

Behind the *Barb Wire*

Beloved Seniors of the Barb Wire

by Asher Lowrey

Throughout the 2016-2017 school year, we've all had the chance to make an impact on someone's life. However, no one has bestowed more of an impact than the senior members of the *Barb Wire*. They have delivered astounding pictures, articles, stories, and wisdom upon their younger classmates and *Barb Wire* readers everywhere. This article is a dedication to this year's dearly loved senior *Barb Wire* members and will recap some of their favorite experiences and give a sneak peek into their future endeavors.

Molly Stawinoga

The Head Editor of DHS's *Barb Wire*, Molly Stawinoga has served with her brilliant and unique passion for three years. Being the 2017 Senior Editor, Molly has had many fun filled times arranging and proof reading articles, along with writing the occasional editorial or even stepping up for a quick game of badminton.

Stawinoga expresses her love of journalism by recalling one of her favorite edition of the *Barb Wire*. "It was last year when we decided to make the special edition of the *Barb Wire* for Black History Month after the BSU assembly because students weren't getting their voices heard. So we did an edition of student submitted editorials." This student driven edition brought a new light to DHS and was an overall amazing experience for journalists like Stawinoga.

Now, although Left Align is her self proclaimed life purpose, Molly will be attending the University of Missouri at Columbia (Mizzou) to further pursue Journalism and study Political Science.

Cris Rojo

Senior Photographer, Social Relations Manager, and Creative Director, Cris Rojo loves nothing more than a competitive and fierce photo shoot.

During his time with the paper, Cris endured many exciting experiences such as being surrounded by bunnies, taping balloons to his ceiling, nearly being trampled by football players, and his favorite, fighting for positions with rival photographers.

Though this was his first and only year with the *Barb Wire*, he states that, "It was always my dream as a freshman to work for the school newspaper, but I was never able to do that until now." Having his high school dream fulfilled, Cris now looks to study at NIU's Visual Arts department and pursue a potential career in the fashion industry working in design.

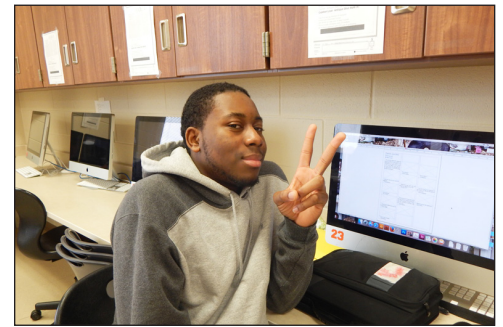


Cris Rojo and Molly Stawinoga of the Barb Wire. Photo by Asher Lowrey.

Malik Cooke

A Senior Writer of the *Barbwire*, Malik Cooke is a bright young man with a drive to succeed. During his two years with the paper, Malik has covered many diverse topics in his articles but nothing amounts to, "Getting out of my comfort zone, meeting new people, and talking to people I never thought I'd talk to."

Although a great journalist, Cooke looks to join the United States Military after graduating. After serving his time with the Air Force, he plans on further aiding his community by taking a position as a fire fighter.



Senior Malik Cooke of the Barb Wire. Photo by Asher Lowrey.

Blake Mirman

A phenomenal Political Journalist, Senior Blake Mirman has only served a single year with the paper, but has left a notable mark. Although he has written several political articles, Mirman's favorite memory of the *Barb Wire* is of when he went along with French Club to see *Candide*, a superb play, in order to get a better feel for his article.

After graduating from DHS, Blake plans on completing his gen eds from Kishwaukee Community College, and possibly pursuing a major in Chemistry.



Blake Mirman of the DHS Barb Wire. Photo by Asher Lowrey.

All of our beloved *Barb Wire* Seniors will be deeply missed. As a class we wish them the best in their future endeavors and can only hope that they will live out their adult lives to their fullest potential. The *Barb Wire* is not only a paper, or a journalism class, it is a family, and to our 2017 Seniors, know that you will always be remembered.