

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

CHS senior honored

Jessica Archuleta named Youth of the Month for October

THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County announced that Jessica Archuleta is the club's Youth of the Month for October. The Youth of the Month honor is earned by one member each month in recognition of their strong leadership, good character and commitment to service. Legacy Bank and the Center for American Values are proud to be Youth of the Month sponsors.

Archuleta is a 17-year-old senior at Central High School and she has been a member of the club for five years. Archuleta was a member of the club's original Girls Rock volleyball team. When she first became a member of the club, Archuleta was shy and had never played an organized sport before, but she loved the idea of competing. Archuleta played for the club team throughout her middle school years and was an honor roll student. She earned the award as the team's most valuable player and Miss Congeniality.

During her freshman year at Central High School, Archuleta not only made the freshman volleyball team, but she also made the varsity team. That same year she tried out for the tennis team and made that varsity team, as well. Archuleta shared how the Girls Rock theory of staying active in sports kept her feeling healthy, both mentally and physically. She is known to keep a busy schedule and gives credit to the Girls Rock program for teaching her time-management skills. This past

summer, Archuleta was excited to come back to the club and coach the new recruits for this year's Girls Rock volleyball team. Archuleta said, "It's an awesome feeling to be able to teach someone a new skill and be there to experience them master the skill." Her players describe Archuleta as a "mentor and an inspiration" because she plays to have fun and realizes that it takes time to learn new skills. They love that Archuleta has great patience with them to work on the same play over and over until everyone feels like they have it down.

Archuleta does not hesitate to help someone else when they are in need. She has a big heart, and at times she is too hard on herself because she can't be everywhere she would like to be in regard to helping others. At first, Archuleta may come off as a shy person, and she does not like the limelight. However, when Archuleta becomes comfortable around people, her true personality shines through, and she has a beautiful soul. A few years ago, a member of the Girls Rock volleyball team and her family lost everything they owned. Archuleta immediately went home and started gathering items she wanted to donate so her teammate did not have to go without anything. Her peers shared that Archuleta is a friend you can truly trust to be by your side if you are in need.

Archuleta has been involved with the annual Tom and Louie's Cupboard food drive since

**Jessica Archuleta**

she was in middle school. As a senior at Central High School, this year will be her seventh year volunteering for the food drive. It's natural for Archuleta to want to partake in community service because of the time she has spent at the Boys & Girls Club and being a member of her school's student council. Archuleta does not look for acknowledgement for what she does for others. Seeing the happiness in their eyes is the only thing she needs.

Archuleta shared her favorite quote: "There are so many beautiful people in the world, try challenging yourself and search for beautiful souls." She said, "Being a member of the Girls Rock volleyball team, we learned that our beauty shines when we are our true selves"

As a Youth of the Month honoree, Archuleta is eligible to compete in Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo County's 2017 Youth of the Year competition, which provides several scholarships and leadership opportunities. The October Youth of the Month was selected by Andrea Aragon and Dr. Dennis Driscoll. Notes of congratulations can be sent to Archuleta at club@bgcpueblo.org.