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# DECA ENCOURAGES COMPETITORS' ADVENTURE

Via Schuetz

feature editor

Hidden in the corner of the 600 building is a club for students who want to pursue anything related to business, entrepreneurship, and finance: formerly Distributive Education Clubs of America- but known more by its acronym, DECA. In contrast to most other clubs on campus, DECA is known as a Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) and is a club that schools all over the world- not just America- have created their own chapters of, despite the name.

A massive part of DECA is not only the infamous donuts served at their meetings, but also the competitions. "In the very basics of the competitions, you get to pick a category to compete in, whether that be marketing, finance, fashion, automotive, it could be anything, and then you're given a business scenario that is a problem in that industry, and you have ten minutes to come up with a solution. You sit in front of a judge and tell them your solution to that business problem." Mrs. Jones, the administrator for DECA and marketing teacher, stated. This more popular version of these competitions is known as "roleplaying," where the judge pretends to be a significant person related to the industry problem. Isaiah Halonen (11), this year's DECA president explained, "You could be a small business owner trying to sell your landscaping work to an HOA [Homeowners Association] ...and the judge would take the role of an HOA member who you need to convince to let your business work with their HOA." These events are mostly for individuals, but there are also team roleplays with a similar structure, except teams are given twenty minutes to prepare instead of ten.

It's mainly focused on problem-solving and a competitor's ability to be able to think on their feet. Competitors are not given their scenario beforehand- they truly only have ten minutes to plan be-

fore they present. Although most competitors decide to participate in roleplays, there's a smaller section of competition where students present a script written beforehand related to their industries.

Besides these competitions, DECA also participates in many- if not all- Centennial events like the Homecoming parade and carnival,

who is interested on campus.

Although there is no cost to compete, DECA is very transparent with the cost of travel to these regional, state, and national competitions. "To travel is dependent on a lot of things. Are we staying in state? It's cheaper, usually kids pay about twenty bucks for those trips, and if we're taking a plane and we need hotels, that gets a little bit more expensive. I think no kids has ever paid more than 250 dollars."

For students who want to compete but may not be able to pay all at once, Mrs. Jones gives them opportunities to work in the Coyote Den- an extension of her marketing class- to pay off their debt.

"These are real-world experience opportunities," Mrs. Jones said. "This year in DECA, we hope to achieve more membership- now that we know what we're doing, last year was my first year- and more winners in our competitions...membership is typically ten dollars, but if you wait it's twenty dollars to join [not including competitions]."

"I have benefited heavily from DECA in that it has given me connections to real businesspeople. I am now connected to a man who started his own jewelry business and runs seven stores because he was my judge at our state competition. My interpersonal skills have also gotten much better. I was a loner who wanted to just show up to school and immediately go home. Because of the Donuts at DECA meetings I have now met my best friend through DECA, made friends from California to Canada and talked to people from Germany with ease at our events," Halonen laughed. "I advise that you show up to an event, whether it is our trip to the Cardinals game or our state competition at a 5-star resort, just come and see if you like the people or the competitiveness."

Last year's DECA students on their International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, CA!

Photo from *instagram.com*

as well as paying for the t-shirts this year's freshman received.

"My favorite part of DECA is being able to leave school on school business to go on trips. It's super fun to go to places like Disney World, Disneyland, and Austin, Texas. I love traveling so much with all of my friends," Halonen commented.

"Marketing and DECA go hand-in-hand," Mrs. Jones explained. "My classes are a part of DECA, although you can choose to be an official member and go to competitions. We do a lot of DECA stuff in class, but if the kids want to actually compete... then they have to pay a fee and sign a paper, and then they get to travel with us." DECA is not only open to students in Mrs. Jones' classes, but is open to everyone

# The Mystery of Flight 571

Kalyn Langston

copy editor

The mystery tale of Flight 571 remains one of the most interesting survival stories in history. Also made into a movie on *Netflix.com* named *Society of the Snow*, October 13, 1972, an Air Force airplane named FH-227D, carrying 45 passengers, including a rugby team, crashed into the Andes Mountains, according to *britannica.com*.

The trip was supposed to route from Montevideo, Uruguay, to Santiago, Chile, but major weather issues and errors in the pilot's navigation system steered into the wrong direction into the mountains. Striking into the very peak of the mountains, the plane broke directly in the middle into pieces and came to a rest on the side of the glacier.

Twelve passengers died in this crash, and more slowly vanished due to the extreme cold conditions. Stranded on a glacier and at an altitude of over 11,000 feet, survivors of the crash faced very cold weather, starvation, and injuries. The initial search for the missing airplane was soon called off after an eight-day search after the searchers could not locate the wrecked aircraft in the harsh terrain. With little to no

hope left to live, survivors lived for 72 days in the Andes Mountains, according to *today.com*.

Their story became a well-known survival story of human willpower, and moral dilemmas. Their food supplies quickly vanished and made those who were still alive make harsh decisions by consuming the bodies of the deceased.

This horrific choice was a desperate act of preservation and courage to take place since there was no stable food source.

After long hard weeks of discomfort and loss, two of the main survivors, Nando Parado and Roberto Canessa, journeyed on a ten-day adventure through the mountains in seek of help. Despite the hard and difficult trek through the harsh snow and cold weather, they located civilizations and alerted the authorities. On December 20, 1972, over two months after the wreckage, with around 14 survivors rescued, brought an end to this harsh catastrophic survival story, one of the most grueling stories ever recorded, leaving many people distraught from this event.



Lost and scared, the people rescued from starvation of the mystery crash.

Photo from *britannica.com*

# It Finally Ends With Us

Alyssa Boscoe

reporter

The movie *It Ends with Us* is based on the very popular 2016 novel by Colleen Hoover. The movie is about a woman who is stuck in an abusive relationship, similar to her own parents' relationship. Her first love reappears in her life causing her to have to make a difficult decision. It hit the theaters in early August and it stars Blake Lively, who plays Lily Bloom and Justin Baldoni, who plays Ryle Kincaid.

While they were doing press for the film fans had a lot of com-

plaints saying there were "out-of-touch" marketing techniques, according to *hercampus.com*. These fans say that this feels inappropriate for a movie that is supposed to spread awareness about domestic violence. People have accused Lively, who also helped produce this film, of giving the impression that the movie is a "cute rom com" or a "sweet romance movie." In a viral clip on *TikTok*, Lively states, "Grab your friends, wear your florals and head out to see it." This is usually

what one would say when they



A relationship not meant to be...

Photo from *thewrap.com*

are advertising a funny and heartwarming movie not a movie that focuses on abuse. People are also

criticizing Blake Lively for promoting her new hair care line (Blake Brown), her sparkling water brand (Betty Buzz), and her husband Ryan Reynolds' newest movie (*Deadpool and Wolverine*) while on the press tour for this movie.

On the other hand, Baldoni, who produced and directed the film, has done interviews where he addresses the domestic violence in the film. For example, in an *X* interview, Baldoni states, "The question that's always asked

is 'why did she stay? And that's the wrong question. What we need to be asking ourselves is, 'why do men harm?'" Fans are conflicted in the difference between Lively and Baldoni's marketing techniques, wondering why Baldoni is the only one who directly addresses the abuse in interviews and on the press tour. *Usatoday.com* says that the trailer and promotional materials made the movie seem like a flick and wondered why they didn't inform the audience about the abuse.