

Lariat

MONTICELLO HIGH SCHOOL

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VOLLEYBALL Much More Than a Sport

by **Brayson Wilcox**

The Monticello High School volleyball team wrapped up their season at UVU last Saturday, on October the 29th. The four seniors; Allie Maughan, Atlanta Black, Marci McDougall, and Izabell Slade wrapped up their high school volleyball career forever. However, this is not the end of the story for this tight-knit group.

All season long, the Lady Buckaroos were known and admired for their team chemistry, something that is not easily achieved. Most girls on the team have been playing together since third and fourth grade. Senior Captain Izabell Slade said, "I genuinely love each and every girl on that team. When one of us succeeded, we all succeeded because we are all invested in the group." On weekdays during home games,

it would be a common theme to see all the girls huddled in the lobby during the break, preparing to go eat "team lunch" at one of the teammate's house. It's things like these that have brought these girls together as a unit.

This phenomenal team chemistry translated to team dominance on the volleyball court. The girls finished the year with many accomplishments, including an undefeated home record, a first place finish at the Dixie Fly High tournament, and third place at the state tournament.

However, excellence and success is not a new thing to this hard-working group of girls. The four seniors together achieved a GPA of close to a 3.9, a hard task to complete individually - let alone combined together. These are merely small examples of the vast success these girls

on the volleyball team have been able to accomplish.

Even though this success is easy to focus on, the wins won't ever amount to the value of the life lessons that volleyball has taught these girls. Senior Captain Allie Maughan says, "Volleyball is much more than just a sport, it is a small and simple way of learning about life. Because of my team, I have learned more good about life than I could have ever imagined." This bond that this group of girls share, through the ups and downs, the good and the bad, have brought them together as a team and family forever. They will always remember the time they spent facing challenges on and off the court together; all focused on achieving the same goal. In the end, they found a bond that can never be broken. Congratulations Marci, Atlanta, Allie, and Izabell!





RUN FORREST

CROSS COUNTRY TAKES A WRAP

by Quincey Ryan

Girls cross country this year was tough. As a team, the girls had a hard time, as there was only five of them to start with and only three of them finished out the year. With Phoebe Johnson and Aunika Hunter unable to finish the season, the team suffered the loss of almost half of their runners. However, even as the team struggled, each individual excelled. At each race, all three of the girls kept improving their personal times and won a victory for themselves. Shania Begay improved her time as the end of the season came near and got her best time at region. Kaitlyn Morrison also continually improved her time and also achieved her best time at region. Of the three girls finishing, there was only one that went to state. Kendall Harris placed first at region and qualified to run the final race in Salt Lake. She kept

up her record of improved time and took eighth place. Overall, the girl's cross country team had a successful year.

The MHS Boys Cross Country squad finished third as a team at state. Adam Bunker, a multi-sport athlete, that traded time between football and cross country finished 5th overall in the state after a very strong run. Lucas Hatch, followed Adam with a great run for the team. Overall, an extremely young boys team represented MHS very well at state. Mr. Hunt is looking forward to many years of athletic runners with Bunker and Hatch, his team leaders, only finishing their sophomore campaign.

The only senior to run cross country was Kendall Harris. She left the program after running her best time in her final race with a 21:19. She is an example of hard work and resiliency.

TO THE TWENTY

BUCKAROO FOOTBALL IN THE BOOKS

by Connor Lewis

Football has come to mean a lot for the town of Monticello. Every single home game, people come from every corner of town to watch the Buckaroos play. Why are these football games such a big part of Monticello High School and the community as a whole? It is an American Cultural Phenomenon most likely never to change!

The Buckaroos had subpar year with a three-win season, but the players and captains feel they have had a successful year. "We learned a lot, and in games we either completely dominated, or got completely dominated," said Max Hedglin. Though this season was stat-wise unsuccessful, team captain Brayson Wilcox sees things in a more positive light, stating "This year was more of a growing year for us. We were able to set some build-

ing blocks for the team in the future, and also were able to teach the new kids the fundamentals."

At the end of the day, it all depends on how you look at football. If you see it strictly for victories, this season would be viewed as a struggle. If you see it as something deeper, a sport that will teach life lessons and assist in the growth of the players as individuals and as a brotherhood, this season has been nothing but successful.

