



WARRIOR NEWS

January/February 2016 Volume 294 Issue 3 Since 1946

Volunteering offers chance to give service to community

Teens believe learning service skills can build positive character attributes

By **Siera Rose**
Assistant to the Chief

The last three months of the year are giving times. There are commercials all over TV about things to buy, and people are busy talking about the things they've recently received. However, those very things can also remind people of the less fortunate; people who don't have as much or could just use some extra help with something. The extra attention gifts get during these months is great, but there are plenty of Warriors who remind everyone that any time of year is a good time to volunteer your time.

Senior Jackson Munn is an example of a Warrior who gives his time whenever he can. Munn goes to Canyon View Elementary where his mom teaches and helps teach the special needs kids. "I feel like they're kind of deprived of some things as far as education goes, and they don't get to learn a lot of the things that we do. I think they really enjoy it, and they learn a lot from it," Munn says.

Another example of service to others is from Tatijana Stewart, junior, who volunteers her time whenever she can. "I help plan fun

activities with other students in Honor Society. The club prepared a Trunk-or-Treat activity for children. They also collected stuffed animals to donate to kids at Christmas. Other than that, I just try and do whatever I can when I have time," adds Stewart.

Junior Micaela Duran volunteers her time at animal shelters and United Way of Northern Utah with Stewart. Over the summer, Stewart and Duran helped with "Stuff the Bus" with United Way. "We stuffed a bus with school supplies and backpacks. We also donated money to the school it was for," Duran says.

While these students volunteer their time in many ways, they all have their favorite places to volunteer. "I do a lot of stuff. I help with fun runs and carnivals at other schools and clean up highways. But I think teaching at Canyon View is my favorite way to volunteer," Munn says. Duran adds her favorite place to volunteer is at the animal shelter because she "likes animals and even [gets] to play with them sometimes."

Stewart says she hasn't volunteered in one place long enough to find a favorite one, but adds the animal shelter seems like it would be fun.

People may wonder why students take time out of their busy schedules to help other people. "I think [volunteer work] gives peo-

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(Photo top left) Skating at the Classic Fun Center was one of the Quarters and Cans activities to raise money. Enjoying the activity are seniors Casey Bond, Trevor Heywood, Whitney Weaver, Ethan Lund and Braden Cook. (Photo top right) Jonah Simmons collects money for one of the raffle baskets. (Photo right) Canned foods for families sit underneath the Angel Tree. (Photo above) Students help collect money during a Miracle Minute.

Service with a Smile



Photos by Baylee Howe, Destanie Setzer and Kaitlyn Henderson

Adoption experience brings blessings, strengthens families

By **Jason Godfrey**
Editor in Chief

As students graduate and leave the teen years behind, adulthood happens, and it comes with a variety of challenges. One of these experiences is starting a family. However, sometimes having children becomes difficult for couples. This is often when they consider adoption. Two WHS teachers shared how they got the chance to become a mother through the unique opportunity of adoption.

Annette Weiss, who teaches secondary and college prep math, has two children: Nicole and Jordan. She said, "My husband and I wanted to have children, and we were unable to have any naturally, so we pursued adoption through the LDS church."

She further explained, "In order to adopt, we had to go through a lot of classes and counseling. We really had to get to know each other as a couple and what we were willing to deal with. It was important not to blame each other for not being able to have kids."

After these steps, they had to complete various documents. "We had to prepare by doing a lot of paperwork. We had to describe ourselves and our likes and qualities to make it possible for a birth mother to choose us. We had to wait to be picked by someone. It was a long and difficult process. We also had

to have home visits to make sure we were good candidates, and we were prepared."

Then the waiting began. Over three years later, Weiss and her husband were finally notified. "When Nicole was born, I got called out of my classroom and was told by the secretary that we had a little, one day-old baby girl in Provo, and we needed to be there in two hours to pick her up." She added, "This was the first we had heard of it, and it was a total surprise."

The excited, new parents quickly left to meet their baby. "My husband made me drive because he was afraid he would get a ticket for going too fast. He called everyone we knew because we were so excited. It was life-changing," said Weiss.

"When we got to the hospital," she added, "we were put in a room and asked to hold her, and we were to decide if we wanted her. Of course we did! We were totally in love with her."

By the time they were ready to take her home, Weiss mentioned how "the car seat we had for her was way too big, and so we went to Shopko to get a new one." She added with a smile, "People were amazed at how good I looked after just having a baby." Nicole is now 21 and a recent newlywed.

When adopting a second child, the couple was prepared for the adoption process. "Jordan was adopted five years later and again we found out through a phone call,"

she said. "He was only four pounds when he was born and was in the NICU, so we spent the next month at the hospital holding him and being very excited."

Having a new child with a low weight was challenging but worth it for the Weiss family. "Add-

she said. "He was still only a little over four pounds when we brought him home." Jordan is now 16 and a sophomore at Weber.

Weiss also told of the challenges and blessings of being an adoptive mother. "The biggest challenge in adopting was waiting and not



Mrs. Weiss is thankful she could adopt her daughter Nicole and her son Jordan.

Photo by Karloz Moran

ing a new baby to the mix, along with a five year-old, was an extremely life-changing experience. We brought him home the day after Thanksgiving, and he had to be on a monitor for another month which was difficult to undertake,"

knowing when it was going to happen. Being a new mom was no different to any other new mom other than the fact that I did not have nine months to get used to the idea. Both times it was a phone call and then I became a mom!"

Regarding the blessings, Weiss feels "just being a mom is a blessing every day." She added, "It was a big change but a very rewarding one. There is no greater feeling than watching your children grow and mature and learn. I really never felt any different about my children because they were adopted. It was always like they were meant to be a part of our family from the very beginning."

Weiss also felt another important responsibility as a mother, "In a lot of ways we felt like we needed to be better parents because we were raising these kids not only for us, but also for their birth mothers. It felt like a little more responsibility."

During the process of adopting, Weiss received a lot of advice. "We were told to always be honest to our kids about the adoption. That is something we have done from day one. If ever they had a question, we answered it for them. We told them they were adopted from day one in a positive way, and they never seemed to be bothered by that." She added, "I think it is all about your attitude and how you handle the situation."

During all the years of raising her kids, Weiss shared how her marriage has been strengthened. "I think the whole experience of adoption has brought my husband and myself closer together. We definitely had to be on the same page because we really worked hard to have kids. It was a very conscious

choice."

"We have spent a tremendous amount of time together in the lives of our children. We have, however, never forgotten that our marriage is the most important thing," she added.

Weiss would recommend adoption to anyone who would want to pursue it. She said, "Just learn to be patient and be willing to accept any child that may come. All in all, adoption has been a life-changing blessing in our lives."

Along with Weiss, Ashley Blaisdell, who teaches Family Relations, recently became a mother through adoption.

"When I was 19 years old, I got in a serious car accident where I almost died. We found out this past summer that I cannot carry my own children," she said. "I have always wanted to be a mom, so adoption was the perfect option for us."

While going through the adoption process, Blaisdell said, "There are so many hoops to jump through, but it is so worth it." She added, "In order to even be considered for adoption, you have to have a home study. This takes hours to complete! You have to have all sorts of documents, answer hundreds of questions, have a social worker come interview you and have a state and FBI background check. This can generally be a three to six

Adoption continues on page 3



Worldwide, over 50 million roses are given for Valentine's Day each year.
Odds 'n' Ends
In Medieval times, girls ate unusual foods on St. Valentine's Day to make them dream of their future husband.

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Exchange students share experiences of America

By **Kennedy Hatch**
Feature Editor

Many students come to the United States when participating in a foreign exchange program that allows them to travel from their home country to study during the school year in a different country. Some of these students are currently spending their time learning at Weber High.

Foreign exchange student Pedro Braga, sophomore, is from Brazil. He is part of the Aspect Foundation Foreign Exchange Program, and he is learning how to adapt to the American culture and see if it is suitable for his future. Braga says he wants to come to college in America, so his mom recommended the program. So far he thinks America/Utah is interesting. He adds it is a culture he has always wanted to get to know better. Braga has been having a good time during this experience.

“I think it’s really important for me and for everybody else to meet other cultures and to get inside them, so you don’t think bad things about it. You can’t judge because you open your mind to know other people,” Braga said.

He says the main differences between Brazil’s and Utah’s cultures are the ability to drive at 16 and the prominent religion. Braga misses home but doesn’t miss the country

Samardzic says that everything seems different here.

“It was my dream to come to the U.S.A. and be part of an American high school because I saw a lot of Hollywood movies about U.S. high school and to me that was so cool,” Samardzic said.

Samardzic likes America and Utah a lot and also loves visiting other states. He says he has no problem with home sickness. He has made many friends and has tried out a lot of the American sports here. He has played American football and wrestling at the high school. Samardzic has also had the opportunity to learn more about U.S. History and the English language.

Karl Giebe, junior foreign exchange student, traveled to Weber from Germany. He came to America, so he could learn better English and learn more about the American culture. So far Giebe is enjoying America and the culture shock that comes with it. He says everything is different in Utah from education to the taste of milk.

Giebe has also been learning different things in Utah that he couldn’t experience the same way in Germany including the English language. He picks up something new every day: the ability to think differently about the cultures and the influence of the LDS church has in this state.

He adds he has a great host family and likes all six siblings in it.



Exchange students Giebe, Pascual and Samardzic show their Warrior pride.

Photos by Kaitlyn Henderson

herself to help find a host family that would be most comfortable for her. Pascual’s reason for coming to America is to learn better English. In Spain, to get a job it is important to speak correct English. Pascual’s friends had also spent a year abroad and enjoyed it, so she wanted to go as well.

“I like living here,” Pascual says, “but the truth is, it’s very different from where I come. Because I live in a big city with lots of people, there is usually plenty of life and people on the street and this is quite different. It is quieter and sometimes it’s okay, but sometimes I miss living in a big city.”

Though she has been a little homesick, Pascual has been having fun trying new experiences, getting used to the different culture and making friends. She has visited many places in America and loves learning about the unfamiliar things done here. Pascual thinks that the biggest differences between the two countries is the food and the holidays. She says the food in Spain is more Mediterranean like fish while the food in America is sweeter. Since Spain doesn’t celebrate Thanksgiving, their Christmas and break is typically longer.

