

# In Our Opinion

## Rumors Swirling, Lives Blurring

By: Alexa Dentai  
Co-News Editor

A young girl walks into school wearing shorts and a tee shirt.

It is winter and she has no coat that proves that the weather outside is anything but terrible.

The little girl shivers from being so cold, while everyone stares at her. Everyone starts whispering about the young girl: "Why is she wearing shorts?"

"Is she stupid?"

"Do you think she has clothes?"

While everyone gossips about the girl, an older classmate walks up to her: "I have some extra sweatpants in my gym locker, they are probably dirty, but that's all I have, if you want it."

The young girl looks up at the older classmate with shining eyes. "Yes, please," she says.

As the two girls walk down the hallway, the gossip surrounding them gets louder.

"Why is Elaine walking with a stupid, ugly younger girl?"

"Let's go to lunch, while they walk around for even more attention."

During lunch, the young girl goes into the lunch line for the free lunch she receives as a helping hand.

"Why is she even in the cafeteria? She doesn't sit with anyone."

"You would think her new boyfriend would buy her lunch for her."

"She tries so hard to look pretty, when it only makes her look uglier."

All of the students wear their winter gear to help bear the cold for recess time. The young girl stays in her sweatpants and tee-shirt.

A classmate walks by with a grin on her face: "My coat is so warm; I wish I could wear this coat all day."

The older girl who helped earlier today, sees the younger girl and strides towards her.

The older classmate smiles down at the younger girl with a sad look in her eyes.

The older classmate says, "Do you want to borrow my coat so you can go outside for recess?" the young girl nods and smiles.

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After stopping by the older classmate's locker, the young girl has a warm coat and gloves to help bear the winter weather.

As she walks down the hallway to get outside, whispers start back up: "Oh look, she found something to cover up herself with."

"Do you think she knows she's wearing a coat?"

"Do you think she's having a mental breakdown and finally realizes how repulsive she is?"

Classmates play on the swing set, slides, and other playground equipment, while the young girl and a boy, stay behind and sit by the building.

That's when the gossip presents itself again: "Why is he sitting with her?"

"Does he want his life to be ruined?"

"Why is he even bothering talking to her?"

"Doesn't he know who she is?"

The boy turns the young girl, "Hi, I'm Tim. What's your name?"

The young girl turns and stares at him with wide eyes and a faint smile: "My name is Lily."

Tim looks at Lily with confusion. "What's wrong, Lily?" he asked.

Lily smiles sadly at her new friend. "I've never had a friend before today. I guess I'm just surprised that people are talking to me. People talk about me, but never to me."

Lily looks around to see people stare at her and her new friend.

"Why is he still talking to her?"

"Shouldn't he be running away from her by now?"

"Poor boy doesn't know who she is, yet. He will figure it out soon though."

Tim nods his head in an understanding way. "Well, we are friends now, Lily. You, me, and my older sister, Elaine."

"Who's Elaine?" Lily asked.

"Elaine is my older sister. She's older than us

and in gym right now, but you'll meet her soon since we are friends now."

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This scenario shows a young girl getting picked on by clothes she wears and a supposed history of her after school activities. What you don't read in the article is that she comes from a broken home.

A broken home can mean many different things.

Lily's mother is alone after Lily's father ran off years ago, due to a drug addiction and emotional abuse to his wife and daughter, and left them.

Lily's mother has had many boyfriends since then, and that sets an example for Lily and how she views life and relationships.

Lily now views life and relationships differently than the average person does. Lily views life as not serious and to do whatever it takes to fulfill your wants over your needs, like her mother does with her want for love over her need to care for her daughter.

Lily views life as something terrible and tragic. Lily believed that life will never be good, until she met Elaine and Tim, who had helped her that day.

Before Tim and Elaine though, Lily thought that life was a twisted joke with a roller coaster that only goes down. She thought that life would always be terrible for her.

