

Gross wins Illinois Teacher of the Year

by: Coryannah Hearn, Editor in Chief

With the New Year of 2025 recently starting, the Special Education Teacher of the Year award of Illinois was awarded to Mrs. Gross! Her excellency in teaching has caused Ms. Martin-Dean, District 215 Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning to nominate her for this amazing award. I recently sat down, and spoke with her about the award and the process of it. Question: How did you feel when you first got the award? Ms. Gross: I was shocked. Principal Boulter surprised me, she called me into her office and I thought I was having a different kind of meeting. On the zoom call was the superintendent of education for Illinois and he was the one who actually presented the award so I was very surprised. Additionally,

Ms. Martin-Dean was the one who nominated me and then there was an application process once the nomination went through then I had to write some essays and get some letters of recommendations. I then asked, “Where did you get the recommendations from?” Ms. Gross: So I got a couple from fellow teachers, I got one from Mr. Bergthold, who is our Student Services Coordinator, and then I got one from Michelle Smith, a parent of one of my students, they all wrote letters of recommendation on my behalf. Question: What’s the most rewarding part of your job? Ms. Gross: I think my favorite part of my job is my students and just getting to know them. I’ve had them for four years so I get to know them very

well and their families very well. I get to see all the growth that they make when they come in as a freshman and when they graduate as a senior. Question: What are some obstacles that you had to overcome as a



teacher? Ms. Gross: So when I first started here 21 years ago, my classroom was in an old bathroom. So I started my career in what is now the Foreign Language office so I had 13 students in that space and in the beginning, every student had a different subject that I had to teach them all at once. I had to teach English, Math, and History all in the same period so that was very difficult. Things have changed as the years have gone on and have gotten better, but I think just as a Special education teacher works, I have to teach every subject, every disability, and we don’t necessarily have the training in all of that. So

it’s learning as you go, it’s teaching yourself, relying on your peers to give you suggestions. Question: What made you want to become a teacher or what motivated you? Ms. Gross: So I’ve always known that I wanted to be a teacher since I was very little but my mom used to work as a paraprofessional at Lake Central and she worked with very significant disabilities. When I was a kid, she used to bring me to work with her and we’d do the Special Olympics together. That was my first experience working with people with disabilities and I kind of fell in love with it there so I would say I didn’t realize at the time but that was my passion and it led me this way.

Oliva sets a Golden standard for teaching

Mr. Oliva has been nominated for one of the business awards for teachers: the Golden Apple Award, which shows the amount of teaching and leadership that the person has in the state of Illinois. I interviewed Mr. Oliva to see how he feels about being awarded and this is what he had to say. “It is an honor to be a finalist for this award and I feel a little nervous about it, but I am still thankful to be honored and to be one of the finalists.” I also asked him what inspires him to do what he does and keeps him driven to

be an amazing teacher for our school and also an amazing leader as well. He said “what inspired me about being a Latino in a Spanish teaching environment. I felt obligated to help people like me to feel more relaxed and understood and found respect in what they teach for Spanish teachers.” I also discussed about what he wanted to leave as an impact for other Latinos. He said “for other Latinos and other Spanish learning students is to stay ready and stay relaxed and always have fun with it letting it inspire for many different

people.” This amazing energy that Mr. Oliva has left on this school is one of the main reasons why he was nominated for this award. He has impacted so many different students that reach from Latinos and many more races to help them learn Spanish and to inspire them to learn to grow and become teachers themselves. The last time TF South had a nominee for the Golden Apple Award were two teachers. One teacher was LaQuesha Martin in 2000s and our former Principal Mr. Jacob Gourley and he won the award as a student

and a teacher in 2010. This lets us know much about how our education has grown in the past years of our learning here. We are so excited and happy to have Mr. Oliva as one of the finalist nominees for the Golden Apple Award. We are happy that he is here at TF South and we expect nothing

less from him and his amazing leadership and teaching.

by: Ben Gresham, Managing Editor



TFS Super Sonnets are Rooted & Radical

by: Christian Freeman Feature Writer

The Rooted & Radical Youth Poetry Festival is a six-week festival featuring poetry from young poets as they perform solo or group pieces in front of an audience. This festival gives young poets a voice and a



platform to be heard by other poets and people who share such interest. In being so, it's an important opportunity, not just for the highlight of being a

good show, But for young poets further increasing their love for literature and poetry. Thornton Fractional South's very own TF South Super Sonnets attended this event. Featuring Yaffa Gallon, Jessica Ochiabutor, Rayne Jones, Sarah Batiste, Lynsey Richards and Isaiah Allen. I reached out for an interview with Isaiah. Isaiah described the environment as calm and chill, holding an air of acceptance and willing listeners. With the options of sitting in the front to view the stage more appropriately or at the back to eat, This is an accommodating event for those who attended, clearly aiming to make everyone more comfortable. A couple of performances that took place included a poem about attachment issues, What it's like to be Black in America, and a more comi-

