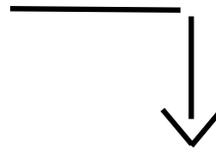


A New Decade



Women have been pioneering, innovating, and creating on land, oceans, and even in space without the credit they deserve. The impact women had on the 2010s decade proves how powerful women truly are. Read Jannie Gowdy, 11's article on page 10 for more detail on women who have changed the world.

The Striker

Volume Two >

< Issue Three

Hi everyone, it's Maya reporting from my new home office! This was supposed to say welcome back from spring break, but I do hope everyone is safe and healthy during these unusual times. While we are navigating lots of time with ourselves, I would like to pose some questions for you. How do your actions impact the world around you? When days like these are over, what and who won't you take for granted? These are all questions that have been running through my head for the past three weeks and I hope you have been able to do some reflecting too. One conclusion I have made is that we are resilient in every form of the word, and with that, and perseverance, we will overcome. COVID-19 is a humanitarian crisis, meaning it doesn't discriminate based on race, religion, sexual orientation, political party, etc. We are in this together, so I urge you to extend support to your neighbors, loved ones, and the service workers risking their lives for us.

I hope you will be able to see the good that comes from this, despite the pain. Realize the comforts of normalcy and grow from the discomfort of change. Be outside, read a book, connect with someone new or reconnect with an old friend, try something new (I have started embroidering and am in need of a new project)! It's okay to mourn our losses and we should take time to do so, but also notice what you are able to gain. So, I leave you with a challenge. One random act of kindness every day. It can be as small as writing a note. Doing things outside of ourselves is so important. I miss you all with every ounce of my heart and I wish you all the best during these scary and uncertain times. Reach out to me if you ever need anything, my phone is always on:)

With Love,
Maya May



A Moment With Maya

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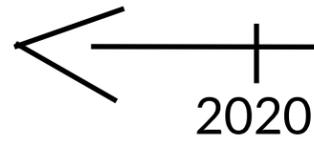
2019

2020



Goodbye, 2010s

Rory's Review



2010 The Review of the Decade

The ending of a decade represents new beginnings and change. The 2010s decade officially began on January 1st, 2010 and ended on December 31st, 2019. When the decade kicked off our seniors were seven and eight years old. Even though I was young, I still remember some of the trends and historical events that took place during the beginning of the decade. Even though this decade had a lot of positive progress, there was also a lot of destruction, devastation, and tragedy. Regardless of any personal thoughts or feelings, there is one statement that is true for all of us, we will never forget this important decade.



Many famous and important people passed away during this past decade. Icons such as Amy Winehouse, Whitney Houston, Prince, Tom Petty, Chuck Berry, David Bowie, B.B. King, Merle Haggard, Robin Williams, Seymour Hoffman, Paul Walker, and many more all passed away during the decade. Along with the decade came some very unique ways for teens to entertain themselves. Tide Pods, AirPods, and Juul Pods were all the rage during the end of the decade. Many teens posted videos of themselves eating Tide Pods, using Juul Pods, and buying AirPods, all over social media.



The rise of pop music and artists was huge in the early part of the decade. Singers such as Katy Perry, Taylor Swift, and Adele changed the way we listen to music. Taylor Swift's complete transformation from country icon, to pop star, was the first of its kind. Advancements in technology such as the invention of the Blackberry and iPhone made it faster and easier to connect to the people we know and love. With the growing popularity of pop music and the inventions of the first smartphones, people needed a place to share their thoughts on the hottest topics of the day, which is where the birth of social media took place.

Even though global social media platforms (such as Facebook) were created in the early 2000's, many of them didn't become popular until 2010 and 11. Since many of the already existing forms of social media weren't yet popular, they didn't have the massive impact on the world that would later on in the future. Facebook went from having 58 million users in 2007 to over 500 millions users in 2010, and that same year Facebook's first engineering center was opened in Seattle. Social Media changed the way we communicate and express ourselves to each other. It also allowed big businesses to market and advertise their products in ways only imaginable before. Social media revolutionized the way we hear about news and important events.



Even though social media and technology were huge parts of this decade, they aren't the only things we'll remember. A variety of major weather disasters plagued the U.S. during the decade. A number of hurricanes were known for their rainfall and flooding, surging storms, and wind damage. Several other flood events were notable in both their magnitude and longevity. The decade had the first real tornado super outbreak since 1974. The 2010's were the most destructive decade for wildfires all across the country. The January Snowpocalypse of 2014 was a late winter storm where only 2 inches of snow fell in Atlanta, but this snow melted and refroze into ice, making it impossible for salt trucks to pass through. There were more than 1,500 accidents, 175 injuries and at least one related fatality on the roads, and following the storm, the city of Atlanta re-evaluated its snow and ice plans. The 2012 Superstorm Sandy Hurricane was another catastrophic weather disaster. Sandy's direct impacts killed 72 people in the Northeast, and another 87 were killed in the aftermath of Sandy during effects like exposure due to power outages in cold weather after the storm. Hurricane Sandy caused a total \$73.5 billion dollars in damage, and devastated thousands of lives.