Parents are viewed and looked up to be role models. Parents unknowing sign a contract to care for the child when they give birth. Lily's mother broke her contract after Lily's father left them due to his strong addiction to drugs.

Lily didn't have a role model she thought she could look up to, but looked up to her mother anyways.

Due to lack of respect thanks to the gossip that surrounds her, Lily's school life is seemingly just as bad as her home life.

So knowing this, what would you do?

## Twitterverse Problems Eliminated With Real Communication

By: Haley Fortuna  
Staff Writer

### Relationships Wrecked

Jake was bored in class and he decided to pull out his phone and scroll through his Twitter feed.

He was scrolling by all the "get me out of here" tweets he saw every day during school, and then he saw a strange post.

"Dear, boys, if you ignore us... We lose interest... Fast!" Jessica tweeted that last night but Jake was confused. Jake thought that Jessica and him were "talking."

Jake thought 'I never ignored her. At least I don't think I did. If I did I didn't mean to. I really like her. Ugh I blew it.' The next day Jake didn't even look at Jessica. The two didn't talk much after this.

### Friendships Fail

Lauren logged onto Twitter and saw a tweet that caught her attention.

"You're the only who thinks you're funny," Jane tweeted.

Lauren couldn't help but think this tweet was about her, she was telling a funny story earlier that day but thinking back now, Jane didn't seem all that amused.

'Does she really not think I'm funny?', Lauren thought. 'I can't ask her if this is about me. What if it's not? She'll get mad.'

To avoid conflict, she took a screenshot of the tweet on her iPhone. Lauren decided to send the picture to her friend Jennifer, "Can you ask Jane if her tweet is about me?"

Bzzzz... Jennifer answered, "I think that is totally about you, but I'll ask Jane to make sure," the text read.

Jennifer never texted Jane. Lauren was left thinking Jane's tweet was about her. Their friendship never fully recovered.

### Arguments Erupt

Mackenzie was lying in bed, on Twitter, when she found a tweet that changed her entire mood. The tweet read, "Why do you have to make things so complicated?" Alyssa had tweeted this 5 minutes ago.

Mackenzie couldn't help thinking: 'I just got off the phone with her. Could she be talking about me? She has to be. She did say something about how I twist plans and make it difficult. I think she said that anyway. She has to be talking about me.'

Mackenzie was really angry now. She angrily typed up a reply, "@ me next time.."

Bzz... Alyssa had responded, "lol this isn't even about you. But if the shoe fits, honey." 'She's such a liar. This was about me. I look so stupid now.'  
'Next time u have a problem don't be a wimp. @ Me.' Mackenzie tweeted. Brianna, Macken-

zie's best friend, got involved. Brianna tweeted in response to Alyssa, "Leave Mackenzie alone. You always have a problem."

The girls went at it all night, giving all of their followers something to watch.

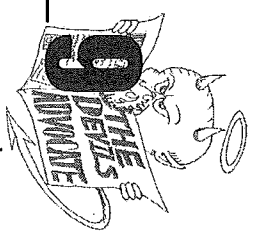
### It Continues...

Nicole was reading through twitter when she scrolled past Jessica's tweet about boys ignoring her.

Nicole was annoyed after reading this but she just kept flipping through her feed. She then saw Jane's tweet about someone not being funny.

Rolling her eyes, Nicole continued to read through twitter, when she came across a fight. It was a fight between Mackenzie and Alyssa. She read through to get a better idea of what happened. Nicole came to realize that Alyssa had subtweeted someone saying they made things complicated. Mackenzie thinks it's about her. She even saw one of Mackenzie's friends get involved. This puzzled Nicole. It was all so silly to her. She stood by and witnessed relationships and friendships end over one status on social media. In her mind it was all so pointless.

'If people are upset with each other shouldn't they just talk to each other? What happened to communication?' She continued scrolling down her twitter feed and nothing changed. With every flick of a finger there was more negativity.



