



THE TALON

JUNE

JUNE

Spring Championships

Check out how well our spring sports did this year.

Summer Fun

From summer reading to summer activities, read about what you can do to make summer 2022 one to never forget.

Next Year Start and End Times

Some may like it, some may not. Whichever umbrella you fall under, stay informed with The Talon.



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TALK TO US



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COVER PHOTO

June marks the end of the school year and the beginning of summer. It's Pride Month, has Juneteenth and promises sunshine to jumpstart summer break. "I'm going to Costa Rica this summer with my family to have a good time," junior Kaysi Fleming said. Graphic by Madelynne Earhart



Each year the SPHS drama department ends the school year with SP Cares. The event is the last fundraiser for the yearly drama department charity and it also serves as the induction for the new Thespians Honor Society members as well. This year the charity was SPAN, and the drama department raised over 7,000 dollars over the course of the school year for the charity. Photo by Valerie Earhart



At the end of every year, "Impulse" publishes their literary arts magazine for students and teachers to enjoy. This year's theme is Fine Lines. It contains student stories, poems and artwork. Copies can be picked up from English teachers, and are a must see. Photo by Sarah Sternhagen



The Ping-Pong Club's recent doubles tournament concluded after many matches. The winners, juniors Gabe Taxay and Jack Humbert, beat all their opponents and claimed the victory. Photo by Sarah Sternhagen

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YEARBOOK

SENIOR PORTRAITS:
LEGACY STUDIO

CLASS OF 2023 PORTRAIT LINK:



Seniors should check Class of 2023 on Brightspace for updates and information on senior portraits, superlatives, etc.

JUNE 22-24
AUGUST 1-3
SEPTEMBER 12 & 16
SEPTEMBER
OCTOBER 10-11
OCTOBER
NOVEMBER 1
NOVEMBER 1
NOVEMBER 1

SENIOR PORTRAITS (at SPHS)
SENIOR PORTRAITS (at SPHS)
SENIOR PORTRAITS (at SPHS)
UNDERCLASSMEN PORTRAITS
FINAL SENIOR PORTRAITS (at SPHS)
UNDERCLASSMEN MAKE UP PORTRAITS
SENIOR TRIBUTES DUE
SENIOR PORTRAIT SELECTIONS DUE
SENIOR PROFILES DUE

Students have until Friday, June 24 to pick up their yearbook, otherwise you must wait until the fall of 2022. Come to room 244 and see Mrs. Earhart (vearhart@aacps.org)



NEXT YEAR'S BELL SCHEDULE

What's happening with the high school schedule next year?

Sarah Sternhagen | News Editor

High Schools	2022-23 School Year	
	A.M. Opening	P.M. Closing
Annapolis HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Arundel HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Broadneck HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Chesapeake HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Crofton HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Glen Burnie HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Mcade HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Northeast HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
North County HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Old Mill HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Severna Park HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
Southern HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM
South River HS	8:30 AM	3:18 PM

With a later release time for the 2022–2023 school year there will be limited time for after-school activities. “It could very much change what activities we choose to do, and [choose to] be involved in,” sophomore Samira Ibrahim said. Lots of after school activities can eat up a student’s time, from clubs to sports, to music and drama productions. All aspects of SPHS will be affected by the schedule shift and students will need to learn how to make the most of the time they have. Photo by Sarah Sternhagen

So many changes have happened over the past year at SPHS. From changing mask mandates, to the introduction of Falcon Block and everyday advisory, all these changes have been made with the interests of the students in mind. Included in this group, starting in the 2022-2023 school year, AACPS high schools will now start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:18 p.m.

“Anne Arundel County Board of Ed has been talking about [high school start times being much later], and in recent years they’ve brought up the conversation again and they brought it to vote.” Principal Bathras said, “and because of that they have now made it a decision county-wide.”

One of the main goals for the time change is for high school students to get more sleep. With current classes starting at 7:30 a.m. students are up by 6 a.m. to get ready and meet their bus on time, or make it to school through traffic. So any extra time to sleep is much appreciated.

“I think I [would] have the opportunity to sleep more,” sophomore Samira Ibrahim said, “My only

concern is that it’s ending later, so I feel like it doesn’t give a lot of time for after school activities and jobs.”

