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 Expectations, do they symbolize hope? Or are they something to strive for? In life, a person can take turns for the worst or turns for the best. There are times in life when a person can wonder who to blame for their problems, themselves? Their friends? Their family? Or even God? Like Mary Rowlandson, she was looking for a person to blame for her being captured, herself, the native Americans, but not so much God. There are times in my life where I try to ﬁnd a person to blame for my problems, and I rarely admit to myself being that person. I found myself in expectation like Mary Rowlandson when my parents got divorced, when I quit playing softball, and when I received something in school that I didn't expect.

 When my parents got divorced, it was one of the most disappointing times of my life. They got divorces when I was around 7th grade, making me 11-12 years old. It was hard, my life changed drastically. For a while no one got along, and everyone pretty much hated each other . It's sad to say but up until a year ago everyone was still fighting. I think we saw the pettiness of this pointless arguing, so we just stopped, and pretended to like each other. I never thought I would be that kid in a broken home, who's parents could barley stand to look at each other for more than five seconds, but it happened. In a way, I can compare this to how Mary Rowlandson expected the British to save her. Mary had set expectations, she believed that the British were chosen by God to be the most powerful. So when they didn't show up to save her, she didn't expect it, just how I didn't expect my parents to get divorced. Divorce and rescue are totally different things, but the same idea of expectation is supported in both subjects.

 For me, softball was my life, every weekend was spent up at the fields. I've played for around 10 years, and I'm only 16. So more than half my life I've played softball. When I was younger I always thought that I would play all through high school and college, so I never expected myself to just give up, but I did. I believe that a major reason why I stopped playing, was because my parents divorce. I just stopped caring, and losing softball was part of that consequence. This can relate to Mary, how she didn't expect to get captured, although there is no correlation between kidnapping and decision, I compare it to the expectation of never getting kidnapped to my expectation of never quitting softball. I don't think there's a time in someone's life they think they could possibly get kidnapped, and lose their child over it. It sounds like a real life horror movie. Going back Five years, if someone told me I wouldn't be playing softball it would sound like a horror within itself, because I knew how much it would take for me to give it up.

 Lastly, school is easy for me, but I've always had great expectations. Now as a junior, I know what it means to be a high school student. I know that the amount of effort I put in I will receive. In school I've worked hard to get certain things, for example last year I did well enough in history to get AP this year, although I got it, I never expected it to happen. Yes I worked hard, and deserved it, but it hasn't clicked through until now, that I can actually do the work and succeed. I've always had a problem believing in myself, so when I find out I can do something I usually mess it up somehow, and lose out on the opportunity. But I'm starting not to doubt myself, and truly show a different side of myself to me. I compare this to how Mary didn't expect to be let go, she knew it would happen eventually, but not at the moment. Just how I didn't expect to get into AP, Mary didn't expect to be let go. Although she was there for 11 weeks, she didn't expect to get out when she did. I'm comparing this solely on expectation, they are for different things, but they are based on having some sort of expectation.

 In conclusion, expectation is in every day life. Everyone has expectations, and things that they strive for. For myself, I've had expectations, and sometimes they fall short, sometime. My parents and myself, but we can't get what we want, and be happy all the time. What's life without a little sadness, and disappointment? Mary had expectations, she never expected to be captured, for her child to die, or for her to be let go when she was. But what happened wasn't a total loss, it makes for a great story excluding the loss of a child. We have to expect the unexpected. All things in life can't be controlled although we wish it could be, so we have to live with the unknown. All my choices good, and bad, shape me the person I am today. People would say that divorce, softball, and AP isn't a big deal, but it is to me. Expectations can change your life.