

In The Halls...

In honor of No-Shave November, have fun matching these BHS beards to their faces.

A)



B)



C)



D)



E)



Answers: A) Jerry Reams, teacher B) Dimitri Krokos, senior C) Nick Stone, sophomore D) Steve Thumser, teacher E) John Gillis, teacher

Point/Counterpoint: Thanksgiving should be kept a traditional holiday

Point

Julie Urbaniak
Staff Reporter

Thanksgiving is a time of giving thanks and appreciating what we have been given in our lives, or even in the previous year. Our national holiday really stems from the feast held in the autumn of 1621 by the Pilgrims and the Wampanoag Native Americans to celebrate the colony's first successful harvest. Even though this holiday may not have the same exact meaning it did at first, it still holds the traditional value that was established back in the beginning at the first Thanksgiving.

Counterpoint

Shannon Walsh
News Editor

It's important to remember our country's history so we can appreciate how far we have come and even learn from mistakes made. However, history can be outdated, making it difficult to relate to.

As humans, we constantly try to modernize things like clothes, houses, cars, and entertainment. Of course the basics still remain. Houses are still houses and entertainment is still entertainment, but the content is relevant with the times.

That being said, holidays too can be manipulated in any shape or form to fit your needs and wants. The traditional story of the pilgrims coming over to America and celebrating a plentiful harvest (thanks to

In previous years there has been a lot of talk about people who don't think thanksgiving should remain traditional, because it is often neglected and even considered a "forgotten holiday".

But what most people are forgetting is that Thanksgiving is a great way for families to show their appreciation for one another before the December Holiday comes up. Even the "forgotten holiday" has some great traditions, from families sitting around the dinner table sharing a feast of turkey, stuffing, meatballs, corn, mashed potatoes, and who can forget the pumpkin pie as dessert, to seeing the Thanksgiving parade in downtown Detroit whether you're there or watching it

the Native Americans who we stole their land from) after many failed attempts is a fantastic historical event that every well-bred pumpkin pie loving American should have stored in their minds. But we can't necessarily relate to the pilgrims and Native Americans anymore. For one thing, petticoats and ruffs are extremely outdated in the world of fashion.

Thanksgiving is important, but the way it is celebrated can change from person to person. Modern Americans are busy people and the traditional American blooded family is changing as well. Relationships between people and their families are different now than they were in 1621. Now families are who you choose, not just your blood.

The main thing to remember is to focus on giving thanks. I'm sure the Pilgrims gave thanks for having a giant turkey placed before them

on television. We can all remember the classic Thanksgiving movie, A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving, with Lucy not letting Charlie kick the football. Most families get the best memories from spending Thanksgiving the traditional way. A lot of families even have an annual sport they play; the most common would be football or soccer.

Families can really bond by playing sports, talking at the dinner table and spending time with one another compared to any other day with the kids going off to a friend's house and Mom and Dad being at work all day, then coming home to sit in front of the TV to watch while eating dinner.

just like many Americans do too. A classic table full of finger licking good food such as creamy mashed potatoes and turkey smothered in hot gravy, and of course the classic canned cranberries that slide out like a sand castle are essential to many American families.

The way I see it, traditional aspects such as having a big feast are all fine and dandy if that's what you're in to, but aren't by any means required. Not everyone has a large family or enough patience to prepare a feast fit for kings. There is nothing wrong with a small get together with a few friends sitting around a campfire roasting marshmallows instead of a giant bird.

It is far more important to be happy on Thanksgiving than to make yourself fit the traditional mold of classic celebration. Holidays are about who you spend them with, not how they are celebrated.

Hunting a positive tradition and pastime for Michiganders

Matt Klueger
Sports Editor

Every year millions of Americans of all ages, shapes, and sizes partake in an outdoor sport that has been a tradition since man first walked Earth. This tradition is hunting, something that I will stand up for my entire life.

