

PATRIOTS' DAY

A day for heroes, all the way around

JROTC programs take part in poignant ceremony

BY JON POMPIA
THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

The heroes at Heroes honored more heroes.

Led by cadets from Centennial High School's Junior ROTC program, a brief but poignant Patriots' Day ceremony at Heroes K-8 Academy saw the lowering of the flag to half staff, a reminder of the tragic loss and heroic sacrifice that marked Sept. 11, 2001.

"Fifteen years ago on Sept. 11, the largest terrorist attack against the USA took place. It was a day of fear and destruction," said a solemn voice over the school loudspeaker. "It was also a day of heroes. It didn't matter your race, religion, orientation or creed. Fear turned to bravery and action.

"Men and women, who just a few minutes before were strangers,

raced toward danger together as brothers and sisters to stop the evil. It was a day where the entire world stood up strong against terrorism."

Standing in formation in the shadow of the flagpole were members of the new Heroes JROTC program, or J Squared.

An innovative collaboration with the Centennial JROTC program, J Squared

SEE HEROES, 5B



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Saluting the half-staff flag outside Heroes K-8 Academy are (from left) Dusty Weigel, a J Squared cadet; Centennial JROTC cadet Emily Bolstad; J Squared cadet Caeli Montgomery; and Centennial cadet Jessica Bosley.