Thanks to the seniors: Parker Knudsen, Paul DeAnda, Ammon Beh, Spencer Squires, Shandon Bradford, Tacovi Warren and Talon Black.

The Buckaroos return juniors Brayson Wilcox, Max Hedglin, Justin Cecil, Keaton Young, Paxton Lewis, Tyler Draper, and Thomas Anderson.

Sophomore Spencer Knudsen had a good offensive showing as well!





GREATNESS ACHIEVED ATTITUDE PROVES VITAL FOR SUCCESS

by Izabell Slade

What makes people great? Many characteristics may come to mind: athleticism, leadership abilities, intelligence. However, I believe that the greatest people are great because of their attitudes.

As I spoke with a teammate of mine over the last week, she made the comment that I could go play volleyball in college if I had the desire. She

told me I was a great volleyball player. I took this as a great compliment. As I mulled over this conversation and the last volleyball season, I took in consideration my last few games. I was having several issues with my hitting arm, and this had been deterring my performance in the last few games. Yet, at the end of every game, I had people congratulating

me on playing a good game. I wasn't playing very well, but what kept people thinking that I was playing well was the fact that I kept my attitude in check.

It would be incredibly easy for me to become negative, I've dealt with these issues for years now., but I recognized that my team needed me. They needed my leadership. And

the best way for me to be a good team leader? Maintain a positive attitude. I've had so many people (and not just my mother) tell me that we are such a fun team to watch. We play well together, and that's because of our attitudes toward each other and toward the sport. When we experience hard times, we rallied together and overcame challenges. When we were victorious, we celebrated each other's victories in such a way we looked as if we were celebrating our own accomplishments.

Greatness is often born in times of defeat. This was true for our team as we battled through our semifinal game with Rich at state. Marci McDougall proved her great leadership skills as she continued to encourage each girl, maintaining her good attitude so that she could help the rest of the girls stay positive. Not a single girl on that team gave up. Our efforts did not prevail. We didn't win the game, we didn't get to play in the championship game, but the learning experience it created for our team was one that cannot be taught in another situation.

I credit the four seniors for being able to maintain a positive attitude throughout that game. We watched as our dreams shattered and we still turned around, encouraged each other, and finished together as a team. Our attitudes led us to have a great season and ultimately the greatest team I've ever played on.

So, what makes people great? How do you become great? It all depends on your attitude.

THE REALM OF UNCERTAINTY

IZZY'S HELPFUL HINTS CONCERNING THE HIGH SCHOOL BOY!

by Izabell Slade

Buckle up ladies and gentleman, you are about to go on the ride of your life. We are going to explore one of the last, great, untamed frontiers in human history: the male specimen! Women, for generations, have been considering this one great question: What is going on in your "barbaric mind?" Is it just football, cars, trucks, grilled cheese sandwiches, and mountain dew? Or, are they simply interested in girls that they "can't have" because as they said in ancient China during the last Yin dynasty – "You ain't in my league pancho!"

The truth is we really don't know what they are thinking! We may never know, but there are a few things we can do as a gender to combat this realm of

uncertainty. First, as a member of the female race, represent your kind with pride and conviction. Know what you want in a boy and pursue those qualities with much haste and urgency. Don't pursue qualities that are alarming and pungent! This will only get you into situations that are undesirable! If you find a boy with a charming personality and a satisfying wit about him, take it upon yourself to invite him to engage in social situations where he can spot the bill! Don't wait for him to initiate such actions or you might be waiting until after graduation and beyond. Boys are only aggressive when wrestling with other boys! It is a strange phenomenon.

Second, find a boy that can hold his own in an academic conversation. Talk about current events happening at school and

abroad and hope for a return dialogue. In fairness, talk about items that he may be interested in but ultimately help guide the conversation to return eventually to the most important topic of the day: you! This can be easily manipulated with a little finesse and brain power.

Third, we always seem to have one or two boys on our mind. How do we successfully bring them to the simple realization that they should be giving us our due attention? Ladies, it is all in the smile. Practice makes perfect, along with the help of an expensive orthodontist or two, but if you have it, use it. All these boys need is a short glance and a smile and you have them hooked! Once they are securely in your possession, begin implementing the conversation tips listed above. If "boy A" is incapable of

holding a conversation, vacate and move to boy B, C, D, and even E (if needed)! If you get past boy E, vacate all prior advice and wait until next year to try again!

