

# G.T.F. RIGGS HIGH SCHOOL GOVERNOR

VOLUME 77 ♦ ISSUE 6 ♦ JAN 31, 2019 ♦ PIERRE, SD 57501



## Tragedy Sparks Unity

By Governor Staff

“Kids these days, all they care about are themselves.”  
“Teens are so self-centered.”  
“Instant gratification is the only thing that motivates young people anymore.”  
“It’s concerning that these kids are our future.” These are some of the comments we’ve all heard about the teenage generation. Many would agree that sometimes teens’ actions may seem like we don’t think things through, but is part of normal human development for teens to act in

self-centered ways. Developmental Psychologist, Erik Erikson (1902-1994), claims that the adolescent stage of human development is identified as one of ego-identity vs role confusion. Recently the Governor had the opportunity to sit down with Officer Todd Johnson, who wanted to share with how much he appreciates the kindness that students from Riggs High School have shown him during his recovery from a bicycle accident earlier this fall. Officer Johnson expressed how humbled he was by the

support and concern from the entire community, but especially from students. “It is overwhelming how so many young people have stepped forward to let me know that they care.” Many acts of kindness have had a major impact on Officer Johnson’s recovery process. There were so many students that wanted to help a family in need, and they were not too self-centered to step forward and take action. Three days after Officer Johnson’s bicycle accident, students from Riggs rallied together and made

a touching video to share at the home football game that left home town fans and fans from the opposing team alike choked up with emotion. They also coordinated a bucket run to help the family with expenses while Todd was hospitalized in Sioux Falls. Students also organized two pizza fundraisers. Officer Johnson said that the fundraisers were amazing and helped his family in a time of need, but he claims that the culmination of the “little things” the youth from this community have done to show their

support has been inspiring and motivating and absolutely awe inspiring!

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## PivotBoys Going Nowhere But Up

By Sophia Stueven

Three years ago, a few Riggs’s talented students started pursuing their interests in making music. What started in middle school as laidback freestyling has turned into an operative artistic team. Donte Kerley, also known as Rev; Jaden O’Daniel; Leander Austin, also known as GatsB; and Triston Haigler, also known as 007, are the producers behind PivotBoys. Their music is straightforward, honest fresh, and, frankly, banging. Certainly, the PivotBoys have impressed many T.F. Riggs students, and their fan base is spreading. “Guap Express”, a more recent track from the PivotBoys, has reached 10.3K listens on SoundCloud. They

joined YouTube on March 13, 2018. Not even a year later, they have over 15,000 views. The work that these boys do is impressive, but the process to create their music is relatively a mystery. The PivotBoys shared their story on how they made their dreams reality, as well as where they are laying their path for the future.

•How did you start making music?

oDonte: “I’ve always been into making music, and, honestly, I would prefer to make rock music, but, for now, I’m just in the rap scene.”

oJaden: “I’ve always had a keen liking to music and how it hit me, in all aspects of it.

I always wanted to get into the scene of music but never

tried.”

oLeander: “Triston and I became friends in, like, 2016, and we both had an interest in making music prior to when we met. We kinda just influenced each other to get serious about our music, and we did it.”

oTriston: “I started freestyling with Donte, aka Rev, at first, and I found that music is something I would like to make. In seventh grade, I wrote my first song, and it was absolutely horrible, but as the years progressed, I got better. I finally got the confidence to get a mic and equipment and learn how to use it.”

•Where do you see yourself in ten years?

oDonte: “I honestly see myself

back in Florida in a nice big house, with a girl, and a few vehicles.”

oTriston: “I can definitely see myself and the rest of the PivotBoys doing what at this moment is a major dream of ours: travelling the world, doing shows, meeting fans, and pretty much doing whatever we want. I just feel as though we have something different to offer the world that people can actually feel, and I would love for millions to hear our message.”

