



Winter Wonderland?

No snow? No problem.

By Sydney McNett and Arianna Rodriguez

During this snowless break the *Barb Wire* went around DeKalb High School and asked fellow students how they spent their 2 week break from school. Here are a few responses.

Abby Jamison asked Senior Madelyn Maxwell what she did over break. Her response was, “I rehearsed for our ballet that’s coming up in February, I had three Christmas’s with family and extended family and ate delicious food.”

Arianna Rodriguez asked junior Charles Vivirito what he did over winter break. He responded with “This break I went to Florida. I enjoyed my time. I felt like I had a lot of relaxation. I really like to spend time with family and friends on the beach. One of the best breaks I’ve had in awhile.”

Sydney McNett interviewed Taylor Mitchell, a senior. Her response was “I liked staying home. I got everything done around the house that needed to be done. I also got a lot of Christmas shopping done for everyone. I really had a good time with my two weeks

off.”

Sophomore Leah Sibley explained what she did over break. “I went to Florida with my family the week before Christmas and spent that week in Disney and Universal Studios. It was really warm and sunny, and I had a great time. Break was amazing.”

Junior Anna Kimball said that over break she saw her grandma for Christmas. Her dad, sister, and grandma always goes up to Millennium Park on Chicago and go ice skating. Kimball’s grandma lives in Ohio, so shes excited to see her as much as she can.

Freshman Caudley Tingling explained that he spent his time at home playing games and enjoying the time spent with his family and tormenting his sister.

Christina Ortega, a current Junior spent her winter break enjoying three different Christmas celebrations. She said, “I went to visit family in Chicago and spent time downtown with them. That was Christmas part one. Then I went to Aurora to visit my grandma

who I love. That was Christmas part two. Finally I went to Joliet for more family and had Christmas part three there.”

Sophomore Elaina Moore spent her winter break catching up on her sleep and hanging out with her friends.

Diana Murrieta, a sophomore, said “I spent a lot of my time with family. I had a lot of fun, I was also getting ready for the soccer season, I had tournaments as well and they went really good!”

Brittini He, a sophomore, said, “I went sledding and had fun with friends and family.”

Bronwyn Morton, a junior, said “I drove to New York with my family and saw *Beetlejuice* on Broadway, I got to see Hamilton’s summer house and burial site along with Eliza and his son. My favorite part was going to Niagara Falls.”

We hope all of you had an amazing break, Barbs!

YouTube is Dying!

YouTube’s New Policy

by Sara Collins

YouTube is a social media site that lets people watch videos ranging from informal, educational, vlogs, food, and more.

YouTube has been a really successful site for a while. As of 2018, there are 23 million YouTube channels.

The first video on YouTube was “me at the zoo” by Jawed Karim. He posted that video on April 23, 2005. YouTube started to get popular when this video came out.

YouTube has attracted so many people. The first account to hit one million subscribers was Fred Figglehorn. He had a high pitched voice and was an internet star for a while. He had made this huge achievement on April 8, 2009. That influenced many people to try YouTube.

Lots of people see this as an amazing chance to be creative and earn some extra money. Not everyone gets famous off of YouTube. Most YouTubers use ads to make their money.

YouTube has made many changes to their program this year. No kid under 13 can make a YouTube channel, but 13 through 17 year olds can make a YouTube channel with parent permission.

Many YouTubers are getting upset from the new rules. One huge rule is not having content for a younger audience. They also want videos that aren’t too inappropriate for the older audience. That makes the influencers have a harder time making content for there subscribers.

Many YouTubers are upset from this new change on YouTube. YouTube had told YouTubers that could be effected on their channel. YouTube flags videos

that they think are directed towards kids.

YouTube is going through all the kid channels and they are getting rid of personalized ads on them. Those creators will be losing money. Kid videos will not be on the YouTube feed. It doesn’t matter if they have one million subscribers, the kid channels will be getting destroyed. Lots of these channels are leaving YouTube.

Many of these channels will have to work harder to make content. YouTube doesn’t agree.

YouTube can be a helpful platform for everyone. I don’t see a issue with a younger audience watching friendly content. There is nothing wrong with a Lego unboxing or educational videos that will help the children grow and learn.

If YouTube has a problem with the content older influencers make they should change the rule for, them. YouTube should also manage and look over every channel to see if they are appropriate for everyone.

