

Loy Norrix Welcomes New Administrators

ALEXIS WEEDEN
STAFF WRITER

The first day of school has always kicked off a good week, full of unprecedented chaos, barely contained and filling the building with wild, overly energetic, and already frustrated kids who have gotten far too comfortable with the summer freedom. There aren't many ways to corral and control that energy in school: chasing high schoolers into classrooms is similar to herding cats. However there are people up to the task of helping to supervise the halls and confront the chaos with tact – the administrators – and we've got a whole new team.

Loy Norrix had a shuffle of power over the summer. The school brought in new blood to the administrative team. Brandon Lukes and Kimberly Kirshman are the newest members of the Loy Norrix staff as assistant principals and joined the new principal Christopher Aguinaga, formerly the Dean of Students, and Erin Middleton the current dean of students.

Kimberly Kirshman is one of the two new assistant principals who specifically presides over grades ten to twelve and can most often be found patrolling the cafeteria or handling disciplinary actions.

Walking into Kirshman's office is easy. The room is simple but generates a professional atmosphere



Loy Norrix Assistant Principal Kimberly Kirshman talks to junior Chyahir Lewis about her future. This is one of Kirshman's many duties as an assistant principal.

and she, herself, is polite and handles any situation you throw at her with the appropriate sensitivity and precision, so it seems that the office matches her personality.

With the fans blowing, Kirshman reels off a list of her experiences and her time in the American education system.

Spending twenty-seven years in the field of education is impressive, especially with nineteen of those years on an administrative team. She has bounced from school to school and traveled

through multiple states, from the frigid winters of Michigan to the smothering heat of southern Florida and back again.

Kirshman spent six years with Norrix's neighbors at Portage North Middle School and Portage Northern High School as an assistant principal.

Coming to a school like Norrix from smaller schools, or schools where the administrative team isn't as large is a change of pace for Kirshman. There's a level of excitement in the fact that she has the opportunity to work with

the other administrators.

"As an adult, working with administrators. It's something you don't get in a small school," said Kirshman.

According to Kirshman working on a team of administrators is great for the administrators themselves because it divides the workload and creates a support network. If a new administrator has a question, they have people they can go to for help. However administrators have more duties than just policing the halls and asking students to change

their behavior.

"Our job as educators is to love the whole child—it doesn't matter where they come from or their beliefs, we're there to support them," said Kirshman.

Caring for students is just one of the many duties required of administrative staff. They also have other jobs like supervising the halls, overseeing disciplinary action and doing teacher evaluations.

Students often have concerns which they feel aren't being listened to, Kirshman responded to a few of them, namely the

Loy Norrix technology policy. Many people in Norrix's student body get frustrated by the strict cell phone and hat policy and the seeming lack of flexibility. Kirshman understands students' concerns though.

"It's a double-edged sword [technology], it can absolutely enhance learning when used appropriately with correct monitoring. Cell phones on the other hand provide a distraction and cause more drama than necessary," said Kirshman.

Facing hordes of frustrated students isn't Kirshman's job no matter what their frustrations are, but she understands the need to address frustrations with explanations.

"We need to communicate why we're doing what we're doing. We get caught up in our day to day business," Kirshman said, "but there's usually a good reason [for what we're doing]."

Kirshman shows a willingness to work with the students of Loy Norrix to make the school a place where all students are comfortable. According to Kirshman it's important to stop moving the target, to her it's an important goal.

"We need to be embracing everyone," Kirshman said, supporting the idea that the goal of the administrative team is to promote a more successful and unified school environment.



Junior Jorelle Weaver and senior Aviona Hawkins-Davis working in math teacher Adam Hosler's fifth hour class. Many students claim this to be the hottest room in the building.

Loy Norrix Starts The Year Too Hot

REGAN DILLION
ASST. BUSINESS MANAGER

In the hot months of June and September, Loy Norrix students and staff try their hardest to stand the heat, but its hard when you're "worrying about how much you're sweating and whether you're going to stick to the table," said Loy Norrix mathematics teacher Adam Hosler.

Students and staff became extremely frustrated with the heat and their inability

to learn and teach during class time. In early September, most days are around eighty degrees, but the classrooms are even more unbearable.

"It's been like 95 and even hotter than that," said Loy Norrix science teacher Julie Young who has gone without air conditioning for 18 years.

"You can't be ready to learn until you have had your basic needs addressed, and I would call having an appropriate temperature in the classroom a basic

need," said Loy Norrix English teacher Anne Bowser.

Bowser was referencing Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. The first and most important tier of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs is physiological, which states that food, water, temperature, and other basic needs have to be met before any higher learning can be achieved.

The absence of air conditioning has not only negatively affected the learning environment for students, but it has

interfered with teachers' plans as well, which is a nuisance.

"When I know it's going to be hot, I try to plan things that are less intensive, so things that require a little bit less concentration," said Hosler.

This issue has kept student's learning capacity to a minimum because they are unable to focus.

According to the website "Air Group," when a classroom is too warm or cold, the brain does not focus on learning. It instead is trying to solve how to get the body to cool down or warm up.

"It's like constant sweating even with the windows open," said senior Rylee Thomas.

Thomas isn't the only student who feels this way.

"When I get really hot in class, I just feel gross in class, it's not pleasant," said senior Josh Randazzo.

Extremely hot temperatures in the classroom may also be linked to students' poor attendance.

"When I know it's going to be hot, it's a lot harder for me to be motivated to go to school," said junior Willa Kuttner.

According to the website "Attendance Works," absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the entire school year.

Students and teachers maximize their efficiency when temperatures in the classroom are at an appropriate level. Currently Loy Norrix is undergoing a 62 million dollar remodel of the exterior, many feel that some of this money could have gone toward managing classroom temperatures.

As Bowser said, "If prisons are air conditioned, why aren't schools?"

Classrooms without AC: A-10, A-12, A-13, A-14, A-20, C-17, D-9, D-12, D-13, D-14, K-4, K-6, K-10, K-12, M-1, M-1A, M-3, M-10, M-11, M-12E, M-12W, M-13, M-14, TV Room.

Classrooms with poorly working AC: C-10, C-12, C-13, C-14, C-15, C-16, C-19, C-23.



NOAH BOND, PHOTO EDITOR

Jennifer Macfarlane spends some time in the daycare playground outside Loy Norrix after sending out some emails from her office. Her office, located in the D-Wing, is open to students from 8 to 11, Tuesday through Thursday.

Opening Our Arms to Ottawa’s Own

NOAH BOND
PHOTO EDITOR

Serving an American public school district is a welcome opportunity for Canadian-trained nurse, Jennifer Macfarlane. Macfarlane started her nursing career in neurosurgery at the Ottawa Hospital in 2008. The Ottawa Hospital, located in the capital of Canada, has delivered more than six thousand babies throughout its time and performed almost 52 thousand surgeries according to Ottawa Hospital’s website. This is where Loy Norrix’s new school nurse, Jennifer Macfarlane, worked at after she graduated from the University of Ottawa, the 41st best school in the world for nursing, according to “Top Universities.” As the school nurse, she updates health records and teaches administrators how to react during medical situations, such as administering an EpiPen, or what to do in the event of a seizure. Over her 10 year career, she has worked in many specialties including cardiology, obstetrics

gynecology, and palliative care. Macfarlane moved to the United States with her husband and children in 2014. When it comes to Kalamazoo, she has worked as a nurse at both Borgess and the Family Health Center.

“In a perfect world, there should be at least one [nurse] in every school.”
Jennifer Macfarlane

“[A nurse] supports the whole educational staff,” said Macfarlane as she elaborated on what inspired her to become a nurse. In 1996, back when she was in high school, her school had a nurse, and any time she felt overwhelmed or anxious from the stress of highschool, she would find herself confiding in the nurse for comfort. After her grandfather passed away from liver cancer, Macfarlane went into palliative care, the division in charge of end-of-life care. Now, she helps make sure students are safe each day as they attend school,

and she stretches across eight different schools, all under the name of “District 8.” To Macfarlane, Norrix is like a base-of-operations. It’s the school where her office is located and has more students and staff than the other schools and programs that she must tend to throughout her day. Macfarlane believes that, “in a perfect world, there should be at least one [nurse] in every school,” which would allow her to spend more time with our school, or her new home. She loves the amount of diversity and, in her words, “friendliness,” of this school’s community, and recognizes a willingness to help one another within the walls of Norrix, which is why she gravitates to this school. From 8-11 A.M., Tuesday through Thursday, she finds herself enveloped in the family of Norrix, always with her door open to anyone who might need her.



ANDREW JAMESON, GUEST PHOTOGRAPHER

Bronson Park, alive with greenery and blue skies, is located in downtown Kalamazoo. It was the former base of a homeless camp nicknamed Freedom Encampment.

City Ordinance Legislation Change Sparks Homeless Protest

JOSHUA MCKISSIC
PHOTO EDITOR

Downtown Kalamazoo is a place filled with opportunity, greenery, and unfortunately, homeless people. Over the course of a few weeks, a homeless encampment stationed itself in the center of downtown Kalamazoo, Bronson Park. On August 19th, twenty-one city ordinances were changed from misdemeanors to civil infractions. An unpopular language change decreased the amount of time people are allowed to sit or sleep in parks with their belongings. This was the beginning of the homeless encampment, which was nicknamed Freedom Encampment. The camp members were protesting in the name of reforming the cities policies on public housing and survival services. “Their basic needs are immediate needs, food, shelter, water, electricity, showers,” said Kalamazoo City Manager, Jim Ritsema. On the 31st of August, an agreement was signed by members of the homeless group and city officials allowing the homeless to camp overnight in a city-owned vacant fire station until September 30th. Unbeknownst to the spokespeople of the camp,

who have been called incompetent by many other camp members, the fire station was filled with asbestos, a crystal commonly used as a flame retardant, but is incredibly hazardous to humans, and there were no proper waste services. A homeless citizen of Kalamazoo, Andre Lee said, “The city has tore down more houses than they have given away.” The people of Kalamazoo know very little about this situation. The most popular forms of news are television, social media and newspapers or radios. According to the Pew Research Center, “76% of all American teens aged 15-17 have, or have access to smartphones.” When a poll was taken at Loy Norrix High School, only 83 of the 114 students had seen or heard about the homeless encampment. When asked if they support government housing, 96 out of the 114 agreed that it was a good idea. Sixteen were either indecisive or did not know what it was. Loy Norrix junior Alex Courtney said, “This issue should be publicized and legitimized ... everyone should wake up and wake up everyone else.”

