

THE TITAN TIMES

Columbus Unified High School

CUHS

December 2011



Wheels of The Month

By Justin Bidwell

The Wheels of the Month goes to Sophomore Nic Robinson. Nic drives a 1998 red Ford Mustang, which he has named Chief. He got Chief at the beginning of the

summer, and “put a lot of hard work into making it look nice.” His favorite memory with Chief is “spending hours and hours cleaning it.” What he likes most about Chief is that “it has four wheels and moves”, and the only thing he would change about his car is that he would “put a V8 in it.”

The New Generation of Cowboys and Cowgirls: Part III

By Justin Bidwell

The final installment of this feature focuses on students involved in roughstock rodeo events, such as saddle bronc riding, bareback riding and bull riding.

Senior Kip Overman has competed in the rodeo circuit since he was three. He is a competitor in bull riding, saddle bronc riding, and he also bull fights. The highest score Kip has received is a 78. “[The events] are always full of excitement and you never do the same thing twice,” he said. He has suffered dislocated ribs and a concussion, but rode the next day. He is most proud of winning saddle bronc champion this year. “It’s in your blood. Once you start, you just can’t quit,” Kip said.

Senior Blaine Parsons has been riding bulls for eight years. The highest score he has received is an 87 on Twisted Sister in Lamar, Mo.

Continued on page 5 See RODEO

Welcome To The Team: Meet Coach Cook

By Justin Bidwell

Jon Cook, who is a Social Studies teacher, has been coaching basketball for three years. He is now the head coach for the girls basketball team. When asked what he likes about coaching

high school basketball, he said “being able to see the growth in each player”. Coach Cook believes “adapting style of play to the talent you have” is the hardest thing about coaching

basketball. Coach Cook also follows the University of Colorado Buffaloes, Mid America Nazarene University. and the Denver Nuggets.

Trusting People by Savannah Murillo

Can you trust your friends? Many people have problems with trusting people, even themselves. I don't trust a lot of people. Once you tell someone something, the whole town already knows as soon as you turn your back. It takes years to earn trust but only seconds to break it. Make sure you know you can trust someone 100%. If you even have any doubts, then I doubt you can trust them because more than likely they'll tell someone. The feelings that you get when someone breaks that trust are



horrible. You feel horrible, and you don't really want to talk to anybody because you know someone else will find out. I'm not saying you should totally freak out and not tell anyone anything ever but be careful who you trust. When trusting someone, you need to realize that you can truly trust that person because they've been there for you through

everything, and you know they won't tell anyone. If you feel like you can't trust any of your friends now, then maybe you should try to make new ones. It might surprise you to see who you end up trusting.

January Horoscopes

By Shani C. and Staci T.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 ~ Feb. 18

Be careful with your words, tone, attitude, and body language. Somebody is taking offense to it.

Pisces: Feb. 19 ~ March 20

Relationships will keep you on your toes this month. A balance between your family and career can be tricky to manage as well. Some matters demand attention especially around the 10th. Changes are in store, and there can

be pressure to make important decisions. However, acting in haste, as inclined as you may be to do so, is not advisable. A friendship can bring surprising and pleasant emotions to the surface in December.

Aries: March 21 ~ April 19

Be alert of misleading information and prepare for the potential need to redo projects you thought were complete in the

first half of the month. You could be dealing with delays and a general feeling of being held back. However, your money looks quite bright around the holidays. The 22-23 is strong for love and money.

Taurus: April 20 ~ May 20

Don't throw your hands up and quit when life is getting hard. Push yourself, but stop when you're tired. Don't drive yourself to

exhaustion; save your energy for the most important tasks.

Gemini: May 21 ~ June 21

If you want peers to quit harassing you, then become someone who's not easy to mess with. Show them that you are strong enough to get over it, and by next week, it will be done with. Carry yourself proudly and hold yourself to a higher standard than the bullies.

ENTERTAINMENT

December 2011

Page 3

Cancer: June 22 ~ July 22

An especially busy January is in your forecast. You might continue to meet with delays and assorted little problems in your work, but by mid-month, these smooth out. Watch for hastiness and impatience in speech and actions this month.

Leo: July 23 ~ August 22

Be extra cautious with your spending this month. There is a bit of a risk-taker in you right now! There may be some drama or heightened emotions in a friend's life around the 10th of January. Do not act on an impulse. A partner feels stronger and more confident at this time. You're coming across with increased charm at this time as well.

Virgo: Aug 23 ~ Sept 22

You may be more influenced by imagination than knowledge but not overpowered by it.

Imagination is the highest level of intelligence and you can use it to your advantage.

Libra: Sept. 22 ~ Oct. 22

You're contemplating making a risky decision this month. This is the month to make mischief or magic and it can go either way, but what's life without a little risk?

Scorpio: Oct. 23 ~ Nov. 21

You are a strong person, but today you are feeling weak bonds with those you're close to. You're reading more into things than what's really there and receiving confused messages. Don't worry about it. You're just having one of those slightly "off-color" moments.