•Would you ever go live for your Pierre fans?

oDonte: “Yes, of course.”

oJaden: “Actually, I think that we would love to do a live show, especially for the fans in Pierre because they were the

first people to really listen to us and give us more inspiration. We have even had plans to do a live show in the past at KOH 2.0 last year, but the whole KOH 2.0 thing fell through, and we never got the opportunity.”  
oTriston: “I would love to go live in Pierre, we’ve talked about this many times before. I think it would be amazing to do a show for the people who’ve shown us the most support, and I would love to see everybody get together for it.”  
Look up the PivotBoys on SoundCloud and YouTube to check them out more.  
“We all appreciate the support we are definitely coming out with some of our best work yet very soon, PivotBoys going nowhere but up” - The PivotBoys

# Government Shutdown Mystery

It has been over a month since the government was first shutdown. Thousands of people are furloughed and desperate for answers as to why this happened. The media is weaving a tale that the cause of the shutdown is due to the two political parties butting heads over the issue to build the border wall, but what if the cause is more sinister than a stalemate? What if the government is covering up a crime? What if there was violence involved?

Allegedly (definitely leave allegedly in case someone says something about it being too on the nose) at midnight on De-

cember 22, 2018, Mike Pence was found on the House floor with his hands and feet tied and a blindfold over his eyes. The time of the incident was estimated to be just after 7:00 pm on December 21, 2018. The scene the investigators came upon was disturbing and freaky, but those in power could not let that information get out to the public. There were only five people who were seen alone with the victim and had access to the floor at that time of day. That information could only mean one thing; this act was an inside job. For their own safety, the public could not know the

real story until the perpetrator was caught and detained. The FBI and Secret Service are working without pay, around the clock to solve this murder so that they can put an end to this maddening shutdown. The Suspects: Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House Jeff Sessions, Attorney General Donald Trump, President of the United States Ali Libis: Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi claims it couldn't have been her. "I left at five o'clock to attend a dinner party," she said as she crossed her arms and tapped her heels on the floor. Attorney General Jeff Sessions as-

serts that he is innocent because he was stuck in traffic trying to return to the Capitol building after attending a meeting in the Senate chamber. President Donald Trump maintains his innocence saying that he was meeting with French diplomats at the time of the murder. "No. No, I would not conspire to do this to my right-hand man. That is no way to make America great again." Can you solve the murder and put an end to the government shutdown? Time is running out, so turn your answers in to Mr. Bonhorst in Room 228 as soon as possible. Please keep responses appropriate.

## GOVERNOR STAFF 2018-2019

Published monthly as an extra-curricular activity by the newspaper staff of T.F. Riggs High School  
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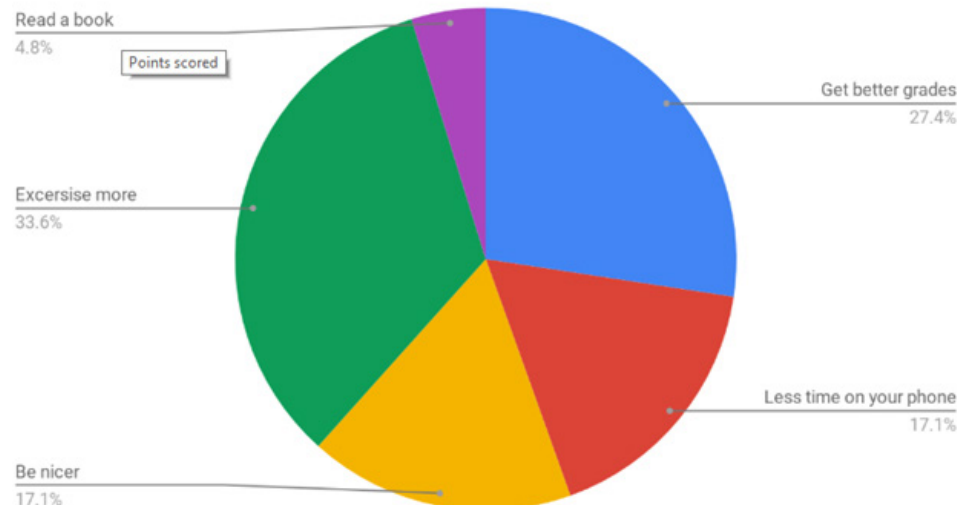


