

Is it worth it?
By Calvin Cummings
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9 hours left. It's 10 in the morning and I'm walking from my second class to lunch. The sound of chatter increased exponentially as I rounded the corner into the cafeteria, and I spotted my teammates sitting at their usual table. Warm pizza sat atop my plate along with an apple, only there because the lunch lady made me take it. The talk at the lunch table revolved around fantasy football, as per usual. This week, my team scored the fewest points, and my chances of winning it all are looking slim.

8 months left of senior year. It's gone by so fast already. Soon we'll be on Thanksgiving break, and then by that point we're closing in on being halfway through the year.

7 days until the big game. Next Friday we face off against Dover, the best team in the state. If the team can pull off the win, we'll be ranked first in the state, something that our school has never done.

6 classes this semester. Even though I only had to take 5 to participate in sports, I decided to challenge myself and take an extra class this semester. I only decided to because my dad encouraged me to, and colleges like seeing this kind of stuff.

5 schools I'm applying to. After a busy summer and first half of fall touring schools around New England, I've narrowed down my choices. If I can stay close to home, I'll be able to visit my family more often.

4 of us. Counting myself, of course, along with my mom and dad. My little sister is probably at home right now, because her practices usually don't run as late as the football team.

3 minutes until I'm home. Practice was rough today, and I can't wait to grab dinner with some of the guys later. I think I'll just check and see what time they're planning on going out.

2 seconds. That's all it took for me to glance down at my phone and not see the sharp turn coming up ahead.

1 life taken way too early. Distracted driving is incredibly dangerous, carries very little reward, but yet has the greatest risk of all. Is it really worth it?