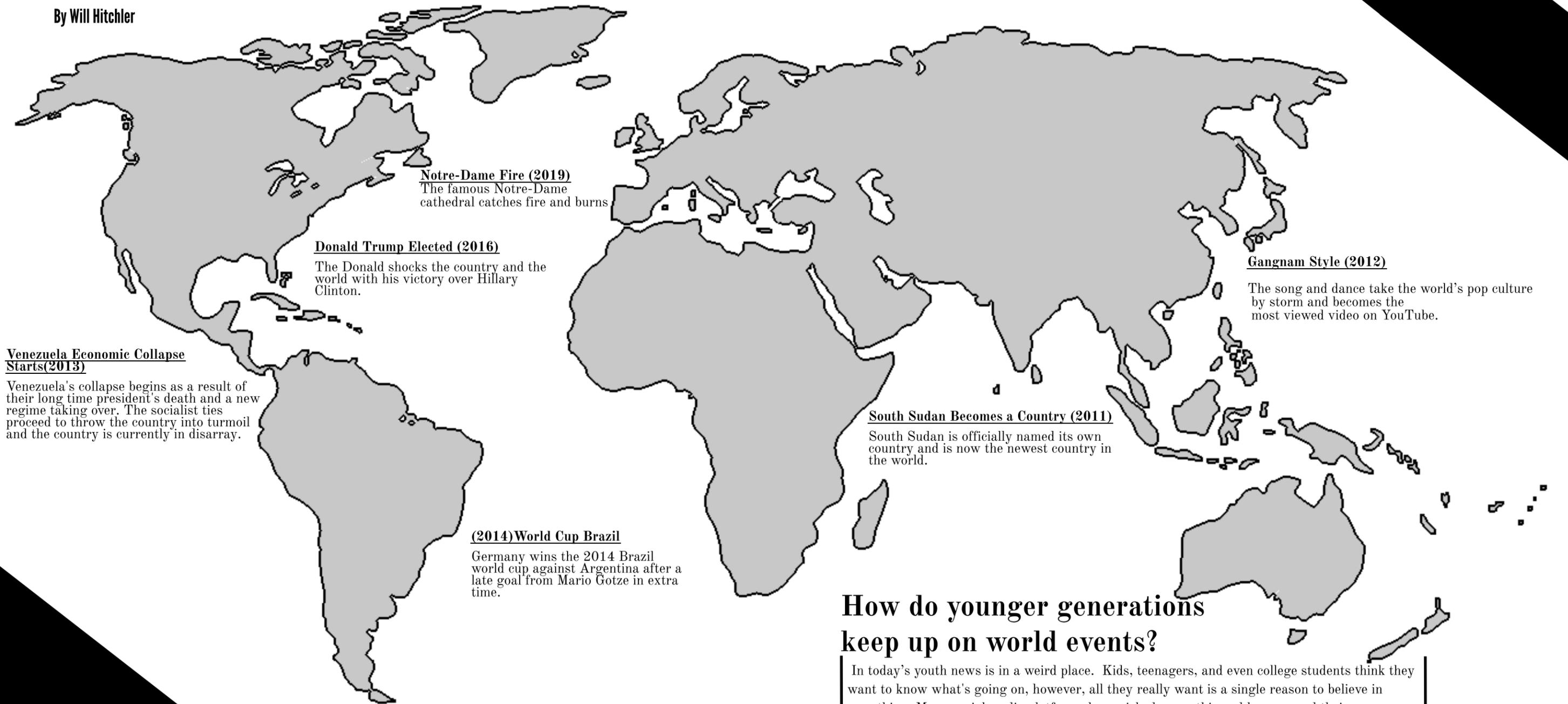


Many other notable events occurred during this past decade such as the mission of finding Osama Bin Laden, the royal wedding, the rise of the Kardashians, and the progress of the trip to Mars. The Notre-Dame Cathedral was destroyed, many new movies were released, and numerous sports and Olympic records were broken. Countless things happened this decade and everyone will remember their highlights of this past decade. I give this past decade four out of five stars because it was amazing and fun there were still some rough times. Hopefully this next decade will be a perfect five out of five stars. As this new decade has just commenced, everyone should be aware of the good times, as well as the bad times that are ahead of them, and remember to find the good in their lives, cherish those moments, and share them with others.



World Happenings

By Will Hitchler



Venezuela Economic Collapse Starts(2013)

Venezuela's collapse begins as a result of their long time president's death and a new regime taking over. The socialist ties proceed to throw the country into turmoil and the country is currently in disarray.

Donald Trump Elected (2016)

The Donald shocks the country and the world with his victory over Hillary Clinton.

Notre-Dame Fire (2019)

The famous Notre-Dame cathedral catches fire and burns

(2014)World Cup Brazil

Germany wins the 2014 Brazil world cup against Argentina after a late goal from Mario Gotze in extra time.

South Sudan Becomes a Country (2011)

South Sudan is officially named its own country and is now the newest country in the world.

Gangnam Style (2012)

The song and dance take the world's pop culture by storm and becomes the most viewed video on YouTube.

How do younger generations keep up on world events?

In today's youth news is in a weird place. Kids, teenagers, and even college students think they want to know what's going on, however, all they really want is a single reason to believe in something. Many social media platforms have picked up on this and have spread their coverage from celebrities to now sports, politics and world happenings. According to PrNews, more than 54% of teens get their weekly news from social media sources. That is an incredible rate since social media is not known for its credibility either. Just how many lies are being taken in as fact by the teens of America and the world today? It is an interesting thought, what makes a person believe the information they see or read is accurate? According to Caitlyn Bruntz, 12, "It depends on the credibility the source or person reporting the information has built for themselves".

Women who changed the Decade

In the past couple of decades, women have had more opportunities to change the world and share their voices.

By Jannie Gowdy

Michelle Obama, Serena Williams, Beyonce, and Hillary Clinton were just some of the amazing women that paved roads and inspired many. So many influential women have shaped the 2010s into what they were, but only so many are learned of at Baxter. Women from all over the world and in many, many different career fields owned the decade and worked to better the lives of others. The list of these women could stretch on for hundreds of pages, but the following are the stories and legacies of five amazing women that deserve to be known by students; a labor activist, an astronaut, a silence breaker, a model, and an entrepreneur.



Sunita Williams

Sunita Williams is a prominent figure in the STEM field. As an astronaut with a specialty in engineering, she was assigned to the international space station in Expedition 32. She was commander of Expedition 35 in 2012. She is the second woman in history to hold the title of Commander on the international space station. She also holds the title of the ninth most experienced spacewalker, as her total time on spacewalks equals more than 50 hours. In 2015, NASA announced Williams as one of the first astronauts involved in test flights for the US Commercial space flights. Williams has shown time and time again that there are no limits to her capabilities and inspires many other people who wish to be an astronaut or enter the STEM field. In an interview with the Wall Street Journal in which she was asked what she would say to aspiring Indian astronauts she replied, "Don't get bogged down by the notion of limits. There aren't any." She is one of the women paving the way for more young girls who are interested in space or even STEM fields.

Discovering and using alternative energy sources is essential for securing our future. One young woman, Inna Braverman, is literally making waves in the renewable energy field. She co-founded Eco Wave Power in Israel along with David Leb in 2011, and traveled to Israel and Ukraine working on the concept of their company. Eco Wave Power uses waves as a clean and affordable power source, and the first power plant was installed in 2013 in Jaffa Port Israel. Braverman went to the Climate Summit in New York City, invited by the United Nations, to explain how important using renewable energy sources is. She also participated in the 2015 Paris climate change conference. Braverman's company is essential in the field of alternate energy, and will be even more important in the future. Using waves is clean, and does not produce the effects that coal, gasoline, and wood do. Braverman is leading the way to better our planet using innovative ideas.



Inna Braverman



Tarana Burke

The #MeToo movement gained many spotlights in 2017. The credit of the hashtag is due to the starter of the movement, Tarana Burke. Although she first debuted the hashtag in 2006, it blew up in 2017 after women started using it to voice allegations against Harvey Weinstein. It quickly expanded; the hashtag spread outside of Hollywood to women across the world who had faced sexual harassment. Burke, among other activists who used the term to spread support to women who needed it, were named Time's Person of the Year in 2017. The hashtag allowed women and girls the platform to speak up and tell their stories. Burke's encouragement to other sexual assault survivors has allowed them to bring their stories to light and inspired change, including the banning of nondisclosure agreements in many states, financial restitution for some survivors, and more protection in the workplace.

Halima Aden became the first contestant in the Miss Minnesota USA pageant to wear a hijab and burkini. After making waves in Minnesota, she signed to a modeling agency and in 2019, she was the first model to feature a burkini and hijab in the famous magazine *Sports Illustrated*. Aden showed that she could still follow the career path she wanted while still being true to herself and her religion. She told young people, "Don't change yourself, change the game." Aden is one of the amazing women who are fighting for inclusion. By breaking through the boundaries, Aden changed the modeling industry to be more inclusive of Muslims and people from different backgrounds. She took to social media to spread the message to the world that it's important that "women of all different backgrounds, looks, upbringings... can stand together and be celebrated."



Halima Aden



Ai-Jen Poo

Ai-Jen Poo is an organizer of domestic workers in New York City and the director of The National Domestic Workers Alliance. Poo's NDWA calls for "power, respect, and fair labor standards" for minorities in the field of domestic work, such as nannies, housekeepers, and caregivers. In 2010 Poo and the NDWA helped pass the Domestic Workers Bill in New York City that ensured domestic workers basic protections such as paid leave, overtime pay, and legal protections. She has won various awards for her work including the MacArthur Fellowship Grant in 2014. Poo has bettered the lives of many domestic workers and their families in New York. Through her work, she has ensured fair working conditions for people who normally don't get a lot of respect. She's an inspiration for those who wish to be advocates and help others in any way that they can. Aspiring non-profit workers can look up to her and follow her work.