SEE PROTEST PAGE 4

The Memory of Tim Kyle: Giving Back to the Community

BRANDON SCHNURR
WEB EDITOR

As a cart of 31 backpacks loaded with school supplies, destined for students in need, entered the office, Erin and Karen Kyle shake hands with Principal Christopher Aguinaga and Secretary Sheryl Knight, officially marking the donation. For thirteen years, Tim Kyle dedicated his work to teaching at Loy Norrix. Kyle instructed in the Community Based Vocational Education program that helped students with special needs and assisted their transition into the work world by helping to find employment opportunities for them. In January of 2017, Tim Kyle had three strokes, resulting in him leaving KPS for rehabilitation. Unfortunately, after 18 months of rehabilitation, Kyle passed away due to health complications. At Kyle’s memorial service, his family asked for donations to help students both at Loy Norrix and throughout the Kalamazoo Public School district. These donations included backpacks loaded with school supplies for students who need them and a total of \$3 thousand in donations to the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA). This money will be put towards helping students with special needs throughout the school district. “He would have loved that. He had a school store where kids could earn school supplies. His legacy was always having food, supplies, whatever he could come up with for the kids,” said Loy Norrix art teacher Cindy Vanlieu, a close friend of Kyle.

Kyle is remembered well by those he worked closely with, both students and staff alike. At Kyle’s memorial service, the student turnout was described as phenomenal and heart-warming. “I was very impressed by how many students showed up at his funeral service. There were many students there from the past that are no longer in school,” recollected Vanlieu. Kyle is remembered for many reasons, such as the school shop he ran that allowed students to earn supplies and the vocational education field trips he planned for the students. “One of his favorite things to do was go on field trips,” said Loy Norrix paraprofessional Bill Logan. “They were going out to the car museum, going to Stryker, going to a place called Landscape Forms.” Though, Kyle is remembered for more than his work, he is also remembered for his heart and his drive to help others. “Mr. Kyle was very positive, an extremely hard worker, conscientious, and really dedicated to helping students,” recalls Vanlieu. “After school, when we would both be here very late, we would sit and have conversations on all kinds of things.” “He was very intelligent, he liked education, he liked teaching students, and he liked teaching here at Norrix,” said Logan. “He will be missed in education because that was what he really liked.” With the donations to KRESA and supplies for students in honor of Tim Kyle, his legacy will live on in the hearts of many, students and teachers alike.



KAREN KYLE FACEBOOK PAGE

Erin, Marshall, and Karen Kyle (left to right) stand next to a cart full of donated backpacks and school supplies for Loy Norrix students in honor of Tim Kyle. They also donated \$3 thousand to the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency for investment into educating children with special needs.

CASS TERRIAN
STAFF WRITER

Chairs are being shuffled into place in the orchestra room that is frigid from air conditioning. The seating chart is projected onto a screen at the front of the room. However, this is no ordinary seating chart: all of the seats are lined up in rows forming the letter “U.”

Everyone is nervously gazing at the hand-drawn chart, each student finds their own seat and looks to see who else they will be surrounded by. Of course, most of the students from the years before are pushed toward the front of the room by the incoming freshmen. It seems like just another year, but something has changed.

As the orchestra section leaders make their way into the room, one section is facing an exciting change, an eight person viola section! It is the largest viola section that Sandra Shaw, the orchestra conductor and teacher, has seen at Loy Norrix High School.

“Central has always had more [violists], even now they have 11,” said Shaw. The growth taking place at Loy Norrix is profound and sudden.

Junior August Adams-Miller is the co-leader of the abnormally large viola section in the Loy Norrix orchestra. His life is often shaped by his role in the section and belonging to an active orchestra. The largest section that August has been a part of prior to this school year was “probably seven” violists, but he says that was back in elementary school so there wasn’t a section leader.

August decided to play

the viola in fourth grade when he watched “Adventure Time” on Cartoon Network and saw the character Jake the Dog playing the viola, but if people ask, generally his response is, “Cello and violin just aren’t as interesting.”

Feeling that you belong to a group of similar people outweighs the sometimes invert opinions about playing the viola, for instance, searching the term “viola puns,” it will give way to many offensive jokes and not much else. August says that his life is greatly impacted by playing the viola and being a part of an orchestra.

“I made a lot of close friends here in the viola section. I have devoted a lot of my time outside school, coming to concerts and stuff,” said August.

Sections often become very tight-knit, which can create an unintentional system of support.

He said that the viola section is often misunderstood, but this may become less prevalent with the new size.

“A lot of people don’t really understand what our section does, especially because there are so few of us.” August continued, “People take first violins more seriously because they always get the melody.”

While in an unusually expansive orchestra, the other sections may not realize the importance of the viola section. They play an important part of the background music and often help to keep the beat.

“It wouldn’t sound as good without the other background parts,” said August.



MIRANDA COLE, FEATURE EDITOR

Junior August Adams-Miller tunes his viola before class begins. The orchestra is preparing for the upcoming Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association festival and other concerts in the near future.

Although the viola section is often seen as the group of outcasts in many orchestras, August says that he doesn’t feel like a misfit, and when asked if he is proud of his own place in the orchestra he said, “Yes. Period.”

August believes he is impacted by the other sections including his own, “It means more if my own section praises me because they understand my music more,” August said.

August has a positive outlook on how the year will play out with

the many new students to look after. He plans to be friends with all of them but says that they should also take him and his section leader seriously.

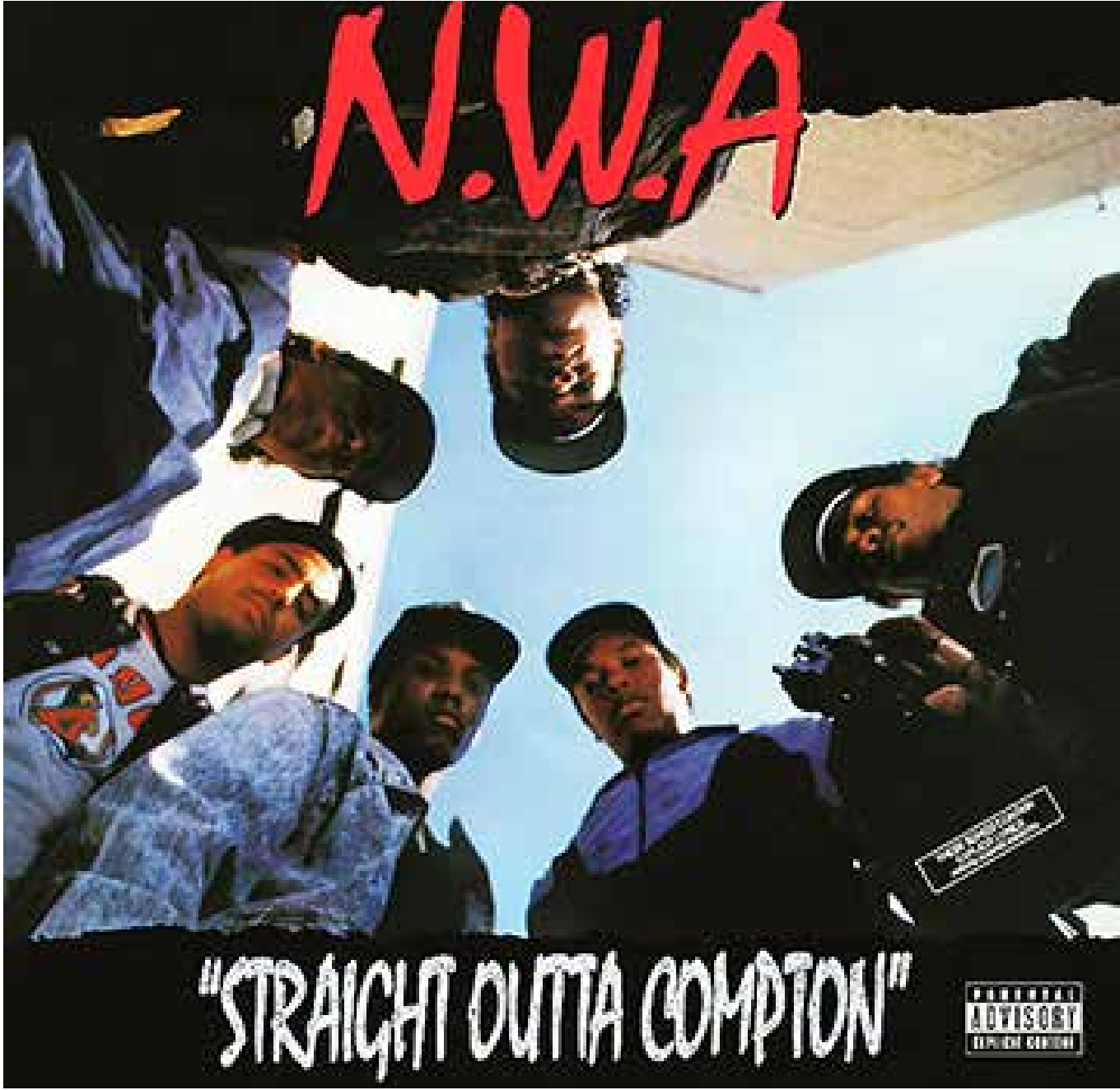
“There is definitely a balance because if they don’t like you they won’t listen to you, but if they like you too much then they won’t take you seriously,” August explained.

