kid, I came over here to try and calm you down, but if all you want to do is call us names and throw a little boy temper tantrum, you can stew on the bench for all I care.

Jettler walks away from Benny. Benny speaks to a nearby player MONTY JONES' 20's.

BENNY (CONT'D)

Damn colleges are turning out some real pieces of work.

MONTY

He ain't wrong Coach. That kid is our best chance, and Buck is not ready to play today. Offense is set for college boy. Plays will be off.

BENNY

I know, but we have to trust that Skip knows what he is doing.

MONTY

Well, don't expect me to break my neck out there today. Coach is nuts, and no one is going to risk their futures on him.

Monty walks off.

INT. PARKING LOT - DAY - SAME

SUPER: X's NEW STADIUM, FIRST GAME OF THE SEASON.

Tailgating at the new X stadium. LUKE WILSON, 40's, Ian and several MEN and WOMEN are gathered around Luke's BBQ.

LUKE

(to Ian)

There's no way they will go to the Super Bowl again.

(MORE)

LUKE (CONT'D)
 Hell, they lost half their best
 players to free agency.

IAN
 Yeah, I guess.

LUKE
 Hey, what do you think of our team
 after pre-season?

IAN
 Well, they don't look so good, but
 maybe that new QB we got can help
 turn it around.

LUKE
 I think they screwed up and should
 have taken that RB ol' Buck still has
 some life in that arm.

Ian is about to respond when Christine and JULIE WILSON 30,
 Luke's wife enter.

CHRISTINE
 I don't know about that. Buck threw
 29 interceptions last year.
 This new kid is good, but we could
 have gotten a seasoned free agent for
 less.

Luke looks over at Christine happy to see her.

LUKE
 There she is, my football partner in
 crime.

Christine hugs him.

LUKE (CONT'D)
 We need a QB to be ready, and we did
 get the best college draft.

CHRISTINE
 True, but he cost us a lot. Three top
 round picks next year plus he maxed
 out our salary cap.

LUKE
 True that.

CHRISTINE
 Now the place we are weakest is on
 defense.

(MORE)

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)

I think the coach screwed us when he failed to draft Dante out of Ohio State; he would have shored up our D big time.

LUKE

Yep, so how have you been Christine?

CHRISTINE

Not bad, except for all the amateurs around.

LUKE

Damn straight, there will be a lot of crazies out today. You got a lot of newbies who have never been to a game before with the cheap tickets.

Several MEN and WOMEN are running around the parking lot drunk and acting crazy.

JULIE.

And from the look of it, most of them are already trashed. Oh, that reminds me.

Julie hands Christine a bloody Mary.

CHRISTINE

Cheers, we might as well start to catch up.

JULIE

If you can't beat them, out drink them.

Julie and Christine high five.

LUKE

(to the guys)

This woman knows more about football than most sportscasters. Watch this, hey Christine what were Dan Marino's total yards in the super bowl?

Christine and the Men start to banter over stats, Julie and Ian walk away.

JULIE

Come on my football widow, let's have a shot while the jocks play who cares trivia.

Ian takes the shot glass from Julie and they both down them.

IAN
Football widower.

EXT. SIDELINES/FIELD - NIGHT - PRESENT

SUPER: WILD CARD GAME PRESENT

Christine is coaching the wild card game; she is following her defense; on the field, the other TEAM has the ball. The QUARTERBACK takes the snap then looks for a receiver as the BLANK defense rushes.

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Number seven takes the snap; he looks
for an open receiver...

The QB is hit by Monty and fumbles the football, Monty retrieves it and runs it in for a touchdown.

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
And thirty-four has a sack he
recovers the ball. He is at the
twenty the ten... touch down BLANK.

Christine and the other PLAYERS are jumping for joy.

CHRISTINE
Way to go defense.

The PLAYERS run off the field and Christine and Benny high five them all as another group of PLAYERS run out to the field.

EXT. FOOTBALL STANDS - DAY - PAST

The Murphy's and Wilson's are together in the stands with all the other FANS around them.

CHRISTINE
Come on D get your damn heads in the
game. You've given them so much
yardage you might as well just play
for the other team.

LUKE
(screaming)
Damn D do your job and hold them.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - SAME

The QUARTERBACK for the other TEAM is throwing a perfect spiral to his RECEIVER who runs past the other PLAYERS for an easy touchdown. ANNOUNCER calls the play over the loudspeaker.