Pascual also says the school dances and activities occur more often in America; the school she went to in Spain held very few. She has attended some sports games at Weber such as football, girls’ soccer and volleyball.

“I think it is a unique experience. Not everyone has the chance to spend a year outside of her/his country, and for that reason I think it’s an unforgettable experience,” Pascual said.

Marcelo Ucles Rosario is a junior

from Spain. He came here through a foreign exchange program called Rotary. Ucles Rosario will be here for nine months. He traveled to Utah to learn and experience life away from his homeland. His father wanted him to go to America, but his mother was slightly against it since he is an only child. After Ucles Rosario decided he really wanted to come to America to learn, his parents let him go.

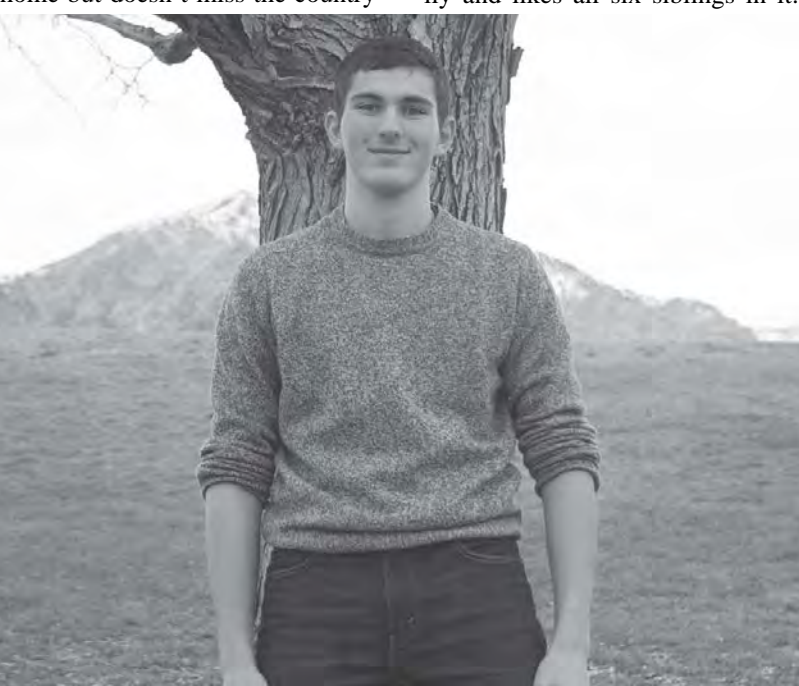
Ucles Rosario has met many nice people and friends during his exchange so far. Sometimes he can meet up with his other friend who is also a part of the foreign exchange in Salt Lake City. He misses his friends from Spain but likes making new friends in America.

Ucles Rosario has also found America to be different compared to his home. He has found the major differences between the countries are the language, the food, the holidays and the schooling. Ucles Rosario said Halloween was an interesting experience for him since he has only seen it in movies. He isn’t used to seeing so many kids dressed up for one day.

He is also getting used to unfamiliar things like school dances because they didn’t have them in Spain. Ucles Rosario also likes how teens are more enthusiastic.

As far as recommending exchange programs for other teens, Ucles Rosario hopes others will want to experience life in a new culture.

“I have learned more things in the three months that I have been here than I have almost my whole life, like 15 years. Since I’ve come here, it was like every day we were learning a new thing,” Ucles Rosario said.



Through his experiences, junior Marcelo Ucles Rosario has learned a lot about Americans while living in Utah.

as much. He loves his host family and the American culture.

The Aspect Foundation has been running for 30 years and has been a part of many exchange students and host families’ lives. According to their website aspectfoundation.org, their mission is “to build international goodwill, cross-cultural understanding and a peaceful future through educational and cultural exchange.” Braga says he has to write monthly reports to the foundation on things like the host family and the school.

Junior Scepan Samardzic came to America from Montenegro. At school people call him “Zep” because no one can say his name correctly. He will be staying for 10 months. His program works simply: he has to continue being a good student and an active part of the host family. For Samardzic, it has always been a goal of his to be in America and experience things from this point of view. He is also one of the fastest juniors in Montenegro for the 100m distance which is another reason he is here now.

ACT classes, books offer tips on test preparation

By **Emilee Alder**
Editorial Editor

One of the biggest exams of a high school student’s life is the ACT test. Students study for months learning as much as they can, so they’re prepared for this big test. Once taken, students wait to see their scores and sometimes are filled with disappointment to see they didn’t do as well as they hoped.

To avoid this, counselor Joel Robins says to “get ACT practice books and take ACT prep classes.” He adds, “They’ll help let you know what to study for.”

English teacher Mrs. Leake teaches an ACT prep class and helps students understand the English portion of the test. “We have practice tests we go through, and I help the students learn what to look for on the test.” Leake recommends every student take prep classes. She says even if someone thinks it won’t help them, they will always end up learning something that can help them on the test.

Mrs. Goff, science teacher, also teaches an ACT prep class, but she helps students with the science portion. She says prep classes are good because “being able to ask questions and get advice first hand helps students learn more.” She also says getting input from other students helps others learn.

Senior McCall Johnson says she took ACT prep classes, and it helped her do better when taking the ACT. “My mom had me take it [prep classes], and I’m really glad because it helped so much.” Johnson says the classes improved her understanding concerning the techniques used with the tests. “I have friends that never took the classes, and parts of the tests stumped them because they weren’t prepared,” she says.

Learning in a classroom isn’t the only way to prepare for the ACT. Robins says there are also ways to prepare online. “There are practice tests available online and a lot of tips and tricks to doing well on the ACT,” he says. A website he recommends is www.actstudent.org. He adds it has practice questions for students, so they can get used to the testing style.

Goff says even though students can study online, “Learning in an actual classroom setting can be better.” She adds, “If you have an option to go to a prep class, take advantage of it.” She says studying online can be difficult because “there’s so much information you have to read by yourself and that can be overwhelming.” Goff adds having a teacher to guide students through the test and giving them tips is what she recommends.

Goff also says students should take the ACT test serious because “colleges look at your scores, and some colleges require high scores to be accepted.” She also says certain scholarships can be rewarded for having a high ACT score.

“Of course, it’s not just the ACT score. They also look at your GPA along with your ACT, so make sure you work your hardest if you’re applying for scholarships,” she adds.

Leake recommends taking the ACT test more than once. “The juniors get one free test, and you have to pay to take it after that, but it’s worth it.” She also says there’s always room for improvement, and students should work to get the best score possible.

Johnson agrees with Mrs. Leake. “The best part about taking it more than once is you get used to how the ACT works, and you start to understand the questions more,” she says. Johnson adds the first time she took the tests, she considered it as a practice run. “I still took it serious, but I knew I was going to take it again, so I just wanted to get a feel of the test.” She adds taking it more than once helped her get a better score. “Everyone should consider taking it twice,” she says.

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PASS OR DON'T PAY GUARANTEE

By Jaden Pratt
News Editor

Jayden Maynard is a junior at Weber. Students recognize her name and associate her with swimming. However, Maynard has other talents outside the field of swimming. Maynard said she has been rock climbing since she was 12 years old. Maynard’s brother used to take her rock climbing before he went to college, and Maynard has enjoyed it ever since.



Climbing has become a favorite activity for Jayden Maynard.
Photo by Kaitlyn Henderson

At the start of the year, Maynard was looking for a way to make new friends. She really wanted to go climbing with her buddies, but none of them were available to do that. She thought to herself, “We live in Utah. There has got to be plenty of people who climb, who know how to do it and that are pretty good at

Weber’s Talented

it. If I could just get those people together, maybe we can do something with that.” And she did just that. Maynard’s Ascending Club has 10 people in it, and it is growing.

Maynard spoke about climbing in a way that she applies to life. “My favorite part about climbing is you look at the problem that’s up there or the route and there is just so many ways to accomplish that task, even though you can’t accomplish it usually the first time. It’s rewarding to accomplish it because you’ve worked so hard for it. It gives you a lot of self-confidence.”

Along with confidence, Maynard added, motivation is also important. She internally motivates herself. She doesn’t like the thought of going home without trying. “I wanna do it so bad, and I know that if I don’t then I’ll just beat myself up for it later. It’s just one more hole... I could have done... I could’ve pulled myself up... I could’ve powered through it. And so my motivation is to just prove to myself that I’m strong enough and I could do this,” she said.

To prepare for a climb, climbers try to use safety precautions like chalk on their hands and special equipment. They will stretch and tape up their hands if they get hurt. “It rips up your hands pretty good,” she said. She also added, “Lots of people will stare at it [the wall course] for a couple of minutes

thinking it over, moving their hands up in the air trying to figure out how to do it. It’s just as much mental as it is physical, especially for the kids who are afraid of heights.”

Maynard considers herself to be pretty athletic. “I see myself as kind of an athletic person but not the mainstream: not the football or tennis, not the typical high school sports. So you can call me athletic but not incredibly. I just like to be outside, I like to be physical and I like to do things that aren’t really the normal,” she said

She also knew she wanted to make new friends and she also accomplished this with the club. Maynard hopes to have more people joining by spring time because it will be less of a financial stress to climb outdoors. However, for those who can’t afford indoor climbing, there is a discounted price for Warriors if they come with the club to The Front in Ogden.

Maynard is excited for her club and says that there isn’t a rock climbing state [championship] or other competitions for high school. Maynard added, “We want to get out and celebrate being this group. “It’s a welcoming feeling.”

Maynard wanted to do something unique, and she provided a way for herself and others to have fun. She found something that sparked her interest and turned it into a flame. “I have a lot of fun and I’m glad that I did it,” she said contentedly.



Sophomore Zac Thomas created a new business, Inkstick.
Photo by Ellie May Kerr

rope and Australia.”

Besides the unique wood, Thomas also sells acrylic pens. Thomas said, “I buy a solid block of acrylic and then just polish up. I don’t paint them myself, but I plan on starting on making my own acrylic.”