cal approach with a performance about dealing with a spider in the corner of one's room. More poems include how a girl's girlfather takes her to 7/11 every Tuesday, sharing precious memories between them, a poem written about a girl's bully and her challenges to overcome him, and Sarah Batiste's very own poem about not fitting in the family tree, making an analogy of being a flower growing to be what it wants to be. The piece that the Super Sonnets of TF South performed was S.C.A.R.S. Scars is about the stresses that are faced as human nature and how much trauma the human mind and body can endure. Culminating in the epiphany that life is filled with pain and suffering, but suicide is not the answer. To the entire SuperSonnets team, this was their first time competing. So to perform and do so well felt

monumental to not just then, but an overwhelming victory for TF South as a whole. This event was nothing short of an amazing experience for those involved, and for the school as a whole. Now integrating poetry into the array of abilities and talents that Thornton Fractional South has to offer. Isaiah had some words to offer as a last gift to this extraordinary event. "Something I would say to people who may be interested is to embrace your art. Art is meant to be shared, don't conceal yourself, or confine yourself to a box. Be different, and be brave." Truly inspiring words from TF's Souths very own. Which should not fall on deaf ears, if he didn't take his own advice along with the actions of the other sonnets, we wouldn't hear their



amazing poetry today.

The Legacy of African American Educators

by: Kaylyn Imala, Feature Writer

On February 18, 2025, Muhammad Abdur-Rahim, a TF South Dean Assistant, hosted a Black Educators Class. During 4th period lunch, students were invited to learn the impact African American teachers had on the world. The class began with students having to answer two questions, "Is there Black Education in school systems?" and "What do Jim Crow laws truly mean?" The responses revealed a concerning lack of awareness, showing how the history of African Americans is not presented in today's school systems. Most students stated, "I do not see African American history in school systems," as well as, "I don't know what Jim Crow laws are." This class highlighted the devoted figures who faced severe consequences

in the pursuit of sharing education. Some educators were put into prison or even faced with death. For example, Rita Pierson, who gave a powerful TED Talk, emphasized how "every child needs a champion." Carlotta Walls LaNier, the youngest of the Little Rock Nine, shared her inspiring story of bravery, including the bombing of her house and her leadership as President of the Little Rock Nine Foundation. Inez Beverly Prosser, the first Black woman to earn a Ph.D. in Psychology. Later on she established the Head Start program, demonstrating the long lasting impact that African American educators have had on educational systems. Additionally, this class shared a powerful point about how

knowledge is valued and how it transcends generations. For example, some of the TF South students might not know how to write cursive, yet it is a skill vital for understanding historical documents. Reinforcing such skills would further connect students to the legacy of those who fought for education. As America is often called a melting pot, this class served as a reminder that education should be a space where every individual, regardless of race, can recognize their shared history, appreciate the struggles faced, and to continue the work of educators who came before them.