There should always be a difference between work time and friend time. That balance can be difficult to find, but very worth it.

The sharing of music brings people together, it is gratifying and therapeutic. It is an act of putting your soul into something and sharing that feeling with another group of people. When a person can put their emotions and aesthetic need into music, that is when it becomes something nearly other-worldly, and having an appreciation for everyone around you who is helping to make that a reality, is essential for a high level orchestra.

The Story of N.W.A:

A Glimpse at the Careers, Success and Legacy of the Group That Came ‘Straight Outta Compton’



CIERA MCCLINTON-LANGSTON
ASSISTANT WEB EDITOR

“They empowered black men to not be afraid...to not show fear. They weren’t afraid of their background and [showed] through music you can make it out of the hood,” said Loy Norrix senior Stephan Speikes.

The golden age of the 20th century, the 90’s was the time of low-rise jeans, oversized shirts, Fila’s, and pagers. So many pop culture staples emerged from this period in time, including what is considered the most dangerous group in America.

August of this year marked

the 30 year anniversary of “N.W.A’s” (N****z Wit Attitudes) debut album release, “Straight Outta Compton.” This was the beginning of the path to struggles and success for the group, as well as the people they came into contact with. Notably, N.W.A was one of the most influential groups of their time period and has still been able to influence youth and pop culture today.

N.W.A was a rap and hip-hop group founded in the late 80’s and lasted into the 90’s. The

group originally consisted of five artists: Ice-Cube, Dr. Dre, Eazy-E, M.C Ren. and DJ Yella. The golden age for N.W.A spanned their first few years before one of the main members, Ice-Cube, left the group; however, they were still very successful after his departure.

During this period their most notable pieces came out such as, “F**k tha Police,” “Straight Outta Compton,” “Express Yourself,” and “Boyz-N-The-Hood” to name a few. The time period after Ice-Cube’s departure supplied

listeners with some very popular and well-known hits due to the controversy between the former and current members resulting in multiple diss-tracks. The most popular of these diss-tracks were “Real N****s” in 1990 and “No Vaseline” in 1991.

The group’s secondary success came from the legacy they left behind not only through their influential music but from the record companies that they formed. This left a strong impact on the entertainment industry as well.

For some time, Ice Cube continued to make music then shifted his focus to acting and producing. He co-produced and starred in the classic movie, “Friday,” which became extremely popular and spawned off two sequels. Ice Cube also starred in “Are We There Yet?” and “21 Jump Street,” both of which had sequels and a few tv shows.

The late Eazy-E aimed to educate and spread awareness about HIV/Aids once he was diagnosed with the disease in 1995.

They were the pioneers for the distance that the rap genre could reach with each member contributing to the music and entertainment industry in new and innovative ways.

Dr. Dre went on to become a music producer, helping to start the music labels Ruthless Records, Def Jam and finally, his own personal record company. Aftermath. Artists and groups such as Logic, Nas, Kendrick Lamar, Kanye West, Jay-Z and Rihanna were first produced through these labels. Dr. Dre also started Beats By Dre, a headphone and speaker company.

N.W.A also had one of the top grossing movies of 2015 with their biopic “Straight Outta Compton,” which made over

\$60 million during its opening weekend alone.

N.W.A has been heavily ridiculed for their dangerous and rebellious songs and behaviors. In numerous songs they disrespected women, police and justice departments, and encouraged the use of firearms. They even received a letter in 1989 from the FBI who claimed their songs, one in particular, incited aggression toward the police. The letter stated that the disrespect of police officers would not be tolerated.

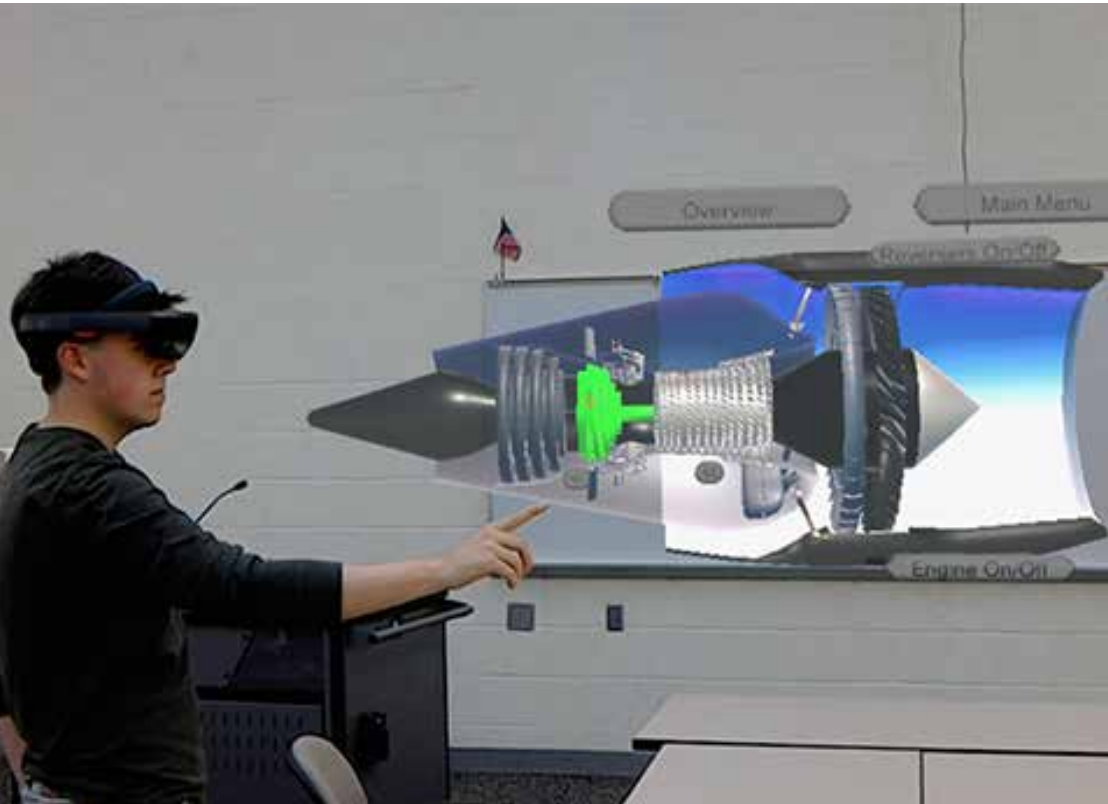
In addition to this, N.W.A used explicit words and referenced sex in almost every song. Because of this, they are credited as troublemakers, delinquents, and an overall bad influence, with music that reflected this reputation. At the time N.W.A was even called the “most dangerous group in America.”

“They had a negative influence,” said Atiba Ward, business teacher at Loy Norrix, “[Their songs] talked about being mean to the police and degraded women.”

This may be true, but as said in the film “Straight Outta Compton,” their music was a reflection of their reality. It may have negative influence on those who don’t have to deal with things such as police brutality, drug abuse, or gang violence in their daily lives, but the music resonated with people who lived that lifestyle. For some, the music was vulgar, but for so many others, the music mirrored their lives.

“They told the real life story of what people go through,” said Loy Norrix senior Breeana Moncrief.

Controversial or not, N.W.A’s overall success and influence in the music industry, as well as in pop culture, cannot be denied. They were the pioneers for the distance that the rap genre could reach with each member contributing to the music and entertainment industry in new and innovative ways.



LORI BROWN, COLLEGE OF AVIATION, WMU

WMU, College of Aviation student exploring the augmented reality engine in the classroom using the Microsoft HoloLens. Assosiate Professor and reasercher at WMU, Lori Brown was chosen by Microssoft to use the HoloLens in the classroom.



LORI BROWN, COLLEGE OF AVIATION, WMU

The WMU aviation department is able to use the HoloLens to project interactable cockpits in the classroom.

Augmented Reality is the Future of Technology

GAVIN RUTHERFORD
COPY EDITOR

Nowadays, most Americans own cell phones. We use them to text, call, look things up, play games and we’re still developing new capabilities. So, what if we could make these everyday activities even more streamlined? With the release of the Iphone X, Apple has introduced the ability to use augmented reality, a means of integrating virtual elements into the real world, in its most basic form, but we can still go much further.

Over 100 years ago, L. Frank Baum, the author of “The Wizard of Oz” series, wrote a novel titled “The Master Key.” This book is known as the first recorded mention of the essential idea for augmented reality, the overlay of data into the real world.

Fast forward another 80 years to the development of the EyeTap by Steve Mann, who is known as “the father of wearable computing.” The EyeTap was a headset that took in recordings of the world around you and projected it onto the eye. The EyeTap can be viewed as the mother that birthed the Google Glass.

Right now, there are multiple companies, like Google and Microsoft, who are working on developing programs that would allow you to do things like type on a keyboard that was only visible on your AR headset. Programs like these are the driving force for developing newer and better technologies.

Since the EyeTap, augmented reality (AR) has been making tremendous strides the world of technology, but what can

it be used for in the future? AR has the ability to take everything your phone can do and then apply software to create better AR games, reconstruct ruins, design buildings and many other possible developments. One of the biggest things to look forward to is the application of AR in education. With AR, a teacher can now display and interact with full 3D models that the entire class can see. In fact AR is already starting to be integrated into modern education.

Associate Professor and Researcher at Western Michigan University’s College of Aviation, Lori Brown, was chosen by Microsoft for their “Women in Mixed Reality Spotlight Partner Program” to use the Microsoft HoloLens in her aviation program.

In school, it’s hard to put what you learn in the classroom into practice, but with AR the process becomes more streamline.

“There is a gap between the classroom and the simulator. AR fills those gaps by providing an experience that bridges what students learn in the classroom and in the aircraft simulator or airplane and allows them to practice and be totally immersed,” said Brown.

However, not everyone is on board with the implementation of AR into everyday life.

One of the biggest issues of new technology is making sure that there are proper defenses in place to protect from hacking.

