



SOLDIERS OF SPRING

2018



"The measure of a great leader is not how many followers they have, but how many leaders they **create**."

A Closer look inside our:



Quick ^A glance

Jan. '18



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WALL POSTS

Entrepreneur of the month



Perspectives

Fondest Memories

Adios Amigos!

HEALTH & WELLNESS



From the Editors

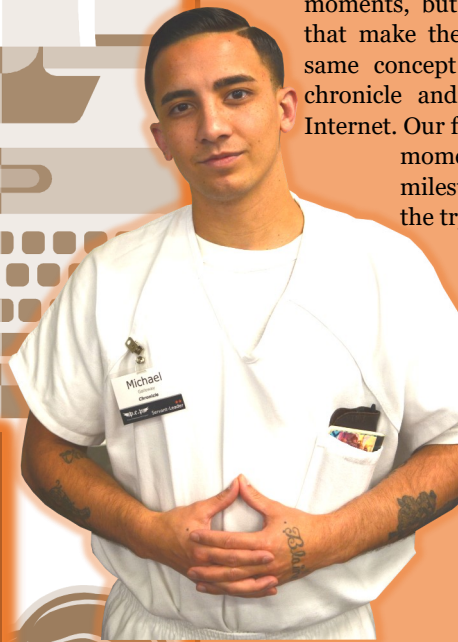
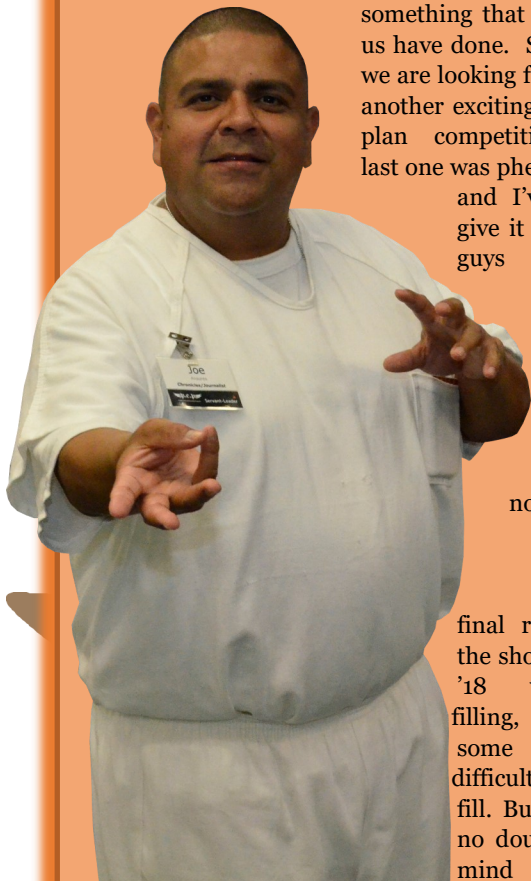
Another year comes and goes, now it's Spring '18's time to shine. Congratulations to the Legends of the

Fall for accomplishing something that so few of us have done. Spring 18, we are looking forward to another exciting business plan competition. The last one was phenomenal, and I've got to give it up to the guys who

pitched their hearts out and gave it their all, left nothing out and made it to the final round. So the shoes Spring '18 will be filling, will be some very difficult ones to fill. But there is no doubt in my mind that you

can accomplish anything that you put yourself to do. The only thing that we have to keep in mind is to stay focused and do not let anything interfere with our vision and goals. The class is what it always has been—tough—when the pressure gets to you make sure that you take a timeout and get back to reality. We all came to this program to change our lives around, so let's make the best of this opportunity that we have been given, give it your all and the benefits you will reap. It's a beautiful feeling when your family can see you accomplish something in the situation that we are in. Believe me when I tell you that they will be proud of you and look at you in a different way.

Joe A. (Chile Piquin)



You know, you never see the bad times in a photo album. All you ever see is the smiles and the perfect moments, but it's the bad times and the hardships that make the good times so amazing. I notice the same concept with the pictures that I see in the chronicle and the pictures that they post on the Internet. Our families are seeing our greatest moments in here. They get to witness the milestones of our journey, but they don't see the trying times, nor do they understand how difficult it can become. However, little do they know that it is their love and support that drives us from one picture to another. It is our deepest desire to capture Kodak moments amongst our loved ones and soon enough we will. Until then, just know that each and every smile that you see of us, is meant to affirm you that the new and improved us is here, and the struggles we endure are dedicated your support.

Michael G. (Baby Simba)

*Who's ready for the challenge!? Ready to pick up that torch and lead—the way an authentic man and true servant-leader is supposed to lead? Lord knows that I'm still a work in progress, but I have witnessed an undeniable truth; helping others grow is even more rewarding and the best way to grow/learn. I thought it was admirable to survive really tough times, or the fact that no matter how many times I fall or get hit—I just keep on fighting. I am no longer okay with just surviving! I'm done with lying to myself that it is okay to have hate in your heart as long as you "channel it" the right way—for motivation and strength. I now want to live with a purpose and passion! I will now let love and hope be my strength and motivation! For my PEP brothers—here and the new ones on the way—this program, with the year and a half that I've been here, did not create this wonderful transformation or challenge! **No** . . . It was the day that I answered PEP's postcard and made the decision to better myself—to learn new skills and seek the authentic man in me! Who's ready to challenge and be challenged?*



-Bryan Gene A. "Munchkin"