# Hometown Hero: Jim Harbaugh

## Former Michigan QB Returns to Ann Arbor as Head Coach

By: Nick Thomas  
News Editor

The past eight years:

Over the past seven years, Michigan, a once-known powerhouse college football program, has experienced a drought in the win column. Seven years ago, Rich Rodriguez, currently the head coach of the Arizona Wildcats football program, was hired as the University of Michigan head football coach.

Rodriguez coached Michigan for three years (2008-2010). During that time, Rodriguez only had one winning season, which came in his final season as the Wolverines head football coach when the team went 7-5 in the regular season, and lost to Mississippi State in the Gator Bowl, 52-14.

After Rodriguez's less than impressive tenure ended at Michigan, the football program hired Brady Hoke to be the head coach and lead the football team.

Hoke started his time at Michigan strong going 10-2 in the regular season and defeating Virginia Tech in the Sugar Bowl to end his first season with a record of 11-2.

The next season is when things started to go downhill for Hoke and the football program.

Hoke's next three seasons as the head coach of the University of Michigan get worse.... And worse.... And worse. Hoke went 8-

5 his second season, losing in the Outback Bowl to South Carolina. His third season Hoke and the Wolverines went 7-6 with a loss in the Buffalo Wild Wings bowl to Kansas

State. In Hoke's final season as the head coach of Michigan, the team went 5-7, and that was the end for Brady Hoke at Michigan.

So now we Michigan fans say, welcome home, Jim.

The future:  
"Throughout my life, I have dreamed of coaching at the University of Michigan," said Jim Harbaugh, during his introduction as the University of Michigan head football coach on December 30th.

Many if not all Michigan fans are delighted with Harbaugh's return to the University of Michigan. Harbaugh played quarterback at Michigan from 1983-1986 under Bo Schembecher.

"I am ecstatic, Jim brings toughness and experience to Michigan," said history teacher Mr. Delore, an avid Michigan fan.

Harbaugh's experience of coaching at both the college and NFL is one of the many qualities that has Michigan fans happy about his return to Ann Arbor. Harbaugh has coached in big games at both levels. Harbaugh coached in the Orange Bowl his last year at Stanford University, beating Virginia Tech 40-12, and coached the San Francisco 49ers in a Super Bowl loss to the Baltimore Ravens in 2013, 34-31.

"Harbaugh is a big name coach, so he'll bring in big name players," said junior Brendan Hart.

As of right now, this is true. Coach Harbaugh has gone out and talked to and gotten big name players to visit and commit to the University of Michigan. A name that has become familiar with Michigan fans lately is

Zach Gentry. Zach Gentry is four-star quarterback out of New Mexico and has the third best pro-style quarterback ranking in the nation.

Gentry was committed to the University of Texas and then took a visit to Michigan. During the visit, Gentry made his decision to flip from Texas and commit to U of M. This is one of the many high expectations of Harbaugh at Michigan. Many people expect him to bring in highly regarded talented football players.

In the previous years at Michigan, there have been many four and some five star recruits to come play football, but not perform to their expectations. Many if not all people assume it to be the coach's fault for this.

Now with the hire of Jim Harbaugh, everyone has high expectations of Harbaugh's ability to develop the players he recruits.

In the past eight years, expectations of Michigan football have been low. With the return of Harbaugh to Ann Arbor, many people are expecting improvement next year and to be an elite team within two to three years.

"I expect to start winning again next year, eight or nine wins next year and a bowl game and to be competing for a Big Ten title again in two years. The Big Ten is a good conference so it won't be easy," said Delore.

With Coach Harbaugh's return to Ann Arbor, Michigan fans are ecstatic and the future of Michigan Football is looking brighter than ever.

## Richmond Strikes Their Way Toward States

By: Haleigh Beedon  
Staff Writer

Bowling may seem like a Saturday night plan with a group of friends to you, but to these RHS students they take the sport very seriously.

Damon Garan, a junior, has been bowling ever since his older sister got him into it three years ago.

"I like bowling because it's something unique rather than the typical sports everyone plays and I love how competitive it is at time," Garan said.