Last! Forgiveness is key! Boys are going to make a lot of mistakes. It is in their general makeup. They can't resist doing "dumb" things! (Word of warning regarding "forgiveness!" Understand your worth and only forgive to a certain point! Do not allow anyone to make you feel second best! You are the best! Never allow anyone to tell you otherwise!)

When the boy of your dreams makes a mistake, you are going to be mad and that is understandable. Break out some Adele, turn the sound all the way up, scream at the mirror, and move on! It doesn't do you any good to pout for more than about five minutes. Anything beyond the suggested time is simply self-indulgence. The boy you are crying over doesn't even realize what he has done wrong! He will eventually, but it will take time and a lot of hard hits to his head on the football field before it will successfully sink in to his "barbaric mind!" This is a pattern that has and will continue to exist. You are not the first that will experience such foolishness!

Ladies! This advice may or may not work! You have to decide what works for you! Boys are mysterious! And yet, I feel that we can often exhibit the same mysterious behaviors that clearly elude our male friends. Patience is the order of the day! Be nice, work hard, and always value your self-worth! Keep a smile on your face and game plan in mind! The hunt may be your greatest adventure!





KNOW THE ENEMY

BW'S GUIDE TO THE LADIES

by Brayson Wilcox

A large portion of a high school boy's high school life revolves around high school girls. The boys are always trying to find ways to hang out or date the girls that they like, and it can be a stressful situation if you don't know what you are doing. Many times, I have been asked for advice on this sensitive situation, especially during bus trips (s/o to Mark and Matt), so I have decided to make my advice public, for all to see. You may not agree, but you can take my advice if you'd like.

First things first, girls are complicated and sensitive creatures that just want to be understood. The best thing to do to start understanding them is showing them that you care. If you see a girl with a pair of earrings that you think are pretty, let her know! Compliments go a long way, especially if they are genuine. And being kind doesn't mean just being kind to the girls you like, it means being kind to

everyone. Always lend a helping hand to anyone in need, even if it is a teacher! Girls will notice your caring actions and will want to get to know you better.

The next issue at hand: dating. There is a right way and a wrong way to date, and it is important you do it the right way. If you see a girl that you would enjoy going on a date with, just go ask her! Girls love spontaneous actions almost as much as they love watching *The Bachelorette*, and catching a girl off guard and asking her when she isn't expecting it will only set the tone for having a great date. Also, take heed that you don't go on a generic or boring date. The last thing you want to say when she asks you what you are planning on for the date is, 'I am not sure yet, I was going to ask you.' That will only make her dread the date. Instead, try planning on something that isn't normally done, like paintballing or fishing! It is also very important you go on group dates rather than a one-on-one date. Always bring

along a few of your main-men to make sure the laughs and jokes continue on throughout the date.

My next piece of advice, never stress or panic and always stay calm. When dealing with women, it is almost guaranteed that adversity will come. There was one instance that I went on a group date with Averii, Joe, and Molly. I was extremely nervous because I had the biggest crush on Averii. Almost everything that could have possibly gone wrong in the date, did. When we arrived at the movie theatre in Blanding, we realized that the movie we thought we were going to watch wasn't playing, and a kid's movie was playing instead. Also, when we got our popcorn and soda to go sit down, I flat out dropped our drink and it spilled all over the place. Averii thought it

was all very amusing but I was deathly embarrassed. However, I decided to calm my nerves and just laugh to at myself! After this decision, the date actually turned out to be one of the best dates I have ever been on! Staying calm in the face of adversity demonstrates complete composure, showing that you are a mature young man, and it can definitely help your case.

My last piece of advice, make sure you date many girls in high school. Try to refrain from super serious relationships and have them be more fun and casual. This will also help you become good friends with a lot of different girls, only ensuring more fun throughout high school.

I hope all you young men out there consider this advice and turn your confusion into confidence. Good luck!





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AMERICAN DREAMS HOMECOMING 2016

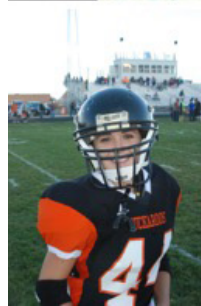
by Easton Bowring

Monticello High School celebrated Homecoming 2016 in true American style. In accordance with the 2016-2017 theme: "Leave Your Legacy," students were encouraged to identify their "American Dreams!" Homecoming consisted off several activities including a movie night where students traveled back in time and watched The Goonies off a big screen in the football parking lot. Athletics were well represented as volleyball dominated their homecoming opponent at their home; defeating the Grand County Red Devils in 3 games in the presence of a dominate crowd that had traveled to Moab in hoards to support the Lady Buckaroos.

