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Leading By Example

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Merriam-Webster defines a team as ‘a number of persons associated together to work on an activity.’ In order to work together, the team needs a strong leader and Sir Cordae Hightower Jr. has taken on that responsibility for the Joseph C. Wilson High School “Wildcat” Football Team.

First and foremost, a team leader must bring his A-game to every practice. According to Hightower, the captain has to personify, “being comfortable with being uncomfortable.”

On top of that, he not only has to lead the team but make sure that every single player is good on and off the field.

Hightower says that he, “builds a bond with every player on the team to make sure that everyone has at least one person to talk to.”

He checks-in regularly to make sure his teammates are where they need to be both mentally and physically.

Coach Ellis Randall, Head Football Coach of the Wilson Wildcats, has nothing but praise for young leader. Referring to Hightower, Randall said, “He's a good player, a great team captain, and an overall a great person to be around.”

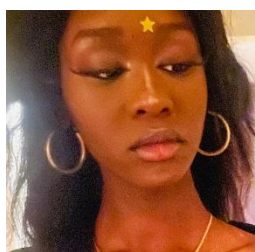
On and off the field, he exemplifies what a student athlete should be.

Wilson's team captain personifies Wildcat toughness, hard work and pride. By not only checking in with his teammates, Sir Cordae Hightower Jr. shows this leadership by creating a positive team culture.





A Hidden Tax



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Tariffs are making goods more expensive for everyone, including students and teachers. Tariffs are taxes placed by the government on goods and services that come from outside the country. Companies often raise their prices to be able to import these products to cover the costs from the rise in tariffs.

Mr. Wilson, Science teacher at Wilson Magnet High School states, “Businesses are left with the choice of absorbing part of the tariff, meaning stores might have to pay extra or make us pay more.”

“The price of everyday life is going up,” Wilson added. “the current economy is not as strong as it used to be and having the price of food increasing makes life for the middle and lower classes much more difficult.”

Students have noticed that back-to-school clothes are more expensive as well. Since most popular brands are manufactured overseas: sneakers, jeans, and jackets, that once seemed affordable, now cost more.

Lamiss Koko, a student at Wilson, said, “Shopping for back to school was a challenge because everything was so expensive... especially because most clothes we wear are labeled ‘Made in China.’ Of course prices were doubled.”

Along with everyday items, tariffs also effects school districts across the nation. Education Week reports, “President Donald Trump’s unprecedented decision to impose tariffs on goods imported from most countries could lead to higher prices for schools on everything from paper and lumber to laptops and tablets.”

Several school districts have limited funds for school supplies, which leads to teachers to have to buy school supplies to fulfill their classroom needs from their own pockets.

In the end, tariffs do not just affect businesses. They in fact make life harder for schools, students, and families by raising everyday costs.