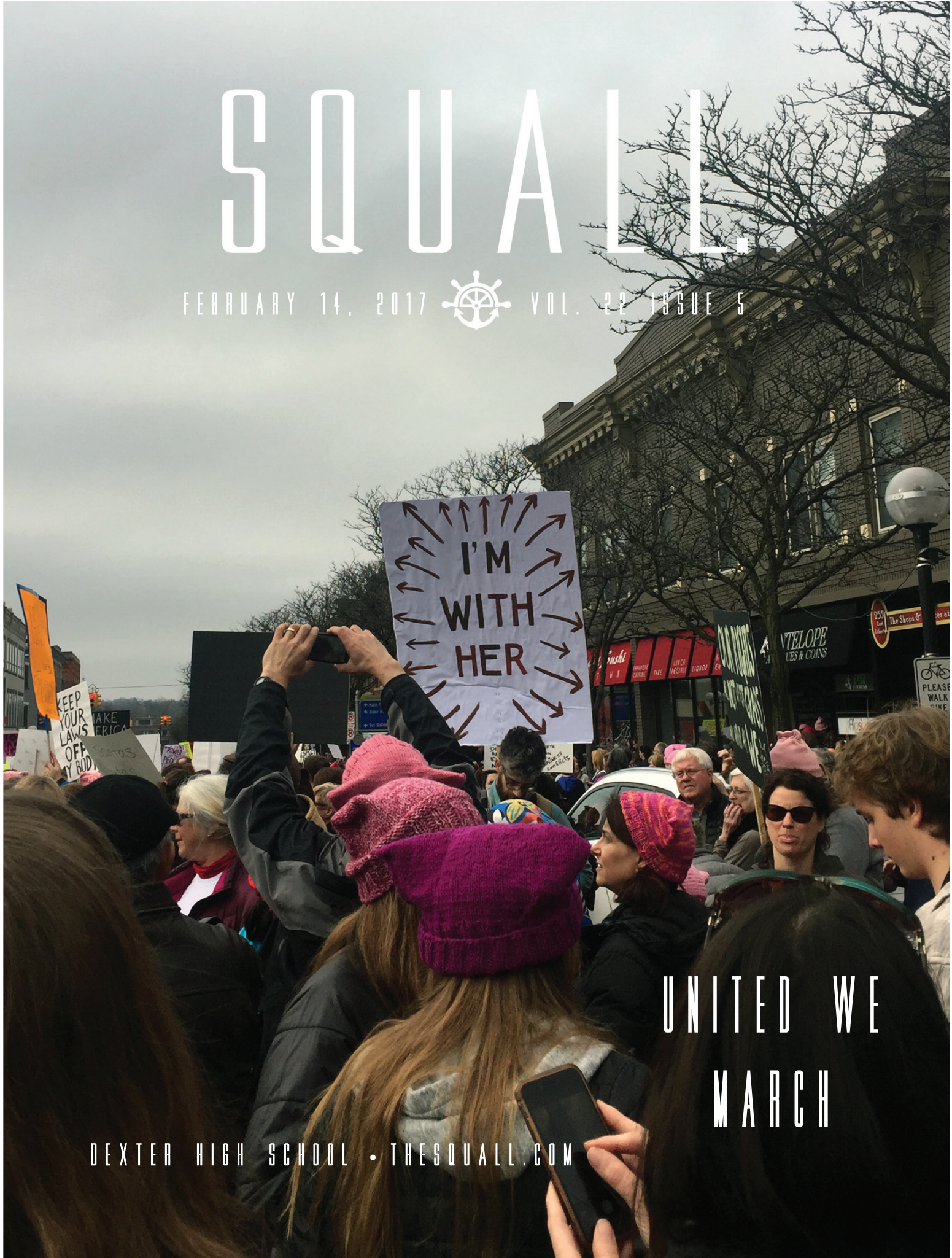



SQUALL.

FEBRUARY 14, 2017  VOL. 22 ISSUE 5




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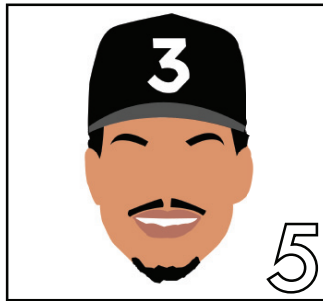
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Illustrator - Nick Greca



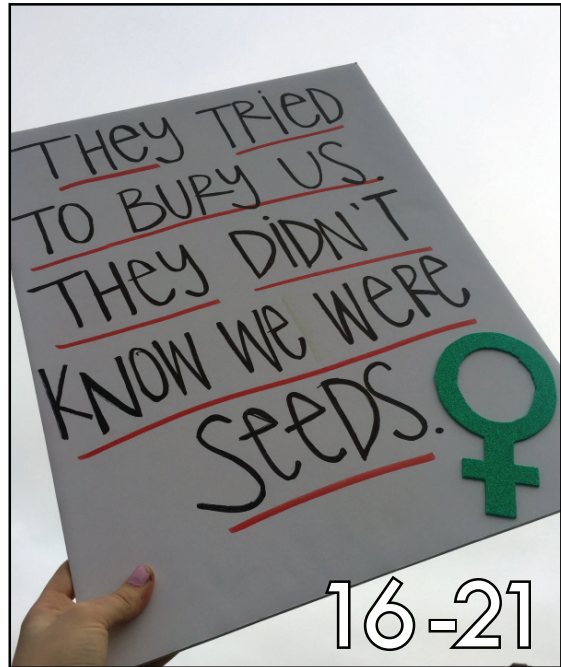
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Staff Editorials:

Editorials represent the majority opinion of the editorial board. Editorials are unsigned. Columns represented the opinions of the individual staff members who wrote them.

Greenfield, IN. The paper serves as a public forum with student editors making all content decisions. Opinions expressed in the newspaper are not necessarily those of Dexter Community Schools.

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Letters to the Editor Policy:

The Squall encourages letters to the editors. They can be emailed to dextersquall@gmail.com, dropped off in room 407 or given to staff members of The Squall. Letters may be edited for length and unprotected speech. Requests to withhold a writer's name will be considered by the editorial board. Letters should be 300 words or fewer.

On the Cover:

Marchers hold signs up during the march on Jan. 21, 2017, in downtown Ann Arbor. More than 11,000 men, women, and children participated in the local demonstration, surpassing an expected 600. *Photographer - Claire Ward*

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Non-Browning Apple

Soon to hit markets in the Midwest, a new fruit is causing minor controversy among consumers and farmers



Lisa Zuiderveen  Writer

Lisa Zuiderveen  Designer

Over the next few months, a non-browning apple will be appearing in select grocery stores in the Midwest. Arctic Apple is finally launching the apple that they have been testing for nine years. There is a lot of controversy on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) because of possible adverse effects in the future.

This apple has been genetically modified to eliminate the browning that occurs when an apple is left out in the open air. Advocates hope this will appeal to consumers and people will begin to view GMOs positively rather than negatively.

GMOs have been used for our food products since the beginning of civilization. Farmers would take the largest apple and take the seeds and then plant those to create a breed of the bigger apples. The same thing occurs with corn, and corn has had a massive impact in many foods we consume. It's changed sugar, gas, and is used as a primary ingredient in animal feed.

“The media has everybody freaked out about something that they don't need to be freaked out about. There is nothing dangerous that has been proven about GMOs”

-Stacy Wing

GMOs are in numerous of other foods as well.

“A lot of foods that you eat that you don't even know are Stacy Wing, DHS secretary and owner of Wing Farms

Nevertheless, many of the positive aspects of GMOs have been overlooked because people believe modifying foods changes the quality and are unsure because they are not natural.

“People are all worked up over nothing as usual,” Wing

said. “The media has everybody freaked out about something that they don't need to be freaked out about. There is nothing dangerous that has been proven about GMOs.” Wing said.

The concern of the new non-browning apple is derived from some people in the apple industry. They believe the GMO apple will taint their apples' wholesome image and they will lose their consumers. This strikes home for many people in Michigan, which is a major producer of apples.

“GMOs in general have already affected a lot of people in the farming industry because so many people really want to have non GMO foods, so some farmers are trying to grow only non-GMO foods and it's changed, a little bit, the face of agriculture,” Wing said.

The GMO apple could reduce the number of pre-sliced apples currently served in the cafeteria and for places like McDonalds who serve pre sliced apples in Happy Meals.

“The apples in the cafeteria taste like chemicals and aren't appetizing,” junior Grace Kacmarek said.

These sliced apples have antioxidant chemicals like calcium ascorbate that keep them looking like a fresh-cut apple. According to Neal Carter, president of Okanagan Specialty Fruits, the GMO apple would be 30 percent cheaper than the current antioxidant chemical sliced apples.

Arctic Apple created the apple in hopes that children will eat them because the brown would no longer be a gross factor for picky kids.

The plan, according to Carter, is to slice the apple and put the slices in bags to produce the same effect that baby carrots had when they were first made. This is also for easy access and convenience in hope that people will eat more apples.

While some are against the apple, others are excited about the prospect of a non-browning apple.

“I don't like the brown parts on apples; I usually try to avoid that part,” senior Hannah Bohn said. “If there were apples that didn't brown I would definitely try it.”