Social media's significant and recent impact on teens

by: Sheridan Mitchell, Feature Writer

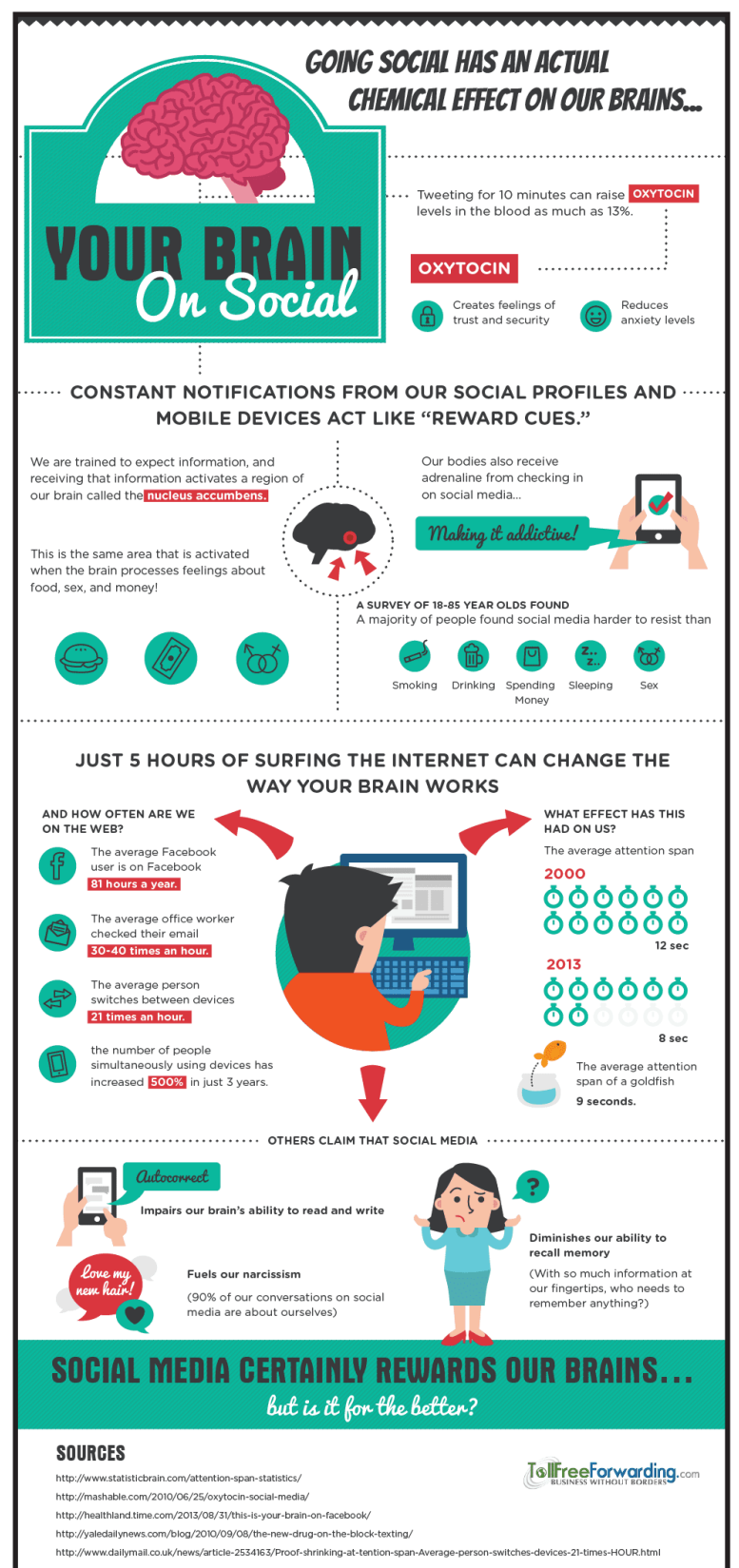
Mental Health awareness is very important and often overlooked and not acknowledged until after someone loses their life due to their mental health complications. There are many aspects that play into the state of ones mental health and the consumption of social media and the internet is one of them according to a 2018 British study, since social media also is a way for Cyber Bullying, and low self esteem due to the comparison of one's life based off what they post. Social media effects mental health with personal impacts/self reflections of oneself. Social media makes people believe they have to be something they are not fit in or to prove something to others. Social media is consumed with various amounts of different personalities, some people are very arrogant and speak/think of themselves very highly in ways to boast to others about there possessions etc. There are also many people on

social media platforms who spread their opinionated beliefs which can effect how a person views themself. Instagram and Tiktok are popular social media apps which is consumed with millions of users which allows them to upload pictures, videos and stories which last about 24 hours. On Instagram and Tiktok most people post the highlights of their life, only allowing you to see mostly the "good". Based on these stories people create perceptions of people based on the things they post morally referring to lifestyle which is refered to as aesthetic which means concerned with beauty or the appreciation of beauty. If someone doesn't post with money or materialistic designer clothes, society deems this as poor. But some people don't realize that social media is nothing like real life. Social media allows people to create a perception of themselves

and others without direct contact. Social media also can create a sense of isolation from others or FOMO (fear of missing out). Take for example if your friends and everyone from school are out partying and having fun and your home in bed watching on your phone. Social media also allows people to be anonymous which most take advantage of and try to hurt people with cyberbullying which can have negative effects on individuals. All of these things can impact mental health in people because some people have different emotions and perceptions of things which is why it is important to take breaks from social media for your mental health. Deactivating accounts when necessary is the appropriate and one important step to having good mental health. Social media is mixed with different personalities, and different people who have specific perceptions and likes or dislikes which can



become argumentative if there is a disagreement. It is important to know your limit, and also to think before you speak when using social media apps.



Bittersweet: Seniors have mixed feelings about graduation

by: Savannah Williamson, Feature writer

Seniors at South are feeling a mix of excitement and nostalgia as the end of the school year is coming soon! With graduation just around the corner, a lot of Seniors are looking back on what they loved most about high school and also are looking ahead into their future after. I have had the opportunity to interview a few seniors about what memories made their high school experience most special, along with what they are looking forward to the most post-graduation. Senior Saniya Porter shared that her favorite memories were “meeting friends that I currently have and attending school events such as homecoming and sporting events.” She expressed

how much she enjoyed the sense of community and having fun. Looking ahead after high school, Saniya is excited to begin her college journey and having a successful future. Senior Bright Akli also has very fond memories while in highschool. She exclaimed that one of her most memorable times was when she attended senior sunrise and later on worked the infinite scholars fair. Also, with managing the swim team and playing basketball she had so much fun. For Bright, these experiences helped shaped her high-school experience. Aaliyah Harb reflected on her high school experience. She shared that swim season was one of the most enjoyable times for her.

