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Grade change: SRL suspended

Should SRL Continue at the High School Level?



by Eisla Madigan

Standards-Referenced Learning (SRL) is the current grading system; however, its future is uncertain as parents, students, and staff have all raised concerns about how it was implemented at UHS.

On December 4, Principal Jesse Guzman called a voluntary staff meeting to notify staff that SRL would be suspended at the end of the fall semester, with the goal of bringing it back for Fall 2025.

So what led to this unexpected change?

On November 11, members of the Urbana High School Parent Advocacy Group on Facebook sent out a survey to gather data on how students and families across the district feel about the new grading system.

In response to growing unrest among families, and before the survey results were released, the school district created the Collective Problem-Solving Team, whose goal according to a statement released by the district, is to “make our SRL system more robust, while addressing some of the questions and concerns we have received.”

On November 29, the results of the Parent Advocacy Survey were released and revealed strong negative feelings toward SRL. Of the 363 responses, 85.7% selected “no” when asked if SRL should continue at the high school level.

There was an open-response question in the survey where students, staff and families could voice their concerns anonymously to the board.

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Looking back on first semester

by Morgan Perez

It's been a long first five months of school (even with our first-ever Fall Break!). As the first semester comes to an end, we have had a lot of new changes to look back on, including new rules for parking, a new band room, new additions to the lunchroom, and of course, new administration.

In Fall 2023, Urbana High School welcomed Principal Jesse Guzman into the building, and he welcomed UHS back.

“I would say the transition here was overall really good; I really do like Urbana. I was anticipating a lot of challenges coming in and yes, there were challenges, but the good by far outweighs the challenges,” he said.



Guzman was very pleased with his first semester, even though moving to high school was a bit of a culture shock.

“Previously, I worked with middle school students and so coming over here and just all of the maturity of all of the students here, talking with students about the level of understanding and just the knowledge base [was different]...I absolutely love listening to students and trying to find voice and power for our students. They have a say in what happens,” continued Guzman.

Going into second semester, Guzman feels very hopeful and excited. He is ready to hit the midpoint of the year and finish out strong.

This was a feeling echoed by students.

“First semester has gone better than I thought it would. I don't have to wake up super early in the morning anymore and I've been working hard to keep my grades up,” said Juniper Jones.

As Fall 2023 ends, we look forward to an even stronger 2024!

Reflections on senior season: Fall athletes say goodbye

by Valentina Gonzalez-Ahuerma

The 2023 fall season has come to an end. When it comes down to playing a sport, there is a lot that goes into it: from workouts to practices to maximum effort during competitions, athletes give it their all. Whether they played on the field, on the court, or in the pool, this year's seniors made many memories. Sadly, it's time to say goodbye to our seniors, but before we do, here are some words from our captains!

Girl's Swim: Shi'Anne Harris

"My season went so well for my first year doing diving! I managed to get 14 dives and 5th place at sectionals. The best part would be going to meets. I loved meeting the new divers and they were always so nice, and I gained so many new friends from it."



Football: JayDon Riggs

"It was fun being the quarterback and controlling the offense, but that came with ups and downs. Coach Blanden all season talked to us all about controlling the things that we can control, so when I finally got to understand the things that were happening were out of my control, I stopped focusing about that stuff and tried to dial in the things that I was in control of."



Girl's Tennis: Alisa Tangmunarunkit

"Our season was really good! We broke a couple of records for the first time in a while, so this is the first time our coach has taken a girls team to state, and this is the first time there have been two state entries. This is also the first time one of the teams won sectionals."



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SRL suspended

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"Many teachers expressed concerns last year that we weren't ready, but no one would listen to us. Now, our kids are paying the consequences for the poor choices our district leadership made. This is not fair to them, their mental health, and their grades. Our kids deserve better," said one high school staff member.

Parents also expressed frustration, especially as it relates to their children's futures.

"SRL is confusing and impacts the students negatively. The GPA is critical for them to get into a good college, and working hard to get a 2 or C at the end of the semester, just because they did not master the work for the end of the year is absolutely nuts," said one respondent.

"Please kill this SRL now, this will hurt my child getting into college," they added.