People who do not hunt often claim that hunting is a form of animal cruelty, and using guns gives the hunter an unfair advantage, that the woods become unsafe due to the amount of hunters, and that the animals should just be left alone. Hunting is much more than just going into the woods and killing animals, it is a way to help preserve and protect nature and the many animals in it.

As a hunter myself, I know firsthand that hunting is not animal cruelty. Hunting manages the populations of many species and is a

large source of revenue for the state. Hunting and all of the business that surrounds it is a yearly industry that creates over \$50 billion in sales. This money pays hundreds of thousands of employees at outdoor stores as well as helping to improve many of our country's parks and forests using the money from the sales of hunting licenses.

Without hunting, populations on many game animals would increase to unsafe numbers, putting the environment and other animals at serious risk. By selling hunting licenses, states can effectively control populations and gross copious amounts of money to use on projects to improve the state as a whole.

Many American families rely on the hunting industry to support themselves. The hunting industry is a great place for people to make lives for themselves, and hunters are always looking for the best new thing

to help them in their pursuits. Many ideas become the basis of entire companies that help employ thousands of people.

People who claim that hunters have an unfair advantage over the animals could not be more wrong. Deer, for example, are able to smell humans from hundreds of yards away, giving them a huge advantage when it comes to avoiding humans. Deer are also able to tell if you are a threat just from the noises that you make. They also have extremely effective camouflage, allowing them to easily elude the eyes of an untrained individual.

These amazing senses, in my opinion, give deer a fair fight against humans.

No matter what you are hunting for or where you are hunt for it, hunting provides a peaceful, fun setting where people can reconnect with each other and with nature.

Seniors keep skip day tradition alive for another year

Quaid Stouder
Technical Advisor

Senior skip day is a tradition that happens every year for seniors in Brighton High School. It gives the seniors a day off from a hard day at school and time for them to rejuvenate from their busy class schedule.

Seniors choose to do it because they either want the day off or they're just a rebellious type of person. Seniors know that the school administration does not approve of senior skip day and instead want to

denounce it and encourage parents not let their kids stay home that day.

Seniors each year are loaded with hard advanced placement classes to prepare for college. So in their final year in high school they take a personal day off from school so they can do whatever they wish, such as staying up all night or sleeping till noon, or whatever else they please to do on their time off.

This year as a senior I decided to take part in senior skip day, just as my siblings did when they were seniors. I took the day to sleep in

and relax. I also spent time with my friends. Since we had that Monday and Tuesday off I had a lovely five day weekend.

When I hung out with my friends that Friday we saw a movie, then we hung out at my house all night and played video games. With our busy school schedules, this couldn't have happened otherwise.

A few of my friends on senior skip day went to this year's Youmacon at the Renaissance center at the CoBo Center in Detroit. It was perfect for them because they could spend all

day there going around looking at all the cool stuff, famous people, and dedicated fans in awesome cosplay outfits.

Other seniors who took their day off to do school related activities, such as study for upcoming tests or go on a college visit and spend the weekend there to see if its the college that fits them and they needs such as tuition and location.

Then there are those seniors who go to school on senior skip day instead of skipping the day, because they can't afford to miss out on a

day of learning or that they need to get work done that they just can't complete at home such as art or computer work.

I don't think its a big deal if the seniors take a day off school, I mean what is it going to hurt if they don't go to school for that one day, not much.

There are many good reasons to take part in Seniors Skip Day, to hang out with your friends, to recuperate from a busy school schedule. It's a tradition, and should stay that way.

Quarterly exams help students relieve stress and succeed

Averi Montagano
Info Editor

Beginning as early as middle school most students begin a pattern of testing that will follow them through their student careers. This pattern of examination is known by almost all students across the nation. Halfway through the year students are forced to take a midterm exam, in which they will be tested on all of the information they have been taught during first semester. Students are also given an exam at the end of second semester, testing them on what they have been taught the past two quarters. However, I believe it will be more beneficial to students to instead take quarterly exams rather than semester exams. The highschool staff and school board are beginning to entertain this idea as well.