“All it takes is one hacker to figure out how to mess with those things,” said Loy Norrix senior, Tom Rossi.

If someone were to hack your AR

device, you could be looking at an extreme invasion of privacy. The way most modern AR systems work is by recording and then projecting an image onto the glass or the eye, so if somebody were to gain access to this feed, they would be able to see everything you do.

Introduction to Information Technology EFE teacher Rostam Ahmad Daud said, “With augmented reality everything is being observed, it’s being recorded. This could easily compromise a lot of information.”

Amongst security concerns, there are also dangers to your mental well-being.

If you were able to sit at your house and do all your work from your AR system, it could seriously cut on your time interacting with people. There are also still physical dangers of AR. Pokemon Go, an app for smartphones released in 2016, had a big focus on using AR as apart of the game. But Pokemon Go also showed us that there are risks to walking around with some form of a screen in front of our face. A study by Purdue University shows that as of November, 2017, Pokemon Go has caused 2 deaths, 31 injuries, and over \$500,000 in vehicle damage.

Ultimately, while AR has many practical applications, there are still plenty of risks that come with it. As we learn more and more about what we can do with technology, we run into equally as many issues. Practical AR devices are still a long ways away, but before we can even consider releasing them to the public, we need to make sure that all the kinks are worked out.

FROM PROTEST PAGE 2

Loy Norrix senior Jonah Verhage has a different perspective on government housing than the majority of students.

Verhage said, “Our government is a republic which means we can vote to pass laws that change the restrictions and criteria for public housing; therefore, if a money-hungry politician wanted to tear down some public housing to build other stuff, he’s well within his power to do that.”

On September 18th, Ritsema announced that camping after 7 P.M. would be concidered trespassing on city property and that anyone loitering would be liable to arrest. In a sign of solidarity, residents of the city and members of the local churches banded together, ‘led’ by City Commissioner Shannon Sykes, fighting and speaking for and with the homeless people of Kalamazoo.

Many citizens cleared out of the park after Ristsema’s announcement for fear of arrest, while others willingly went to jail as a sign to city officials that people will not stand for the wrongful treatment of its people. Although, over 100 tents were in the park on Sunday September 16th, only 14 people were arrested on the 18th, one of them being commissioner Sykes.

The official reason for shut down was “unsanitary food conditions,” so all the food that was made and donated by the people of Kalamazoo has been thrown away. City officials have stood by this decision, citing the unsanitary conditions. After the shutdown the camp split into three locations, dividing 100 tents and almost 200 citizens. Today the encampment has been disbanded.

Teens Use Nicotine Without Knowing the Harmful Effects

KAILYNNE BESSER
STAFF WRITER

Walk into a bathroom at Loy Norrix and breath in a fruity, mango scent as a group of kids rushes to the door to see if there is a security guard. This is a common occurrence at Loy Norrix. When students see it’s just another student, they all go back to hitting their Juul, Suorin Drop or Suorin Air.

The neverending pattern is quintessential to the vaping culture of high school. Some kids take a hit to try to calm their nerves from the stress from their classes, or some use it as an excuse to avoid being in class at all. There are a lot of reasons that high school teens go to the bathroom to vape. Unfortunately, this restroom ritual is far more unhealthy than they realize.

There has been a lot of controversy about teenagers vaping and how minors are getting their source of nicotine and vapes. Federal law restricts those younger than eighteen to buy any nicotine products in the United States. Research into the effects of vaping on students has been limited due to the newness of the trend. However it is already clear that vaping can cause an addiction to nicotine, making the students crave the candy flavored juice even more.

Discussions have arisen over whether teens vape to reduce stress or just for recreational use and if vaping should be more acceptable for minors to participate in.

“I love the feeling of the smoke going



through my lungs,” said Loy Norrix senior Bailey Brandt.

Brandt has been vaping since she was fourteen years old. She started vaping because all her friends were vaping, and she wanted to try it. Her parents know she vapes and they don’t approve. Since she turned eighteen, which is the legal age to vape, Brandt started vaping more, and now Brandt does not hide it as much as she did before.

“Schools should not have strong vaping rules because when you’re eighteen, you should be able to do it, but they should make a spot for the students and teachers for if they vape or smoke,” said Brandt.

Cigarettes have been demonized towards the youth for the past few decades, and rightly so because of their harmful effects especially to the lungs.

This type of thought is indicative of how students view vaping. Cigarettes have been demonized towards the youth for the past few decades, and rightly so because of their harmful effects, especially to the lungs. However students do not view nicotine addiction in the same way as smoking cigarettes.

“Students believe that vaping is healthier than smoking cigarettes,” said Loy Norrix health teacher Richard Labadie.

Students think that vaping is relatively safe, but it is actually very harmful for the human body, for example, making the body heal more slowly, damaging the bladder and heart or even causing your lungs to shut down.

In an article from “The Telegraph,” author Sarah Knapton said, “Almost 80,000 people a year die of a smoking-related illnesses, and smoking costs the National Health Service two billion dollars a year.”

Around 2.6 million people use e-cigarettes in the US. There have been studies that show that teens have been getting sick from the level of nicotine. It is very popular with the teens now to get E-juice with a high level of nicotine of 50mg/mL.

If you’re a long-term cigarette smoker and haven’t been able to cut back or stop smoking using approved cessation methods, e-cigarettes and other vaping devices products appear to be a safer alternative than continuing cigarette smoking, even if they do not help you reduce your nicotine intake. However, if you do not smoke or use other forms of tobacco or nicotine, steer clear of e-cigarettes and other vaping devices. The potential risks to your long-term health outweigh any enjoyment in the moment.

Something You Might Not Know...


- ♦ **Vaping is no better than a cigarette. It still contains toxins that are damaging long-term.**
- ♦ **Small amounts of nicotine can be found in common plants such as tomatoes, potatoes, green peppers, eggplants and coca plants.**
- ♦ **Trying to get pregnant? Nicotine can decrease fertility in many by up to 75%.**
- ♦ **Is it possible to overdose on Nicotine? This can be the case when nicotine gum or patches are consumed by young children.**
- ♦ **Addiction is Addiction: Nicotine can be as hard to give up as major illegal drugs such as Heroin.**

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Current Fashion Trends are Sweeping the Loy Norrix Hallways

YESENIA SALAS
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With so many celebrities on the rise to stardom, fashion trends are always changing in hopes to turn heads. Fashion, a form of expression, can scale from simple to jaw-dropping. Although school dress codes may limit a student's options, Loy Norrix students prove they can keep up with the latest and greatest.

Senior Emma Knutson poses in her hoop earrings.



JAELYN ANDERSON, BUISNESS MANAGER

Accessories are a must in everyone's wardrobe; regardless of age, ethnicity, gender or status, accessories complete an outfit. They are meant to make a statement or can be an extension of your natural beauty. Piercings and tattoos are accessories meant to bring out one's best features.

Senior Emma Knutson personally likes wearing hoop earrings, "They make me feel really cute when I wear them," she beams.

Knutson eplained that after seeing 16 year-old female, singer-songwriter Billie Eilish wearing hoop earrings a lot, she noticed other girls started wearing hoops more. Billie Eilish is an icon many teens identify with. Her unique style inspires others to try new things with their wardrobe, even small additions such as hoop earrings go a long way.

Fashion often operates as a cycle and the 80's is back! Look around, scrunchies have managed to make their way into every teenage girl's heart. For a while, everyone stuck to simple black hair ties but scrunchies come in a variety of colors, patterns and materials.

When asked why she prefers scrunchies over hair ties, junior Rebecca Sierra-Torres said, "It doesn't dent my hair."

Senior Izzy Best commented, "They're super cute. I like them because they don't hurt my hair."

Senior Izzy Best rocks a scrunchie on her wrist.



YESENIA SALAS, A & E EDITOR

Junior Quincy Ellis smiles in his Nikes while he enjoys lunch with friends.



JAELYN ANDERSON, BUISNESS MANAGER

A timeless shoe brand like Nike can be found in everyone's closet, whether that's for their high quality or iconic status. White Nike Air Force 1's were seen on students all throughout the 70's, specifically, 1972 when they dropped. These days the style can still be seen on high school students.

"I picked my Air Force 1's because they were pretty crispy," junior Quincy Ellis said with a smile.

Air Force 1's, being a pair of white shoes with a simple design, can turn a 'lazy day' outfit into an 'I didn't try that hard, but I'm looking clean' look.

Ellis went on to say, "They're basic, they're white. Nike's you know, you can wear them with almost anything."

The shoe itself is great for any weather all year round. It's leather material keeps snow from seeping in and makes dirt easy to clean during warmer seasons.

You'll catch senior Bailee Smith sporting some Vans Old Skool black and white shoes in the halls. The all white version of this shoe has also been on the rise, seeing as they suit all styles.

"They go with everything," said Smith.

Vans are a high quality brand and can be dressed up or down.

Part of what has brought this brand back into the spotlight is the reemergence of the 'hipster' look. The brand Vans was founded in 1966 and really took off during the 70's. The shoes have had a similar look since then.

Asking Smith for her opinion, she said, "They're coming back. They look very vintage."

Senior Bailee Smith shows off her Vans during Lunch.



JAELYN ANDERSON, BUISNESS MANAGER

Left to right: Nia Alexopoulos, Wyatt Atkins, Addy Alexopoulos, Naashar Leake and Leianna Stratton pose together in their Birkenstocks. The group had just finished having lunch together.



JAELYN ANDERSON, BUISNESS MANAGER

An all time class favorite are Birkenstocks. Birk sandals are a summer go-to shoe for males and females. The bulky but comfortable design can fit fuzzy socks which are life savers when fall comes around.

"They're easy to put on in the morning," said junior Addy Alexopoulos.

"You can take them off in class," senior Wyatt Atkins chimed in.

"And they're comfortable," senior Naashar Leake added.