When Thomas first started his business, he didn’t plan on making it a business. He said, “When people became interested in buying them, I decided to try it out and make a business out of it.” He continued, “I got my license and started selling them at farmer’s markets. People in the community were really interested.”

Aside from all the easy aspects of being a business owner, Thomas said being a business owner is a difficult task to undertake. “Some-

times I have to order custom wood and it can be expensive,” he continued, “Often the wood will break, but I just start over and try all over again.”

While continuing to have a positive outlook, Thomas mentioned how juggling school and his business can be difficult. He said, “It can get stressful sometimes because I’m focusing on my business, passing my classes and having my own free time.” He added, “Everything can get so time consuming.”

On the other hand, Thomas highlighted the exciting reasons of owning a business. He said, “I love getting to know people through my business and being able to work with them. My customers are so nice. They appreciate my artwork and the time and effort I put in to making my pens.”

Thomas has noticed how his pen producing business has grown from when he first started. He said, “I’m almost completely self-sustained.” He continued that he hopes to make more than just pens. “I plan on making pen kits,” he added. Outside of the community, Thomas has also sold his pens to people in “Texas, New Jersey, Michigan and California.” His pens usually sell between \$10-\$60. “The more expensive pens are usually very exotic and are fountain pens,” he said.

For those interested in getting their own Inkstick, Thomas says to call or text him at 801-710-8361 or by email at Inksticks1@gmail.com.

Additional reporting by Brian Done

Routine changes alter winter mood

By Maddi Marker
Staff Reporter

The Christmas holidays are over, and everybody is knee deep in all their usual winter activities. Whether it’s skiing, snowball fights, sledding or building a snowman, there’s something out there for everyone. Have you ever wanted to make your winter more interesting and unique? This list will give you 10 ideas that you can try this winter that will make the season fun.

1. A good thing to do this winter is to get together with an old friend or relative. Doing this can bring back memories, and you will be happy that you got together with them again! We all have a person that maybe we haven’t seen or talked to in a long time and getting together with them can make this winter one that you will always remember. If you have a hard time getting together with them, then just call and talk to them for a while or send them a letter or a text to let them know that you’re thinking of them.

2. Go sledding down a big hill. You can even get someone to lend you a snowmobile, so you don’t have to walk all the way back up. There are lots of fun, big hills around North Ogden that you can find to sled down. We all go sledding in our back yards every year, but it is a lot more fun to go sledding on a bigger and better hill. Sledding is always a popular activity, so get out to those big hills.

3. Get outside. This can be hard in the winter because it gets so cold, but make sure you go outside everyday to stay healthy and fit. Staying healthy can be harder in the winter, but it is also the most important time of the year to stay healthy because of all of those sicknesses that go around.



Seniors Nate Gordan, David Richardson and Elise Waikhart enjoy a snowball fight.
Photo by Kaitlyn Henderson

4. Try a new winter sport. Maybe you are really big on skiing, so try snowboarding for a little change. You might find that you love a new activity. People can’t be scared of trying something new because that is how they find what they are good at and what they like. You could also go to a fun new place that you have never been before, like a new sledding hill or an ice-skating rink.

Since many people spend more time inside during the winter, they also have a lot more time to try new things like sewing or cooking. Since it’s so cold outside, people could learn how to make soup or cookies that will make everyone warm. You can also learn how to sew a blanket or crochet socks. This will teach you new skills and will make you feel accomplished.

5. Do something nice for someone. Make them a gift to let them know you care. You don’t always have to do something extreme, you can just write them a note or send them a text to let them know how much you care about them. People can even make someone’s day by waving or smiling at someone in the hallways or anywhere they go. It will make you feel so good to do something to make someone else feel good.

6. Make a New Year’s Resolution. It is never too late to change a few things for the better. It could even be something as simple as trying to be nicer towards someone or by smiling more. Resolutions are

easy to make and can be made at any time.

7. Olympic Sports. Most Olympians started off as just a regular person, but by working really hard at what they love, they are able to take their talents really far. Not that you should try to go for the Olympics, but you can have fun improving at what you are good at and becoming even better.

8. Decorate and remodel your house. It doesn’t have to be a holiday for you to decorate a little bit. It will make you feel good to move some things around in your house or to decorate it a little bit. People will be spending a lot more time inside during winter, so it will make it a little more enjoyable to change it up.

9. Give something to someone who needs it. Have you ever seen a poor person out in the cold with no jacket or food? The other day I saw a guy going through a garbage can looking for any type of food, then he came into the restaurant and got a piece of free bread because he was so hungry. It doesn’t take very much to give something to someone, so they don’t have to feel hungry or freezing.

10. Do something warm. It gets really cold outside in the winter. A fun thing to do is to get a cup of hot chocolate and snuggle up with a blanket by the fireplace while reading a really good book. You can also go hot tubbing or just take a warm bath.

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Time Out

By **Gavin Doughty**
Feature Editor

Kyler Hall is bald, and according to him, “Wardle cheated.” Though people admit charity is a virtue, we are yet reluctant to contribute to selfless causes. What Quarters and Cans does for the otherwise hesitant studentbody is promise that needed incentive; namely, watching people ridicule themselves for the sake of heralding in more generous adolescent hearts.

The spirit of Christmas—why has this meant so much to people, including myself—ignites vast and alacritous assemblies of people from every place and circumstance. Quarters and Cans is Weber High’s unique and historical method of keeping in line with that same love for giving. Several families from the community are assisted by the combined efforts of all the Weber High studentbody, faculty and staff. By this charity, the equal joy of receiving is shared with families who may struggle to accomplish this themselves. Living in the more-or-less well-off and small communities of Pleasant View and North Ogden, often causes us to forget that there are people in need all around us; Quarters and Cans recalls this reality to the minds of all students.

The most donations to come in at one time are accomplished at the

fan-favorite Quarters and Cans assembly. Before students make their own monetary sacrifices and commitments to the cause, they demand blood. This year, blood was spilt in the form of hair coming from Hall’s head. Besides what he lost, he did gain physical sympathy with Principal Wardle. It was devastating for Hall, and equally displeasing to those who now have to look at the poor boy’s haircut. Beyond that, Hall mentioned the principal cheated, though it was evident that the vigor of youth failed Hall in the competition.

The loss of hair seems to be a popular cause for laughter. So is perspiration and wheezing, along with pain and suffering. Trevor Heywood was “mentored” in his exhausting physical exercises by Coach Macfarlane, who was equally entertained by Heywood’s despair, as were the students who then emptied their coffers in satisfaction. At Weber High, charity is as much an appeal to consumerism as it is a service to the community.

School officers also manage to bring in donations through the power of an ornate coffee can. Cans are naturally ugly, so it’s important that no unclean thing should taste the loveliness of money. In some cases, they are made to resemble household pets, fed with giving hearts and gummy coinage. Again, we must reflect on the fact that those in need do not merit the graciousness of students’ hearts until a can is to the aesthetic satisfaction

of the donator. And in a way, the process of decorating the titular cans indicates the seriousness and fervor with which student government undertakes these wonderful tasks. It’s either that, or teenagers like arts and crafts. It certainly is a mystery.

Now a trivial bit: Though I speak of cans here, we must remember that they are not the titular item. In fact, along with monetary contributions come donated nonperishables, and teachers’ classes compete to accumulate the fastest canned soup stockpile (or whatever else may be similarly packaged). These mostly tin-contained food items are where the catchy title Quarters and Cans is derived.

Service is a reciprocal action, but it’s asymmetrical. We could say the giver finds solace in the soul, even if the contribution is a quarter. I could say penny, but really, a penny is just pathetic. When one does a service, time is not lost; it is part of a transaction. Weber High student government knows that well, due to the more-or-less broke nature of an individual teenager, a little incentive to give pushes a person to be more charitable. They do fabulous work through Quarters and Cans and as long as they continue to remove hair from people’s bodies, students will keep on giving. The key to making Quarters and Cans a lasting tradition is spilling blood for the mad donating crowd and not insulting the cause by giving a mere penny.

Feminism more than meets the eye, common misconceptions debunked

Feminism. That very word will elicit a dramatic reaction. Some will not know what it means; some will be offended and others will enthusiastically tell you that they are, indeed, a feminist.

What is the source of this confusion? There are some severe misconceptions about what exactly feminism is. Dictionary.com’s definition is the doctrine advocating social, political and all other rights of women equal to those of men. Notice the word equal? Equality is at the core of feministic beliefs.

The term “femi-nazi” is loosely used for those misandrists (people who hate men, usually women) who hide behind this saying that

by men. An example is external appearance. If a woman has short hair and wears traditionally masculine clothing, for the most part there is no reaction. But imagine that you’re walking down a street and see a man in a dress. Why do we find that thought weird? Additionally, there is also an unnecessary social stigma faced by men who have long hair. Why are women allowed to explore masculinity, but men aren’t allowed the same with femininity?

It’s because society and the way people are raised have internalized sexism into the core of our everyday lives and ourselves. Feminism exists to abolish these sexist ideas.

something to do with the negative rap feminism gets; a bad, lingering reputation left by extreme misandrists. Or perhaps it is because people might find feminism not to be inclusive, when it’s the opposite that’s true. Feminism is for and defends everyone, regardless of sex, gender, ethnicity, social status or any other factor. It couldn’t be more obvious that feminism is needed when the very word is taboo or undesirable just because its name is loosely attached to women.

Yet, some people find it an unnecessary movement in this decade. I beg to differ. In 2014, female full-time workers made only 79 cents for every dollar earned by men; a gender wage gap of 21 percent. Women, on average, earn less than men in virtually every single occupation for which there is sufficient earnings data for both men and women to calculate an earnings ratio (information from Institute for Women’s Policy Research, imprw.org). Women are still being paid less for doing the same job as men, specifically because they are women. To be frank, this is just ridiculous.

The last thing that might put people off is the idea that feminism is extreme. It shouldn’t have to be. It’s not about privilege for women or men. Equality shouldn’t be some radical ideal; it should be what we all strive for. It’s not about making people uncomfortable or ashamed in any regular choice that we make. It’s about making us feel like we can choose without consequences.

