

X-Games Hit Colorado

Jaedon Quintana
—Staff Writer—



The winter *X-Games* hit Aspen, Colorado harder than ever with concerts and new events. Snow bike races and other competitions like freestyle and best trick were added. This is also a world wide event that includes countries like Japan, Canada, and Sweden.

The people in Aspen treat it as a festival which is understandable. This is where Colorado's very own Shaun White started out before he went to the U.S. winter Olympic team. This makes the games important to people that live in Colorado.

These games get bigger every year which means more money. They even added concerts to let the competitors and audience enjoy themselves.

Rae Sremmurd, Alesso, Bazzi, and Illenium all performed at the twenty third annual *X-Games*. This gave the spectators something else to watch instead of the athletes doing most of the same tricks.

The United States took first with Canada trailing in second and Estonia placing third in this years winter *X-Games*. Switzerland and Norway surprisingly took last place. It is all up to the judges in the end. The

scoring also depends on what the athlete did during his run.

Another part of scoring also depends on if the athlete landed the trick or not. Which can cause your team to drop in placing and even the athlete individually from first to sixth as an example.

This shows how tough the competition is. Although this sport is very competitive, it's also very dangerous for the athletes. If an athlete gets injured they're done for the rest of the competition or snowboarding and skiing season.

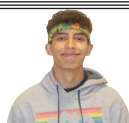
The winter *X-Games* in Aspen happen once every year, the tickets are very expensive for just one day, but the live entertainment and action of the bike races, snow boarders and the best trick competition make it worth the cost in the end.

Let's thank these athletes for doing what they do and risking their lives for our entertainment and our enjoyment. This is probably one of the most dangerous competitions in the world. One tiny mistake could cost them millions.

What makes this sport so great is that it is on pure ice and snow, which provides a small amount of cushion for when they land. This sport has gained a lot of respect over the past few years.

Why Do We Love to Love?

Haden Garcia
—Section Editor—



Human nature is truly an enigma. Philosophers and thinkers throughout history have dedicated their lives to answering the questions posed by people's actions and feelings. However, doing so is no easy task.

Describing an emotion is a lot like describing color to someone that is blind. Words simply have no ability to explain feelings thoroughly. Sure, one could say that being sad is described by a frown, and happiness a smile, but it seems impossible to explain how feeling an emotion actually "feels".

In this light, people usually don't focus on what experiencing an emotion really is, but rather what encourages them to feel said emotion in the first place. The most mysterious of these feelings is love. Why do people love to love?

The ancient Greeks' best explanation was that a naked flying baby shot arrows at people. *The Alamosan*, however, needed a better answer than this. With Valentines day giddiness in full effect, reporters took to the Halls of Alamosa High School to see what students and teachers had

to say about love. "It's innate, people are just born with it, 'How do people not feel love?' is a better question," said Registrar Karen Miller.

She has a point. Many times, love has been said to be a necessity to humans. This can be attributed to our primal need to feel wanted. In the same way teens feel the need to be accepted by their peers, people love to hear how much someone enjoys them for who they are. Sadly, love cannot be summed up so easily.

Freshman Neveah Gonzalez said that love is, "Putting someone else's needs before your own and making sure that they are happy."

As fabled by hundreds of famous Christmas movies, the greatest gift is the "gift of giving." Maybe this is another way to explain why humans love. Our natural instinct is to make other people feel special, happy even. As famous politician and activist Nelson Mandela once said, "No human is born with hate," rather love and compassion.

This brings up the topic of Valentine's Day. Many lovers, men and women alike feel obligated to purchase expensive gifts for their significant others as a act of love.

Things like chocolates, candy hearts, and stuffed animals are always popular gifts. It is said that this "giving" is a way to show how much you care about someone, much like Neveah said. Not everyone agrees with the traditions of Valentine's. Some actually hate the holiday with a passion.

Many people on the Internet have started to belittle Valentine's Day's importance. Everywhere from *Instagram* to *Twitter* people can be found tossing around pessimistic remarks like,

"Valentine's is such a materialistic and horrible holiday." This hate does not necessarily mean these people do not feel love, rather it means they have no way to express it without a significant other.

Obviously, love is such a strong emotion that it means something different to everyone. Modern movies, music, literature, and pop culture have all put their own twists on the meaning of love. In the end, it ultimately comes down to the individual to decide what their definition of love is.

In conclusion, Happy Late Valentine's Day everyone, and always remember to never stop loving to love.

Eliminating the "Problem" in American Society