Many people 13 and under watch YouTube. I even watched YouTube when I was that age. Many people have watched YouTube since when they were younger than 13 and they didn’t have any issues. There is a restricted mode, kids can use.

Let’s hope YouTube finds a better way to get around this issue. Everyone should have the opportunity to watch YouTube.

Only thing we can do right now is wait until they figure out a better way so everyone will be able to watch YouTube.

Hopefully they find a better way.



BARB WIRE

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Mission Statement

The Barb Wire aims to encourage students in becoming actively involved to improve their high school experience by providing up-to-date, well-researched, and well-written news relevant to DeKalb High School.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The Barb Wire is produced approximately every month by the Journalism classes at DeKalb High School, 501 W. Dresser, DeKalb, IL 60115. Letters to the editor may be left in Mrs. Solomon’s mailbox in the main office or be e-mailed to barb.wire@dist428.org. Letters must be 300 words or less and may be edited for length, clarity, or libelous content. All letters must be signed, but anonymity may be granted if the editors see just cause. The Barb Wire will not print any material that is obscene, libelous, or that may be an invasion of someone’s privacy, or may cause material disruption of the school day.

The staff of the Barb Wire is responsible for observing the legal and ethical responsibilities expected of them as practicing journalists. Opinions expressed on the editorial page are those of the writer and not necessarily those of other staff members, students, faculty or administrators of DeKalb High School. Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the editorial board of the Barb Wire.

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JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL

Welcome to Jumanji

by Tiana Tingling

JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL, is the new JUMANJI movies that many movie lovers couldn't wait to see.

The movie's significantly different from the first one. The movie has different goals and different characters, with different guidelines for each character.

The movie's new charters work alongside the old ones.

The movie take place over the old characters winter brake of college, with them going back home to visit family.

Spence feels like he is left out, and the only way he can be included is if

he goes back into the game.

By him doing this, he leaves his friend with a grave decision to either go in after him or leave him there.

They decided to go back to get Spencer, but the game was all broken. On their way in, they were the only ones who got sucked in.

The game had many different areas and different charterers. Thorough the movie the charters loses the life like was just being plucked from them.

They faces trials that made them feel like there was no way out.

The many new charterers of the movies failed to understand what the

game was relay like at the binging.

The game gave the Villions and the characters all new weaknesses and strengths.

The movies end sadly, but it was all his decision for doing it.

Actors are cast members of the movies include: Karen Gillan, Dwayne Johnson also known as the rock , Kevin Hart, Dania Ramirez, Ashley Scott, Dorothy Steel, Danny DeVito, Danny Glover and Jack Black.

The movie have had many great reviews from critic says that it is and amazing movie for children and adults and cast is greatly like.

The Witcher

A new era of fantasy post Game Of Thrones

by Anthony Burgess

Over winter break Netflix added on to its number of hits with the release of *The Witcher*. Since its release it has gained notoriety really fast, quickly jumping to the top ten most streamed shows of 2019 in just two weeks according to Netflix. It's sitting just behind *Stranger Things* in the number two spot on Netflix.

The Witcher is a fantasy show based off of the popular book series of the same name. It takes place in a fictionalized version of the 16th century where monsters, non-humans (elves, etc), and magic exist.

You follow three separate protagonist Yennefer, Geralt, and Ciri. Yennefer is a mage with a troubled childhood who thirst for power. Geralt is a witcher (mutated human bred to

kill monsters) with a deep sense of morals and a sense of disdain for the extremely political climate he lives in. Ciri is a princess who is left on her own very early on due to attacks from the invading empire Nilfgard.

The show boasts a great cast with Henry Cavill as Geralt, Henry is well known for his role as Superman. It also holds lesser known cast member who performed very well with Anya Chalotra as Yennefer, and Freya Allen as the young princess Ciri.

The Witcher displays a deep sense of morals and political nuance through its exploration of the topics of race, human prejudice towards the unknown, as well as when is killing deemed okay and who has the right make that decision.

While the comparisons to *Game of Thrones* are flooding in, *The Witcher* is still able to make its very own identity and set itself apart.

If you're looking for something to watch I highly recommend *The Witcher*. Netflix has done a very good job on this show and I eagerly await the coming seasons.



Photo provided by creative commons

Basketball

We are the Champions!!

by Becca Shank & Jasmin Garcia

The annual Chuck Dayton tournament is back! The Dekalb Boys Basketball team won the tournament and is currently 14-3.