An example of this to illustrate my point is the removal of body hair. Let’s look specifically at women’s legs. Feminism isn’t about all women refusing to shave in order to stand up to society’s expectations. It’s about women feeling like shaving their legs is a choice, that we don’t have to if we don’t want to, but also that if we want to, we can and should. It’s about having a choice and the right reasoning behind that choice.

Still confused? Malala Yousafzai said, “It’s about equality, it’s about feminism and it’s about saying that we’re all human beings. Why would you separate us just because our gender is different?”

By **Natalie Andrus**
WHS Junior

School threats endanger students, safety doesn’t require weapons

With an increase in school shootings and threats to students’ safety, there has been a long-standing debate about what teachers and administrators can do to help eliminate some of the threats. The most popular suggestion is to allow teachers and administrators to carry guns or other weapons at school.

I can see how this could be helpful, but in all honesty it seems like a short-sighted solution. I do think some teachers should be allowed to carry some sort of weapon with them, but only if it is used strictly for self-defense. Teachers should only be allowed to carry a weapon with them after passing an extensive background check, as well as some sort of psychological screening. This way, the chance of an accident or greater danger can be minimized. I also believe teachers should attend special training classes that teaches them how to respond to any situation that puts them or their students in danger.

As for others carrying weapons, I don’t think people should be allowed to carry any sort of weapon at school. While I know letting teachers carry weapons has its risks, I feel like the psyche of a teenager is a lot less predictable. With all of the stress that comes with school (balancing work, class and a social life isn’t easy), it’s a bit too risky to give students the responsibility of protecting their peers. That may be a little too much for a teenager to handle; which I only say because I know it would be too much worry for me to deal with.

However, I don’t think students carrying a weapon (who have had proper training) puts other students in danger. I just think it’s too much stress for students to deal with on their own. I think adults have a better capacity for protecting the lives of others than teens do.

There are also other ways to provide safety to students while



they’re in school without giving teachers or students any kind of weapon. There is always the option for some sort of security. For some reason, this seems like a far-fetched idea to people, but there are a lot of schools that already have some security: a resource police officer. I honestly don’t think it would hurt too much to have maybe two or three resource officers in school at any given time. That way, both students and teachers can always find one should anything sketchy happens or be suspected. Resource officers could help keep a watchful eye on everyone. They tend to be more trained than most to be able to handle any outside dangers.

More than anything else, I think the best way to keep students safe is to make sure they are doing okay. A lot of dangers like shootings arise from some sort of mental illness or other problem in a person’s life.

Keeping the students physically safe is important, but it doesn’t really help if their mind is still a danger to themselves or others. Counseling and support groups can help make the chance of any problem at school being caused by a student a lot smaller.

Another thing we can do is to keep a more positive atmosphere around schools. That starts with the people in it. Violence shouldn’t be blamed on video games and movies, and there aren’t any ways to get rid of every single risk that would put students in danger. People can’t prevent everything bad from occurring, but they can try their best to create a safe environment. And if weapons are absolutely necessary around the school, they should only be carried by well-trained people.

By **Siera Rose**
WHS Junior

Dress code restrictions unfair, directed towards female gender

Everyday students are making a decision on what they are going to be wearing to school. While this decision may seem easy to most, other students are left questioning whether or not their outfit will be considered school appropriate. There seems to be one group in particular that is being recognized for their clothing. That’s right, I am talking about the girls.

Girls at almost every school have been singled out in response to the school’s dress code. What once was a simple and cute summer dress is now considered to revealing and a distraction to the other students who are trying to learn. This accusation is leaving girls confused as to what is so distracting about their clothing. Along with the distraction label, the girls are also labeled as wearing provocative things based on their clothing.

Our school dress code states it is enforced upon everyone and directed towards both genders. Although the dress code is for both genders, it seems to be more gender specific towards girls. In the dress code it states that any skirt, shorts or dress must be to mid-thigh at least. Along

with the length of clothing, if you are not able to pick something up or stretch in your clothing, then it is too short. Any short sleeve top has to cover the ball of one’s shoulders. No tops or dresses can have an open back. Nobody is allowed to wear any sort of baggy pants that expose his/her underwear.

While this dress code does not seem so gender specific to some, it does tend to be directed towards the female gender. Girls everyday are dress coded for their lengths of skirts, dresses and shorts for being too short. The problem with this recognition by the administration is they are being one-sided on the issue. Men have started to develop the trend of wearing shorter shorts and tank tops to school when it is warmer weather. Most students see this transition as okay and think nothing of it yet when a girl wears the same length of shorts, she is called upon to change her clothes for being “too distracting.” This dress code is sending out the wrong message and saying there is a problem with girls. Basically, it is telling girls the way they are dressing is too sexual and telling the boys of

the school they can’t control themselves. This idea could lead to possible issues such as the boys treating the girls with less respect and becoming more aggressive.

School dress code standards are different all over the world, and they have their own qualifications. Some schools go as far as not allowing kids to wear a certain color to school if it is in any way gang related. The problem starting to rise even more is now schools are banning skinny jeans, leggings and yoga pants; once again leaning towards a more gender specific dress code. These examples that are directed towards females are not just about seeing their skin but the female silhouette in general.

The whole dress code dispute has all administrators thinking the same question: What is the ideal dress code? A way for the schools to take a step in the right direction would be creating a group of parents, students and administration to create a dress code that is fair to both genders, thus creating a better environment for women in schools.

By **Lexi Olsen**
WHS Senior



they’re a feminist. Misandrists and misogynists (hatred or dislike of women, usually by men) do not agree with feminism. Let me say again, feminism is all about equality.

Some may then ask, why it’s called **feminism**. First, it is called this because when people first realized that gender equality was an issue, the problem was, and still is, perceptions and treatments of traditional femininity.

At this point the reader might be a little confused. Yes, I did just emphasize that feminism is about equality, and yes, I do still mean that. Bear with me.

Anything “feminine” is shameful or undesirable even (and perhaps especially) when it’s done

The term feminism has been used for this movement/belief since 1895, though the core ideals have been around for much longer. These ideals have come up as part of other movements or beliefs which, for the most part, are good. But there’s one particular thing I’d care to mention: egalitarianism. Dictionary.com defines egalitarianism as belief in the equality of all people, especially in political, social or economic life. This term has been used since 1932; however, feminism and egalitarianism are the same thing.

Those who identify as an egalitarian primarily use that term because there’s something “shameful” about the word feminism, but I don’t get it. Perhaps it could have

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Gavin Doughty

Weber High School

430 West Weber High Drive

Pleasant View, UT 84114

WARRIOR NEWS

January/February 2016 Volume 294 Issue 3 Since 1946

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Now Playing

By **Ashley Vongbandith**
Assistant to the Chief

If you listen closely, you can hear nearly every *Hunger Games* fanatic crying. It may be because the fourth and final installment of the *Hunger Games* films has arrived, but it may also be because the film was so well put together; it included plenty of scenes that kept viewers on the edge of their seats and caused an abundant amount of different emotions. However, the movie also left the audiences with a euphoric feeling. It was dazzling and entertaining. It followed most parts of the book, and it is for anyone who is looking for an exciting, adventurous film.

The movie starts out a tad bit slow, but once it becomes exciting, the rest of the film is just as amazing and suddenly doesn't make you want to get up to use the bathroom or get some nachos.

The film's beginning starts in mid-scene, picking up from where *Mockingjay Part I* ended. The heroine Katniss Everdeen, portrayed by Jennifer Lawrence, is shown injured and bruised after being attacked in the previous film by her best friend/lover/companion Peeta Mellark, played by Josh Hutcherson. Now, this may be confusing at first to those who haven't read the books or possibly haven't seen the last film, but the audience will catch on very quickly about what is happening.

Katniss Everdeen is the face of the rebellion, this is what we've learned from the film, *Catching Fire*, the second installment to *The Hunger Games* series. In the final installment, Katniss forms an army in a march to assassinate President Snow, end The Hunger Games and restore Panem to a society without war.

The action really begins within 20 minutes into the film when Kat-

niss sneaks on a supply ship to get to the Capitol and meets with her assigned alliance which features familiar faces such as Gale Hawthorn, played by Liam Hemsworth, and Finnick Odair, played by Sam Claflin. Peeta eventually joins Katniss's army when President Coin, played by Julianne Moore, sends him to fight alongside with the rest of the alliance, but he is still unable to think straight due to the Capitol toying with his memory. The tributes enter the streets of the Capitol and that's when everything intensifies. The buildings and streets are filled with booby traps, mines and poisonous black tar making every step Katniss takes a risky one.

My personal favorite thing about this film and the whole *The Hunger Games* series in general, is how Katniss is viewed as a feminist icon; she is clever, courageous and doesn't need anyone to save her. She is able to think for herself and shows how smart she is throughout all of the movies. Jennifer Lawrence reminds everyone how fantastic an actress she is. Lawrence shines with her talent in this film and is able to make an inspiring, strong character come to life.

The other characters from previous films have returned to this final installment: Donald Sutherland as President Snow, Woody Harrelson as Haymitch, Elizabeth Banks as Effie Trinket and Willow Shields as Primrose Everdeen.

This movie deserves great reviews. The action-packed scenes make the audience want to jump into the movie themselves and run through the Capitol, fight alongside with the fierce main characters in the intense scenes and become a part of the alliance to save Panem. Huge *Hunger Games* fans who want the movie to be precise with the storyline of the novel still will not be disappointed in this film. It was a great adaption of the book and is an excellent way to end the box office hit franchise.

By **Lily Davis**
Staff Reporter

When most people think of life back in the 70s, colorful, loud and flashy clothing comes to mind. The most iconic and wild article of clothing during that time was the art of denim: behold, the flared jeans. It's 2016 and the comeback of flared jeans is brighter than ever. Skinny jeans have always held the throne as the ultimate it-girl jeans but as we go into the New Year, people will find that the infamous flares are hanging on racks at favorite clothing stores.

Flares were born in the early 19th century as sailors wore wide-legged trousers as uniforms. The most synonymous era of flared jeans was the



1970s, the era that is best known for the stereotypical hippies decked out in maxi dresses with the angel sleeves and go-go boots. Their long wavy locks blow in the breeze as they protest for peace. The nostalgia of the 1970s hippie vibe dominated the runways when the 2014 spring collection were shown in September 2014, with Saint Lau-

rent, Tom Ford, Emilio Pucci, and House of Holland, put flares back on the radar.