In a recent tournament Garan was 16th out of 187 competitors. The highest score he bowled was a 270. The highest score possible is a 300. "I've learned new ways to throw the ball in order to get more pins down," Garan said. "They help me in every tournament and meet I compete in."

Preparing for tournaments takes long practices. At these practices, teams run through drills and different techniques that will help them get the highest scores.

Also, they do what is called a baker game. A baker game is where five people bowl one single game all together.

Garan said a technique that helps him is the 3-6-9 system. "It's a spare system that helps with how much to move in order to get a certain amount of spares."

Out of the six tournaments they've been in, they boys have done decently but not their absolute best, as they are 4-2. Garan said that they need to improve on spare shooting and making the proper adjustments in order to make a sufficient shot.

These students compete in tournaments against various other high schools. Some tournaments that they have competed in have been Swami, Romeo Invitational, Regionals, States, Macomb Teams, Macomb Singles, Candle Light, and Bay City.

Kacie Conner, a sophomore, has been bowling since she was in second grade and her experience made her captain of the girls bowling team.

"I thought bowling looked really fun and both of my sisters were doing it so I guess I wanted to be like them," Conner said.

This season, the girls bowling team had six girls. Besides Conner, everyone on the team is brand new. Since most of their team is new, the girls also have not performed as strongly as last year. These new girls are still learning and getting in the swing of bowling.

Conner said her coaches are phenomenal and they have been helping the new girls with their bowling

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## Roaring for Redemption: Lions Fans Feeling Caged After Disappointing Call

By: Connor Hill  
Co-Coordinating Editor

Despite having a pretty good season, the Lions failed to make it to the Superbowl this year. This disappointed many fans, and had many blaming officials for the 24-20 loss to the Dallas Cowboys.

Lions super-fan Ben Toia, was both surprised by their loss and angry at the refs' call.

"I kind of expected it. I figured that the Lions would go pretty far and then have a win taken away from them," Toia said.

"They would have had to beat Green Bay, but I think they could have made it to the Super Bowl," Toia said. Toia was surprised by how well the Lions did this season, and believes that they could have made it to the Super Bowl.

Colin Peltier, a senior, said that the Lions will do fairly well next year.

"It's always exciting to watch the Lions take on big teams and come out on top. You never know how far they are going to go," Peltier said.

As for the team as a whole, Peltier believes that there is room for improvement.

"As a team, you can never stop improving so I can picture them working hard in the off season and going even farther than they did this year," Peltier said.

Spencer Trapiss, a junior, thinks the Lions could have improved this season.

"The main thing the Lions needed to do in order to improve this season was stop celebrating after a sack," Trapiss said.

Ben, Colin, and Spencer agree that Calvin Johnson is

pretty much the reason the Lions do so well. They also agree that Matthew Stafford needs to mature more as a quarterback.

They all unanimously agreed that if they were in charge of the Lions, the first thing they would do is re-sign Suh.

"Suh is a high caliber player," Trapiss said. "He is the toughest, most hard-working player on the team."

Also, they think that getting a new quarterback would be the best thing Lions.

Peltier believes that his advice could greatly help the Lions out.

"If I could give any advice to the Lions, I would tell them to watch the penalties," Colin said.

As much as Toia, Peltier, and Trapiss believe in the Lions, they don't think that they will make it to the Superbowl next year.

"I think the Lions will go 8-8 next year," Trapiss said. "As for when they will be a competitor, I would have to say it will take six more years."

Just about every Detroit fan was calling foul play when the officials robbed the Lions near the end of the game.

"I was pretty mad about it," Toia said. "I expected it because there was no way that I believed the Lions would go to the Superbowl, but I was still pretty shocked at what the refs did."

Even though the Lions were robbed of a probable win, their fans are still looking forward to how far they will go in the future.

"I'm slowly gaining more confidence in how well the Lions perform," Peltier said. "I guarantee that they will go to the Superbowl in the next 10 years."