

SPECTATOR

November 2011



**OCCUPY DETROIT
PROTESTS**

4



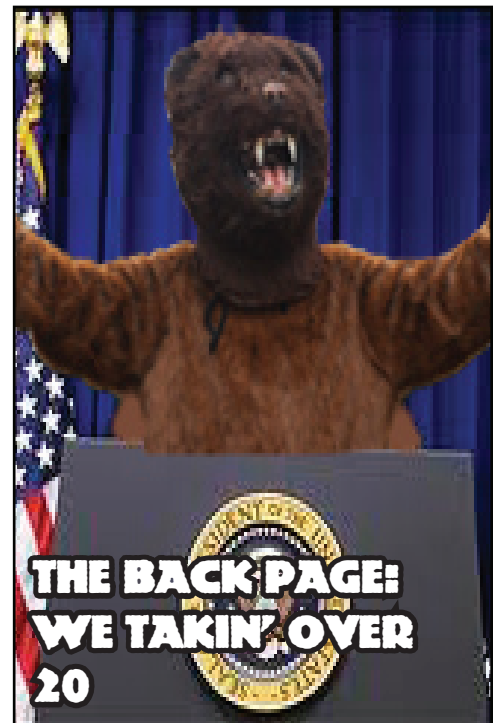
**FASHION TAKES
OVER BERKLEY**

10-11



WINTER SPORTS

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WE TAKIN' OVER**

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Fall Fashion

Clarissa Donnelly '13, Entertainment Editor

Clothing

Blazers/Coats:

The endless layering of coats and sweaters during the colder months can make one appear much larger than she really is, where this new trend comes in handy. New coats unveiled for fall 2011 are either made to synch in at the waist, or come with a belt. This allows one to accentuate her silhouette even while hidden under an infinite amount of layers.

Maxi skirts and sweaters:

The constriction forced upon us by pants can be escaped once again by maxi skirts paired with chunky sweaters. Easy as it may be to throw on sweat pants and a sweatshirt equates the amount of effort it takes for this new trend. A majority of the time only a belt will be needed, making accessories minimal. I am not saying wear this to bed, but the next time one finds herself in a rush, elect this more a la mode outfit over the I-literally-fell-out-of-bed-and-came-to-school-outfit.

Mustards or Reds:

Similar to last season's uproar of camel shades, rusty red and mustard have taken over. However mustard can often be a problem, seeing as it remains to not be the most acceding color with most people's skin tones. If mustard does not make you look like, well, mustard, then work it girl! But if you run into that problem, as a majority of us do, rusty red acts as good back up. Any item of clothing in either color is sure to look sensational.



Sophomore Lily Wojta flaunts her in-style sweater.

Five must haves for fall

Shelby Silver '14, Copy Editor and Lindsay McFern '13, Sports Editor

Hip places to shop

Shelby Silver '14, Copy Editor

Lindsay McFern '13, Sports Editor

Urban Outfitters-
As pricy as this store may be, one should be sure to save up some money and buy some new nostalgic style clothing. If one wants to turn to the hipster style of clothing, Urban Outfitters is the place to shop.

Nordstrom-
For one who wants to look more clean and sophisticated, Nordstrom is the right department for you. From lengthy scarves, to floral dresses and tights, it can be the perfect fall outfit for one who wants to look a bit more polished.

Resale Shops-
For a vintage type look, one might head into Royal Oak and check out Lost and found Vintage and the Salvation Army. These great resale shops are filled with all of the old fashions that are coming back into style. From high wasted jeans to oversized flannels, resale shops have everything. They are not pricy at all, so as a typical student without large sums of money, one could most definitely shop at vintage stores and still look super cool and retro.

NORDSTROM

URBAN OUTFITTERS

LOST AND FOUND VINTAGE

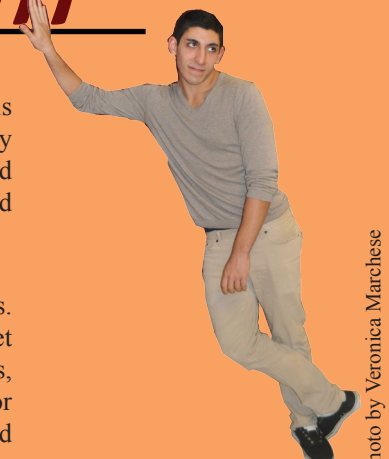
Special Feature: Guys Fall Fashion 2011

Camel:

Although for females the camel-craze was last season, for guys, it is just getting started. Camel will be best worn in coats, but may also carry over to pants and sweaters. The effectiveness of one's outfit will depend on the accessories matched with it. No, that does not mean jewelry and make up, but with chic cardigans and loose fitting jeans.

Loose Fitting Clothes:

This new season will call for less form fitting trousers, thank goodness. So take a step back from the skinny jeans, burn if necessary, and let your... self breathe. This trend is not baggy jeans with dropped crotches, but rather a loose-tailored look. Allow freedom from skintight v-necks for taller-lanky guys by selecting a chunky knit sweater. However, this could easily serve to unflatter a shorter-thicker guy who will want to opt for a thinner, looser cardigan.



Senior Paul Bahry nonchalantly shows off his camel sweater.

Nails

*Nails are always better when worn short

Mauve/Purple:

Instead of bright and pale pinks that often look better on a sun-kissed hand, switch to a more mauve or darker shade of purple such as old reliable "Lincoln Park After Dark" by OPI. Sorry, still will not make your summer glow come back, but your nails will have a gleaming glow of their own.

Dark Red:

Red is always in style, but instead of the bright strawberry reds used during warmer months, opt for the deeper "dusky" and "wine-like" shades of red out this season. Other similar red/fall tones could be rusty shades of orange.

Brown/Grey:

Matching one's nails to the dark, rainy, dreary sky outside is a wonderful way to interact with nature this season. That's a little weird, but really, try darker browns. Think less mud-like and more slate-like colors to match the darker shades of clothing present during the colder months.

Make Up

Not the typical cat eye:

Using flat brush and black eye shadow (liquid liner makes it appear harsher) to line the upper lid, however, instead of arching up as a cat eye would, continue to go out alluding to a longer and wider eye.

Lip stain:

Although only November, chapped lips have already evolved into a full fledged epidemic among Berkley students. Accentuate the redness factor rather than trying to hide it, a faded coral shade will do this perfectly. Do not forget to ALWAYS apply chapstick before because the lip stain will dry out your lips.

Natural:

The climactic conditions when students awake put Siberia to shame, and generally five hours of sleep do not settle well with a teenager, so sometimes putting on make-up is just not in the cards. A pink gloss, mascara, and rosy cheeks will give one a put together look even when that person's attentiveness is equal to that of a dead person, as mine is a majority of the time.



1 Boots

We all know fall is definitely time to break out the boot. Hunter rain boots are in style this season. From standard black to bright pink, this rain boot comes in any color your heart desires and can be lined. They add style to any outfit. Another great boot this season is the combat boot. This boot allows you to insert some edge into your style. With jeans or a mini-skirt and tights, combat boots can put a twist on your look.



2 Scarves

A must have this fall is scarves. Anyone can pull off a scarf and there are scarves for any type of style. From mono-colored wool scarves, to wildly printed silk ones, they all are acceptable to any fashion guru. To put a bohemian twist on your outfit, wrap a scarf around your neck.

3 Sweaters

As it is getting colder, we all want to feel warm and cozy. Sweaters don not have to be frumpy; they can be chic and fitted. This season, one could go the typical route with a plain cashmere sweater or cozy up with a knitted version which is all the rage. Sweaters are a must-have.



Photo by Veronica Marchese

Senior Elana Price rocks her fitted blazer.



4 Fitted Blazers

This fall is all about keeping it classy. Blazers are a great addition to any wardrobe. Pair a blazer with some fitted jeans and combat boots and you are ready to walk out the door and into fall fashion. Take a hint from the English staff and join in on blazer Friday. So prep school.

5 Crew Necks

For an every day school look, the classic crew neck is the way to go. The common cut is resurging this fall and is super hip. With jeans, skirts, leggings, or shorts, crew necks work with anything. Although simple, they can add some flare to your everyday school outfit.



Photo by Samantha Lubinecky

Junior Sophie Bruza displays her boots and blazer.

Photo by Veronica Marchese

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SOUTHERN DOMINANCE
A NEW RAP GAME EMERGES

Danny Bakst '12, Co-Editor-In-Chief

The south has taken over the rap music community. Hip-hop has unofficially become the musical genre of the new generation. Rappers like N.W.A and Notorious B.I.G., along with other artists from the late 80s and 90s, created the gangsta revolution of rap. Previously the rap community was mostly influenced by the west and east coast. New York produced rap legends like Nas, Jay-Z, Jadakiss and many other influential artists. Legendary members of the rap game like Tupac Shakur, Snoop Dogg, Dr. Dre, The Game, Ice Cube all hail from California. However, as rap gained the popularity it now holds, the south was not a major staple in that revolution. In the current rap game it is the total opposite. The south has now emerged as the prominent area of popular and talented rap artists.

The current southern artists coming out are influenced by some of the greatest rappers of all time. They have adopted the style of the generation before them, like the Mississippi born Big K.R.I.T, who sounds as if he was born inside the mouth of the late Texas legend, and UGK member, Pimp C. Krizzle has the ability to stray away from the Pimp C flow and create his own individual sound, but on songs like "Grippin On Da Wood" or "Country S**t," the flows practically mirror each other. Grand Hustle Records signee and Decatur, Georgia native B.o.B, a.k.a Bobby Ray, is the new generation's Andre 3000. They both have an Atlanta influenced flow and also both have impressive singing voices. Big K.R.I.T and B.o.B are on my list of upcoming rappers from the south. Also on the list is Atlanta native and G.O.O.D music rapper CyHi Tha Pynce, Houston bred Killa Kyleon, New Orleans stoner Curren\$y and North Carolina artist J.Cole.