Apple slices in a bag photo courtesy of McDonalds

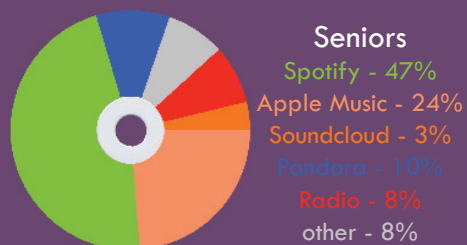
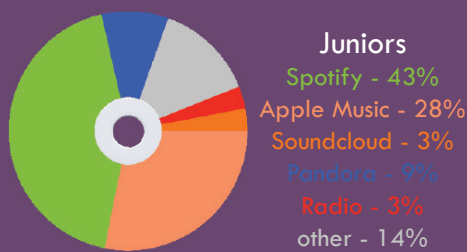
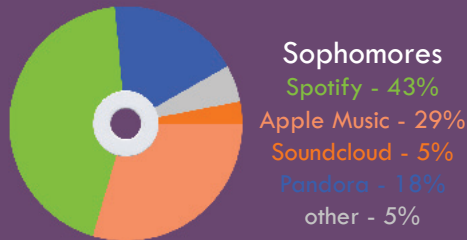
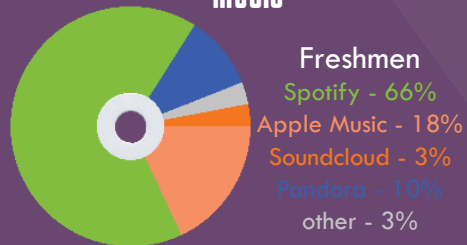


Non-browning apple photo courtesy of NPR

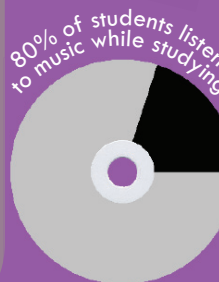
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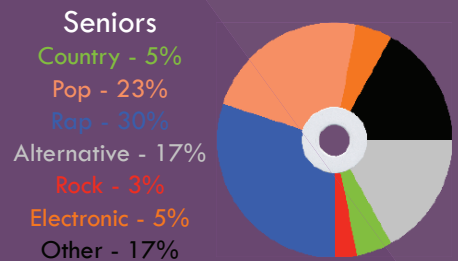
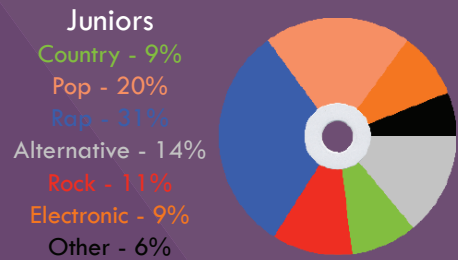
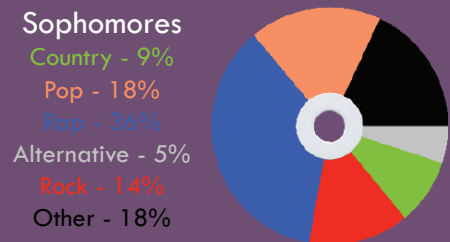
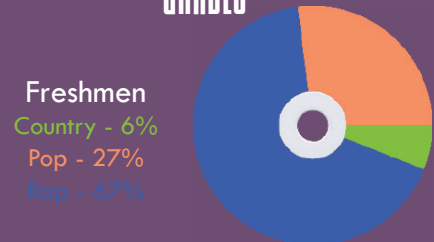
WAYS STUDENTS LISTEN TO MUSIC



TOP 3 ARTISTS AT DHS



FAVORITE GENRES AMONG GRADES



250 students surveyed



Valentine's Day in My Shoes

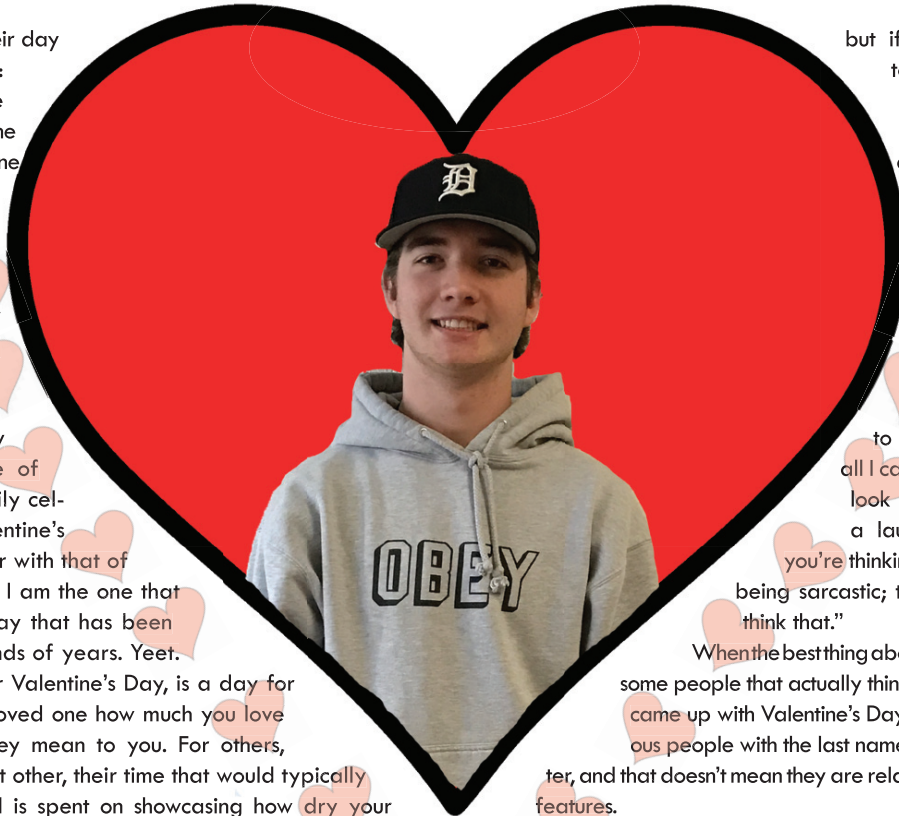
The author explains the annoyance of sharing a last name with a national holiday

Tyler Valentine Writer
Tyler Valentine Designer
Tyler Woelfel Photographer

Everyone has their day throughout the year: a birthday. I have been blessed with the last name Valentine which practically makes Valentine's Day my holiday, and a second birthday. The day, for me, is filled with way more joy than any average person's Valentine's Day purely because of my name. My family celebration of Valentine's Day is more on par with that of Christmas because I am the one that invented the holiday that has been around for thousands of years. Yeet.

February 14, or Valentine's Day, is a day for you to show your loved one how much you love them and what they mean to you. For others, without a significant other, their time that would typically be spent on a girl is spent on showcasing how dry your sense of humor is by cracking the same age-old jokes about my last name.

Jokes include asking me to be their Valentine, or if my family had something to do with the creation of Valentine's Day have become regular. I understand if you're my friend, or even if we are acquaintances and you can't help but say something,

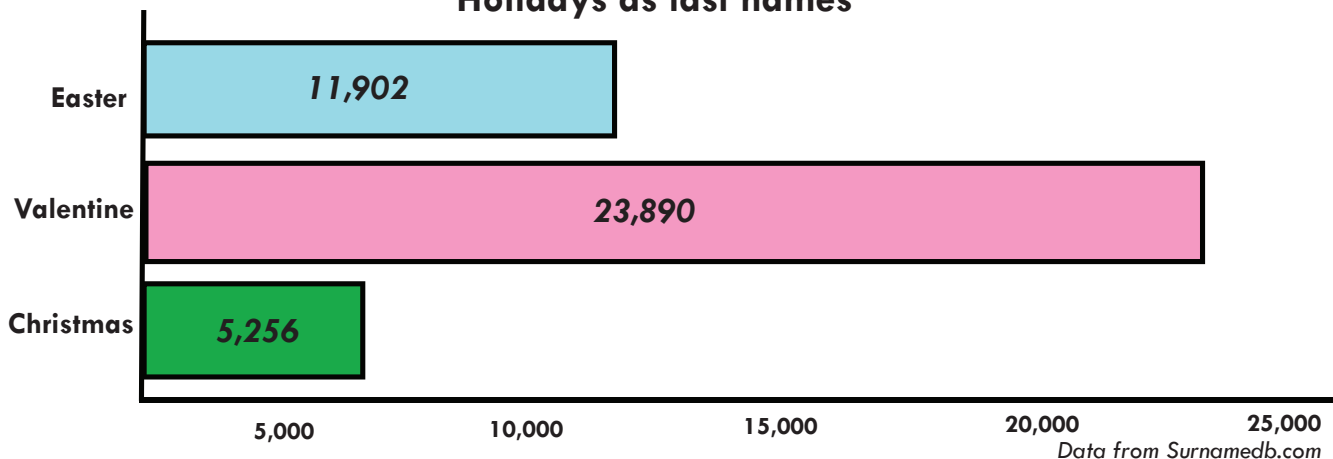


but if I haven't talked to you in over a year, please do not put me in an awkward situation by asking me to be my Valentine. I guarantee you haven't had a more awkward encounter than having a random person ask you to be their Valentine, all I can do is awkwardly look at them and force a laugh. I know what you're thinking "People are just being sarcastic; they don't actually think that."

When the best thing about it is that there are some people that actually think it is possible that I came up with Valentine's Day. There are numerous people with the last name Christmas, or Easter, and that doesn't mean they are related to the historical features.

Since second grade, I have heard the same jokes every year. The attention was much appreciated back when I was eight, but it is beginning to grow old. Sure, it might have been a clever comment back then, but now it just makes the day annoying. I know it may be hard, but it would be much appreciated if you can keep the comments to yourself this year.

Holidays as last names



Writer  Nick Elliott
 Designer  Nick Elliott
 Photographer  Julia Bell

V-Day Dos and Don'ts

Love is in the air, and these tips can help you show that love in romantic ways

Valentine's day is right around the corner. While everyone is buying heart shaped chocolate boxes, rushing to a florist to pick up roses, and trying to come up with last minute date ideas. There is an easier way to create the perfect date, and avoid catastrophic romantic failures.

DO:

Make something from scratch. Nothing is more romantic than something you put hard work into. Anyone can spend money to try and woo their partner, but a gift that is made by hand and comes from the heart is far more sentimental than anything you could ever buy. Even something that is as simple as a scrapbook that is filled with little things from the past, it can really show your feelings toward that special someone.

DON'T:

Don't empty your wallet, you may regret it. During Valentine's Day, love is in the air. You may find yourself wanting to buy that gold necklace or shiny watch your partner had their eye on. If anyone can give you good advice, don't buy expensive things. Its sad to say, but there is a lot of truth behind the idea that relationships in high school won't last. You may be head over heels now, but as the months pass by, you may regret spending a large sum of money for someone you wish you hadn't. That doesn't mean be a cheapskate, but a little bit can go a long way.

DO:

Plan ahead. One of the worst things you can do is try to piece together a last-minute date. Often, you will end up having a sloppy, unromantic Valentine's Day, and give off the impression that your significant other is not on your priority list. Make sure you make a reservations, any and all gifts should be in your custody at least a week before you plan to give them, and make sure you do not have any conflicts.

DON'T:

It can't be stressed enough about how vital it is to the romantic experience that you DO NOT bring up past experiences. No one, not even if they ask, really wants to hear about your past relationships while on a date. If for some reason they do ask, make light on the subject. Often they are just nervous and are trying to make conversation. It truly is impor-

tant that you leave the past in the past. Bringing those things up can set expectations for your partner that they may never be able to reach, and can also make it feel like you would rather talk about your ex, than the one who you are spending the day with.