New head Coach Mike Renoldsexplained what inspired him, "When I was younger, I had a lot of coaches that helped me through a lot of tough times and also tried to push me to do my best. So that's what I try to do with our players.

When asked about his goal for the team this season, Renolds said, "Well I think with any team you want daily improvement trying to get better."

Lastly Renolds went on to explain his favorite memory as a coach, "Just coming here and watching the boys play hard. Taking to a new system and coach. Its been a fun and exciting ride I hope it continues."

Sophomore Christan Lorenzo spoke about his number one inspiration. "My dad definitely. He always pushes me to be a better player as well as my coaches. They push me to go harder in practice that way I can do better in games."

Lorenzo was also asked what made him want to pursue basketball. He replied with, "I wanted to stick-with my family on the court I've been playing with them sine I was a young kid so playing with them as I was growing up always made it fun and kept me going."

Lastly, Lorenzo told us about his favorite part of playing basketball, "My

favorite part about playing basketball is having fun with my brothers on the court and definitely also scoring."

Junior Trenton Kyler explained his favorite memory when he said, "Winning conference my Freshman and sophomore years."

Kyler was also asked about his inspiration when he stated, "Making my family proud of me and being with my teammates and making them happy too."

Kyler was asked about the difference in having a new coach, "He coaches a little different. He focuses a lot more on offence then the last coach did. But he a still forces on defense too. To me there are both fun."

Finally, Kyler was asked about the main goal for him the season. "I want

to push far in playoff, win conference, and make a state run."

Senior Joseph Owens gave us some good insight on how he feels about basketball, too. Owens first explained his biggest advantage of the court. "Probably my height and athleticism over the other opponents."

Owens explained his basketball inspiration. Owens said, "People who came before me. I look up to people like Michael Jordan to push myself to play as well as them."

Owens really looks up to his team as well. Owens told us his teammates inspired him to do basketball along with his family. Owens and along with the team and coaches really hope and push to make it to State this year. Good luck to the Team.



Wrestling

Wrestle On BARBS !

by Jasmin Garcia & Becca Shank

It's Wrestling season! That means the Don Flavin tournament happened over winter break.

Junior Tucker Ikens explained what made him become a wrestler "It's a hard sport that can benefit other sports, & constant grind."

When asked what advice would Ikens give to someone who is new into wrestling, Ikens said "Work your hardest everyday in practice, and you'll get better pretty easy."

Ikens continued explaining the toughest parts of wrestling is and said "The practices every day and the hard tournaments."

PE teacher Sam Hiatt is the head coach for wrestling.

When Hiatt was asked what made him become a wrestling coach he explained "I've been wrestling since I was 5 years old, I enjoyed the sport & it's had a big impact in my life."

"Last year as a team we took 4th place in State, seeing lots of the kids grow up and become successful later in life," Hiatt said about his favorite memory.

Senior Nate Perry explained what inspired him "The death of my grandma a couple years ago. That

inspired me to keep wrestling and keep pushing through it."

Sophomore Tommy Curran wrestles Varsity. When Curran was asked what his favorite memory was he said "When I was younger with my brother practicing in our garage."

When asked how was Curran's season, he replied, "My season has been pretty good, I can obviously do better and become a state champion. I just have to work my way up there."

Freshman Austin Martin wrestles on Varsity. When Martin was asked how he felt being a Freshman and

on the Varsity team he responded, "It's fun, but it's also challenging. Everybody else is a lot older than you. They also have lots of experience and are a lot more stronger, but overall it's a very interesting experience and fun."

"Honestly I want to make it to sectionals. Knowing I'm a freshman it's going to be a challenge making it to state. But if I can make it to sectionals, that'll be a big improvement." Replied Martin when asked what was his goal.

Congrats on a strong showing at the Flavin Tournament. Here's to a great rest of the season!



Blended Learning At DHS

Incorporating new teaching methods

by Abby Jamison

Starting in the 2020-21 school year, DeKalb High School will be offering 3 blended learning classes. Mrs. Solomon will be teaching sophomore Humanities, Mr. Vest will be teaching junior Humanities, and Ms. Stoll will be teaching Biology.

For the first two weeks of school, students are required to be in the class everyday. After that, teachers will set up certain days for blended learn-

ing. This means that students in this class are not required to actually be in the classroom and they can complete the work in a different location.

