

The HORNET BUZZ




WRAPPING UP WINTER HOMECOMING

By Chloe Page '18

Winter Homecoming came to a wrap on Friday, January 19th, once the King and Queen were crowned. Hillsdale High School had a week full of fun lunchtime games and dress up days. Then on Friday, all grades participated in the pep assembly and competed against each other in games. It was unusual this year, two siblings got crowned King and Queen. Brandon Torres and Melissa Torres were crowned King and Queen after the Homecoming game.

I interviewed Melissa Torres and asked her about her thoughts when her brother won King and when she won Queen.

Were you surprised when you and your brother won?

Yes, I was very surprised! We had some good candidates on court.

Was it exciting to watch your brother win?

I couldn't see when they were crowning King but when I heard my brother's name, I started crying and I was so excited. He and I are really close so to see this moment was neat.

How did you feel after you won?

I was very happy and emotional, I was honored to have been chosen as Queen and I knew my parents were proud of me so that's where my emotional factor came in.

It was a sentimental moment for many watching the siblings get crowned King and Queen. Following the crowning, many students went to the dance. There, the King and Queen shared a dance and afterwards everyone started dancing. It was a fun winter homecoming for everyone. As it came to a wrap it was sad but also a good feeling for seniors because it was their last homecoming ever.

SUCCESS AT BPA REGIONALS

By Breanna Bildner '19

It was a frigid winter morning on Friday, January 5, where most students were asleep in their warm beds, but not for the BPA students. They were up at 5:00 a.m, getting ready for their day full of competitions and presentations. Their months of preparation, hard work, and dedication was put to the test. All of this preparation paid off for many of the students as many placed in the top 10 and qualified for State and some were even regional champions.

We went home with 43 top 10 winners, 24 state qualifiers, and 5 regional champions. Regional Champions include: Breanna Bildner in Advanced Word Processing, Rebecca Galloway in Digital Media Production, and the Web Site Design team of Breanna Bildner, Grace Olinger, Tori Robinson, and Jayson Radabaugh. Second place winners include: Ryan Wood in Entrepreneurship, Anders Moore in Parli Pro Individual, Emily Kimball in Advanced Office Systems, Annie Hamaty in Prepared Speech, and the Parliamentary Procedures team of Anders Moore, Maddie Moore, Sarah Shreffler, Lauren Baker, Rachel Rufenacht, Grace Vondra, Emily Kimball, Taegan Hoffman. Third

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Place winners include: Sarah Shreffler in Desktop Publishing, Gabe Alley in Basic Office Systems, Chloe Page in Advanced Office Systems, and Lauren Baker in Medical Office Procedures. Fourth place winners are: Grace Vondra in Prepared Speech and Grace Shreffler in Fundamental Word Processing. Fifth place winners are: Kara Horn in Graphic Design and Sarah Korn in Fundamental Word Processing. Sixth place winners are: MaCayla Bisher in Graphic Design, Ella Springer in Desktop Publishing, and John Maier in Economic Research.

BPA Chapter Advisor Mindy Eggleston said, "I thought we did great, we had just under 50% qualify for state and multiple people qualify in two events, which if we count that we would have over 50%." As a whole our chapter did very well in their competitions. Regional Champion and state qualifier Grace Olinger said, "It was my first year and a fun experience and I enjoyed competing and enjoyed hearing about everyone else's competitions also." We also went home with 17 Diplomat Torch Award winners, Kennedy Beach, Breanna Bildner, MaCayla Bisher, Braxten Boyd, Brylee Boyd, Hailey Granata, Taegan Hoffman, Moses Jenkins, Emily Kimball, Ella Lewis, Anders Moore, Chloe Page, Shannon Petersen, Sarah Shreffler, Katelyn Throop, Grace Vondra, and Joe Wilcox.

Our BPA chapter will continue to prepare for the State Leadership Conference on March 15-18. All of the students hard work will be put to the test at state for there will be tough competition against over a thousand people.

FIRST Power Up!

By Emma Hammel '18

The HEROES spent the last few months preparing for their new season which began January 6th. Two hundred teams traveled to the University of Michigan to find out how they would spend the next eight weeks of their lives. With anticipation and excitement, the HEROES made their way into a large auditorium where they projected the live stream of this years game description. Since FIRST Robotics is a worldwide program, the entire world live streams simultaneously; so while Michigan teams are watching it at 10AM, teams in Australia are watching it at 1AM. No matter the time, teams discovered FIRST Robotics' 2018 game is an 8bit video game theme, where teams are "trapped" inside an arcade game and must use power cubes to defeat the boss.