Who is a woman from the past decade who has inspired you?

"Angela Merkel; she's the chancellor of Germany. She's been reelected four or five different times because the people love her and she was the first woman to do it. She fights for her people... I aspire to be someone like that." -Hallee Rainsbarger

"Greta Thunberg. I love her, she stands up for what she believes in." -Briana Dahlke

"Rihanna because she always tells people to love themselves." -Vanessa Mitchell

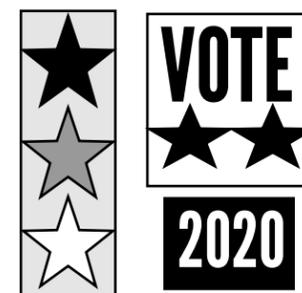
Inspire 2 Vote

Why voting is important and the efforts made to emphasize this.

By Olivia Aker

It's that time again. We see commercial after commercial, billboards, pop up ads, sponsored Instagram posts telling us who we should like and who we shouldn't. That's right. It's election season! The election can seem a little annoying, but it provides US citizens with one of the most important rights they have, the right to vote. This presidential election is not only kicking off the new year but it is also the start of a new decade with one of the most important elections in modern history. The current president has been unconventional compared to the typical US president, facing an impeachment trial, causing quite an uproar from his strong, some would say, extremist views. The democratic party is pushing harder than ever to get a candidate from their party in office while Trump supporters are doing everything in their power to keep the president for another term. Whether they want him to stay or go, everyone has an opinion about Trump. This means that this will be an extremely passionate election because everyone cares so much. Arguably the most special part of the 2020 election is that about a third of the students in Baxter High School will be able to vote for the first time.

Voting by itself seems like a minute thing, but the impact it has is enormous. The average age of a voter is sixty years old, meaning that more of the older demographic is participating in voting than the younger and the voting is not reaching a younger demographic. This means that young people's voices are not being heard and this year we have the opportunity to change that. Kailee Conradi, 11, shares, "Voting is a constitutional right and it is important to express our opinion. It is a privilege that some people take for granted. These people don't vote, allowing the viewpoints of everyone to not be acknowledged." Conradi is right by saying voting is a privilege. It is a right to citizens in the United States but when you think about it, it really wasn't that long ago that women and people of color did not have the right to vote. We now have that right and we exercise it. With this election having such high stakes the numbers are going to be close which means that one vote can change the entire outcome



One thing Baxter has done this year to encourage its students to go out and vote is participate in the campaign, Inspire2Vote. Student council members, with the help of Mr. Amadeo, provided a way for kids to easily get registered to vote from inside the classroom. "We chose this program because it had the power to actually make a change in our school and it gave us the opportunity to learn about voting," says Mr. Amadeo. A lot of students at Baxter do not have a role model in their life to teach them how to vote and the importance of voting which is why the Inspire2Vote initiative is such a positive thing for our school. This campaign is responsible for registering 90% of all eligible voters in our school which is a huge success. With this motivation to go out and vote, hopefully more younger people's problems become more of a priority. This election is going to be a huge section of our history. Our generation gets the opportunity to vote and it is up to us to get out and be apart of the change that we want to see in our government. This decade we should help bring fresh opinions that represent younger voices to change the world. The change is in our hands. This election is going to be huge making it extremely important for our generation to start this decade out with a bang and make the changes we want to see happen. It is all up to us.



New Decade

New Voters

Cheer Honor Squad

EMILY NATION, 12

"This past cheer season, a few of my teammates and I had the privilege of cheering on the Honor Squad. Only a select few get on, so I was really proud of us. We had several practices to learn a cheer and a dance. It was a neat experience to end my senior cheer season with such a great opportunity. I'm also glad I got to experience it with a couple of my friends, Morgan Kielly, 11, and Olivia Aker, 11."

Yearbook National Award of Excellence

ABBEY SHEPLEY, 12

"This is the third year in a row Baxter Yearbook has won this award. The award represents a marker that our staff worked hard to hit and will continue to work hard to hit. Our team puts in a lot of hours to make an award winning product. We start right at the beginning of the school year and even put in some hours during the summer. The award always reassures the staff that our hard work is paying off."

Wrestling Season

MR. AMADEO

"This past wrestling season was very rewarding on the mats. We had six very hard working guys go out this season. They always came to practice ready to work and take seriously. We had several accomplishments this season. One of the biggest successes was our first duel win in Baxter Bolt history. It really showed how much stronger the team got throughout the season. Next season should be even more successful because we are planning on doubling our numbers. I am excited to see where we can go from here."

Improved Weight Room

MR. SLIGHT

"I was excited to get the job here at Baxter, but even more excited when I heard new equipment was coming to the weight room. I think the new equipment really motivates the students to work harder. The new set-up also provides the students with the space they need to get the workout done. I love how the Baxter Bolt logo is placed around the room because it really inspires the kids to work harder."

Drill Team State

MORGAN KIELLY, 11

"This year we got 3rd in our pom routine at state. I was happy with the turnout of this season because we worked super hard and practiced a lot. Starting off the season, we had a lot of new things to adjust to. We had a new coach, and we lost a lot of seniors from last year. I was really proud of everyone staying strong through all the changes. We all worked together to create a successful season."

State Speech

BRYN SCHULTHEIS, 12

"It was a very successful speech season this year. We had many performances make it very far. I was super proud of my team, and was happy with the outcome of the season. We had many preparations go into the performances. The team tries to grind as much as we can to succeed. The speech team is more than just a team though. It is more like a family. We are all super close and supportive of one another. We share many laughs and fun memories. I will most definitely miss them next year. I am blessed I was apart of something so great."

Spain & Portugal Trip

BROOKE BACON, 11

"I am so excited for the trip this summer. I am most excited to enjoy the warm weather and experience a new culture. I am even more excited to explore the new culture with all my friends. Traveling with peers allows students to feel a sense of comfort. I think it will be fun to travel with friends because we can create fun memories together. It is super important for high school students to travel. It opens up their eyes to different cultures and ways of living. It also allows the opportunity of meeting new people."