### What's hot and what's not this month

- |                                  |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| ...to free days in class         | ...to blizzards                      |
| ...to half days                  | ...to windy days                     |
| ...to sunshine                   | ...to -40 degree days                |
| ...to rowdy basketball games     | ...to waking up early                |
| ...to shopping                   | ...to cancelled sports               |
| ...to sledding                   | ...to cold cars                      |
| ...to KOH prep                   | ...to scrapping your windshields     |
| ...to doing well on tests        | ...to cold class rooms               |
| ...to sleeping in                | ...to failing grades                 |
| ...to only 4 months until summer | ...to the flu                        |
| ...to Caps Hockey                | ...to icy sidewalks                  |
| ...to coffee                     | ...to working 24/7                   |
| ...to soul food                  | ...to pop quizzes                    |
| ...to dry roads                  | ...to toxic people                   |
| ...to fuzzy socks                | ...to getting sunburnt while tanning |
| ...to self-care                  | ...to bad spray tans                 |
| ...to baggy sweaters             | ...to toxic relationships            |
| ...to brunch                     |                                      |

Compiled by Hattie Shaffer

### What is your go to New Years resolution?



COMPILED BY MAEGAN WALSH



## Government

### Shutdown Rundown

The government has been shut down for the past 35 days. The shutdown began on December 22nd of 2018 and lasted until January 25th, 2019. The shutdown was the longest in American history. As a result of the shutdown, nine federal departments, including the T.S.A with around 800,000 employees had to shut down partially or even in full, making about one-fourth of government employees being required to work without being paid. The shutdown was started over President Trump wanting 5.7 billion federal dollars to build a wall on the US-Mexico border. With Democratic majority in the house, they voted to approve the appropriations bill without wall funding that had previously passed the Senate unanimously. President Trump has continued to state that he will veto any bill that does not fund the border wall. On January 25th President Trump agreed to endorse a bill to reopen the government for three

Claire Rydberg  
POLITICS

weeks to allow negotiations to take place to approve an appropriations bill that Republicans and Democrats will agree or compromise on. President Trump has also stated that if Congress fails to reach an agreement by February 15th, he will declare a national emergency and use military funds to build the wall. In 2013 under the Obama administration the government was shut down for 16-days. This government shutdown was caused over a similar thing but instead of a wall, it was Obamacare. 800,000 employees also went without pay and nine federal departments were shut down partially and fully during the 16 day shutdown. The shutdown was ended on October 16th, 2013 when the Republican majority in the house passed the Obamacare bill and was approved which was signed by former president Obama the following day. Americans can now only hope that Congress and President Trump can come to an agreement. As Americans, we all have a common goal to make sure that we put safety first.

## New Year, New Trends

Hello and welcome back to another edition of the trends article! New year new us, amirite?? With the start of the new year comes many new trends and new things to help you ring in the new year right. Whatever your new year's resolution is, we have some tips and trend ideas to help you along the way! With many new exciting movies, memes, fashion trends, and tv shows, 2k19 will be the best year yet!

New year's resolutions (even if you don't stick with them) are a must! There are many simple and life-changing resolutions you can choose to add to your list. Some small resolutions include getting more sleep at night,

getting better grades, drinking more water, or being more organized. Some bigger resolutions include getting more exercise, breaking a bad habit, or making new friends! It can be hard to stick to new years resolutions, but downloading an app for them, keeping an organizer/planner, or setting reminders on your phone can help you stick to em'!

With your new year's resolutions in check, starting your new year off right with cute clothes is a must! It can be hard to dress cute while your bundled for this winter weather, but don't fear! This January, you can

keep warm AND stylish with fuzzy hats, fuzzy jackets, fuzzy shoes, fuzzy blankets, or basically fuzzy anything! Cute winter accessories such as these and cute oversized scarves are perfect for adding a cute touch to your winter outfits. Other adorable touches you can add to your winter wardrobe include anything plaid and baby blue! If you're looking for a new gadget to add a trendy touch to your look, check out airpods! Airpods by Apple have blown up recently and look sleek with any outfit while letting you bump your toons. If you are looking

Jordan and Sabrina  
TRENDS

for fun things to do this January, there's plenty to do! With the winter weather looking it's here to stay, some fun winter activities include sledding or going to open skate! If cold, outdoor aren't really your things, you can always hit up a movie or have a Netflix marathon at home! Some new shows to watch on TV and Netflix include "Bird Box" and the new season of the Bachelor. These activities are perfect to do with friends, family, or even by yourself. With so many exciting trends to start off your new year with, this year is bound to be the best one yet! Make sure to (try to) follow your resolutions and stay warm!! Happy new year!!!