To defeat the boss, teams can climb the scaling tower, play "power ups", and own the scale or their switch. The scale and switch are essentially seesaws and a team can "own" either one by placing more power cubes in their side therefore tipping the scale in their favor. Every second that you own a switch or a scale, earns you 1 point. Power cubes can also be delivered to the alliances' vault. Placing cubes in the vault allows you to play power ups which doubles the amount of points you earn per second of owning the scale or switch. Finally, for the last 30 seconds of the match, teams can climb the scaling tower. If one of the teams on your alliance cannot climb, you may play the Levitate in your vault which gives you one free climb. In order to "defeat the boss" for extra points, your entire alliance must climb.

This years game revolves around strategy more than robot ability than in past years. The build side appears to be fairly simple (so far!) but our game strategy will be critical to our success. In the 2017 season, the HEROES were 5 points away from making it to the state championship. You could say that our 2018 aspirations are quite high, and we plan to make it to at least the state championship this year which is held at Saginaw Valley University, and then worlds is in Detroit at Cobo Center and Ford Field. Be prepared to hop on the fan bus on April 26 to watch the HEROES compete in Detroit!

For more information, check out firstinspires.org or talk to Mr. Tucker.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

By Emily Kimball '19

Winter is here and so is winter fashion. Dressing for the weather is a must have during the winter months. Most of the classrooms in the school have a heater, yet are still chilly. Many students opt for sweatshirts, long sleeve shirts, jackets or warm cardigans during the colder months of the school year. Timberlands, a type of boots, are very popular among students. Student Maddie Moore '20 said, "I like to wear my "tims" for the snow and sometimes I'll still wear my crocs, to get tough!"

During the winter season, almost all sports and clubs are indoor. However, the Polar Bear Club still has activities outside. I asked Sarah Shreffler '19, a member of Polar Bear, how do you dress for the weather and still be able to work out? She responded, "We wear lots of layers and we make sure to wear gloves. But we're polar bears, so we're always ready to face the cold!"

Although the winter season brings many fun activities, many students long for the summer during these chill months. They're ready to finish off the school year and get towards the summer weather. In the meantime, however, students also opt for big scarfs and layers of clothing. I asked Chloe Page '18 how she stays warm. She replied, "I like to wear warm sweaters with my jeans and duck boots." Overall, everyone stays warm while maintaining their individual styles.

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

By Brylee Boyd 21

Even though Competitive Cheerleading is new to Hillsdale High School it has been around since 1993. Competitive Cheerleading has a total of three rounds, our Hillsdale Varsity team has nine girls in round one, eight girls in round two, and nine girls in round three. Round one consists of motions, ripples, three jumps, and formation changes. In round two everyone has to

be doing the same exact thing at the same time as well as doing tumbling, splits, motions, and jumps. Round three is the FUN part or otherwise known as my teams favorite part. Round three consists of stunts, tumbling, and minimal motions.

The competitive cheer team has a total of ten girls on the team. We all work very hard on all our skills we have two hour practices everyday after school and then we go to tumbling in Quincy every Thursday night. We sit in all three sides of our splits for six minutes each practice. We have had four competitions so far this season in Hudson, Springport, Ida, and our home competitions that we held January 22. We have improved our scores greatly in the past few competitions.

Hillsdale High School has had a Competitive Cheer team for only four years now. So we are pretty new! Usually when a team just starts they are a jv team but we jumped right into varsity. We have improved quite a lot in the last two years. This year a first ever four year member of the Competitive Cheerleading team Melissa Torres is graduating. She has done competitive cheer throughout her four years of high school. Melissa's favorite memory from competitive cheerleading is when she got to learn all the different positions she would be doing. She loves to stunt and work with the flyers to improve our difficult stunts. If you are interested to become part of our competitive cheer in are 2019 season please contact Mrs. Yearling or any of the girls on the team.

