

Christmas is right around the corner. This is your favorite time of the year: decorating the tree, making sugar cookies, singing carols.... Anything and everything that makes Christmas, Christmas you love.



But imagine this year, you find out all that you love about the holiday season, all of your traditions, are gone. You can't put the star on top of the

Christmas tree, you can't make cookies for Santa and you can't jam to "Jingle Bell Rock", but you're still suppose to celebrate Christmas. Try as you might, it's not the same. Christmas just doesn't feel like Christmas.

That's how I felt this homecoming.

This year, some homecoming traditions were discarded at Hudson. There was no DJ at the dance to make sure the crowd was having a good time, the cheerleaders weren't allowed to decorate the senior's car windows and the hallways were no longer elaborately decorated by the classes. Instead, a singular class banner was hung above the lockers. Finding out days before my favorite part of the school year that we lost these traditions broke my heart.

Most of my best memories in school come from homecoming week. Every year, I look forward to homecoming. I am not alone. The goofiness of dress up days, the excitement of the pep rally, the anticipation of crowning the king and queen. Everything about it is memorable. Not having hallway decorations this year was a let down, not only for the grades within the four walls of this high school, but for all the kids across the street as well. My

homecoming memories date all the way back to my elementary days, looking forward to exploring the magic of the decorated halls.

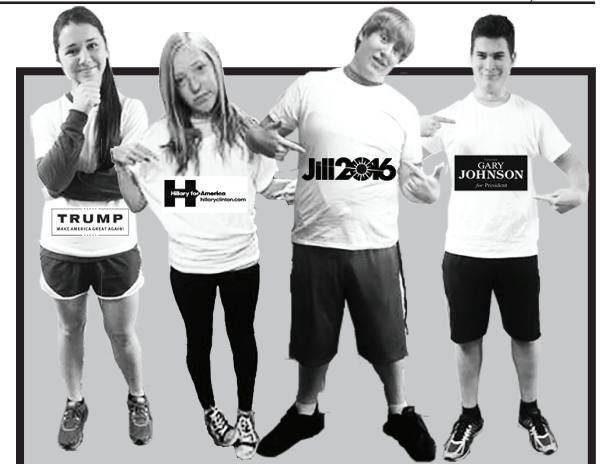
What is even more concerning, is that the loss of this tradition is just a gateway to more loss. We have already lost the tradition of powder puff, we have already lost the tradition of a homecoming parade. This year's losses just add to an ever depleting homecoming. Where will it end? Is macho match the next homecoming tradition to go? The dance? My fear is that a couple years from now homecoming be just another game on just another Friday night.

It breaks my heart to say homecoming this year didn't feel like homecoming. Traditions make homecoming, homecoming. With only one homecoming left, I hope to not only restore what makes homecoming special, but to make homecoming 2017 the best yet.



What homecoming traditions should we have at Hudson? Tweet your opinion @HudPiratePress #HudHoco

TRADITION LOST	REASON FOR THE LOSS	SOLUTION
Hallway Decorating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of time Created a mess Budget cuts Lack of participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow time during seminar to work on preparing decorations. Require class officers to maintain the cleanliness of the halls. Have Class President work with officers and interested students to form a hallway decorating committee.
DJ at the Dance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Budget cuts Lack of time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use the dance admission to help pay for the DJ. If the current cost of \$5 is not enough, raise the admission fees.
Powder Puff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety issues Injuries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have school sponsored referees to help enforce safe play.
Homecoming Parade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety issues Supervision Logistics of when and where to make floats Quality of floats Lack of clean up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have teacher and parent volunteers stand amongst students for better supervision during the parade Have a teacher work with class officers in creating a design plan and execution plan for floats.



If HHS determined the next president

We polled 130 of the students at HHS and asked who they would vote for to be the next president. The results may just surprise you.

63% Donald Trump // Republican

"I don't agree with any Democratic social or economic policies at all. I am completely against banning of guns and legalization of illegal drugs and abortion, etc. Also, the way Democrats think when it comes to economics has no logic. The way the free market works is that businesses compete for prices, and this is how wages should work, too. If somebody wants a nice life, they need to work hard and earn the money to live that life. The Democrats think they need to regulate everything and give handouts, when that just ruins the country our founding fathers created. People become reliant on others and then our country becomes lazier and lazier. If people were reliant on themselves only, it would make our country much more successful. I also think that if Trump uses the skills he has from running a major business to run our country, we will thrive."

- senior Maria Geisler

22% Hillary Clinton // Democratic

"She is the lesser of two evils. I don't agree with Trump because he is way too extreme."

- freshman Alison Peck

10% Gary Johnson // Libertarian

"I think Donald is an immature 5th grade bully, and Hillary is not relatable and is a grandma that is thirsty for power. I also am not part of the green party that's why I would vote for Johnson." - sophomore Jacob Kuhn

5% Jill Stein // Green

"After some research, her policies are the most in line with mine, with the obvious few not so much, like the large minimum wage increase."

- senior Austin Waters