DON'T:

Refrain from social media, at least until after the date. A large majority of students take advantage of holidays, events, and any sort of celebration to share their experiences with other people on the internet. However, when it comes to occasions such as Valentine's Day, it can be a major turnoff. No one wants to spend time with someone who is too busy on their phone taking pictures of food, or making sure they have a quality snapchat story. Sadly, many people spend so much time trying to share their moment online that they forget that Valentine's Day is supposed to be about sharing a moment between you and someone you care about. Not only does that give off the vibe that you care more about how people on social media view you, spending Valentine's Day on your phone spoils the experience for both you and your partner.



DO:

Surprise your partner with something romantic! Many people say they don't like surprises. While that is true for a handful of people, more than often they just haven't had a good experience yet. There is a lot of joy that follows a successful surprise, and showing your partner that you were willing to put in the effort to pull it off can be very sentimental. Try not to over do it though; some surprises can cause more anxiety than they will appreciation. A good surprise can be as simple as hiding a rose in a locker, or leaving a note on a desk. Anything that will draw out an unexpected smile.



Just another day in February

Who really wins on Valentine's Day? The multi-million dollar industries more than the couples who express their love

Jed Howell Writer
Tyler Valentine Designer
Tyler Valentine Photographer

Each year in the weeks leading to Valentine's Day we are bombarded with advertisements of expensive diamonds, fancy chocolates, and flower bouquets that couldn't possibly fit in a vase. All of these items come with a hefty price tag, but for what? So that on February 14th your significant other remembers that you love them? As if you don't the other 364 days of the year. Not to mention the profit that companies make off cheesy cards and heart shaped chocolates that cost nearly nothing to produce.

Personally, my problem with Valentine's Day is the idea of having a designated day of the year to show

affection. If you love someone enough to enter a relationship with them, then you should be affectionate as often as possible. Valentine's Day is also more stressful than any normal day. Unrealistic or unclear expectations often result in catastrophe. I'm sure we have all agreed with our significant other that we would not exchange gifts when, in reality, they were expecting some sort of gesture. This day creates a feeling of manufactured or artificial love that couldn't possibly be expressed any other day of the year.

The other problem with Valentine's Day is the business side of the holiday. It has been estimated by the Greeting

Card Association that each year more than 190 million Valentine's Day cards are sent. This statistic excludes cards exchanged by children. Businesses thrive on the idea that a paper card with a heart on the front can prove that you care about someone. We have literally put a price on love, \$133.91 to be exact. Yes, that is how much each American spends for Valentine's day on average.

As consumerism tightens its deadly grip on yet another holiday, we may officially place Valentine's Day in the category of "Hallmark holiday." The day of love has been tainted by price markups and big business.



\$166

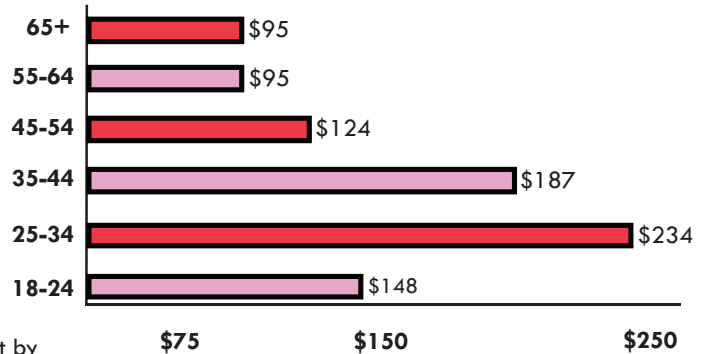
is spent by the average American on jewelry for Valentine's Day



\$133.91

is the average amount spent by an American on Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day Spending by Age



*Source: National Retail Federation

What are you expecting from your significant other for Valentine's Day?



Alex Snow

Lots of food and lots of love.



Alexis Dimo

He always surprises me, so I don't know what to expect.

Joe Ramey  Writer
 Andy Dolen  Designer
 Andy Dolen  Photographer

Squall Blind Date 2017

Through complicated Squall compatibility tests, two lucky students were paired to participate in the annual Blind Date

Squall Blind Date 2017

GRACE KACMAREK **STEPHEN STERLITZ**

POST DATE QUESTIONS



Rate the date from 1-10?	7	8
Were you happy when you saw who the date was?	"Yes. I was relieved."	"Yes!"
Do you see a future in the relationship? (2nd date?)	"Probably just friends... He's funny and smart."	"Maybe...more yes than no."
Did the date go as expected? Bad or good?	"It went well. I had a lot of fun getting to know him."	"It went well."
For Grace: What did you like most about your date? For Stephen: Will this impact your other relationship?	"He was really nice and outgoing."	"The other relationship wasn't really official, so I don't think so...?"

Overview

The day started off like any other day. The sun rose in the morning and the birds called, but what awaited was much more intriguing. It was on that day, the 29th of January 2017, that the Squall's annual blind date took place, and it couldn't have gone more beautifully.


The two contestants were picked up in a beautiful chariot (a Dodge truck), and they were calmly escorted to their lovely meal in an equally as lovely location. (Actually, we just picked them up, forced them to wear blindfolds and not talk to one another. We then dropped them off at a restaurant with some cash and left to feed ourselves elsewhere).

The two love birds proceeded to consume their food and converse over it. Some of the topics consisted of swimming and school, as well as swimming *IN* school. The two contestants were constantly surveyed throughout the date (via Instagram live stream), only adding to the weight on both of their shoulders. The impending fear of disappointing the 27 viewers watching the stream accumulated over time. With all of that racing through the female's mind, she took matters into her own hands in an attempt to create some alone time. She discontinued the stream.

Finally, when the date came to a close, we arrived and scooped up the two pretties, taking them back to their abodes, but not before closely interrogating them about the date.

All in all, it was a beautiful gathering an amazing outcome.



Heather Brouwer  Writer
 Drew Smith  Illustrator
 Heather Brouwer  Designer



Knight's

Knight's Steakhouse, conveniently located on Dexter-Ann Arbor Road, has a wonderful ambiance. The lights are slightly dimmer than many restaurants, and the tables are small enough that in the slightly noisy atmosphere you can still hear the person sitting next to you, which gives off a more intimate feel.

There were options of booths and tables. The tables had extremely comfortable rolling chairs that are nice when you want to look someone in the face but don't want to go through the trouble of making a ruckus by moving an ordinary chair.

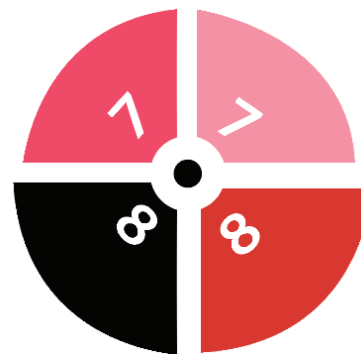
Knight's does, however, have a slightly older clientele base of middle-aged people. But it had a large variety of food options that are enjoyable to everyone as well.

The service at Knight's was quick. Within a few minutes of sitting down, we already had our drinks and had put in our meal orders. Our waitress was extremely friendly and helpful in regards to the menu, and our glasses were never empty.

The menu had a large variety of foods. The choices ranged

from salads and soup to seafood and steak to burgers and pasta dishes. Excluding the steaks, most of the dishes were about \$15-\$20. It also appeared that they had several scrumptious dessert options.

I ordered a french dip for \$11; it was delicious. The bread was fresh and crisp, and the meat, which I ordered medium, was cooked to perfection. The sandwich was substantial and served with generous portions of au jus and potato chips on the side. Overall, the meal was satisfying.



Value
Atmosphere
Taste
Service



Logan, a high-class restaurant, is found on the corner of Washington and Ashley in downtown Ann Arbor. Walking into the restaurant, the hostess was polite, took our coats, and seated us immediately.

The whole restaurant had a modern, elegant feel. It is painted in vibrant shades of orange, yellow, and green. The bright wall colors helped compensate for the dim lighting, creating an amiable effect on the restaurant-goers. The tables were somewhat small and the restaurant fairly narrow, yet they were spread out enough so that it didn't feel overcrowded even at maximum capacity. To top it off, the fancily-folded napkins at each table setting and the waiters dressed in formal black and white gave the whole place an extremely elegant feel.

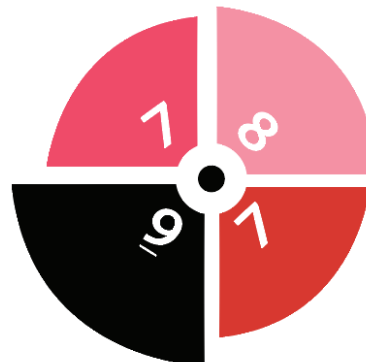
We went to the restaurant at around seven o'clock on a Tuesday, and the restaurant was almost completely full.

Our waiter was polite and informed us on the specials of the day before quickly bringing our drinks and taking our orders. The

restaurant also provides a small portion of the soup of the day, which in this case was a delicious lentil and bacon soup. Our entrees took several minutes but were exquisite. During the time spent waiting, our glasses were never empty.

The entrees are between \$20 to \$30, so they are expensive, but one can never go to a nice place in Ann Arbor and expect a cheap meal. Of course, pricey meals bring great expectations; this meal was spectacular.

I ordered the pork tenderloin. It was artfully arranged on a plate surrounded by a delectable white wine sauce and accompanied by potato pave. The tenderloin was grilled to perfection and the pave, which tastes similar to hash browns but looks ten times more opulent, was also tasty.



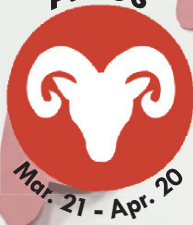
Value
Atmosphere
Taste
Service

Writer  Julia Bell
 Writer  Megan Sarns
 Designer  Julia Bell
 Designer  Megan Sarns

Valentine's Day Horoscopes

Predicting your February love life with the characteristics of your zodiac sign

Aries



Mar. 21 - Apr. 20

Communication is your key to relationship success this month, or it could be your downfall. If you're in a relationship, a misunderstanding is on the horizon, so word your thoughts carefully (and make sure your spellcheck is on!) If you're single this month, the relationship you've been pursuing may not be as out of reach as you think, but subtlety will prove unsuccessful. We're talking grand gestures. Blimps are probably the way to go.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: LIBRA

Taurus



Apr. 21 - May 2

Just in time for Valentine's Day, February is a promising month for Taurus when it comes to finding a new love in an unexpected place. But those already committed to a relationship should be warned: this month could introduce a trying time between you and your partner. The best thing you can do to avoid a tumultuous breakup is keep your temper in check and bring \$20 in cash to Megan Sarns, Room 407 between 11:00 and 12:45.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: SCORPIO

Gemini



May 22 - Jun. 21

Last month, you and your partner walked a rocky path, but navigating your relationship this month should be smooth sailing. You may not be one for commitment, but your current relationship has a promising future. Single Geminis, however, should probably take a more casual approach to dating, because a long-term relationship isn't expected to appear this month. Maybe you should try a dating app or something?

