



Youth of Today Hope of Tomorrow



Lonzo Ball: Is He More Than Just Hype?



**Ira "T.J." Williams
Cedar Ridge H. S.**

First born son of LaVar Ball, McDonald's All-American, freshman superstar at UCLA, second overall pick by the Los Angeles Lakers, and potential NBA All-Star. All of these labels have been used to describe Lakers rookie, Lonzo Ball, since he was a junior in high school. Despite all of these accolades, one question remains unanswered: Will he be able to step into the leadership position the Lakers have created for him and turn the team into contenders again?

After a viral video of Lonzo Ball in high school was posted on the Internet, the young basketball player has had an enormous fan base following his career. Playing alongside his younger brothers, LiAngelo and LaMelo at Chino Hills High School, Lonzo led the team to victory in the state championship game during his senior year. However, it was not Lonzo who was boosting his own reputation after

the game. It was his father, LaVar Ball.

During Lonzo's time at UCLA, LaVar Ball was trending topic social media and national television. His energetic personality and "overconfidence" in his three sons led people to criticize not only him, but Lonzo too. When LaVar Ball said that his son was better than two-time NBA Most Valuable Player, Stephen Curry, and that LaVar could beat Michael Jordan in a game of 1-on-1, that gave the media a good target to aim for when looking for a relevant topic to write about. It also made people's expectations for Lonzo higher due to the amount of hype his father was giving him.

When Lonzo Ball was drafted to the Los Angeles Lakers in June 2017, people were already predicting him to be the NBA Rookie of the Year. Some even believed that he would be named an All-Star in the upcoming season. However, after his first couple of games in the NBA Summer League, people questioned whether he was ready to play in the NBA. Is it because of the high expectations they had for him? Or was he finally feeling the pressure that has been placed on him since high school? Lonzo Ball will have plenty of opportunities to prove himself in the upcoming NBA season.

State Fair of Texas



**SaNaya White
Ann Richards**

I visited the Texas State Fair in Dallas, Saturday, October 7, and I really enjoyed it. The State Fair of Texas is an annual state fair that occurs in Dallas. The fair has happened every year except certain years with other big events. The Texas State Fair is known as the most highly attended and best state fairs in America. One of the main attractions is the football game played in the Cotton Bowl.

Another attraction is unusual sold foods at the fair. Some of the foods are deep-fried cheesecake, deep-fried nachos, even deep-fried sweet tea and more. Going to the fair is a tradition for my mom and I, we go every year and sometimes take other friends or family. This year we went and enjoyed the fair by visiting and trying the different amusement rides. We did not get to participate by riding the ferris wheel but we did get to take many pictures in front of it. The rides were exciting as we got to test the ones that flip and turn and are high in speed and height. I also got to try frozen sweet tea for the first time and it was actually really good! I loved this years trip to the Texas State Fair although I was a little impatient in the beginning but at the end I really enjoyed it. I will certainly be there next year!

The League World Finals



**Quinn Langford
Cedar Ridge H. S.**

Donovan Ruble, a teenager from Pflugerville, traveled to Reno, Nevada to participate in the world finals of The League, which is a martial arts league. The competition was held on Friday and Saturday, October sixth and seventh, at the Peppermill Resort and Casino. Donovan represented a national karate team called T-Force Elite. All of the competitors on this team have multiple state and world titles from various martial arts leagues

across the country, including ATA, TKO, NBL, and NASKA.

Donovan won four World Titles: one in Creative Weapons, one in Musical Weapons, one in Creative Forms, and one in Musical Forms. While he was in Reno, he also received a Triple Crown Award, which is awarded to those who win three or more Triple Crown events in a year. After the tournament, Donovan met up with his team-mates at a haunted house, which was his favorite part of the experience. In addition to the many friends he's made, Donovan enjoys martial arts because they can help him get over obstacles in life. Martial arts also help him give back to his community. "I love to inspire people through martial arts," he said. Donovan is looking forward to returning to The League World Finals next year and continuing his passion.