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.)
Touchdown BLANK. The score is now
fourteen zero BLANK.

EXT. FOOTBALL STANDS - DAY - SAME

Christine and Luke are angry and frustrated the FANS behind them are visibly upset.

CHRISTINE
Oh, for Christ's sake, what the Hell
D, you just let him in?

LUKE
What the F.

INT. LUXURY BOX - DAY - SAME

SUPER: OWNERS BOX TEAM X, OPENING DAY

In the owner's box the team executives owner TAYLOR GEORGE, 20s, GM BOB YORK, 60s, and marketing director PAUL REED, 40s. Bob has binoculars and is concentrating on the crowd.

TAYLOR
Oh man, what the hell is wrong with
my defense?

BOB
You skimped on the payroll and didn't
bother to go out and buy one.

TAYLOR
No comments from the peanut gallery
and that was your job.

BOB
Can't draft good players if you won't
give me the money to buy.

TAYLOR
Spent it all on the flashy QB, and
why the hell did that lazy coach of
mine, not play him?

(MORE)

TAYLOR (CONT'D)

Tell me again why I cannot fire that drunken son of a bitch?

BOB

Because he still has two years on his contract and if you shit can him you have to pay him.

TAYLOR

And who the hell talked me into that?

Taylor and Bob both look at Paul in the background, and Paul gets uncomfortable.

BOB

Anyway, you again did not want to pay for a new coach. Oh, MILF eleven o'clock.

TAYLOR

Jeez, Bob keep it in your pants.

Paul looks disgusted. Taylor wanders over to see what Bob is looking at. Bob hands Taylor the binoculars.

TAYLOR (CONT'D)

MMHHMM not bad, but a little old for me.

INSERT BINOCULAR VIEW

Focused on Christine.

BACK TO SCENE

Taylor's phone rings he looks at his cell, then gets a scared look. Bob still looking at the crowd with binoculars.

BOB

Is that mommy calling to congratulate you on a great game?

TAYLOR

Screw you Bob, go back to your middle-aged housewives.

BOB

Don't knock it till you try it. They put out, unlike those expensive little teasers you take out to six-figure dinners.

Taylor gives the back of Bob's head the finger and goes to answer his phone.

BOB (CONT'D)
Real mature Taylor.

Taylor looks stunned that Bob responded to his finger gesture.

BOB (CONT'D)
Better take mommies call.

Taylor gives him the finger again and answers his phone.

EXT. STADIUM SIDELINES - DAY - SAME

Coach Skip is on the sidelines, Jettler is on the bench, Buck runs over from the field.

BUCK
Hey Coach, sorry I thought I could get it out and into the end zone.

SKIP
That's okay, Buck you tried that's all that matters.

BUCK
To be honest Coach, I don't think this is our best. We need a new play.

Jettler jumps up

JETTTLER
Hey, coach why not give me a shot.

BUCK
I thought you just wanted to ride the bench until free agency, football god.

JETTTLER
At least I could put up some points and not embarrass myself.

Jettler and Buck are about to go at it when Skip interrupts.

SKIP
Nah, it's okay Buck you got this, run the same play they won't expect it a second time.

(MORE)

SKIP (CONT'D)

Jettler you just sit back and watch
how a real player pulls out a game.

Buck looks at Jettler shrugs, then runs off to the field.

EXT. STADIUM SEATS - DAY - SAME

Christine and Julie together, Luke and Ian appear to be
passed out. The kids are all on their phones.

CHRISTINE

(praying)

Come on come on come on...

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - DAY - SAME

The PLAYERS are set up on the line, then the snap, Buck
takes the ball.

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Seventeen needs a target. He sees his
receiver he lets it go.

Buck runs out of the pocket he then throws and is
intercepted.

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And Seventeen is intercepted. And
that will let BLANK take over
possession on their own twenty-five-
yard line.

EXT. STANDS/SIDELINE - DAY - SAME

Christine screams at Coach Skip.

CHRISTINE

Are you serious?

The same dam play? Like BLANK
wouldn't have expected that?

Coach Skip appears to hear Christine and looks up at the
crowd and the other FANS that are screaming at him along
with Christine. Luke hears Christine and wakes from his
stupor.

