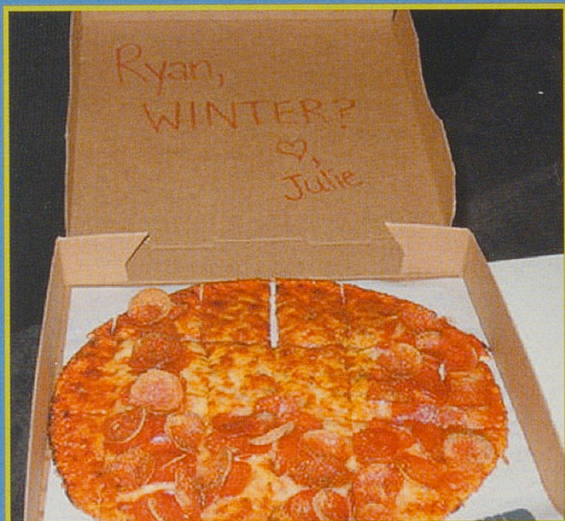


Pizza, anyone? Julie Hull, 12, surprised Ryan Knowles, 12, with a pepperoni pizza. It was not just any ordinary pizza, though, because she craftily spelled a W with the pepperoni and wrote a note on the lid to ask him to the winter formal.



There is always the trusty rose-in-the-locker, but Alexis Ponticos, 10, went above and beyond. She got creative by designing a snow scene, complete with a dancing Barbie and Ken, in the locker belonging to her date, Ross Young, 10.

## Topnotch turnabout

### Winter formal heats up commons

By: Kelli Rogers

All the girls in the bathroom talkin'... who they gonna take to the Sadie Hawkins?" The school may not call it a Sadie Hawkins anymore, but the winter formal was still a great way to shake it up.

It was the girls' turn to think of a creative way to ask their date-to-be to a dance. A surprise message on a car? An unexpected package left on a doorstep? Since guys usually have to do the asking, girls were branching out and getting creative to impress, or maybe even outdo, the opposite sex.

An impressive invitation was not always necessary, though. Many students, boys and girls, opted to go stag to the dance. The feelings were mixed on whether going stag was a good or bad idea.

"I went with a group of friends and had a good time, but I think it might have been more fun with a date!" said Alexandria Hunter, 12.

Students, dressed specifically in black and white to match the theme, were met at the dance with amazing decorations; the high school was transformed from a regular commons to a classy black and white ballroom.

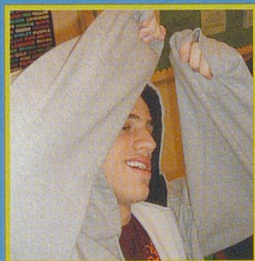
"I helped decorate after school for a couple hours. I think the commons turned out really well," said Morgan Herlihy, 12.

Many students also agreed that the music was good- the music tastes of a crowd of high school students can often be hard to please. In the end, though, it was not about the music or decorations but about dancing with friends and having a quality time.

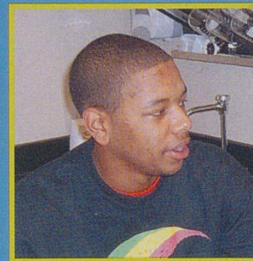
"We got a tight-knit group of friends together and went to Trios for dinner, then headed to the dance. Winter ended up being a blast because I was with all of my closest friends," said Alexander Cramer, 11.



"I brought a friend from St. X. We had a good time dancing and he also got to see his old Sycamore friends."  
-Jessica Tufts, 10



"My date and I danced so hard that we were exhausted by the end of the night."  
-Michael Latessa, 11



"The dance was live. Me and my boys got rowdy."  
-Jordan Taylor, 12