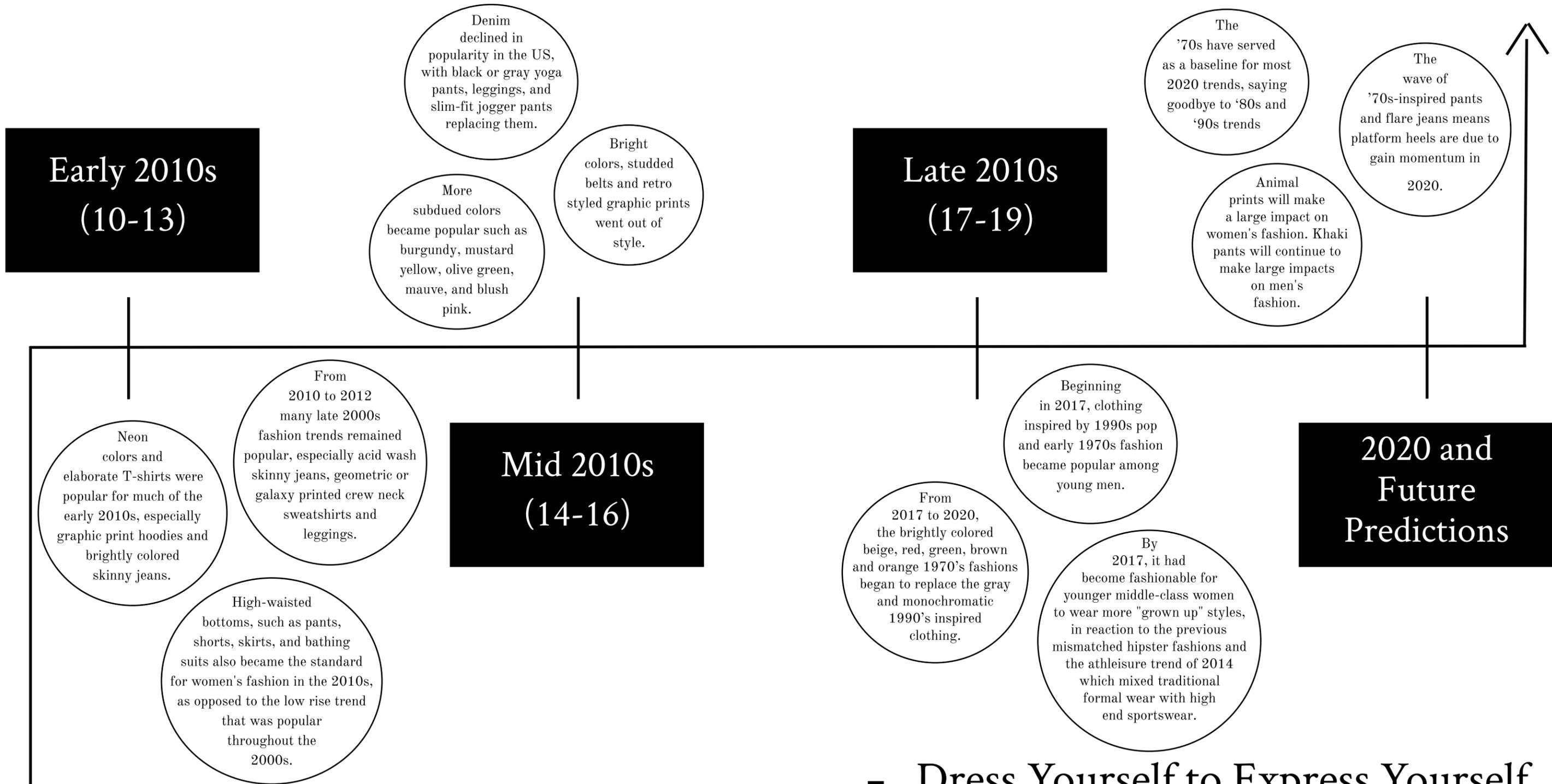
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PAST PRESENT FUTURE

FASHION EDITION

By: Kinley Bethards

Dress Yourself to Express Yourself

Fashion makes a large impact on a student's self-expression and growth. Two students, **Braeden Kelly, 10**, and **Bryn Schultheis, 12**, were asked a few questions about their opinions on the future and past of fashion. **Schultheis** says, "I'm hoping bell bottom jeans come back more because they can be super cute and I'm grateful for cheetah print coming back," when asked what fashion trends she's looking forward to coming back in the future. **Kelly** said, "A trend that I thought was pretty great was definitely the whole hipster pop thing people had going on, stuff like bowl hats, flannels, ripped jeans, etc." when asked what his favorite trend was from the 2010s. Fashion is something that will always stay relevant no matter the changes it goes through.

Technology at Baxter

Technology has made an amazing leap in the past decade, and in Baxter the advancements have been beneficial in education.

By Tanner Scroggins

Baxter has advanced so much throughout the past decade technologically. Technology specifically has improved exponentially. The school has taken great strides to improve the lives of students through technology. From tablets to computers, students academics have taken a dramatic turn for the better.

LearnPads

2014-2015

One of the first technological tools given to students to use for learning were LearnPads. These new tablets were an advancement at the time and were the first steps into bringing technology into the daily lives of students. Though the intent was to improve students' work, they only worked half of the time, the QR codes that were provided to get classwork were unreliable, and they would often glitch and sign students out in the middle of class. They were extremely under-powered and could be compared to a virus ridden computer. They constantly stopped class and would waste more time than using pen and paper. Because of the performance issues, the LearnPads were quickly cast aside and replaced by the laptops that the student body still uses today.



"My favorite memory has to be us walking back to our classroom after checking them out the first day we got them and the Shane Matthews, 12 fell up the stairs and shattered it!"

- Amber Weltha

Chromebooks

2015- present



"When we first got the Chromebooks, Maya, Amber, and I would always take filtered pictures and used them as our wallpapers."
-Holly Jessen, 12

After the failure of the Learnpads the school gave students personal laptops. The Chromebooks have been nothing except exceptional, they allow students to use information at a click of a mouse, the Chromebooks did what the Learnpads couldn't do. They streamlined classwork and cut down paper usage at the school, but they had their downsides as well. The first version of the computers that students had were not durable. To remedy this Baxter upgraded the Chromebooks in 2018, they are now capable of converting into touchscreen tablets. The new Chromebook's faster processors allowed students to use them in ways they hadn't before. Compared to the previous version, these computers were twice as durable. Teachers also are able to have the students more involved by using the touchscreen to play interactive games for studying and for convenience.

Chromebooks have not only improved student work lives, but have also created fun memories between the students. Many students use computers to settle debates and use information freely. Baxter went from pen and paper to the significant jump to Learnpads with buggy software and very breakable screens. Then they bought the far more durable Chromebooks with access to homework at a streamlined level. Looking back, the technology at the school has changed for the better with more to look forward to in the future.

