

sleep late and get food WE DO-NUT WANT THURSDAYS ANY OTHER WAY

A late start on Thursdays meant homework, hanging out, and half an hour of extra sleep.

Thursdays. The day before Friday. The day after hump day. The day students just had to get through. The day that was just like any other day, until fifteen minutes postponed the first bell for teachers' PLC meetings. For some students, this meant extra sleep, but others got creative. What do they do?

Go to Starbucks a latte. Not only is coffee delicious, but it is also good if you need an extra boost to get started in the morning, and let's be honest, we all need that extra boost sometimes. "I go with my boys and get a salted caramel mocha. It's kind of a tradition now," junior Blaise Olson said.

Eat Mor Chikin. Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, but when students were in a rush to avoid lunch detention, it didn't always happen. Some took the time

to grab a granola bar or make some pancakes, but sophomore Rebekah Gilliam took advantage to get some chicken minis. "My dad takes me to Chick-fil-A every Thursday morning," she said. "He buys it for me so I don't go broke."

APush homework away until the last minute. Procrastinating juniors used their extra time to cram before class. "Whenever I get tons of AP U.S. History homework, I wait until Thursday mornings to finish it up during breakfast," junior Layne Martindale said.

Do-nut have to leave the parking lot to get breakfast. "It was a great surprise to come to school and see that there were donuts in the parking lot," junior Will Humphrey said. "It was something different and helped start my morning off right."

Page by Hannah Rainer

NO TIME FOR DRAMA

After spending so many hours together, theater students find Family is an easy role to play

Huddled in a tight circle behind the curtain, the One Act Play cast waits for the "energy leader" to start the tribal chant.

"Whose house is this?" shouts senior Emma Sams-Tye.

"Our house!"

"Whose house?"

"Our house!"

"Whose house?"

"Our house!"

And with that, the cast and crew are ready to hit the stage.

"We have a lot of very specific and routine things we do to get us prepared for our performance," senior Libby Blair said. "You can't be embarrassed, you have to be open. It gets us prepared to get the job done."

Getting to the point where they weren't embarrassed meant that the theater cast and crew had to spend a lot of time together. And that meant they ran on "Sutton time."

"Sutton time" added an extra five to six hours to the day. Instead of typical 24-hour days, there were 30 hour days. Instead of lazy afternoons, there were drive-through dinners and group study sessions between scenes.

"For every one minute on stage, there's 50 hours of rehearsals," director Debbie Sutton said.

Running on "Sutton time" meant that students spent so much time with each other and Mrs. Sutton preparing for their fall show and One Act Play that they were almost like a second family.

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Spending this much time together meant that the theater students formed a tight bond—so tight that they thought as one and acted as one.

"We are very much a tribe. We have to be one— think as one, be one," Mrs. Sutton said. "When something falls down on stage we have to know how that actor who is standing by it reacts while staying in character. That's the key to everything."

The reason they had such a sense of family was because they were comfortable with each other. After long days and nights of rehearsals and performances, it was easy for them to fight, just like real life brothers and sisters.

"We are all so close with each other that we definitely know what to say to push everyone's buttons," sophomore Kaitlyn Jones said.

And the OAP cast and crew had plenty of time to build family unity as their play, "Voice of the Prairie," advanced all the way to state.

"When they were announcing the advancing theater programs at Regionals, all we heard was 'The Voice' and we immediately knew," senior Emma Sams-Tye said. "We were so overwhelmed with emotion that we started screaming and crying."

Advancing to state and finishing fifth meant the end of a sleepless contest season. It also meant that the cast and crew finally got to go home.

"We spend more time with our theater family during contest season," said senior Libby Blair. "It gets to the point that you go home and it's actually surprising that you're in your own home and your own bed."

Pages by Emily Flournoy & Madison Hinton

WALKING TALKING & PLAYING DEAD

October brings pancakes, parties, parades, and pumpkins, and don't forget the pretend zombies.

It was just a normal day for Mrs. Angela McCorkle's Spanish IV students who were waiting for class to begin. Normal, until the door slowly creaked open and group of bloody, grumbling, and frightening zombies stumbled into the classroom.

"I wasn't expecting zombies to come in," sophomore June Heo said "They got really close to my face and looked so real that I got a little freaked out."

The zombies roamed the halls, as part of a game that STUCO created. Theater students played the part of real zombies and the rest of the students had the chance to be characters from the show, "The Walking Dead." Students who were able to stay in character throughout the day received prizes.

While the experience may have left June Heo a little creeped out

Mrs. McCorkle loved getting to see the fake zombies. As a big fan of "The Walking Dead", she was thrilled to be up close and personal with the students who played the game.

"I'm not a huge fan of scary shows and movies, but there's just something about the story line that draws me in," she said. "I watch the show every week, and I used to even host parties to watch it."

For freshman Brett Walker, who was also a fan of "The Walking Dead", the idea of being able to portray a zombie for the day was very exciting.

"I wish I could have dressed up as a character from the show, like Rick," Brett said "We weren't allowed to, but I still had a lot of fun getting to dress up and really be a zombie."

Page by Brynn Blain

IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE

Math and science teachers make classrooms more than just an assignment

For Bailey Fenton, finding the probability of getting a red Skittle was fun just because he got to eat the Skittles later.

"I enjoyed eating the skittles because I got to taste the rainbow," he said.

But for Tessa Hurst, figuring the probability was the fun part—eating Skittles was just an added bonus.

Math and science had a little bit of everything for students who loved those subjects. Instead of dreading quadratic equations and chi square problems, students like senior Libby Blair couldn't wait to get to class to study invertebrates or research genetic disorders.

"I started liking science in the ninth grade.

You might have missed that junior Jayden Cellers is planning on minoring in chemistry at UT Arlington. "Mrs. McKinney encouraged me to do this with my major in computer science," Jayden said.

when I realized it came easy to me." Libby said, who took Dual Credit Biology and grew bacteria with all kinds of different acids and vaccines.

But it wasn't just the math and science lovers who found fun in their classes.

Statistics projects that involved food made the class a little more inviting.

"It motivated me to do well during projects to know that we would get to eat all of the food afterwards," senior Anthony Delgiorno said.

And the geometry kite project got students outdoors in the post-spring break weather.

"I'm going to be out of town all of spring break," sophomore Ashton Raney said. "I get to make my kite in the sunny Florida weather instead of the Texarkana rain."

Special Instructions

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