ANCHOR
MORE THAN 95-THOUSAND PEOPLE ARE AWAITING A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.
ONE MAN IS OFF THAT LIST THANKS TO COMMUNITY SUPPORT THAT REACHED A TRANSPLANT SURGEON.

PKG
Supers
Dr. Betsy Tuttle-Newhall – ECU/Vidant Health Surgeon
Brandon Hodges – Kidney Transplant Recipient
Mike Ward – Kidney Donor
Dr. David Leeser - ECU/Vidant Health Surgeon

--NATS--
30:14 – Dr. Betsy Tuttle-Newhall – it just was the perfect storm.
--NATS--
THIS IS A STORY WHERE RENAL FAILUE... THE LOVE OF BASEBALL... SOCIAL MEDIA AND TRANSPLANT SURGERONS are BROUGHT TOGETHER.
30:14 – Dr. Betsy Tuttle-Newhall – this just happened to have – the timing just seemed to work.
--NATS--
THE OAKWOOD SCHOOL’S PHYSED TEACHER and coach, BRANDON HODGES, SUFFEREND FROM IGA NEPHROPATHY SINCE HE WAS A TEENAGER.
HIS KIDNEY FUNCTION SLOWLY DETERIORATED UNTIL HE NEEDED A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT.
52:32 – Brandon Hodges – I knew it was coming... but I was devastated when he told me I needed a kidney transplant cause I thought I was OK.
BRANDON’S NEED FOR A TRANSPLANT HIT SOCIAL MEDIA... causing AN OLD BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL BUDDY TOOK THE MOUND SO TO SPEAK.
3:45 – Mike Ward – the whole time they were doing the testing I told them I know you have to do these tests, but it’s gonna to be me.
IT TURNED OUT MIKE WARD WAS RIGHT... HE WAS BRANDON’S MATCH.
3:53 – Mike Ward – I told you so.
THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO HAVE THE TRANSPLANT IN THE TIRANGLE... BUT THEN THERE WAS AN ISSUE OVER INSURANCE.
54:10 – Brandon Hodges – it was like a standstill. And that’s when doctor Leeser called me and got involved.
DR. DAVID LEESER OF ECU AND VIDANT HEALTH... SAYS A CO-WORKER FORWARDED HIM A STORY ON BRANDON’S STRuggles.
16:39 – Dr. David Leeser – the next day, one of the financial coordinators came in and said to me, ‘Hey, can we help Coach Hodges?’ And I said, ‘Sure, get me the number for the school.’
LEESER CALLED BRANDON AND LEFT HIM A VOICEMAIL.
16:55 – Dr. David Leeser – 20 minutes later he called me, about a week later he was in my office.
AND LESS THAN A MONTH LATER... MIKE’S KIDNEY WAS TRANSPLANTED INTO BRANDON.
54:39 – Brandon Hodges – It shows where our transplant team is going at East Carolina, at Vidant. They’re amazing and along with Mike, they saved my life.
8:27 – Mike Ward – there were a lot of people that were on board for Brandon, I just beat them to the punch.
1:40 – Brandon Hodges – I’m probably about 85 to 90 percent. Mike and I get up every morning – Monday through Friday – and we work out.
19:25 – Dr. David Leeser – Coach Hodges is doing spectacularly well. He feels great, he’s back at work. And He’s going to keep, hopefully, this kidney for many, many years to come.
2:14 – Brandon Hodges – I just feel amazing.

ANCHOR TAG
VIDANT MEDICAL CENTER HAS RECENTLY JOINED THE NATIONAL KIDNEY REGISTRY.
BY THE WAY... APRIL IS NATIONAL DONATE LIFE MONTH.