VARSITY BASKETBALL

By Gavin LaFollette '20

Hillsdale basketball has always had a reputation of success. Under the Head Varsity Coach, Brad Felix, the Hornets have won fourteen Rotary tournaments, nine conference championships, seven district championships, and two regional championships. Also the Hornets have two assistant coaches, Mitchell Gabriele and Andrew Wilcox, who both played for Coach Felix. Gabriele went to the 2007 Regional Semi Finals and lost to Harper Creek 62-54. Wilcox went to the 2014 State Quarterfinals and lost to Muskegon Heights 59-57.

The Hornets are currently 9-2 and first in the LCAA league with a record of 5-1. The Hornets are seeking their second league title in a row following last years undefeated team. They have their two losses to Hanover Horton and Erie Mason, who they play later in the season again. The Hornets are beginning the second half of league play. This year the league is equally matched with many teams in the running for first place.

Roles are what keeps teams working together. Before every game Coach Felix writes a quote on the board that has meaning to the team. One such quote is "Be a superstar in your role." "Every year the team gets roles from Coach Felix and these roles may not make you a superstar," explains the starting point guard Spencer Eves. "You could be the guy who has to do the things like rebounding and passing but every role is important to the team." The Boys Varsity Basketball Team looks forward to their second half of league play and plans to stay 1st in the league running.

WINTER ATHLETE FAME

By Brent Rocheleau '18

Hillsdale High School has one of the best athletics program around. With champions rising from bottom to top, Hillsdale athletes deserve their time to shine. With three of the finest competitors from every aspect of winter action, Shannon Peterson, Sierra Kelly-Scott, and Scott Hasen show what it means to be a Hornet! Senior Captain Shannon Peterson, 215 lb weight class, has had an impeccable wrestling year so far. With 19 wins and 3 loses, he has definitely shown what it takes to make it to the top. Shannon has been wrestling for five years and through all of the ups and downs, he has loved it every step of the way. Shannon is an amazing wrestler, but he is an even better football player. After high school,



Shannon is going to attend Hillsdale College to play football and carry out his dreams. But he's not the only with dreams for a future. Junior Captain Sierra Kelly-Scott is a stellar cheerleader and an amazing friend. She pushes her teammates to be the best they can be and she's always right there with them. Sierra has been a cheerleader for 11 years and plans to continue her cheer career as she heads off to Eastern Michigan University in the fall of 2019. It takes so much to be one of the best and even more of your focus. The more you have on your plate, the harder things tend to get to keep but that doesn't hold her back. Sierra also has a part-time job, is a pole vaulter in track, cadet teaches with Mrs. Wilson at the middle school, and is in Business Professionals of America. So much to do but she makes time for everything. There is one more athlete who earned his plaque on the Hillsdale wall of fame and that student is Senior Captain Scott Hasen. He has come a long way from the start of his bowling career until now. As a freshman, Scott barely made the junior varsity team and now he is captain of the Varsity bowling team. His highest game is a 245 game and his average is 180. Whenever a member of the team is down and not bowling so good, Scott is always there to pick them back up and give them pointers. One standard that Scotty lives by is, "The best bowler doesn't always win." Scott has talked to the Saginaw Valley head bowling coach and has interests in bowling for his team. Whatever he plans to do for

his future, you can bet bowling will be part of it. Every student at Hillsdale high school has the potential to do great things and Shannon, Sierra, and Scott have proven what it takes to get there. There are plenty of other athletes, but these three have great attitudes, encourage the team, and push the hardest in every circumstance.

BEING RECRUITED

By Collin Brown '17

Not many high school athletes get the opportunity to play a college sport after high school.

the opportunity to play a college sport at the next level after high school is truly a blessing for top athletes. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication along the way. But at the end of the day when you're able to play the sport you love out of high school. All that work you put in trying to be the best all, pays off.

I asked Senior Bryce Drews, who is being recruited to play basketball at many colleges some D2 and some D3, "What is going through his decision making in choosing a college?" He said, "There are a lot of things that are factoring into my decision on where to play college ball, but the main one is what environment I want to be in and if I want to go and play right away or do I want to wait my turn. My stance on that is I just want to go right away where I can play and compete right out of high school because I think I'm good enough and have worked hard enough to play the role of a leader and be the guy on a team."

Bryce is still visiting colleges and going through the process of choosing a college where he is going to continue his basketball career. His decision will be in the near future! So everyone tune in and see where he will be attending college to play college basketball.