A Vision for the 20s



Our New Reality

The facts and uncertainties of COVID-19, and what we can do help

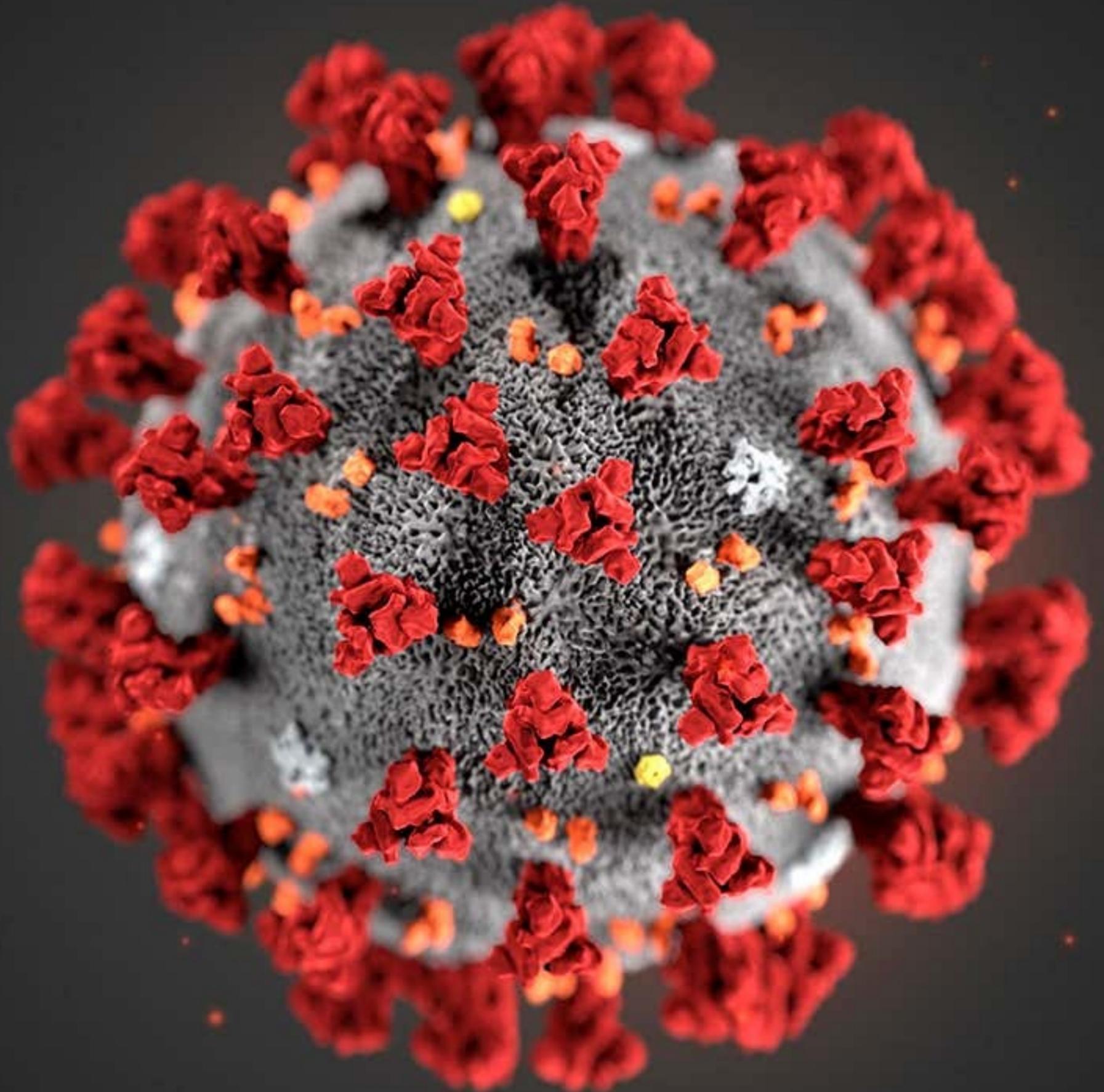
By Maya Phelps

Headlines around the world include this new biological weapon we've named COVID-19, or coronavirus. It has swept the medical, political, economic, and social worlds causing everything as we know it to freeze. This humanitarian crisis has taken the lives of 101, 072 as of April 10th, and the toll continues to rise. Businesses have closed, people are losing their jobs, and the stock market is plummeting; a recession is a guarantee at this point, economists are trying to predict the extent. The coronavirus shocked our unprepared world. Corona is affecting almost every aspect of our lives, so it is important to understand the facts and painful realities of this disease.

Coronaviruses aren't new. They are a part of a larger family of viruses, and this strand has mutated into COVID-19. This virus attacks the respiratory system and is highly contagious, especially for those over 65 or with pre-existing health conditions. The first outbreak was identified in Wuhan, China and quickly spread globally. It has triggered national quarantines, filled hospital beds, and the death of thousands of people. Symptoms of the virus are dry coughs, fever, and shortness of breath. The CDC recommends self-quarantine, wearing cloth masks when going out in public, frequent hand washing, and disinfecting high traffic surfaces often.

Even if we follow through with the guidelines provided, there is still a level of uncertainty that is both scary and life threatening. Until there is a vaccine, which that timeline is unknown, the virus is unpredictable. Some scientists are predicting that the virus will decline as we move closer to warmer temperatures, others believe that it will continue to mutate and survive the heat. Although the idea of this is scary, many people are yearning for normalcy and that is another unknown. Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, says it could be up to 6-18 months of social distancing due to the likelihood it will flare up again this fall. This freezes our occupational and social lives for longer than ever planned. The government is sending 1,200 dollar checks to individuals and 500 dollars for children to help remedy this loss, but this is uncharted territory for many and people are looking for definite answers.

This may seem scary, but we are in this together. One step at a time scientists, doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers are diligently searching for the answers we need. In the meantime, take this seriously! Put going out on hold so that this unusual time will end earlier rather than later. Take care of yourselves and look out for others!



T O K Y O

By Mande Selover

There are six new sports coming to the summer Olympics, surfing, skateboarding, karate, baseball, softball, and sport climbing. All of which were set to debut this year, but with all that is going on in the world, the Olympic Committee has decided to postpone the games until 2021. All of the sports below will still be included in the games. The games will still be held in Tokyo and will be called the 2020 Olympics. The games will start on July 23, 2021 and go through August 8.

Climbing to the Top

This is the first time that sport climbing has been in the Olympics. There are three different disciplines: speed climbing, lead climbing, and bouldering. Speed climbing consists of two climbers racing to the top of a more than 15-meter wall that is at an angle of 95°. Bouldering has a four-meter wall where climbers take turns and try to climb as many routes across the wall as possible in four minutes. The routes vary in difficulty based on size and spacing of hand and footholds. In lead climbing, athletes have six minutes to climb as high on a wall as they possibly can. There are only 20 athletes per gender that will qualify for the games, with one male and one female spot reserved for host Japan. Qualification for the games will be determined by placing at the world championships, Olympic qualifying events, and continental championships. Brooke Raboutou, 18, is the athlete to watch in this event. She was the first US climber to qualify for the Olympics and comes from a family of climbing champions. Brooke just recently entered the pro circuit and has been determined to compete since she started climbing at the age of one. The qualifying events will be on August 4-5th, and the finals will be on August 6-7th.

Up to Spar

Karate will make its Olympic debut in 2020, but it did not make the cut for the 2024 Olympics in Paris. There are two disciplines in karate: Kata and Kumite. Kata is an individual event where athletes perform choreographed offensive and defensive moves displaying the athlete's skill. Kata athletes will be judged on a point scale, not the original flag system. Kumite is a sparring discipline with three weight classes in it. Athletes compete in an 8x8 meter arena for up to three minutes. Points are awarded based on moves and locations of strikes. The first athlete to score eight points more than their opponent or the person with the most points at the end of three minutes wins. Only 80 competitors will qualify for Tokyo (40 men and 40 women), where there will be ten men and ten women per Kumite weight class, and ten each for Kata. Japan can designate four men and four women to their Olympic team. Some athletes will qualify based on their rankings in April of 2020, others qualify based on a tournament in Paris. Sakura Kokumai, 27, is a seven time US National Champion in Kata. She has competed and trained for this event since she was seven. Karate will go from August 6-8th

Surfs Up

2020 marks surfing's first appearance in the Olympics. There will be two disciplines for surfing: short board and long board. The short board contest consists of a board that's shorter than seven feet. These boards are usually lighter and able to move quicker and be more accurate. Long board refers to any board that is over seven feet long. There will be 40 surfers total, 20 men and 20 women. Japan will be guaranteed one female and one male spot, however, if Japan would earn a spot through qualifying events, their guaranteed slots will be given to the highest-ranked athletes at the 2020 World Surfing Games. The athletes will compete four at a time in heats of 20-30 minutes and the top two scores from the heat will move on to the next round. Judging will be based on the difficulty of their moves, speed, power, and flow. Athletes have to meet qualification criteria and place at ISA World Surfing Games (either 2019 or 2020) or the World Surfing League Championship Tour to qualify for the Olympics. As the record holder for the most National Scholastic Surfing Association Championships, Kolohe Andino is the surfer to watch. He has had a passion for surfing since the age of 10. The surfing competition won't be held in Tokyo, it will be held in Chiba, Japan from July 24th-August 9th.