Many sports practices start an hour or two after school lets out, which for a 2:18 p.m. release works, but pushing school end times to 3:18 leaves athletes in an awkward position.

“After school is going to have to start immediately.” Bathras said. “The student day will end at 3:18, the teacher day ends at 3:30, with activities starting right away.”

For practices this can be a viable option. However, games are a different story.

“Would they double stack games or would they spread the games out more, so then we’re not going till ten o’clock at night?” junior Tatum Sale said, “because some games are longer, especially the ones further away.”

It will be hard for not only the athletics department, but for drama productions too. With rehearsals and tech weeks going late leading up to the fall production and Rock n’ Roll Revival, it will be hard for students to balance sleep and extra-curriculars. However, there’s still homework and studying time to keep in mind.

“Students are really going to need to use their Falcon Block time because after school is going to have to start immediately,” Bathras said.

Essentially, this means after school help will no longer be offered. Though Falcon Block and advisory will still be the same 30 minutes, Falcon Block will be moved to after third period. This could potentially pose a problem for seniors who have a half schedule, and have less than three periods a day. However, at the same time, the new start and end times are most favorable to seniors.

“It’s kind of a perk that we [rising seniors] get to go in late and get out early,” Sale said.

As the new bell schedule for next year is finalized, there could be tweaks to current decisions based on surfacing concerns. Though there are still some final details to be decided on, one thing is for sure, next year will start at 8:30 a.m. and end at 3:18 p.m.



POVERTY IN THE PARK

Overlooked, marginalized and misunderstood in AAC.

Noel Castillo | Features Editor and Zach McGrath | Business Manager

From the outside looking in, Severna Park seems like a monolith when it comes to socio-economic grouping. There are few abandoned houses, a poverty level well below state and national averages, and fewer kids on Free and Reduced Meals compared to other school systems. But just because it isn't obvious at first glance, does not mean that Severna Park is free from poverty. Poverty in Severna Park is present, even if it is well hidden. A friend you know at school may be locked in an intense struggle against poverty once the school bell rings and they leave the building, even if no one realizes.

Severna Park has a long and varied background with wealth over its nearly 120 year history. Before real estate developers developed Severna Park in the early 1900s, the area was known as Boone and was a humble farming community that had few stores and poor infrastructure. In 1919, the Baltimore and Annapolis Railroad company placed a station in Boone named Severna Park, the namesake for our town.

Severna Park lost its rural feel in the 1950s with an increase in suburban living, as many people left Annapolis, Baltimore and Washington and settled here. Severna Park's population steadily grew until the recession hit the entire country in the early 1990s. Like most of the country, Severna Park was able to wade itself out of the economic turmoil. Then, with economic and population growth in recent decades, Severna Park's population grew, far outpacing previous estimates. In 2004, the Baltimore Sun predicted that Severna Park would at least grow by 1,000 people by 2020. The actual population of Severna Park grew by around 10,000 people between the article's publication and the year 2020, according to the United States Census Bureau.

According to the most recent census and World Population Review, 3.3% of the population (around 1,260 of 38,188 people) in Severna Park live below the poverty line, which is about a fourth of the national average of 12.3%. The average household income in Severna Park is \$182,577, while the median rental costs in recent years comes to \$1,744 per month and the median house value is \$546,800. Both far above the US average. Finally, the Cost of Living Index calculates the cost of healthcare, food and housing in different areas of the US. The overall cost of living in



A history of the financial history of Severna Park and statistics of the communities income level show the complex, nuanced relationship this community has with poverty. Photo by Zach McGrath

Severna Park is 40.6% above the nations and 27.6% above Maryland's. All this data shows that not only is it hard to maintain a sustainable lifestyle for oneself and family, but it can cost nearly double just to live here. And that is the bare minimum; these estimates do not cover groceries, daily activities and bills.

There is no such thing as a perfect community. While it may not seem like Severna Park has poverty, it does. Poverty may not be visible from the surface, but under the eye of scrutiny it becomes apparent that there are Falcons struggling. Unfortunately, when something is kept hidden, like poverty in our community, it can be forgotten. Instead of marginalizing and having an attitude of out-of-sight, out-of-mind, we should be working to make our community more inclusive to people of every income level. Community members, especially students, may not be able to fix the complex, far-reaching issue of poverty, but by being aware that not every student has the same lifestyle, a more inclusive and mindful Severna Park High School community can be forged.



