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Heroes Make Dreams Possible

A hero is not someone who saves all of humankind. They are ordinary people with a caring heart and joyful laugh. True heroes always strive to be the best they can be while continuously helping others. My Michigan Hero is Mrs. Smith, who has inspired my dreams, taught me well, and has always been my personal cheerleader.

To begin, Mrs. Smith has inspired me in so many ways throughout the years. Two years ago, she urged me to join the cross-country team. I did not think I was good enough to race two miles, but she encouraged me to try and was incredibly welcoming. I am so glad I joined and even more grateful that she is my coach. As I continue to grow as a runner, Mrs. Smith creates goals for me to chase down during the season. She also helps to make my dreams possible outside of running by motivating me to write. Mrs. Smith gives me my dreams as a writer while she shares her own success with her soon-to-be published book. When she tells me about her book, her face glows. I feel my own face glow every time she praises my work. I want to pursue my dreams as she has and be just like her.

My hero not only coaches me on how to run well, but she also teaches me how to make the most of life. Every day, she juggles the jobs of being a teacher and the principal of our school. She rushes around, getting her work done, but always with a smile on her face. She lights up the classroom with an infectious laugh that I could recognize amidst a crowd of a thousand others. Also, she always encourages us to pray when things are tough. Before tests she says, “Say a quick prayer, and go!” I will always have someone to look to for guidance and a role model as long as I have her.

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Mrs. Smith is not just a great role model; she is my cheerleader. During hard races, I want to collapse halfway through, but her voice carries through the air saying to push past the pain. She stands at the mile-mark as my number one fan, cheering, “Go, girl!” Afterwards, she embraces me in a hug and tells me how proud she is of me. She continues to tell me that even though I will be moving on to high school next year, she will always think of me as hers. She believed in me first, and I know she always will.

Mrs. Smith is my role model that has cheered for, inspired, and taught me in many aspects of life. My hero has taught me more than math and running; she has taught me love, dedication, and strength. As she says, “You can do hard things.” Because of her, I know this to be true. If there is one thing I have learned from my hero, it is that not all heroes need capes.