4.2 percent of responses to the survey said "yes" when asked if SRL should continue at the high school level, but their open responses were not available in the survey data presentation.

The District's Problem-Solving Collective will continue working to examine how SRL can work at UHS and indicates SRL is not gone for good.

"Our goal continues to be that SRL helps our students focus on learning and provides a clear picture of their understanding so students take ownership of their learning and know what to do next in the classroom," they wrote.

Return of literary magazine *The Loophole*

by Sage Frazier and Eisla Madigan

The Loophole is a literary magazine that has been on hiatus since the pandemic began, but thanks to senior Avalon Ogolsky, it's back and more active than ever!

"I wanted to start up Loophole because I wanted there to be an outlet for like-minded individuals who want to be able to share their artistic voice. I think it's super important for young artists to share their work and Loophole provides a safe space for students to do that," said Ogolsky.

Restarting The Loophole has not been easy. Ogolsky has been attempting to revive the magazine for three years, with her main roadblock being finding a staff member to sponsor the group. With the high turnover of Creative Writing teachers, there simply wasn't consistency in how it was run.

This year, Ogolsky found her sponsor in Creative Writing teacher Brandon Birkhead, who is enthusiastic about restarting the project.

He believes the magazine can show off the talents of UHS students who might not otherwise have an outlet.

"We just want to promote the arts as much as we can. If someone is a good writer or artist or creative mind, there's not always as many opportunities for them to showcase that," he said.

This is a sentiment Ogolsky can relate to.

"When I created something I was truly proud of, all I wanted to do was share it with the world around me. Through Loophole, I hope to provide others with the opportunity to share the work they are proud of with those around them!" she said.

The Loophole is thriving, and looking for contributors as well as members! Submissions for this year's book will be taken until February 2nd, so be sure to submit your photography, writing, drawing, painting, or any other form of visual art before then!



Wave hello to the Commons' newest staple

by Sanaa Parker

It has been about a month since microwaves were put into the Commons.

According to Principal Jesse Guzman, "UHS students have been requesting microwaves for several years and this year the district was able to meet the request."

Originally, the announcement came with a caveat: the microwaves would be temporary, depending on how they were used and treated. For now, it looks like the microwaves are here to stay!

"We have not had any issues with the microwaves. Everyone has been using them responsibly and with care," said Guzman. Though he added a reminder for students to continue to do so moving forward.

For freshman Daphne Nance, this was good news. "I like them. They are useful, especially for the noodles or if you don't wanna eat school food!"



2023: Pop culture recap

by Vincent Podroykin

2023 was one crazy year! During this long, tense, and odd year, we were fed extremely well with iconic moments, from chaotic TV shows made by interesting people to seemingly half of everyone in Hollywood getting a divorce. These are the biggest moments of what happened in the pop culture world during the year 2023!

10. The Movie *M3GAN*

Last year, the world got a little taste of the killer doll slasher film, starring Allison Williams and Violet McGraw, that would backhand slap Chucky and Tiffany and slam Annabelle to the ground. The trailer looked like a seemingly normal slasher movie until it ends with *M3GAN*'s now iconic dance.

Everybody loved it, and the clip blew up all over Twitter and TikTok in 2023. We will be remembering this when the sequel comes out!

New club changing climate one step at a time



by Ruby Pittenger

The Champaign Urbana Student Climate Association (CUSCA) is a newly formed club, not only at Urbana High School but open to other surrounding schools as well! Even though they're new, they have already established themselves. Sophomore Kavi Patel and junior Gabe Doussard are active members working hard to achieve their goals.

"It was very slow at first, it [the forming of the club] was sometime in early July. I started reaching out to people saying, 'I'm thinking of doing this, would you be interested?' And then, as the school year went on we had breaks in our work, we kind of put it together," said Patel.

The club is making waves by volunteering all over the community.

"We've done a lot of volunteering. The Solidarity Gardens in Victory Park, which is over in East Urbana, Cunningham Township. And then, we helped in the revamp of Leal's playground, gardening, planting some trees," said Doussard.

"At the moment, we're considering raised beds at Orchard Downs for the spring. We're also considering raised beds around UHS," said Doussard. "I know a lot of high schools have their

climate clubs and we could assimilate them and get some centralized effort." Even if you aren't as passionate about climate, there is always something you can contribute here. Everyone has a role to play in CUSCA.