BOYS BRING IT HOME

A great win for the boys lacrosse team.

Meghan DeFeo | Staff

The Severna Park Falcons Lacrosse Team is well known for their passion on and off the field. During this season the Severna Park boys strived to have a core relationship that would help them on the field. The boys also wanted the 2022 season to be a memorable bounce back from the 2021 COVID season.

“Being on the field made it all the much better, and bringing home a championship helped us grow closer and set priorities,” junior Jack Gunter said.

The boys fought all season in the face of tough challenges and games. The biggest competition being long-time rivals Broadneck in the county. But the boys team beat them 13-6. This seasons starters J.P. Ruppert, Joaquin Villgomez, Bryce Stevenson and Daniel Stack, among others, took the County and State championships.

“The state game was very exciting, we knew we had [a good team] going into the game and competed like it was the biggest game of our life,” junior Daniel Stack said.

For underclassmen like Stack, this was a very exciting season and state game especial-



The Severna Park boys lacrosse team wins their 6th state championship in a row, marking an end to the unbelievable season. Photo by Tristain Newhouse

ly. For the underclassmen and juniors they got to see the thrill of winning a state championship. Another underclassmen on varsity is pull up, Timmy Sullivan. As a freshman, Sullivan fit right in and quickly started applying his skills to the team. He scored numerous goals and became a key component for the Severna Park Falcons. Along with Sullivan, many of the Falcons put in the work and dedicated themselves to make the team succeed.

“During the off-season and in-season, extra work and hours [are] necessary to make our team be the best we possibly can,” senior Ben Nocerito said.

As a whole, Severna Park has won 11 state championships including this years win. Severna Park recently moved down to league 3A, creating a different competition for the players. Yet the Falcons still took home the championship.

Severna Park has created a dynasty that is untouchable for many schools in Maryland.

Another excellent player for the Falcons was senior Nolan Zborai. Zborai helped take victory while releasing a shot into the back of the net during the state game, which started the Falcons off strong. Along with that, junior Ryan Laroque, who is also a hockey player, hat trick to help the Falcons take part in bringing home the trophy.

Severna Park ended with a record of 16-4 while demonstrating 16 wins to help aim towards their state championship goal.

“As a senior I wanted to bring home one last state trophy to put our class name in the books,” Nocerito said.

3

STATE CHAMP
2021-2022 YEAR
TRACK AND FIELD

TRACK AND FIELD
CHAMPION

11

68%

OF THE
SENIORS

87

BOYS LAX PLAYERS
AGAINST MARYLAND

6





BOYS TRACK WINS

A victorious end to a dominant year for outdoor track and field, created a sweep for the boys in state finals, first time in Maryland history.

Johann Bacarisas | Opinions Editor



Severna Park's Boys Track team recently won their third state championship of the year. With five first place finishes at the 4A state championships, the Falcons finish an unprecedented season for the outdoor track team. The dominant season featured many star-studded performances from several standout athletes, as well as an impressive overall team performance.

"Jack Debaugh was definitely the mainstay and the anchor of this year's team performance at states," Coach Josh Alcombright said, head coach of the outdoor track team. "Tyler Canaday also won an individual state title in the 1600 meters as well as Brandon Kiefer in the pole vault. Yet it took a total team effort to accumulate all those points."

Debaugh won two individual titles and 1 relay title in the 400m, 800m, and 4x800m relay this season. However,

the effort of the entire team was just as important to the success as individual performances.

"I think the reason our team has been so successful is due to our chemistry," junior Liam Hagerty said. "Everyone on the team is super close and we all push ourselves to get better together every day at practice which pays off when it comes to race day."

With seniors graduating and heading off to college, many of the team's most successful athletes will be leaving, opening up new positions for younger athletes to fill. While the team is suffering huge losses from the departure of the seniors, Coach Alcombright is optimistic about the future of the track and cross country teams and the continued success of Severna Park's program.