The pinnacle of the week came

and went with the annual powder puff contest. Big hits, hurtful words, and plenty of competitive efforts were enjoyed by a healthy crowd of Buckaroos. Abi Nielson took home the MVP award for the second consecutive year, but newcomer Erin Rogers trucked a few ladies on her way to a touchdown on her way to a close second for the MVP award.

In the end, the week was established by the fine performances of the nine ladies that competed for the honor of homecoming queen. Talents were in rare form as several ladies dazzled the crowd with hidden talents. Izabell Slade was crowned Queen with Yeni Carranza earning the honor of 1st attendant, Atlanta Black as the 2nd attendant, and Quincey Ryan as Miss Congeniality.



Buckaroonation.com PRESENTS

Mr. and Miss November

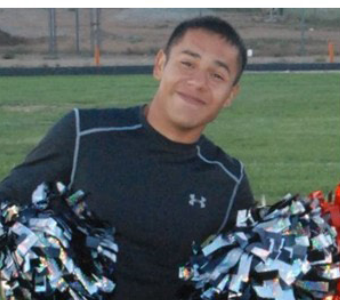
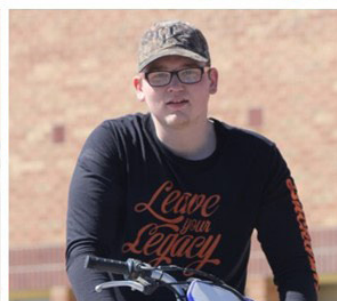
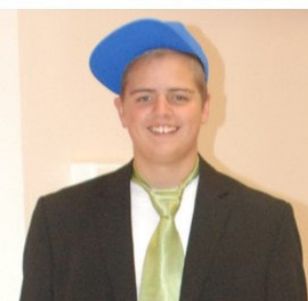
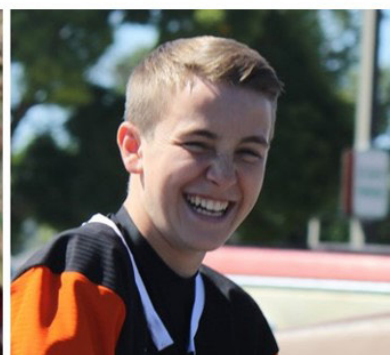
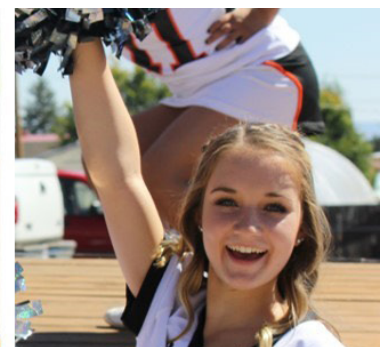
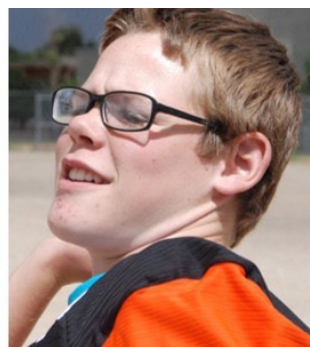
The Lariat Staff and Buckaroonation would like to announce the "First Annual Mr. and Miss November contest at Monticello High School. Pictured below are the candi-

dates for this month's contest. Please visit Buckaroonation.com and vote for your favorite Buckaroo. The winners of the contest will have the opportunity to compete for Mr. and

Miss Buckaroonation! Please support your favorite Buckaroos by voting on Buckaroonation.com

Buckaroonation.com is a website maintained by Mr.

Keyes' 1st period Journalism class. Students have the opportunity to brainstorm fun ideas to promote their experience at Monticello High School.





DATING

THE UNFORTUNATE LOSS OF TRADITION

by Easton Bowring

One of my favorite things to do is sit someone down and ask them stories about their high school days. I love hearing their pranks, funny moments, and the hilarious dates they went on. As I look at our generation, I wonder if the stories will consist of getting into trouble for doing pranks, breaking the law, and instead of going on dates, just kissing everyone you can get in contact with.