However, it is not only the upcoming rappers from the south with a chokehold on the hip hop scene. It seems like it is impossible to find an artist who doesn't have a song with former UGK member Bun B. Along with his verses on others' songs, Bun B came out with a solid album in Trill O.G., which was released in August of 2010. Even with the split of Outkast, their members still have musical success. Big Boi made one of my favorite albums of all time with Sir Lucious Left Foot: *The Son of Chico*

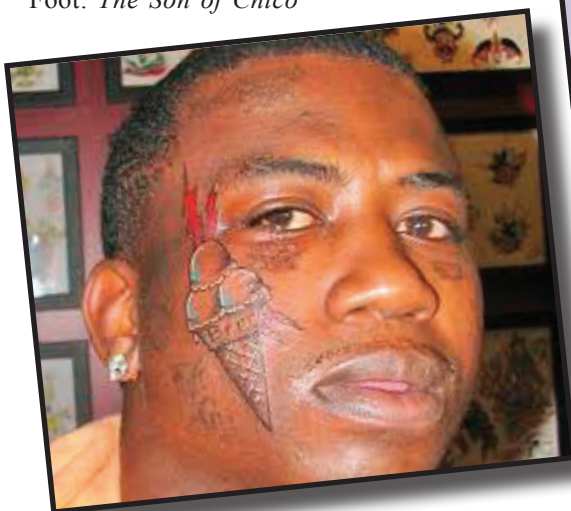
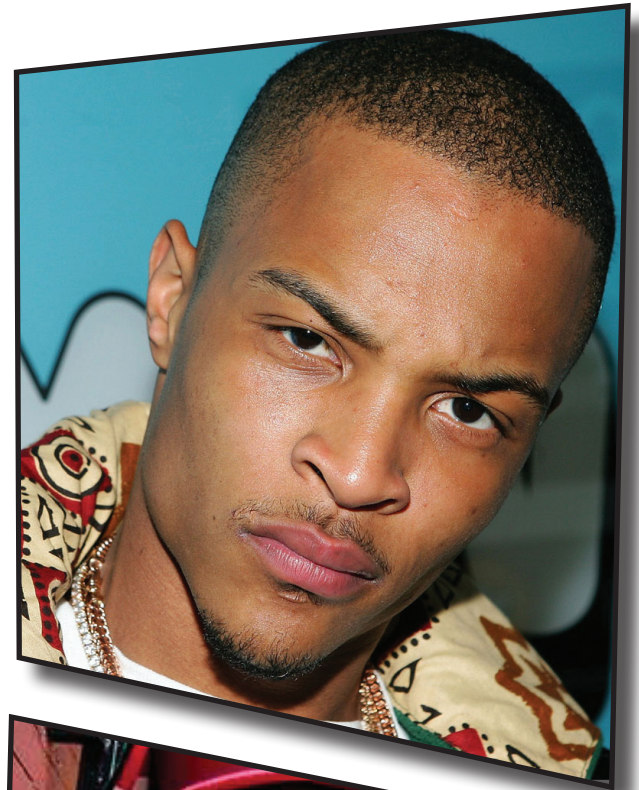
Dusty, and there are rumors that his new album will include a guest appearance of his former Outkast group-mate Andre 3000. Texas born Chamillionare has released recent mixtapes covering other people's beats, and he is releasing a new album called *Poison*, which I feel has the potential to be a great album.

T.I., who mega-producer Pharrel called the Jay-Z of the south, has been successful even with multiple incarcerations. While in jail, T.I. released an album with two of my favorite songs on it, "That's all She Wrote" featuring Eminem, and "Welcome to the World" featuring Kanye West and Kid Cudi. After his release he did not stop releasing hot tracks. He has come out with songs for his new album with upcoming southern artists Big K.R.I.T and B.o.B. Also he released his own remix of the *Watch the Throne* banger, "N**gas in Paris," that in my opinion blows any other version of the song out of the water, including the original artists.

The gangster influence has not been lost in the south either. Thug rappers like Atlanta born Young Jeezy and Gucci Mane are some of the most popular artists in music today. Young Jeezy has a highly anticipated sequel to his *Thug Motivation* series, TM 103, and Gucci Mane always seems to put out a new project on the web.

Although he has fallen off the deep end as of late, it is impossible to knock the hustle that New Orleans native Lil Wayne has been putting out for the past decade. He called himself the best rapper alive and for a period of time it seemed like everybody around him agreed. He has so many verses on so many hits that he deserves to be placed on the list of elite southern rappers.

The south has established itself as the Mecca of the rap game. They have so many songs on mine, and many other rap fanatics' ipods, that the torch needs to be passed to them. Other regions have their share of upcoming rappers and OG's (original gangsters, or veteran artists) but the highest percentage of skill and popularity belongs to the south. Put your hands in an S formation and embrace the southern slang that is taking over the rap game.



Criminals on the Mind: Students obsessed with crime dramas

Lenie Siegel '14, Freelance Writer

Serial killers and psychopaths, cadavers and medical examiners, FBI agents and court prosecutors: what about television crime dramas captivate the minds of today's teenagers? The students of BHS in particular have their remotes ready each night to tune in for the latest case.

With the death of summer is the start of a new fall season, but for crime show fanatics, fall brings the return of their favorite criminal faces. Students enjoy looking into the family of each investigative team and the psychotic minds of criminals, as well as seeing others' lives in jeopardy.

BHS freshman Tatum Kenrick does not miss a minute of *Bones*, a hit series about a forensic anthropologist. "I love putting the puzzle together as they discover each clue," Kenrick said. Though being the individual to uncover every piece of evidence sounds tempting, the characters on the other side of the law fascinate her. "The killer always seems so sneaky, so mysterious, so brilliant," Kenrick said. This *Bones* fan would recommend the show to "anyone with a strong stomach because the dead bodies can be quite

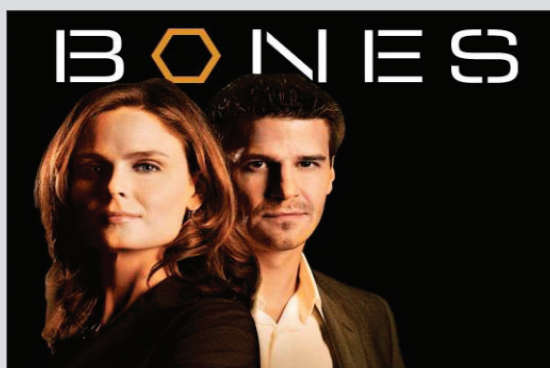
nauseating." The flesh devouring maggots, live burials, and decapitated bodies do not keep Kenrick away from the show she indulges in each week.

Among other gore enthusiasts is senior Abbey Tucker. Her favorite show, *Criminal Minds*, includes an elite team of FBI behavioral analysts solving one crime each show. Every Wednesday night, Tucker enjoys this action packed and attention grabbing drama so much that, "[She] wants to be a part of their team and help profile the cases." Although each baffling case draws in Tucker weekly, her biggest attraction to this show is the tightly-knit team of profilers. "If something bad happens to one of them, it feels like a part of my family is in danger," Tucker said. Because she



Aaron Ben-Ze'ev, "Pleasure-in-others'-misfortune is associated with the passivity of the agent enjoying the situation." While most would find the actual experience of being victimized terrifying, safely viewing from home makes it an enthralling adventure. Students feel as though they are in an ongoing competition with other individuals, and to win means seeing others fail, such as when the *Criminal Minds* team is eluded week after week by a prolific serial killer. In any situation of one being abducted or cold-heartedly being slaughtered in a crime drama, the audience garners creepy feelings of pleasure.

Each season, viewers glue their faces to television screens to watch their favorite agents and detectives catch the world's most dangerous psychopaths. The continuing plotlines, the family mentality of each team of agents, and even the sadistic minds of serial killers draw in the teenage audience of BHS. Experiencing the misfortunes of others, it gets these students hooked. With this in mind, the fan base will continue to rightly use their criminal minds.



has a special connection to each character, Tucker enjoys watching *Criminal Minds* to a great extent.

Though the emotional attachment they experience draws in students, studies show that watching the misfortunes of others really gets them hooked. According to philosopher

New albums dropping in November

Barret Hotz '13, Photo Editor



Daughtry:
Break the Spell

Break the Spell is a new album by the North Carolina rock band, Daughtry. This upcoming album will be their third in five years. Daughtry have said that this album is new and inventive and nothing compared to the other two albums. The band's success really comes originally from Chris Daughtry's long-running appearance on American Idol back in 2006. He did not win the competition, yet he gained more success from performing with his band and that has taken him much further. "Renegade" is the band's first single off *Break the Spell*, so do not forget to get the album on Nov. 21.



Gym Class Heroes:
The Papercut Chronicles II

The Papercut Chronicles II is this band's fifth album in ten years. Gym Class Heroes is a mix between rap and rock, which gives them a unique sound and tone that is different to any others in the spectrum of alternative rock bands. The group's front man, Travie McCoy is well known for a lot of his solo stuff. His singing really makes the band what it is. The single off this album is called "Stereo Hearts," and has peaked to number four on the billboard's hot 100. Be sure to pick up Gym Class Heroes' new album when it drops on Nov. 21.



Whitechapel:
Recorrupted

Whitechapel is a death core band that is releasing their fourth album. *Recorrupted* is an 'ep,' meaning it will only have five songs on it. Whitechapel is not for the faint of hear because their lyrics and brutal screaming make it a heavy metal-lover's true delight. There are no singles on this album and the reason for this is that according to the band, they do not want to be like the "mainstream" artists who release one song off of their new album. Whitechapel want it hidden until the full release of *Recorrupted* hits the stores on Nov. 18.

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HITS AND MISSES IN ENTERTAINMENT TODAY

MISS: NBA LOCKOUT

Aaron Cohen '13, Entertainment Editor

Sorry basketball fans, but as of now, there will be no 2011-2012 NBA season. Disputes among players and team owners have led to the cancellation of the first few weeks of the season. Worldwide, NBA faithful are hoping that these issues are resolved quickly, and that a NBA season can still take place. To all of those who do not follow the NBA, know that this may be a very difficult time for your friends. It is important that you be there for them while they struggle through this difficult time in their life.



HIT: NBA LOCKOUT

Aaron Cohen '13, Entertainment Editor

For those who are sick and tired of ESPN's soap-opera-esque coverage of the NBA, the lockout may serve as a much needed break. Between the months of February and April, the NBA tends to dominate every aspect of sports media. For once, maybe the NHL will make more than one of Sportscenter's top ten plays each week. In addition, the loss of a professional league will bring even more excitement to NCAA Basketball Tournament come March. And maybe, if we are really lucky, Ron Artest will come out with another hit rap album (totally kidding).



HIT: SONS OF ANARCHY

Barret Hotz '13, Photo Editor

Guns and motorcycles: what else do you need? Well, *Sons of Anarchy* (*S.O.A*) have both and it is awesome. This is one of the best action drama shows on television. *FX* has done a fantastic job producing and keeping the show running. The show itself is about a motorcycle gang that sells guns and rules the small town of Charming, California with an iron fist. Their violent ways and murderous tendencies are a small part of keeping the town free of other drug dealing gangs, and their competition. The premise of the show is about keeping one's family close and safe, mafia-style. *S.O.A* has maintained its position as the top show on Tuesday nights at 10 o'clock for the past four seasons. Everyone should watch it because as Clarence 'Clay' Morrow would say, "It's the American way."

MISS: ADELE'S VOCAL CHORD HEMMORHAGE

Clarissa Donnelly '13, Entertainment Editor

British singer/song writer Adele has developed a vocal cord hemorrhage. Although recoverable, she must take time to fully recuperate, so permanent damage is not inflicted upon her vocal cords, and thus her voice. The exact reason for the hemorrhage is unknown, as the blood vessels "feeding" the vocal cords are generally very sensitive and can often rupture for no obvious reason. The hemorrhage however has not halted the booming success of Adele's singles "*Rolling in the Deep*" and "*Someone Like You*," and her album *21*, which sold 10 million copies worldwide and becoming the largest selling album of 2011. Hopefully, she can make a full recovery and return back to singing with her unique and unmatched voice, so I can stop trying to replace her by belting out all of her songs alone in my car. Get well soon, Adele!