VARSITY BOWLER RUN DOWN

By Travis Fowler '18

I talked to Scotty Hasen about the bowling life. I asked Scotty some questions about what is needed for bowling, what is the hardest part of bowling, etc. "Why do you own so many bowling balls yet you only use three?" "Each bowling ball does a special thing and they look so cool," said Scotty. I've learned it just depends on whether the ball hooks more than one another or maybe it is made of plastic and isn't suppose to hook, but still might.

The second question I asked Mr. Hasen was, "Are all of your bowling balls the same weight? If yes, why?"

"My bowling balls are the same weight. I've been throwing eight pound balls since I was 14," said Hasen. The average weight for a bowling ball for a normal adult is about 15 pounds. Depending on

how strong you are. "Consistency is everything in bowling!" said Hasen

My Final question for Mr. Hasen was "why does your bowling ball come back wet after every throw?" "That is an easy one because they lay oil down the the lane." Every bowling alley has their own oil pattern they consider their

"house shot." Some places have a super heavy oil pattern such as Hillsdale. But then there places such as Hudson lanes which has very little to no oil on the lanes even if they just oiled them.

Mr. Hasen is continuing to put up good scores to help his team stay undefeated in the regular season. Scotty is one of

three seniors to continue leading their team to the LCAA meet on February 17th.

OBSTACLES FOR GIRLS BASKETBALL

By Katy Kempa '18

The Girls Varsity Basketball team is surely one to remember. With new coach Ken Keasal, the girls looked forward to playing a new style of ball. Unfortunately for two senior leaders, Maddy Jones and Katie Dietz, their season came abruptly to an end. Maddy Jones tore her ACL in her right knee and just recently had surgery. Katie Dietz broke her left arm and will be in a cast until the start of track season.

I interviewed Chloe Goff '19 about her view of the team's new strategies. When asked, "How has the team adapted to losing two main leaders on the team?" She replied, "Everyone is stepping up to fill in what we have lost. Katie was a good scorer so people are now stepping up to refill her points." I asked, "Who does the team look at to lead and who to score?" Chloe replied, "We look to Julissa Torres and Josie Miller to lead the team and we look to Katy Kempa, myself (Chloe Goff), and Julissa Torres to score most of our points."

The lady hornets still look to find their first win of the season. There have been close games, but the victories have not fallen in favor of the hornets. Upcoming games are Tuesday at Erie Mason and Friday at Dundee. The next home



game will be Tuesday, February 20th against hometown rival, Hillsdale Academy. The girls look forward to showing their new team strategies and filling the stands at the last home game.

NOAH LOPRESTO'S COMEBACK

By Ethan York '20

Noah LoPresto finally recovered and is back from his long injury that took effect in the Hornet soccer season against the Academy. The doctor said he had a severely injured foot and to be careful with it, unfortunately Noah was in a boot the next day and had basketball conditioning and ran until he broke his foot and was forced to wear the boot even longer than scheduled.

When asking Noah about his opinion on his injury he had to say, "It was awful, I was limited to what I would and couldn't do. It feels super good to be back and out of the boot and it's nice to be back and warm up with the team. I was extremely upset when finding out I wouldn't be able to play in the first few games of the basketball season."

Noah is now currently healthy and recovered and is also cleared to practice, warm up, and play. Noah made his game debut against Jonesville, with the successful debut the Hornets defeated the Comets. He is feeling good and is ready to continue to have a successful season without anymore injuries.

THE COSTS OF PLAYING

By Vivian Pickard '19

In recent years, sports have become costly both physically and monetarily. Many parents are pressuring their children to perform above their capabilities, focusing on athletic scholarships, college, and the pros. This can be very physically harmful and may also be setting unrealistic goals for their futures. Many parents also spend thousands to hundreds of thousands on their kid's sports. This money is spent buying expensive gear for their child's sport and sending their kids to sports camps with big-name coaches and athletes.

With increasing competition for getting on the dream college and pro sports team, the limit to how much student-athletes can take is being stretched thin. Student-athletes are getting injured more often due to the increasing intensities. In recent years, many sports injuries are occurring because lots of athletes cannot afford to take off one day. Many trainers and doctors will tell an athlete not to practice or participate in games and many younger athletes will not listen. Playing injured risks more injuries and can cost athletes some of their future mobility in the process.