Dating has been a thing of the past, and many teens no longer go on group dates, single dates, or steady date. The term is now expressed as "TM". Getting to know more about a person than their lips is a very rare occasion. It has become a competition to kiss as many people as possible. When many students look back over their high school experience, many people only have two to three fun dates. With "crews" being created, there becomes high expectations. If you want to be a part of the "crew" or group, you must do everything

with that group of people, and if you don't, you become an outcast. Likewise, if you are an outcast from the "crew" you are not allowed into the group. These "crews" are taking away the dating life, because students are not allowed to express themselves.

Students need to start dating more, and spending more time with the opposite gender. You don't have to kiss everyone you know, you need to learn how to respect, and talk to people from the opposite gender. These skills will be essential when moving on to the next phase of life. Without these experiences, the transition into adulthood will most likely resemble the rough terrain that is found on any bumpy road in life. Date around a little! Learn how to interact with others in a "some-what" socially awkward scenario. And if nothing else, take the opportunity to have fun before life takes over and the only thing you are allowed to do for fun is watch Netflix before going to bed at 8 p.m.

MOTIVATION

FEAR DRIVES SUCCESS; PUSHES STUDENTS

by Izabell Slade

Motivation is something that tends to elude most high school students. It is not easily summoned or found. In fact, by the tail end of the second quarter, most students claim to have "lost all of their motivation." I personally have experienced this not-so-rare phenomenon. Sometimes I lack the desire to even put my name on my paper, let alone complete an assignment. So how do we, as high school students, push through this age old, ever recurring issue? Fear.

Fear, more than anything else, motivates me. Not necessarily the fear of being punished for not completing an assignment or project, but rather the fear of the lifelong

consequences that could potentially follow me after I graduate. Just one slip up could cost me time, money, a whole lot of work, and missed opportunities.

Now, don't get me wrong, I don't live in a constant state of fear. I do enjoy my life, and I am motivated by many other things. However, if students began to look at life with a perspective larger than just high school, fear might motivate them, too. The world is becoming increasingly more competitive, lacking motivation is no longer a valid excuse. If you want to go somewhere and be someone, you're going to have to look beyond yourself and realize what awaits you in the future. We can do great things, if only we keep motivated.





APPLE -DOWN THE DESTRUCTION OF HUMANITY

by Erin Rogers

Today's society is a lot different than it was 30 years ago, 15, or even 7 years ago. When you go out in public what do you see? You see nothing but human-like robots going about their day with their face glued to this 5 in. by 3 in. manipulative piece of plastic. You see people everywhere on their smartphones, thinking they are having a real life conversation with someone, but really only depriving themselves even more of the social skill they are desperately lacking. What caused this? What horrible maniac created all these monster robots?

The company that lead this destructive change is Apple Inc. Did you know that approximately 600 million people use some sort of apple device? Forget about the issue of drugs! Parents and people in authority should be more concerned with the dangers of technology and the inhumanity that Apple has caused. For example, the iPhone 7 will not have a headphone jack. Instead, it

will have wireless earphones that work via Bluetooth. Although this is creative, it forces people to evolve even if they don't want to. It restricts them to only using those certain headphones instead of the normal ones that the majority of the world is already so accustomed to. I don't even want to begin on the seclusions it will produce for those that do not have the iPhone 7. In conclusion, I'm sure Apple isn't intending to destroy humanity, but they are. Now, excuse me while I go check social media on my iPhone 5. They've got me hooked too.

In an alarming survey conducted by the Lariat Staff at Monticello High School, nearly 40 percent of the participants declared their iPhone to be their most prized possession. In addition, they indicated that they would rather lose anything else rather than be separated from their phone! Parents take note! The iPhone is taking over!



PROBLEM-SOLUTION

MHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE AT MODEL U.N.

by Easton Bowring

With an increase of participation and representing two countries, Monticello High School's Model United Nations Club competed at the 29th annual BYU Model U.N. competition. Students ranged from freshman to seniors, with many participants experiencing their first time stepping into the U.N. room.

Students were required to come up with solutions to worldwide problems. Child trafficking, drug control, internet privacy, and rights of women in prison were among the topics discussed at the conference.