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: SAGITTARIUS

Cancer



Jun. 22 - Jul. 22

You have a tendency to be clingy in your relationships, and this month, your partner needs space. Seriously, stop texting them every five minutes. It's okay. Also, your friends are sick of hearing you talk about your partner all the time; it's actually pretty annoying. Single Cancers are hopeless romantics constantly on the lookout for the ideal partner. You have high expectations, but the perfect person for you might be right under your nose.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: CAPRICORN

Leo

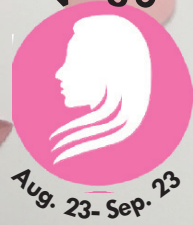


Jul. 23 - Aug. 23

You're extremely forward in your relationships which can sometimes scare off potential partners, but this trait can be an advantage if used in the right way. Single Leos have a high likelihood of entering a relationship this month, so put yourself out there! The person you like may or may not like you back (but you didn't hear it from us!) On the other hand, Leos in relationships are known to be overly jealous, so it might benefit you to, like, calm down.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: AQUARIUS

Virgo



Aug. 23 - Sep. 23

You've been more focused on school and extracurriculars lately, and there's nothing wrong with that! A past relationship has left you untrusting, so you may not be ready to dive back into dating. If you're in a relationship this month, you might be feeling a little insecure and unsure of yourself. It's important to communicate these feelings with your partner because they've noticed you drawing back. You should probably get on that ASAP.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: PISCES

Libra



Sep. 24 - Oct. 23

This is the month to leave your inhibitions behind and go with the flow. Whether single or in a relationship, don't be afraid to express your feelings. It's time to stop considering the opinions and judgments of friends and family and listen to your heart. Go out on a limb and take a risk. You never know what may happen. Love is on the line!

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: ARIES

Scorpio



Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Be cautious with your words and actions this month. Someone is likely to confuse your kindness for romantic interest. To avoid an uncomfortable misunderstanding, draw a line between friendly and flirty. If you're in relationship, remember to take care of yourself this month. You may become so focused on the happiness of your partner that you forget to consider your own.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: TAURUS

Sagittarius



Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Remember to be social this month. Stray from your usual crowd and talk to different people. A seemingly normal conversation will be the start of something new and exciting. If you're in a relationship, pay more attention to your friends this month. Someone close to you will soon start to feel forgotten. Don't spend all of your time with your partner. Your relationship won't be ending anytime soon, but if it does, you will need your friends close by.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: GEMINI

Capricorn



Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You will find love in the most unlikely of places this month, whether it's the person you've been best friends with since childhood, or the one behind the checkout counter at Busch's. Many of the best relationships are unexpected, so don't be afraid to take this step. If you're already in a relationship, watch your budget this month. Spending more money on gifts and dates will not make your relationship stronger. Money can't buy happiness!

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: CANCER

Aquarius



Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You've been rejected too many times recently, and this month will be no different. You just haven't found the right one yet; it has nothing to do with you being ugly! Aquariuses in relationships are headed towards a breakup this month. Your partner wants out, so take it from us and dump them before they dump you. Act soon. Like, today. They will probably be relieved they don't have to do it themselves, but once again; it has nothing to do with you being ugly!

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: LEO

Pisces



Feb. 20 - Mar. 20

Much like a wise owl, you have a good sense of intuition and are able to understand the true motives of others. If you're in a new relationship and sense something fishy, make like a cheetah and get out quick. If you're a single Pisces, it's time to wrap up old relationships and prepare for new ones, like a squirrel preparing for winter. If you're waiting for closure, you will find it this month, and become a free bird.

MOST COMPATIBLE SIGN: VIRGO

OUR VIEW: Money received from the billboards outweighs any consequences

Staff  Writer
 Claire Ward  Designer
 Kate Emrich  Illustrator

\$40,000 would buy over 8,000 daily planners for the high school. It would buy new art supplies for each school in the district. \$40,000 would buy a lot and benefit every student in the community.

This is the proposed amount Dexter Community Schools would receive from Adams Outdoors for two on-campus electronic billboards. \$40,000 for the schools well outweighs the negatives that accompany the proposed billboards.

Adams Outdoors wants to place two electronic billboards on DCS property: one on Baker Rd between Creekside Intermediate and Bates Elementary, the other on Dexter-Ann Arbor in front of Mill Creek. Due to where the proposed

billboards are located, they aren't under city dictation and the decision falls into the hands of the school community.

Parents are protesting the billboards, with arguments ranging from "The ads could be inappropriate!" to "The lights will distract those that live near them!" To those people we say put up some blinds. Not to be harsh, but these arguments do not make much sense. We have other billboards in town that advertise, such as the one in front of Mill Creek now (which seems to have a new Dexter Orthodontics advertisement every week), and have had no problems with "inappropriate" advertisements. To those that think the lights would be distracting, come on, the proposed places of

these signs do not have them facing into people's front windows. The lights would not be that bright nor distracting.


Many of the people protesting the billboards are the ones who do not spend much time in the schools. As high school students, we witness first hand where \$40,000 could be spent in the school district. Such as the fact Dexter High School did not receive student planners this year due to not enough money being in the budget.

As a school district, we are constantly growing and we need materials to support this growth. Having a strong and supportive structure is critical to student success. Each year, money is budgeted out to what is considered most important for the district. This year it seemed getting Apple TV was more important than planners that a large portion of students


use each day [but that's a whole other issue to tackle]. Or, prevention of the yearly lined-paper drought as we reach the end of second semester. Or, fixing the sinks so that we have more than one working in each bathroom. The \$40,000 given to the schools each year could be put towards solving these issues.


Dexter prides itself in being an excellent learning community. The high school views itself as on it's way to becoming an IB school, with qualified teachers and students that are invested in their learning. We have the teachers. We have the students. It's time we had a school district that fully matched and supported the vivacity those who spend their time in it demonstrate.



 Yes, if it means more money for the school.
-Freshman Ashley Love

Q: Do you think DCS should agree to the billboard deal?

 It depends where the money would go.
-Junior Jared Scott

 I think it could take away from the feel of Dexter, but the money could benefit smaller programs in our district.
-Sophomore Cassie Bergen

 Advertising is annoying, but extra money couldn't be harmful.
-Senior Alex Lansdell

angry liberal FEMINIST KILLJOY



TACKLING PRIVILEGE

PRIVILEGE PRIV-UH-LIJ, PRIV-LIJ

NOUN: A RIGHT, IMMUNITY, OR BENEFIT ENJOYED ONLY BY A PERSON BEYOND THE ADVANTAGES OF MOST

Writer  Claire Ward
 Designer  Claire Ward
 Photographer  Heather Brouwer



Chances are, you know the word “privilege” first hand. The social theory that certain advantages and special rights are only available to a particular group. Most of us at Dexter High School can point out the many privileges present in our lives every day, the many privileged groups we belong in. We live in a relatively wealthy community, with an almost completely white population, filled with a common and accepted religion. Rich privilege, white privilege, religious privilege. We are blessed to live lives that grant us these privileges. Unfortunately, many people choose to deny or ignore their privileges, when the power status they’re given puts them in a place to benefit others. Maybe we all need to figure out how to use our privilege to the advantage of others, not just to help out ourselves. Here’s a little privilege check for you.

1. Are you white? Congratulations, you are now significantly safer from racial hate crimes, suspicion, and discrimination due to the color of your skin. White privilege means a solid sense of safety each time you walk out of your house, and not being watched while browsing in a store by those who “aren’t racist,” but never throw side glances at their white patrons.

2. Are you male? Male privilege is one that is felt and seen every single day. Being male let’s you feel secure when walking alone, whether at night or in a parking garage, it lets you say “no” to unwanted approaches without risking harassment. Your gender places you in a world that puts you on a high pedestal, one that gives you full pay, while your female counterparts make around 78 cents.

3. Are you heterosexual? Being straight puts you in a different world than those in the LGBT community. Free from hate, and able to have relations with whomever you please in public without harassment.

4. Are you cisgender? As a cisgender person (one who identifies with the sex they were assigned at birth) you are protected from a world of hate, one that lets people think they have the right to look up skirts to decide if someone can use the bathroom. Being cisgender automatically lets people trust your intentions when you go to the bathroom, or walk down the street. Here’s the thing, those who do not have the privilege of being cisgender don’t want to do anything but use the restroom or walk in safety. They don’t have the bad intentions they are labelled with. You however, are free from this trouble.

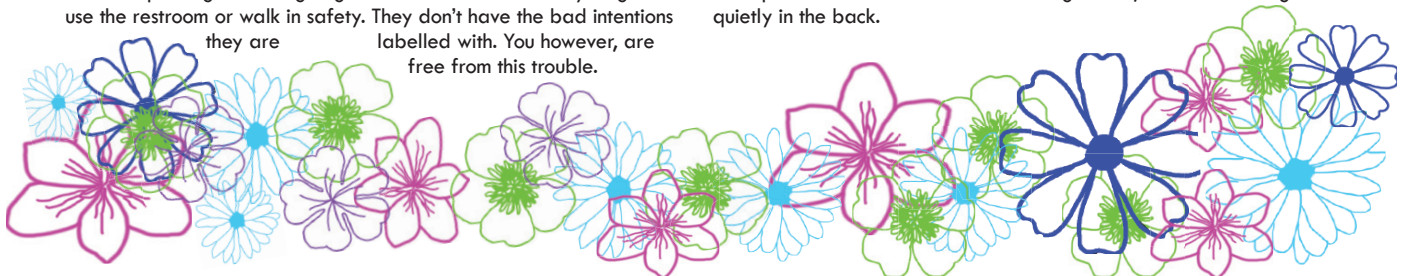
5. Are you wealthy? Having a significant amount of expendable income gives you so many opportunities that hundreds of millions do not have. Tropical vacations to 5-star hotels, a new car on your 16th birthday, a closet of vineyard vines and lululemon. Most importantly, being wealthy shields you from dirty looks, from being told “You can’t afford that,” and from many hardships lower classes feel. You’re given a college education with less trouble than most and granted the ability to get away with more than those with lesser than you. Rich privilege is a serious privilege many people overlook.

6. Are you Christian? If so, you identify religiously with over half of the United States. This advantage clears you of religious persecution and discrimination. Being Christian, people are not scared of your religion, nor do they classify all that practice it as terrorists or threats to the safety of the US.

