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Military Ball

By: Candice Codina and Claudia Reza

Pueblo County High School's JROTC Program attended the annual Military Dance on November 17, 2012 in the Occhiato Ballroom at the Colorado State University. It was a great event for everyone to talk and have a ball!

The boys came dressed in their uniforms and their dates in formal clothing. Cadets in the Military Court were Mickel Pannunzio Williams, Makenna Fair, Kaitlyn-Stokely-Roblek, and Kaitlyn Reynolds. The night began with the crowning of the Queen from every District 60 and 70 schools. When it came time for County's crowning, Student Body President Chandler Price and Student Body Secretary Megan Montoya did the honors. Makenna Fair was announced as the Queen of County's JROTC Program.



The dance lasted for a few more hours and allowed for the students to enjoy a few songs, boogie on down, and share great high school moments with other individuals.

JROTC isn't all about being tough and serious and this dance showed what fun JROTC members can have!

SPORTS

Living the Dream, Wrestler Style

By: Anna Hancock

Wrestling is one of the most overlooked high school sports. It takes as much dedication, motivation, and determination as any other sport. Wrestlers have the same fire in them for wrestling that football players have for football. It's a sport of heart and soul.

It's not new that wrestling has been known to be "gay." Non-wrestlers usually think that the physical contact in the sport makes it "homosexual." After asking around the high school I've come to the conclusion that most high school boys don't actually try wrestling because they think it is too hard, not because it's "gay."

Keenan Willits is a junior at Pueblo County. He was raised around wrestling and told me he used to hate it before he got good. Proving that it really is a hard sport you have to work for. Keenan stated to me, "I think many people think that the contact involved in wrestling is gay and they think that it would be uncomfortable, but they just don't understand the object of the sport." Keenan explained that only his close friends have made fun of him for it, but they have always been kidding around.

The most important aspect of the how non-wrestlers and wrestlers feel about wrestling is their perception on it. Perception can easily be changed. That is something I wanted to look deeper into. When asked how trying wrestling changes someone's perception on it, Mr. Soto, the wrestling coach at Pueblo County High School, responded, "They realize everything else in life is easy. They understand what being dedicated to something means. They find a soul purpose for life, wrestling."

Wrestling will always be overlooked. It was always be called "gay" and "homosexual." The point is, wrestling is a sport of heart. It is a sport of hard work. It pushes athletes to their breaking point and beyond. When wrestling is acknowledged and respected, that is when its athletes are accredited for everything they do for the sport.

Wrestlers, overlooked and underappreciated, do get something special out of the sport they love, a bond. Wrestlers personally know how it feels to be put down for doing what they love. The difference with them is that they have an enormous fire in their soul, a purpose for life, a special place in their hearts for wrestling. The passion they have for the sport is a passion you wouldn't find in any other athlete for any other sport. For them, this is wrestling, and this is living the dream.



Advice Column

Dear Wise Man Brave,

I am having trouble balancing my school work with my sport. My parents told me I would have to quit if I cant maintain my grades. Can you help me?

Sincerely,
Unbalanced

Dear Unbalanced,

Many kids have problems balancing these. Try to do homework as soon as you get home. Turn off your T.V., cellphone, and other distractions.

Sincerely,
Wise Man Brave

Dear The Voice,

I really like this boy but I'm not sure what to do he keeps giving me mixed signals he tells me one thing and does another?

From,
Anon

Dear Anon,

You need to decide which you value more: His friendship or his affection. If you decide to try and become more then friends, just know that even if he doesn't feel that way you can still be friends. So I say go for it; ask him how he feels. Knowing is better than wondering.

Sincerely,
The Voice

Dear Miss Sting,

There is a person who sits alone at lunch everyday that my friends don't like. I want to go and talk to them, but I don't want my friends to judge me. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Conflicted Observer

Dear Conflicted Observer,

Go sit with that person anyways. What cares who your friends think? You would be doing nothing wrong. Your "friends" aren't your true friends id they judge you for being nice to someone.

Sincerely,
Miss Sting

2016 Presidential Election

By: Daniel Berumen

Obama winning the presidential election greatly affects the next election. The Republicans are veering; it wouldn't be surprising if they started bashing Democratic hopefuls now, so they have a 4-year head start. Democrats are looking towards next year's election with a great deal of hope.