At the end of the day, trends are what we make of them. They are simply what a vast majority agrees looks nice. Any trend begins with a person owning an outfit and pulling it off with confidence.

Keeping your chin up, shoulders back and a big smile is the key to every trend.

Loy Norrix Homecoming Week

Monday
PAJAMA DAY



Seniors **Stephan Speikes** and **Madison Caldwell** pose along with junior **Nakia Brown** in their PJ's on the first day of spirit week.

Tuesday
JERSEY DAY



Seniors **Caleb Gonzales** and **Dustin Keltch** wear their soccer jerseys to support spirit week.

Wensday
MEME DAY



Freshman **Madelynn Lewis** dressed as the Arthur meme. "I didn't know what else to do," said Lewis

Thursday
HAT DAY



Sophomore **Michael Lee** wears his captain hat. When asked why he chose this hat Lee said, "I did nothing the previous days and decided to go all out today."

Friday
BLUE & WHITE DAY



Sophomore **Amber Morgan** and **Lucyma Konjoh** wear their blue Norrix gear to show their spirit.

JAELYN ANDERSON
BUSSINESS MANGER

MIRANDA COLE
FEATURE EDITOR

ESPERANZA FRAGA
SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

ESPERANZA FRAGA
SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

MIRANDA COLE
FEATURE EDITOR



Loy Norrix Principal **Christopher Aguinaga** shows off his dance moves at the pep assembly. Dancing and gathering all the students around is a fun way to get everyone in a good mood.

DEVON GROSS, PRINT EDITOR



DEVON GROSS, PRINT EDITOR

The Loy Norrix **Cheer Squad** leads the school in singing the school's fight song. A cheerleader's main job is to hype the students around them.



DEVON GROSS, PRINT EDITOR

Seniors **Nick Thompson**, **Sierra Knight** and **Emma Knutson** pose with the school flag. Typically during games and assembly, it's tradition for seniors to hold on to the flag.



DEVON GROSS, PRINT EDITOR

Sophomores **Lucy Wallis**, **Maya Mielke**, **Emerson Wesselhoff**, **Ellie Haase**, **Ellie Lepley** and **Laurel Wolf** smile during the Loy Norrix pep assembly. The girls find that cheering with their friends is a great way to show school spirit. During the pep assembly students competed in events such as Tug-of-War and other wacky and unique games. Each of these girls are swimmers at Norrix, and after the assembly they could be found at practice that same night.

With the start of a new school year, comes football season. The memorable tradition of homecoming and spirit week which spans across America are celebrated during this time of the year. At Loy Norrix, we participate in our homecoming week by giving each day a theme to help show school spirit. At the end of the week, students and staff attend a pep assembly and a football game which ultimately brings the Norrix community closer together. During the pep assembly, students from each grade compete against each other in games and cheers. Whichever grade level shows the most spirit by the Friday Night football game, wins superiority and bragging rights for the rest of the year, not to mention, the memories that they'll hold dearly when looking back at their time as a Loy Norrix Knight.

Senior **Lillia Bistrek**, Loy Norrix's Homecoming Queen of the 2018-2019 school year, glows after being crowned by last year's Homecoming Queen, Lauren Johnson.

KARLI LITTLE, COPY EDITOR



KARLI LITTLE, COPY EDITOR

Senior **Ty Morales** grins excitedly after being dubbed Homecoming King of the 2018-2019 school year, he was voted in by his peers.



KNIGHT LIFE

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It is Important to Stay Positive



MAYA CRAWFORD
OPINION EDITOR

Imagine you’re preparing for a huge exam tomorrow. You’ve studied all night and you’re absolutely sure that you know everything, but there’s still that lingering fear that you will bomb the test. You shove the doubt aside as you walk through the classroom door and end up acing the exam. Now imagine you still studied all night, but you held on to your fear. Statistically, you would likely fail the exam, according to The Mayo Clinic.

Having a positive outlook on life contributes to success more than people realize. From something as simple as being likeable to something serious like your first job, having an optimistic personality can work wonders. Having a positive outlook on situations will leave you better off when they’re over, according to the Mayo Clinic.

Loy Norrix psychology teacher Rebecca Layton agrees with this philosophy.

“I’m not cheerleader happy and preppy, but I do think if you believe everything’s going to fail, and you have that negative energy that you put out there, you’re not going to have success.” Layton continued, “The studies will tell you over and over again, that having a positive attitude towards things will help you end up more successful at

various tasks.”

Being optimistic also comes with health benefits. Having a positive disposition ensures better cardiovascular health, increased life span, better resistance to illness and increased emotional stability during hardships and setbacks as found by the Mayo Clinic.

People who believe that nothing they do will end in triumph, whether purposely pessimistic or not, will generally take away their best effort and fail just as they predicted. However, it is possible to train yourself to be more optimistic.

“I think you can train yourself to have small victories. You can train yourself to start looking for one good thing, whatever that one good thing is, which may not make you overly positive,” said Layton, “But at least if you

get into the habit of doing it, it becomes easier to find the good things that happen during your day or that are happening in your life overall.”

There are ways to identify negative thinking so you can change to a more positive mindset. Usually, after a long day, we focus on how much our back hurts or how much homework we have to do. That type of thinking leads to procrastination and falling grades. Instead, if we focused on the fact that our friends complimented our outfit or we have a cool game to come home to and play, it will be a lot easier to make it through the day.

Being forced to be happy and optimistic is not the best way to achieve success, but if you start to appreciate the little things, life could turn out better than you would think.

Sexual Misconduct Allegations Against Kavanaugh Rock the Nation and Taint the Supreme Court



RAILI NELSON
STAFF WRITER

To many, the scandals that arose during the controversial confirmation of new Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh are irrelevant now that he has been confirmed. But to many, like Loy Norrix Sophomore Megan Hybels who believes the accusations that were made against him by three separate women, the case is far from closed.

The nomination and subsequent confirmation of Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court has significance beyond just a new justice on the court. His confirmation shifts the balance of the court to a conservative majority. The swing vote on the court will shift from Justice Anthony Kennedy to the more conservative Chief Justice John Roberts.

Crucial controversial Supreme Court decisions such as the Roe v. Wade, ruling in favor of legalized abortions and the Obergefell v. Hodge ruling that legalized gay marriage are hanging by a thread, but their weight has been drowned out in the sea of scandals swarming around this new justice. These allegations of sexual harassment made against Kavanaugh have great significance due to the recent #MeToo movement which has shifted the cultural attitude from one of complacency towards the assault and harassment of women to one of awareness and action.

In the case of Brett

Kavanaugh, the allegations of gross sexual misconduct from three different women, Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, Deborah Ramirez, and Julie Swetnick should not be swept under the rug.

The three different women each have had different alleged experiences with Kavanaugh, although alcohol was involved in nearly all of them. This influence has been used to attempt to discredit all of the alleged assaults, which all happened over twenty years ago.

Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, who was the first to come forward, alleges that Kavanaugh tried to assault her while at a party in high school. She has recounted in a CNN report, “Brett groped me and tried to take off my clothes. He had a hard time because he was so drunk, and because I was wearing a one-piece bathing suit under my clothes. I believed he was going to rape me. I tried to yell for help. When I did, Brett put his hand over my mouth to stop me from screaming. This was what terrified me the most, and has had the most lasting impact on my life.”

Loy Norrix freshman Faye Thomas believes Blasey Ford. She thinks these accusations are, “disgusting,” and when asked if she believes his denials, she said, “No.”

Some officials, however, don’t have much confidence in the truth of Ford’s allegations, like Republican senator Orrin Hatch, who stated in a ‘NY Post’ article that he believes that Ford may be “mixed up.”

The other two women to come forward with accusations, Deborah Ramirez and Julie Swetnick, did not testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Deborah Ramirez, the second accuser, alleges that that Brett Kavanaugh assaulted her at a college party, recounting to The

New Yorker, “Brett was laughing, I can still see his face, and his hips coming forward, like when you pull up your pants.”

Ramirez also said that she heard, “Somebody yelled down the hall, ‘Brett Kavanaugh just put his penis in Debbie’s face,’ it was his full name. I don’t think it was just ‘Brett.’ And I remember hearing and being mortified that this was out there” In the same New Yorker article.

Ramirez does, however, have significant gaps in her memory, being heavily intoxicated at the time. For this reason, her claims have been written off by most officials.

Regardless of what side of the aisle you sit on, Kavanaugh’s consumption of alcohol is concerning.

Kavanaugh himself responded to her claims before the hearing took place, stating, “This alleged event from 35 years ago did not happen. The people who knew me then know that this did not happen, and have said so. This is a smear, plain and simple. I look forward to testifying on Thursday about the truth and defending my good name—and the reputation for character and integrity I have spent a lifetime building—against these last-minute allegations.” This was published alongside Ramirez’s story in ‘The New Yorker.’

Julie Swetnick, the third woman to accuse him of sexual misconduct, says that she witnessed Kavanaugh conducting “Abusive and physically aggressive behavior towards girls, including pressing girls against him without their consent, ‘grinding’ against girls and attempting to remove or shift girls’ clothing to expose private

body parts” according to a ‘CNN’ article.

Her claims have been, like all the others, categorically denied by Kavanaugh.

All three incidents involve large amounts of alcohol, creating a common thread between them. In fact, most of the questions raised to Kavanaugh during his testimony concerned his alcohol consumption. He addressed his relationship with drinking in his younger days in his opening statement, saying, according to ‘the Washington Post’, “I drank beer with my friends, almost everyone did. Sometimes I had too many beers. Sometimes others did. I liked beer. I still like beer.”

While his youthful drinking appears harmless, others have a different story to tell. In that same ‘Washington Post’ article, some of his college classmates describe him as “sloppy,” and “frequently incoherently drunk.”

Kavanaugh dodged many questions relating to drinking. For example, when Senator Amy Klobuchar inquired as to whether or not he has ever become blackout drunk, he responded in a defensive manner, as archived by ‘the Washington Post’, “You’re asking about blackout. I don’t know, have you?”