7. Are you healthy? The well-being of our bodies is something we tend to take for granted, including mental health. As mental health seems to be on the decline, with one in ten Americans diagnosed with depression at some point in their lives, we tend to overlook the stigmatization behind mental health. Those facing disorders go up against a world of disbelief and discrimination.

So how do you check out? Seven out of seven? Seeing privilege laid out like this can be a reality check of sorts. Being aware of your privilege gives you the chance to work towards using it to help others rather than ignore or add to the trouble.

So next time you go out and see someone being harassed for their sexuality or gender, step in and help them out. Donate your paycheck or time to a charity that benefits those in need. Groups like the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, or Ele’s Place which work to help those in our community and provide safe environments for all people. Tell your group of popular kid “friends” to chill on the racist or sexist jokes. Every student at DHS is blessed with the chance to help others. It’s time we all start acting on this, instead of sitting quietly in the back.



Dear Mr. President,

Alex Strang  Writer

Mason Monroe  Designer

Andy Dolen  Photographer

Congratulations on being elected as the leader of the United States of America. You are now the most powerful man in the world, and with that power comes much responsibility. You truly do have the ability to do good things if you choose.

My name is Alex Strang. I am from Dexter, Michigan, a small town seven miles outside of Ann Arbor. I have moderate conservative views, but I try to remain unbiased. I think for myself and believe that it's best to not let a political party influence my views. I am only an 18-year old senior in high school, and nowhere near an expert on politics.

Your focus on national security will benefit Americans by making this country safer. The safety of every American citizen is important no matter race or gender. I support you to continue to improve the national security of this country, just as President Obama did. I come from a law enforcement and military family, so I agree with your strong support of them. At a time like this, it is important that the public and law enforcement work together to create healthier relationships. I believe people need to realize the police are not bad the guys and they are just doing their job.

Your "America First" ideology has the potential to benefit our country with trade deals and a foreign policy that puts our country first.

But, Mr. President, a true "America First" policy means protecting all Americans, especially at a time like this where millions feel threatened, specifically women. They are equally as important as the men in this country. This is the United States of America, not the Middle East.

You say you want to eliminate ISIS, which I am all for, but by attempting to take away a woman's reproductive rights, aren't we beginning to stoop to their level? A level where schools are blown up to scare women from attending them to get an education equal to men. A level where people are killed to keep women from voting.

We are better than that. This country does not follow Sharia Law. In this country, women are recognized as just as faithful and intelligent as males, constitutionally they share equal rights with males, every girl goes to school here. This is not the case in every country. So, why threaten their rights when those rights in question do not have any effect on you or any other male politician?

A true America First policy means standing up for women, supporting their rights, and protecting them, not putting them down or trying to take away their reproductive rights. If you or other people are pro-life, then I respect that. I also respect the woman's decision to make that choice herself. As a man, I cannot make that choice, nor should any male politician regardless of government position or political affiliation. You, and others with the same belief, can exercise that belief simply by not having an abortion.

Today in America, a woman can serve in most jobs in the military, while in the Middle East, they are put down, beaten, and sexually assaulted with no punishment for the men who commit these acts. These are the same countries where we send American troops. We cannot stoop to this level especially with how far we have come in this nation. A nation where a woman has equal say in elections, government positions, and marriage, as she should.

Women in this country are afraid. That should not be a problem. Ever. No matter what. Every American citizen should be proud to call the United States home, just as I am. They should not have to worry about already established rights being taken away because of an administration's beliefs.

I know the media takes many things out of context and blows things out of proportion, but this is not something that is being made up by the

media. Threatening to defund Planned Parenthood or attempting to take away a woman's right to have a child is threatening the rights of a woman.

Mr. President, if an "America First" policy means stricter border control, then it also has to mean stricter environmental regulations. Why regulate our borders when the environment all around us is changing for the worse? No matter what political party you associate with, you have to recognize climate change is real.

We cannot afford to hurt this earth anymore. Just like all of our American citizens, we have to protect and stand up for planet earth. Further destroying the earth for monetary gain may seem worth it for big businesses on the short term level, but those CEOs and executives who want fewer EPA restrictions will one day have children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren who have to live in a world where the climate is worsened because of their greed.

When I graduate from college, I want to one day serve my country and lead soldiers in the Army for this nation. I am willing to serve this country with everything I have and protect the freedoms that have been set forth by our founding fathers. What I do not want to see is our country fall apart due to a division of race, gender, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.

I do not want my future wife to be worrying about attempts to revoke a right that was ruled constitutional in 1973 by the U.S. Supreme Court. I do not want my future wife to feel put down by the words and actions of the President. I don't want her to feel threatened by a man or a congress whom she has never met, the same way I don't want her to feel threatened by terrorists or criminals. I don't want my future daughter to feel as though her rights are threatened. I want my future kids to be able to play outside in air that is fresh and free of pollution. I want my future family to be able to experience the activities of all four seasons from skiing in the winter to swimming in clean water in the summer.

If we are going to have a true "America First" policy, we need to be committed, not just part way, not just the parts that one political party wants, but fully committed. That includes protecting women's rights and protecting this planet we call home.

You will not see me in the streets protesting, but if so many people feel threatened that they need to take such a strong stance, then something needs to change. Nor will you hear me saying "not my president," because I understand, Sir, you are the President. You are the Commander' n Chief of the free world.

You have the power to do many things. This country needs more than ever to come together, which will take effort and compromise from all political parties and people from all walks of life.

All Americans, every single one, need to come together to truly make a country that is currently more divided than ever, "Great Again," and it begins with you, Mr. President.

Let's begin the process of uniting this country, and truly putting all Americans first before yourself.



*Respectfully,
Alexander Strang*


Designer  Hunter Edwards

progress made by the numbers

BARACK OBAMA



THE GOOD

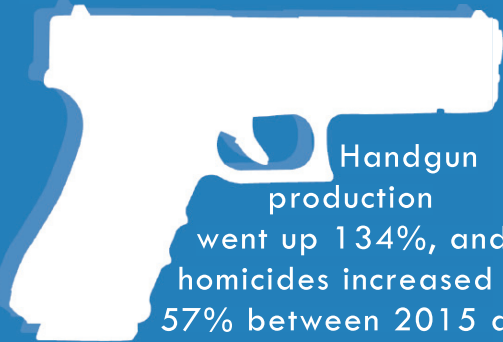
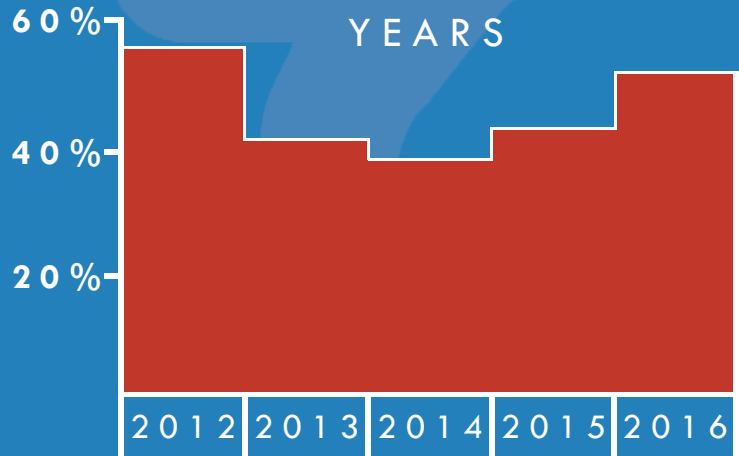
-  jobs **+10,694,000**
-  exports **+28%**
-  alt. energy **+342%**
-  CO2 emissions **-12%**

44TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

THE BAD

- +13.4%** inflation 
- +36%** food stamp recipients 

APPROVAL OVER THE YEARS



Handgun production went up 134%, and homicides increased 57% between 2015 and 2016 in Chicago

OTHER MAJOR EVENTS



Affordable Health Care Act



Osama bin Laden is Killed




Same Sex marriage is legalized





The rise of ISIS

Statistics courtesy of factcheck.org & nbcnews.com

THE MOVEMENT FELT AROUND THE WORLD

Claire Ward  Writer

Tessa Kipke  Writer

Heather Brouwer  Designer

Tessa Kipke  Photographer



ON JANUARY 21, 2017, MEN AND WOMEN
ALIKE FILLED THE STREETS. AS THE WORLD
STOOD IN SOLIDARITY, MILLIONS MARCHED
TO PROTEST A TRUMP PRESIDENCY AND
PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL.



A GLIMPSE AT JANUARY 21, 2017:

IN GENERAL

A march took place on January 21, 2017, around the world. Over 470,000 joined together in Washington, D.C., while Ann Arbor on it's own rallied around 11,000.

The marches were filled with shouts of resistance and unity. "Love Trumps Hate" was almost a constant as protesters flowed through streets. Each and every person was sharing support for each other.

"The women's march was a moving event for me," senior Sophie Gilson said. "To be able to join with thousands of men and women and march was truly a blessing."

This event was more than a protest against President Donald Trump. People stood in solidarity to support women's rights, transgender rights, religious rights, refugee rights, education rights, healthcare rights, LGBTQ+ rights, abortion rights, and in support of all people everywhere. It wasn't just about threats towards women's bodies, it was about threats towards every person in this country, and those wanting to move to this country.

"Hopefully, our motivation and [willingness] to protest can create change for the women everywhere someday," Gilson said.

DHS English teacher Deb Marsh attended the Women's March in Ann Arbor. "I was the most depressed I'd ever been on Inauguration Day," she said. "When I went to the march, I was invigorated."

The march was just a glimpse of a fire sparked by a Trump presidency, a small demonstration of what the people are capable of when united. The momentum started on January 21, 2017, isn't expected to run out, and the expectation of change is coming, some in the form of pink Pussyhats.

"I saw [anti-Trump] signs, but that's not what we were saying," Marsh said. "I don't think it was so much about going against our President. It was about what we can do to offer hope."