MISS: PARENTS DROPPING STUDENTS OFF IN THE PARKING LOT

Clarissa Donnelly '13, Entertainment Editor

It has come to my attention that the "Student Parking Lot" has some parents confused. Is the name "Student Parking Lot" not clear enough? It is for "students" to park in. Its purpose is not to serve as a drop off for students by their parents, which in itself is embarrassing, in their over-sized sedans and mini vans, which block multiple spots and make it near impossible for students to park relatively close and arrive to class on time. Students' cars do not line Sunnyknoll and the circle drive because those are places designated for parents to pick-up and drop-off. We abide by our rules, and it is time for parents to do the same. This does not include parking their mini van mid-lot, blocking several spots, and joyfully calling out, "Have a good day at school little Johnny! Make good choices!"





WINTER SEASONS BRING NEW SPORTS, NEW PLAYERS, NEW FANS

Veronica Marchese '13, Student Life Editor

With the winter season quickly approaching, teams are preparing for their season and everyone is hoping they will do as well or better than last year.

Hockey: With last year's record of 8-7-4, the Berkley-Ferndale Unified varsity hockey team had a good year. With prospective captains, seniors Bradley Zucker and Lucas Hammerle, as well as the rest of the starting line including seniors Danny Fryc and Ben Rondot, junior Joey Leider, and sophomore Stephen Wroe in goal, the team is looking to increase their record and advance in their league.

"I think if we keep working hard we might be able to win the league this year," Rondot and Hammerle said. They also said, "It's going to be tough." The Berkley prep team (JV team) was cut for this year, so we can now expect former prep team players Curtis Carne, Zack Segall, Shane Goldberg, Jeremy Paczos and Sage Stuart to be able to help out on the ice and as Hammerle put it, "get the job done."

True fans already saw them in action on Nov. 4 and 12 for their preseason games and at their first game Nov. 16. Judging from how the team played at these games, everyone can expect good things.

Boys Basketball: The boys varsity basketball team had a record of 13-9, and an overall good season last year. This year, fans can expect projected starters to be seniors Damon Eldridge, Jason Taylor, Shane Fitzsimmons, Alec Roy, and Daniel Waldhorn. Possible captains will be Eldridge and Taylor.

Varsity has some incoming players that will all be considered and will help the team improve their record. This season look for juniors Leondra Steen and Tommy Despard to be adding their aggressive defensive playing skills while fellow juniors Brandon Banks, Nick Baur and Ben Greene will add their shooting abilities to the court. Along with these juniors, sophomore J'son Johnson-Williams will be an asset. Eldridge expects the team "will be strong...with a good competitive nature" he added that "the team has good chemistry and [Shane and I] should lead [the team] to good things." He also said, "[the team] should be a strong contender for the league and district title."

Fans should also watch for the junior varsity and freshmen teams this year, with freshmen Noah Witus and Jon Radner. Regardless of which team, JV or freshmen, Witus said he "will build [the] team's chemistry and be a leader out there on the court." He went on to add that "in a few years Jon Radner and I will be on the Dream Team." We will all have to keep our eyes peeled, of course.

Eldridge was available to comment on the JV and freshmen teams and said, "[they] will be strong with a good group of kids returning. I think the freshmen have a lot of talent, they just need to play more together to build better chemistry on the court."

Girls Basketball: The girls varsity basketball team did well last year with a record of 10-11, and this year fans should expect the team to increase their record. Although the

starters are unknown at time of press, many girls have not committed to playing. Senior Diamond Wilford said that she thinks the team will do well this year. She said "[the team] will have to work every single game." Wilford is excited to see how things will turn out.

Boys Swim & Dive: The boys swim and dive team, although did not meet much success last year, will hopefully do better this year. Projected captain Noah Duchan had a lot to say about the team. He said the team "might be able to win one or two [meets], depending on who we swim against and how much talent the new guys have." Duchan said, "Swimming is one of those sports where you can only get out of it what you put in." Fans can only hope that all the new and returning swimmers and divers give it their all every time they are in the pool and between the lanes.

Bowling & Wrestling: The bowling and wrestling teams, although not as recognized as previously mentioned sports, are still just as important. Both teams are excited about their new season. One bowler in particular, junior Billy Adler said, "bowling is my favorite sport at Berkley because it is fun and relaxing and anyone who thinks bowling is lame wouldn't understand because they aren't on the team. I have a good feeling about this year, and we have a lot of talent." While wrestler Austin Brantley said, "this wrestling season could go either way. It is more of how hard our players work and it is always based on how much you put into the sport."

FRESHMEN BASKETBALL: NEW TALENT ARRIVES

Jimmy Demery '13, Opinion Editor

As the fall sports season draws to a close, the BHS populace turns their attention towards the winter athletics, foremost among them is basketball. As the class of 2015 enters BHS, there are many promising freshmen attempting to find a spot in the program.

One of the most talented freshmen, John Radner, has been excelling in the sport since he began dribbling a ball. He played a grade up as a seventh grader, and was averaging 20 points per game at Norup in his eighth grade year.

However, Radner is not the only freshmen in ascendance. Others include Joey Yaker, Sammy Stern, and Noah Witus. All went to Norup for middle school, and in eighth grade dominated their way to an 11-1 record. They attribute their success to their chemistry on the floor, built from years of playing together. Witus and Radner could possibly start for the JV team, as sophomores Chris Laster and Josh Coleman decided not to play.

The freshmen team's coach last year was Eric Mally, who led the team to a 2-15 record; he stepped down after his first and only year. The new coach has yet to be hired, although the season is drawing ever closer.

When asked what the key to their success is, Witus said, "We all go hard in the paint; Waka [Flocka Flame] is our inspiration." However, as hard as they go, effort can only get them so far. Talent is needed as well, and the class of 2015 has plenty of it. Look forward to a much improved freshmen team this year.



Freshmen Sammy Stern, Noah Witus, Joey Yaker and John Radner prepare for the upcoming season.

Photos by Barret Hotz

OBNOXIOUS BEHAVIOUS OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

Samantha Lubinecky '12, Layout Director and Lindsey McFern '13, Sports Editor

Using Class as a Therapy Session

Why it is annoying:

We never thought we would say this, but we want to learn! Hearing about teachers' personal lives is sometimes really cool or funny. But other times, it is just not appropriate. We are not therapists and we do not want to hear an overabundance of personal problems. We do not need to know about how much teachers are annoyed with their wife/husband or how much they had to pay for their kid's dental work. We would much rather do class work.

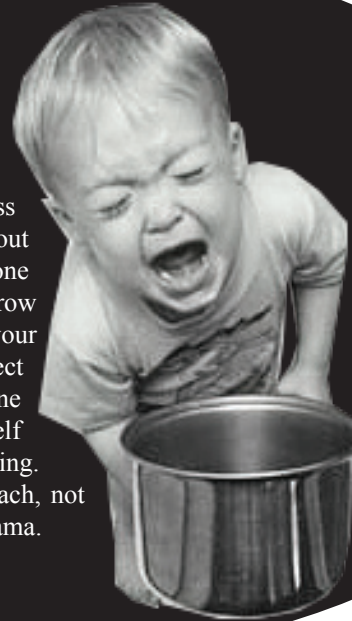


1.

When kids cause drama during class

Why it is annoying:

We think that kids causing drama in class is even more obnoxious than teachers talking about unnecessary, boring things. All of a sudden someone is irritated or just wants attention and BAM they throw a fit like a 2 year old. Please act your age, not your shoe size. Do you really feel the need to disrespect a teacher for no reason, scream and use profane language? You might as well just throw yourself on the floor and start kicking and screaming. Last I checked teachers are here to teach, not babysit. Save the drama for your mama.



2. Students not turning in work/ never taking tests

Why it is annoying:

Not only is this annoying to teachers because they are then forced to grade late work, after they were on a roll grading everyone else's, but it is also annoying to other students. We can not get our test or homework back until you turn it in because we might "let you copy." Can you just not fake sick for the day of the test and come take it? Though you may get another day to take it and that may benefit you, others just get annoyed. Just take it as soon as possible. Please and thank you.



Teachers losing assignments

Why it is annoying:

It really is unfortunate when this happens because you are then forced to re-do assignments or try to convince the teacher you really did do it. Rarely will the teacher remember if they lost it or not, which is understandable at times, considering the amount of papers they receive, but annoying nonetheless. What is the worst, though, is once you take the time to re-do the assignments; they magically find it and apologize. Then all you can do is grin and bear it, or come off as a rude student.

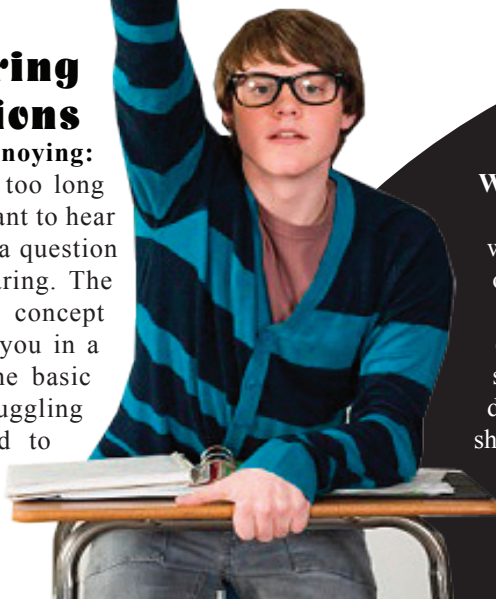
It is a lose-lose situation.



3. Teachers not answering questions

Why it is annoying:

When your arm gets numb from it being up too long one should assume their teacher definitely does not want to hear their question. Or there's the situation when you ask a question and it just seems as if the teacher has selective hearing. The teacher chooses to move on to the next confusing concept completely ignoring your plea for help and leaving you in a trance of anxiety and bewilderment. Isn't one of the basic principles of being a teacher answering their struggling student's issues with the material being presented to them? We are sometimes just left to answer our own questions.



When kids ask stupid questions

Why it is annoying:

Yes, there is in fact such a thing as a stupid question, no matter what certain teachers may tell you. For example, there is always an obnoxiously rude student in every class who ask teachers to tell stories and try their hardest to get them off topic. Some teachers are easily distracted and comply. The class should not be forced to hear something unnecessary just to please the slacking student. Please don't forget the student who asks a question that was just asked. Class should not be interrupted because you were not listening. The world does not revolve around you; stop talking and pay attention.

Students beg for consistency

Mitchell Hart '13, News Editor

Inconsistencies in grading and rule enforcement are something that all students have to deal with. At BHS, students are constantly being presented with new interpretations of what is clearly stated in the planner. Teachers in the same department, teaching the same classes, somehow grade with different criteria. These unjustified acts enrage me to the extent of Chicago's hatred for Steve Bartman. The establishment of consistent rules would be positive for everybody.

From a young age we are taught that grades are important. If this is the case then why is this task of utmost importance entrusted in humans with no specific standards or policy? Just because I get stuck with the teacher who tries to assert fictionalized dominance by handing out unwarranted low grades for immaculate work does not mean that my GPA or my wellbeing should suffer. A more standardized grading system would create a better assessment of academic ability.

