

LAUGH AND LEARN

WRESTLING BATTLE OF SEXES



The contest above from a Valentine English Club is a battle **With** the sexes. The Battle **Of** the Sexes is an idiom that is friendly in nature. It is about the differences between guys and gals and how men and women relate to each other.

THE LEARN

Here's a high school teen story from this month

Joel Northrup dreamed of winning an Iowa wrestling championship this year. He had the best record in the state during the regular season, with 35 victories and only 4 losses. But he gave up his championship dream before his first tournament match Thursday, 17 February.

I hope you don't need to lay aside your high school dream like Joel did. What happened?

Northrup, a home-schooled sophomore who competes for Linn-Mar High School, said his religious beliefs wouldn't allow him to wrestle Cassy Herkelman, a pony-tailed freshman from Cedar Falls who is one of the first two girls to qualify for the tournament in its 85-year history. [Below: Joel (left) and Casey as Joel forfeits [voluntarily loses] the match]



Northrup gave a statement expressing his "tremendous respect" for what Herkelman and Ottumwa sophomore Megan Black achieved this season, but he said didn't feel he had a choice.

Why wouldn't he wrestle this girl? What would you have done?

"Wrestling is a combat sport and it can get violent at times," Northrup said in a

statement released by his high school. "As a matter of conscience and my faith I do not believe that it is appropriate for a boy to engage [wrestle] a girl in this manner. It is unfortunate that I have been placed in a situation not seen in most other high school sports in Iowa."

Below: Joel wrestling and what he doesn't believe he should do with a girl wrestler.



His father, Jamie Northrup, said that his son struggled with the decision. "He's poured his heart and soul into wrestling and into being the best in the state," Jamie Northrup said. "He's never won a state championship, and he's certainly looking forward to that day. So it's agonizing, from all the work and the effort and the hope."

Joel's dad continued, "But it's easy in that, he, a long time ago, drew a line and said 'I don't believe it's right for a boy to wrestle a girl.'"

To draw a line in the sand is an idiom that means something is so important to a person that he/she can only act in one way.

Did his dad influence his beliefs? Who made this decision, dad or Joel?

Joel's father taught him, "We believe in respecting women and we don't think that wrestling a woman is the right thing to do. Body slamming and takedowns, that is a full contact sport and it is not how to do that (**treat a woman**)." "It's totally his choice. He's a young man now and he's worked hard to get where he's gotten. It's up to him, and it was his conviction" not to wrestle Herkelman.



Left: Casey and her dad with reporters after Joel's forfeit.

This was the biggest USA sports story of mid-February. It was bigger than a sports story. It caused 300 million Americans to ask, 'How should a teen boy treat a teen girl? Do we really want our boys and girls physically competing in wrestling, since we don't do it in football or even cross country running or the 100 meter run in track and field events?' Some of them asked, "What do I believe that is so important it guides how I live?"

I would like to hear from some of you.

1. Did Joel do the right thing in refusing to wrestle Casey?
2. In what Czech sports do 17 year old boys and girls compete equally against each other?
3. Do you think boys should open doors and hold chairs for girls?

You can answer at Daninsvirtavy@gmail.com

Here is a little sports exercise that I think you can do.

Decide between "do", "go" or "play". Sometimes the verb needs to be conjugated or put in the infinitive or gerund form.

1. He used to _____ jogging every day when he was at university.
2. I love _____ a good game of chess from time to time.
3. She _____ gymnastics for over five years now.
4. This summer we _____ windsurfing every day on our vacation.
5. He's quite the athlete. He _____ basketball, baseball and hockey, too.
6. My wife _____ horse riding twice a week.
7. Why don't we _____ a set of tennis?
8. Some people think that _____ aerobics four times a week is the best possible way of keeping fit.
9. His idea of the perfect summer holiday is to rent a sailboat and _____ sailing between the islands of the Tuscan archipelago.
10. He _____ athletics for his local track club.

THE LINKS

St. Luke's Bottle Band <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k26nt3Y4cmg&feature=related>

The Battle of the Sexes in Dance <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKDt3SVraUU>

Olivia Newton- My valentine <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cltyYa-B1tE>

Same song with subtitles <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KCx1kHWG0Xc>

Burns and Allen humor from 50 years ago <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yDCjhLOaNZI>

QUIZ RESULTS

1. He used to **go** jogging every day when he was at university.
2. I love **playing** a good game of chess from time to time.
3. She **has been doing** gymnastics for over five years now.
4. This summer we **are going to go** windsurfing every day on our vacation.
5. He's quite the athlete. He **plays** basketball, baseball and hockey, too.
6. My wife **goes** horse riding twice a week.
7. Why don't we **play** a set of tennis?
8. Some people think that **doing** aerobics four times a week is the best possible way of keeping fit.
9. His idea of the perfect summer holiday is to rent a sailboat and **go** sailing between the islands of the Tuscan archipelago.
10. He **does** athletics for his local track club.

THE LAUGHS

Stressing the importance of a good vocabulary, the teacher told her young charges, "Use a word ten times, and it shall be yours for life."

From somewhere in the back of the room, came a small male voice chanting, "Amanda, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda."

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An English professor wrote the words, "Woman without her man is nothing" on the blackboard and directed his students to punctuate it correctly.

The men wrote: "Woman, without her man, is nothing."

The women wrote: "Woman! Without her, man is nothing."

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Boy and Girls Equal but not the same

"Equal" is not always synonymous with "the same." Men and women are created equal. But, boys and girls are not born the same.

1. You throw a little girl a ball, and it will hit her in the nose. You throw a little boy a ball, and he will try to catch it. Then it will hit him in the nose.
2. You dress your little girl in her Easter Sunday best, and she'll look just as pretty when you finally make it to church an hour later. You dress a boy in his Easter Sunday best, and he'll somehow find every mud puddle from your home to the church, even if you're driving there.
3. Boys' rooms are usually messy. Girls' rooms are usually messy, except it's a good smelling mess.
4. A baby girl will pick up a stick and look in wonderment at what nature has made. A baby boy will pick up a stick and turn it into a gun.
5. Boys couldn't care less if their hair is unruly. If their bangs got cut a quarter-inch too short, girls would rather lock themselves in their room for two weeks than be seen in public.
6. If a girl accidentally burps, she will be embarrassed. If a boy accidentally burps, he will follow it with a dozen fake belches.
7. Girls are attracted to boys, even at an early age. At an early age, boys are attracted to dirt.
8. By the age of 6, boys will stop giving their dad kisses. By the age of 6, girls will stop giving their dad kisses unless he bribes them with candy.
9. Girls will cry if someone dies in a movie. Boys will cry if you turn off the VCR after they've watched "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" three times in a row.
10. Girls turn into women. Boys turn into bigger boys.