Representing Samoa, MHS students Easton Bowring and

Tessa Goodwine walked away with the "Peer Award" as voted upon by the other members of the committee. Amalio De La Fuente also received the "Peer Award" and the "Position Paper Award" for his outstanding work representing Ecuador in the Spanish Speaking Committee.

All members of the MHS Model U.N. Club enjoyed creating working papers and then voting them into a resolution. After learning more about the world and the problems that many countries face, Model U.N. students look forward to the next conference where they will continue discussing worldwide issues.



TO NOT STAND

A SIMPLE MATTER OF WHAT I BELIEVE!

by Abby Rogers

As human beings we have different perceptions, views, and outlooks on life. When it comes to the flag, the pledge and the national symbol of our country, most people stand and put their hand over their heart without hesitation. Others, such as Colin Kaepernick, a football player in the NFL, does not stand for the pledge or national anthem. Being a former Jehovah's Witness, I understand Colin's decision because I too, refuse to stand and worship the United States flag. This refusal has nothing against those who fight for our country! Kaepernick states that "he harbors a great respect for the men and women that have fought

for this country." Adding that men and women who fight for our country "fight for liberty and justice, for everyone." This statement from Colin is bitterly true, this is what he sees when he looks at the American flag, while others see something totally different or nothing at all. Kaepernick was not wrong to do this... The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution ensures this freedom of speech, religion and the right to peaceably assemble. It was written to promote intellectual freedom, open inquiry, critical thinking, diversity in thought and expression, and respect for others. We live in a country where we can say, think and do as we please as long as it's not resulting in the harm of others. Kaepernick's refusal is

not a discrimination and does not make him wrong in any way. He has obviously seen discrimination against people of diverse races. "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color," Kaepernick told NFL Media after the game. "To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder." Colin has the right to not stand for the flag because of the things he's seen and the life he's lived, just like me. Not everyone has to worship the flag and conform to what everybody else does, trust me, we have our reasons.

BuckarooNation.COM

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD WITHOUT DISRESPECT...

by Quincey Ryan

The United States of America is a country where people have the right to stand for what they believe in, think what they want to, and act as they please. The consequences may vary. There have been times in history where people have spoken out about something that they believe in, and it had either ended well, or it has made the situation worse. Colin Kaepernick has made a stand to make known to the country that he believes minorities are being treated unfairly. This takes courage, but while he does have the freedom to do so, he is disrespecting the very symbol of that freedom. There are plenty of ways for anyone to speak against injustices, but disrespecting the American Flag is not one of them.

In an article on ESPN it says that Kaepernick stated, "I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color... To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder."

There is some truth to this statement. Some police officers are not good cops and do not show respect and care for the people that they protect. However, there are those cops who do have the respect for those that they protect and they do their job diligently.

They fight hard and put their lives on the line for anyone and everyone that needs it. So do not say that cops are bad, because they are not.

This country guarantees that everybody has the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. This does not mean that everybody gets to have it. If you want it, you can choose to pursue it. Most of the police officers that have been caught on video while handling black people have a reason for what they do. If it was not your intention to provoke an officer and get pulled over, or stopped on the street, why would you have a camera out

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution ensures freedom of speech. "It was written to promote intellectual freedom, open inquiry, critical thinking, diversity in thought and expression, and respect for others." Kaepernick has the right to voice his opinion. However, this amendment requires respect too; and the way that Kaepernick made his opinion known was anything but respectful.

If you want to stand for something do it, but don't disrespect the power that allows you to do so. You wouldn't be able to say or do anything about it if it weren't for the freedoms that you have in this country. So yes, make your voice heard, but do not do it in a way to disrespect others.



SACRIFICE MISUNDERSTOOD A LESSON IN RESPECT!

by Izabell Slade

Sacrifice is often misunderstood on so many levels. We stand and pay tribute to a flag that represents lives that were sacrificed and given so willingly to protect the idea of freedom. That tribute has been questioned in recent months by the actions of a football player in San Francisco that decided to protest police brutality by sitting during the presentation of our nation's colors. He made a stand and became a national talking point immediately. Some would argue that he accomplished the very thing he had set out to obtain; to bring attention to this issue. However, what he doesn't understand is simple! He chose the one act that Americans can agree upon, in a country filled with

diversity, and made it controversial. In a county that can't agree about marriage, guns, health care, environment, tax reform, business, and government; why should we take the one thing we all agree on and make it an issue. It was selfish on Mr. Kaepernick's part to think he could make a point by sitting on the sacrifice of so many. Americans may never agree on the items listed above, but they can agree that the very freedom to disagree on said items is pretty amazing. We can agree that men and women from all comers of this country died for these freedoms and when we stand at an event to pay respect to those sacrifices, it is exactly that: Respect! Sacrifice is something Colin Kaepernick does not understand!

