



Four Confederate monuments located in varying cities in Indiana are marked above with Confederate flags. Two monuments are located in Indianapolis, at Garfield Park and at Crown Hill Cemetery. A third monument is located at Harrison County Park in Corydon. The final monument is located in Terre Haute (Art by Lexie Julbert).

Stay or Leave?

Students question what monuments represent

By Lukas Sakalinskas

Indiana's four Confederate statues should have been removed from public places long ago, says junior **Alexander Mervar**.

"People try to make this a notion that it's a symbol of heritage and history, but that's just blindly untrue," he says. "Those statues belong in a museum, not in a public place promoting a terrible part of American history."

But showing a terrible part of American history is important, argues senior **Garrett Hall**, a stalwart conservative.

"This is not a statue to slavery. These are symbols of a mistake we have made, and we can't just bring them

down because we see ourselves returning to these problems."

Out of the four Confederate monuments, two are located in Indianapolis. One at Garfield Park, memorializing the deaths of Confederate prisoners of war and another one at Crown Hill Cemetery, recognizing those who died at Camp Morton, an Indianapolis military training ground and Union prisoner-of-war camp.

The monument at Harrison County park in Corydon features a tombstone-like monument engraved with the Confederate flag and the words, "Morgan's Confederate Dead," along with the name of three soldiers, eight unknown

Hopes for roomy cafeteria on back burner

By Lexie Julbert

Senior **Ruth Par** and her clump of friends wait in lunch lines, pressed shoulder to shoulder in between lunch tables, but finally get through the chaos.

They have about five minutes to eat.

"Congested," grimaces senior **Purseh Gbadyu** when asked to describe Perry's lunchroom.

Senior **Carson Gates** stood in line all C lunch with a friend, waiting while cafeterias restocked meal items.

Many days she goes out to lunch because she earned that right through the Senior Incentive program. But even when she chooses one of her favorite and closest places, Subway, Gates often arrives back at school with a mere five minutes to eat.

She and two other seniors, **Annie Eisenbarth** and **Evie Straubinger** said that there's a common-sense answer to help students have time to chew their food and catch up for a few minutes with friends: add 15 minutes to each lunch period.

Straubinger suggested using the 15 minutes at the end of fourth or fifth period on block days. In her experience, teachers prepare 45-minute lessons and don't use up that hour.

Speaking of senior privileges, this year the senior patio is more packed than in previous years with students using benches as extra tables or sitting on the ground because every seat is taken.

Once the weather gets cold, the lunchroom will be even more crowded with the seniors returning inside.

"There are kids that have to swallow it down really quick," acknowledged **Marilyn Morris**, an instructional aide. **Micki Fensky**, another instructional aide, agreed. They work with special education students who are first to eat so it's not an issue, but they have observed other students rushing to get their food.

The two suggest a fourth lunch. Or fewer options at lunch that might make the lines move faster.

Are there any changes underway?

No, said principal **Kert Boedicker**.

He appreciates student and staff opinions and possible solutions, but says that extending lunches or varying lunch periods in any way take about a year and a half to finalize because alterations to the bell schedule affect so many other areas of the school.



Crowded students converse during lunch sitting shoulder-to-shoulder. During B lunch on Wednesday, seats fill up quickly and students rush to finish their meals (Photo by Lexie Julbert).

Knights, Confederate White Knights and American Vikings, a racist skinheads group.

In the United States as a whole, there are approximately 917 hate groups, according to the center.

Indiana hate groups made a national appearance in the "Unite the Right" Aug. 12 rally in Charlottesville, Virginia.

One of the activists was Matthew Heimbach, chairman of the Traditionalist Worker Party, classified as a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center. He lives in Paoli, Indiana and believes that all races should be separated into ethno-regions, denies the Holocaust

and admires Adolf Hitler, according to the "Indianapolis Star."

The rally protested the removal of U.S. Confederate statues and sculptures. The protest lasted two days, resulting in three deaths and more than 40 people injured.

President Trump and members of his cabinet should have condemned the right-wing extremists' violence, Mervar said.

Yet, Hall sees the problem stemming from violence from both left and right radicals, and in his opinion, neither political side is doing anything to promote peaceful discussions about Confederate monuments.