No matter how many avant-garde-like pieces comes into the fresh atmosphere of fashion, the flares always fight their way back into the latest trends. Big mistake. Flared jeans are amazing for two things and two things only: when

you are reliving a childhood moment by dressing up as a Charlie's Angel or attending a Fleetwood Mac concert.

But we are here to learn, not laugh about our past fashion mistakes. Together, we can keep our heads held high and conquer the returning storm of flared jeans. You don't want to wear flare jeans that are torn apart, covered in dirt that drag behind you due to its long length. Switch out these flares with a pair of boyfriend jeans because not only are boyfriend jeans better than an actual boyfriend, but the baggy silhouette makes people appear longer and leaner. Add rolled up cuffs to show off a flash of ankle. Kick the nautical influence of flared jeans out of your wardrobe this spring and look good doing it too in favorite non-flared jeans.

Relaxing tips assist in relieving stress

By **Jaden Pratt**
News Editor

You walk through the front door and set your backpack down. You scurry to the kitchen and grab a snack because school just got over and you are a growing teen who is mighty hungry. Sitting down, you grab your bag and remember you don't have any homework today. It's time to kick back and relax like the Warrior you are.

Many teens enjoy watching TV or especially Netflix. Netflix is an on-demand, instantly transmitted entertainment medium. Netflix allows people to stream and watch TV shows and movies. McCall Johnson, senior, used the phrase "Netflix and chill" as a way of relaxing and hanging out with friends.

Several other students said they enjoyed going to Fiiz. Fiiz is a relatively new business located near the old Smith's. They serve specialty sodas and have a cool atmosphere as Anna Shepherd, sophomore, said. Pizza Pie Café, was also mentioned as a "fun hangout," said Johnson. They serve buffet style pizza and desserts and is quite popular with the Weber Warriors. Some students took a natural take

to relaxing. Hannah Christiansen, sophomore, said she likes to go to the park and hang out with friends. She also said she likes to run. "I just run my stress off," Christiansen said. She also added she likes running through nature because it is pretty and calming. Chet Peterson, sophomore, added, "I enjoy Frisbee a lot, but mainly to relax. I also run." He feels running is a stress reliever for teens.

If people are interested in a way of relaxing or are looking for a group activity, disc golf is an athletic, outdoorsy way to accomplish that. The disc golf course, Riverpark, located at 4600 South Weber River Drive, Riverdale, offers everyone the chance to be out in nature and play a course of either 9 or 18 holes. It is free but players must bring own discs. On the website, discgolfscene.com, Riverpark has the highest reviews of any disc golf park in northern Utah: its score being an A, while Harrisville Park scored a B+ and Ogden-Weber ATC scored a B-. Tenaya Tidwell, sophomore, says, "It's fun and you have a great view of the mountains [regarding the Riverpark course]. The scenery is pretty." She added laughing, "It is a bit of a scavenger hunt to find your discs if you lose them, though."

Listening or playing music can

also help people relax. Kiersey Nielsen, sophomore, said when she comes home from school she likes to relax with music; she plays her violin. In an article by ppsychcentral.com, it reported that many studies have shown that listening to music can help students relax because it helps relieve stress and brings distraction. "Music has the unbelievable ability to affect our moods. And anyone with a passion for music can confirm this," revealed

"Music has the unbelievable ability to affect our moods. And anyone with a passion for music can confirm this."

elitedaily.com. The Free University of Berlin also said sad music can make people feel nostalgic about the happier, better times in their lives which then cause happiness for the people.

David Suisse, senior, said he "enjoyed going to the Ninja Warrior course." This Ninja Warrior course can be done by most people 14 years or older. It is located on 3111 Wall Avenue Ogden, Utah. It is called The Ninja Warehouse.

People can buy a membership or go to open gym. Ninja Warehouse is an elite gym mimicking the TV show American Ninja Warrior. Suisse said he really enjoyed going with his friends because they were able to compete against each other on the obstacles. "It was satisfying and fulfilling to finish an obstacle." They were also able to compare their times with friends. Now Weber Warriors can train to be Ninja Warriors.

One of the first things some students want to do when they come home from school is sleep, as stated by Mari Shupe, sophomore. The National Sleep Foundation reports, "Sleep is food for the brain." Napping was also the number one answer from Warriors as to how they relax at home. Teens should get at least 8 to 10 hours of sleep a night, said the National Sleep Foundation. "To relax at home, I watch YouTube and take naps," said senior Ethan Wilcock.

Some students have jobs and can not necessarily relax right after school. Ashley Spainhower, sophomore, said Subway is a fun place for her to hangout. She said she enjoys it there because "I work with my besties, and we have dance parties." As far as other hangouts she has been to, she said, "I don't think so...I'm always at Subway."

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Couples share insights, give relationship advice

By **Taylor Galusha**
News Editor

With Valentine’s Day right around the corner, couples at Weber share their relationship experiences and give advice about how to maintain a relationship.

These Warriors have been with their partners for over two years: seniors Kayen Lee and Matthew Waite; Jake Hibbard and Kiley Allman; Josh Fawson and Emily Swenson.

Warrior News: How did you meet?

Waite: “I met Kayen back in the eighth grade when my good friend introduced me to her and some other people.”

Hibbard: “Kiley and I met sophomore year in math class.”

Fawson: “Emily and I met in Plant and Soil Science class. I was too lazy to register for Biotech, and she was fascinated by soil. We are a match made in heaven.”

WN: What was your first date?

Waite: “Our first date was for Kayen’s 16 birthday. We went to Pizza Pie Cafe and had an amazing time. We were at the restaurant for almost four hours talking and laughing.”

Hibbard: “Senior Cotillion our sophomore year.”

Fawson: “Our first date was going to a hockey game where we held hands and sang our favorite music. It was wonderful. I did try to ask her out one time before that; I asked her to the play and she said no.”

WN: What date is the most memorable?

Waite: “Our first date was the most memorable because it was the first one.”

Lee: “My most memorable date would be our second date. It was Prom our junior year. We went and got unlimited French toast for breakfast and then went snowboarding. I got my dream dress and we took great pictures. Matt looked really cute in his tux and

we got complimented on how good we looked all night and we got to dance and laugh all night.”

Hibbard: “Prom our junior year is the most memorable. I had lots of fun the whole day: the day date, dinner and the dance were all awesome with her.”

Allman: “Prom was just because of how much fun we had going on a scavenger hunt at the zoo and dancing at the dance and then getting ice cream afterwards.”

Fawson: “For me, it was our first because I was finally going on a date with the girl that I had liked for so long.”

Swenson: “We went on a date where we went to three different restaurants on 25th Street: one for an appetizer, one for an entree and one for dessert. I thought it was creative and fun.”

WN: How do you keep your friendship/ Relationship strong?

Waite: “We keep our relationship strong by talking through problems or arguments. I don’t really understand, but we just do because we are awesome.”

Lee: “Always laugh and be there for them. If they aren’t your best friend, then what’s the point?”

Hibbard: “Doing things together and talking to each other.”

Allman: “Couples who swim together stay together. Spending a lot of time with each other.”

Fawson: “I think a good friendship is the key to a strong relationship. I’m dating my best friend and that is wonderful. It’s one thing to think someone is attractive and want to date them, but quite another to be willing to embrace every aspect of them. Be friends.”

Swenson: “We spend a lot of time together. We were friends before we started dating, so he really is my best friend. We spend time with each others family. We just do fun things together.”

WN: What does it take to maintain a strong relationship?

Waite: “Communication and honesty are key. If you do those things, your relationship will last longer.



Seniors Josh Fawson and Emily Swenson have been together since Junior year.

Photos by Baylee Howe



Jake Hibbard and Kiley Allman met for the first time in math.

Oh, and lots of kissing.”

Lee: “Commitment, trust, laughing and lots of Mountain Dew.”

Hibbard: “Talking - if there is a problem, be willing to sacrifice.”

Allman: “A lot of effort and just talking to each other. You have to give things up to make each other happy sometimes.”

Fawson: “Healthy relationships are about meeting each other’s emotional needs, and that is impossible without communication. Talk to each other.”

Swenson: “Communication and patience.”

WN: Why do some high school relationships fail?

Waite: “A lot of teens don’t understand how to handle them; they give up and break up instead of working through things and being honest.”

Lee: “People aren’t mature enough and don’t put in enough effort. They cheat and don’t have enough Mountain Dew and laughs.”

Hibbard: “They just give up.”

Allman: “It’s easier to just give up on each other than always trying to work things out.”

Fawson: “A lack of communication.”

Swenson: “Probably because people aren’t willing to put in the effort to work through problems, or they want different things and find they aren’t compatible. I think the stresses of high school and life can also put a strain on high school relationships.”

WN: What attracted you to him/her?

Waite: “I loved her humor and friendship, even though I had to work to get out of the friend zone. She is also really pretty.”

Lee: “The way he put so much effort for over a year to try and win me over and his great hair.”

Hibbard: “Just everything about her.”

Allman: “So many things. At first it was because he was cute, but now he is my best friend. He is goofy, smart, respectful, caring, diligent, hardworking, attractive, funny and a good listener. He is basically just perfect.”

Fawson: “Emily is so beautiful,

but what has always attracted me to her is her way of thinking and her compassion for people. I love her inside and out.”

Swenson: “He is smart, funny and obviously handsome. He made an effort to talk to me and get to know me. He was interested in the things I had to say.”

WN: What is the most important attribute in a good relationship?

Waite: “Honesty is by far the most important. Everything else comes with honesty like loyalty.”

Lee: “Effort, without effort and showing you like them then they aren’t going to stay.”

Hibbard: “Thinking of the other person first. If you are making them happy, it will make you happier.”

Allman: “Honesty and willingness. You have to talk everything out if there are issues and be willing to change things to make it (the relationship) better.”

Fawson: “Communication is most definitely an important attribute.”

Swenson: “Communication.”

WN: What advice do you have for other couples?

Waite: “Stick it out. If you really want your relationship to last a long time, then work things out. Just don’t give up on them.”