Exams create stress for all students no matter their recent grades or GPA. A big part of this stress comes from the fact that there is such a large span of information to be tested on. This amount of information calls for agonizing hours of material review starting from the things that

were taught the first week of school to the things that were taught one week prior to the exam. The school board and staff are now realizing this and beginning to entertain the idea of quarterly exams.

Creating and using the idea of having an exam after every quarter could be extremely beneficial to all students. Taking exams in this way means the information that is needed to succeed on the test is cut in half. Minimizing the span of needed information will also cut the test anxiety in students down. I also believe that this could change the way students look at exams and would perhaps help them regain some of their confidence.

Beginning to look at and review for a midterm exam can be very intimidating, especially when students are not sure of what to study. They begin to question themselves on what material seems more important. As they look through their past papers and tests your realizing that they have no clue where to start. To a student this could be terrifying. However, in one quarter students generally only have three to four tests. This means they only have three to

four chapters to study in preparation for a quarterly exam compared to eight to nine chapters of studying for a single midterm exam.

Taking quarterly exams would do nothing but help the mindsets and grades of hard-working students. When the students are aware of the fact that there is less to study, the pressure that is put on them to know everything on the exam will be reduced. Reducing pressure on students could create a whole new way of looking at exams. The students who usually do not do well on exams could be inspired and gain motivation to do better on them when they know that the workload is smaller.

Teachers and school board members must understand that a student's mindset plays a large role in testing. Creating a new and shortened exam will change the way students think about and go into the test. If they are thinking about it in a more positive manner than I believe they are bound to do better on the test, as their mind is more at ease and prepared for quarterly examining of our knowledge.

New door sensors unnecessary addition to school security

Tanner Hoard
Staff Reporter

School is a place where no one should feel in danger; there are plenty of adults around and thousands of peers. Often, high schools have a local policeman stationed at the school along with other security guards. So why should a higher ordinance of security be initiated? I think I wouldn't feel safe having enhanced security at school and principal Henry Vecchioni informed me that Brighton High School would potentially install the same security all the other Brighton schools have. If this pushes through, I feel like I should be worried or feel like I'm in danger.

To be honest I don't think there should be any further security than

cameras and security guards to prevent obvious school mishaps like a fight or acts of bullying. I spoke with a couple students about the issue of upping the security at the high school and none of them thought it was "cool."

The Sandy Hook Elementary shooting has influenced a lot of schools all over the country to step up the security. Schools around Livingston County have also upgraded their security. These schools include all the Brighton Area Schools. It is not an easy task to even enter the buildings with the sensors and I.D. scanners at the main doors in which only staff members can enter the door with a photo I.D. Obviously they are attempting to avoid a serious incident by upgrading security but this seems a bit too far for most people.