"I think as the year goes on, you know, we'll kind of start to educate about climate. If you're interested in that or if you want to know how you can help, we're so broad that if you have a specific skill that you are pretty good at, there's always a way to integrate it. If you're good with photography, if you're good with writing, newspaper, anything that you think that you can contribute, you can contribute," said Patel.

Getting involved is not that difficult with CUSCA; just reach out!

"We have an Instagram, just DM the Instagram and we'll send you the Group Me. Talk to us, talk to any of us," said Patel.

No matter what impact you think you might have when joining, you will always be a key part of changing Urbana-Champaign's environment, one step at a time.

"Just join, join, even if you don't think you're going to do a lot," stated Patel. "It feels like every new person that joins has something to offer."

9. Rihanna's Super Bowl and Second Pregnancy

When Rihanna was announced as the performer for the Super Bowl halftime show, the entire world was shaken. Were we going to get a new album? Probably not, but we wanted to see her on the stage since she hasn't been on one in seven years. 113 million people tuned in to halftime and we all

saw something... a baby bump!

Twitter was slapped into a hurricane with floods of tweets wondering if she was pregnant, or perhaps was just embracing a fuller figure. Either way, we were all happy for her, but with that came some horrifying news: no new music anywhere in sight.

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Freshman Academy: Life's a Trip

by Sanaa Parker

Academy classes for freshmen are new this year, but why?

In 2022, the Illinois State Board of Education adopted the The PaCE (Postsecondary and Career Expectations) Framework, which focuses on three key areas: Career Exploration and Development, Postsecondary Education Exploration, Preparation, and Selection, and Financial Aid and Literacy.

Creating freshman academy classes was the perfect way to integrate this framework into

the UHS curriculum, and served as a starting point for much more. In addition to the PaCE Framework, it was also a space to teach freshmen the basics of high school and a chance to introduce them to new interests and hobbies.

Halfway through first semester, students were given the opportunity to pick an elective academy class from options such as:

Calligraphy, Life's a Trip, Careers, Wonders of Nature, Video Game History, Pathway to Success, Web Development, Anime X Academia, Wellness World, and Logical Thinking and Problem Solving.

One class, "Life's a Trip," focuses on learning how to manage life, from the highest of highs to the lowest of lows.

Think of Life's a Trip like Hasbro's family favorite The Game of Life on steroids.

"[I chose this one] because I knew I would be able to get the real-life experience," said Genisis Walker.

The academy classes are also an opportunity for students to spend time with their friends and build a community.

"Academy is always funny for me. There hasn't been one day that my friends in Academy haven't made me laugh," said Xavier Podroykin.

Whether focused on the present or the future, Academy has been a great opportunity for students.



December grads: The future begins now

by Brooklyn Shipman

As first semester comes to an end, so does the high school experience for our December grads.

Even though it can be stressful to figure out what you want to do after high school, Amiyah Puryear has that under control.

"I wanted to graduate early because as much fun I had in high school, I'm trying to jumpstart my success after school and getting money stacked up for college is a little more important than 5 months of joy," she laughed.

Some grads like Alaycia Williams have big plans for their semester off.

"With the time I have out of school until I start college, my plan is to get a CNA job at one of the Carle hospital clinics," she said.

Omar Ibarra is still trying to figure out what he wants to do post-high school. "I have two options at the moment for my plan for the upcoming semester. I can either focus on cutting hair and going to school for that or instead go

to Parkland and start from there studying criminal justice," he said.

Like Ibarra, Williams is also on a journey to find herself with the time she has off: "I really want to use this time to chill and learn more about myself outside of high school."

Even though high school was a roller coaster ride, Williams knew graduating early would pay off.

"Since I had this opportunity to graduate early and have some months without school before college, I took it. I knew my future self would thank me for it!"



Senior Alaycia Williams

Quiz: Which holiday film are you?

by Morgan Perez, Brooklyn Shipman, Ruby Pittenger, and Esla Madigan

Winter break is a time for relaxing, recuperating, and of course, getting into the holiday spirit with some quality screen time! Find out which holiday classic encapsulates your personality by taking the quiz below!