Similar to grading, why can't already-established rules just be consistently enforced? What is the punishment for texting in class? The planner says "any [electronic] device will be immediately surrendered to a staff member upon request," but in reality it tends to range from an insincere warning to confiscations of varying lengths. Can streamline enforcement be established? If I punch somebody in the face (something that these inconsistencies regularly make me want to do) I will most likely get suspended on the first offense because that is the rule. I am not saying that texting in class warrants a similarly harsh punishment, but a standardized system of enforcement would be positive for everybody at BHS. If teachers decide that learning is more important than my crack-like addiction to my iPhone so be it, but at least enforce the rules the same way across the board. Rules are clearly established in the planner. I should not have to worry about how harshly I am going to be punished for my actions just because certain teachers care more about enforcing rules over others.

More than a rant, this is a plea for sanity. Class rank is more of an assessment of your teachers' subjective grading than a valuable tool to compare aptitude and performance among students. In a similar vein, without a standardized system, students have no way of knowing the exact implications of their actions. The fact that students are forced to embark on a journey through the hazy abyss of BHS's many unregulated inconsistencies on a daily basis, is completely inexcusable. Teachers of BHS, I challenge you to consider this plea and make our school a better, more fair place for all.



Housewives of HW: High school never ends

Clarissa Donnelly '13, Entertainment Editor

Welcome to Huntington Woods, the city that extends for a whopping square mile, and where all of the residents know and communicate spitefully with each other, and by that I mean each mother knows each of the other mother's business. Gossip travels like a whirlwind of blow-dried-keratin treated hair in the crisp fall air. The word "secret" does not exist in their minds, which are too occupied with thoughts of "which pair of black lululemon leggings will I wear around the city three hours after I've finished working out? Oh wait! Do the black Danskos clogs match those, or the brown ones?" Once the very difficult task of matching black to black is finished, the gossip is relentless about all news between Woodward to Coolidge and 11 Mile to 10 Mile.

These housewives find all possible times to babble about anything and everything amongst their daily duties which include: picking up their kids from Burton Elementary, setting up for block parties, emailing back and forth about drama between room parents. Trust me, they will always find time. These mothers often represent the cattiness that was thought to have been left behind in high school. These mothers constantly are arguing about: who is a better friend with whom, who is going to have the best B'nai-Mitzvah give away, or who is the most organized room parent. The possibilities are endless.

Mothers can often be seen gossiping with one another the way one would see in friends or, more appropriately, frenemies in the hallways here at BHS. Except what they gossip about is much more incriminating, such as 'Did you hear about the Johnsons? I guess they received their final eviction notice this weekend.' Or, 'How about the affair between Jamie and Brian?' and 'Lisa told me that Mary's daughter got caught drinking at that party last weekend!'

Really mothers? Are you back in 11th grade? Who is getting evicted, who is seeing whom when she should not be, and who received an MIP is really none of your concern. What you should be focusing on is being a positive role model for your child, and not bad-mouthing other parents. Although it is a small town and people do find out when something major happens, it is not any of the other residents' business to gossip about. This can only influence one's child to act in the same malicious, superficial way.

The privacy of all teenagers living in Huntington Woods is compromised as well. When a teenager makes a witless mistake, is then given immeasurable constraints on his or her social life. This child's new restrictions will, of course, raise eyebrows as to what happened. The meddling housewives of Huntington Woods will ask what happened, oblivious that this could be detrimental to the teenager. The mother in question will, of course, answer all questions to the fullest, clueless to the obvious fact that this will ruin the specific teen's and the rest of his or her group of friend's near future. Students have been wondering why we never have any parties? Here you go!

No doubt that the city of Huntington Woods is an immaculate place to live and raise a family; however, the libel that controls the mothers' lives seems overwhelming. I guess these mothers could not get enough drama in high school, but as far as I am concerned I have had my fair share, and with only half of my high school career completed. If this is what living in a small suburb entails, then sign me up for the big city!

* All names are not real names of people

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the **Real Housewives**
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Hat prohibition: a call for reform and progress

Zak Witus '12, Co-Editor-in-Chief

Let me begin by saying that I do not consider hat prohibition to be an issue of profound importance. I primarily chose to publish this article for its broader implications to each and every person as well as humanity as a whole.

Since the days of the one-room schoolhouses, the no-hats-in-school rule has existed. Back then, caps were reserved for the dunces and when students supposedly “disrespected” their teacher’s authority by wearing a hat, they earned a whack from a yardstick and seat in the corner. Although today such violent disciplinary actions are frowned upon, BHS and many other high schools across the country cling like a priest to his bible to the predetermined opinions of what should be allowed in an academic institution.

This closed-minded practice is exemplified by BHS forbidding all baseball caps, wool hats, top hats, cowboy hats, beanies, fedoras, sombreros, and any other garments which cover a student’s noggin, excluding of course certain religious fashion statements. Because BHS limits our freedom on such a trifling matter, I feel obligated to expose the hypocrisy involved with their hat policy.

The mission statement of BHS is, “to guide, encourage and support each and every learner in the quest to realize his or her full potential.” Setting certain limits on students in order to direct them towards higher learning are proper and necessary, but especially with the majority of negative repercussions of prohibiting hats, I am flabbergasted how our sophisticated educational institutions continue to uphold such outdated and useless bylaws. BHS has a choice: either keep the rule, rejecting progress and hurting teacher’s effectiveness, or reform and/or repeal this obsolete and meaningless hat prohibition.

The BHS administration must’ve seen *Goldfinger* one too many times if they believe hats are dangerous enough to impede on our “unalienable right” to freedom. We students don’t wear razor brims on our hats like Oddjob as tools for seeking vengeance with our teachers after a bad test grade.

I concur with our founding fathers that if people’s behavior does not hurt themselves or anybody else, then nobody holds the right to deny them their freedom. I learned from BHS’s AP US Government curriculum that under the US Constitutional values I am entitled pursue my happiness as long as I do not infringe on the happiness of others. Could it be that BHS disagrees with the values in our US Constitution? Gasp. Furthermore, if

hats are so disrespectful, then why does BSD annually advertise “hat days,” where a small donation can be exchanged for the right to wear hat? If removing our hats upon entering the school is supposed to teach us a lesson in respect, then the lesson BSD sends with hat days is that when the price is right, the rules don’t apply. My bottom line: wearing a hat in school does not harm a single person and thus does not warrant a prohibition.

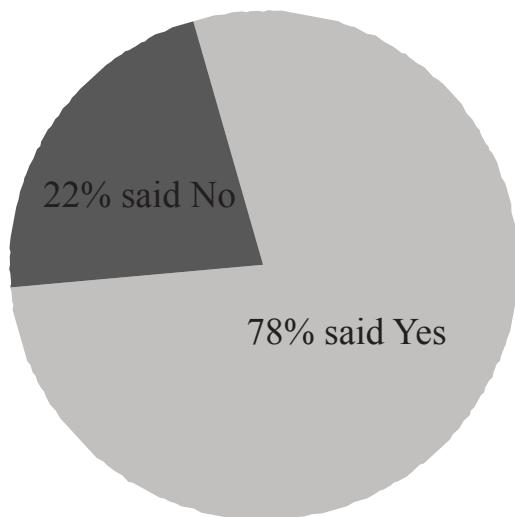
Enforcing the no-hat-rule is not worth the time and arguments that it creates. Every day of every school year, BHS teachers repeatedly ask us students to remove their hats, digressing from their main goal of education. Few teachers still sincerely believe that hats are a sign of disrespect and purely enforce the rule because their employers instruct them to. Furthermore, the pretentious superiority complex, which the hat prohibition emphasizes in our school faculty, reduces a teacher’s effectiveness in meaningfully engaging with their students. The more purposeless regulations placed on student’s liberties, the further a student’s learning abilities and a teacher’s teaching abilities diminish. Although I recognize teachers and students are inherently unequal, if students were treated more like equals than subordinates, then they would probably learn more and rebel less.

But you might say, ‘Mr. Witus, here at BHS, students can civilly disobey and debate the rules to their heart’s content, but it won’t make a difference because nobody listens to us kids’. I would respond that it is a real concern that high school authority figures do not seriously consider their students’ cries for change because they have not earned their respect hitherto. However, this reasoning does not mean that we will never be allowed to wear hats in schools. Your parents and school staff members possess the voice needed to abolish BHS’s archaic, trifling rules, and replace them with more rules and regulations that actually promote higher learning.

Hat prohibition in public schools is only one small example of the need for change in our world. The new progressive movement in our country, illustrated predominately by the Occupy protests throughout major urban areas, asks society to critically analyze the status quo of our system. This idea of free thinking may be defined as radical, but is necessary if we wish to improve society, and ourselves. Humanity must continue researching and reexamining the state of our world in the hope of envisioning progress and regeneration.

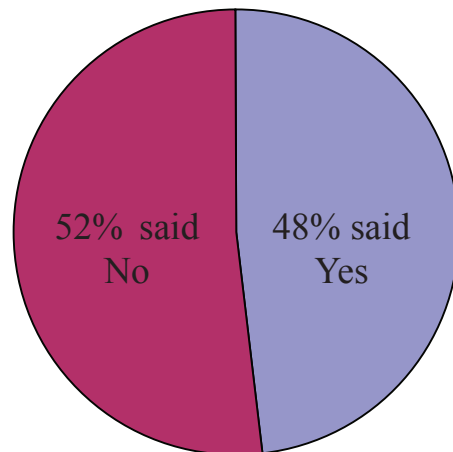
Should students be allowed to wear hats in school?

Students Responses



Out of 375 Students Polled

Teacher Responses




Out of 25 Teachers Polled

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NOVEMBER HOROSCOPES

Sam Lubinecky '12, Managing Editor and Layout Director

Aries: March 21 - April 19

The first week of the month will seem like a complete drag. You will have a lack of enthusiasm and energy and feel a tad unhealthy. What a great month so far, right? Well here is an easy solution: pick up yoga and be enlightened. It doesn't matter if you buy a yoga tape or sign up for a class, the rewards are endless.

Taurus: April 20 - May 20

Lately you have had no time for a social life and you tend to feel overwhelmed. No need to fret though, things will smooth out soon and you will actually have time to breathe. Your company is always enjoyable so make sure to give it this month. Since you haven't had time to socialize now is the time to catch up with friends and relax.

Gemini: May 21 - June 20

You are in desperate need of a breath of fresh air. Try new things and don't be afraid when new people approach you. You may want to clear out all the clutter in your life, whether it be physically or mentally.

Cancer: June 21 - July 22

Make sure you are talking to trustworthy people, as there may be a snake in the grass. If your love life is in full bloom and/or blooming: no need to worry because the "snake" is not the person you love. You will also encounter an opportunity to take a high ranking position.

Leo: July 23 - August 23

Some people may be giving you mixed signals this month. Forget them, you don't need some one who is full of drama in your life. You'll be a little on the broke side this month, so put a stop in all the unnecessary expenses.

Virgo: August 24 - September 23

This month some repressed issues will make their way back to the surface. Let the person who you have an issue with come to you. When or if this happens keep the conversation short. Just listen and be willing to forgive.

Libra: September 24 - October 22

This month your intentions will be misinterpreted left, right and center. Be clear when you speak and don't use any analogies; this will leave less room for interruptions. Regardless, it is really time to prepare for your future. Don't slack off and keep focused, do your homework, and finish college applications; whatever you need to do: simply do.

Scorpio: October 23 - November 21

Naturally you have a lot of goals in life. This month you may think you have achieved one, but read the fine print and discover the misfortune. Soon enough your luck will change, so make sure to use it to your advantage.

