



JOSHUA S. Editor-in-Chief

MICHAEL G. Managing Director

PHOTOGRAPHY

James C. Cody W. Brandon G. Madrid R. Jorge D.

EDITOR AT LARGE

Could be you!

DESIGN

Joshua S.

Anthony R.

Steve W.

RESEARCH CHIEF

Josh J.

RESEARCHERS

Brian W.

BP EDITORS

Scott N. Charles L.

JOE A. Deputy Editor

PUBLISHERS

Roger B.

ADMINISTRATORS

Johnathon S. Rodney B.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Pat M. Mike P. Alfredo M. Al M.

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Hubert R. Nathan H. William H. Tyrel I.

INTERNET DIRECTORS

Laura S. Theresa B. Sandra J.

Volunteer Valor





From the Editor ...

IMAGE



When we think of image the first thing that pops in our mind, is our looks. To some of us that is how we define image, and you're right our looks make up a big part of our image. But the image that I speak of is a little more than just looks, is how people look at you, what they think of you and what type of vibe do you set off when you enter a room. Do people respect you, do people find you hard to get along with? You might think to yourself "does it really matter what others think of me? is it important what others say, or how they feel about me?" However, in reality my friend it does matter. Think about it for a second, even the people who are always in the spotlight are always careful of what they say or do around others. Why; because they are trying to protect their image. Like my buddy here in this picture, the first thing people would say about him is that he looks intimidating, but is he? What I am trying to say is that people judge us before they get a

chance to know us, that's why it is very proper and respective manner. The our lives as we grow, will make a big take a little time each day to examine on, to make us better men in here and Before I came to realize that my ways a choice. did I want to continue living last 40 years, or do I want to change

important that we carry ourselves in a transformation that is taking part in impact in our lives in the future. Lets ourselves and see what we need to work productive members of society out there. of life were not working, I had to make my life the way that I had been for the my ways. A lot of the times we don't

think that our past reflects our current lifestyle. I have come to realize that my past was haunting me, I saw no direction in my life, and the reason for that was because I was so caught up with myself that I never took the time to stop and think and see the big picture. Now by no way am I saying that I am perfect, but I give it my all each day. Like this article, I know that its not the best that you guys have read. But I tried my hardest, and that is what matters the most. Never give up on anything that you see worth fighting for, even if the barriers might seem hard to overcome. In the end you will develop a good image for yourself, people will treat you different, but above all you will be a better man, and in reality that's what we all strive to be. Lets learn to leave the past where it's at and concentrate on our futures. Take it from me Tabasco Joe its not as easy as one might think, but its worth it in the long run.

Joe A. (a.k.a. Tabasco)

GUESS Who Trivia

In the spirit of fun, which is one of our 10 driving values, we have created a page that enables our brothers to become more interactive with us. Here's how it works: we provide a series of questions, along with some helpful information about a specific people and it's your job to guess who they are. One question will be an actor, one question will be a PEP brother, one question will be an entrepreneur and one question will be a singer/musician. The first person to answer all of the questions correctly on a piece of paper and turned in at the next call out for class will receive a prize. (Disclaimer—you can only win once per year.)



This actress was born on April 9, 1990. She began her career in 1999 and came to prominence playing Jodie Foster's daughter in the 2002 thriller *Danic Room*. She also played in many other movies since then, but can best be known for her role in *the Twilight Saga*. Who is she?

This successful entrepreneur was born on August 30, 1930 in Omaha, Nebraska. He was the second of three children and his dad was a congressman. He displayed an interest in business and investing at a young age. One of his first business ventures, he sold chewing guy, Coca-Cola bottles, or weekly magazines door to door. He is the chairman, CEO and largest shareholder of Berkshire Hathaway. He is the most successful investor in the world was ranked as the wealthiest person in 2008. Who is he?



I love to watch *Cops, UFC* and *Gangland* on TV. I am originally from El Paso, Texas. I use the term "vato" when I speak quite frequently. I am a part of *Sesame Street* and I love to count real slow. Let's not forget about my business plan on trucking services. Who am I?

This singer/songwriter and actress was raised in Wyomissing, Pennsylvania and later moved to Nashville Tennessee. Her middle name is Alison and was born on December 13, 1989. Her first single was title "Tim McGraw" and her third fourth and fifth albums sold more than one million copies in their first week of U.S. release. Who is she?