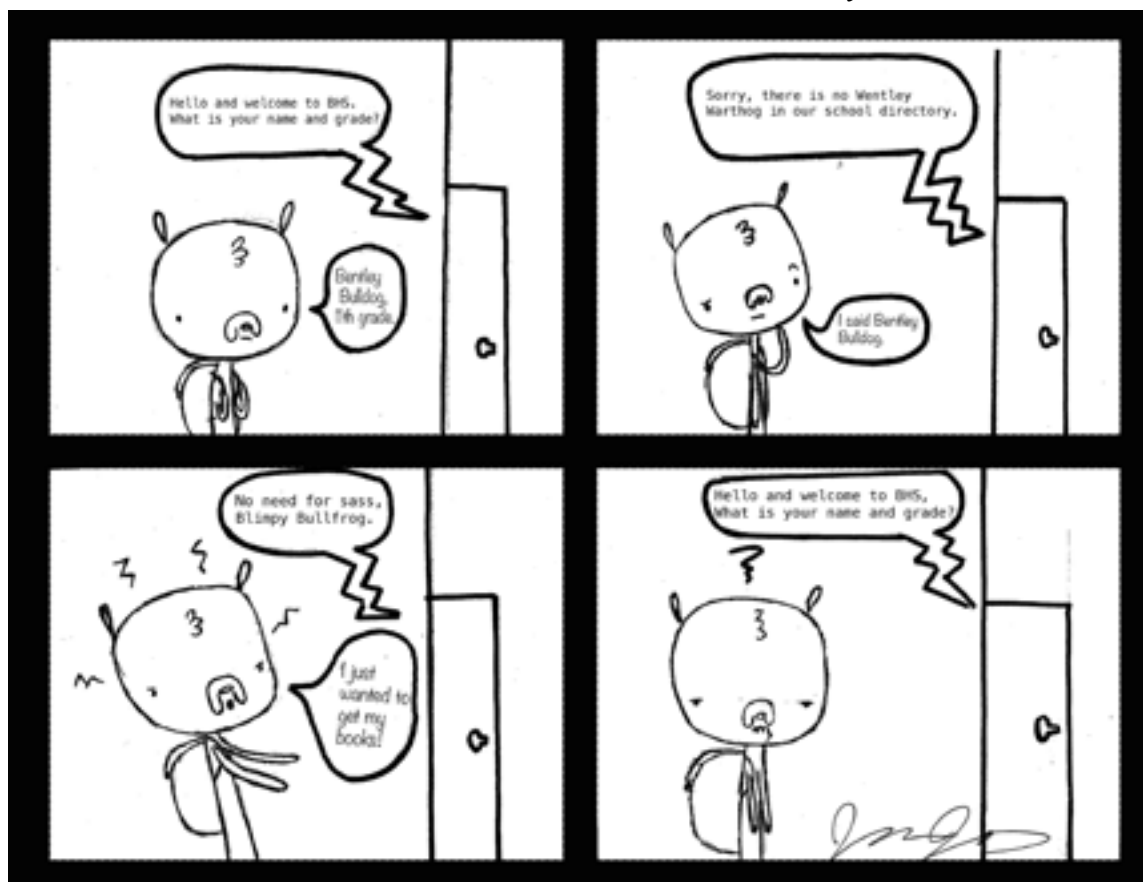
South Lyon High School has also added the same features to the security as Brighton schools. I have a friend that attends the school and he says it is extremely unnecessary to have the security and a large portion of the students are against it.

Simply put, it is a waste a time and money in my eyes when the funds could be put towards more important uses for the students.

Perhaps the school board is only trying their best to keep the schools safe and I don't blame them for that because I want to feel safe but there are other ways to do it other than making kids feel imprisoned. If kids feel unsafe at school they will have no safe environment to come to in order to escape the possible bad situations that they may be facing at home.

Bentley Takes On Brighton

By Jeremiah Johnson



Staff Editorial: Open campus a must

The school lunches at Brighton High school are okay at best, but it would be so much better if at lunch we could go off campus and get lunch at Great Harvest, Bagger Daves or one of the many other restaurants in Brighton that we all love.

If administration let us go off campus for lunch, it would give the local businesses of Brighton some more income during the day when its slow like all restaurants are and it would also give us more options of food to eat.

The school would have problems letting students go off campus because they would worry that we would not get back to school in time for class, and would accumulate a large amount of tardies that would end in the student failing the class.

If we had the ability to go off campus, only the students who either owned a car and could get a ride would be able to leave, meaning the school wouldn't have to worry about the students not having a ride back to campus.

An option that would work well is having to buy an off campus lunch pass in the beginning of the year at registration just like you do when you buy a parking pass. You would just have a little card saying you could go off campus for lunch to show the teachers or security guards that patrol the school. Perhaps there could be a charge for this, replacing some of the revenue lost inside the lunchroom.

If we are paying money for food every day already we should be given the chance to go and get some food that we generally enjoy to eat on a daily basis.

There will always be students who are willing to sneak off campus to purchase something different than the typical BHS lunch menu.

There is no reason why the school board should not let students who have the means to go off campus and buy food that they want to eat for lunch.

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