Sagittarius: November 22 - December 21

You are completely over worked and too busy for your own good. Cut some things out of your schedule, it is for your own good. You'll have more motivation and be able to fully involve yourself in just a few things.

Capricorn: December 22 - January 19

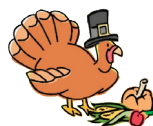
Watch your money this month. You may want to make a big purchase, but look into it. If things seem fishy, it is because they are. Trust your gut this month, it will lead you in the right direction. Keep in touch with your social life, things are subject to change in this department.

Aquarius: January 20 - February 18

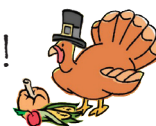
To others this month you may seem closed off and disconnected. Make further efforts to reach out to people and let them know everything is okay. If you do this everything will soon enough return to normal. Make sure to make time for your friends and go out more. Everyone needs a break and deserves to have fun.

Pisces February 19 - March 20

You will be involved in many bonding activities this month. Be selfless and put others before yourself. You will be extremely busy this month so make sure to manage your stress for the sake of your health. A nervous breakdown is the last thing you need this month.



Happy Thanksgiving!!!



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OCCUPY THE NEWSROOM: ROOM 116'S PLEA FOR HELP

Danny Bakst '12, Co-Editor-in-Chief

The end of 2011 has turned into the age of revolution and protest. It seems like people scavenge for any possibility to 'occupy' a city and then stand up for what they feel is right. The new revolution of protesters began in New York with Occupy Wall Street, which was a protest about the need to distribute wealth from the top 1 percent of the population to the bottom 99 percent. But New York is not the only place where this movement is taking place. All across America people are taking time out of their busy days to occupy major cities in order to help this cause. By Occupying Houston, Detroit and Oakland; it seems like occupying places is the new planking.

The reason I bring up this sudden rage of protesting across the nation is to help with a cause in our own backyard. A problem is occurring at BHS that needs a resolution. A bleak abyss has taken over room 116. The sight is so gruesome that there are few words to describe its horror. Due to the old age of the pipe system that runs throughout the walls of the school, a water leakage has caused a hole to gape open from the ceiling. The constant drip, of what seems to be toilet water, plagues the students and teachers who are forced to inhabit this important classroom. The carpet is now saturated with water not even suitable for a Sudanese shower. The white board is being drenched like someone sitting in the front row at sea world. Pretty soon the surrounding ceiling will be more damaged than Tiger Woods' reputation. A prolonged look at this hole is almost like staring at a kitten being torn up by a 40-foot python. The problem was only minor last year, but after months of being overlooked this intimidating window into the ceiling above has grown. It is now spreading across the ceiling with no mercy to the innocent wallpaper covering it. With this impending growth its power rises.

This is a call to the people at Berkley to occupy the newsroom. We can use the publicity this movement has acquired to help solve this important issue facing our school. Let's not only make this a twitter trending topic in the state of Michigan; let's take this baby worldwide. With enough publicity we could maybe even get celebrity endorsements. We could have a concert for the cause in order to stop this tenacious travesty. The constitution gives us freedom of assembly and what better way to use it than on our school system. The ceiling is so unspeakably ugly and it puts innocent computers, already living on the edge of crashing, in danger of water damage. If we do not occupy the newsroom this issue could even escalate to human casualties. One flush and a pipe could burst, causing an avalanche of dirty water, trapping us in a smelly fishbowl of death and disgust.

The rusty hole in the sky needs to be filled. Please listen to the students and teachers in the newsroom and help us stop this dangerous problem. Room 116 used to be a place of honor and beauty, but ever since this curse of ugliness and stench, our environment has taken a turn for the worse. A walk along the south side of the room should not entail a rain jacket. If you want to make a tangible difference in school and help our community advance as a whole, you will listen to this call for occupation. It is the age of protest and the timing could not be better. Throw "No Loitering" signs in the trash and make an effort to help your surroundings. If we do not act soon, the newsroom could be permanently changed from a high-tech classroom where intelligent students produce high quality work, into a school equivalent to the appearance and looks of war-time Russia.



Photo by Barret Holz

This hole in the ceiling is endangering all the people and computers who work in room 116. This pressing issue facing our school needs to be solved. We need to make a difference and try to spark a change.

LEADERS: WHO SHOULD WE FOLLOW?

Zak Witus '12, Co-Editor-in-Chief

We feel that we have a responsibility throughout our lives to shed light on the darkness. From the moment we burst forth from our mother's womb and inhale in our primary breath, we search for someone to guide us into the light.

During childhood, we respect our parents as our principle leaders, but while growing up we begin to feel that they distract us more than they facilitate our development. So, as we shed the shackles and comforts of childhood and innocence, we gradually gain awareness of the many philosophies and lifestyles that exist, hidden throughout our world; but who will guide us to them? I ask along with Damian Marley who posed the question, "Who should I follow, who should I copy?" Come, walk beside me as we journey down the rabbit hole.

On Twitter, the more "followers" you have, equates to a greater number of people reading and consequently being influenced by your tweets. Movie stars, pro athletes, musicians, comedians, celebrities and friends are among some of the most popular people "followed" on Twitter. To decide whom to follow, a typical person begins by searching names of interest, perhaps friends or other people of celebrity. After we establish a basis of whom to follow, a person chooses to follow more people, based on other people's tweets that mention or "retweet" someone else. By actively participating in this system, most of users end up following a very similar group of people. But, are the popular people to "follow" on Twitter really people we want influencing our thoughts?

Government has throughout all ages been the most powerful and influential leader. Since the development of democracy, popularity has arisen a very great shackle to our minds. The US voting population's majority vote (excluding the 2000 Presidential Election) selects our elected officials. Growing up in a democratic system of government has programmed us to confuse popular opinion and our own personal beliefs. Unlike what our founding fathers predicted of democracy, popular sovereignty has become the dominant illusion of truth. It often distracts unconsciously people from searching for information and making decisions for themselves because they can default to whatever the popular choices may be. Today with the US population over 300 thousand, the majority holds control over a very numerous minority. Why should we allow the decedents of a bunch of white dudes in powdered wigs run our lives? As a result of becoming too accustomed to the status quo, we seasonally lose ambition for reaching our potential to innovate and improve.

Speaking of stagnant bodies of tradition, BHS and like public high schools encourage conformity and normalcy, while discouraging individuality and creativity. BHS followed in the footsteps of common public schools, ACT and SAT's test format by using Scantrons, a brand of multiple-choice tests, as the primary method of testing students. However, many BHS teachers and education experts criticize multiple-choice testing, saying that this style is less conducive to learning than many other models because it merely requires the memorization and retention of a certain, specific answer until regurgitating it on test day, rarely thinking of it for that time on. In the real world, and even occasionally at BHS, our goal should be to immerse our brains with as much information and life experience as possible and then creatively respond to it in order to help enlighten others.

Personal experience, however, has prove to be a sometimes cruel and unusual teacher. While experience is a valuable source of wisdom and knowledge, other people's lessons can offer us a great deal more.

Human beings are born completely ignorant and innocent. If we dream of innovating and improving our society, someone or something must first inspire and/or teach us to do so. Plato had Socrates; Christians have Jesus; the Karate Kid had Mr. Miyagi; and Luke Skywalker had Yoda... I could go on all day with references, but the point is Einstein wasn't sitting in a bar one day and just thought up his theory of relativity; no, he built it, as all great innovators do, on the shoulders of his heroes. Steve Jobs didn't wake up one morning and say, "I really feel like revolutionizing the world of technology today." Other people had significantly contributed and influenced his skills and ideas, which in turn shaped modern technology. Without people to learn from, we would still be stuck bathing ourselves in the waters of ancient Babylon.

Although popular opinion often leads to people sacrificing their own beliefs, our species' 99.9 percent uniform DNA and comparable life experience inherently leads us to similar conclusions in many cases. Popularity only becomes a problem when people accept being dazed and confused for so long it's not true, defaulting an obscene amount of their decision-making to the herd's choice. We cannot hope to distinguish ourselves amongst our kind without occasionally breaking from norm, which can only result from discovering a radical leader.

Choosing our heroes and role models must be done carefully. Let us not merely throw away our "follows" to the many ignorant morons littered throughout Twitter. Exercise caution when choosing who or whom to model your behavior after. And ultimately, after my pal Damien Marley says, "Who should I follow? Who should I copy?" he follows with, "Look in the mirror and it's you I see look at me." That is why my primary follower is that tall, handsome editor-in-chief and future Philosopher-President, also known as the affable, witty bastard some know as @TheWitusKidUKno.

Students care more about politics

The young vote more important than ever

Mitchell Hart '13, News Editor

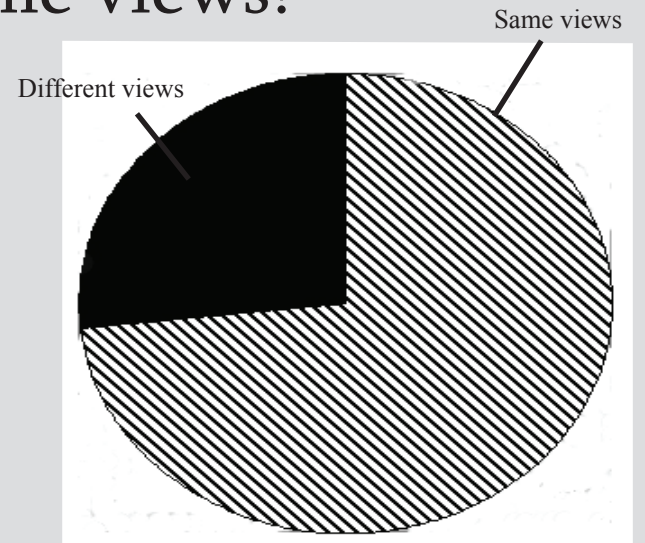
As the presidential election nears, students at BHS are starting to think more about politics in America. Young people historically have not been involved in politics, but since the last presidential election in 2008, political involvement of young people has increased across the U.S. The Occupy Movement is a prime example of young people standing up for their own rights. Even though most adults think that politics are not as important to teens, 85 percent of BHS students think that politics are important.

For those who have not taken a government course, the best indicator as to which political party a young person associates with is most often decided by which party their parents align themselves. After reviewing hundreds of surveys, it turns out the humanities teachers are overwhelmingly correct. Students and parents tend to share political views. This is important because candidates use this trend in order to

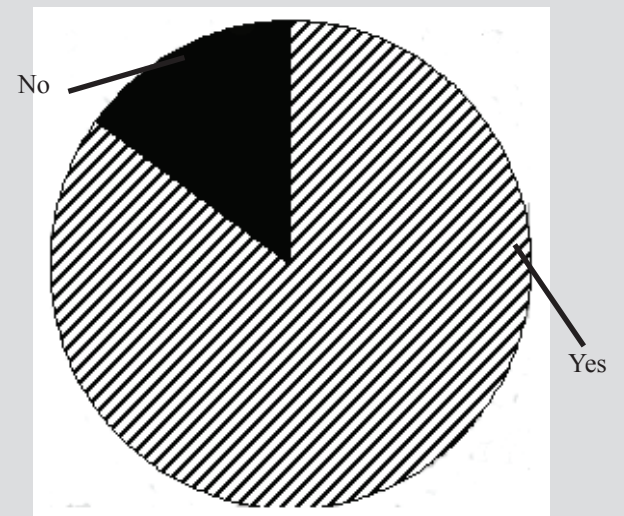
help find supporters. In other words, if one's parents support a candidate then most likely the candidates' next target will be that person. This means that once one is at voting age, they will be bombarded with calls and emails even if one's mind has already been made up.