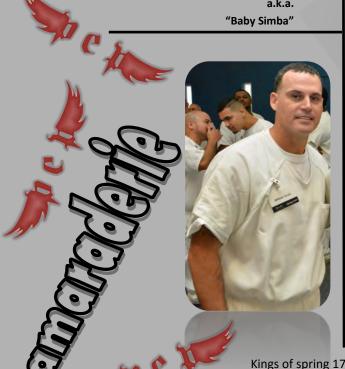
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We live in a corrupt world that thrives on controversy. All you seem to hear about when you turn on the TV is slander, violence and drugs. This type of news gives off negative energy into our lives and as the saying goes "violence begets more violence." What happened to hearing about uplifting stories that instill love, hope and faith, or what about the acts of random kindness, which have the ability to inspire the ,masses. Well here in PEP, positive affirmations is part of our foundation and here are a couple of guys who exemplified the 10 Driving Values.

> -Michael G. a.k.a. "Baby Simba"





As I was relaxing after Kameron Marcantel and I can in third place at the Crossfit competition, Michael Villarreal approached me. He starting complimenting me and saying that he was proud of me for being so committed to the "Wolf Pack" workout team, so much so, that he gave me his first place prize earnings. He stated that he wanted me to have it, because he felt like I deserved it more and I accepted it gratefully. He doesn't know how much that kind gesture truly affected my self-confidence and it wasn't the bag of coffee that did it, but because someone noticed my dedication and performance and acknowledged it. Actions such as this shows that PEP is truly a brotherhood that I'm proud to be a part of.

Kings of spring 17' has some guys who are exceptionally extraordinary. William Ersch aka "Tickle Me Elmo" is someone who inspires me to give it all I've got every day. He constantly puts others before himself on a daily basis. He is a family man that cares about his sons more than anything else in the world. William sees the glass as half full rather than half empty. If there were more people like this man in the world today it would make the world a better place. I want you to know that you are a great friend but I consider you an even greater brother. Continue to work as hard as you can and always put God first. Thank you for being a part of my life.

> Cody W. a.k.a. "Fivel"

Robert K. a.k.a. "Larry the Cable Guy"

For more info Www.bootcampkennels.com





Memory Lane

I would have to say that one of the greatest moments in my life, was the day that I realized that my Lord and savior hadn't forgot me. It was the day I met my other half that God made for me, her name was Stormy. I was standing outside the cafeteria at Kaufman high school hanging out with the rest of the rodeo team eating lunch, and yes you guessed it, I was another arrogant bull rider.

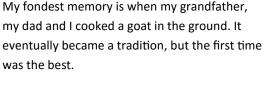
I was 16 years old and you couldn't tell me anything. I can recall one of my ex-girlfriends coming up to me with a friend of hers who had to have been a lost angel from heaven; she was absolutely beautiful. I knew immediately she was out of my league, but the spirit in me was screaming this was my destiny. Well when we made our introductions, I said some smart Alek comment and she smirked at me. I tried to play it cool and walk away, but inside my world was exploding with fireworks.

It took a few days after that for me to build up the courage to approach her again and of course this was after I received confirmation from other people that she thought I was cute. I asked her out on a date and she smiled with a yes.

We went to the local rodeo show that I was performing at that weekend. It was October 28, 1995 in Kemp Texas. I was scheduled to ride a bull named Red Wasp at 1:30 am and at 1:20 am right before I saddled up; Stormy and I had our first kiss. I immediately told her that I loved her and that she was going to be my wife one day. She probably thought I was crazy, but two years later we got married and are still married to this day. I have made mistakes just like she has, but nothing that can make me doubt in our lord Jesus Christ, because he loved me enough to give me one of his beautiful daughters. I promised to cherish her everyday until he calls her back and my promise I will keep.

-William H. a.k.a. "Jeebs"





First we would dig our hole, which was soon to be our pit. We would form it into the shape of a square that was four feet deep and four feet wide. Once we got the bottom and the sides leveled and squared away, we would head to the bar. From there we proceeded to weld a grill together out of scrap metal for our goat to roast on. The grill would stand two feet off the ground and measured perfectly, so that it fit into our pit.

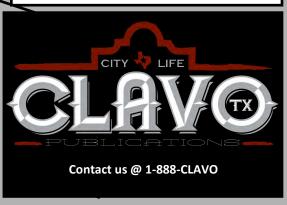
After the pit and the grill were finished we'd head down to the flea market and go goat shopping. We could get a pretty good deal on a big Billy goat for about \$70-80 from a guy named Jose. Once we made our pick, we'd pay Jose and I would load the goat into the back of the truck and I would get to ride in the bed of the truck with him to hold him down, so he wouldn't jump out.