"A ton of talent is certainly moving on but I have an amazing coaching staff that will get the new crop of young talent ready for next year," Alcombright said. "We are looking pretty good going into the Cross Country season in the Fall (on both sides.)"

Hagerty agrees. "The juniors on the team have already developed key leadership traits that will definitely contribute to next year's success," Hagerty said. "Especially my teammate Matt Nolan. He does a great job taking the younger guys under his wing and showing them the ropes."

With the 2022 season coming to a close, the Falcons' young stars look to fill the void left by the dominant senior class, and are sure to carry their success on to next season.



Boys varsity track and field team photo. Photo by Lifetouch

CHAMPIONSHIP WIN FOR BOYS FOR
AR (BOYS CC, BOYS INDOOR, BOYS
ELDD)

D STATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS

7

BOYS LAX STATE TITLE,
TIED FOR MOST STATE
TITLES FOR BOYS LAX

E MEN COMPETING WERE
RS BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

TOTAL POINTS FROM SPHS
MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

NAL SCORE
T. HEBRON

9-6

CONSECUTIVE STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP WINS FOR
BOYS LAX

TIME IN MARYLAND HISTORY ONE
TEAM HAS SWEEP ALL STATE
CHAMPIONSHIPS (BOYS CC, BOYS
INDOOR, BOYS TRACK AND FIELD)



SEVERNA PARK PLAYOFFS RECAP

See how the Falcons ended their season in each varsity sports.

Lilly Spilker | Sports Editor

Last year’s spring sports season was shortened due to Covid-19, but the Falcons made up for it this year. Looking back on the various outcomes of their season, each sports team reached impressive accomplishments.

The baseball team had a strong season, winning the county championship and regional championship, and making it to the state championship. In the final game, Severna Park lost to Sherwood 11-0. Although it was not the outcome that the Falcons were looking for, they were proud of themselves for making it there, and plan to be in that game again next season.

Severna Park bocce also made it to the state championship, after an almost undefeated season with just one loss. All SPHS Bocce teams landed an outstanding third place in the state championship tournament.

The softball team had a 13-10 record in regular season, and a Cinderella playoff run, even defeating the defending champion Catonsville in the state-semifinal. Severna Park softball made it to the state championship, but ended up losing 21-5 to Sherwood.

Severna Park tennis won the county and regional championship, and had three teams go to states, but fell just short of reaching a state title.

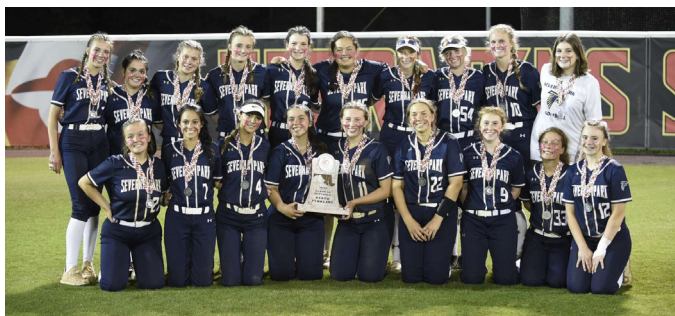
Girls outdoor track competed in the state tournament and placed 22nd out of all the 4A teams competing. Severna Park also gained its first boys



Severna Park’s Spring Sports worked hard all season striving towards the state championship. They now celebrate their accomplishments after ending their seasons in different places. “Since the beginning of fall during cross country I knew we had a strong and well-rounded team, but I never knew how much potential we had until we progressed throughout the year,” junior Track athlete Liam Hagerty said. “I’m extremely grateful and proud to be a part of the first time that not only won states for outdoor track but winning states for indoor track and cross country as well.” Photos courtesy of Liam Hagerty and Joe Becker

outdoor track state title in program history and achieved a Triple Crown, winning cross country, indoor, and outdoor track championships this year. The boys earned first place out of 35 teams, scoring 87 points.