Batting .2020

Baseball and softball haven't been in the Olympics since 2008. Their original removal was a result of a cap number of events in the Olympics being put into place. Baseball and softball didn't make the cut for the shortlisted sports in the 2024 Paris Olympics, so they will be making a short return for the 2020 Olympics. Both sports are very popular in North and South America as well as East Asia, but aren't as popular in Europe which is one reason these events are not in the 2024 Olympics. The teams will compete in a modified tournament format with six teams qualified for each sport, with Japan automatically reserved a spot in the games. For both sports, teams will qualify by winning an international qualifier or a world championship. The US softball team has already qualified for the games, so there are only four spots left for softball. For baseball, it is likely that many MLB players won't contribute to Team USA because the games take place in the middle of their season and the MLB refuses to move the schedule around the Olympics. A standout player on Team USA is Cat Osterman who competed in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics where the US placed first and second respectively. Cat is a world-renowned softball pitcher who has come close to breaking the fastest pitch record. Softball will start on July 22nd, and baseball will start on July 29th.

A New Skate of Mind

This is the first year that skateboarding has ever been in the Olympics. There are two disciplines: park and street. The park discipline includes a hollowed-out, bowl-like course with an intricate series of twists and turns, while the street discipline includes a straight course with stairs, handrails, benches, walls, and slopes. Athletes get creative freedom with what they choose to do in their runs. Each athlete gets three runs, which are judged on speed, difficulty, originality, timing, stability and overall flow of the run, with their best score posted. There are 80 athletes that will participate in this event in the 2020 Olympics. Overall, 38 men and 38 women will qualify for the Olympics with four spots reserved for Japan since they are the host country. Each country is allowed six men and six women in this sport. Qualifications will be determined by rankings and placings at international events. One athlete to keep an eye on in this event is Nyjah Huston from the USA, he has won five Street League Skateboarding events and is the highest paid skateboarder in the world. The skateboarding competition will take place during the whole span of the games, from July 24th-August 9th.

"I think that surfing should be in the Olympics. It takes a lot of skill to surf and to actually be good at it. To even get to the Olympics you have to be elite and have a lot of skill. It is an exotic sport that should be seen more often. I think that surfing should be televised more than it is right now."

- Emma Ziesman, 9

"I think that skateboarding should be in the Olympics. We already have the X Games where people from all over the world compete. It has been popular in US culture for so long that it would have a lot of backing and viewing if it was televised. It takes a lot of skill and dedication to be good at skateboarding."

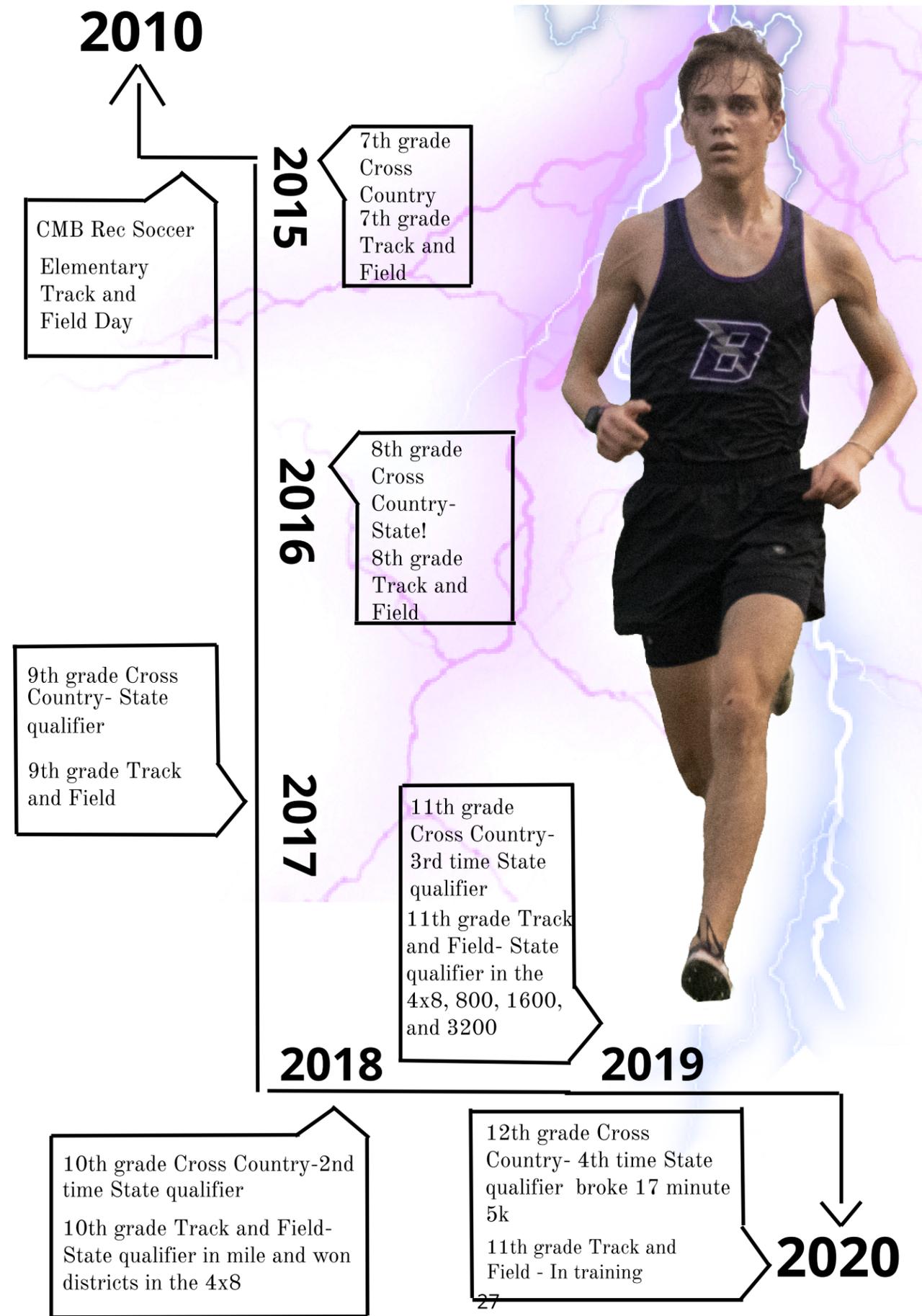
-Hunter Hicks, 10

Running with Logan Berg

Through the decade

Logan Berg grew up knowing he wanted to be a fast runner! It all started in elementary school when he played for CMB Rec Soccer, and then he never would have guessed what he was destined to accomplish and he hopes to continue to reach for the goals he has set for himself. He started small. In elementary school he would run in the track and field day 100-meter dash! Berg says, "I could imagine myself running on a track since I was little! Running was the sport I wanted to be successful in and was determined to break and set new records." And that he did. Berg decided to start his very first year of cross country and track in seventh grade. He didn't go into the season very prepared but he sure ran as fast as he could because he set the goal of getting a medal. Not only did Berg enjoy running to compete in middle school, he enjoyed meeting new friends that he can still talk to today. "I have met a lot of my friends throughout my running career. It's always fun running in a meet and seeing your friends throughout the course and competing against them," Berg says with a smile on his face! Even though Berg's middle school career was fun, he set his mind to improve before high school so he could contribute to the team. In order to do so, he worked every day to train over the summer. Berg says that he ran at least 250 miles each summer; the older he got, the more he ran because he exceeded his goals and set even bigger goals as well. When he joined the high school team he medaled at many of his meets, even as a freshman. His hardwork really paid off when qualified for state in 15th place! Berg was placed at 85th in 2A as a