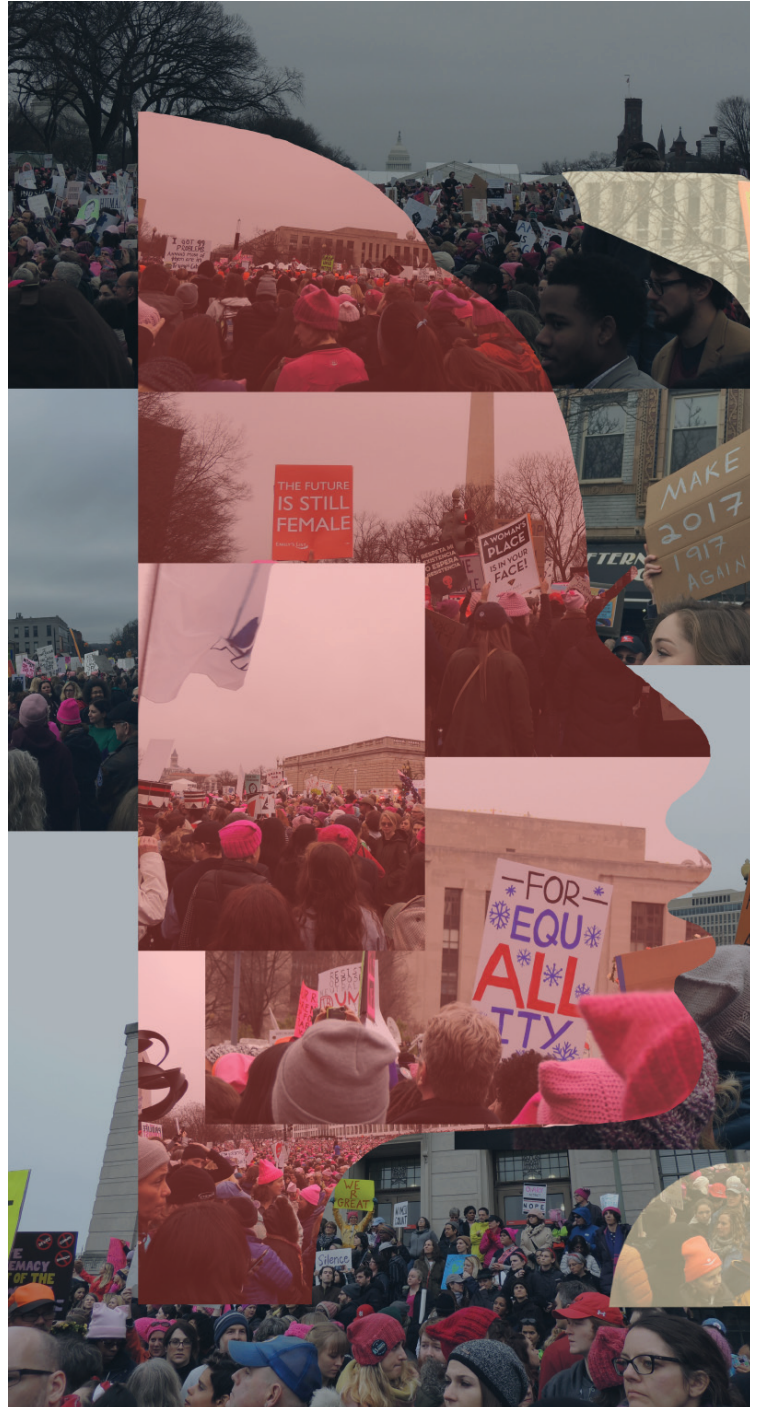
ANN ARBOR

The most overwhelming thing about the march was the sheer number of people supporting humans worldwide. Standing in the middle of Liberty Street with people filling up every inch of pavement, surrounded by people of every gender, every age, every ethnicity, you're reminded what makes Ann Arbor, and the United States, so amazing. The central theme of the Women's March was based around the threats to health care and basic rights women now will fall subject to, but it turned into so much more than that.

The Women's March became a demonstration of the unity in the people who make America great, the one's that have been making it great (opposed to the top 1% filling the executive cabinet) for hundreds of years. Our founding fathers did not create a country by creating policies to benefit the rich; they created a country through a dedication to fight until they were given fair and equal treatment. This country is based on three liberties and the marches around the world were a demonstration of the strength the people have to protect life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

As I stood there, chanting at the top of my voice, arms raised high with strong people surrounding me, I had never felt more welcomed or empowered. The unity of all as we walked through the streets of downtown Ann Arbor showed this was more than a march. This movement was felt around the world.

- Claire Ward



People of all genders, races, ages, and sexualities gather in Washington D.C. and Ann Arbor to march for equal rights for all.

HOW IT FELT AND HOW IT LEFT US

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Arriving in Washington, D.C. on January 21, 2017, was breathtaking. The sheer excitement in the air, coupled with the sense of community you could feel in the sea of angry signage and pointy pink hats, gave the entire city a buzz. It was the day after Donald Trump had been inaugurated, but that day our focus was instead on ourselves and the enormous movement we were a part of.

My mother, my sister and I took turns driving for eight hours to the nation's capital. This in itself was exhilarating - every rest stop and gas station that we stopped at was filled with women en route to D.C. - and everyone was filled with anticipation, excitement, and a deep sense of purpose and community. As we went through a toll booth in Pennsylvania, the man glanced inside our car and chuckled, mumbling something about how "every car for the past day has been filled with women."

Several days prior, I had been up in the air about whether to go at all - 16 hours in the car and my entire weekend gone seemed like a waste - but as the march drew closer it started to seem impossible not to. The incoming president, his policies in the making, and frustration over the unbearable feeling of doing nothing weighed on me and every other person there. I'll admit that at first I was skeptical of the march, but upon arriving, I couldn't imagine being anywhere else.

For hours the morning of, every single train into D.C. was backed up, completely full, with standing room only. Over the loudspeakers, train conductors updated us with the vast numbers of people streaming into the city and asked us to please be patient with public transportation, sending up cheers every time. When we finally exited onto the street, it was overwhelmingly full. It was clear almost immediately that this march would involve less walking and more standing; the crowds filled every space available. Imagine city block after city block filled literally wall-to-wall, building to building, with people. People of every kind and variety, race, religion, sexual orientation, and gender, all gathered together in unity. The variety of issues being represented was huge; I saw signs with slogans ranging from "Science Is Real" to "Down With Trump" to "I'm a woman, not an object."

The most chilling parts of the day, though, were when chants rang through the crowd, gaining momentum and then fading out, their sentiments echoed block after block. "Say it loud and say it clear - immigrants are welcome here," chanted one group, with compassion and emotion that forced you to join in.

Photographers - Tessa Kipke & Claire Ward

- Tessa Kipke



A Demonstration of



March on Every Continent



Data courtesy of Jeremy Pressman and Erica Chenoweth



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Writer  Megan Sarns
 Designer  Julia Bell
 Photographer  Julia Bell

Being Transgender at DHS

2016 graduate Marcus Maier shares his experiences of coming out as transgender during his senior year at DHS

In our October issue, we published an article about the fight for transgender equity at Dexter High School and efforts to make Dexter Community Schools safer for everyone. In continuation of that piece, Marcus Maier, who graduated from DHS in 2016, wanted to come forward and share his personal story.

“Ever since I was younger, I always told people I wished I was born male,” Maier said. “When people say it’s not a choice, it’s really not a choice. It’s just there.”

Marcus Maier identifies as a transgender male, meaning he was assigned the female gender at birth but later came into his gender identity as a male.

The hardest part, according to Maier, is telling people.

Maier’s first experience coming out was before he realized his identity as transgender, when he told his mom he was attracted to women.

“She started out by telling me that if she found out that I’m dating a woman, I was gonna get kicked out,” Maier said. “That scared me, and I think that was her [intention].”

Having had that experience, coming out as transgender was all the more daunting, and it prevented Maier from telling his mom at all. Instead, his ex-girlfriend’s mom ended up telling his mom for him.

“[My ex-girlfriend’s mom] was my backbone,” Maier said. “It’s like someone’s finally giving you that attention and accepting you right away. She was a mother figure for me.”

Maier cited his close friends as another important support system, and although he knew Dexter was accepting of LGBTQ+ students, he had concerns when it came to openly expressing his gender identity at school.

“You’re always afraid that someone is gonna come around and say something,” Maier said. “That’s what I struggled with at first.”

Senior year was an important turning point in Maier’s life.

“It’s the criticism that pushes you back into hiding. When I was in my senior year, I was done hiding,” he said.

Maier explained that during his senior year, he “started to come out more,” changing his hair and dressing differently. He also started asking people to refer to him as Marcus instead of his birth name.

Maier’s senior year also happened to coincide with the increase in media attention towards the transgender community, which left a big impact on his personal experiences at that time.

“That was the time when the whole bathroom issue came up,” Maier said, referring to the push from the LGBTQ+ community and their supporters to protect transgender individuals when using the bathroom of their gender identity.



Marcus Maier came out as transgender during his senior year at DHS. He believes that Dexter has progressed towards transgender equality but thinks there is more to be done.

The movement was not without backlash. People boycotted Target when the superstore implemented a bathroom policy that allowed transgender people to use their bathroom of choice at its stores. North Carolina passed a law that required transgender people to use the bathroom that corresponded with the sex on their birth certificate.

For Maier, what became a nation-wide debate started as a part of his day-to-day life.

“There were so many times when I wanted to go into the guy’s bathroom but I was scared,” he said. “I just didn’t want to be made fun of.”

Although Dexter has made progress towards protecting transgender students inside and outside the bathroom, Maier said there is still more to be done.

Many people don’t know what it means to be transgender, and it can be difficult for some people to understand.

“It takes time,” Maier said, referring to the people in his life who have struggled to accept his gender identity. “You have to have patience. Not everyone is going to accept it right away.”

Through education, Maier is hopeful for a more accepting future, and in turn, a safer future for transgender people.

“Acceptance is the major key to everything,” Maier said. “There’s really no difference with being transgender. It’s really just about being you and being a person.”



Second Semester Seniors

For second semester seniors, the dreaded disease “senioritis” comes in three different shapes and sizes

Truman Stovall Writer
 Lisa Zuiderveen Designer
 Andy Dolen Photographer

The second semester of a high schooler’s senior year has a stereotype that everyone has heard of. The infamous condition known as senioritis will affect every senior at Dexter High School to some degree. As their high school career comes to a close, a senior’s grades, involvement in extracurricular activities, and overall effort tends to dip below what was previously expected of them. By the time graduation comes around, the average senior has skipped at least a handful of school days and is averaging about ten hours of sleep a night.

This can’t be said for every senior, however. While some might stay awake until 3 a.m. at a Tuesday-night party in April, others might spend the same long night studying in their room. For some seniors, their second semester has little impact on their future. Others became infected with senioritis a long time ago. For the rest, it is critical to stay focused and to maintain a rigorous schedule. In this article, we’re going to analyze the three types of seniors you’ll encounter this semester, including the ones you won’t see as frequently in the halls anymore.

No. 1: Hakuna Matata

This type of senior has had plans set for a while. They either committed early to a college after being recruited, decided previously that they will attend a community college, or will enter the workforce right out of high school.

