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A VICTOR'S SATURDAY

WRITTEN BY KAITLIN SCHULER. DESIGNED BY BROOKE ANDERSON.

Michigan football doesn't necessarily make or break every student's decision to come to the University, but everyone realizes the importance of football here once they have set foot on campus during a game day. Walking to the stadium down State St. is an experience most people do not forget; the sea of maize and blue, reaching from the clothes of the people on the street to the rooftops of the houses on the path to the game, whisks everyone through the southern half of downtown and into the gates. Engineering freshman Will Scola recounted his first impression of football Saturdays as "a festival of adrenaline, mob mentality and school pride." He clarified that his mob mentality referred to the vast amount of people that migrate from all over Ann Arbor to the Big House. When asked if he believed partying plays a large role in the football experience of most students, LSA freshman Mark Cohrs responded honestly. "To each their own. I think that tailgating is part of the tradition, it brings people together before the games, but I don't think it's necessary to drink to be a part of that group dynamic. It's present at any Big Ten university. If anything (the partying) just goes to show how excited Michigan students get to support their team."

Most students wake up on Saturdays to begin their tailgating or to grab a bite to eat before the game. Both Cohrs and Scola said they typically wake up around 10 a.m., head to a food venue with friends and then make their way down for the game. The games are all filled with maize-and-blue pride, but some rivalries are more heated than others. "I'm interested in the Ohio State, Michigan State and Notre Dame rivalries," Scola said. "Those games are always intense on TV, and I'm interested to see them live now." Football Saturdays brought all levels of students together into one mass of school spirit and reminded all why it's great to be a Michigan Wolverine.

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1 The celebratory mood at Michigan is not lacking – a sign shows that Wolverines come out to the game to have a lot of fun and support their team. Photo by Robbie Small.

2 A common sight on game day is girls dancing on brick walls, decked out in University apparel. A male fan joins in on the fun here, drinking from a stream of liquid from someone on the wall. Photo by Robbie Small.

3 Parties pop up all over campus on game day, giving students multiple options on where to spend their day. Photo by Robbie Small.

4 Recent graduate Pat Stansik and LSA senior Skyler Fulton pose with their camera on a football Saturday. Stansik creates and helps film the well-known "Pregaming with Pat" videos and Fulton is famous for the "Pursuit of Jappiness" video, both on YouTube. Photo by Robbie Small.

5 Psi Upsilson hosts a pregame event at their house. Approximately 18 percent of undergraduates are involved with Greek life so it proves to be a powerful force on campus. Photo by Robbie Small.

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