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Spanish- 3

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**It’s Not *Just* a Sport, It’s *Also* a Passion**

What does *passion* mean to me? *Passion* means to put all you’ve got into something you love. It should be something that drives you in every aspect in life, an indescribable intensity, an ultimate desire, yeah that’s a passion. “As I take a step with my left foot and toss the ball up with my left hand, and quickly step in a ‘left right left’ pattern, and launch myself into the air swinging forward my right hand like I am playing air guitar, I hear the audience applauding and cheering but very faintly, as my hearing gets muffled and I concentrate on where to hit the ball. Do I want to hit it to the middle blocker, to the left or right blocker? I decide to hit the ball to the left blocker. When my hand meets the ball, I quickly run to middle back and get into ready position. I feel this inexpressible feeling. This feeling I’ve never felt before”. My passion is volleyball. Definitely, volleyball. I like serving the ball, passing the ball, spiking the ball, and approaching the upcoming ball. I like putting all that I’ve got into volleyball. For the creative masters project, I was assigned to a woman by the name of Rosir Calderon-Diaz.

Calderon-Diaz was born in Havana, Cuba on December 28, 1984 and she is currently 29. Calderon-Diaz is 6’2” and weighs approximately 163 lbs. Her parents, mother, Erenia Diaz, being a former Morenas del Caribe World Champion and her father, Luis Felipe Calderon, being a former national coach, had a huge impact on her life. This enormous impact on her life has been illustrated by her successful career throughout her younger years as well as her adult years.

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Calderon-Diaz has played in a large number of games throughout her life. She has participated in no less than two Olympic Games and joined a good amount of clubs. She has received various awards for the title, “Best Spiker” from most of the clubs she was involved with and big games. She has thrived on challenges and overcame many obstacles. She is a strong woman. In February of 2010 she took a break from volleyball to give birth to her lovely child. By August of 2010 she was back on the court and at it again. She was signed to the Swiss Club (a women’s volleyball club founded in 1973) with a 5-year contract in February of 2011. Shortly after, she transferred to Galatasaray in August of the same year. Calderon-Diaz played in the 2012-13 CEV Women’s Champion League. In that tournament her team won and she received an individual award titling her “The Best Spiker”.

But, much like myself her passion for volleyball grew vividly. I honestly look up to her and I would’ve never known about her if Maricela Elizondo, my Spanish teacher, did not introduce me to her. Thank you for that, Maricela. Anyways, my love for this sport has grown really fast since 8th grade. This is something I can see myself still doing until I am dead and gone. I will never give up and I will strive to be like Rosir Calderon-Diaz, getting signed to big companies, getting a numerous amount of awards, playing in the Olympics and finally making my parents proud. It takes hard work, dedication, commitment, and the strength and knowledge to get there and someday I will be there!

*\*Aside from this essay we were assigned to recreate something of our choice, that our creative master showed. At first I was going to do a fundamentals video on the basics of volleyball. After I thought about it for while I thought about it again and decided not to because*

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*that will take a lot of time and work. Instead my teacher suggested drawing some of the different positions that are included with volleyball. I finally decided to take her up on that great suggestion because it does not require a large amount of work and can be done quickly and time efficiently. I drew the service position, passing in action, jump serving verses regular service, and middle blocker in action shot.*

**Works Cited**

"Rosir Calderon." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., 24 May 2014. 16 June 2014. <http%3A%2F%2Fen.wikipedia.org%2Fwiki%2FRosir\_Calder%25C3%25B3n>

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