Either way, the point is that they have a well-developed case of senioritis, and this final semester of high school should be relatively easy. Some entered senior year with a reduced schedule, looking primarily to earn required credits for graduation. It may have been years since they last opened up a textbook.

“I keep good grades and am in an IB class, but I dropped my first hour because I don’t need it.”

-Gwen McCartney

This type of senior generally has less to worry about than the others. AP or IB tests are typically only applicable to four-year universities, and students with a scholarship to one may not weigh the monetary value of using a high score to test out of a course as heavily. In other words, it might not make sense to pay the high AP or IB test fee to have a chance to save on tuition if their tuition

is already covered by the school.

One of these seniors is Gwen McCartney. After high school, she will attend Washtenaw Community College (WCC) and plans to transfer to another college later. This fact has influenced her class decisions in her final semester but not her level of effort.

When asked if she was the kind of person to stop trying in high school if it’s not necessary, she said, “If I have ambition, I’m going to try hard.”

And despite not knowing what she wants to study in college, she does have ambition. Her decision to attend WCC for a year was mainly to get some core classes out of the way before finalizing big choices for her future.

“I keep good grades and am in an IB class, but I dropped my first hour because I don’t need it,” she said.

Overall, she said that her situation compared to others “feels pretty good. I don’t have a lot to worry about.”



Gwen McCartney
College: WCC
IB/AP Classes: 1



Nate Skinner
College: Moravian
IB/AP Classes: 3



Marc Lopez
College: Undecided
IB/AP: 2

No. 2: Prepaid Ticket

The second group of seniors has very little to worry about as high school comes to a close. They likely submitted their first semester grades to their prospective colleges and suddenly lost most of their anxiety. At this point, many colleges stop looking at senior year grades since their admitted students have already proven themselves through seven semesters of hard work, unless their grades drop a little too far.

Seniors in this category might magically reveal to their counselors that they were never actually interested in a full class schedule this semester and think a reduced schedule will improve their “mental health.”

Despite being able to drop a bit of extra weight, these seniors can't start spending more time at Taco Bell than in school. Athletes will have to stay in shape if they play a sport this spring and seniors in AP or IB classes might get college credit if they score well on their exams. Failing a class might become a huge problem if it's required for graduation.

Nate Skinner is one of these seniors. After being recruited for lacrosse, he was offered admission to Moravian College in Pennsylvania and committed to the school near the end of 2016. Skinner admitted that his decision to commit was a factor in his academic choices leading up to his last semester in high school.

When asked how the rigor of his class schedule compared to last semester, he said that it was “about the same. I still took hard classes, but I'm not gonna lie — I dropped IB Math Studies.”

Academics is still a motivation for Nate, though. He will not receive an athletic scholarship from Moravian, so when asked if he will continue to try hard in school, he said, “Yes, I still need good grades to get more scholarships.”

He's taking AP Macroeconomics and IB Biology, so it's obvious he didn't decide to give up. He said that he will probably take the AP exam, but was still unsure about taking an IB exam.

When asked if he would have been more certain about taking the exams if he hadn't decided on a college, he said he would “definitely” take both.

Overall, his second semester has been a mixed bag. He joined the National Honor Society this year, but for another club, Students Needing Accepting Peers (S.N.A.P.), he said, “I haven't been to a meeting in a while.”

Skinner is determined to play well this spring in lacrosse. After all, it is the sport he was recruited to play. But he said that he isn't too worried about taking a day off here and there, citing senior skip days, weekdays that many in the senior class collectively decide are good days for relaxation.



He is pleased to be able to confidently look forward as his tenure as a high schooler comes to a close, and his security certainly makes the mental transition into thinking about the future easier, “It's nice knowing you're going to have a place to be at. You can work on the next step.”

No. 3: The Mysterious Beyond

The third type of senior is generally in the worst position of all. For them, the future is unknown. They may be accepted into a college, but it's not their first choice, or they are awaiting the result of the rest of their application decisions and won't know where they're going to end up for a while.

This puts them in limbo for a while as they watch their friends start talking to their college roommate next year, drop out of some difficult classes, and generally feel better about their future. Couple this envy with anxiety about the tests they have tomorrow in AP Biology and Honors Humanities, and it's easy to understand why you don't want to be this type of senior.

One of these seniors is Marc Lopez. He is stuck in the middle. He hasn't committed to a college yet but is in the recruiting process, and he has a list of potential colleges. Compared to the seniors who have their decision set and stone, this can be quiet stressful.

“I didn't apply anywhere through early action,” he said. “I'm pretty much only considering Memphis, Wayne State, Lake Superior State, Albion, and the University of Saint Francis.”

“I see [not knowing where I am going yet] as motivation to stay focused. But, at the same time, I have lost some motivation running.”

-Marc Lopez

This eases some of the stress than some of the other seniors have in this category, but altogether he is still behind the people that have already committed. He has to continue in school to ensure his chances for scholarships.

“I try in school and think I've been pretty consistent,” he said. “I see [not knowing where I'm going yet] as motivation to stay focused. But, at the same time, I have lost some motivation running.”

This kind of senior year is a lot like junior year all over again, except instead of hating yourself and having your grades all but determine which colleges you will get into, you still don't know which colleges you're going to get into and still hate yourself.

Making a Difference

Dexter students of all ages give their time and effort back to the community in a variety of projects

It starts young. Kids are taught lessons, some bad, some good, that will build a foundation for their actions in society for years to come. In the city of Dexter, parents, schools, and even strangers create a community that takes pride in giving to each other. At the high school, this unity within the community is shown through the student body.

Before Dexter students reach the high school, some have the opportunity to take a class in middle school to progress their impact on society: Community Service and Leadership (known as CS&L). In this class, students learn how to effectively work together in a positive manner and how to turn their fortunate situations into opportunities for others. In addition to completing team-building games and tasks, the students are also required to complete 10 hours of community service hours to pass the class. The combination of developing powerful, constructive leadership skills and nurturing, supportive community service skills allows the students to build upon their growing personalities to positively impact the community.

"I feel as though CS&L provided me a foundation for future service and leadership opportunities," senior Devyn O'Piela said. "It allowed me to connect with people who are less fortunate than me."

Once students reach the high school, opportunities for community service only heighten. If students can reach a certain grade point average by second semester of their junior year, they have the chance to be a member of the National Honor Society (NHS). Once inducted into NHS, students complete over 10 hours of service hours surrounding different activities and events in the Dexter school district. From collecting recycling from each class in the high school to tutoring students in a variety of subjects, the NHS student finds a multitude of ways to give back to the school district that has provided the freedom to better themselves.

"The National Honor Society has given me the chance to help people and the community," senior Kyle Harris said.

The National Honor Society isn't the only outlet for community service that Dexter High School has to offer. IB diploma students, in order to complete the program, have to complete their Creativity, Action, and Service project, often referred to as the CAS project. Within this project, according to the International Baccalaureate website, the project should contain real, purposeful activities, with significant outcomes, meaning the project has to impact the community.

Seniors Randy Gesell and Brandon Wright based their CAS project on organizing a charity ultimate frisbee tournament that donated all proceeds to the general cancer center at the University of Michigan health system.

"I was impacted by cancer, so it made sense to donate our money raised to a cancer organization," Wright said. "It also felt good to give back to an organization that could have a positive impact on someone else's life."

In addition, senior Ben Lucking took his service as far as

South Africa in order to complete hours for his CAS project. While on the trip, Lucking volunteered his hours to work alongside various universities and the Nature's Valley Trust in order to conduct studies on the environment to, in short, better the environment from animals to plants.

"Living in another country for a month was very life-changing in that I was able to see the work being done and help with it. It made me value the service even more," Lucking said.



Photo courtesy of Ben Lucking

Senior Ben Lucking uses a net to examine wildlife for a study while in South Africa.

While it may seem that students at Dexter only do community service for a class or a club, some students engage in self-motivated community service as well.

Seniors like Seamus McCurren and Alex Snow have donated their time to support the effort to cure cancer. For the second year in a row, McCurren helped organize a yoga event at Dexter's Al Ritt stadium. The event, labelled "Yoga on the Field," has led to around \$3,000 in donations from high school students and people from the community to the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor charity, which supports cancer research. Snow has also donated his time to support a similar cause. Both of their community service efforts are completely self-motivated and aren't for money or a class.

"It's cool to see that we have been able to bring people into the cancer support community and help people who are suffering from cancer and who are unable to afford with the debt involved," McCurren said.

Snow, who also donates 10 percent of profit from his lawn mowing business to the Cancer Support Community of Greater Ann Arbor charity, has a similar stance.

"I've been personally impacted by cancer, so it feels good to give back to people who were also impacted despite not knowing them," Snow said.

From 8th grade to 12th grade and beyond, Dexter students have continued their work of positivity during a time period where our world is focused on the negatives, continu-

Nick LeBlanc  Writer

Nick LeBlanc  Designer

Writer  Caden Koenig
 Designer  Caden Koenig
 Photographer  Tyler Woelfel

Athletes in the Crowd

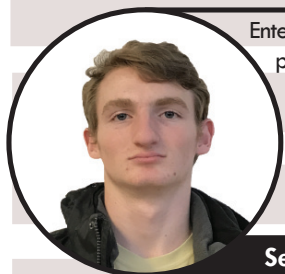
A preview of a few spring athletes to watch as well as a look back at the distinguished career of a winter wrestler



As a senior captain, Baird expects a solid season coming from the lady Dreadnaughts. “I see my team winning about 75 percent of our games if we take this season seriously,” Baird said. This is her fifth year playing lacrosse and she plans to continue on in college. “I plan on impacting the team by being a captain and making sure we keep our sportsmanship during our games whether or not they are hard or easy.”



Senior Darby Baird



Entering his final season as a baseball player, senior Matt Sinelli will be an impact player for this upcoming season. Sinelli is a utility player, which is a big key to why he is such a valued player on the team this season. Last year, the baseball team won the SEC and was one of the top 10 teams in the state. Sinelli, being a part of this, is now able to step up as an experienced leader to help continue Dexter baseball's consistently winning seasons. “We will all have to do our part, but there is no doubt that we can win the SEC again,” he said.



Senior Matthew Sinelli



Senior Katelyn Niswonger has played at the varsity level for all of her high school career. She was a part of teams that won the SEC and the district titles. This year, she is continuing her role as the number one pitcher on the team. One of Niswonger's goals is “to have a positive impact on the team and hope that I can contribute toward a winning season.” Niswonger, earlier this year, committed to play softball at Wittenberg university.