## Top Hits For The New Year

As we did a Christmas song feature last month, here are some songs that have gotten popular in December and January. The most popular song has been "7 Rings" by Ariana Grande, which had a lot of controversies because of certain sections of the song sound similar to Soulja Boy's 2010 song "Pretty Boy Swag" and Princess Nokia's 2016 song "Mine." Another song that has been climbing the iTunes Charts since its release is "MIDDLE CHILD" by J. Cole. Holding up the al-

ternative genre for the past couple of months is Florence + The Machine with their song "Moderation." Also, the Backstreet Boys are making a comeback after a long absence with their album DNA which was released on January 25. "Nothing Breaks Like a Heart" by Mark Ronson feat. Miley Cyrus was released on November 30, but it is still gaining popularity in January. "i'm so tired..." by Lauv & Troye Sivan was released very recently

on January 26 but is already featured on the iTunes Charts. Lastly, "Wow." by Post Malone was released on Christmas Eve and has gotten very popular during the month of January. Khalid released his album Suncity back in October and a lot of his songs in his album have just started to gain popularity. "Saturday Nights" and "Vertigo" are some of the top songs in his album. Pivot-Boys the rap group of Riggs students is very popular with-

Carly Bowman  
MUSIC

in the student body at Riggs. "Guap Express" "Desperado" and "Drive Slow" are some of the most popular songs produced by the Pivot-Boys. Stay tuned for the next edition of the Governor to keep your playlist rockin'!

Top 5 Songs of January

1. 7 Rings - Ariana Grande
2. Without Me - Halsey
3. Sunflower - Post Malone
4. Thank U, Next - Ariana Grande
5. Sicko Mode - Travis Scott



# 2019 Inauguration

Eight of Riggs' own had the opportunity to help at the 2019 South Dakota Inauguration this past January at the State Capitol. Molly Gross, Miranda Cedillo, Ronni Walton, Morgan Oedekoven, Bailey Nelson, Natalie Mohr, Claire Koenecke, and Carissa Ott experienced the historical inauguration from behind the scenes. The students volunteered to help or were given the opportunity through Gov 2 Gov. Their job was to take guests, which included state legislators, business leaders, and other South Dakota politicians, through the receiving line at the Capitol and check coats at the reception for inaugural sponsors at the Governor's Mansion. The receiving line included Governor Kristi Noem, Lieutenant Governor Larry Rhoden, Chief Justice David Gilbertson, and other constitutional officers. "The receiving line was a wonderful experience to help with because it allowed me to talk to a lot of community members I maybe haven't seen before, and I was also able to meet lots of people outside of our community. My favorite part about it was probably being able to see my friends helping out also, and being able to serve the community and our local government in a unique way," commented Junior Morgan Oedekoven on the volunteering experience. "It was something I never thought I'd enjoy but I'm so glad I got the opportunity to be apart of South Dakota history and be a part of the inauguration of the first female governor," added Junior Bailey Nelson.

As a thank you for helping, each volunteer was given a free ticket to the Capitol Ball and the Inaugural Ball later that evening. The Capitol Ball was a packed event full of politicians and Pierre community members. This was the event where the grand march of the elected officials down the marble staircase took place. "The Capitol Ball was a cool experience seeing everyone walk down the stairs of the Capitol in their best attire," said Bailey Nelson, who attended the Capitol Ball with three other high school volunteers. With Pierre being the capital of South Dakota, there are many opportunities for students to get involved with our state's government and the inauguration was a unique occasion to be a part of.



Riggs students take a picture with Governor Noem and First Gentleman Brian Noem



Claire Koenecke and Carissa Ott take a picture inside the Governor's Mansion



Karsen Pokorny serves popcorn at State 123 Movie Theater



Makayla Cooper takes an order at Jakes restaurant

# Teen Life

By: Phil Adam

Teenagers today are flat out BUSY! With school, sports, extracurricular activities, family events, and preparing for college and future events, some kids barely have time to breathe. Many high school students work part-time after school and on weekends for various reasons. Many students have jobs to save money for college, traveling, or new clothes or entertainment items. Today high school students all around the country work a variety of job in many different industries. Here in the Pierre area, many students who go to Riggs work in retail, healthcare, dining, and agriculture just to name a few industries. Today we will be showcasing several students that put in the hours to make those extra dollars.