Regardless of what side of the aisle you sit on, Kavanaugh’s consumption of alcohol is concerning. No citizen should want someone that is accused of frequently boozing it up, or someone that apparently becomes violent and incapable of making sound decisions while under the influence. While the actual allegations are very serious, the alcoholic implications that run throughout them may be even more serious.

SEE KAVANAUGH PAGE 9

KNIGHTS SPEAK

Do you think drivers training classes should be taught in schools, why or why not?



TAYLOR DOONAN
10TH GRADE

I feel like it should be a class. I think it’s stupid that it’s not a class, it used to be.



DARREN SPERTI
10TH GRADE

I believe public drivers training will help schools. It’s more affordable and prepares students. It should be a fundamental part of the educational system.



JAMES HARN
9TH GRADE

Yes, it should be something that the schools offers, you’re wasting time as if it’s homework when you are to take driver training after school.



MARSHAWN BELL
12TH GRADE

Yes, because some poeple don’t have the money it takes to take the class. Some people don’t have the transportation it takes to get to different locations.



AIDEN RACKLEY
10TH GRADE

Yeah, it should be taught in school. It’s easier to do it in school. It’s less time consuming.

Bring Driver Education Back to the Classroom



JAELYN ANDERSON
BUSINESS MANAGER

High school is a time full of fun and new experiences, most of which involve a car. Many students look forward to getting their license and owning a car. A car allows many students to have the freedom they have always wanted, no longer having to depend on their parents or others to take them places. With a driver’s license, they can now travel where they want in their own car without having to bother anyone else for a ride.

For many, it is a struggle to pay for the driver training

class or to fit it into their busy schedule, that may involve sports, a job, or the many extracurricular programs that Loy Norrix has to offer. Students also have basic tasks, such as studying or homework. There was once a time when teenagers did not have to worry about trying to fit driver training into their busy schedule. They could just take the course at school. Loy Norrix should bring driver training back to the classrooms as an elective. This would help many students get their license without difficulty as well as help the school.

“It’s hard to go to work, have track practice and also focus on getting my license,” said senior Madisyn Caldwell. “You can only miss so many of the [driver training] classes so if it was during the school day, it would be easy to make all the classes and probably would help the school improve attendance.”

More students having a car and their license would be a benefit to the school in many ways. It would help with school bus transportation, as there would be more people driving instead of riding the bus. This makes more seats available so students who don’t drive have room to breathe and aren’t squished together. It also would help those who don’t have a school bus and have to ride the city bus or get dropped off by an adult, have an easier way to school that doesn’t depend on anyone else. Lastly, it would help with school spirit. Students would be able to come and support more after-school events like football games, swim meets, volleyball games, musicals, and concerts if they had a way there.

“Right now, a lot of kids can’t afford it,” said English teacher and driver training instructor, Sally Wagenaar. “It’s 350 bucks plus then another

50 dollars for segment two, so we have a lot of kids that don’t have the money to take it.”

For many high schools, driver training used to be a class students could take during the school day and not have to worry about payment or time management. According to Sally Wagenaar, many schools removed the program due to it being too expensive for the school to keep running.

If we could have a driver’s program that would help students pay for part of the training as an incentive to graduate, that would be a big help both for students and improving the school.

“I would love to see it as an incentive. We’re trying to get kids to graduate and go to college. I think if we say make it through your junior year and we’ll pay for half of the class, that would help push students to graduate,” said Wagenaar.

PROPS & STOPS

We give PROPS to the school for what we love, and STOPS for all the things we would like to see changed.

PROPS

- Students enjoy that they can wear hats in class. No more disruptive arguments about it.
- The new color of the school is finally a darker shade of blue, like the school colors.
- We are #13 on list of the most diverse schools in Michigan out of about 30,000 other schools.
- New look of the tower. It’s simply marvelous now.
- Students enjoy the natural sunlight from all the windows.
- New soap dispensers. No more struggle to wash our hands.

STOPS

- There’s no air conditioning in the M-wing. It’s 100 degrees in the hot seasons.
- too few vending machines. more Snacks during the day would be wonderful.
- Drinking fountainsare not woring well. There are only two that work very well.
- too short of breaks between classes. We need time to get our lives together.
- No more closed campus. Going out for lunch would be nice sometimes.
- There’s no mirrors in the bathroom. What if my hair is messed up?

The Disappearance of Decent Debate



CADE PETERMAN
SOCIAL MEDIA TEAM

Society has been straying away from the idea of peaceful discourse. We don’t want to have a civil debate, we always want to go straight for the name calling and the “I’m right you’re wrong.” We don’t want to hear each others’ opinions and grow as people, we want to be right.

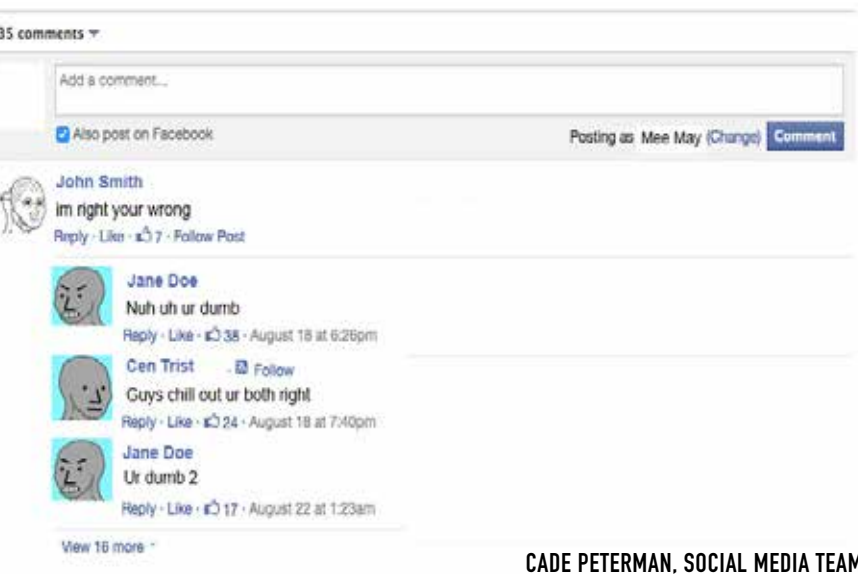
In an increasingly divided country, it is more important than ever to be open to other opinions. If you live inside an echo chamber, you’re only hearing people that agree with you, and you don’t grow as a person, you live your life thinking that you have the right answer and that everyone else is wrong. That’s not a very ideal way to live. By being open to change your opinion, or to at least hear what others have to say, you broaden your perspective and you learn more about people and the world.

Now, I’m not saying you have to agree with and support every opinion. From Federalist Papers Number 51 “When men exercise their reason coolly and freely on a variety of distinct questions,

inevitably they will have different opinions on some of them.” Sometimes, you may think someone’s opinion is straight up wrong, but silencing opinions doesn’t help anyone. You don’t have to give someone a platform. For example, if you own a website or some other public forum, you aren’t required to let them speak on your media, but you shouldn’t stop someone from having a platform if someone else chooses to give them one.

All too often, we see people protest speeches because they don’t believe that person or idea deserves a voice. In several cases, when a university decided to hold a speech for some controversial speakers, the students try to silence them either through regular protest or straight up shouting over the speaker. Take University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMA), in 2016, UMA decided to host controversial speakers Christina Hoff Sommers, Milo Yiannopoulos, and Steven Crowder to talk about political correctness. Many of the students were strongly against this, accusing them of hate speech, and started trying to silence them by just yelling over them for the whole session.

It doesn’t matter if you agree with the these speakers, it is childish and wrong to do this. You can easily protest them while still allowing them to speak. Nowadays, it’s



becoming more of a problem. People thinking that those with opposing opinions should not be allowed to speak, and this isn’t exclusive to any one side of the political spectrum, the more extreme you go to a side, the more you see this. An example from the other side would be Westboro Baptist Church showing up to protest anything from soldiers’ funerals to gay weddings.

People toss around labels to discredit each other, like snowflake, alt right, Nazi, or communist. These are all just used to silence and shut down other people’s opinions. We can’t have a communicative and open society if everyone is trying to shut each other up. Nothing gets done if every discussion ends up in a name-calling shouting match. Everyone just goes home

angry with nothing learned and nothing changing.

People need to be more open to having a civil discussion and an exchange of ideas. If you disagree with someone, ask them why. If they’re open to it, debate them. Challenge their ideas, as they should challenge yours.

Sometimes, they will try to devolve the conversation into a smear session, but you can be the better person and just ignore those that don’t try to debate and only want to call you names. An example of how my opinion was changed by listening to people was that I used to believe the Xbox One was better than the Playstation 4, but by listening to people’s reasoning and experiencing it myself, I now realize the PS4 is the superior console.

FROM KAVANAUGH PAGE 8

Overall, his confirmation seems to have created disaster for Republicans. Despite the #MeToo movement, Republicans have been slow to recognize these allegations as important. They were slow to request a hearing with Ford and the judge. While they eventually did, they missed a scheduled call with Deborah Ramirez’s lawyer to discuss her allegations. They were slow to demand an FBI investigation into the claims against their nominee, and although one

was granted, it reportedly had a limited scope, not even delving into his drinking history. This geriatric pace implies that this is all for show. This has energized Democrats for the upcoming midterms. Political analysts have predicted a so-called “Blue Wave” of Democrats surging to vote. The “mishandling” of these allegations have unleashed anger and distrust in the democratic process by many, especially women.

The midterms, in fact, were the main reason behind the rush to get Kavanaugh

confirmed, regardless of accusations raised against him. The fear that midterms might bring with them an influx of Democrats into the House of Representatives is a massive proponent of the rushed FBI investigations and the lack of testimony from Deborah Ramirez and Julie Swetnick.

This consideration for only their party and not the betterment of the country as a whole left myself and others discontented and disheartened with our current representatives. Republicans put their desire to control

all three branches of the government over their duty to serve and protect the people.