She is looking forward to spending the summer with her family, getting a job to save money, and having fun in general. For Benjamin Gresham, winning sophomore year conference in track was a defining moment. Competing and achieving success was a highlight of his high school period. He is looking forward to going to college to pursue his major in photography, and continuing doing tracks and field in college. Coryanna Hearn also had great memories at South. Especially her sophomore year, during this time she made a lot of fun memories. She says that her favorite memories in high school was swim season and soccer season both dur-

ing sophomore year. Post-graduation, she is looking forward to going into a new environment, meeting new people, and having fun. As seniors are getting ready to move on, they carry memories, lessons, and friendships that helped shape their highschool years. While saying goodbye is so bittersweet, the future holds many opportunities for every one.



Disaster at state: TFS Dance Team

by: Saniya Porter, Features Writer

The TF South Dance Team, a group of dedicated athletes from the high school in Lansing, Illinois, faced a challenging situation during their state competition. After earning a spot to compete at IDTA STATE the team encountered a major setback due to an error involving the number of judges present for their competition. This mistake resulted in a change in their placement causing them to lose a well earned trophy. While this incident was deeply disappointing, it also underscore the importance of fairness, consistency and proper preparation in competition events. The road to the state competition is never easy Dance Teams across Illinois came to state and got score unfairly. with so few judges it was much harder for the TF

South Dance Team to receive a fair comprehensive critique that truly reflected their efforts. The scoring process felt less transparent and the team had a difficult time understanding how their performance was judged. To add frustration the team learned that even though they had a higher score in everything else than the 3rd place winners the dance team lost even with a higher score the scoring process was all off because it wasn't enough judges the placement left

them devastated. They had worked tirelessly to achieve a specific result, and the change in their ranking felt not only dis-



heartening but also unjust. Many of the team members felt that their hard work had been undermined by external factors that had

nothing to do with their performance on the floor. The lack of enough judges to give thorough evaluation was one thing evaluations was one thing but the adjustment to their placement felt like a betrayal. The dance at all competitions won first place they dance team just couldn't understand how they lost at state. If no one else is proud of the dance team I am they did there absolute best they had so much confidence and

were in great spirits even though they lost their champions in my heart so congratulations to the TF SOUTH DANCE TEAM.

An amusing lock-in

by: Jelani Jones, Sports Writer

On January 26, senior students of TF South were first informed about this year’s senior class lock-in. This time around the lock-in would take place at Scene 75 entertainment center-an indoor amusement park in Romeoville, Illinois. The trip would take place on February 14 and would last until the next day on the 15th when the students return to the school. Students have been required to pay \$60 for their tickets by February 12 on GoFan, just like the last field trip, and also receive permission slips until that day.

On the day of the trip, students began arriving at the school early at 9pm. Again, students and chaperones waited for the arrival of others until the time of departure at 11pm. The ride wasn’t too long as TF South students and chaperones

arrived around 40 minutes after their departure from the school. When students first made it inside scene 75, attendance was taken at the front desk while students were handed their very own socks to walk around in and for some of the attractions. After leaving belongings in the lobby area, students began going their separate ways, some heading to the arcade and video games, some heading to the lines to get on rides, and more.

The park offered many different attractions. Those attractions included different rides, batting cages, laser tag, go kart racing, dodgeball, trampoline basketball, and these slides that were being ridden by people lying down or sitting on mats. The park also contained other attractions such as mini golf, a laser maze, and

150 arcade games. Eating wasn’t an issue students or chaperones had to worry about since they were all served with Pizza and beverages in the lobby. During that time almost all of the students came together to eat and socialize with each other, then heading back off once they finished.

Considering the trip started at 11pm some students slowly started feeling tired resulting in many students not doing as much as they were when they first arrived. On the other hand, others continued having fun enjoying themselves and their company with the different attractions. Many students enjoyed the trampoline basketball and dodgeball, as well as the rides- specifically the drop tower. As time went on students began gathering their belongings and grouping



up again to leave the park around 4 am. Before heading out, students that won points from games stopped in the prize store, where they bought snacks, stuffed animals, and more. As students boarded the buses and departed from Scene 75, students raved about

how much fun they had at the field trip which makes it safe to say that many more students liked this field trip more than the last.