Ellie Richards and Ajaye Hicks work as kitchen staff members for Governor Noem at the Governor's Mansion



Janaina Zanin helps teach dance classes at Pierre Dance Academy



Bailey Wagner helps a couple at Edgewood Senior Living



## Governor Basketball Season Update

By Maegan Walsh

The Governor Basketball team is now almost midway through their season. The young team is improving each game with an overall record of 4-7. The most recent win for the team was a 55-53 win against Sturgis in overtime. The following

Saturday the team traveled to Harrisburg to face the Tigers, in a game that was very close the Gobs ended up losing 57-64. The team will have a very busy week as they play Mitchell, Washington, and Brandon Valley all in one week. Head coach, Terry Becker,

says, "We are getting better every single week." He adds that he has seen huge improvements throughout the whole team and that they should be an exciting team to watch this season! Make sure to catch all home games and support your Pierre Governor Basketball team!



Paul Adam dunks during a Governor win VS Mitchell

Photos By Campea Photography

## Capitals Continue Success

By Phil Adam

The Oahe Capitals are off to an impressive start to the 2018-2019 sPhileason. The Caps have an overall record of 10-2 (9-1 in league play) After winning their first four games by an average of three goals they lost their first game of the season in Watertown to the Lakers by a score of 3-5. After a tournament in North Dakota the Capitals were going to attend was canceled due to weather the Caps went on the road to face Huron, Sioux

Center, and Mitchell winning all games. The Caps returned back to Expo Center to play a talented Brookings team and shut them out winning 4-0. After the win against Brookings, the Caps played two non-conference games against Dickinson and Mandan, North Dakota. After losing a heartbreaker to Dickinson, the Caps responded winning the following day against Mandan in a shootout. "Our success is from everyone on the team giving 110%

every time we are on the ice. Everyone on the ice wants to win it all." Junior center Spencer Wedin said about their success this season. When asked what the team needs to improve on Wedin stated: "We need to make sure that everyone on the team stays as healthy and strong as possible so we can finish the season at the very top." Best of luck to the Capitals on the rest of the season. Go Caps!

## LG Basketball Update

By Phil Adam

The Lady Governor Basketball team's season didn't get off to the start that they had hoped. The Lady Gobs currently have a record of 2-9. Five seniors on the team lead the way as they are almost halfway through their regular season schedule. Senior guard, Emily Mikkelsen has scored over 1,000 points in her basketball career. Mikkelsen had a monstrous night

in their first win at Douglas to achieve this impressive goal in her career. The Lady Gobs other win came in an overtime thriller at Sioux Falls Roosevelt. The Lady Gobs will be back in action Saturday, February 2 against Brandon Valley.

## Girls' Basketball

**Record:** 2-9

**Last game:** 38-57 loss @ Yankton

**Next game:** @ Sioux Falls Washington

## Girls' Hockey

**Record:** 2-10

**Last game:** 4-5 loss VS Watertown

**Next game:** VS Mitchell



## Boys Basketball

**Record:** 4-7

**Last game:** 37-58 loss VS Yankton

**Next game:** VS Sioux Falls Washington

## Boys Hockey

**Record:** 9-1

**Last game:** 4-0 win VS Brookings

**Next game:** VS Sioux Falls

## Swimming

**Last comeptition:** @ Sioux Falls  
**Next ompetition:** @ Brookings

## Wrestling

**Last match:** @ Brookings  
**Next match:** @ Yankton

## Gymnastics

**Last Meet:** @ Rapid City  
**Next Meet:** ESD meet @ Brookings

## Figure Skating

**Last comeptition:** @ Mitchell  
**Next ompetition:** @ Rapid City



Compiled by Phil Adam

## Q and A with Emily Mikkelsen

By Phil Adam

Lady Govs Basketball starting guard Emily Mikkelsen recently surpassed 1,000 career points in the team's first win of the season at Douglas. Mikkelsen who has been known to be a sharp

shooter from long-range has just become the fourth Lady Gov to reach this accomplishment in program history. The Governor staff sat down with Mikkelsen to ask her about this great accomplishment.