Lee: “Try to be understanding of each other. Always help each other out. If your girl’s shirt is a little twisted, go help her straighten it out. If your boy is having a bad day, go get yourselves some Mountain Dew and just chill.”

Hibbard: “Talk to each other a lot and be willing to sacrifice and work things out.”

Allman: “It’s okay to have problems sometimes, just work through them. It’s always nice to have somebody by your side no matter what, so make sure you are nice to them

Fawson: “Be willing to embrace every aspect of them and meet each other’s emotional needs.”

Swenson: “Listen to each other, always make sure the other person feels loved, accept each other, work through your problems, be patient, be nice to each other, do thoughtful things for each other and communicate with each other.”

Valentine’s Day fiasco? Singles take over holiday

By **Emilee Alder**
Editorial Editor

Feb. 14 is the commonly known holiday, Valentine’s Day. Except how is it spent when someone doesn’t have a significant other? People have started calling Feb. 14 Single Awareness Day to rebel against this holiday. But which one is more popular?

Senior McCall Johnson says it’s not even a contest. “Single Awareness Day, all the way,” she says. She also says she unfortunately doesn’t have a boyfriend by her side during this time of year. “Yes, I’m aware I’m single and it never bothers me, but February comes around, and it’s shoved down my throat that I don’t have a boyfriend.”

Kelton Lower, senior, agrees with Johnson. “I think Valentine’s is a stupid holiday. It pretty much shames people who aren’t in a relationship.” He also says there’s nothing wrong with being single, so he takes Single Awareness Day as a much better way to spend Feb. 14.

Concerning which title is best, sophomore Anna Burnett is indifferent. She says, “Yeah, I get a little sad when I don’t have a boy on Valentine’s Day, so I’m usually all about the single pride. But if I were to have a boyfriend, you bet I’d be all about the cheesy Valentine’s Day traditions.”

Burnett also says she thinks it’s a sweet way to spoil your significant other. “It’s just one day where you spoil someone, and you also get spoiled back; what’s not to love about it?”

Senior Ethan Wilcock enjoys Valentine’s Day. His favorite part of the whole thing is “spoiling my girlfriend and spending the day with her.” He says he follows the typical Valentine’s Day standard and enjoys every minute of it. “Having a day just to show that one person how much you care for them is amazing,” he says.

Lower also has a different opinion about how Valentine’s Day is spent. He says, “You can show them you care any day of the year.” He doesn’t understand why couples wait until Valentine’s Day to give the person they’re dating certain gifts. “You don’t need a holiday to

give your significant other a present,” he adds.

Wilcock feels the opposite way. “Valentine’s Day is just a nice special occasion to celebrate couples.” He adds that yes, he does give his girlfriend gifts randomly, but “there’s something nice about having a specific day to spoil her.”

For those without a significant other, they still find a way to spend the holiday. Lower says since he doesn’t have a girlfriend, he usually spends the day by himself. He adds, “I play video games, eat a lot of food, watch television.” He says he doesn’t really think of it as any different from a normal day. He also says Single Awareness Day should be more acceptable instead of Valentine’s Day. He adds, “Maybe there should be a holiday to celebrate single people; that’d be cool.”

As for Johnson, she usually spends the day with friends, celebrating being single. “We some-

“You can show them you care any day of the year. You don’t need a holiday to give your significant other a present.”

times complain about being single, or make a little fun of all the people in relationships.” She adds she ends up having a good time on Valentine’s Day, or Single Awareness Day, even if she doesn’t have a boyfriend.

Burnett agrees and says she admits to getting jealous during Valentine’s Day. “It does make me aware that I’m single, so Single Awareness Day is an appropriate name for it.” She also says she likes to watch other couples during this time. “I’m torn between liking and disliking Valentine’s Day,” she says.

Wilcock admits Valentine’s Day can be kind of torturous if single during that time. “No one’s trying to make people feel bad about being single, though,” he says. “Couples should be allowed to be cheesy and romantic on Valentine’s Day without being mocked or judged.”

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December 4-5	L.I.T. -Varsity & JV- (Layton High)	
December 10	Mountain Crest @ Weber (Big Gym)	5:30p/7:00p
December 11-12	Wasatch Dual -Varsity & JV- (Heber City)	
December 17	Weber @ Sky Veiw	5:30p/7:00p
December 18-19	Jody Warren Duals-Varsity & JV- (Big Gym)	
December 23-27	Moratorium	
December 30	Conrner Canyon @ Weber (Big Gym)	5:30p/7:00p
January 1	Moratorium	
January 8-9	Richardson Memorial -Varsity & JV (Box Elder High)	
January 14	Clearfield @ Weber (Big Gym)	5:30p/7:00p
January 15-16	Rocky Mountain Rumble -Varsity & JV- (UVU)	
January 20	Weber @ Roy	5:30p/7:00p
January 21	Fremont @ Weber -Senior Night- (Big Gym)	5:30p/7:00p
January 27-28	State 5A Dual Tournamet (TBA)	(TBA)
February 5-6	5A Divisional Tournamet (TBA)	
February 6	High School JV/Extras State Tour. (Legacy Events)	(TBA)
February 10-11	State Tournamet (Corner Canyon)	
February 20	Super State Tournamet (UVU)	6:00p

For duals: JV start times are 5:30. Varsity at 7:00

Teens handle hard breakups

By **Matthew Cragun**
Staff Reporter

Most people have had to deal with a breakup, and if you haven't, you're lucky. Breaking up with someone you care about can be difficult. Sometimes it can be hard to let go and move on.

So what can people do to move on from a breakup? Kaitlyn Henderson, senior, said the first step to letting go is accepting it is over. "You have to accept that it is over. Once you accept this, it can be very easy to let go and move on," said Henderson.

Henderson has been through one breakup and has now moved on. "I am happy that it's over, but I'm not happy about how it ended. It ended so fast, and it was hard to think that it is over. Now that I look back, I realize that is was for the best," Henderson added. "Breakups are hard because it feels like half of your soul is gone."

Henderson also said, "There are five steps when it comes to getting over a breakup: First, you have to accept that it's over and let all of your anger out. Second, you need to go on lots of different dates to get your mind off of things. Third, do things that help you forget about the past. For me, I ate lots of food. It really helps you focus on the good things in life, such as yummy food. Fourth, it is good to find new interests. Fifth, do a lot of exercising; yoga really helped me a lot. Exercising helps you to get your mind off of life and just allows you to focus on yourself."

Elise Waikart, senior, has also been a victim of breakups. Waikart has been through two breakups. "I try to date other people. I also like to do things that help me get



Teens find ending a relationship difficult to endure. Listening to other's breakup stories can help people survive such moments. (photo of Emily Jones)

Photo by **Melissa Harris**

my mind off of things. There is so much you can do to move on. You can go on hikes, hang out with your friends as much as possible and eat lots of food," said Waikart.

She also realized the breakups were a good thing. "Looking back now, I see that the breakups were both for the best. Granted, I sometimes miss the person I was with, but when that happens you just need to remember to think about how your life has changed for the better ever since the breakup. One of the reasons of why it is so hard to let go is because you are with that person for so long that you become attached. It's like part of you is missing. I am fortunate because I am still good friends with the people I was in past relationships with," said Waikart.

Boys should start taking hints: She's just not that into you

By **Alli Barney**
News Editor

Girls, let's face it. We all know that one guy who has tried to escape the friendzone. He crosses the line from flattering attention to unwanted interest, and despite not reciprocating his feelings, he's persistent. Turning him down can be uncomfortable; no one wants to be the girl who crushes a boy's heart and ruins his chances of ever finding love. But sometimes it has to be done, for your sake and your heart-eyed admirer's. There are many ways to go about this, from the subtle hints to the blunt declarations. The ladies at Weber High offer counsel and their experiences in hopes that girls will learn how to drop hints and boys will learn how to take them.

Haley Lutz, senior, gives her advice. "Be as nice as you can when letting them down. Tell them the truth, so you don't lead them on." Similarly, junior Krystal Kerr agrees that the best strategy is to "be straight up with them."

In a perfect world, "no" would mean no, not "I'm playing hard to get," as some guys interpret it. So what if these blunt approaches don't work? It's time to resort to more subtle methods.

"Call them 'pal' so they know they're friendzoned," said Courtney Silva, senior. Nothing gets the message across better than when he goes in for a hug, and she rebuffs him with a fistbump, right? Senior Hannah Paxman also suggested to ease them back into the friendzone. "Have friend-related conversations, nothing relationship related," Paxman said. "Say things like, 'Oh, you're super nice,' or 'You're such a great friend!'"

And if he's still oblivious? Senior Savannah Smith offered her insight. "I know it's mean," said Smith, "but you could talk about other guys with them." Fellow se-

nior Julianne Kidd isn't afraid to let her potential suitor know she's not interested if her implications are going right over his head. "Avoid him, ignore him and give him the cold shoulder. If he texts you, tell him he has the wrong number," she said. These may seem like harsh tactics, but desperate times call for desperate measures.

Deception is always a last resort. If all else fails and he still insists on pursuing a girl who has made it clear that she doesn't like him like that, maybe he deserves it. A girl can only be nice and sweet for so long.

"This guy I work with kept asking me out. I would say no, but that never worked. My boss once had to call the cops on him because he was following me. Creepy, right?" said senior Emi Birch. "Finally, my mom and I came up with a plan. I gave him the excuse that I had signed a contract with my mom that said I wouldn't date guys who have already graduated (he was in

his mid-20s) and it worked! He no longer tries to ask me on dates."

Sometimes actions work better than words. "I pretended to be asleep when my Homecoming date wanted to cuddle during a movie," said a senior who chose to remain anonymous. "Then, when he tried to kiss me on my doorstep, I just hugged him and ran inside."

Junior Brittney Nix was less subtle, but her method was just as effective. "When my guy friend kissed me, I laughed in his face," she said.

Others have to resort to physically proving to an old boyfriend that they're no longer interested. "My ex would keep following me, so I started going out with his best friend to show him that we're through," admitted another anonymous student.

Girls, if you've ever had to resort to extreme measures, you're not alone. Boys, if any of this has happened to you, read the signs. She's just not that into you.