DATING ADVICE

TOP 10 THINGS NOT TO SAY ON A DATE...

by Quincey Ryan

Have you ever needed help making conversation while on a date? People have such a hard time knowing what to talk about that sometimes, the date just doesn't end well. So to offer some help to those who struggle the most, there are a few things you should know. First, never, never ever, let your date do all the talking. Second, do NOT do all of the talking yourself. Try to keep the conversation flowing between the both of you, comfortably and easily. Here is a short list to help! This list is for "viewing purposes only. Please do not take everything in this list too serious! Thanks...

1. "Then my parole officer says..."
2. "Do you want to see some pictures of my taxidermy collection?"
3. "Man! Our kids are going to be very attractive!"
4. "Sorry, don't mind my cough, but my doctor still doesn't know what I have..."
5. "What are you doing for the rest of your life?"
6. "I googled you."
7. "I'm grounded for texting during dinner..."
8. "Wow, you have a good appetite."
9. "Have you ever thought about losing a few pounds?"
10. "I heard that they are starting a new weight watchers program..."

REDNECK HEAVEN

TOP 10 WAYS TO IDENTIFY A REDNECK...

Some people may claim to be a "redneck" just for attention, however, most who say they are, are not. In fact, most "rednecks" probably don't even realize that they are, truly, a redneck. For those who have decided to claim your fame, I have provided a list of items that would qualify anyone as a real redneck. Some people may have only one item on this list that suits them. This does not make them a true redneck. If you belong to two or more of the categories on this list, you might be a genuine redneck. This list is not only to find if you fit into the redneck group, but also to help those that aren't, identify if those who claim the title of redneck are telling the truth or not. Here are the items, that just might qualify you:

1. If you have a deer stand- in your backyard.
2. If you wear boots with shorts or a swimsuit.
3. If you wear a shirt with cutoff sleeves. (Did you forget deodorant, or do you actually think it's hot that way?)
4. If you met your wife at a family reunion.
5. If you believe the stock market has a fence around it.
6. If you have a home that is mobile and five cars that aren't.
7. If you take a fishing pole into Sea World.
8. If your brother-in-law is also your uncle.
9. If you think suspenders are a type of shirt.
10. If you've had to remove a toothpick for wedding pictures.



PURE MADNESS

WHAT IF EVERYTHING RANDOM HAPPENED?

Have you ever considered where life would take you if all things were tied together? Think about this for a moment: What if all the random thoughts that ever crept into your head became a part of your reality? This would be madness. With a safe knowledge that this will never be the case, we can jump onto a hypothetical rollercoaster ride and see where "true randomness will take us!"

Here we go! You start at school. The sky is blue, but Mr. Reeve is wearing blue jeans. This means trouble, but you aren't sure you have his class because all of sudden you're in seventh grade. Without thought, you immediately start running to the lunch room as fast as you can, but then you hear the pacer bell from Mr. Esplin's pacer test; so you stop. You turn around to run in the other direction, but Mr. Adair is standing in the hall and his beard is covering the entire floor. You can't move! Suddenly, Mr. Welch appears with

a chainsaw and begins trimming the beard so people can continue to run the random pacer to lunch. All at once, you hear a sound of laughter coming from the gym! It's a junior high dance, except only teachers are dancing. Mrs. Theobald and Mr. Walker are leading the Cupid Shuffle while Mr. Chamberlain strokes his mullet in the corner. Just as this scene sets in, the atmosphere changes to a wild, rambunctious party in the faculty lounge. Brayson and Easton are playing pool while Izabell organizes the teacher's boxes. Frantically throwing old mail away, Izabell excitedly points at Josie and Halle in the office as they trade punches in an epic boxing match. Mrs. Ketron is wearing a referee uniform and Mr. Olson rings the bell. The bell! You realize you are late for class and this random sequence of events is simply a nightmare that will never become a reality. Pure madness! Until next time, keep random safe!