1. What is your favorite winter activity?

- a) Drinking a nice warm cup of hot cocoa
- b) Building a snowman
- c) Having a snowball fight
- d) Sledding
- e) Staying in bed all day

2. What is your favorite way to spend your break?

- a) Watching Youtube
- b) Reading
- c) Watching a Hallmark movie
- d) Playing in the snow
- e) Sleeping, duh.

3. What is your favorite winter snack?

- a) Gingerbread cookies
- b) Ice cream
- c) Chocolate truffles
- d) Sugar cookies
- e) Biscuits

4. What is your ideal winter vacation/getaway?

- a) Going to the beach
- b) Going somewhere even colder
- c) Traveling to new place with AirBnB
- d) Going somewhere tropical
- e) Doing nothing. I'm staying home!

5. Who is your favorite Reindeer?

- a) Rudolph
- b) Donner
- c) Cupid
- d) Dasher
- e) Vixen

6. What is your favorite winter drink?

- a) Hot chocolate
- b) Egg nog
- c) Frappuccino
- d) Chocolate milk
- e) Black coffee

7. What's a perfect gift for you?

- a) Socks
- b) White Elephant gift
- c) Scented candles
- d) Glitter bath bombs
- e) Coal. or Nothing.

Results on Page 8!



2023: Pop culture recap

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8. The Divorce of Ariana Grande and Dalton Gomez announced with singer Troye Sivan, Jennie from Blackpink, and Rachel Sennott set to star in the show alongside with Lily Rose Depp as the female lead and Tesfaye as the male lead. Arguably one of the most iconic pop stars of our time, Ariana Grande doesn't need an introduction. She and Dalton Gomez, a luxury real estate agent, got married in May 2021 and news about them went quiet. That is, until everything changed on July 17th, 2023 and news broke out on People and TMZ that they had filed for a divorce.

After being spotted by fans at Wimbledon without her wedding band on, Grande denied the rumors, saying she “was getting it cleaned, and if you think we are divorced, don't.” But later the same day, we learned that they indeed had divorced. Days later, Grande's *Wicked* co-start, Ethan Slater, also announced his divorce. Accusations were flying left and right like planes in the sky, calling Grande a “homewrecker” since it was assumed that they were having an affair on set during the filming of the movie. They are now officially dating. Did this huge scandal change your opinion about her? Did it possibly damage her music career? Probably not, as we're still watching her every move!

7. The Weeknd and *The Idol* Fiasco

The Weeknd, real name Abel Tesfaye, is a megastar having 4 diamond-certified singles by the RIAA. In June 2021, it was announced that he and *Euphoria* creator Sam Levinson would be creating a drama for HBO. A few months later, the cast list was

The show was destroyed by critics, calling out its script quality, Tesfaye's acting, and the explicit content. However, praise was given to Depp's acting as well as the music throughout the show. In August 2023, HBO announced that the show had been canceled after one season, ending on a cliffhanger no one will ever be able to answer.

6. Met Gala and the Choupette Outfits

The annual Met Gala is an event that everyone and their mothers, oh, and Twitter, obsess over each year. The themes are always interesting and the outfits never give us a bore. 2023's theme was Karl Lagerfeld: A Line of Beauty, in honor of Karl Lagerfeld, famed designer of fashion houses including Chanel and Fendi, who died three years earlier.

Many paid tribute to him by using looks based on his style and items from his brand. The true Lagerfeld-devotees showed up in something more unexpected: dressing as Lagerfeld's famous cat, Choupette.

Doja Cat popped onto the red carpet in a full prosthetic look with cat ears and whiskers, going so far as to meow at her interviewers. It was certainly a

unique moment until Jared Leto showed up in an entire fur suit... Certainly one of the best-dressed themes!

5. Barbenheimer

Two of 2023's biggest film releases, *Barbie* and *Oppenheimer*, converged on July 21st with the same release date. Twitter combusted into a phenomenon with people saying they will be seeing both movies on the same day, most people referring to this as “Barbenheimer.” They were true to their word and both films had extremely successful openings.