Sometimes boys don't get the hint that a girl is not into him. Girls give advice on how to let guys know that is it time to move on. (photo of Michelle Manning and Kayden Larsen)

Photo by **Ellie May Kerr**

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At Classic Fun Center, senior Mason Green shows off his sweet moves.



Senior Becca Fowers tries to participate in the rollerblading fundraiser for Quarters and Cans.



A member of the Jazz Dunk Team goes up for a slam as the crowd cheers him on.



Another member of the team flies into the air as he performs his creative shot.

Photos by Kaitlyn Henderson, Destanie Setzer and Baylee Howe

Weber gives back

School officers host fun activities as Warriors help community, local causes

By Elizabeth Josephson
Editor in Chief

December is a time when people go out of their way to spread a bit of cheer and give back. One way that Weber High School gives back is Quarters and Cans.

Quarters and Cans, a tradition at Weber for over 25 years, starts in November and runs until winter break. Local businesses and the community come together to help the chosen causes.

Every year Quarters and Cans provides a complete Christmas to families in the WHS area. Part of the proceeds will also go towards the Weekend Warrior Food Pack project. This project helps elementary students who receive free or reduced lunches to have food over the weekend.

The student body officers also choose special recipients for Warriors to assist. This year they have selected Live Hannah’s Hope, a suicide education and prevention organization that was started by Mrs. Laura Warbuton. Her daughter Hannah, who was a WHS student, committed suicide.

Quarters and Cans will also be helping WHS teacher and Coach Jamie James’ daughter, Kelsey Stireman Bingham. Bingham was recently diagnosed with Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma, a rare form of cancer.

The cancer stems from the salivary glands, but her tumor is located below her skull in an area that cannot be operated on, according to student government advisor Mrs. Pearce. Typical chemotherapy cannot be used because it would damage her brain stem.

Bingham is staying in Houston, TX for two months for treatment, starting Dec. 16. Bingham’s husband and one-year old daughter are living in Houston with her during her treatment. Bingham and her husband will be celebrating their daughter’s first Christmas in the hospital. Pearce said, “We will be helping with her medical expenses as much as we can.”

There were many events throughout the season to raise money. A dodgeball tournament was held Nov. 7 and the first Ash Tray Day was held Nov. 24th.

The opening Quarters and Cans assembly was held Nov. 20th. In the past, students have had to donate money to earn a longer assembly and more activities. Pearce said, “They did it a little bit differently this year. “They just had to reach \$2000 for Hat Day and Teacher Parking Day. Other than that, it was just as much as they wanted to donate.”

Pearce was happy with how much Weber students raised. “We raised a little over \$2800 in that one and a half hours, so that’s pretty good.”

The assembly was still packed with action. Becca Cope sang the theme song “We are Here” by Alicia Keys. Mrs. Warburton also spoke to students. She spoke about making good choices and being kind to each other. She also told about the effects of technology on the brain and encouraged students to put electronics away at night.

To help raise money during the assembly, the sophomore officers received challenges from the SBO’s. Jonah Simmons was challenged to wear BYU attire for the month while Joe Storey was taped to the railing for the assembly. The girls were given t-shirts with thier elementary school picture on them, and they had to wear them for a month. The SBO’s were not excluded from the fun. Mr. Wardle shaved a bald.spot in the back of Kyler

Quarters and Cans continues on page 11



Casey Bond, senior, takes it slow and steady on his rollerblades.



Mrs. Perry gives the “Stormin’ Mormons” a dodgeball pep-talk.



The Quarters and Cans fundraiser brought many students together in hopes of winning the dodgeball tournament. Taking first were Anders Johnson, Brenen Halliday, Aspen Wayment, Jake Reed, Wyatt Berdinner and Kyler Hall.



Another Quarters and Cans activity was the Jazz Dunk performance during Weber’s boys’ basketball game half time on Dec. 4.



SBO Kyler Hall blindfolds student for a Quarters and Cans lunchtime activity.



SBO President Avanlee Jessop sells t-shirts during lunch for Hannah's Hope.



Senior officers and SBOs work hard running around during the Miracle Minute to raise money for Quarters and Cans.



Straw Market cinnamon rolls are sold to junior Zolean Palmer from SBO officer Kyler Hall.



Sophomore officer Joe Storey picks out shoes for a kid in need.

Quarters and Cans continues from page 10

Hall's head and even autographed it. Coach Mac administered a beep test for Trevor Heywood. After he ran up and down the auditorium stairs, he had to do burpees.

Making Weber High School a bit more like *High School Musical* during the assembly was a touching duet between Gabriella (Hall) and Troy (Thomas Ulrich).

More activities followed the opening assembly. The Jazz Dunk team performed at half-time at the home boys' basketball game on Dec. 4. There was Christmas caroling on Dec. 9. Miracle Minute was held on Dec. 11 in sixth period, and the class that raised the most money won doughnuts and cinnamon rolls. Mrs. Randolph's class won the treats and total donations during the Miracle Minute was over \$2,000.

The final assembly was held on Dec. 22. Using funds earned from Homecoming, officers gave away items from purchased raffle tickets. Money from the tickets also assisted Quarters and Cans.

There were also the usual fun activities to help boost the final giving to Quarters and Cans. Mrs. Pearce said she thought Mr. Ballif "having to smash eggs on his head and drink gross stuff" was the highlight of the assembly. Students also enjoyed the Chicken Dance with senior Grayden Guthrie and Mr. Short.

The donations this year came to \$28,500. Mrs. Pearce is pleased with the Warrior's efforts. The officers were able to purchase and supply Christmas gifts for community families in need, and they also helped their fundraising projects.



Vice Principal Steve Short and senior Grayden Guthrie entertain Warriors with their version of the Chicken Dance.

Photos by Karloz Moran, Melissa Harris, Baylee Howe and Destanie Setzer



Joe Storey, sophomore officer, busily wraps gifts after his shopping visit to Smith's.



Wrapping presents for the Quarters and Cans families are junior officers Kate Poulson and Gavin Lund.



Juniors Kiera Della Cerra and Elise Hillstrom, and seniors Baylee Howe and Navy Humphreys race to win the most money for Quarters and Cans.



SBO Tanner McKay and sophomore officer Hailey Rich have fun while shopping for Quarters and Cans.



SBO officer Thomas Ulrich, sophomore officer Hailey Rich and SBO officer Colton Kirby buy eggs for the fundraiser.



Senior officer Joanne Akuoko, SBO Trevor Heywood and junior officer Brad Gray debate on the right shoe.



Sophomore officer Kayleigh Anderson and SBO Skyler Call check Santa's shopping list.

Long, early workouts help swim team win

By Elizabeth Josephson
Editor in Chief

Getting in a swimming pool at 5:15 a.m. may not be for everyone, but it's paying off for the Weber High swim team.

The first meet of the season, the Box Elder Invite, was held on Nov. 11. The Weber team did well: the men were ranked third overall and the women were ranked second. Coach Cruff said, "The team swam better than I was expecting, for the start of the year."

Weber placed second in the Men 300 SC (short course) Meter Medley Relay; the team placed fourth in the Men 400 SC Meter Freestyle Relay and the Men 200 SC Meter Butterfly Relay. In the Men 100 SC Meter Backstroke, Jake Hibbard, senior, placed fourth and sophomore Jonah Simmons came in fifth.

The women's team took first in the Women 200 SC Meter Medley Relay, the Women 200 SC Meter Butterfly Relay and the Women

200 SC Meter Freestyle Relay. Sophomore Bailly Smith placed second in the Women 200 SC Meter Freestyle and first in the Women 100 SC Meter Freestyle.

Senior Carolyn Barclay and sophomore Paige Jacobs placed first and second respectively in the Women 100 SC Meter Backstroke.

On Nov. 12, Weber competed against Logan at USU and took first honors. Smith took first in Girls 100 Yard Backstroke. Sichz took first in the Girls 50 Yard Freestyle and Girls 500 Yard Freestyle. Junior Henderson Bird took first in the Boys 500 Yard Freestyle. Weber took first in the Girls 400 Yard IM and Girls and Boys 200 yard Freestyle Relay.

At the City-County Meet on Dec. 5, Sichz took first in the Women 100 Yard Breaststroke. Her time was 1:11.97 which broke the school record. Sichz says the 100 Breaststroke is her favorite race to compete in, and one of her goals is to lower her record this season.

As in past years, Weber has stiff competition with region teams.

"Some of the other teams, like Mountain Crest and Skyview, are in our region now, and I've heard they're pretty good, so we have some really good competition," says Hibbard, one of the team captains. He adds, "We always want to beat Fremont, of course, and I think we are pretty closely matched."

Senior captains Baylee Howe and Cache Wilder agree that Skyview is their biggest competition, while Sichz says Fremont is the biggest competition.

Coach Cruff thinks the teams that are the biggest competition for Weber this year are Skyview, Mountain Crest and Fremont.

Both Hibbard and Cruff agree the challenge facing the Warriors for the team is the young swimmers. Hibbard says, "There are a lot of younger swimmers who are coming in who are going to be really, really good, some are really good right now. We don't have a lot of seniors or juniors, so we might not win as many meets, but I think it will just take time."

Sichz adds, "We're not afraid to

go up against teams that have more experience, and we know how to learn from our mistakes."

A positive for Weber is their perseverance. Howe says the team handles stress well. "When the pressure's on, we can push through and succeed."

She also says the team has a goal to place in region "because we just got a new region." Hibbard adds, "We want to have all of our relay teams qualify for state and we want to win the city-county meet."

According to Howe, another goal of the team is to work hard and not slack off, and the team wants to bond and cheer each other on more.

Hibbard's personal goals include helping the team unite and do well in his events. "We have a younger team, so hopefully, being a senior, I can help bring the team together more."

He adds, "I really want to qualify for state. I qualified last year so I hope I can do that again for mainly the backstroke, but also for some of our relays." Backstroke is Hibbard's favorite stroke.

Howe also has personal goals for the season. "I want to letter again and get a personal record in each of my events."

Although freestyle is Howe's favorite stroke, she says, "I usually compete in two relays – the 50 and the 500, and sometimes breaststroke."