By Lilie Vancise
 CMB Raider at the end of the season. He was very proud of himself but still thought there was still more he could show. Sophomore, junior, and senior year Berg qualified for state cross country each year seeing more improvement. He finished out his sophomore season as 55th in 1A as a Baxter Bolt, but was excited for track to start. Berg's sophomore year of track he participated in the 4x8 and won districts! Not only did Berg go to state in the 4x8, he also went to state in the mile. Berg came back his junior year and went to state in the 4x8, 3200, 1600, and the 800 meter run. "The 4x8 team did very well at state and set a personal record of just a little bit under 9 minutes! We were so proud of how we ran as a team and couldn't have thought the state could have gone any better." Berg's senior year of cross country was very successful. He broke his personal record by running a 5k in under 17 minutes. Berg spent most of his final season ranked in the top 10 and worked to hold his spot to finish the season. Although he had a couple challenging races that cost him a few spots, he still had a successful season. He is thankful for all the memories he has made throughout his cross country career and can't wait to keep making memories as he runs for Central College next year. Berg has had such an impact on Baxter, not only on the course and the track, but also in his character and leadership. Baxter will miss him next year, but Central is gaining an asset to their team!



Goodbye Childhood

→ Hello Adulthood

By McKenzie Eslinger

The transition from childhood to adulthood is one of the most difficult times in a person's life. For many people in high school, this transition happened for them in the past decade. Many things have come and gone in the past 10 years that have made this generation different from all the rest. For the older students at Baxter, the start of a new decade means saying goodbye to their childhood and welcoming their adulthood. Not only are the seniors saying goodbye to the decade, but they are also saying goodbye to the environment they've been raised in.

The past decade was filled with childhood classics including silly bands, hair feathers, iPods, Hannah Montana, and watching the Twilight series over and over again. Playing games outside was also common throughout many people's childhood. Being around friends became an everyday occurrence to the point where many kids would go over to each other's houses every day. Things like the Wii and Xbox kept kids inside but Sadie Meyer, 12 says, "I remember getting home, leaving my backpack right inside the doorway, and going right back outside to play. Riding four wheelers, scooters, and jumping on the trampoline became my everyday routine." Coming back from Christmas break when the Wii first came out, everyone talked about opening up their present and finding a Wii. Watching and gossiping about the Twilight series and deciding if you were team Jacob or team Edward was a favorite as well. The most memorable events for this generation are things that were trendy at the time, and some can still be seen today.



Trends in career choices and life after high school were also very distinct throughout the past decade. Every child growing up was told that they could do or be anything that they wanted to. From an early age, kids are expected to go through some sort of secondary education after graduating. Like many other seniors, Meyer plans to go into the medical field for her career. Jobs in the medical field grew over 20 percent this decade while other jobs outside of this field only grew 3 percent. This trend with healthcare is expected to continue into the next decade as well.

Many things that were trendy during our childhood are starting to become popular again. Disney+ has made a comeback and our generation can enjoy the movies that we loved growing up watching. Meyer thinks that many of her childhood trends will come back in the next decade. Meyer is very excited to see what the future brings not only with trends but also for her future in the medical field. She knows that many others among her generation will majorly contribute to the continuing trend with increases in jobs in the medical field. The generation that grew up during the past decade has to say goodbye to so many fun and memorable things, but saying goodbye might not be so hard if the next decade brings back some of these sentimental and pure memories.



**Always be true to yourself and who you are
because in the end, that's all that matters.**

-Sadie Meyer

time for a change?

A LOOK INSIDE THE RULE BOOK

By Zach Backus

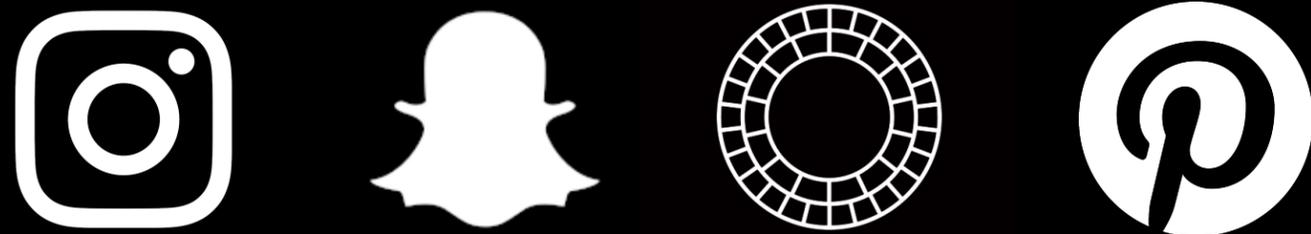
Rules, they're made to protect and keep the order between people, or as some clique would say, "they are made to be broken." But there inevitably comes a point when some rules just become outdated and need to be changed. At Baxter High School, the majority of students believe that there are some rules in the handbook that need to be looked at and revised. These rules include the dress code and the no eating in classrooms policy.

In recent years, the dress code at Baxter has started to become more of a popular topic, raising the question whether or not it is just and fair. In the 2019-2020 Baxter Student Handbook, pages 10-11 state the dress code as the following, "(4) No strapless tops or sleeveless tops. No tops that show midriff. Sleeveless tops must reach the end of one's shoulder" (The other three rules being no hats, no obscene material on clothing, and no clothing that puts the safety of the building at question). The dress code, which is written by the school board, is not fair to women and only makes sure that guys are not distracted in class. The code says nothing about guys wearing inappropriate clothing other than shirts that have obscene material printed on them. Bekka Watt, 12 gives her thoughts on the dress code, "All dress codes do are limit what women can wear and the reason for this is only so that boys can focus in school." As times change so does fashion, as well as what is acceptable to wear. Watt believes women should have more freedoms, she says, "Women should be able to wear whatever they are confident in without being judged." The dress code at Baxter prohibits this by limiting their expressive freedoms which creates an environment where women are objectified. When women's bodies are being sexualized by men it instills a sense of insecurity. This makes it harder for them to wear what makes them feel good without feeling judged by their classmates and, worst of all, it is being condoned by the entity that supposed to protect them, their school. "No I've never actually been dress coded but I've definitely gotten glares and looks from administrators that make me feel self conscious about my outfit even though I know it's not revealing. I've watched multiple of my friends be dress coded when they should not have been," Watt says when asked if she's ever been dress coded. It is clear that something should be changed about the dress code and that it should be updated to follow the modernization of 2020. Other people think the dress code does not need to be changed, "I feel like the dress code is perfectly fine but we just need to enforce the rules better about people not wearing the right stuff," said Maddie Pierce, 11. When Mr. Luther, the principal at Baxter, was asked about the dress code he said, "It is a policy that is set forth by the school board. Most people think it is a Mr. Luther policy, but it is not. On a personal level, dress code is something I don't draw a hard line on. I think fashion is changing and if everyone can dress respectfully I don't have to be the dress code monster." Although people have their own opinions on the dress code, it is clear some people are not happy with it and it should be changed to allow women to feel confident and happy in their own body.