LUKE

(Slurring)

Wasshhed up drunks.

EXT. STADIUM PARKING LOT - DAY - PAST

The Murphy's and Wilson's are walking towards their cars.
Luke and Ian are both stumbling drunk.

CHRISTINE

(to Julie)

I am sick of the incompetence of the
owners and coaches of this damn team.

Julie with Luke holding on to her.

JULIE

What I can't believe is I have to
drive Mr. Drunky Drunk home and get
him to bed.

Julie stops and looks at Christine.

JULIE (CONT'D)

Look, girl I know how you are, you
will brood about this all night. Take
my advice get Ian and the kids home
pour yourself a nice glass of wine.
Take a long hot bath and wash that
team right out of your hair.

Christine seems not to hear Julie at first and is lost in
contemplation.

CHRISTINE

I cannot understand how a man so
incompetent, still has a job?

Christine stares past Julie, Julie waves her hand in front
of Christine's face.

JULIE

Hello, Earth to Christine??

CHRISTINE

(coming back)

Huh, what? Oh, right wine, yes, that
sounds good.

Julie hugs Christine.

JULIE

Hey girl, maybe this season we go
easy on the football and take up a
healthier sport, like day drinking?
How about we do a bottomless brunch
next Sunday?

Christine drifts off in thought again.

CHRISTINE
(distracted)
Yeah, maybe.

JULIE
Well, we can plan something, get the
family home, safe.

Luke comes to for a moment.

LUKE
(slurring)
Snit football crime playerrrrr.

CHRISTINE
Night guys.

INT. LUXURY BOX - DAY - SAME

Taylor is on the phone with his mother HELEN GEORGE, 60s,
while Bob and Paul look on.

TAYLOR
Yes, mom. I understand...

Um, okay, hold on. (MOS)
She wants to be on speakerphone.

Taylor holds his cell out.

HELEN (V.O.)
Okay, Bob, Paul, are you both there?

BOB AND PAUL
Yes, Ms. George.

HELEN (V.O.)
(yelling)
Look, this is an embarrassment. This
bull crap needs to stop. You need to
turn this around. We just convinced
the city and the taxpayers to shell
out a butt load of money for this new
stadium, they will not be happy that
their tax money was spent on housing
a bunch of losers. Do you understand
me?

TAYLOR BOB AND PAUL
Yes, ma'am.

HELEN (V.O.)

Do not fucking Ma'am me. Just do your damn jobs. Bob get that lazy drunken loser coach to either sober up and do his job or fire him. Find someone; he'll find anyone who has half a damn brain to coach this team to some wins.

Taylor and Paul look at Bob and smirk.

HELEN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And Paul do your damn job and promote this team. Find a way to spin these losers so that the fans will want to shell out money to see them.

Paul starts to respond, but Helen cuts him off.

HELEN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

I don't care how you do it. Just do it or polish up your resume.

Bob and Taylor point at Paul.

HELEN (V.O.) (CONT'D)

And my dear son. Get your head out of your ass. Stop gallivanting around with those stupid fashion models, or I will turn the team over to your sister and that brain-dead idiot husband of hers. Do I make myself clear?

TAYLOR BOB AND PAUL

Yes, Ma...

They catch themselves.

TAYLOR BOB AND PAUL (CONT'D)

Yes.

HELEN (V.O.)

Good, now get to work.

Helen hangs up, and they all stare at each other.

TAYLOR

Crap, I think she is serious this time.

BOB

Yep, and I do not want to work for the ice queen and Dumbo. That Woman could freeze a thawed turkey between her legs in seconds.

TAYLOR

Geez, Bob, that's my Sister, but you're right, she is no fun. If they take over the gravy train is gone. - No more Super Bowl parties.

PAUL

How the hell am I supposed to get people to want to pay to see this team?

BOB

No more cheerleader auditions.

TAYLOR

No more jobs.

Their attention turns to one of the TVs in the Sky Box.

Voice of KIMBERLEY BENNETT 30's local TV reporter who is interviewing fans.

KIMBERLY (O.C.)

Well, John, those were some unhappy fans, Sorry for all the um' expletives. Thank you time delay.

EXT. STADIUM PARKING LOT - DAY - SAME

Kimberly sees the Murphy's and catches up to interview them.