Senior Katelyn Niswonger



Senior captain Will Feldkamp started off his final season as a Dreadnaught by committing to Northern Illinois University. For his 13th and final season in Dexter, he wrestled at the 185-lb weight class. Throughout his high school career, he has competed in and won over 100 matches, earning him a spot on the record board outside the wrestling room. “This year we have a lot of freshmen on our team and we have four senior captains on our team that pick up the work load,” he said.




Senior Will Feldkamp




Sport Specialization

Playing only one sport might not give you the athletic performance you are hoping to have

Alex Strang  Writer

Nick LeBlanc  Designer

Caden Koenig  Illustrator

Tyler Woelfel  Photographer

Many athletes only play one sport in their later years of high school, but if they want to take their athletics to the next level, that might not be the best option. It also causes overuse injuries because your body is not supposed to do the same movements all year long.

There are many reasons athletes choose to specialize. Some athletes feel pressured to excel at one sport and to put all of their effort into it. Others think that if they practice one sport all year they will have an edge over somebody who plays two or three sports and does not focus on only that sport. Athletes who have aspirations of playing at the next level might think that college coaches want them to play that sport as much as they can, leading them to specialize.

Dexter Athletic Director and Varsity Women's Basketball Coach Mike Bavineau says that he has seen an increase in specialization. The decrease in two sport athletes has not been too dramatic, but there is a large drop off in three sport athletes: he said only three kids in the entire class of 2016 played three sports.

"You want kids to be in as many pressure situations as possible," Bavineau said.

When winter rolls around, he wants his players to be used to that pressure of the game being on the line. He says there are many benefits to playing another sport: leadership skills, making them a better teammate, giving the body a rest from one sport, exposing the athlete to competition with different people.

Dexter Athletic Trainer Trevor O'Brien believes that the body needs a break and athletes should not play one sport year round.

"Statistics show that if you play more than one sport you're less likely to get injured," O'Brien said. "This is because overuse injuries are more common in one

sport athletes. "Your body will adapt to multidirectional movement if you play multiple sports instead of just one movement year round like throwing a baseball."

All you have to do to give your body a break from the same repetitive movements is to play another sport. Many sports complement each other and improve skills in the other sport. For example, cross country and soccer both have a focus on cardiovascular endurance. Since women's soccer is in the spring and cross country is in the fall, these sports go hand in hand. Field hockey and ice hockey work similar skills as in lacrosse.

Many female athletes at DHS play field hockey and lacrosse while many male athletes on the ice hockey team also play lacrosse. Lacrosse and hockey are similar sports, but at the same time different enough where they work different movement patterns and planes that will prevent overuse injuries.

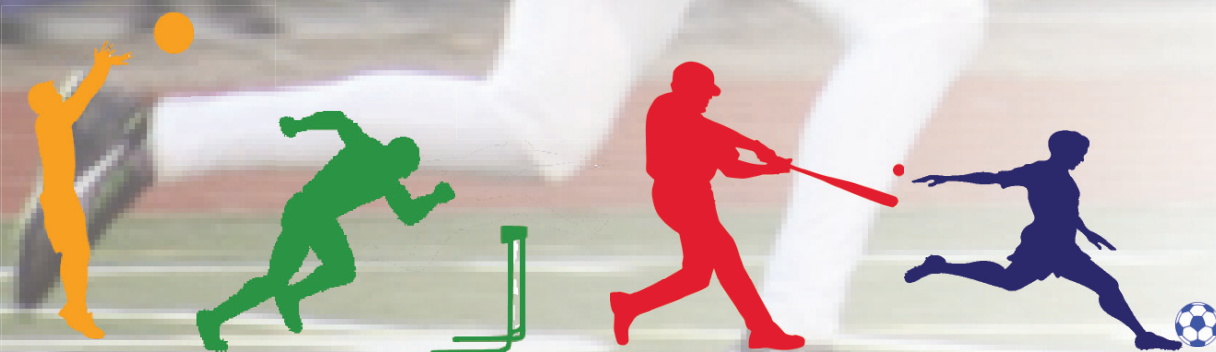
"You want kids to be in as many pressure situations as possible."

-Mike Bavineau

Junior Daniel Higgins believes it is a good idea to play two sports that compliment each other and he proves it works. In the fall, Higgins is a starter on the varsity soccer team. In the spring he runs varsity track. He is one of the fastest athletes on both teams.

Last spring he went to states and nationals as a member of the 4x800 meter relay team.

"Both sports improve my cardiovascular endurance and speed, so the two complement each other well," he said. Soccer helps me with track and the track workouts help me for soccer."



Most pro athletes played at least two sports in high school, and some even in college. Adrian Peterson, Jamaal Charles, Chris Johnson, Robert Griffin III, Jabrill Peppers, and Bo Jackson are all common names in football, but they all have something else in common, too. They all ran track. They are some of the fastest players in the game. If you could pick one athletic trait that separates Division I bound athletes from the average high school athlete, it is unquestionably speed. Speed is one of the most important skills for so many sports other than football, including soccer, field hockey, basketball, and hockey.

It's no secret that the football program at Dexter has struggled in past years. Reasons for the lack of success are widely debated. But no matter what you think the program needs for success, one major skill that would help is speed. It puts the team at a disadvantage when they compete against teams like Chelsea, Saline, and Ypsilanti that have many of their skill players running track in the spring. The Dexter track team has lacked football players in recent years.

Former Dexter football defensive coordinator George Michos said if there is a good track coach, he would definitely

want his skill players to run track.

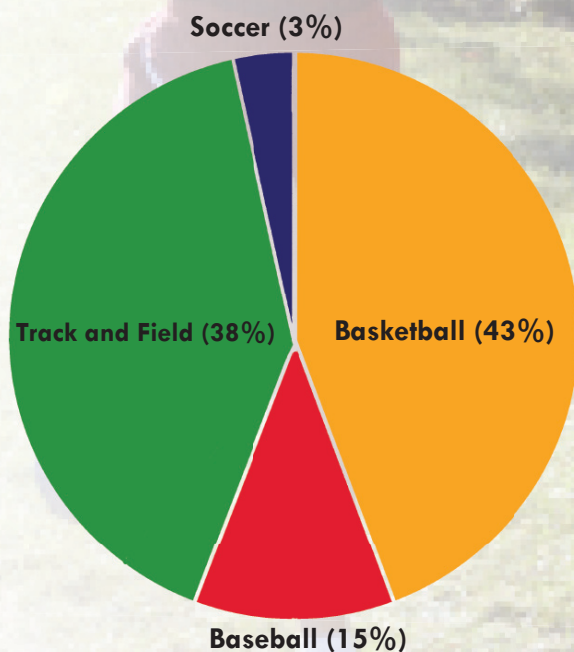
"It teaches you the proper way to run and gets you fast. You can either pay somebody to coach you the proper way to run or you can just run track," Michos said.

He believes the program will be more successful if more players run track because it will make the team faster overall.

There are always college recruiters at track and field invitational meets, but they are not only track recruiters. There are often college football recruiters and coaches talking to kids at meets in the spring. There are recruiters from a variety of sports watching kids that compete in track and field as a second sport.

If you only play one sport but want to be the best athlete you can be or have aspirations to continue a sport in college, the evidence suggests playing another sport too. If you can find a sport that complements one that you already play, your athletic performance can improve, and your risk of injury should decrease.

Super Bowl Multisport Athletes



This graph is compiled of all the athletes that participated in Super Bowl LI on February 5, 2017. Every athlete between the two teams was a multi-sport athlete in high school except seven. This graph was illustrated to show other high school sports the athletes who participated in the Super Bowl participated in during their pre-collegiate and professional careers. Both teams consist of the league maximum number of allotted players (53 man rosters).



JOE AND RACHEL'S 5x5

Rachel Wittenberg Writer
 Joe Ramey Designer
 Rachel Wittenberg Photographer



Elijah Sharp (Freshman)	Michael Brown (Sophomore)	Alyssa Gilson (Junior)	Meghan Uren (Senior)	Mr. Mergler (DHS Staff)
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Valentine's day- Legit or made up Hallmark Holiday?

Legit.	It's a legit holiday.	Legit. Saint Valentine's is a real man.	Uhh, legit?	It's a legitimate, Hallmark holiday.
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Will you be spending this "holiday" with anyone special? A person? An object?

Probably with my house, I guess.	Paul Malong.	I have no plans for Valentine's Day.	The foreigner, Francesca.	Work, take my daughter to dance, take my son to boyscouts. Happy Valentine's Day.
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Best Valentine's Day destination?

Launch Skate Shop.	Mr. Parker's room.	Your mom's house.	My room.	New Smyrna Beach, Florida.
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Least favorite part about Valentine's day?

It's just boring.	Oh man, too many people trying to get my affection.	The cheesy, love movies.	Being alone.	I don't like the red, tinfoiled, wrapped, heart shaped candy. Can't stand it.
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If you could kiss anyone on Valentine's Day, who would it be?

scartches chin The Dexter Savage.	Paul Malong.	Anyone interested?? hmu.	Ryan Gosling.	My wife and kids.
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Writer  Megan Sarns
 Designer  Megan Sarns
 Photographer  Megan Sarns

Beauty and the Beast

DHS students perform in Dexter Drama's 2017 winter musical



Above: Senior Mariah Colby onstage as Belle. Colby shares the role with senior Anna Mason with alternating performances.

Beauty and the Beast celebrated its opening night last Friday, but you still have three more opportunities to see the show before it's over. As always, the production is student-led, with DHS students performing onstage and working backstage, and this production also features a student pit orchestra.



Above: the ensemble performs "Be Our Guest."

When: Friday, Feb. 17th @ 7pm, Saturday, Feb. 18th @ 7pm, and Sunday, Feb. 19th @ 2pm
Where: The Dexter High School CPA
Ticket Prices: \$10 for students and seniors, \$12 for adults



Left: Colby and James Beauregard (Maurice) perform their father-daughter duet.



Right: Seniors Shiona Harvey (Mrs. Potts), Jeremy Frazee (The Beast) and Bridgette Magnus (Lumiere) perform a scene.



Left: Junior Stanley Misevich (LeFou) and senior John Lamb (Gaston) perform in the show's opening number.



Right: Junior Annie Spidel and seniors Caroline Burdick and Isabelle Ross as the Silly Girls.

THE ANCHOR



Senior Kyle Burton grapples with a wrestler from Saline during SEC competition on Saturday, February 4, at Dexter High School. Burton won this match en route to winning the SEC title at his weight class. Senior Will Feldkamp also won his weight class and continued his undefeated season.

Photographer  Tyler Woelfel