Along with the increasing desire to get onto a college and pro team, high schoolers also have a strong desire to have the newest and best equipment for their sport. Whether its shoes, bats, rackets, practice clothing, or sports bags; companies always seem to create new and supposedly better equipment. This new equipment can cost hundreds of dollars and many student-athletes and their families are willing to hand over that money to big companies like Nike and Adidas. People grow the most from ages 5 to 20 and many of those people participate in sports. This allows those companies to capitalize on the athletic youth.

The pressure on a student-athlete from family, coaches, the schools, and community to be at the top of their game can be overwhelming. The financial costs of equipment, tickets, travel, sports camps, and trendy gear can be thousands of dollars. Many people think it's worth it for the chance to score the winning point against a rival team and for the slim chance to make it into college and pro sports.

BACKPACK MUST HAVES!

By Terrantino Grant 18'

If you're in our high school you know that we are not allowed our backpacks but when you do have it what is a must have for you? Chloe page 18', her must have is head-

phones, her headphones help her to study by keeping her busy listening to lyrics and doing her work. She has no extra time to worry about everything else.

Travis Fowler 18' has plenty of must haves but the most important is a phone charger, to make sure your phone is charged to keep track of your grades quick and easy. Also to keep him busy and out of trouble by playing games on his phone and other things as simple as that. You shouldn't be on your phone period if your work isn't done, senioritis is a serious disease and should be protected at all times, don't be on your phones.

Wrapping it up, your guaranteed must haves must be pencils, paper, textbooks and your calculators and miscellaneous. Your headphones, chargers, water, drinks of choice to keep you going throughout the day. You should have healthy snacks to keep you bright and busy.

HILLSDALE HORNET PEP BAND

By Grace Olinger '19

Hillsdale's band director, Dr. Rushing, has done it again! He has re-introduced Pep Band to Hillsdale High School. The Pep Band consists of a small volunteer group of students who join the fans at the boy's and girl's basketball games to cheer on the team. They bring an energy and excitement to the games along with entertaining music. They start every game by playing The Star Spangled Banner and the Fight Song, followed by other pieces. Some of their songs include: Go Big Blue, YMCA, The Hey Song, We Will Rock You, Uptown Funk, Soul Man/ I Can't Turn You Loose, 24K Magic, and Eat Em' Up. They also play band favorites, such as, The Final Countdown and Barbara Ann.

Dr. Rushing says “I have enjoyed having a pep band this year. It has been voluntary for the band students, however some of my most outstanding students have participated, which made the experience very enjoyable.”. He decided to start pep band again because it was requested by students, parents, and staff. Dr. Rushing already has plans for next year too; “Next year I look forward to continuing with the success we have had this year. We will be losing 18 seniors this year, so it’s always interesting to see which students will come in, practice, and develop into musicians that can handle the parts that the seniors were playing. There are always a few students who surprise me and step into leadership roles.”

A few of the musicians were asked questions about pep band. As a sophomore, Keaton Cain plays the trumpet for the pep band. He has participated in every game so far this year. He enjoys playing and having fun with friends. His favorite song is Barbara Ann. When asked about joining the pep band next year, he responded with “Oh yeah!” Jaidyn Lee, a senior, also participated in this year’s pep band playing the trumpet. She enjoys pep band because it reminds her of marching band. Her favorite song this year is Soul Man. She describes her favorite things about pep band are “the cheers and all of the students.”

Overall, this season has been a win for the band. Every performance brings new challenges and many memorable moments for everyone.

The feedback from the crowd has been very positive too, with many comments like “I love the live music” and “Thank you for a great game.” The students are ready to continue an exciting year and are looking forward to next year too.

HITTING THE SNOOZE: DO OR DON'T?

By Cassie Bowditch '19

Most people today do not have a choice of hitting the snooze. A majority of people have something to do everyday, whether it is going to their job, or kids going to school. If people did not have anything to do, most of us would not need an alarm clock to wake up to. To be specific, 85% of people would not need that alarm clock. (sleep researcher Till Roennerberg’s book “Internal Time”) If you are dedicated to your job or doing a great job in school, then hitting that snooze also will not be a big option for you.