Make a gift for your loved one

by: Nathalie Galvan, Features Writer

It was their anniversary, and Miguel wanted to give his girlfriend, Jana, a gift that would show how much he cared. He thought about buying her something fancy or taking her out to a special dinner, but he wanted to do something more personal, something that felt meaningful to both.

One afternoon, while sitting together at their favorite café, Miguel had an idea. Over the past year, they had created so many little memories laughing at inside jokes, sharing quiet moments, and celebrating milestones.

What if he could capture those moments in one special way?

He decided to make her a scrapbook.

Miguel spent the next few days gathering photos of the two of them, pictures from their first trip together, their weekend hikes, and their movie nights. He also wrote little notes next to each photo, describing the story behind it, how they got lost on their road trip but ended up finding a beautiful lake, or how they both laughed uncontrollably when they tried to cook a meal together for the first

time.

The process was simple but heartfelt. He bought some colorful paper, glue, and markers, and



began creating each page with care. It didn’t need to be perfect, just real. On the final page, he wrote a letter to Jana, telling her how much she meant to him and how grateful he

was for the memories they had made together.

When their anniversary came, Miguel gave Jana the scrapbook, feeling a mix of excitement and nervousness. She opened it slowly, flipping through the pages

with a smile. Her eyes sparkled as she saw each memory captured in the book. She paused at the letter, reading it carefully, and then looked up at him, tears in her eyes.

“This is the best gift ever,” she whispered, hugging him tightly. Miguel smiled, knowing that sometimes the most meaningful gifts don’t cost much, they come from the heart.

The drama team is going to sectionals!

by: Rey Sifuentes, Features Writer

The Drama Club Is Going To Sectionals! Contest and group interpretation season is here and the Drama club is doing the play 'Stop Kiss' for their contest performance and the GI team is doing a peice called 'Every Brilliant Thing' and soon they will be heading off to sectionals! The play 'Stop Kiss' written by Diana Son is a story about the relationship between Callie and Sara who start off as friends and unexpectedly end up catching feelings for one another. This play explores the themes of romance, trauma, ho-

mophobia and violence. The two characters would go on to share their first kiss but they get interrupted by a brutal attack that leaves Sara injured. As the play progresses they shift back and forth through scenes of Callie and Sara's relationship growing and the scenes that happen after the attack. This leaves it to the audience to piece together the details of the story, this makes it a more thrilling play and keeps you wondering what happens next. Zalena Bradshaw is casted as Callie and Brooke Stone is casted as Sara, these two are

both seniors ending their final contest performance with this moving play 'Stop Kiss'. The GI team is doing the play 'Every Brilliant Thing' which is about a young child who is not given a name, begins to write a list of every brilliant thing in the world as a way to cope with their mother's depression and suicide attempts. The character ends up keeping this list and adding to it as he grows up. It now became something that represents the characters mental health, and how his mother's depression impacted his own



experiences with life. Though this play surrounds a depressing moment witnessing the character's mother battling with her mental health, it doesn't focus on purely that. It focuses on the small joys and things to celebrate in life, and overall the things that make life worth living. This

play emphasizes the importance of empathy, resilience, and finding joy in everyday life. This will be the seniors, Dorian Ford, Korinthian Battle, L.J. Walker, and Morgan Waites final GI performance with T.F. South, break a leg drama team!

Cena gone bad

by: Logan Daigre, Review Writer

2025 marks the end for one of the greatest WWE Superstars of the past 18 years. On July 6, 2024 at a WWE Premium-Live-Event called Money in the Bank, John Cena came out from the curtain to his iconic theme song "The Time is Now." As the trumpets echoed throughout the Scotiabank Arena in Ontario, Canada, all 45,000+ fans in the arena roared with cheers. As Cena took the ring, he put the mic to his mouth, stating "Tonight, I officially announce my retirement from WWE." He followed this up by stating that this year's Royal Rumble, Elimination Chamber, and Wrestlemania would all be his last. He thanked the Canadian crowd for always showing up no matter the weather, before ending the very emotional promo with his iconic catchphrase of "If you want some, come get some" and adding on to that with "because the last time is now." Following this, on January 6, 2025 John Cena appeared on

the very first Raw on Netflix. He didn't wrestle, instead he announced that he would be in the Royal Rumble match. The Royal Rumble sees 30 men fighting to be the last one in the ring, coming out one by one every 90 seconds. The only way to get eliminated is by going over the top rope. At the Royal Rumble, hosted in Indianapolis, Cena gave a spectacular effort, coming out at number 23, and surviving for 30 minutes. Unfortunately, he wasn't able to win it, instead being the runner-up, to Jey Uso. Of course, nothing in WWE can happen without drama, and Cena made a controversial move. After the Royal Rumble, he came out for the Press Conference. He didn't take any questions, instead, he declared that he would be in the Elimination Chamber match. The controversy in the WWE locker room was whether or not he could do this. Every other man that would be in the