"It's more of an individual sport with a team element," says Howe. She adds the team's weakness is the lack of a practice area. "We don't have our own pool, so we don't get as much practice time."

The team holds practice at Ogden High which Hibbard says can be difficult. "Right now, we have practice at 5:15 a.m. before school, so that's pretty rough."

Wilder agrees. "It's hard waking up in the morning knowing you are going to jump into a cold pool and have a hard workout."

Cruff says the team's biggest strength is their work ethic. "They are at the pool at 5:15 a.m. every day."

"I love the accomplished feeling I get after I finish a goal or do



Senior Kambree Huffacker competes with the butterfly during the Nov. 24 meet against Fremont and Box Elder.

a hard workout; the pain after is a good feeling," says Sichz. She attributes the success of the team to the early mornings. "The team has done much better than I ever expected. With early morning practices, we've come a long way from tryouts."

The early mornings aren't the only difficult aspect about being on the swim team. Howe says, "The stress of swim meets is always hard. When Cruff gives us butterfly sets, that's really hard."

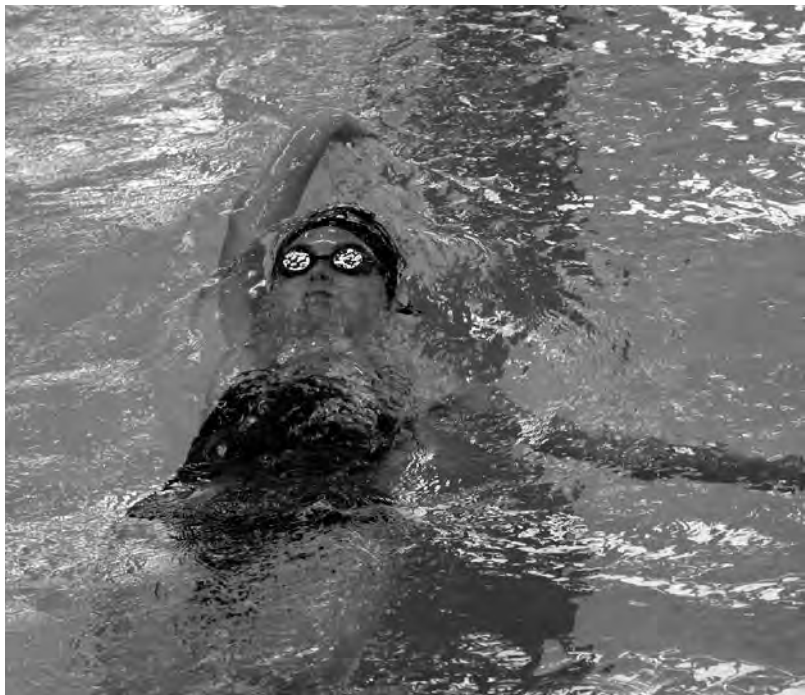
"The workouts can be pretty hard sometimes, too, and just staying

committed to it the whole season. It's a long season; it goes until the middle of February," adds Hibbard.

Coach Cruff says his favorite part about coaching the team is "the swimmers I work with – they keep me on my toes."

Howe likes the relationship the swimmers have with each other. "I love that we are tight. We wake up every morning and we see each other, first thing."

Hibbard adds he likes being on the swim team because "it keeps me in good shape, and I have lots of friends that are good to be with."



Performing the backstroke against the Silver Wolves is senior Carolyn Barclay.



Doing the butterfly at a competition against Fremont/Box Elder, sophomore Cameron Stakebake attempts to improve his time.

Photos by Baylee Howe

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Cheer squad builds spirit

By **Sidney Lee**
Copy Editor

Part of the high school experience is supporting friends and peers at sport events like football and basketball games and showing school spirit. Without the cheerleaders to generate school spirit, the student sections cheering on the field or in the gymnasium would not be as effective.

The cheerleaders are often seen cheering at school athletic events. Senior Aspen Wayment says the team also decorates posters hung in the commons area and brings treats for the different teams to help motivate them for upcoming games.

In order to build this school spirit, the cheerleaders take time for practice, and they participate and support school events.

"These girls sacrifice a lot while being on the team. It is very hard to balance cheer, homework, family and life," says cheerleading adviser Mrs. Grover. The cheerleaders practice at 6:30 a.m. to the end of 5th period every B-day, and they have three hour practices on Thursday nights, Saturdays and attend many home and away games for the school sports teams.

"I don't think people realize how hard it is to get everything done," Grover adds.



The cheerleaders are preparing their pyramid cheer for upcoming competitions.

Photos by Melissa Harris

In addition to their schedules, the team participates in fundraisers and school and community activities. Michelle Meyer, head coach, says the girls have completed service projects. "They have helped clean the local teen homeless shelter and helped with HOSA's food packs and Quarters and Cans,"

Mrs. Meyer adds every year, the cheerleaders have a theme. "Our theme for the year is 'Have Courage, Be Kind.' We chose this because it is really hard to take a stand these days. It takes courage to step out of your comfort zone and make a new friend," says Meyer.

Junior Kiana Stoker says without the support of her teammates, it would be difficult to fulfill responsibilities. "It's hard making time for everything! As a team, I hope we can be an example to others and work our hardest no matter what happens," Stoker says.

"My parents and coaches have inspired me to do better by always staying positive," says senior Karlee Monson. "I have learned to always respect your coaches and the

girl standing next to you. When things get hard, do every stunt, jump and dance for the team and not for you."

There are requirements coaches look for when people try out for the team. Wayment says, "In order to be a cheerleader, it isn't just about being able to tumble and stunt and dance, which are important, but character and supporting the school are the most important skills to have."

"When trying out for cheerleading, character is 25 percent of your score," adds Meyer.

Grover also looks for certain attributes for a team member. "These girls are really dedicated about being their best. They have to keep up on their tumbling and staying healthy and have good grades to make sure they give all they can to the team," Grover says.

Wayment, who is Weber High School's Sterling Scholar in Dance, says cheerleading has helped her accomplish this achievement by teaching her to stay motivated for a long period of time.

Meyer adds, "The thing that amazes me is that we have many girls on the team who have managed to keep a 4.0 GPA. Several take AP and concurrent enrollment classes and attend girls' and boys' basketball games, wrestling matches and compete in Salt Lake City during the same week."

The cheer team also enjoys the friends they make with each other. "The best part about being on the cheer team is that I get to have 27 other sisters that I know will be there for each other. Being able to cheer for our school is such a privilege," says Monson.

If the cheerleaders aren't practicing their routines or cheering at games, they are also competing. Competition season started in December and will continue through February when the cheer team is going to a national competition in California.

"Last year the cheerleaders took first place at every competition. We are really excited about competing this year," says Meyer.

The team placed fifth in their first competition on Dec. 12. "We may not have placed as well as we wanted to, but our routine was a good challenge for us to work hard as a team and our work shows," says Wayment.

However, the team impressed the judges and their coaches when they placed third on Jan. 9 at Roy High. Coach Meyer said she was thrilled with the team's efforts.

Staying positive brings rewards, Drill team unites, faces challenges

By **Maddi Marker**
Staff Reporter

People often wonder what it's like to be a Warriorette, but do they really know what it takes to be one?

"Everything about drill is hard and takes a lot of work," says Lauren Bowen, sophomore. "But it really is all worth it to be able to dance with my best friends almost every day."

Being on a team can be challenging, but the Warriorettes say that overall, it is really fun. "I love my teammates so much," says Gabrielle Tanner, sophomore. "They are the cutest, sweetest girls ever. We work so great together."

Haley Stoffers, junior, says that the hardest thing about being on the drill team is staying positive and remembering how important it is to keep a good mindset and to just remember that it will pay off. "I love how hard the coaches push us and want us to be our best," adds Sophomore Meg Child.

Bowen also tells her favorite part about being a Warriorette is it gives her something to do all the time. "I also love all of my friends on the team and that we can all work together to reach our goals," says Bowen.

Another benefit of Warriorettes is all of the friendships the girls make. "I love having 30 other best friends and being able to achieve goals with them," says Harley Clausse, junior. Morgan Dunn, sophomore, says her favorite part is how nice everyone is to each other and how well they work as a team.

Coach Brandy adds her favorite part of being a part of the team is seeing how hard the girls work and being a part of their success no matter how big or small.

Toria Randolph, who also coaches the drill team, likes spending time with the girls. "It has been a great experience working with the amazing coaches and all of the outstanding, talented girls," she says.

Being on a team can take up a lot of a person's time. Dunn says it is a lot of work, but it is all worth it. "We put more work and effort into this team than you could ever imagine," says Stoffers.



Even though the girls find the routines physically difficult, they feel perfecting their routines is worth it. They hope to be their best at upcoming region and state competitions.

ine," says Stoffers. "When we're not practicing physically, we're practicing mentally."

As far as the difficulty level for the team, Coach Brandy says, "Everything about it is hard, but it's also rewarding."

Stoffers says adds the greatest memory of being on the team so

"We put more work and effort into this team than you could ever imagine. When we're not practicing physically, we're practicing mentally."

far was placing third at their competition on Dec. 12, at Juan Diego Catholic High School in their character routine. "This is the best that the Warriorettes have done in a long time," she says.

The Warriorettes also have three invitationals. If they pass the invitationals, they will go to region on

Jan. 27 at Roy High. After region, qualifiers will then go to state. State Competition will be at UVU on Feb. 4. "State would be the biggest," says Stoffers. "We work very hard for our competitions," adds Dennis.

"Hundreds of hours go into a four minute routine." Dennis also says that the most important competition is the regionals one because it determines whether they go to state or not. The Warriorettes also perform at home games and most assemblies.

Randolph is looking forward to the upcoming competitions. "I am so excited for region and state to show everyone what these girls' hard work and dedication to the program can bring."

Brandy also tells coaching the girls has been awesome. "The girls are so kind and so fun to work with and eager to be better every day. It's been amazing to watch them grow as dancers and as women."

"The Warriorettes are also so appreciative of all the school support and are looking forward to a fantastic year," adds Coach Brandy.



Lexie Eusebio and Aspen Wayment practice their tumbling skills during early morning practice.



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