While Brett Kavanaugh’s confirmation story may not be over, the effects will continue to be felt for months, even years after it, as it has set a precedent for how future accusations of sexual misconduct will be handled.



GRAHAM LAPE-SHOUB
11TH GRADE

I feel like it should be, there aren’t many ways to get around, buses are full, it’s useful to have it be taught for later life experience.



CAS TERRIAN
12TH GRADE

I definitely don’t think it should cost money, it should probably be taught at school.



NATALIE JURIGA
10TH GRADE

It should be taught at school because it’s really expensive, and it’s a basic life skill.



KALEB MILLER
10TH GRADE

No because it shouldn’t be a required class. You can do as many classes as you can during high school. Do drivers training after school.

There’s No ‘I’ in Team for This Football Family



MIRANDA COLE, FEATURE EDITOR

Senior **Brady Fillingham**, junior **Elijah Anderson**, and senior **Zach Liddle** talk about the game from the bench. The team enjoys small chats during the game.



MIRANDA COLE, FEATURE EDITOR

With smiles on their faces, **Loy Norrix cheerleaders** start a chant to cheer on the Knights. This team worked all summer to have a great season cheering on their Knights.

MIRANDA COLE FEATURE EDITOR

Loy Norrix and Kalamazoo Central High School are nearly identical, but worlds apart. Each school is located in Kalamazoo county with approximately 16 hundred students. Peers from both of these institutions feel that their school is superior to the other. When the football teams go up against each other there is a sense of tension and electricity in the air. Each team has come to prove what they know to be a fact: they are the superior school.

On Friday, September 14th, the Loy Norrix Knights met up with the Kalamazoo Central Giants to show the city what they had been working for. Each team was seeking bragging rights for the next year. Although our beloved Knights ended the evening with a mark in the loss column, the team showed perseverance and sportsmanship. For the Knights the rivalry between the two schools is “Super serious and we always want to get the best experience out of it that we can,” said sophomore Josh Wilson. They feel that the game has added pressure but

“the perfect amount of hype,” as senior Marshawn Bell puts it. Upon entering Thomas Stadium, it was clear that the Giants were in the building to settle a score due to last years meet-up. In the last seconds of a thrilling game in 2017 the Knights proved that they were a force to be reckoned with in the community by stealing a close victory. Whether you consider yourself a “Giant” or a “Knight” one thing was clear on this evening, football is more than a game for these student athletes and this

community. In the second quarter, quarterback #4 Treyton Allen scored a touchdown for the Knights to get them on the board. Although the Knights were unable to make many plays, with sweat dripping and dirt everywhere, they played the game to their fullest. When asked what his team meant to him, junior Romario Williams simply stated, “[My team] means everything because I need everyone to do what they’re supposed to do so that we can win.”



KIMBERLY MOSS, GUEST PHOTOGRAPHER

Carter Scheele colaberates with senior **Eduardo Roman** following Romans goal in the 2-1 win over Niles. Scheele led the knights in goals this season



SUE ELLEN CHRISTIAN, GUEST PHOTOGRAPHER

Head coach Scott Forrester enjoys lunch with his new team on their first team outing of the season. Coach has put an emphasis on team unity and bonding.

Going for Gold Loy Norrix Soccer Looks for a Record Breaking Season

NATE GOODWIN-KELLY STAFF WRITER

The crowd of students cheered as Carter Scheel ran towards the crowd, hyping them up. The sophomore forward had just scored his 4th goal of the season putting Loy Norrix on top of their match with Niles, 2-1. The Knights would go on to defeat Niles 7-1, with 6 different players scoring goals. Games with such a large margin in the score have been few and far between for Norrix over recent years. In 2016, the Knights finished with a win-loss record of 2-15. After that rough season, the Knights returned ready to step up their game. The team was

able to increase their win total from 2 in 2016 to 8 in 2017. The dramatic increase in wins coupled with the influx of returning talent meant the Knights ended with excitement for the 2018 season. Expectations rose once again when Loy Norrix hired new coach Scott Forrester. Forrester has put together a top notch coaching resume in his years at the helm of various programs. He came to Loy Norrix from Dexter High School, located just outside Ann Arbor. Forrester coached both the boys and girls teams with a high level of success. Forrester has come to Loy Norrix with both district and regional titles, as well as a state championship.

While his high school coaching experience speaks for itself, Coach Forrester also comes to Loy Norrix with college coaching experience. He currently sits second on Kalamazoo College women’s soccer wins list, and is third in winning percentage. He has also coached at the University of Michigan, one of the best soccer schools in the nation. One might see Forrester’s resume and ask themselves what Forrester is doing coaching at Loy Norrix with his plethora of experience. The answer has a lot to do with who he is as a person and coach. “I used to work in the school district before, so this is like coming home for

me,” said Forrester. Forrester wants to bring back a winning culture to the program, “I wanted to come to re-establish a winning mentality. I want to develop young men as soccer players that will use these life experiences as a foundation to build their future,” said Forrester. The team is buying into his vision as they work to elevate the program to new heights. As players, transitioning to a new coach changes the whole program. Often it involves a change in culture, a coach’s philosophy and in expectations. Senior Caleb Gonzales has been playing soccer all his life. Gonzales, a three-year Varsity soccer player, believes that

Forrester has done a good job of building the team. “He makes use of our strengths by putting us in positions best suited for our playstyle,” said Gonzales. Forrester’s coaching style has changed the way the Knights play by using new formations and tactics. Sophomore Carter Scheel was an all-conference selection last year, and he is one of many players whose role has changed with the new coach. “Last year I played winger, now I’ve moved further up the field to striker,” said Scheel. So far the change has been a success, with Scheel leading the team in goals. Coach Forrester has

brought a new style and new ideas to Loy Norrix. The players are beginning to buy in and work towards a goal of taking the program to new heights. While it is still early in the season, the Knights have demonstrated early flashes of potential with a big win over Niles and a 3-2 loss to the #2 team in the state, Portage Central. Forrester has the Knights ready for a big year, one that could see them with one of the school’s best seasons.



KARLI LITTLE
COPY EDITOR

It’s a bright Sunday afternoon, a great day for football. The stadium is packed and full of anticipation. The players walk out, and the crowd goes wild. The game is about to start.

Traditionally, before any sporting event, the United States National Anthem, “The Star Spangled Banner” is played. Everyone stands, and the gentlemen remove their hats. Everything seems normal, except for one person... one man chooses to sit.

In August 2016, San Francisco 49ers’ quarterback, Colin Kaepernick, chose to sit, and later kneel during the National Anthem to protest the oppression of African Americans in America.

According to the website Recode, “Sunday Night Football” is the most regularly watched prime-time television program in the nation, with an average of 22.2 million viewers in 2017. As the most watched television program, one would consider the athletes participating highly influential people.

Many were outraged by Kaepernick’s protest in 2016, but he responded calmly to his critics, saying, “I am not going to stand up to show pride in a flag for a country that oppresses black people and people of color. To me, this is bigger than football and it would be selfish on my part to look the other way. There are bodies in the street and people getting paid leave and getting away with murder. This is not something that I am going to run by anybody. I am not looking for approval. I have to stand up for people that are oppressed. If they take football away, my endorsements from me, I know that I stood up for what is right.”

Although the controversy happened in 2016, earlier this fall Nike released an ad with Kaepernick’s face along with the words, “Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything.”

Nike’s choice to use Kaepernick’s face has been risky, but it was well worth it.

Many people were upset with Nike’s decision to use Kaepernick as the face for the ad, and a massive boycott on Nike has occurred since then. The company’s sales dropped initially, and sneakers were burned. Is this an act of racism, or angry patriots protesting in respect for our troops?

Nike’s choice to support Kaepernick was a massive step forward in the Black Lives Matter movement, as being endorsed by Nike could be the beginning of support from many more companies.

Sophomore Taylor Doonan has not shied from stating her opinion on the situation, saying, “Honestly, I don’t understand how anyone can see this boycott as anything besides racist. Troops fight for our right as Americans to have the freedom to practice free speech. People are missing the point if they’re saying this about the flag. People are dying out there, it’s not okay. If Kaepernick has the platform to protest and people see it, why not use it?”

Comparatively, the six billion dollar profit since the ad aired that Nike acquired has far exceeded any boycott brought against them. Nike’s choice to use Kaepernick’s face has been risky, but it was well worth it.

The new advertisement for Nike featuring Colin Kaepernick. NIKE, INC.

Gamers, Assemble! Loy Norrix eSports Club’s First Year Is Underway

JUSTIN TIMMERMAN
SPORTS EDITOR

If you’re looking for a place where countless all-nighters and playing video games with your friends while eating potato chips and drinking soda will come in handy, the Loy Norrix eSports club has a spot for you!

The eSports club is where gamers can get together and play video games either competitively or casually. Just tell Loy Norrix math teacher and eSports club organizer, Patrick Greely the game you want to play and who is on your team.

The eSports club met and practiced over the summer and during the first few weeks of this school year. Participants have been practicing their gaming skills at home so far.

Now, their hard work is about to pay off, as the competitive league recently started. The club registered for the high school eSports League on September 26th. Andrew Laboe, the athletic director, reports that the competitive eSports club at Norrix club will be playing teams from across the entire country.

The club may have registered, but the first match has yet to be played. When the first competition starts, the gamers will play their games from home. The participants will get into the game that they are competing in at the assigned time while logged into the High School eSports League website at the same time. The website will keep track of scores and players as they are playing the game.

Currently the eSports club has two groups playing two separate games: League of Legends and Smite. The objective of League of Legends is to destroy the enemy base with your team: this is an online, multiplayer game. Smite is also an online multiplayer game where the players choose gods and team up together in order to fight another team who have chosen their own set of gods to play with as well.