Elimination Chamber would have to win a qualifying match, so superstars saw this as unfair, and the company catering to an old man. Cena's argument is that he was carrying the company for a decade, and in that he earned his spot. Going into the Chamber, Cena was putting on another over-the-top, cartoonish performance. A goofy smile, over-the-top gestures, and playing with his hair that he has adopted over the past few years. He came out second to last, followed by CM Punk. The two shared an emotional moment, embracing in a hug before going at

one another. John Cena ended up winning, securing his spot in the Wrestlemania main event. The champion, Cody Rhodes came out to congratulate him. The Rock came out soon after, awaiting for Cody Rhodes decision about whether or not he's going to sell his soul to the Rock. Cody declined the offer, Cena seemingly overcome with joy embraces Cody. The camera panned from Cena's face hugging Cody to the Rock giving a hand signal, before panning back to Cenas deadpan face. Cena pushed Cody off, kicking him in his

groin, and beating Cody until his face was bloody. This action cemented Cena's role as a heel, who turned his back on the fans, the kids, and the company. Selling his soul to the Rock for the benefits that come with such a thing. I personally am extremely excited to see where Cena goes with his new role as a bad guy.



Lady Red Wolves IHSA Basketball Playoff Rundown

by: Aaliyah Harb, Managing Editor

On Monday Feb 17, 2025, the Lady Red Wolves faced off against Amos Alonzo Stagg in the IHSA Regional Semi-Finals. The game was very slow paced with the first basket being scored by the Red Wolves almost 3 minutes into the game. By the end of the first quarter, the score was only 11-8 with the Red Wolves holding an early lead. By half-time, the Red Wolves still hold the lead with the score being 18-16. Going into the third quarter the Red Wolves brought intensity and pushed the pass of the game, causing Stagg to fumble, get multiple missed shots, and led to jump ball situations.

End of the third quarter, the Red Wolves still hold a small lead over Stagg with the score being 26-20. In the fourth quarter, things started to take a turn as Stagg began to slowly close the lead. With 5:11 remaining in the game, the Red Wolves were still scoreless and Stagg was able to tie the score 26-26. Stagg took the lead 31-30 making the lead with a minute left. With 33.6 seconds left in the game, junior guard G’Yah Capers hit an and 1 to gain the lead for the Red Wolves and secure the win. The final score of the game was 32-31 and the Red Wolves advanced to the championship game.

On Thursday Feb 20, 2025, the Lady Red



Wolves faced off against the Marist RedHawks in the IHSA Regional championship game. The RedHawks went on a 14-0 run for the first 6 mins of the game. At the end of the first quarter, the score is 20-2 with the Red-Hawks currently in the lead. At the end of the half, the RedHawks still held the lead with