Monday morning, 6:00 a.m. rolls around after a long, exciting, eventful weekend. You hear that annoying sound of your alarm clock beeping in your ear. Your first initial reaction is to roll over and smack that snooze button. Although you want to so badly, it is actually not a very good idea. Most sleep researchers have said snoozing will not make you any more rested, but actually more tired than before. No adult wants to be the one awkward adult half asleep on the job because they chose to hit that snooze button that morning. But then again, no student wants to be made fun of because they are falling asleep in class or are sleeping. So the best choice would be, is to just wake up to that alarm and actually get out of bed after shutting the alarm off.

If you are not getting enough sleep the night before, hitting the snooze the next morning will be very easy for a person. So will falling back asleep after hitting snooze. You should as an adult get at least 7-9 hours of sleep, and kids should get at least 8-10 hours. If this is not happening, you may start thinking about making it happen. This will benefit you the next day, and will help you throughout the day. Getting enough sleep as a person will also help a person’s health. It can benefit your weight, your heart, your mind, and more. So try to get a great night of sleeping in, at least every night possible.

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENTS

By Briana Bradley '19

All of us have been embarrassed at least once in our lives. Unfortunately those moments will never be forgotten by you and by the people that were with you. Friends may bring it up from time to time or something might trigger your memory back to that time. Although we would like to forget these moments they will be with us forever. Most of us can look back at these moments and smile but at the time we just wanted to hide.

I asked a few people about what their most embarrassing moments were from high school. One of those people is Sara Wallace '18, her most em-

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barrassing moment is when she dropped her flag during a color guard performance. Lizzy Reynolds' '19 most embarrassing moment was when she fell and hit her head on a table during biology. These may seem like something minor to you but for Sara and Lizzy these embarrassing moments are unforgettable. It wasn't very easy for Sara and Lizzy to talk about their embarrassing moments.

Some embarrassing moments could be avoided. We are all human and mistakes are made all the time. Savor every moment of high school, even the embarrassing ones. These embarrassing moments are not meant to be bad memories of high school. These moments are meant to be lessons learned so do not get to caught up with them.

FIELD TRIP

By Austin Estel '17

Many students wonder, or even ask others what's the best field trip or what would be the best field trip? There is not a correct answer to this question because everyone has their own perspectives and opinions. Now my favorite place for a field trip would be to a Commercial Diving Company, because I have always loved the intriguing thought of how the divers worked in such harsh conditions. Also I have grown up around the water and it just comes natural to me.

There are many important roles that are played in commercial diving such as, underwater diving and welding. There are many certifications that you have to get before you enter the commercial diving industry. Divers also have to a lot of gear in order to do their job efficiently. Diving gear can relate all the way back to 1800's and this is very interesting, but yet historical at the same time.

Now many people are wondering why would a high school take students to a commercial diving company? My answer to this is the historical background that it has to offer, an intriguing experience, and job shadowing for future, and potential jobs. Also commercial diving has many traits that are good for many job positions all around the world. Take your personal opinions, and perspectives into account and ask yourself what would make the best field trip?

MAKING THE GRADE

By Lizzy Reynolds '19

Good grades are very important to most students at Hillsdale High School with the exception of a few. The material we learn in high school can either come naturally to us or we struggle, but one Junior here at Hillsdale High School can do it all. From excelling in Academics, to running up and down the court, Chloe Goff definitely makes the grade. When asked if her good grades come from her parents influence or if she was just doing it on her own, she explained, "Both actually, I know what I am capable of and so do my parents. So it's basically an expectation of myself and my parents." Having the support system from parents can play a vital part in a students success, whether they encourage or discourage, its a tremendous influence on the student and child.

Sports play a huge role in the passing grades of many students due to the fact that you cannot have more than two failing grades at one time. Eligibility in sports is a big deal to student athletes like Chloe because only two

things can affect your eligibility as a athlete, health and academics. When asked if her involvement in sports affects her motivation as a student, Goff replied, "Yes, you cannot have no more than two failing grades to be eligible for the sports program." Although Goff keeps her grades up regardless, her sport involvement also keeps her on track.