It's very likely that Hillary Clinton will run for president next election. Political pundits like Bill Maher are very keen towards Hillary Clinton, and Maher believes Clinton would've done a much better job these last four years than Obama. He's not the only one/.

The biggest effect that this year's election has on the next election is that Obama must support Hillary Clinton next election, since Bill Clinton helped him so greatly this year.

Bill Clinton is known for his ability to give motivational speeches and he didn't disappoint his supporters at the Democratic National Convention. Bill Clinton put his unwavering support behind President Obama, undoubtedly being one of the key factors in the election. Had Bill Clinton announced that he disliked Obama, we may have had a very different outcome this election.

Right now Hillary Clinton's name is said with a bit of distain. Hillary Clinton admitted that the American deaths in the Benghazi attack were her fault. Hillary Clinton would likely use her service as Secretary of State as a testament to what she could do as Commander in Chief. Therefore, this is a very big hit to her campaign.

This also comes at a time when a presidential candidate's foreign policy is more important than any other in American history. After World War 2, presidents became more and more comfortable with exercising powers that they don't have. The Constitution gives Congress the right to wage war with another country, not the president. In the 20th century, U.S Presidents started believing that it was their right to decide what our troops do and where they are. The War Powers Resolution of 1973 originally set out to reign in the war powers of the president, but ended up giving the president more power by allowing them to wage war against a country for sixty-ninety days. This, however, doesn't even matter because our presidents don't feel the need to abide by the sixty to ninety-day limitation.

Hillary Clinton embraces the foreign policy that Democrats love, an interventionist foreign policy that assumes power over countries through multilateralism. If they can look past the Benghazi incident, Democrats will have no problem whatsoever casting their vote for Hillary Clinton.

With Barack Obama's support, Hillary Clinton has a great chance of overcoming her Republican opponent.



By: Brooke Van Hee

Psychological Stereotyping

Stereotyping does not discriminate. It lives in everyday situations, posing an unavoidable threat to all classifications. Scientists used to believe that only people who thought they were better than everyone stereotyped, but now they have discovered that everyone does it whether they realize it or not. It is human nature to place people into categories; it helps us to distinguish individuals.

A psychology professor at Yale University felt the pain of discrimination. Mahzarin Banaji, a woman in a minority ethnic group, did not think she would be a person to stereotype. However, her results on an unconscious bias test proved differently.

"I showed very strong prejudices," Banaji stated, "it was truly a disconcerting experience."

In the past, scientists hypothesized that there were people who said that they were not prejudiced, but they actually had unconscious negative stereotypes and beliefs. Psychologist Dovidio, Ph.D., of Colgate University said "It was like theorizing about the existence of a virus, and then one day seeing it under a microscope. We are able to categorize and evaluate things; it is a part of human intelligence. It is crucial to our survival."



John Bargh, Ph.D., of New York University says, "When we use stereotypes, we take in the gender, the age, the color of the skin of the person before us, and our minds respond with messages that say hostile, stupid, slow, weak. Those qualities aren't out of the environment. They don't reflect reality."

Humans need to feel like they are apart of a group. Human identities have attached themselves to more classifications, such as race and class. People want to feel that the group they are in is good, and the best way to make sure of that is to put those down who are not a part of the group. Stereotyping is unfortunately bred in our bones.

I asked a middle school teacher at Vineland Middle School about his view on stereotyping. I asked if he was able to keep an open mind of if he placed students in groups. He replied, "I always strive to keep an open mind with all students, however, there are teachers who take pride in grouping kids. I also asked him if he thought being a middle school teacher exposed him to stereotyping more than teachers of different grade levels. "No definitely not, I think all teachers get it the same," he responded.

Some scientists argue that stereotypes are usually accurate and that they can be relied on without reservations. Most scientists, however, would completely disagree with that. Even if a stereotype is somewhat truthful, a person is still applying a generalization about a group to an individual, and that is incorrect. Some people also believe that the use of stereotypes is plain out wrong and unjust. In society, people should be judged as an individual and not as a group.

Even with all the time spent on researching stereotypes, scientists have come to the conclusion that people can't seem to help it. When performing experiments on people, they witness that people simply draw an unconscious stereotype of men as more important and influential than women. Another result that is drawn is that people make implicit stereotypes, because people know they are making judgements. The people, however, are unaware of the basis upon which they are making it.

All the studies show the same results; people are very stereotypical. Everybody does it whether they realize it or not. It is a part of human nature, and always will be.