While all other spring sports stayed in the MPSSAA 4A bracket, Severna Park’s girls and boys lacrosse teams switched to the 3A tournament bracket this season, which means that they were up against new competition, compared to the teams they usually face in playoffs. Girls lacrosse had an excellent season, defeating Broadneck twice, winning the county championship and regional championship, and reaching the state championship game. The girls lost in a devastating 11-10 final against Marriot’s Ridge, but are hoping to see them in the highly anticipated final next year. To no surprise, boys lacrosse won its sixth consecutive state championship title. The Falcons defeated Mount Hebron, earning their 11th crown for a Maryland record and tying the state record for most consecutive championships in Maryland history.





THINGS TO DO DURING SUMMER BREAK

With summer vacation just around the corner, this time of the year brings forth a vast amount of exciting activities.

Adam Phan | Staff Writer

Summer is usually a teenager's favorite time of the year. From going on vacation with family to having back to back sleepovers with friends, this hot season always brings joyful memories. School is out, but now you have tons of time. Many people don't know what to do, so they spend their days staying in their room and end up having a depressing holiday. If you want to avoid this type of summer, then here are some ways to stay occupied.

One of the more popular ways to keep busy this summer is to get a job, and the opportunities are endless. Lifeguarding requires training, but it comes with the benefit of good pay and the option to dive in the pool after shifts. You can also start your own business; a grass cutting gig or power washing can reward you heavily. Another job that is gaining popularity is pet sitting. If you are an animal lover, then this job will be a dream come true and the money will only feel like an incentive. If you are still having trouble thinking about what you would want to work on over the summer, then Indeed is the perfect website for you. This website sorts out thousands of jobs around your zip code, while also displaying detailed descriptions to make finding the perfect job easy. The long and hard shifts you work will all be worth it after checking your bank account, so start applying.

Many teens like to have workout plans. You can have one at any time of the year, but the summer makes time and equipment more accessible. Planet Fitness is free for all teens during the summer season, and they have a wide variety of workout equipment that ranges from cardio machines such as Stairmasters to weight training machines like Smith Machines. If going to the gym is not an option for you, home workouts are still a very effective way to burn calories. You can find workout videos that require no equipment on Youtube or anywhere on the internet. Running or taking a walk outside are options too. Exercising has many perks; it can reduce



Senior year can be the hardest time of your four years in high school, but perseverance and determination will complete the transition into your next stage of your academic career. Photo by Eric Sheckella

stress and anxiety as well as boost energy levels. Additionally, playing a sport you enjoy is one of the best ways to burn calories.

Whether it is having a side hustle, or committing to an exercise goal, you will have the comfort of knowing you are being productive and having fun.



BOOKS FOR BEACH BUMS

Beat summer boredom with these charming books.

Anastasia Gobot | Staff Writer

As much as we look forward to summer, sometimes you can't help but face the boredom of having so much freedom. Whether you're on an airplane, at the beach, or simply staying at home, you can explore these books and make summer an exciting experience again.

"The Wrath & the Dawn" by Renée Ahdieh

The Caliph of Khorasan, Khalid, marries a new bride every day, only to have her killed at dawn. When Shahrzad's friend eventually falls victim, she vows to kill the boy-king when she becomes his bride. Shahrzad tells Khalid a story every night and leaves off on a cliffhanger to delay her execution. This retelling of the classic "One Thousand and One Nights" adds a refreshing new twist to the romance and the tension.

"When the Heart Needs a Stunt Double" by Diane Decillis

This collection of poems explores heartbreak, loss and the ways our bodies help us persevere. Decillis personifies the individual human body parts and compares the heart to a world full of vegetation to showcase how one hurts and heals. Enjoy these poems outside and under the shade of a tree; you might find healing too.

"Spy x Family" by Tatsuya Endo

A spy by the alias of "Twilight" must surveil Donovan Desmond, a prominent leader of a rival nation. To do this, he must get close to him through the private school Desmond's sons attend. He adopts a little girl named Anya, who is secretly a telepath, and agrees to marry Yor Briar, a trained assassin, all to appear as the perfect family. Yet, none of them know each other's true identities. If you're looking for action, romance, and comedy seamlessly put together, this manga series is for you.

"Shipped" by Angie Hockman

Henley Evans is a marketing manager who never seems to have any time for herself and constantly quarrels with Graeme Crawford-Collins, a social media manager, through email. When they are put in a position to compete against each other to create a proposal that will boost bookings in the Galápagos, they find themselves different from what they imagined each other to be and the line between liking and loathing starts to blur. This summer rom-com is the perfect beach read.