KIMBERLY

Hi there, this is Kimberly Bennett with Sports Seven News. Do you have a moment?

Kimberly puts the microphone towards Ian, who slumps and starts to slur. Kimberly realizes he is drunk and moves the mic towards Christine.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)

So, how did you all enjoy the game?

CHRISTINE

Are you serious? Did you watch the same game I watched?

(MORE)

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
The defense laid down and let the
BLANK QB run all over them.
(beat)

I think I speak for all the fans...

Christine pulls the microphone from Kimberly and looks at the camera.

CHRISTINE (CONT'D)
That we are sick of the sheer
incompetence of the rich boy owner of
this team. He is destroying the team
his father loved.

Christine releases the microphone back to Kimberly.

KIMBERLY
Well, um, what did you think of the
new stadium?

Ian drunk leans into the microphone.

IAN
(mumbling)
Loves the craft beer stands.

Ian falls over, and Johnny picks him up and the Murphy's walk away. Kimberly looks at them leave with anger.

KIMBERLY
Well, Tom, there you have it. The
reaction of fans is not good after
another loss, but the reviews of the
stadium are pretty good. Join me
tonight for the Coach Skip show.

INT. LUXURY BOX - DAY - SAME

Taylor, Bob, and Paul all watched Christine's tirade.

BOB
Well boss, she sure called you out
rich boy. Hey, maybe we should get
that hot housewife to coach the team.

TAYLOR
Right, a hot MILF might be a real
draw.

Bob and Taylor laugh while Paul thinks.

INT. MURPHY HOUSE/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - SAME

The Murphy's enter the living room. Ian can barely stand.

CHRISTINE

Okay, honey go upstairs and get comfy. I will get you an aspirin and a bucket of water.

IAN

(mumbling)

Okay, baby. I love you.

Ian stumbles up the stairs, and Johnny follows him up.

BRET

Wow, dad got pretty trashed.

CHRISTINE

Yeah, he and Luke both had too much fun. I think your dad will take a sick day tomorrow.

BRET

Good idea.

Bret pauses before heading upstairs.

BRET (CONT'D)

Hey mom.

CHRISTINE

Yes, sweetie?

BRET

Um, sorry the team lost so badly.

CHRISTINE

Oh, thank you. Hey, I had a great time with you and your brother, and that's all that matters. Time with you guys is important to me. Soon we won't have these family game days anymore.

BRET

Well, I did have fun today.

CHRISTINE

No, you didn't sweetie, but that means a lot.

BRET
Well, I was bored, but I do love time
with you.

CHRISTINE
Yeah, while I scream my lungs out
like a maniac.

BRET
(laughing)
Yeah, if only they would listen to
you, they might win sometimes.

CHRISTINE
Right, silly boys need to learn to
listen to us smart, independent
women.

BRET
Right. Well, night mom.

Bret gives Christine a big hug and then Bret runs upstairs.

Christine pours herself a glass of wine and then goes into
the living room.

Christine turns on the TV; the local sports show is on.
Christine sits, then she looks over and sees a picture of
herself and her dad on the mantel.

INSERT - PICTURE

Young Christine and Tod both in their team Jerseys.

BACK TO SCENE

Christine hears the TV and comes back to reality.

EXT. STADIUM - DAY- PREVIOUS

The sports show is playing earlier recorded video of
PROTESTERS in front of the new stadium, with JODI GODLING,
20's, holding a megaphone. Kimberly is narrating the scene.

KIMBERLY (V.O.)
Not everyone who attended the opening
day of the new stadium was there to
celebrate and enjoy the game. A group
of women's rights activists gathered
just outside of the new stadium.

PROTESTERS (CONTINUOUS)
Women are people, not trophies.

JODI
(yelling)
We will no longer tolerate the way
the NFL treats women. They only see
us as pretty girls who prance around
on the sidelines, and players only
see us as trophies and sex objects.
It is time to boycott the NFL until
they take women seriously.

Cheers from the protesters.

JODI (CONT'D)
If a player beats his wife or
girlfriend, he gets a one-game
suspension, but if a player tests
positive for marijuana, he gets
banned. Drug infractions are
penalized with more severity than
crimes against women.

A SECURITY GUARD steps up to grab Jodi.

SECURITY GUARD
(loudly)
Look, little girl, football games are
no place to protest.