Another rule out of the handbook that causes some controversy is the no food or drink in classrooms. Mr. Luther has made it very clear that there should be no food in the classrooms, and the handbook states it as the following on page 14, "No food or beverage other than water is allowed in any classroom. Any exception must be approved by school administration." Mr. Luther, and the handbook, are very straight forward about this rule and when asked about it Luther said, "I think that it is really important that students aren't eating in classrooms because it puts a lot of work on the custodial staff. Kids aren't good at picking up after themselves and it creates the image of a relaxed learning environment, it's not a time to eat breakfast. With the new building we aren't going to be taking things into the classrooms especially because of the carpet." Mr. Luther hopes that by enforcing this rule sooner than later it will make it easier for students not to bring food into the new building in the upcoming school year, also reducing the load of the custodial staff. Despite this courtesy, many people believe that students should be allowed to eat in the classroom, "Mostly because I don't eat breakfast and I can't stay focused so its like instinct and I just start eating. It could be chips, or a whole sandwich. It's just something I do because I have weight and speed first period and I lift at six in the morning," said Braeden Kelly, 10, when asked if he eats in class. Students not eating breakfast is a common theme around Baxter and many other schools. Maybe because they don't have time, or there may not be food at home for breakfast. Nick Nelson, 10, talks about not eating breakfast, "I don't eat breakfast because I usually don't have time or am not feeling good in the morning, so it is just more convenient to eat at school. Also it makes me happy," he continues to talk about his deep passion and love for food, "If I'm hungry I can't concentrate as well, especially in a class right before lunch because all I can think about is food. It doesn't help that food is literally my life and my number one love in the world." Being hungry in class can really take a toll on students, taking away from their focus and concentration. Some students have even offered alternatives such as handing out protein bars or designated snack times during the day. Though this is something that many people would like to see happen, they can only hope that the school will listen and hear what they are saying.

With times changing, and the start of a new decade, it was time to look at a couple controversial rules in the Baxter High School Handbook such as no eating in classrooms, and the student dress code. These are rules that many students at Baxter hope to see changed in the future as they are outdated.

"No food or beverage other than water is allowed in any classroom. Any exception must be approved by school administration."



The Shift Social Media

By Allison Colyn



In our world, so much can change in a year, let alone a decade. It's crazy to think that at the beginning of the last decade Snapchat and Instagram didn't even exist, and now they are two of the most popular social media apps worldwide. Social media has evolved immensely and is expected to do the same throughout this new decade, too. Social media was once seen as a way of communication between friends, but it now consists of multi-billion dollar platforms that have an unbelievable influence on people everywhere. It's important to think about where social media is heading in this new decade and how it will impact its many worldwide users.

Before looking at the future, let's take a look at what social media looks like currently. Snapchat is now the most used social media network among U.S. teens and Facebook is the most used social network among millennials, with Instagram coming in second. When asking teens what social media apps they spend the most time on, Cassidy Berg, 11 says, "I spend over three hours a day on social media, and those hours are mostly spent on Snapchat and TikTok." Snapchat is popular among kids and teens because it is not a public profile like Facebook or Instagram. On Snapchat, everyday moments, embarrassing videos, and selfies are most represented on the app. Unlike Facebook and Instagram, things feel real and authentic, which makes it unique and creates its overall appeal. However, Facebook and Instagram are more popular with millennials because they are significantly easier to use. Facebook and Instagram also have informative content like news, weather, and politics that draw adults to the app. As popular as social media, it affects society and impacts the people using it over time.

One of the most debated topics regarding the use of social media is the influence it has on young kids and teens. Social media has different ways of influencing and impacting people, but it tends to target teens because of the amount they use it and the role it plays in their lives. A lot of teenagers spend a significant portion of their days on social media, so it has had significant pros and cons regarding its influence on teenagers. When asking teens themselves how they feel about the influence social media has on them, Nick Nelson, 10 says, "I think that social media, now and in the future, will influence a lot of how I do things, like what I do during the day, how I communicate, and what I spend my free time doing." Frequent use of social media among teens has caused negative effects such as cyberbullying, poor body image, social media addiction, and much more. Over this past decade the amount of time people spend on their phones and social media has increased tremendously. So, as this new decade progresses, the time spent on social media can easily increase and possibly see more negative effects among teenagers. It is expected there will also be many positive impacts social media will have on society because of the positivity that was seen in the last decade. Social media makes it incredibly easier to meet new friends and communicate with old ones. Teens have used social media as a way to show their creativity and share their ideas. In the upcoming decade, teens will find more ways on social media to share their creative ideas and views by using new apps that will most likely be created, along with old networks too.

Social media has evolved immensely throughout the 2010s and it is predicted to do the same going into the brand new decade. In this new decade many changes will be made and new apps will be created to appeal to teens. The influence social media will have on teens in the future is up for debate because there will most likely be a lot of positive and negative aspects with the new changes coming to social media. Even with all of the predictions and expectations as to how social media will look by the end of this new decade, no one can really know for sure exactly how it will change and the influence it will have on society. Hopefully social media will create a more positive environment in the upcoming decade and truly help society in an efficient way.



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Meet Our Staff: Quarantine Edition



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Writer and Designer



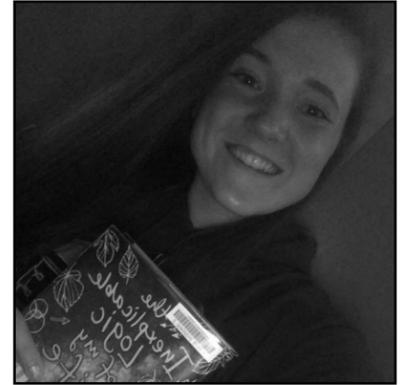
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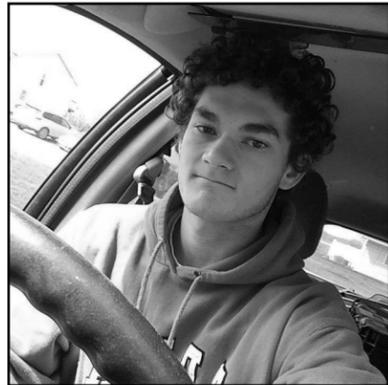
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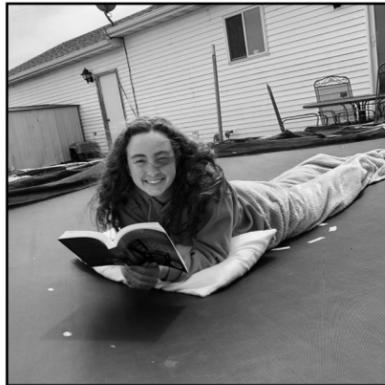
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Maya Phelps, 12
Editor

For the past few weeks our staff has been working hard on this issue of the newspaper but, with the recent outbreak of coronavirus, they have also found other ways to stay busy during our time off from school. Whether it's reading, video games, hanging out with pets, being outside, babysitting, or learning a new hobby, we have all been pushed outside our boundaries to make the best of the situation we're in and we know you are doing the same too! If you have any pictures of fun things you're doing over quarantine, send them to one of our staff members for a chance to be featured on a quarantine page in the yearbook! Our staff wants to extend our love to all of you during this confusing time, and thank you for reading and supporting our newspaper!