Now, they've started a trend, with other films trying to copy their success. One example was the release date for *Saw X* and *PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie* with people dubbing it as Saw Patrol. Another example would have been Exorswift, the planned release of *The Exorcist: Believer* and The Taylor Swift *Eras Tour* film On October 13th (if *The Exorcist* hadn't have been scared to face off against Swift!)

4. The Break-up Craze

Unlike some of the other entries, this one doesn't need much explaining. During the summer of 2023, seemingly everyone in Hollywood was divorcing, calling off engagements, or breaking up. Victims of this craze were Britney Spears and Sam Ashgari, Sophie Turner and Joe Jonas, Ariana Grande and Dalton Gomez, Sofia Vergara and Joe Manganiello, and Tom Sandoval and Ariana Madix (which brings no surprise to anybody familiar with the infamous Scandoval!).

3. Oceangate Titan

On June 18th at 9:30 AM, the Titan Submersible began its descent into the wreck of the Titanic on the Atlantic Ocean. The Submersible was supposed to return at 4:30 pm but it never did. At 7:30, The US Coast Guard was notified. The search for the missing submersible would continue over the following days and took social media by storm.

Before the wreckage was found on June 22nd, controversies emerged during the search referencing back to the way the submersible was being controlled by an Xbox controller, people pretended to be psychics and said that the victims in the submersible would be found before the hours of oxygen they had left would run out, and not to mention that one of the victim's sons posted himself at a Blink-182 concert while they were still looking for everyone. There is even a movie in production about this incident already.

2. Lil Tay Death Hoax

Lil Tay is a person who needs no introduction, especially after her 2023 death hoax. On August 9th, 2023, Lil Tay's Instagram account was updated after two years of inactivity. It was announced that Lil Tay and her brother had passed away suddenly. Many swept to social media to mourn the youngest flexer, with some more skeptical about the post. The Father of Lil Tay and her former manager didn't comment on her being alive or dead, and police could not confirm it either. Turns out her dad was in on it. About a day later, it was reported that her account was hacked and her mom gained full custody of Tay, freeing her from the control of the crazed and money-hungry father.

1. Taylor Swift: Eras and Everywhere

With Taylor Swift releasing *Midnights*, her tenth studio album, we all knew a tour wasn't that far away. And so the Eras Tour was born! Most people will remember this tour as the one that caused the chaos with Ticketmaster. As their website crashed and froze, bots and scalpers bought tickets in masses and resold them for horrible prices. Regardless, it was a massive success and is the second-highest-grossing tour of all time, raking in \$780 Million over 56 shows.

Oh, and you've heard of Travis Kelce?

Fall senior athlete reflections

Continued from Page 2

Boy's Soccer: Max Kwon-Allred

"It was a little bit underwhelming, but I was still pretty proud of how we played. The best part of the season was probably our win against Uni. That was really a game where we showed up and played our best."

Cross Country: Michael Allison

"It was a pretty good season, and about the same compared to my other seasons. We made it to sectionals and we had a few individuals who qualified for state this year which was awesome."

Volleyball: Samantha Christman

"The best part of the season was probably the community. It was so positive and everyone was rooting for each other all the time. We were always working together and having fun and even in the end we knew we worked so hard for what we got."

Cheer: NaLaya Portis

"My season went well. We got to experience a lot of new stunts and at different levels. We got to the harder levels this year and we got to experience more stunting than last year. The best part of my season so far was the pep rally. I really liked the routine and the energy. It was was the best experience so far."

Color Guard: Morgan Perez

"Our season went very well. We placed first or second in multiple competitions. The best was definitely the Viking Invitational, when the color guard placed first, like top top!"

Marching Band: D'meneca Turner-Winston

"I think the best part was seeing how everybody just improved in their marching and everybody just talking to each other and actually being a family instead of just people being in the same band together. That was just a really good moment."

After hearing from our amazing captains, it is now time for them to sign off from their 2023 fall seasons. They all worked very hard to get to where they are today.

All the memories they've made this season will be cherished in their hearts for many years to come!



5 conspiracy theories to research over break

Believe in the fact that the government underground is actively taking down American society? Research these 5 "true facts" over break and achieve "true enlightenment."