Some confirmed games that will be available to Loy Norrix players include: League of Legends, Hearthstone, Super Smash Brothers, Rocket League, Dragon Ball FighterZ, and Fortnite. Future games for the league are still being decided based on what is appropriate or not. Games such as Call of Duty, Rainbow Six Siege and Counter Strike: Global Offensive (CS:GO) are still under discussion regarding if they are appropriate enough to be played since they are very realistic shooting games.

The basketball game series of 2K is also still not confirmed yet because the developers of 2K are not yet on board with

their game being played in the high school eSports League. However, in the future, the 2K series may be playable.

The main console that will be used for the club will be the PC gaming computer. Exceptions will be made for games such as Super Smash Brothers that are only available on certain consoles.

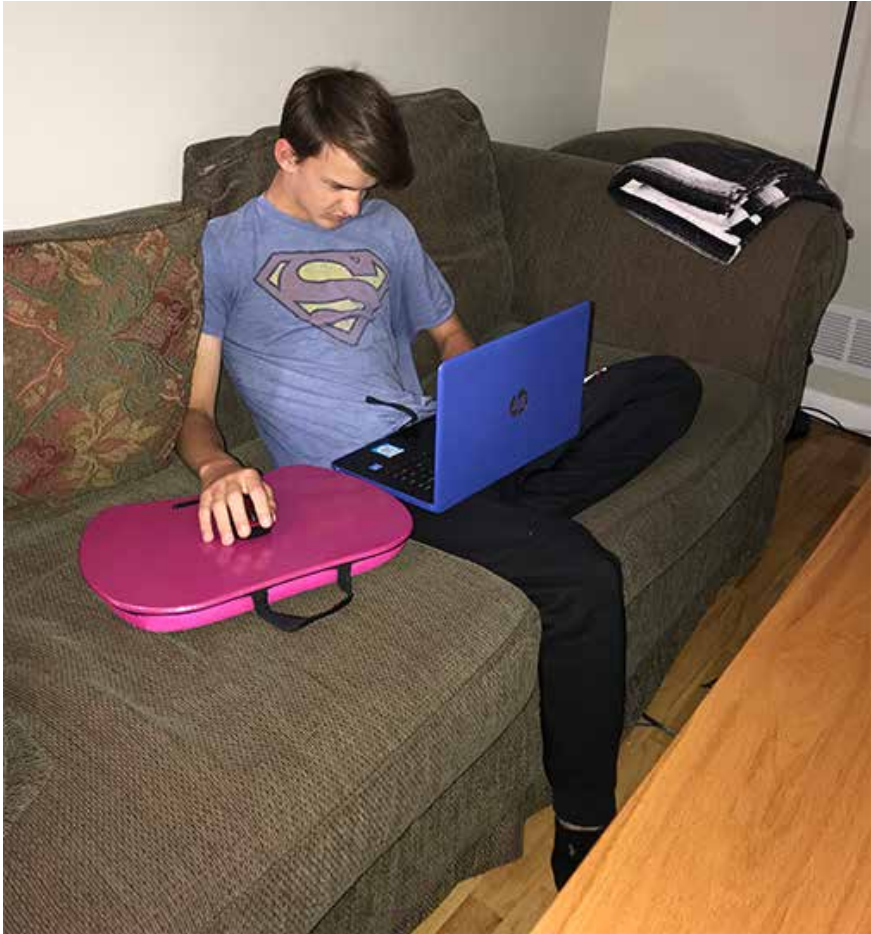
This is the first year that Loy Norrix has an eSports club to offer for students. Loy Norrix and Kalamazoo Central will be the first schools in the Southwestern Michigan Athletic Conference to have an organized eSports club.

When asked why he wanted to become the eSports director, Greely said, “I’ve been playing video games my whole life, so when I heard there was a club I thought that’d be really cool.”

Greely is also trying to set up gaming systems at the school for casual players.

Greely said, “I would like to get something set up at the school. There’s still a lot of questions I have to answer before I can give an official date, but I would like to have casual days where kids can just kind of show up and we can play and we can do some fun stuff.”

Greely also said that there’s a local Loy Norrix vs. Kalamazoo Central gaming tournament in the making that will happen



Improving his skills, **senior Trent Curtis** practices gaming on PC in preparation of joining the eSports Club.

sometime this school year. The rivals would compete over a trophy to bring home to their school.

Opinions vary over if the eSports club is beneficial to the school within the student body.

Senior Caleb Young was asked if he thinks the eSports club is beneficial to students at Loy Norrix, he said, “Yeah, I do, because some people don’t play sports and their skills are in their fingers.”

However, when the

same question was presented to 12th grader, Chase Wagner, he replied differently, arguing, “Not really, I don’t know. You can play video games at home, so why do it at school?”

Certain colleges are offering scholarships for eSports players. All those hours spent on video games during the summer and school year just might pay off.

According to Scholarships.com, colleges offering scholarships to

eSports players include, but are not limited to The University of California-Irvine, University of Utah, Robert Morris University, Indiana Tech and Stephens College.

If you want to receive an eSports scholarship, you may want to consider joining the eSports club in order to improve your abilities and get recognized by colleges for your gaming skills.



Rocket League is a game where players select cars and then play soccer in an arena. This game has an online mode as well.



Smite is a game where players select gods and combat against other players in battle online. Some characters to choose from include Achilles, Agni, Chernbog, Poseidon, Rajin, Terra, Thanatos, Zeus, and more.



NBA 2k19 is the newest installment of a basketball game series. Some popular game modes in 2K include MyPlayer where you create your own NBA player and level them up, Quick Match where you play against other players online using different NBA teams, and MyLeague, where you create your own team.



Fortnite is a battle royal online game where players can play solo or team up to try to be the last one standing in a huge arena with different places to go and fight. Once a team member dies in this game, they can’t come back to life until the next match and the team will have to move on without them.



Dragon Ball FighterZ is a fighting game based off of the show/anime, Dragon Ball Z. In this game you can stack your team with up to 3 different of your favorite characters per match in order to take your opponent down. Characters to choose from include Goku, Vegeta, Trunks, Beerus, Gotenks, Cell, Majin Buu, and the new Android 21.



League of Legends is a game where the objective is to destroy the enemy base with your team, this is an online multiplayer game.



PHOTO 1

Built in 1946, this sculpture commemorates the Kalamazoo veterans from the Spanish war (photo 1). The “Hiker” as its called, is not unique to Kalamazoo, with around 100 copies located around the United States, used for the same purpose. Since this photo was taken the statue has moved to rest on a large boulder (photo 2), but the message remains the same.



PHOTO 2

KALAMAZOO

Then and Now

RAILI NELSON
STAFF WRITER

& LILLY MACINNIS
NEWS EDITOR

Founded on May 7th, 1830, Kalamazoo, Michigan has cultivated a rich history since the beginning. Over Kalamazoo’s 188 year story, the people, the culture, and the city have changed. Originally having a population of around 7,000 in 1846, Kalamazoo now houses over 75,000 citizens. This increase in people has affected all aspects of Kalamazoo, from its citizen’s everyday life, to the physical landscape of the city.

While many things have been removed since Kalamazoo’s start, many things have also been added, promoting the growth of the city. From the Kalamazoo Promise to Kalamazoo’s significant interest in the arts, the city has grown around its people in a special way. The city now provides a home to numerous festivals such as the Gilmore Piano Festival and Art Hop, the Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Museum, the

Kalamazoo Institute of the Arts, the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, two colleges and one university. Kalamazoo’s physical landscape has developed and changed to accommodate these additions and many more. Buildings have been raised and demolished or have changed their use as the town itself has developed. The following photos illustrate the ways Kalamazoo has morphed over its illustrious history.



PHOTO 3



PHOTO 4

Built in 1887, the Michigan Central Railroad Depot (photo 3), now called the Kalamazoo Transportation Center, provided a needed stop on travelers way to Detroit and Chicago for many years. The city of Kalamazoo bought the depot sometime after this photo was taken in 1895. It now still serves as an influx for trains as well as many other types of transportation (photo 4).



PHOTO 5



PHOTO 6

South Burdick street has always been the epicenter of Kalamazoo. Here it is in 1914 (photo 6). Trolley cars roll on tracks in the center of the brick street and people ride their horse-drawn carriages to peruse the shops. Nowadays, the street is paved in hard black asphalt, devoid of trolley tracks, instead featuring the bright lane lines (photo 5). Some of the old buildings still stand, but the street is now characterized by high rises like the Radisson Hotel and the Fifth Third Banking building.



PHOTO 7

Kalamazoo’s Outdoor Mall, located on a section of Burdick Street, has a significant history. The project was the first outdoor mall in the country, and was opened in 1959. The streets were closed until 1998, when two of the mall’s four blocks were reopened for one way auto traffic. It is pictured here in 1960 (photo 7), one year after its inception, and, (photo 8) the mall as of 2018



PHOTO 9



PHOTO 8



PHOTO 10

Pictured here (photo 9) in 1920, this is the building that once housed Kalamazoo’s first high school, Kalamazoo Central High School from 1912 to 1972. The building currently houses the Kalamazoo Area Math and Scince Center (photo 10).



PHOTO 11

Located in Bronson Park, the picture of the Fountain of Pioneers (photo 13), was taken in 1940. The fountain was originally completed in 1927 and then revised and rebuilt in 1939. The fountain has come under controversy for its depiction of a Native American kneeling before a settler. As of April 2018, the fountain was removed and put in storage (photo 14).



PHOTO 13



PHOTO 12

This is the view of East Michigan Avenue in 1950 (photo 11). The iconic 1950s Checker Cab that’s visible in the center of the road was probably manufactured right here in Kalamazoo. The first cabs made in Kalamazoo were manufactured in 1923. After a rich history of operation in Kalamazoo, the Checker Cab company stopped production of cars, being unable to compete financially. The last checkered cab rolled off the assembly line on July 12, 1982. Now, the Kalamazoo Building sign is still visible, while the Hotel Burdick has been replaced by the Radisson (photo 12).



PHOTO 14