The teacher will assign the students work for the blended learning days, and they must have it completed by the next check-in day. The amount of days that blended learning is allowed will vary depending on what is occurring in class. It could be one day or it could be four days. The teachers will decide this based on the material.

Freshman student Safiya Barahoua states, "I think the blended classes would benefit many people, and I think that I would take it."

Though the basis of the class is to allow for more independence, students are only allowed to work elsewhere if they can maintain a grade of a C or higher. Otherwise, attendance is mandatory on all days so they can receive extra assistance. This ensures

that students are not abusing the trust of the teachers and the school is not just offering a blow off class.

Stoll explained, "Blended days would be days where they would learn the same things they would learn in class online with websites that I choose...My expectation is that grades will hopefully be a little bit higher, one because they would be motivated to be able to blend out... and because if they came to class on the blended days they would be able to get more one on one help."

Incorporating a new style of class into our school will surely bring challenges, but hopefully the benefits will outweigh the negatives. If the blended classes are successful, DHS is hoping to offer more of them in the coming years. The spots for these classes are limited, so if you are interested make sure to put it on your schedule request.

Course selection

The Year Goes By, Course Selection is here!

by Alexa Schultz

It is the start of a new semester. Things are getting busy, and seniors are about to graduate. The Freshman, Sophomores, and Juniors are getting ready to set up their classes for the next school year. Second semester gets busier than the first one. Which can be overwhelming for students and for staff.

How the school plans for the classes for first semester next year is by Course Selection, which takes place around the second week when students and staff come back from winter break.

Course Selection is a good way for students to choose what they want to take for next year. Counselor Shirley Rouse said, "Once Mr. Potts sets up

the master schedule, Skyward does automate schedules based on student requests."

The school has many classes to offer to students. Which can give students great opportunities to set their career goal. The school has new upcoming classes that they have added and decided to offer to students next year for the first time.

These new classes are Blended Humanities II and III, Blended Biology-, Dual Credit US History, Business Applications of Technology, and Dual Credit careers in Agriculture. These classes will be available to students for the 20-21 school year.

Course selection is important! Most students realize that they tend to perform better in classes that they enjoy so it is so vital for students to take time when they make their selections, as those will be the classes they are enrolled in.

As we continue to grow as a school it is becoming increasingly more difficult to find open classes if a student changes their mind about a course in the first week of school. Taking time to talk to teachers, peers, parents,

and counselors, and reading over the course selection book will really help students learn about what to expect in a course before signing up for it. It will also make it more likely that you find the right course for you. Selecting the right courses will assist students in preparing for their post secondary plans whether that be college, the trades, the workforce, or military.

Course Selection is also a really long process for the counselors and the staff here at DHS to make sure that students get classes that they want to take. Rouse said, "The vast majority of students will receive the courses that they select during course selection. We do ask students to select alternates in case we are not offering a class that they chose, or if all of their selections will not work"

As course selection itself is a long process, it is still a good thing for everybody here at DHS to ensure students make their future more successful and the experience great! Go out there and explore classes! You can also find really fun things within different classes so do not be afraid to try anything!

Trump V.S. Iran

Is World War III In The Making?

by Sierra Cleveland

With the election just on the tip of the iceberg, it may have just drowned due to a recent incident. As if Kurdistan and attempting to build a wall wasn't enough, having a military assassinate the leader of Iran was just his way of adding salt to the wound. It has already been established that it would be difficult for Trump to win the election due to his impeachment for unlawful activity such as abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. Soleimani's (Iranian general) death will be acknowledged by many and avenging will be a primary concern. Fear for WWII has been the talk of the month, but many continue to say they will just move out of the country forgetting that the first word in WWII is "world".

On the third of January, 2020, Iranian General Soleimani was assassinated by American drones that shot missiles at his convoy. The only person taking credit for such an attack is Donald Trump. Questions began to surface as to why an American president would commit such an act that could even put American civilians in danger. Curious on knowing what the next move is, WWII may be one of the biggest concerns, however according to *PolitifFact* the U.S. has not yet implemented a draft.

