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HUGO — Working a part-time job and going to school can be a difficult task. Whether it is at Wal-mart, Sonic, Braum's or any other establishment that allows minors to work; the challenges are still the same. Weeks are pretty rough, but after awhile a student gets used to it. Let's consider a typical day of a student with a job.

The alarm buzzes at 6:30 a.m., and preparation for school begins. Arrival time at school is set at 7:30. The first thing on the agenda is eating breakfast. After breakfast, four morning classes occur, and homework is received along the way. Lunchtime seems heavenly when it comes, but even it doesn't last for long. The school day is then topped off with two afternoon classes and practice. Practice is cut short because work is about to start.

A student travels from practice to home for a quick shower, and then it's off to work. Work lasts for about five hours and ends at 10 p.m. Then a student must go home, start homework and prepare clothes for the next day. It's midnight or later before there's any chance of sleep.

You may notice that there is little or no free time. A working student also has to constantly rearrange their work schedule because of sports. The working student rarely gets eight hours of sleep or even five. Not all teachers understand how difficult it is for these students. A big part of high school is friends, yet who has time for that? Acquaintances are made at work, but there is little time for real friends.

Students are getting jobs to pay for their clothes, car payments and some even to help their parents with the bills. Some people don't understand how tough it is for the working student. They truly are getting a taste of the real world before they graduate, and for that they deserve our respect.