Sagittarius: Nov. 23 ~ Dec. 21

Avoid an overly independent stance this month, especially since relationships can be tricky enough to handle. Alienating

someone special will not help.

Relationships heat up around the 10th. This can also be a time when something personal comes to the attention of others. A project begins to regain momentum and moneymaking ideas are plentiful.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 ~ Jan 20

You will start off January on the right foot, with determination but also great charm in your manner. A love interest is paying attention. In fact, for Capricorns, January is one of the best months for romance. While your schedule may not run as usual, you're bound to enjoy yourself despite the lack of routine. Expect the unexpected.

What do you want for Christmas?

By: Taylor Martin

- "My two front teeth and a girlfriend!"
– Sophomore A.J. Box
- "A new car."
– Sophomore, Christina Epler
- "A new 2012 Dodge Ram Truck."
– Junior Abraham Murillo
- "Basically all I want is money and gift cards."
– Freshman Lexi Murdock
- "I want money, clothes, and a car."
– Freshman

ENTERTAINMENT

December 2011

Page 4

Snowball Cookies by Savannah Murillo



Ingredients

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar, sifted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2-1/2 cups flour, sifted
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup pecans, chopped

Cooking Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
2. Cream butter in large bowl. Add sugar, cream until light. Stir in vanilla. Mix in flour and salt. Stir in nuts.
3. Shape into balls.

4. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake in preheated oven for 15 minutes.

5. Dust powdered sugar on snowball cookies as soon as they come out of oven. After the cookies cool, dust them with powdered sugar again. (Roll the cookies in powdered sugar each time if you want a wet look.)

Servings: 36 cookies

Odd Jobs: Breath Odor Evaluator

By Savannah Murillo

Have you ever wondered who would want to get paid to smell someone's breath? Well, there is a group of people who do just that: breath odor evaluators.

During the job as a breath odor evaluator, there are people who smell other people's breaths daily to see if mints, toothpastes, or new kinds of gums actually work to help improve the odor of their breaths. As a breath odor evaluator you would need to have a PhD in dentistry, especially to help you understand what causes bad breath.

Mystery Student Collected By Taylor Martin

Gender: Female

Grade: Freshman

Favorite Color: Purplish Blue

Favorite Animal: Panda

Hair Color: Black

Favorite Teacher: Mrs. Jameson

Favorite Movie: Grown Ups

Siblings: 7

STUDENT LIFE & OPINION

December 2011

Page 5

RODEO contd . . .

Blaine couldn't compete for a couple weeks because his back was stepped on and he bruised his kidney and lungs. Blaine is most proud of riding Vita Buck at the finals, especially since Vita Buck hadn't been ridden in over two years. Along with blood, sweat and tears it takes time to get into bull riding: "... people think that anyone with two arms and two legs can do it. People also don't realize the amount of money it takes, the amount of hours that are spent on the road."

Senior Curtis Mays, who has been competing for 5 years, rides bulls. Curtis said that "the money, the adrenaline rush, and the ladies" are what he likes most about the sport. Curtis' highest score has been an 89. He has had his back cracked, head stomped, and kidney and pancreas bruised. "I don't quit. I ride no matter what." To Curtis, people don't understand that "...you're not breaking the bull's spirit. You're just trying to stay with him jump for jump, kick for kick."

Secret Life

By Taylor Martin

Sophomore A.J Box shared his thoughts about school, his free time, and his future plans.

He said that he likes school.

"I like it here, but sometimes it can be boring if you don't have very many friends. The students are easy to get along with, as long as you stay out of some drama."

Overall, A.J likes his teachers but his favorite teacher is "Mrs. Randle, because she is funny."

When he's not in school, he likes to play basketball and football. Those are his favorite things to do.

He also likes listening to music on his free time. He likes the song "Colt 45" the most.

After high school A.J. plans on getting out of his mom's house, going to college and getting a job.

Athlete of the Month

By Justin Bidwell

The Athlete of the Month goes to Senior Colten Stanley, "Cap'em Stanley" to his teammates: Colten, who is playing his fourth year of high school basketball, is a point guard on varsity. Colten's goal for the season is to "score 30 or more points in one game". His favorite memory is from "last year against Girard when Taylor [Spear] made a buzzer beater from half court".

Colten does not have plans to play basketball after high school but would want to.

His advice for underclassmen is to "play hard, and have fun". Colten enjoys "having fun with [his] friends" during the basketball season.

Review of *The Sitter*

By Savannah Murillo

The Sitter, an 81-minute R-rated comedy, is about a college student who is suspended. While on suspension Noah Griffith (Jonah Hill) is convinced to babysit the neighbor's kids: Slater (Max Records), Blithe (Landry Bender), and Rodrigo (Kevin Hernandez).

What he doesn't know is that he has a crazy night ahead of him. He pretty much risked his life for his so-called "girlfriend" Marisa Lewis (Ari Graynor) just so she can get drugs. She treats him horribly.

This was a great movie and you don't know what to expect. It's hilarious and a good family movie, if the children are older due to the foul language and drug usage. Other than that, I would say that it was a good movie, and I recommend that you watch it because you will enjoy this comedy. I think I might even watch it again.