Many believed Trump had Soleimani assassinated because he wanted to tip the election and give himself more leverage in the campaign. According to CNN, it was believed to be an act of defense because Soleimani was

supposedly making plans/threats that were imminent. Article II is where every politician can find justification for his/her act. Which, is exactly what a lot of politicians have done in the past. CNN goes on to say that the White House's justifications for the assassination goes without any evidence offered, which makes it harder to find them as a reliable source. Trump hinted that on Sunday the intelligence that led to the attack on Soleimani would be released.

Such a sea of humanity came to



A portrait of Trump.

Photo provided by Svetik Petushkova

mourn the death of Soleimani in Iran. It wasn't your typical funeral, and rather looked like Barack Obama's Inauguration speech in 2009 when almost the whole U.S. came. This Iranian general had so much love from his people and the evidence used to criminalise

him lacks. It would almost make sense to go with the idea that Trump just tried to tip the election. First he went through the impeachment process then abandoned Kurdistan when they were in a time of need. Why would it be that easy to just forgive and forget an event that not only affected Iran, but also the U.S.? Simple answer, it won't because things just got a little more heated.

Besides the fact that Iran voted to kick out US troops. They also made a vow to retaliate against the U.S. with the military as their weapon. If that doesn't have war written all over it, I don't know what does. During a protest/demonstration, Iranians were shown tearing up a U.S. flag. Iran also divorced the nuclear deal which was an agreement made in 2015. To summarize, World War III may just be in the making overall.



Soleimani posing for a picture.

8 Beauty Products To Try in 2020

Here are 8 new products from Ulta to try this year that will have you feeling refreshed and ready to conquer the new decade!

by Asia Greer

1. L'Oréal Telescopic Mascara (\$10.99)

This is the HOLY GRAIL of drugstore mascaras. It separates and lengthens lashes in just one coat. If you want really long and voluminous lashes, try using 2 coats. While it is on the pricey side for drugstore mascaras, it is worth the money. It also doesn't dry out fast or flake after prolonged wear. It comes in carbon black and waterproof.



2. e.l.f. Hydrating Coconut Mist (\$8)

Doubling as a skin hydrator and setting spray, this mist is the perfect one for on the go. It has a sleek bottle and fresh, light coconut smell. You can apply it as many times to refresh dry skin or makeup and it dries fast. At just six dollars, it won't break the bank which helps avoid making it a chore to re-invest.

3. Maybelline SuperStay Matte Ink Edition Liquid Lipstick (\$9.49)

This particular collection has a range of different shades. While it says liquid lipstick, it is not like any other. It applies like a smooth, buttery gloss and dries in seconds. It also doesn't fade or chip and lasts hours. It comes in many berry and nude shades, including explorer, a vivid blue, and originator, a bold purple color.

4. Makeup Revolution Highlight Reloaded Powder Highlighter (\$7)

If you love glitter or looking like a glowing goddess, then this product will be great to add to your makeup bag. It comes in 6 shimmery powder shades and lasts literally forever. It has a smooth formula and is very pigmented so not much is needed.



5. Feeling Beautiful 4-in-1 Apple Cider Vinegar Foaming Clay Mask (\$4.29)

Unlike any other mask you've probably seen or used, this mask by *Free-man* can be used as a cleanser and leave-on mask. If used as a cleanser, it begins to foam as soon as you start cleaning. Or you can apply it evenly across your face and let it dry like a mask. Either way it works to tone and cleanse your face, leaving it super smooth.

6. Revlon Blackhead Remover (\$7.99)

Most blackhead extractors do basically the same job. However, getting one is still a good investment for your skin. With slight pressure, they help remove all excess dirt and oil that you may have missed while cleansing. These are good for people with large pores that get clogged easily or small pores that tend to create blackheads. This one from Ulta has a nice bumpy grip in the middle making it easier to extract.

7. Hempz Travel Size Yuzu & Starfruit Daily Herbal Body Moisturizer Broad Spectrum SPF 30 (\$7.50)

For anyone who doesn't know, *Hempz* is a pure herbal extract body care company that makes some of the most amazing smells. And it is famed for its hemp plant logo. This body lotion has a very light and fruity smell. It also has an SPF which means a skin barrier and moisturizer in one! The smells tend to last all day so you won't really need to reapply it.



8. Nivea Men's Post-Shave Balm (online only for \$6.99)

While it is branded as a "men's" aftershave, it also works as a good moisturizing makeup primer. It does have a strong smell though, but when it is applied to the face it dries tacky. This makes it similar to a high-end primer.

