



Homecoming 2k16

This bumpin' playlist was created by the NT News staff for all your post-HC and party bus needs

▶ SHUFFLE PLAY

Sweet Caroline - Neil Diamond

My House - Flo Rida

Peanut Butter Jelly - Galantis

I've Seen Footage - Death Grips

One Dance - Drake

Gold Digger - Kanye West

Gucci Gucci - Kreayshawn

Mercy - Kanye West

Delirious (Boneless) - Steve Aoki

Jumpman - Drake

D.A.N.C.E. - Justice

Heads Will Roll - The Yeah Yeah Yeahs

Hey Ya! - Outkast

SexyBack - Justin Timberlake

Bam Bam - Sister Nancy

Me, Myself & I - G-Eazy

All Night - Chance the Rapper

Latch - Disclosure

Toxic - Britney Spears

Ignition (Remix) - R. Kelly

King Kunta - Kendrick Lamar

Intoxicated - Martin Solveig

Weekend - Louis the Child

Midnight City - M83

Broccoli - D.R.A.M.

Take a Chance on Me - ABBA

Lipgloss - Lil Mama

Burnin' Up - The Jonas Brothers

Partition - Beyonce

Impossible Soul - Sufjan Stevens

Fergalicious - Fergie

Runaway - Kanye West

Boy Problems - Carly Rae Jepsen

CO-EDITOR'S CORNER

Let's talk about intoxication

by Beth Wall

It's been proven in health classes, that saying simply "don't do it" to impulsive teens' impulsive impulses, does very little in preventing the deed from being done, and less so, from the deed from being done safely.

Pushing the abstinence agenda wastes time that could be spent on learning what to do in case of emergency, or even how to avoid the emergency in the first place.

The same can be applied, I think, to the manner in which kids are taught about alcohol.

In health class, we all hear a whole lot about the dangers of *peer pressure*. But most of the time, there's only limited discussion on what actually happens to those who do succumb to peer pressure, and how to safely interact with alcohol when it's not just in front of us, but in our bodies.

When we constantly drill into the heads of kids the idea that alcohol is terribly bad, the adolescent smirks, takes a sip, and thinks, "oh, I am bad."

We conducted a survey of NTHS students earlier this month that asked what alcoholic beverage they

most frequently consumed (assuming they were among the students that did drink). At the top of the list was Svedka vodka (a 40% composition).

More than 90% of alcohol consumed by underage drinkers occurred as binge drinking, according to a 2013 survey conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The evidence seems clear enough: kids are not drinking for the taste.

When kids get their hands on liquor, it's hard liquor. And many times, the idea is "go big or don't come." This is obviously a dangerous mentality, and it's one that's fueled, in part, by every formal conversation about alcohol that demonizes it. The adult world seems to be in agreement that teenagers are inescapably rebellious. So why would just telling kids to simply say "no" to the sinister sauce have any influence over an adolescent's decision to drink, except by introducing a more powerful route to rebellion?

In no way am I implying that parents should go out and buy their kid five handles for their sweet sixteen, or that parents should take their kids clubbing every next Sunday. I merely think that talking honestly about real experiences with al-

cohol might make it less taboo, and hence, less thrilling, more responsibility-ing.

Instead of spending hours lecturing about the science behind drinking, spend time having real conversations about experiences drinking, and that it isn't as big of a deal as the young, impressionable mind often makes it out to be.

Instead of scorning your children for coming home off-kilter, tell them that you were glad they came home with a sober driver. Instead of insisting that alcohol is evil, understand that despite its elusive hell-water reputation, it has a real and relevant presence that must be confronted at one point or another--and one that has been confronted for numerous generations. How do you deal with that first experience? What might you have done differently? When that dialogue is established, perhaps it can result in safer habits, or at least safer routes home.

Not every teen drinks, and the less that regularly do, the better.

However, most teenagers will, at one point or another, find themselves at a function wherein loopjuice is also a party guest. And hearing the term "peer pressure" one more time isn't going to work more than it did the last time (which is...not at all).

Homecoming will never go out of style

by Helen Fagan

As each school dance approaches, the same skit is performed over and over again. The tickets go on sale at \$20 apiece, and even though the price never changes, everyone seems astonished at the hefty fare. Group chats flurry with messages wondering whether it's worth it to shell out \$40 per couple for 45 minutes of dancing in a high school gym. But at every dance, to no avail, everyone decides to spend the money.

Now, one could say because of the affluent community we live in that teens are giving this extra cash just because they can.

But I think this action speaks to the fact there's something innate about the homecoming dance that keeps students attending year after year.

That is, the homecoming dance is the pinnacle of the high school experience. If homecoming was reduced to simply dressing up in formalwear or costumes, going to dinner and heading straight to an afterparty, the night would no longer be special. In theory, that nature of social gathering could be done during any weekend. So even though students may think the dance is the lamest part of the night, homecoming is still the main event that gets everyone dressed up in the first place.

Homecoming elevates the evening from an unordinary night out to a one-of-a-kind, extraordinary experience.

In some instances, the school dance is the most memorable part of the entire event. If you were placed in a group where you don't have many friends, catching up and raving with your closest pals can make the night a much more enjoyable social gathering.

The school gym also allows us to do what secretly happens when everyone looks at Instagram posts after the dance: people watch. You get to see how that clever theme you heard about worked out in real life. How insane your ex-friend looks dressed as an alien. How gorgeous that random guy from your math class looks in a suit. And so on. Spending the night simply with your group at dinner and an afterparty eliminates the aspect of watching your classmates from afar. Attending the actual homecoming dance will never cease to be a trend, as without

it students aren't able to do what we all secretly love doing: judging others from a distance.

On that note, attending the homecoming dance fosters an opportunity to defy self-created social circles. Sure, you look for your best friends in order to repair the damage to your comfort zone being in different groups has caused. But it also provides the chance for you to chat up that girl in your class who you sit next to, who maybe you're not close enough with to hang out with outside of school just yet. It's a chance for two people to move from "school friends" to legitimate friends. May it only be for 45 or so minutes, the chance of breaking social barriers and expanding your bubble of friends is there. This opportunity is often

not present in the day-to-day grind of academics. Because of the unique social experience hoco brings, students eliminating the dance element of the night is unlikely.

Homecoming will never go out of style, as it provides a rare opportunity for the entire student body to come together. Students who take different levels, are involved in different extracurriculars, and are of different social statuses become unified for one night as they all mosh together to upbeat pop.

For a second, when the beat drops, we are all one. For this reason, because of the unique experiences the dance provides, homecoming will never go out of style.

Marijuana smoke results in 5 times the carbon monoxide concentration and 33% more tar in the respiratory track than cigarettes\*

77% of NTHS students have not used weed in the past 30 days.\*\*

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\*Respiratory Effects of Marijuana: University of Washington Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute: <http://ada.iu.w.edu/marijuana/factsheets/respiratoryeffects.htm>  
\*\*Data from the 2014 KW survey. N=3,013. Image from freepik.com  
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