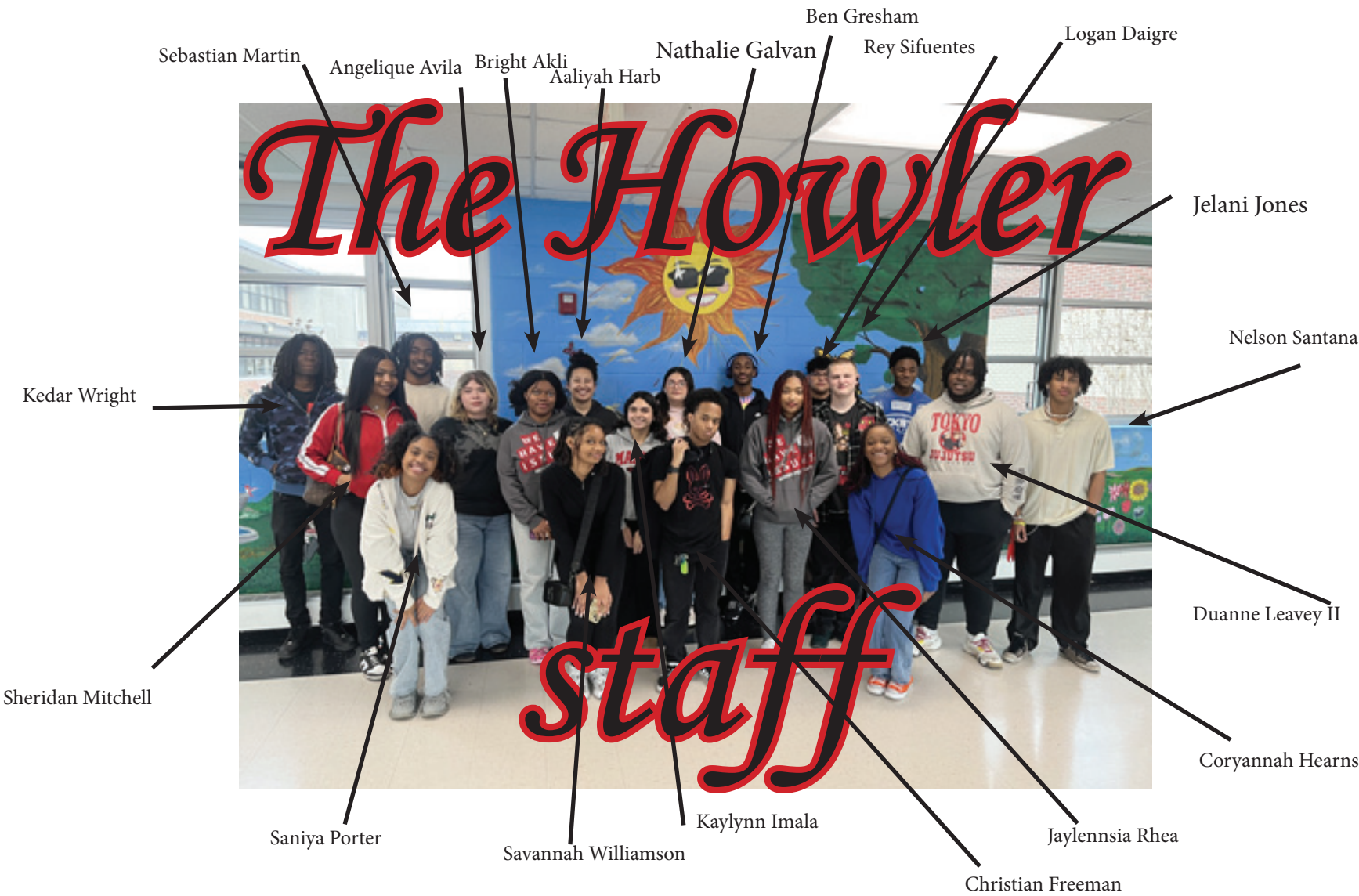
the score being 38-9. Coming in from the half, the RedHawks were able to extend their lead even though they were overall out-scored by the Red Wolves 17-11. The score at the end of the third quarter was 49-26. The final score for the game was 65-36 resulting in Marist being the IHSA Regional Champions.

The leading scorer for the championship game was sophomore guard Lily Porter with 21 points, 6 rebounds, and 4 steals.

Upcoming Sports Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT	OPPONENT	H/A	BUS	LOCATION	RESULT	SC
Mon	4/14/2025	TBA	Girls V - Soccer vs BODYARMOR	BODYARMOR	Away	-		-	
Mon	4/14/2025	4:30 PM	Girls JV - Softball vs Reavis High School	Reavis High School	Home	-	Varsity Softball Field	-	
Mon	4/14/2025	4:30 PM	Boys V - Tennis vs Thornwood High School	Thornwood High School	Home	-	Tennis Courts	-	
Mon	4/14/2025	4:30 PM	Girls JV - Track And Field vs Oak Forest/Oak Lawn	Oak Forest/Oak Lawn	Home	-	T. F. South Stadium	-	
Mon	4/14/2025	4:30 PM	Girls V - Track And Field vs Oak Forest/Oak Lawn	Oak Forest/Oak Lawn	Home	-	T. F. South Stadium	-	
Mon	4/14/2025	4:30 PM	Boys JV - Tennis vs Thornwood High School	Thornwood High School	Home	-	T. F. North Tennis Courts	-	

STAFF PAGE 8



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Upcoming Dates to Know:
April 8th and 9th- ACT Exams/Standardized Testing days/ Asynchronous Days
April 16th- Honors' Night
April 30th- Senior Signing Day
May 6th- AP EXAMS Begin (Two Weeks)
May 12/13th- Senior Final Exams
May 13th- Senior's Last Day
May 21st- Graduation

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Super Bowl Halftime 2025

by: Sebastian Martin, Feature Writer

This year Kendrick Lamar was selected to perform for the halftime show during the Superbowl. He had an amazing performance but with deep and hidden messages this is nothing new we have seen from Kendrick. Kendrick almost always rapped about African American struggle, identity, and social injustice . The show opened up to a Playstation-like arena with Samuel Jackson as the host and also as Uncle Sam represented the US government. In a video from BlackySpeakz he mentions “Kendrick paints a picture of the US government personified as Uncle Sam luring young black men into a false sense of financial freedom. Encouraging them to overspend and indulge in materialism and accumulate death”.