Jodi tries to wrestle away as two guards start to handcuff
her.

JODI
(angry)
Why not? And don't call me little
girl, you fascists.

We hear more chanting in the background as Jodi is taken
away.

INT. TV STAGE - NIGHT - SAME

Kimberly Bennett and Coach Skip are in chairs next to each
other interview format.

KIMBERLY

And then stadium security was able to escort the protesters out, and the fans got to enjoy the game or as much as they could with the thirty-five to zero final score.

Kimberly turns to Skip.

KIMBERLY (CONT'D)

Coach Skip, not a great start for the season?

Skip looks drunk slumping in his chair, swiveling back and forth.

SKIP

(mumbling)

MMMM yes, it was a disappointment.

Kimberly waits for him to say more when it is obvious that he is not going to say any more she presses on.

KIMBERLY

Well, coach Skip what do you think went wrong?

Skip swivels back and forth.

SKIP

Well, we played like crap. The other team played like they wanted to win so... um... that's well how it goes some days. (Burbs)

Kimberly tries to keep the show on track and keep her composure.

KIMBERLY

Okay, well, let's go to the phone lines and hear from the fans. Hello, you're on the air with Coach Skip.

SKIP

Oh hell, call me Skip god damn it, I am just a man, not some dam celebrity.

KIMBERLY

Okay, caller what is your question.

Kimberly looks over with disgust at skip.

INT. MURPHY/LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - SAME

Christine looks at the TV

INSERT TV

The phone number to call the show flashes on the TV screen.

BACK TO SCENE

Christine takes out her cell phone and enters the number.

In the background, a CALLER to the show.

CALLER (V.O.)
Coach why the BLEEP did you not play
Jettler? How stupid are you to change
quarterbacks on game day you fu...

The caller is cut off.

INT. TV STAGE - NIGHT - SAME

Kimberly mortified while Coach Skip appears unfazed by the angry call.

KIMBERLY
Okay, thank you for that colorful
call um, let's um take another call,
shall we.

SKIP
Whatever.

Skip burbs and slumps lower in his chair.

KIMBERLY
Okay, we have a female fan on the
line. This should be fun. Hello,
caller welcome. Do you have a
question for Coach Skip?

INTERCUT CHRISTINE - SKIP

Christine is on her cell phone looking at her T.V.

CHRISTINE

Yes, I wanted to know why Coach, and I use the term loosely, put all his faith in our new QB in the draft, who he failed to play today after he said he would be the starter.

(beat)

And why he did not shore up the defense that is badly in need of new blood?

Skip straightens up with a real question.

SKIP

Well, young lady, there is a lot that goes into the draft picks, and it's a little too complicated for some of our um... fans of the fairer sex.

CHRISTINE

Bull and don't patronize me, coach, I have been a fan since I was five. I followed all the players in the draft you failed to pick, most notably the safety from Ohio State. Totally blew that one!

SKIP

Well, now you don't understand we need a new QB, and I believed then as I do now that Jettler is the best use of our draft options and...

Christine cuts him off.

CHRISTINE

Again, I call bull. You had the second-round pick, and you traded four picks next year for one player. You could have drafted nearly an entirely new team for that one trade; you screwed us next year.

Skip is now a little flustered and angry.

SKIP

Now see here, Kris is the future of this team he will be worth all the trades as an investment on what this team can do in the future.

CHRISTINE

Future, what future? What about this season and why haven't you played him? I mean we lost most of the games last season, why not put him in and get him some experience?

INTERCUT. SKIP - CHRISTINE - PAUL - BOB

Paul and Bob are also watching the sports show and the exchange between Christine and Skip.

SKIP

(frustrated)

Well, he's not ready, and Buck still has many good plays left in him and...

Christine cuts him off again.

CHRISTINE

Again, bull. He threw so many interceptions that you should charge his pay to the other team. Do you want to know what I think?

SKIP

What do you think young lady?

CHRISTINE

I think you are an over the hill drunk past his prime who lost his passion for the game, and if not for your contract you would have been fired years ago. (beat) Meanwhile, the fans pay out our money for season tickets just to get screwed. And why in the hell didn't you go for it on fourth down? What the hell did you have to lose?

Paul in his apartment.

PAUL

(to himself)

Oh, that's the woman from the stadium interviews.