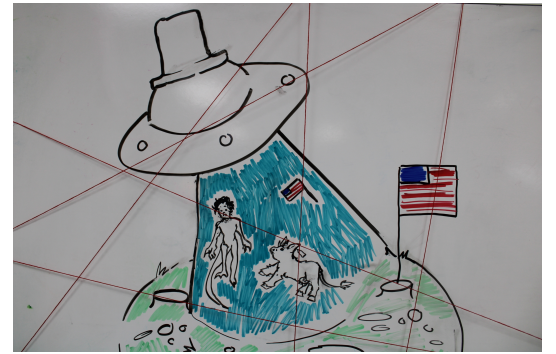
by Dante Kolak

Over time, thousands of theories have been thought up by many scientists and persons of the world. Some are fact, some are false, and some fall into more... secret category. Conspiracy theories are facts thought up by the true patriots of our society, those who have revealed fact time and time again, and at great cost. Research these 5 facts during this break, and come back to school truly enlightened by the truth of our modern world.

1. John F. Kennedy is Abraham Lincoln. As we all know, on April 15, 1865 our great president Abraham Lincoln was forced to go into temporal hiding due to the secret federated communist union of lizards. Lincoln then came out of hiding in 1960, killed the original JFK, and proceeded to morph into his identity. The JFK that we know of during his time as president is not JFK, but rather Abraham Lincoln. After the union of lizards spotted this irregularity, they forced Lincoln back into hiding, where Lincoln is now, awaiting for an opening in the space time continuum, to once again take hold of America.

2. The government is spraying toxic nano aluminum into the air via commercial aircraft. It is well known that the underground federal society managed by Bill Gates sprayed what is called chemtrails into the air to control the weather. But what is not known is that there is an ulterior motive to these "chemtrails," one that is much more sinister in nature. These chemtrails also contain the toxic micro nano aluminum cells that are in Bill Gate's Hoax-19 vaccine.

These cells are made to control the American people, and force them into doing the government's evil will. Don't believe me?



Just wait and see. Bad times are coming.

3. The 4 day time cube. Self-proclaimed "wisest man on earth," Dr. Gene Ray is the discoverer of this truth. The 4 day time cube is proof that our Earth is a cube, rotating on a simultaneous 96 hour rotation. The evil educated men with their marshmallows that will turn us into brilliant unicorns are the stupid evil of society. Dr. Gene Ray has offered \$10,000.00 to anyone who can disprove the 4 day harmonic cube, and although he has offered this multiple times, no one has dared to try to disprove him. Coincidence? I think not.

4. The moon landing actually happened. It is common thought that the moon landing was a false program that was filmed at Area 51. It actually happened, but it had a different purpose than what was publicized by the government. The moon landing was actually a CIA program that would have electron beam rays pointed towards American citizens, meant to control their minds and speech. These beam rays are still in active service, and are routinely maintained by the CIA and the KGB.

5. Urbana School District 116 is a front for a secret CIA operation to destroy the youth of America. Codenamed "SRL," this secret CIA program is meant to destroy the future prospects of America's students, as well as to demoralize and control their minds. Learning from their mistakes in the MKULTRA program, the CIA has decided to use a more secretive and much more sinister route. If we do not stop this program today, it will spread to other school districts and cities, and all of America will suffer eternal damnation.

Know Thyself: Zodiac Signs, Personality, and Future Careers

by Sage Frazier

Aries (March 21st - April 19th):

Aries are known to have bold and energetic personalities. With such an intense and lively personality, Aries are the most likely zodiac sign to become freelancers and follow what their hearts tell them. Despite what others may say, nothing is as important as following your dreams!

Taurus (April 20th - May 20th):

Taurus is the sign of the bull, which is probably why most Tauruses are stubborn people when it comes to almost anything! There's nothing that a Taurus won't argue about, or fight for! Tauruses are natural born debaters and make great lawyers.