Kendrick constantly raps

about how systemic racism, financial literacy and exploitation of the Black community is an ongoing problem. It’s a relevant issue that goes on in today’s time. We see some examples of this not only with the average black individual but also with black artists, athletes, and celebrities over all. BlackySpeakz also says “ Kendrick’s message in Wesley’s theory is that the system doesn’t allow black success; it profits off black success while making sure that the wealth never truly stays within the community”. When Samuel Jackson says “ Too loud, too ghetto”! This is a reference on how black emotions and expressions are censored through not only music but also through movies, sports, speech, and life in general. They are censored and controlled by the media, government and police.

Kendrick and Drake have had a beef with each other since 2013. They have been dissing each other in their songs since 2013 but it didn’t escalate till last year. Kendrick’s song “Not Like Us” is about Drake with his actions and ways. Drake also has allegations of him being with younger women and famously with Millie Bobby Brown. Kendrick continues to not only call shots on Drake but also his company O.V.O (October’s Very Own) and everyone within it. He not only is mentioning a musical chord but obviously a shot at Drake, personally. Back to the performance, later Samuel Jackson says “ I see you brought your home-boys with you,” “The old culture cheat code. Score-keeper, deduct one life.” There are many messages in Kendrick’s performance



not only for the audience during the show but for everyone who is willing to listen. A message not only for blacks and whites but for every victim of the system Kendrick rapped about. Not only should black and white people take this message and learn from it but all people no matter the race should take it into consideration to help each other and possibly impact and change the government system for the better.

SUPER BOWL HALFTIME SHOWS OF THE PAST





Best fighting game around

by: Duanne Leavey II, Review Writer

I played the Dragon Ball Sparking Zero dlc and it was awesome. The Sparking Zero dlc released on January 23rd 2025. The dlc included Gohan(Super), Piccolo(Super, Gamma 1, Gamma 2, and Cell Max. The main star of the dlc is Gohan(Super) who transforms into his beast transformation. The Gamma's are fan

favorites among the Dragon Ball community, so they were well received when the dlc came out. Cell Max is the new giant character in this dlc, and he hits like a truck. His ultimate move does a lot of damage, but there's a chance you can miss your opponent entirely, so you have to be careful when you launch it. I really enjoyed playing



this dlc. Down to the characters and their movesets, plus the new background music. Each character felt unique and their movesets were a little

difficult to learn. This dlc and new updates helped bring Sparking Zero back up after it fell off after a month of its release. Overall the dlc has received a lot of

positive feedback, and if you love this game then I would recommend another fighting game like (Mortal Kombat 1).
Rating: 9/10

Heart Eyes has the heart of a great movie

by: Nelson Santana, Review Writer

The recent 2025 horror film Heart Eyes debuted on February 7th, just days before Valentines day and I believe it's a must see horror movie. I believe that this movie is a solid 8/10 purely because of how entertaining it is and how well the characters were written. The movie didn't feel rushed at all and everything played out smoothly. The movie involves a serial killer that moves to different cities to kill couples on Valentines day. This movie has a great mix of jumpscare and plot twists within it. Heart Eyes is most definitely worth the watch as it has a score of 82% on Rotten Tomatoes and a 61% on Metacritic. It has a good amount of gorey scenes with loveable main characters. This movie is a great mix of

horror and rom com that is great to watch with your significant other if you want a fun horror movie to watch. The romance side of the film works well with the horror aspect and makes the movie not something one would fall asleep in. compared to other movies of course this isn't up there with one of the greats such as Friday the 13th or Halloween but this movie is nearly on par with both Smile movies which is another reason as to why you should watch it. The movie has a sort of a Scream vibe which is an interesting choice on the directors side but it's a good way to try and bring new killers into the mix and try to overthrow the old classics, which I doubt would be possible anytime soon. The

reason why I think it fits the Scream type of vibe is due to the killer himself and who he is and how he goes about killing. Though it's not the best horror movie out there it's still a decently fun watch with good reviews with tickets costing \$17 each which is worth the price for a good movie to watch with either friends or your significant other. The twist this movie has was decently clever and although it had its cheesy moments, the acting and character plots easily make up for that and I believe should be noticed by more people. By the looks of it the movie seems to be setting up a sequel of some sort and possibly even more future movies with this killer of which I hope they end up doing. This movie needs



more recognition and hopefully in the future, could be considered an all-time classic but that would take a lot of time. Obviously it has many good and bad mixed reviews but it's only a fairly small majority that have given it a bad review and it could easily be overlooked if you don't listen to them and watch it for yourself. At the end of the day I believe this movie is great if you have

a gf/bf who wants to just watch a nice movie while also enjoying the thrill and fun of being jumpscared.