

Good evening everyone. For those of you who don't know me, name is Jessie Adams. I am 16 years old and a junior at John Burroughs High School. I'm the cadet commander for Troop H, the best troop in the regiment.

Troop H and this entire regiment are full of wonderful kids and adults that have inspired me to do so many things. I would never stand up in front of people I care about and pretend to be perfect. No one is perfect no matter how hard they try to be. I am happy that I have learned this because, thanks to the mistakes I have made, I can honestly say that I have figured out the most important lesson of all; learning from your mistakes.

A few years ago I had to make a choice between horses and basketball. I chose to play for my school's varsity basketball team. I can without a doubt tell all of you that that day I made the wrong decision. As soon as I left, I missed Rangers terribly. I thought that I had to choose basketball because I felt like that was what everyone expected me to do. I was wrong about that too though. From that experience I learned extremely important lessons. One was that my friends and family support me no matter what I chose to do in life, which I thank them so much for. Another is that our amazing organization was a bigger part of me than I ever knew. Rangers has shaped who I am and the kind of person that I want to be. I wish that I hadn't had to learn this the hard way, but now that I have I will never make that mistake again.

The people in rangers are some of the most inspirational people I have ever met. So many great friends have come into my life because of this program and I have never felt so apart of something as I do in our ranger family. Everyone from remounts to colonels has taught me something. My fellow cadets have taught me to never be afraid, to always believe in your team, and that if you work hard enough you can achieve anything. Our officers have taught me to have confidence

in myself and to never back down no matter how high the mountain in front of me may seem.

One of the main people that have taught me is my captain. Captain Daffern has always pushed me to be the best I can be. Even if I thought that I couldn't do it, he still made me. And for that I owe him so much for everything he has challenged me with and helped me achieve. The other officers in my troop have been extremely helpful as well. Dave Herrin has taught me so much about how important it is to study and work my hardest. Kim Meckleburg has always been there for me and has taught me so much about horses and riding. I hope that one day I can soak up all of the knowledge that she has. Finally I would like to mention Bridget Joseph. I have always looked up to her because she has taught me the importance of being a strong person, leader, and friend.

I am running for Miss California ranger because I believe that I can and will be a great role model for the cadets in this organization. I think this because I believe with all of my heart in the strength of our ranger family. I also know that I can learn new things from everyone here and I am ready to learn everything people have to teach me. I am also ready and excitedly hoping to get the chance to teach our cadets lessons that have been taught to me by people older and wiser than myself.

Becoming Miss California Ranger would be an amazing opportunity and it would be an honor to represent California Rangers. Thank you for your time and I hope you enjoy the rest of your evening.