Bob is sitting with a HOT BLONDE, 20's, in his apartment.

BOB
 Damn, she's calling that drunken hack
 out and to be honest, I am a little
 turned on by it.

Hot Blonde smacks him playfully.

INTERCUT. CHRISTINE - SKIP

Skip is visibly angry and shaking with rage.

SKIP
 How dare you call me out like that
 Missy, I have given my god damn life
 to this game, and I have had enough
 of all you goddamn Monday morning
 quarterbacks. No woman can call me
 out on my decisions.

Christine leans forward towards the TV with a smile on her
 face.

CHRISTINE
 I believe I already did Coach.

SKIP
 Screw you bitch. You think you're so
 BLEEP smart then you coach the god
 damn team, I BLEEP quit.

CHRISTINE
 I would love to coach the team that I
 have loved my whole life. I am sure
 I, hell anyone could do a better job
 than you.

INT. TV STAGE - NIGHT - SAME

Skip stands up and pulls his microphone off.

SKIP
 That's it. Done.

KIMBERLY
 Um, coach, the show is not over yet,
 let's go to another caller.

SKIP
 I've had it with women and crybaby
 fans. Bunch of damn snowflakes. I
 need a goddamn drink.

Skip storms off the stage, leaving Kimberley to go on without him.

KIMBERLY

Well, I would like to thank our last caller for her comments.

Kimberly throws her hands up, then stares after Skip then back to the camera.

KIMBERLEY (CONT')

What a great show. Tune in next week for who knows what? Maybe we can have a spirited discussion on oh, race relations in America, or gun control. Goodnight.

INT. PAULS LIVING ROOM - NIGHT - SAME

Paul is leaning towards his TV, he reaches for his phone and hits dial and waits, someone picks up.

PAUL

Hi, did you see the coach skip show?

(beat)

Yeah, I agree he has to go, but hey, I think I found that promotional idea to get the fans excited.

Paul is smiling at his T.V.

INSERT. TV SCREEN

Kimberly appears to be screaming at someone as the credits roll on her T.V. show.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD/SIDELINES - NIGHT - PRESENT

SUPER: NFL WILD CARD GAME, PRESENT

X is on the field, Buck takes the snap and fades back

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.)

Number seventeen fades back. He needs an open receiver. He lets it go.

Buck throws to DESHAWN, 20s, who catches it and runs in for a touchdown.

STADIUM ANNOUNCER (V.O.) (CONT'D)
 Seventeen throws, and it is caught by
 twenty-two who runs it in for an easy
 touchdown. The score is now tied
 fourteen to fourteen with just over
 two minutes left in the fourth
 quarter.

Christine and the TEAM jump up for joy on the sidelines,
 then Christine runs over to Benny.

CHRISTINE
 Leave Buck in and send in Jettler.

BENNY
 Are we going for two?

CHRISTINE
 Hell, yes, we are.

Benny goes over to speak to Jettler, then Jettler runs onto
 the field he and Buck high five then huddle with the other
 players.

INT. EXECUTIVE BOX - SAME

SUPER: NFL OWNERS BOX

A group of well-dressed MEN and Beautiful WOMEN are gathered
 drinking and watching the game. COMMISSIONER BARTLETT 50's
 is on his cell phone.

BARTLETT
 Why the hell is she still coaching?
 (beat)
 I do not want to hear any excuses.
 This stunt has gone on long enough.
 (beat)
 I don't care that she is winning, we
 need to make a stand. She is making
 us look foolish. This is the NFL
 dammit, and there is no place for
 this feminist me too bullshit. Can
 you take her down so it won't come
 back on us?
 (beat)
 Then make it happen. I want her to
 wish she had never heard of football.

EXT. PARK - DAY - FLASHBACK

SUPER: LOCAL PARK TWENTY YEARS EARLIER

Young CHRISTINE PALMER, 10, and her Mother LORI PALMER, 30's, arrive at a Pop Warner practice, Christine is dressed in her football gear ready to play.

LORI

Now sweetie, as I told you, don't get your hopes up. Just because your dad helped coach with Mr. Williams doesn't mean he will let you play. Men have a funny idea about girls and their boy games.

CHRISTINE

I know mom, but once I show coach how I can pass and run. I just know I will make the team.

FADE OUT