Students were also asked who they would vote for in the upcoming election. After sorting through many responses, both serious and funny (as far as everybody knows Rick Blanchard is not running for president in 2012), the data has been calculated and incumbent President Barack Obama came out on top with about 40 percent of the hypothetical student vote. The republican primary starts on Jan. 3 in Iowa and ends on Aug. 30 with the republican national convention. The national election takes place on Nov. 6, 2012.

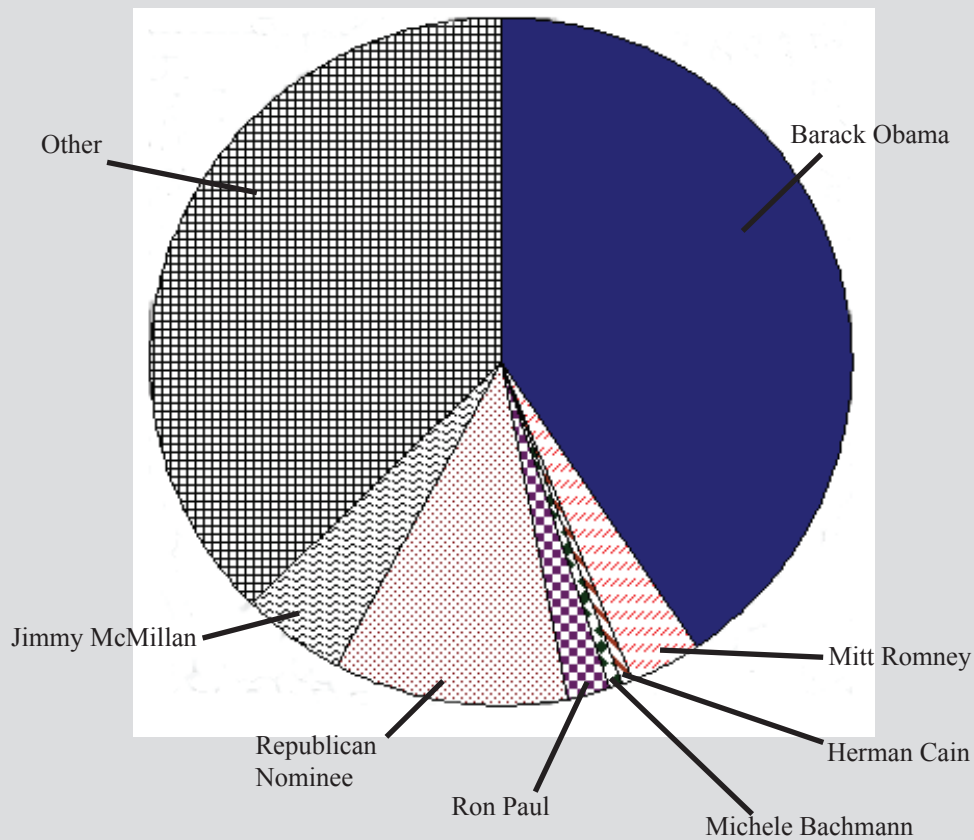
Parents and students share same views?



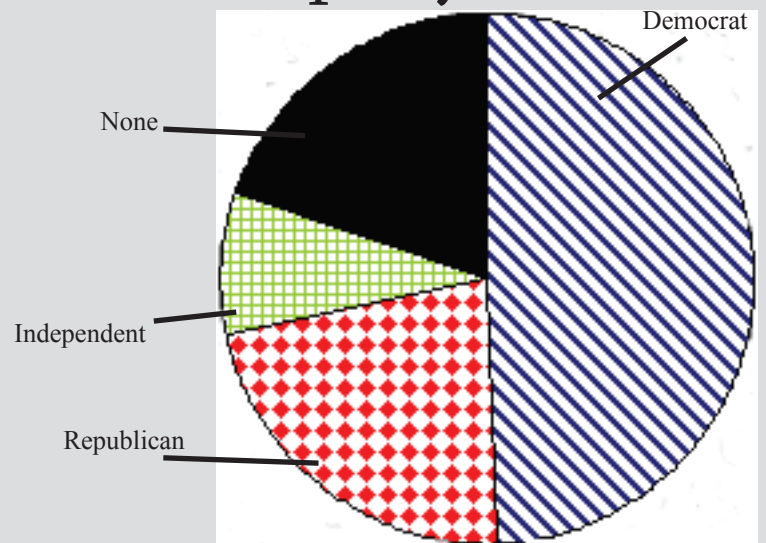
Are politics important?



Students' favorite candidates?



Student party affiliation?



4 THE SPECTATOR

Occupy Detroit

Meagan Soffin '14, Bull's Eye Editor



Photos by Mitchell Hart

Grand Circus Park in downtown Detroit is the home of Occupy Detroit.

The economic protests that have been going on at Wall Street have now come to Detroit. Protesters are fighting for the economy that has been spiraling downhill as of a few years ago. Detroiters are gathering to make a statement. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. The separations of the upper and lower classes are becoming more extreme. Not only have these protests spread to over 70 major cities in the U.S., but to over 900 cities around the world.

The protesters are fighting against foreclosures, welfare cuts, corporate greed, low wages, awful bus systems, and general economic inequity. Many of these protesters are jobless or are paid very little. Michigan has the third highest unemployment rate in the country according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Of all the cities in the U.S., Detroit's population has decreased the most because people are moving to other places to get jobs. Detroit has been hit really hard in this economic crisis and the protesters are trying to bring attention to this and get it fixed.

"I looked up the definition of a third world country," protester Maryanne said, "and I have seen things happen here that are just ticks off that list. Things like not enough funding for schools, control of the media, buildup of the military, and finally and most importantly, the government run by people who run corporations. Our neighbors are loosing their homes and we as American citizens need to help each other out and fix this problem."

The protesters have set up camp as of Oct. 14, at Grand Circus Park in Detroit. Over 150 protesters are living there and they say they will not leave until they get what they are fighting for. They have created a community among themselves. A library, medical tent, supply tent, and even a kitchen have been set up for them to use. Some unions, churches, civil rights groups, and women's organizations are providing supplies for them. People are even taking it upon themselves to protect all the protesters and are becoming security. Homeless people have been causing some problems such as stealing the protesters things and eating their food. The police say that the protesters have the right to peacefully protest and they will not interfere until necessary.

On Nov. 11, the Detroit Police finally interfered with the protesters. The protesters were told they needed to leave their campsite at Grand Circus Park by Nov. 14. The protesters moved their belongings into a private building not only because the police told them to, but because of the upcoming winter. Even though the protesters will not be camping at Grand Circus Park, they will return there during the day to continue their protest. Nothing will get in their way of their protest.

Many Berkley residents have been affected by this economic downfall. Some of the residents have experienced either a job loss or a pay cut. If the economy continues going the way it is now, many more people will experience these economic changes. The people of Occupy Detroit are trying to bring attention to the affect the economy is having on our Michigan residents.

Student parking lot unsafe for all students

Alison Jones '13, Feature Editor

Accidents happen all the time, and at BHS student-caused accidents are at their prime. When these accidents take place more often than not, the fine line between "accident" and carelessness is blurred. Merriam-Webster dictionary defines an accident as "an unfortunate event resulting especially from carelessness or ignorance," and as far as anyone is concerned it is unfortunate.

Parking lots are one of the most dangerous places for any driver, especially teen drivers. When 12:03 and 3:00 roll around, students cannot wait to get to their cars and go to any one of the various places they need or want to be. Whether it is lunchtime or after school, the student parking lot is always a risky place to drive. For the three months students have been in school, the number of student-caused accidents just at BHS is becoming drastically higher.

Juniors Sean Calendar and Sarah Michalak know first hand the problems with the student lot. Calendar walked out to his car on Oct 6 and saw "a gash and a bunch of scratches on my bumper." Michalak had cut her wheel too close to Calendar's car and nicked the rear bumper. Although Michalak is not a known offender of the law, distractions in the parking lot are the main causes of any accidents.

When driving through the student parking lot, a bunch of commotion blocks students from making the right and safe decisions. Music is too loud because they are trying to show off to their friends, peeling out of the parking lot to try and look cool in front of their friends, and some may be preoccupied by the large number of kids in their car.

It seems to all go back to the same thing: showing off to one's, friends. Some may think that speeding out of the parking lot or blaring ones music ten times louder than it needs to be is the way to look cool. If students would just take the time to look out their rearview mirrors or see how close they are to the car next to them, accidents in their entirety could be avoided.



Photo by Barret Hotz

Junior Veronica Marchese has an unfortunate run in with a car in the parking lot



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Teachers have dreams too



Ms. Bullis
Current Status: Counselor
Dream Job: Hollywood Stunt Double
 “I always thought being a stunt double would be really cool, but it wasn’t very profitable so I decided against it.”



Mr. Beebe
Current Status: Counselor
Dream Job: Plumber or Jazz Saxophone Player

“When I was younger I had an uncle who was making bank as a plumber, but the dream was really always to make music.”



Mr. Sikora:
Current Status: Special Education Teacher
Dream Job: Professional Hunter

“It’s something I’ve been doing with my dad since I was a little kid. To me it’s the ultimate rush.”



Mrs. Henderson
Current Status: English Teacher
Dream Job: Archaeologist

“I was fascinated with history, bones and Indiana Jones. I have a major in history and minor in anthropology. In fact, in my senior year, it came down to being a teacher or a primatologist but I decided that I enjoy people more than apes.”

It is 7:45 p.m. on a cold, Sunday evening. While students struggle to catch up on work after two days of procrastination, teachers sit at home grading papers, preparing lessons, and dreading the week ahead. As the night goes on, and the bottomless stack of papers fails to decrease in size, so does the patience of the teachers grading them. As their minds wander off to far away places, they reflect on their childhood dreams and what they could be doing if they were not stuck correcting worksheet 4.6. Come with me, and journey deep into the dark, mystical depths of our teachers’ minds, as we discover what they would be doing if they were not teaching us...

It is hard to come to terms with the unavoidable fact that our teachers were once kids, too. Like us they dreamt of fame, fortune, adventure, and in Mr. Beebe’s case, plunging toilets. Maybe our teachers are a little edgier than we thought? Despite the fact that these teachers did not end up living their childhood fantasy, they are delighted that they can help us to achieve ours. It is unrealistic that we all end up doing exactly what we thought we would do as kids, but it is important that as we mature into responsible adults (fingers crossed) we continue to pursue passion and adventure, just as our teachers have done before us.



Mr. Gawel
Current Status: Principal
Dream Job: Boston Red Sox play-by-play announcer
 “I’d travel with the team, go to all the games, hang out with the players, but not have to deal with the day to day stress of performing on the baseball field.”