When we got back to the house we would take care of all the necessary steps to prepare him to be cooked. All of us would have certain steps that we would take care of simultaneously, then we would place the goat on the grill, cover the pit with sheet metal and pack dirt on top of it all to hold the heat in.

We'd let the goat cook for about 10 to 12 hours and when it was done; we'd take the goat out, unwrap it, call everybody over and pig out. We all came together and the reward at the end was always worth it. I plan to continue the tradition for generations to come. Family is everything in life.

-Tyrel I. (Initiatives Team)





SS YOUTSE! When you look up at the stars do you get filled with thoughts/

Of how far off they are/

Or do you admire the fact that surrounded by darkness/

There connected to GOD/

Boy how connected we are /

God while you're testing my heart/

Solve all the problems I have cause sometimes they have/

Me neglecting my walk/

Here I'll never quit walking/

Though I've fallen sometimes its perfected my posture/

Am I scared a bit sort of/

I'm so glad your protection is better than armor/

The former me is no longer haunting my thoughts/

Cause there is a part of me I can clearly see/

Walking with God/

Not to say the walk should be honored/

More than the heart should be honored/

Since the heart is where the father talks to me /

Honestly I'm going to be who I want to be/

And your going to be who you choose to be/

Usually it will just happen and we don't know that we are choosing/

To busy cruising and floating not really noticing change/

So busy dwelling on flaws that we pass up hope /

when it came/

Grabbing ahold to any and everything that is /

remotely the same/

To me that's close to insane/

But that's the role that were playing/

So lord help us through the now/

So we can move on with your plans/

-Jermond T.

As I sit here thinking in this prison cell/

I look back at life and see how I barely escaped the flames of hell/

I lived my life without a purpose or a destination/

Going where the wind would take me committing crimes out of desperation/

I didn't care who I hurt or what the consequences might be/

All I cared about was getting the money and looking out for me/

I caused my family and victims a lot of pain and tears/

I left scars so deep that will only heal within years/

I followed the road to destruction and ended up in the belly of the beast/

Questioning how and why did you even give me a chance to exist/

I was mad at the world, but I was really mad at myself/

Asking God "why don't you just kill me and send me to hell "/

He said "my child be still and let it be /

You lived your life your way, now I want you to live it for me " /

But how bad my whole life has been full of sin/

How can you forgive me after the person that I've been/

He said "my child I forgave you a long time ago/

Before I formed you I already knew which way you would go/

That's why I sent my son, Jesus Christ without blame/

To reach out for you and pull you out of the fiery flames/

I love you so much I will never give you up to the pits of hell/

There is a great story in you I want you to tell/

Tell the world about my love, mercy and grace/

Let them know how I delivered you out of your old ways/

Tell them that Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life/

Let them know I love them more than a husband can love his wife/

Tell them I gave you a great story to tell/

Let them know how Christ saved you from the flames of hell/

-Victor R.

What's your favorite quote or slogan that you live by?



"Put a great man in any position and he'll do good, but if you put him in what he's good at then he'll do great."

> -Michael G. a.k.a. Baby Simba



"Everything happens for a reason."

-Thuan N. **Initiatives Team**



"People don't run out of options, they just quit looking."

> -Duane H. a.k.a. Scarecrow

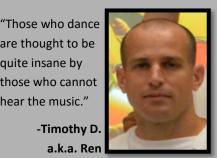
"It's mind over matter; if you don't mind then it don't matter."

> -Jhakeem C. a.k.a. Terry Crews



are thought to be quite insane by those who cannot hear the music."

> -Timothy D. a.k.a. Ren



"Hard work pays off."

> -Ryan Y. Investigator



"Treat others how you want to be treated."

-William B. a.k.a. Huggies Baby



"God bless the American farmer."

> -Christopher T. a.k.a. **Baloo**



"A righteous man walks in his integrity and his children are blessed."

> -Jorge C. Investigator

"Life begins at the end of your comfort zone."

> -Rachel **Executive**





"I have done so much with so little, for so long that I can almost do anything without nothing at all."

-Bryan H.

a.k.a. **Benjamin Buford**



"No regrets just lessons learned."

> -Jesse F. a.k.a. "Sugar Cube"

> > TAKE ACTION

CHANGING THE FUTURE RECONCILING



"Don't sweat the petty stuff and don't pet sweaty stuff."

> -Aaron H. Investigator



Investigator





Formal education will make you a living and self -education will make you a fortune.

> -Camilo R. **Investigator**



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Remember the lord in everything you do and he will show you the right way."