Even the best students can struggle in their studies and in life. Sometimes their struggle in life causes them to struggle academically or vice versa. Chloe Goff does not struggle in many subjects but when asked if she has ever struggled, she replied, "Yes, of course I have struggled! I am human, and not everything comes to me so easily as everything else. Government has been especially hard for me this semester." I then asked how she overcame her struggle and how she has been doing ever since, " I just pay closer attention and take better notes. There is not much you can do when you cannot understand subjects like you have been able too. I have been doing a lot better with my notes and understanding the materials given to us by Mr. Potter." Even the students who get straight A's struggle and need to study too, you need to work hard to get what you want.

WHAT STUDENTS DID OVER WINTER BREAK

By Virginia Brown '18

The much anticipated Winter Break this year was two weeks long for students, longer than usual. With 400 students at HHS, there is bound to be a huge variety of students doing different things over the break. During the freezing break, temperatures reached lows of negative twenty degrees. Students coped with the cold in their own ways. So, what did students do over Win-

ter Break with the extra time?

Junior Emily Kimball went to Disney World over Winter Break and went to Magic Kingdom and Epcot during her time there. When asked what Senior Collin Brown did, he replied with, "nothing. I went to my girlfriend's and that's it." Athlete and junior Gavin LaFollette spent his break "playing a lot of basketball." Junior Griffin Hoffman travelled to Bel Aire, Michigan to make the most of the snowy weather by skiing. Senior Katy Kempa, much like Gavin LaFollette, played a lot of basketball.

As you can see, everybody did something different. Students who participate in a sport had to be dedicated and practice over break. Some students had to stay to work a job. Whether students stayed in Michigan, travelled to warm places or simply stayed home during the break, I think we can all collectively agree that Winter Break was a much needed recess from school and a fresh start for the new semester. As we jump back into the school year and students begin to start up a routine again, we are thankful for the restful break.

CLASS OF 2021

DEAR FRESHMEN

By Trevathian McLavey '18

The first half of your freshman year is over and now you're entering the final stretch! A lot of you freshman are already too stressed from the first semester and are ready to give up. This semester is still crucial to keeping your grades up and striving for that 4.0. Now that you've successfully completed the transition from junior high to the real deal, it's time to realize just how important school really is. These final years of your "childhood" can be a big determining factor of adulthood. Here's some advice.

Strive for greatness... but wait, you're only a freshman how can you do that?! Your future starts now. Do you have dreams of going to an Ivy league school or getting an academic scholarship? If you want that, it can't wait until next year, you need to have good grades right now and for the rest of high school. Your grades are actually vital to your success! Success in high school can lead to success in your adult life. Anything that you want to accomplish is possible! Everyone has dreams for what they want to do after high school and basically everything requires you to be a high school or college graduate. A lot of you want to be doctors or lawyers but also just want an easy path to get there. Well let me tell you nothing good in life comes easy. You will have to spend most nights at home studying and doing homework instead of hanging with friends, there's still time for fun but remember the more important things first. Re-

spect your teachers whether you like them or not. We have a great staff here at Hillsdale High School and if you treat your teachers with respect they are more than willing to help you with almost anything. Showing the teachers that you care about your classes will make your life WAY easier.

My overall advice is just work hard and grind these high school days out because they will be gone and missed soon enough. Those mornings you don't wanna get up just get up and go to school. Don't wait until last minute to finish a big project. To me, school has been easier when i worked harder to try and get good grades instead of slacking and having to make it up later anyways. Get those good grades and make your parents proud. You have three and half years left of childhood so make them count!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb 2 - Senior Photos Due

Feb 2 - Baby Photos Due

Feb 13 - Parent Teacher Conf.

Feb 15 - Half Day

Feb 16 & 19 - No School

Mar 23 - Half Day

Mar 23 - End of Marking Period

Mar 29 - Half Day

Mar 30 - No School

Apr 2-6 - Spring Break

Apr 21 - Prom

May 1 - Decision Day

May 28 - No School

May 31 - Class Night

Jun 3 - Graduation 2 p.m.

HHS Newspaper Staff

Breanna Bildner, Cassie Bowditch, Brylee Boyd, Briana Bradley, Collin Brown, Virginia Brown, Austin Estel, Travis Fowler, Terrontino Grant, Emma Hammel, Katherine Kempa, Emily Kimball, Gavin LaFollette, TJ McLavey, Grace Olinger, Chloe Page, Vivian Pickard, Lizzy Reynolds, Brent Rocheleau, Ethan York, Mindy Eggleston, Teacher