First Quarter Reflection



**Jalen Moore
KIPPAustin Collegiate**

This week is officially the beginning of the end, as it concludes my first quarter in high school. This has most certainly been the most challenging aspect of my high school career, but it has also provided the most highlights as well. Managing college applications, extracurriculars, and a grade point average above a 4.0, and social activities with such a limited amount of time has been difficult, but after my first college visit, I am already witnessing this diligent work pay off.

After being reunited with my friends from LEDA (Leadership Enterprise for a Diverse America), I feel rejuvenated. The scholars and staff alike offer an insurmountable amount of support that I have found essential to completing everything with the best quality.

Halloween Month



**Erika Lipscomb
Manor Middle School**

It has come, the month of spookiness, Halloween! At school, in student council, we are working on posters for a school fundraiser called boo-grams. A boo-gram is a candy gift that you buy for a friend or they buy it for you. The boo-grams are delivered to students as a surprise. Also, since it is

Halloween, and almost time for trick-or-treating, I would like to provide you with some tips for trick or treating. When you're walking, have a friend(s) or an adult with you, you don't want to be alone. Look for cars when crossing the street plus watch for cars backing out of driveways. Take a flashlight or glow stick with you because street and porch lights may not be bright enough. Do not enter a stranger's house even if you have to walk inside to get your candy. Last but not least, don't eat any goodies until you get home and your parents have the chance to check it first. I know Halloween is fun, but you have to be safe.

Manners



**Tyler Allen
Gus Garcia YMLA**

We had our monthly Youth Brigade meeting last week. One parent I heard said how polite we were. She stated that they all showed good manners. I looked up the word "manners".

It stated: polite or well-bred social behavior. I found out that most little kid learns to say mom and dad first. Then how to say "Thank You". Good manners are important, in school everybody knows the rude kids. How bad would it be if rude people

ran the world.

I found three helpful suggestion that might help me and others to remember. The first was it will help your reputation. If they don't it will establish you with one. How you treat people make an impression for good or bad. If you are mannerly people will view you kind and responsible and treat you accordingly.

Your social life will improve. People are drawn to those who are mannerly and treat them well. People you treat well usually will treat you well. It might take a while but even rude people will treat you better.

The best way to test yourself to determine if you treat other well is as following. Ask yourself how often do you say "Thank you", "Please" or "Excuse me", one day just count the times you hear those words used by others.

The Help



**Kennedy George
Weiss High School**

In my novel The Help, the book shows how one idea can change society. Hilly's bathroom plan could have changed the city of Jackson. If the news flyer had been put in the paper like she wanted it to then everyone in Jackson may have had a separate bathroom for their help. She described the bathroom plan as a "disease-

preventive measure". Her goal was to have everyone get one after all.

The maids in this novel are also taking a big step towards change. Most maids stay quiet about their problems. Now they are defying all odds to make a difference. They know the risks, "You know what'll happen if if people catch us?...I'd have guns pointing at my house.", but they help Skeeter for the greater good.

The book impacted people all over the world. It really did change other character's viewpoint on help in places like Jackson. When it was featured on the news it was described as "truly touching". Society has changed because people are noticing the segregation in the south.

McKinney Falls Park



**Montrae Nelson
Four Points M. S.**

Hello, This past weekend my family and I went to McKinney Falls Park, and I highly recommend that you go with your family also. Im gonna tell you in this article about the things we did and the fun we had at the park.

On Sunday we packed our swim gear towels for the trip and drove down to the park. We arrived at the park and it had two levels "Lower and "Upper", I wondered why the park had so much water so I looked it up to see why.

October 30, 2013 heavy rains pushed the water of Onion Creek to its highest level since the park opened and it pushed the water into the park. We climbed the rocks and walked through the water, where we almost fell a lot because of the slippery rocks lol. Thank you for reading.