Gemini (May 21st - June 30th):

Geminis are the twins of astrology! People who are Geminis are very curiosity-driven people, which is why they get so much work done!
Continued on next column

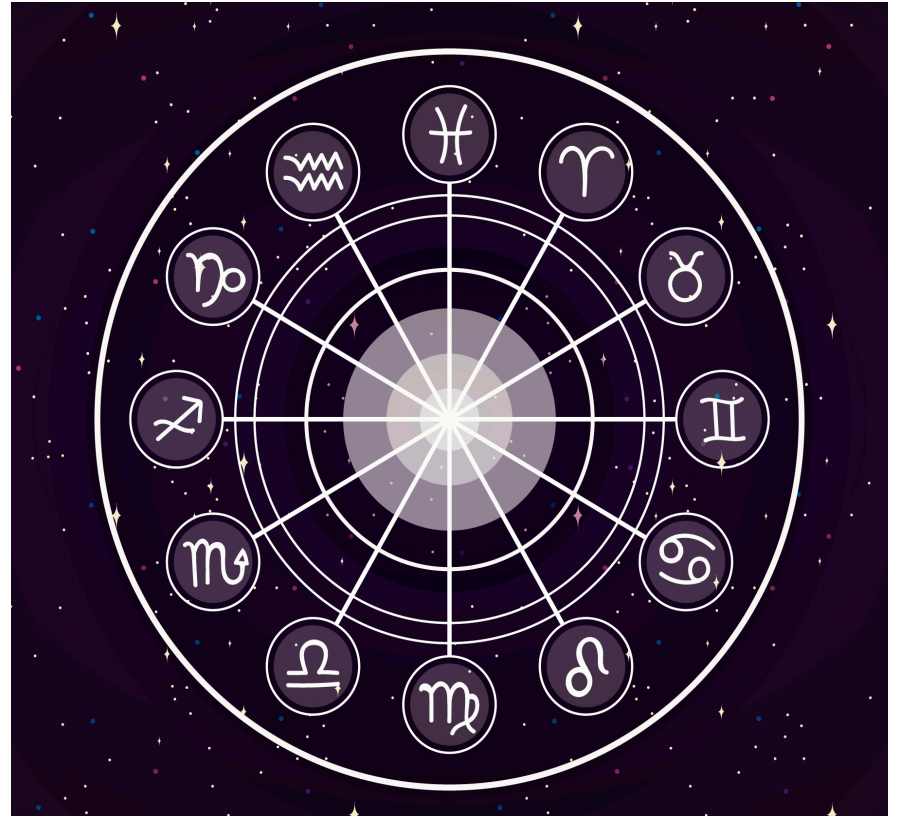
There isn't a thing on this planet that a Gemini hasn't been curious about. Geminis are the most likely sign to become detectives. Intelligence and curiosity... What a mix!

Cancer (June 21st - July 22nd):

Cancers are very sensitive people. Don't be fooled, though! Cancers are very emotionally intelligent people. Sure, they may be pushovers at first, but if you walk over them too much, they will ruin your life, and you would never guess it was them. Cancers make great therapists, because of how empathetic and emotionally aware they are.

Leo (July 23rd - August 22nd):

Leos LOVE to bask in the spotlight! Attention and adoring fans is what a Leo truly desires. People who are Leos are meant to be popular and loved by all. Leos make great thespians as well. Leos are honest and popular people---make sure to stick around a Leo, they'll stick with you too!



Virgo (August 23rd - September 22nd):

Virgos are the most wise, logical, and sensible people of all! Virgos are also very connected to the earth and make great professors and gardeners. Such a strange mix of talent, but Virgos are also masters at finding beauty in the chaos of the world. Multitasking and wise, such a gift!

Libra (September 23rd - October 22nd):

Libras are incredibly balanced people! Equality is a very important virtue to Libras. People who are Libras will always find a way to be fair, even if it means including things or people they don't necessarily enjoy being around, and because of this, Libras make great teachers and TAs.

Scorpio (October 23rd - November 21st):

Scorpio is the sign that is the most looked down upon due to their aggressive nature and the tendency to push people away, but Scorpios are very considerate and emotional people. Scorpios also make great psychics due to how good they are at predicting the future! The next time you're unsure about something... Ask a Scorpio!

Sagittarius (November 22nd - December 21st):

Sagittariuses will never stay in the same place for too long...
Continued on next column

This sign is known to explore and adventure far out of their comfort zone. Sagittariuses are the most likely sign to be bloggers. Something exciting is bound to happen with a Sagittarius nearby!

