

# END OF THE LINE

With graduation on the doorstep, senior Cooper Dyer realizes that his time as a high schooler is coming to an end

As seniors enter the final term of their high school career, some seniors are feeling the anxiety that comes with college related pressures. With graduation looming closer and important deadlines preceding it, senior Cooper Dyer is ready for graduation and is slightly overwhelmed with what's to come.

Dyer admits that although he is more than prepared for high school to be over with, there is a slight sadness he feels in leaving this era of his life behind. He has all classes finished and is just staying to play one last season of lacrosse.

"I am done with all classes I am required to take, so right now I am just taking classes so I can play lacrosse," Dyer said. "I would've graduated early, but with lacrosse I couldn't."

One thing taking Dyer by surprise is how quickly he needs his 20 hours of community service to graduate. With the Apr. 1 deadline coming by quickly, Dyer is trying his hardest to submit his volunteer hours in such a short amount of time.

"I have the hours, but I just need to get my sheet signed and write out my reflections," Dyer said. "It's hard to get it all done, but I am pushing to get it done before the first deadline."

Dyer has had an easier year compared to his junior year, but still has had troubles with hard classes he's taking. With the end of the year in sight, Dyer's senioritis is at an all time high, making it hard for him to stay motivated to do school work.

"I only had to take one more English credit this semester and I was done," Dyer said. "It's the only hard class I am taking, and it is hard to stay focused. But I remember if I don't try I won't be able to play lacrosse, so that motivates me."

Dyer plans on going to Colorado State University after highschool and is hoping to major in psychology. However, right after graduation Dyer wants to spend his time with his family before

he leaves to go to the next chapter in his life.

"Right after I graduate, I want to hang with my friends and family as much as possible," Dyer said. "I just want to make the most of my time with them before I leave my family and my friends and I leave for college."

Dyer's main goal for his senior year is to have a winning season for lacrosse. After last year's disappointing finish, he hopes that he can turn it around this year, and that is why he chose not to graduate early.

"The only reason I didn't graduate early was because of lacrosse," Dyer said. "I have been on varsity for all four years of high school, and now I am a captain, so everything I do at school is so I can play lacrosse. I try harder in the classroom just so I can play and so I am not held back by my grades."

Dyer has made it clear that what he does in the classroom reflects his playing for the school's team. Though finishing high school and getting ready for college is stressful, Dyer is able to deal with this through lacrosse.

"Whenever I am stressed with school or anything, I usually turn to lacrosse," Dyer said. "I feel like so much is going on in my life right now that it is getting overwhelming. It really helps me feel calm, and I feel like it helps me make ideas for the future."

With graduation coming close, Dyer is trying his hardest to finish the year strong and enjoy his time with his friends before they go their separate ways. He is ready for the road after graduation, but enjoys every minute of high school before he has to go.

## GRADUATION CHECKLIST:

- 1: April 1: 20 hours of community service due
- 2: May 2: pick up check-out sheets
- 3: May 10-11: Senior finals  
May 11: senior check-out, senior sunset, senior finals.
- 4: May 17: Graduation rehearsal and senior awards



for more information, scan this QR code for the Castle View graduation webpage.

written by Ryne Futa

# HONORING RILEY

A place where people can go and get prom dresses

**a** heartbreaking story built the foundation for the well known place to get prom dresses and suits for no cost at all. This place is named Rileys Ark (Acts of Random Kindness), the idea bloomed from the passing of twelve year old Riley Guentensberger.

The founders of Riley's Ark are Meghann and Ziggy Guentensberger, they started this organization in honor of their late daughter Riley. "Heading up Rylie's ARK is Meghann's way of sharing the spirit of Rylie and continuing her legacy," (Rileysark.org) Riley's Ark created the store Be Happy Boutique in honor of Riley always saying "be happy" and making others smile whenever they were around her.

Be Happy Boutique has stores all around Colorado, the most recent pop up is in SouthGlenn, they are open March first through the thirteenth. Monday through Friday you need to make an appointment but during the weekend walk-ins are welcome. Be Happy Boutique removes the cost obstacle in finding the dress or suit of your prom dreams.

Riley's passing caused a lot of sadness but her passing is being honored in a great way through Riley's ark and Be Happy Boutique. She created many smiles all around her and now even after she's gone she is still making people smile.

*written by Ashlynn Banister*

# BURIED TREASURE

Senior Ryan McEntee takes advantage of second-hand clothing

**d**igging through racks and bins full of old clothes to find a vintage t-shirt, pants, or even hats is euphoric. Part of the fun of thrifting is the hunt: the unrelenting will to find a drippy fit is consuming. Senior Ryan McEntee knows this feeling all too well.

"For me the thrill of thrifting comes from finding the grails, something so insane you're like, 'Man I'll never get rid of this,'" McEntee said.

Thrifting has always been a thing, but in the past five years thrifting has become a cultural phenomenon. According to the article 'Gen Z survey' by chainstoreage.com, forty seven percent of teens have purchased second hand items.

Most teen thrifters may be new to the hobby and go for the vintage style. But McEntee has been in the game for years.

"I've been thrifting since I was 10 when my family introduced me. It was super cheap," McEntee said.

Finding treasure amongst all the trash can be difficult. Racks and bins are filled to their absolute max. For some this can be overwhelming, but for others it can be the start of finding something magical. McEntee has a few things to look out for.

"I look for the tags and the stitching. They'll give you a good sense of the value. That's important for if you're trying to resell it or wear it," said McEntee.

However, not all stores are created equal, and finding the right thrifting location can be difficult. Traditional thrift stores often feature a common layout with racks. Goodwill World located in Englewood breaks the norm. Their stores are set up inside of warehouses that feature bins. The bins are periodically brought out crammed with clothes. Thrifters are then able to dig through and purchase whatever they find.

This style of thrifting can bring big rewards but at the cost of cleanliness. McEntee has mixed emotions on the "bins."

"I go to the bins on occasion. They're alright but a little musty," McEntee said.

McEntee has spent years narrowing down his search on the best thrifting locations.

"I Like Slct Stock co. and Boof Bins. They're super fun and have special finds. I've found jackets that are really cool, also some overcoats and anime shirts. I also found some real nice pants and corduroys," McEntee said.

Thrifting is taking over and it's easy to see why. The thrill, cost and enjoyment are all evidence. As we head forward, let's hope thrifting remains a prominent pastime in today's generation.



**SPECIAL STYLE:** Senior Ryan McEntee prides himself on his recherché thrifted outfits. McEntee has been going to Slct Stock co. for years and will, for years to come. "I like Select Stock co. And Boof Bins. They're just super fun and have special finds," McEntee said.

*written by Ashton Toske and photo courtesy of Ryan McEntee*