"How to Win Friends & Influence People" by Dale Carnegie

Dale Carnegie's timeless advice has helped many reach their goals of being able to communicate better and understand people. This book includes ways to make people like you, tips on how to win people to your way of thinking, and how to be a leader. If you're looking to start building habits that will help you on your way to success, this book is the one.

For some people, summer can get long and boring fast. To quell this lack of excitement, you can pick up a book to laugh, cry, or contemplate. The possibilities are endless. If you don't know where to start, you can pick something right here.
Graphic by Madelynne Earhart





WE ARE HERE

Celebrating the LGBTQIA+ students at SPHS.

Madelynne Earhart | Graphic and Photo Editor

LGBTQIA+ students and community members all over the world are celebrating their identities this month. They organize themselves in parades, parties and even protests to show the world that we are here. Drag queens and pride flags are seen all around. Dancing, singing and smiles are a must have at every pride event. Pride month is the month to truly celebrate everyone's identities with a loving and accepting community. LGBTQIA+ students at SPHS, look forward to pride month every year. But what does pride really mean? June has been historically considered Pride Month since 1970, when communities around the country celebrated with parades and gatherings. For this Q&A, some Severna Park LGBTQIA+community members have shared their thoughts on pride month.

How do you identify with the LGBTQIA+ community?

Ella Graves: Queer, lesbian, non-binary

Page Judge: I'm bisexual and sometimes identify with nonbinary.

What does pride month mean to you?

Ella Graves: It's a time when you can really express who you are. It's nice to have a time that is dedicated to supporting people like you and that it's ok and perfectly alright to be you. It means that I can be and embrace who I am, even if I'm not 100% sure of who I am yet.

Page Judge: It's very fun to see queer people living and just having a blast being who they are. I went to [a] pride parade and it actually made me cry the amount of little kids there who were freakin' gobblin' up candy like normal kids but also they're gay. I love being bisexual, I think everyone in the world should be bisexual and I celebrate it every day so pride is just a fun way to bring it into light and bring queer people together to celebrate and remember.

How do you celebrate pride month?

Ella Graves: I'm going to Pride in Annapolis for the first time and I'm really excited.

Page Judge: First of all, I celebrate by being bisexual to begin with. I am celebrating who I am by being who I am! Saying things like "happy pride month" to people I know.

What is your favorite part about pride month?

Ella Graves: I like when some companies will make pride themed things, especially the pride couches from IKEA. Those were really cool.

Page Judge: That queer culture is celebrated publicly and the intersection of everyone's identities with them being queer.

Anything else you would like to share about pride month?

Ella Graves: It doesn't seem to be acknowledged very much by the school aside from one or two stickers on some classroom doors. I feel like it's a time that could really be

used by the school to educate and spread awareness. There's still people in the school who use derogatory language and terms towards us and that needs to change. People will also ask when "straight month" is because of pride month. Straight people never and will never have to fight for the right to love. Straight people will never have to deal with being 10 and not understanding why you don't have crushes on boys like all the normal girls do and have to think that who you are is an abomination. Straight people have "straight month" every day of the year because they are still considered the "normal" or "default" setting. Pride reminds us that there is no normal or default setting and you should be able to embrace who you are.

Page Judge: Gosh, I love gay people and tag yourself if you are gay. I am gay, every month is pride month when you love queer people as much as I do. I'm so proud of everyone in the community. I love it all so much gosh pride is so fun...the month is just an excuse to have a little parade and dance. Pride month is a mentality and I'm living in it everyday.

The pride flag has become an important symbol in celebrating the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ community. "It's a time when you can really express who you are," junior Ella Graves said. It's nice to have a time that is dedicated to supporting people like you and that it's ok and perfectly alright to be you. It means that I can be and embrace who I am, even if I'm not 100% sure of who I am yet"

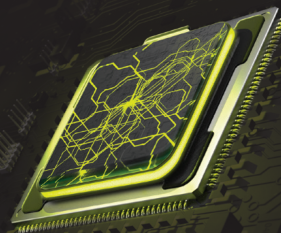
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