Capricorn (December 22nd - January 19th):

Capricorns always have the right idea about someone before anything even happens! Capricorns are great at sensing someone's energy. Along with that, Capricorns are the most motivated sign, who will work hard for what they want! Capricorns are most likely to become doctors due to their perseverance.

Aquarius (January 20th - February 18th):

Aquarians have a deep love for improving the life of humanity and earth! Aquarians are very nature-centered people, who would dedicate their whole lives to bettering the world, one step at a time. Aquarians are very connected to the earth. There isn't a better freelancer than an Aquarian!

Pisces (February 19th - March 20th):

Pisces are incredibly empathetic and intuitive people! Pisces make great counselors because of their empathetic nature! Everyone could use a Pisces in their life, a person who has gone through all the rough things for you. Pisces are wise people to have around---look to them as life coaches!

15 Dec	8:00-9:20	1st Hour Exam
	9:25-10:45	2nd Hour Exam
	10:50-11:31	3rd Hour Class
	11:35-12:16	4th Hour Class
	12:20-1:01	5th Hour Class
18 Dec	1:05-1:46	6th Hour Class
	1:50-2:31	7th Hour Class
	2:35-3:16	8th Hour Class
19 Dec	8:00-9:20	4th Hour Exam
	9:30-10:50	3rd Hour Exam
	11:00-12:20	5th Hour Exam
19 Dec	8:00-9:20	6th Hour Exam
	9:30-10:50	7th Hour Exam
	11:00-12:20	8th Hour Exam

Final Exam Schedule

Thank you Sponsors!

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Quiz results: Which holiday film are you?

Mostly A's? You're the Holiday Basic! Like *White Christmas*, you're a classic that anyone can appreciate. You are true to yourself and like to stay in your comfort zone. Taking risks is not for you. Why go out on a snow-covered limb when you can find joy and comfort in what you already know?

Mostly B's? You're the outsider! Shout-out to everyone's favorite version of the uncanny valley: *The Polar Express*. You like to forge your own path and don't really care what others think. You're out there living in your own dimension: taking risks, exploring new places, and living on the edge. Take that, societal expectations!

Mostly C's? You're the hopeless romantic! *Love, Actually* is the perfect holiday film for you. When the holidays are near you can't help but think about who you could be spending it with. No matter how many holidays you may spend alone, you will always have faith that something will work out for you the next time around (and you're right!).

Mostly D's? You're silly, just like Elf. When the holidays roll around you can't help but be rolling those jokes! Everyone needs a person like you to cheer up their holiday spirit: you bring the party, snacks, drinks, and of course, the music!

Mostly E's? You are literally a Grinch. When everyone is in the holiday mood, you can't help but think about how you could ruin their cheer. You'd rather be rotting in your bed than spreading the spirit. Make sure to purchase a very big set of noise-cancelling headphones this holiday season, because you're in for a dreadfully long one!



Winter break playlist: Songs on repeat in 2023



by Ruby Pittenger

As the year wraps on 2023, it's time to look through a year that gave us new feel-good anthems and songs that became our new best friends.

From Taylor Swift's re-releases to Drake's album *For All The Dogs*, 2023 was a memorable ride for music lovers. Now let's take a look at which songs UHS students had on replay this year!

Keira Cane (9th): "Come Back Be Here" by Taylor Swift

Ana Adubs (9th): "Heading South" by Zach Bryan

Lucas Pankau (12th): "Mr. Trouble" by BigXthaPlug

Jack Perry (12th): "500lbs" by Lil Tecca

Issac Luebeck (12th): "IT GIRL" by Aliyah's Interlude

Lucia Lucero (11th): "Prom" by SZA

Kamarion Kersh (10th): "wait4u" by Maajins

Jevan Juday (9th): "Our Song" by Taylor Swift

Titus Coady (9th): "How You Get The Girl" by Taylor Swift

Allie Quang (9th): "Kiss Them" by The Weeknd

Trinity Dickens (9th): "Karma" by Summer Walker

Maryah Banks (10th): "If Only" by Dove Cameron

Cheers to the songs that got UHS through their ups and downs this year! 2023 was a year of music to remember.