Mr. Waldman
Current Status: Social Studies Teacher
Dream Job: FBI Agent or Motorcycle Racer
 “When I was a kid playing cops and robbers, I always wanted to be a cop. I like being on the good side. I pursued criminal justice up until the last minute. Unfortunately, you can get shot at, and that didn’t make me feel too good. I’d also love to be a professional motorcycle racer. I’ve been riding since I was eleven. Cool parents huh?”



Mr. Miller
Current Status: Social Studies Teacher
Dream Job: Veterinarian
 “I love animals, but I hate the blood and guts!”



Mr. Cierpial
Current Status: English Teacher
Dream Job: Radio Disk Jockey

“I wanted to do something with music. Those guys, they were really interesting, characters on the radio then, and I wanted to be one of those interesting characters. Now I’m just a character, and I don’t know how interesting.”



Ms. Wong
Current Status: Math Teacher
Dream Job: Photojournalist
 “I was on my high school newspaper and I really loved it. I became the photo editor and enjoyed and thought that was what I wanted to do.”

6 THE SPECTATOR

WONDERFUL WINTER
WONDERLAND

Veronica Marchese '13, Student Life Editor

1.

Join Ski Club – Although ski club is on a Thursday this year, why not pick up a new hobby such as skiing or snowboarding? It is a fun way to meet new people and learn a new sport. Tons of people swear by the slopes.

2.

Do winter activities - Once it starts to snow, get a group of friends together and go sledding, build a snowman, have a snowball fight or build a snow fort. This way you can pretend you are a little kid again. Take it from those who know; you will miss these days.

3.

Host a get together with friends – Get your posse together and throw a game or a movie night. When it is chilly outside and there is nothing to do but stay cooped up inside, get together and play some games and watch a movie or two. It may sound lame, but you would be surprised how entertaining it actually can be. It will remind you of the good ol' days when competitive monopoly was always fun.

4.

Get a cozy blanket, a good book and a warm fire - Grab a fleece and cozy up next to a fireplace to read a great book. Put down the usually boring novel for class and pick one up that will really interest you. If you do not have a fireplace, there's an app for that.

5.

Bake – Everyone loves warm pastries, so bake some. After you have completed your delicious masterpiece, bring it down to room 116, fifth hour. Find some new recipes, and give it a whirl. Cooking is warm and also an important skill to learn early on in life.

6.

Attend hockey and basketball games – Go to all the games, away and home to support your fellow athletes and the dance team. Cuddle up next to your fellow fans and cheer on your bears. The excitement will heat you right up.

The cold weather brings new trends with fashions and makeup (see center spread), but it also brings a new attitude. An attitude which is, for Michiganders, often negative in nature. Many people do not care for the cold weather, but I would, personally choose a 60 degree fall day with beautifully colored leaves falling, over an 85 degree (or higher) summer day with the blazing sun beating down on your shoulders. Trust me, being tan is not all it is cracked up to be. Bundling up with blankets, or layering sweaters and coats is much better than sweating your booty off. For those of you at BHS who dread the cold weather, there are few things you can do to help warm up to the changing temperature:

...No matter your take on the seasons, embrace the Michigan weather. You live here, so might as well enjoy it the best you can.

Humor tumblrs are sensation

Julia Pompilius '14, Freelance Writer

As of late, the blogging website Tumblr has been dubbed the newest, trendiest way to express oneself on the Internet. Tumblr allows individuals to upload photos, quotes, videos, and links, as well as 'follow' other Tumblr users. Usually, a person dedicates his or her Tumblr to a specific theme. Some choose to dedicate their blog to fashion, art, literature, music, or whatever it is that that particular person takes an interest in. However, there is one theme taking special prominence on Tumblr: the theme of humor.

When asked to identify themselves, the people behind these humorous Tumblrs commonly answer, "I'm from the Internet." This simple 4-word phrase alone says more than most can comprehend. It indicates that they are part of a universal community of humorous bloggers, who unite in their mission to bring clever, satirical humor to the Internet.

This Internet phenomenon is attracting quite a following here at BHS. Dozens of BHS students spend their free time surfing humor Tumblrs, never sleeping, marveling at the many wonders Tumblr has to offer. Sophomore Julia Klein is one of these fanatics, claiming she spends all of her time on Tumblr. "If I'm not at school, I'm on Tumblr, and I never sleep," she said. One of her favorite parts of Tumblr is the meme 'Me Gusta.'

"Memes" are Tumblr's main attraction. They work to find the amusement and comicality in every day situations. Generally, a "meme" is a picture of something, usually a person or animal, with an amusing caption. Some famous ones include The Socially Awkward Penguin, Musically Oblivious 8th Grader, Forever Alone, Obnoxious Facebook Girl, Philosoraptor, and Hipster Kitty. Each of these "memes" depicts someone

or something with a caption that applies to that someone or something. In the case of Philosoraptor, a dinosaur is shown scratching his chin in a pensive manner, with a mockingly philosophical caption.

Sophomore Patrick Schafer is one of many "meme" enthusiasts here at BHS. "My favorites are 'Challenge Accepted' and 'Y U No?'" he said.

Senior Ryan Levy is another fanatic. "My favorite "meme" is probably 'Band Buffalo.' I spend about three hours weekly looking at memes," Levy said.

Another type of "meme" is the troll face. The Troll Face is an image of a face laughing after someone has been pranked or has done something funny. Typically, a scene is portrayed in comic book format in which a trick has been played on someone, with the troll face appearing at the bottom of the picture. The individuals involved are often called 'Derp' or 'Derpina,' as a form of anonymous identification. This "meme" is a particular favorite among Tumblr enthusiasts.

A surprisingly large portion of BHS's population has been captivated by the humorous Internet sensation of Tumblr. It is a bit unconventional and takes a specific type of humor to appreciate it, but to those who happen to have the right sense of humor, it is home. Primarily, the humorous Tumblr community has provided an environment where all contributions and perspectives, no matter how astoundingly bizarre, are accepted. Tumblr fanatics worldwide devote their free time to browsing Tumblr, thankful for an atmosphere where their eccentric interests are welcome.

WAR OF THANKSGIVING FOODS NO TURKEY? NO PROBLEM.

Jake Rothman '14, Business/Ad Manager

Olivia Wood '14, Freelance Writer

For centuries, Thanksgiving dinner has been a staple of American culture. However, the delicious dinner is not all fun and games anymore. A monumental conflict is rising in BHS regarding which traditional Thanksgiving food is the most delectable.

Various teachers and students from BHS have started to weigh in on this debate, voicing their different opinions on the heated topic.

There are many who will choose the traditional turkey in this war of foods. Spanish teacher Mrs. Tracy Burroughs said her favorite Thanksgiving meal is "Turkey with gravy on top, with some mashed potatoes on the side." Burroughs is on team turkey because that is the traditional food she has been eating since she was a young girl. Once, Burroughs even tried making her own non-turkey version of Thanksgiving dinner. However, the year after she returned to the good ol' turkey dinner that many people have enjoyed for so long.

On the other hand, team stuffing has moved a strong case as well. Sophomore Alex Stone favors stuffing because the "variety of seasoning and [his] grandmother's secret recipe." Stone describes the delicious flavor as a "party on my tongue."

Along the lines of the turkey debate, Stone said, "You can have turkey anytime in the year, but stuffing is only for Thanksgiving." Turkey's flavors are too basic for Stone; he enjoys the way the bread tastes and textures that stuffing possesses. Other Students seem to agree with Stone, as sophomores Kayla Sternthal and Madalyn Morrissey believe stuffing is the premiere Thanksgiving food.

There are many other tasty Thanksgiving foods, including pumpkin pie, cranberries, and of course the staple vegetables and sides. However, turkey and stuffing seem to be the most popular.

While there is no sure winner in this Thanksgiving war, a viable resolution to this food dilemma is to stuff the turkey with stuffing. Anyway you prefer these delicacies, many will continue to devour these delicious foods each Thanksgiving meal.

Thanksgiving brings memories of family dinners filled with laughter, warmth, great desserts and, of course, the succulent turkey. But, must we always feast on the same dish?

Recently, the number of vegetarians in the U.S. has increased, totaling well over 7.3 million people. With this rising number, it is no wonder that non-meat eaters are now faced with the challenge of finding a new "main course" for Thanksgiving dinner.

Once turkey and ham are eliminated, that does not leave vegetarians with many options. Or does it?

Senior Rachel Pernick, who has been a vegetarian for almost four years, said, "My family doesn't eat very much meat and I wasn't raised with meat. It's just easier." Because of this, come Thanksgiving, the Pernick family eats "Tofurky, and mushrooms, and sweet potatoes." Pernick said, "I bake bread."

She is not the only one. Freshman Samantha Taub has been a vegetarian for the entirety of her life. Unlike Pernick, Taub is the only vegetarian in her family, which poses a challenge during the holidays. "I eat lots of salad," Taub said. While she may be left a little hungry during these joyous days, according to Taub, she has never once wanted to break her long-standing vegetarianism for even one bite of our Thanksgiving mainstay.

Fortunately, for the millions of vegetarians in our country, vegetarian-friendly stores have popped up all over the Metro-Detroit area, each offering new and tasty alternatives to meat.

Trader Joe's, for example, offers a wide variety of Thanksgiving substitutes, the most popular option being the Tofurky. Included with this loaf of faux-turkey is tasty vegan stuffing, gravy, and even a wishbone. They are so similar tasting to that of turkey, one might catch oneself wondering for a frantic second if they accidentally ate real turkey after just one delicious bite.

Students have varying opinions regarding meat alternatives. "I have not heard of [Tofurky], but from the sound of it, absolutely not," sophomore John McNally said when asked if Tofurky looks appealing to him. If one is wary about trying this unique alternative, like McNally, then one might be interested in paying a visit to Whole Foods. There one can find more faux-turkey brands, like Gardein Stuffed Veggie Turkey Roast, Field Roast Stuffed Celebration Roast and even a Turk'y Roast. While these vary in both taste and texture, even the skeptics are sure to find one that they like.

Despite the different choices that are made available to vegetarians, given one's Thanksgiving venue, it can be difficult to get enough to eat during this holiday meal centered around the infamous turkey. No doubt, this dilemma is magnified if one is the only vegetarian in the family. Finding oneself as the only vegetarian guest at a dinner party hosted by "meat-eaters" is a recipe for a meal consisting solely of salad since the chance of having alternatives to meat already prepared are slim to nothing.

Although it was turkey that was first enjoyed during Thanksgiving many years ago, history has confirmed that turkey was not the only part of the meal. And now, as this country progresses and changes, so do everyone's diets and dietary restrictions, which calls for a wider variety of foods to appease those in need of different, yet tasty options.

So, this year, as one's family goes around the table sharing what each is thankful for, be thankful for the ability to "go veg" with the many turkey alternatives available and still be able participate in this national family holiday.



8 THE SPECTATOR

6 Ways to Deal with Stress

Meagan Soffin '14, Bull's Eye Editor

Stress can be very hazardous to your health. Many teenagers deal with stress on a daily basis. It can be caused by external factors like parents, death, school, peer pressure, or taking on too many activities at once. The Mayo Clinic said too much stress can cause aggression, depression, anxiety, and poor decision making such as choosing to use drugs and alcohol. Our bodies deal with stress in different ways such as faster breathing, cold or clammy hands, headaches, or an upset stomach. There are ways to deal with stress that are simple but can make a major difference in our lives and helping to eliminate that stress that plagues us on a daily basis.