> -Warren R. Investigator



"Actions are a marinated thought; you change your thoughts, then you'll change your life."

> -Cassidy C. Investigator



"Use boredom as a biological wristwatch."

> -Angus Executive



"Sometimes you need a second chance, because you weren't quite ready for the first."

> -Darrell M. a.k.a. "Peter Pan"

"Be happy with what you got."

-Albert S. a.k.a. "Sweet Horshata"



"Do as much good as you can, to as many people as you can for as long as you can."

-Mimi

"Don't judge a person by their outside appearance."

> -Emily S. Executive



"You will not only endure, but you will prevail."

Executive



-Amv



"Time waits for no one, but patience prepares you for what time has to offer."

> -Calvin R. a.k.a. "Coffee Cake"



"If it is to be; it is up to me."

> -Miguel P. a.k.a. "Churro"

"This too shall pass."

-Tyler P. "Vanilla Cappuccino"





CROSS

"WHERE THERE'S NO DOUBT WE'LL GET THE **DIRT OUT!"**

Special Dedications

After being incarcerated for over six years and having lost a lot of loved ones in that time. I know firsthand how it is to feel like you've left things unsaid and in prison we're limited to our ways of contacting those that we love. In response, we at the PEP Chronicle have found a way to let our brothers say just a few words to their families in a powerful way.

-Michael G.





Smile everyday, pray every night and I love you. Always!

-Ricky M.

I am dedicated to change and being a better man for my family and children.

-Jeremi R.

It's not over until God says it's over. We're blessed and I'm coming home soon.

-Andrew M.



I Love you all and this new me, is for you!

-Khriston Y.



To my children, I love you and thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your father. I love you guys and never forget that.

-Eloy R.



I love you all to pieces and can't wait for the day when our contact and communication isn't limited.

-John S.

I AM DEDICATED TO IMPROVING YOUR LIVES.

-JAMAR V.





Enjoy life, embrace the good times and keep God first.

-Robert F.



Thanks for always believing in me!
-Valentin T.



Thank you so much for your support and for not giving up on me; I love you!

-fernando M.

I love and miss all of you and I can't wait to show you the authentic man that I am now. -Christopher V.





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I Today was our BP Workshop and with less than a month to go before our pitch day this was an important event to us all. We got the opportunity to sit and visit with executives at length and find out If all the hard work we have been putting into our business plans had payed off. Each of us sat with an executive and went over the details looking for any mistakes we may have missed while putting these plans together piece by piece. With only two events left to go before graduation we know I that it's coming together for us and we can feel it. There's a real sense of pride coursing through the brothers of spring '17 and the executives could sense it as well. Morale at this event was higher than it's ever been and that's a I direct result of the confidence each man has in his business plan. We've applied everything we've been taught and as we talked with each executive you could tell how far we have come. There was no confusion or looks of puzzlement I when asked by an executive what our revenue for the year was, or how much of a profit margin we would be operating at. We truly are different than we were seven months ago. We walk the walk and talk the talk like true businessmen.

> -Hubert R. | a.k.a. | "Elvis" |

What we have here is a golden opportunity to better every aspect of our lives. Hard work begets well earned rewards. Has any one of you reading this ever stopped to think about how amazing being in PEP is? Think back to Saturday April 7, and recall all the interactions you had with the executives. Some strangers, but friends many that genuinely want to see us be a success. Think about the fact that all of them look at us and are inspired. Yes, you read that right— we inspire others! Well friends, I can tell you that never in a million years would I have considered that after my incarceration, someone with respect and love in their eyes would tell me that I deserve redress in my life and that I am worth investing in. I am seen not as my charge, or a number, but as a human being worthy of a fresh start.

Think about it like this: we are bakers working in the kitchen of life trying our best to make a cake called our business plans. Making a cake from scratch can be pretty hard. You must gather your ingredients, measures, bowls and mixer. As we all know, life is fickle and before you know it time is now an issue. All of the events are the instructions, while the ingredients are all of the classes we're taking. It's a strenuous and dicey process, mistakes are made, yet there's no time to clean up right now, only to keep going. There are points where the heat is too much and you want to shout "forget this!" and "it's too hard!". However, you keep going because you've come too far to quit. Next you've got to put the icing on. Well, the event on April 7 was the icing on the cake. It is sweet and necessary to complete all of our hard work we experience in the kitchen. Every time the volunteers come to pour hope and love into us, I am reminded that our hard work is worth it. Bon Appetite!



-Nathan H.

a.k.a. "Mr. Rogers"