**Q:** How does it feel to score 1,000 career points for the Lady Govs?

**A:** "It feels pretty neat knowing that I have passed 1,000 points."

**Q:** Did you ever think you would be able to score 1,000 points in your career?

**A:** "I never really thought about it honestly."

## Lady Govs Gymnastics Looking For Final Push In Season

By Addy Smith

The Lady Govs gymnastic season is winding down. The team has only two more meets left: ESD and the state gymnastics meet. Two Pierre gymnasts, Mikah Moser, and Meg Erwin, have already qualified to compete in the state all-around competition. As for the other members of the team, and the team itself, they will have to wait until the ESD meet to find out if they will qualify for state. The all-important ESD meet will be held in Brookings on Saturday, Feb. 2, and will be followed by the state meet on Feb. 8-9, again in Brookings. As far as previous meets go, the Lady Govs just recently competed at the Rapid City Tri-

angular against Rapid City Stevens and Rapid City Central. The Lady Govs gymnastics team came out on top with a score of 137.700 and Stevens following close behind with 134.550 points. The Lady Govs also captured three of the top five spots in the all-around competition. Mikah Moser placed first with a score of 37.150, Meg Erwin placed third with 34.800 points, and Jasi Kroll placed fifth with 33.100 points. Let's hope the Lady Govs carry this momentum into the ESD and state meets and bring home some hardware!



Meg Erwin does her bar routine at Pierre Invite

Photo by Capital Journal



## Bachelor of the Month



Photo By Phil Adam

**Tucker Berens, 12**

**Personality:** Easy going

**Hair Color:** Light brown

**Eye Color:** Green

**Favorite thing about yourself?**  
That I'm single

**Pursue of be Pursued?**  
Be pursued

**Final words?**  
It was fun while it lasted  
**Ideal date?**  
Hammocking under the stars

**Favorite pick-up line?** "Your hand looks heavy. Here, let me hold it for you."

**Favorite Movie?**  
*Superbad*

**Favorite Song?**  
"Somebody To Love"-my boy Justin Bieber

## Bachelorette of the Month



Photo By Phil Adam

**Mattie Jones, 12**

**Personality:** The equivalent of a middle age dad who likes to excessively finger gun, & go "ayyyyyyy"

**Eye Color:**  
60% cacao dark chocolate

**Hair Color:**  
Salted caramel hot chocolate

**Favorite thing about yourself?**  
My ability to get every last bit of toothpaste out of the tube

**Favorite Movie?**  
*Zombeavers*

**Pursue or Be Pursued?**  
Be pursued (duh)

**Final Words?**  
Ope

**Favorite Song?**  
"anything by thw Wiggles."

**Ideal date?**  
Nighttime get-away to the Schruete Farms Bed and Breakfast

## One-Act Plays

By Eryn Louis

It's the season of theater! Spring is a popular and busy time for the fine arts department here at Riggs! Small group and large group contest, festival, and the spring one-acts and musical are all taking place soon! As of right now, one-act plays are in full bloom. One-Act plays are plays with only one act (duh) and are about 30-45 minutes long on average. This year, the school put on 'Nothing But the Truth,' a book that most English classes last year and this year have read or will read. The simplest way to explain the story of the play is that it's about the controversy of a student humming the national anthem and a teacher getting upset about it and shenanigans unravel. The fine arts department put together this play wonderfully,

with Levi McKinley and Melinda Clements as the lead characters. Plenty of students were involved in the play, both on-screen and off! One-Act plays are a pretty big deal as there is a state festival for all the one-act plays in the state to compete against one another. Our school is sending off the 'Nothing But the Truth' cast and crew to the state festival on February 1st in Aberdeen at the Johnson Fine Arts Center on the campus of Northern State University for them to perform and watch other plays. They will be accompanied by Mrs. Ashley Boone, who was also the director of the play and the one who was able to make everything come together. Congratulations and good luck!

## January Sibling Rivalry Hannah (12) and Emily (9) Lingle

**Q: How would you describe each other in three words?**

H: Ginger, annoying, and loud  
E: Loud, obnoxious, and annoying

**Q: What do you guys fight about the most?**

H: She thinks MY car is hers and can drive it whenever she wants  
E: She thinks that just because she's older it's HER car when really, it's both of ours.

**Q: Who wins most of the fights?**

H: Me, how could you lose to her?  
E: Hannah, I let her win. It makes her feel better about herself.

**Q: What do you like most about each other?**

H: She pays for my coffee  
E: She defends me when my parents yell at me