1 Eat and exercise regularly- Exercise is great to help relieve stress but exercising excessively can also lead to more stress. Not only should eating be a regular

habit, it should consist of eating right. A lot of people eat junk food during stressful periods but it is essential that your body get all of the needed vitamins, especially while under stress. Try eating things like nuts, berries, whole grains, legumes, papaya, bananas, spinach, dark chocolate, broccoli, and pumpkin seeds.

2 Do not have too much caffeine- Try and cut back on beverages with a lot of caffeine. Some drinks have a little bit of caffeine but help with stress like hot cocoa, green tea, and black tea.

3 Do not over schedule- Taking on a lot of extracurricular activities can look good on college applications but sometimes it can be too much. Colleges look for well rounded people. Only do a few activities a week so there is no stress from over scheduling.

4 Get at least eight hours of sleep a night- Being in high school, this can be very challenging. Having a ton of homework every night can keep you up late which will cut into sleeping time. Start doing your homework right after school so that you can finish at a decent time. If there is extra time before going to bed, that is when it is alright to watch TV. Just make sure not to stay up to late doing this so that you can get all eight hours of sleep.

5 Yoga- Doing yoga takes your mind off of everything you need to do and lets you concentrate on the position of your body and your breathing. There are a lot of local yoga studios you can go to for classes. Try going once a week or during high stress periods.

6 Take Vitamin C- The Vitamin C helps to reduce stress hormones so try taking

1,000 mg of it.

Whether it is worrying about finals, or how to pay for a new car, stress can pile up. It is vital to learn how to reduce stress as it can become dangerous if not handled properly. As people grow older, the stress levels grow higher. Learning to cope with stress at a young age can help prevent your stress from becoming out of control.



College search begins: what every student needs to know

Grace Turner '13, Freelance Writer

As students draw closer to their long anticipated graduation day, they must start to think about the next chapter of their lives. For most students, this chapter includes college or some other trade school. With so many schools to choose from and so little time, this can be a daunting task. However, just knowing where to start, the search can make the job easier.

If a student knows what they want to do professionally, BHS's Counselor Lori Bullis said they can start by "[utilizing] career cruising, collegeboard.com or mymajors.com. [These will give you] a huge list of schools [so you can], look at their environments to see which fits you best." Different environments may include private and public schools, or a school in the big city or a more rural area. "Collegeboard.com has a really great college matchmaker for this," Bullis said.

If a student does not know what they want to go into, Bullis said, "There are a couple places to start. One place is knowing that it is okay not to know. Liberal arts schools offer tons of different majors and often have the first two years of taking general classes, which may spark an interest." Career exploration with a counselor can help each student narrow down their interests.

In general, private colleges have "smaller classroom settings, opportunity to be taught by professors versus graduate students, the opportunity for hands-on experience or publications," Bullis said. "[The] focus is more on undergrad, so students may have an advantage when applying to grad school or professional programs. It's great for a student that likes to get involved and get to know their teachers."

Another thing that can greatly affect the environment of a college is the location. This, like anything else, has its pros and cons. According to Bullis, the pros of going out of state are that "you get to experience a different state, and there may be a university that really excels at something that isn't

available in state. A good GPA could enable one to go to a private out of state college for less than the price of an in state college." The cons, however, include extra travel costs and the tuition itself becoming more expensive if one does not qualify for scholarships or financial aid.

A student can tell for sure if the college that they are considering has the right "environment" for them simply by visiting the campus. "[Visiting a campus] is hugely important," Bullis said. "You're about to spend the next four years of your life there, [and all campuses] have different feels."



The counseling department is a key factor in choosing the perfect college.

Photo by Barret Holz

After a student has selected and visited a few colleges that are at the top of their college wish list, the next step is to turn in applications. "Begin working on them the summer between junior and senior year," Bullis said. "The very latest [to start working on them] is the first week of senior year. This is so time-consuming essays can be completed. For schools that need recommendation letters, students can ask their teachers at the end of junior year or the first week of senior year." Applications should be at the college "by Nov. 1. [Meeting this deadline] could qualify you for

scholarships." Along with applications, colleges like to see extracurricular activities; however, grades and test scores are most important. Extracurricular activities can set a student apart from their competition.

After applications are mailed out, they are reviewed by admissions counselors at the college. Some qualities that Dena Russell, Assistant Director of Admissions at Northern Michigan University looks for in prospective students is one that wants "a personal environment, who are a little adventurous, want to attend a college away from home and may enjoy a variety of recreational opportunities." When reviewing an application, Russell looks at ACT and SAT scores, transcripts, and how challenging the student's curriculum was in high school. Honors or AP classes are given more weight in this process. She also recalculates a student's GPA without elective courses like art and music. While some colleges also interview prospective students, Northern Michigan University and many others do not.

Before diving into a college however, the program a student is considering taking classes for should be accredited. For a program to be accredited, "It meets certain criteria; the accrediting body says that certain standards have been met," BHS counselor Catherine Helms said. She continued, "[The importance of accreditation] probably varies by profession, but it's pretty important. It's a protection for the students, so they get a legitimate education and degree. For professions that require licenses, [such as a nurse or an architect], it is essential."

Finding the right environment for a student's college life is important, whether or not they know what profession they are seeking. All applications should be started in the summer between junior and senior year, and should be turned in by Nov. 1. Choosing the right college could affect the rest of one's life, and the first steps in the selection process are some of the most important. A good beginning may be just the thing to ensure a great college career.

Crazy Swag Bones

Jimmy Demery '13, Opinion Editor and
Jake Rothman '14, Business/Ad Manager

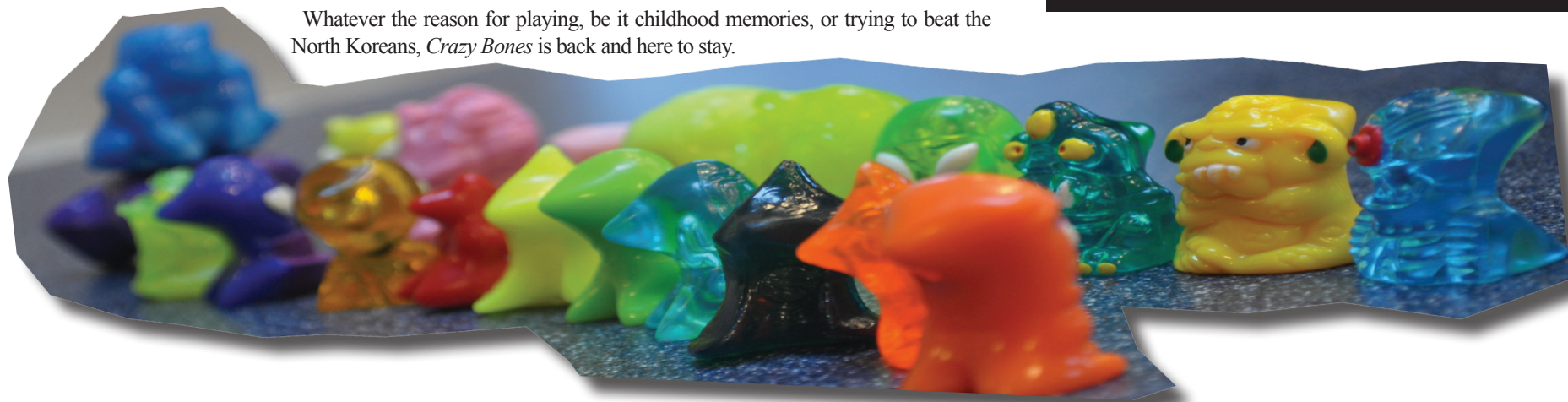
An old trend is coming back to life in the collaborative center of BHS. The once popular game of *Crazy Bones* is now making a resurgence to revive the success it once had. The game consists of players flicking little monster figurines at opposing players' pieces. Whoever knocks down all of the opposing players' *Crazy Bones* first wins. Since the years of elementary school, the game has changed very little. But what is causing the game to return to revive its previous popularity? Sophomore Shane Goldberg said, "I found some old crazy bones in my backpack, and it took off from there."

However, a conflicting story has risen that challenges Goldberg's version of events. Sophomore Jason Sachse has claimed he is the cause of the revival of *Crazy Bones* at BHS. Sachse said, "I was bored in school one day, and while thinking about past hobbies, I came across *Crazy Bones*." He brought the idea up to his past *Crazy Bones* companion Goldberg, who just happened to have some bones on hand.

Goldberg plays most of the time with freshmen, who he says "Don't understand the different strategies and intricacies the game involves." He went on to say that "the freshmen are jockin' my Crazy Bone swag." Regarding Goldberg's comment, "Shane asked me to play, so there is no swag jockin' up in here," freshman Sammy Stern said.

Naysayers might claim *Crazy Bones* are meant for a younger generation, and Goldberg agrees without question. He said his favorite *Crazy Bone* memory was when he competed in the *Crazy Bone* Olympics in 2008, and lost in the gold metal round to the North Korean team. Stern said, "The game is nostalgic; it brings back lots of fun memories."

Whatever the reason for playing, be it childhood memories, or trying to beat the North Koreans, *Crazy Bones* is back and here to stay.



Top 10 Childhood Fads:

1. Yu-Gi-Oh Cards
2. Pokemon Cards
3. Magic Cards
4. Beyblades
5. Lincoln Logs
6. Legos
7. Easy-Bake Ovens
8. Tamagachi
9. Dominoes
10. Polly Pockets

Discover what clubs are at BHS

Alison Jones '13, Feature Editor

BOOK-BREAK:

Description- If you want to get away from the chaos of the busy school day and find a quiet place to read during lunch, take a Book Break.

When the Club Meets- Wednesdays at lunch in the Media Center.

CLUB FOR THE CURE:

Description- Get involved with charity work for Breast Cancer and other disease awareness.

When the Club Meets- Tuesdays at lunch in Ms. Taylor's room 121

DRUM CIRCLE:

Description- Improve hand drumming/percussion and gain rhythmic talent with the best drummers in the school.

When the Club Meets- Wednesdays at lunch in Mr. Hartshorn's room 138

SKI CLUB:

Description- Where kids have an opportunity to either learn with an instructor or ski/snowboard on your own.

When the Club Meets- Thursdays after school at Mt. Holly

BRIDGES:

Description- This is a club for a gay-straight alliance. The club is about supporting everyone, all are welcome.

When the Club Meets- Tuesdays at lunch in Ms. Thomann's Science Room F

CROSSFIRE CLUB:

Description- If you are interested in world events or politics, or like to debate, join Crossfire Club and discuss current issues with your peers.

When the Club Meets- Mondays at lunch in Mrs. Blackwell's room 270

S.A.D.I.D:

Description- Discussing and preventing students from making destructive decisions and to help kids learn what to do in and how to avoid dangerous situations.

When the Club Meets- Mondays at lunch in Mrs. Ferrara's room 173

W I L D E R N E S S SURVIVAL CLUB:

Description- Learn the basic survival skills and increase wilderness experience.

When the Club Meets- Wednesdays at lunch in Mr. Grose's room 212