

AN ELECTRONIC-TO-EDUCATION DEBATE

by Kayla Gantt, Staff Reporter

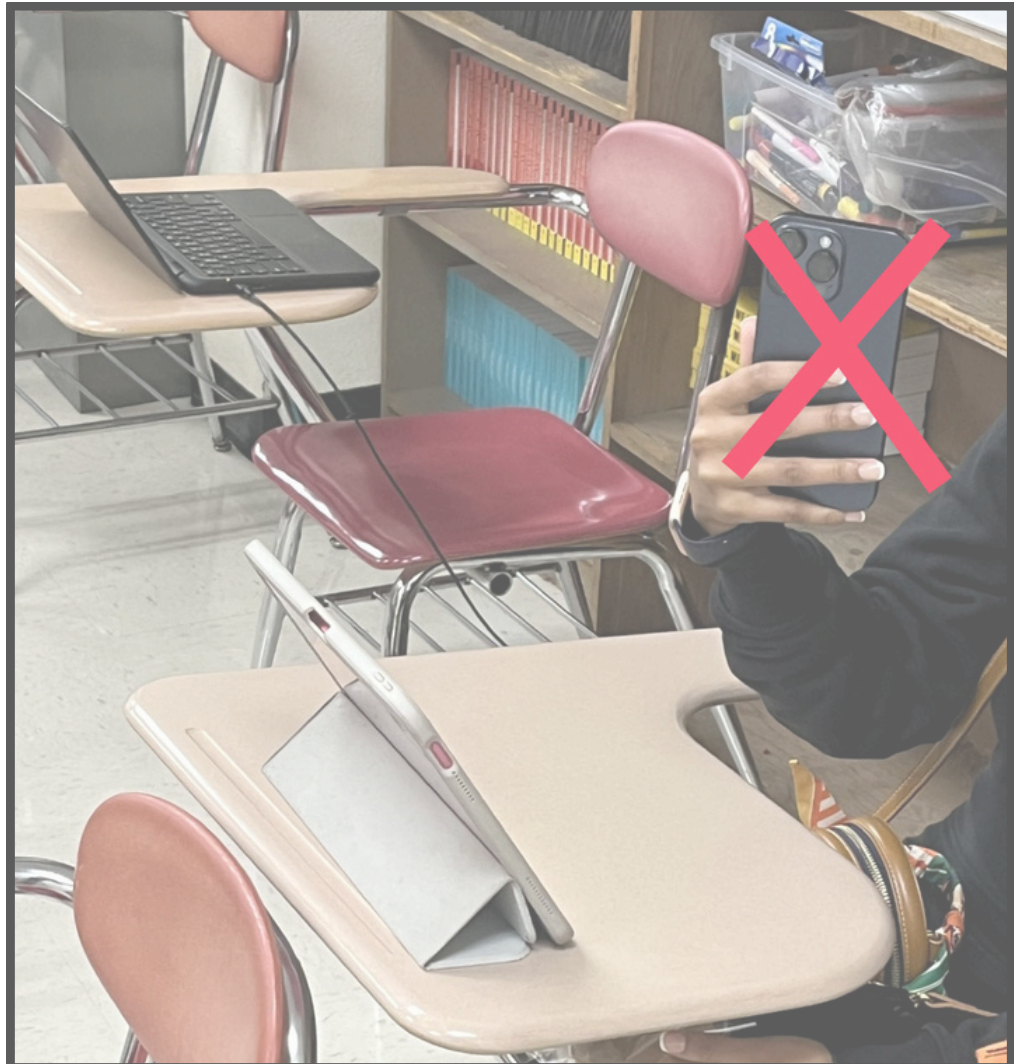
Banning phones is starting to appear in discipline policies in the United States, and many teachers and principals want to make it a strict rule in every school, as Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker had proposed a statewide phone ban. Schools are using different methods to keep phones away and out of sight, such as “Yondr Pouches,” phone collection, or leaving them in lockers.

Banning phones can have its advantages, but it can also be a problem. It’s not linked to higher grades or better mental well-being, because even without a phone, students still struggle with schoolwork and tests, and easily find another distraction to disrupt their education.

Mental well-being is also influenced by the environment the student is in, and emotions play a significant role in that. Bullying is still a huge problem in school and has led to serious consequences. Schools still let bullying happen regularly and often do little useful about it...

Common ways of bullying administrations have ignored are open racism, students making fun of others, gossiping, rumors, and many more.

That alone can be a reason a student's well-being and or self-esteem can be low, **INSTEAD** of a cellular device. A phone ban can avoid cyberbullying, but it can’t stop real-life bullying easily. Cyber bullies can still cyberbully on weekends and after-school hours, so what’s the point of removing phones when cyberbullying can still be an issue?



There was a recent school shooting, and people have voiced opinions that stated: “Some died just because they didn’t have their phone to call for help.” Schools can only do so much to ensure everyone’s safety when something serious like that happens.

Before cellphones were even a thing, students still struggled with schoolwork sometimes. That alone explains that phones may not be the problem, as most teachers say it is. Teachers say phones are a problem, but they never say it could be a problem with their method of teaching. Students complain about their teachers, “Teaching not making sense,” so that is also a reason why phones are an issue for administrators, simply because the students aren’t interested enough in the lecture, because they can’t understand it.



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Upcoming Dates/Events:

November 11- Veteran's Day (NO SCHOOL)

November 26-28- Thanksgiving Break (NO SCHOOL)

the
T.F. South
Drama
Players
Present

MEAN GIRLS

November 21-23

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STUDENTS RECEIVE A-BROAD EDUCATION

BY MARY ADEGBOYE AND BROOKLYN MOODY

The CIEE program started in 1947; it was originally called the Council on Student Travel program. Council on International Education Exchange also known as CIEE is a non profit that focuses on international education and cultural exchange. They offer services to high school students, university students and professionals. CIEE is the country's oldest and largest cultural exchange organization. They give over \$8,000,000 in scholarships annually and serve over 1000 people from all over the world. They offer 24/7 support to answer questions and help in emergencies, provide onsite expert staff, and have travel protection coverage. The president and CEO of CIEE, James P. Pellow, ED.D. With the CIEE program you can visit places like Spain, South Korea, France, China, and Japan. Their program focuses on creating a culturally diverse and peaceful world by giving students the opportunity to learn about different cultures and backgrounds. They also support international studies being affordable. CIEE gives out over \$7,000,000 a year in scholarship money. They offer a Global Navigator Scholarship and even academic merit scholarships. TF South student Justin Hill, a senior, recently studied abroad in Argentina over the summer and this is how his experience went. When asked about how was the balance between learning and having fun Justin says "That there wasn't a second where you weren't learning about something."



When talking to him I learned that the trip cost around \$7000 but they do have scholarship opportunities so in his experience he was able to get \$5000 to \$6000 off because of applying and getting the scholarship. So he only had to pay for his flight there and back and bring spending money which he recommends having \$1000 for spending money. Justin describes his experience with the trip like no other and says he had no expectations going into the trip but he learned so much and would go again. Another TF south student who went to Spain over the summer with CIEE is senior, Jemani Bonaparte. He talks about how nerve racking the experience was leaving his parents and having to adapt to a new family in Spain. He states, "...even leaving them from the airport, I've never done that before, that was a super scary moment." Throughout the interview he acknowledges how starting anew in Spain was a scary moment but the people he met there and friends he came there with helped

him manage that obstacle. We also talked about the scholarship CIEE provided and how that scholarship played a role in him being able to study abroad. The total cost for his program was \$7,800 and he was able to receive a scholarship for \$2,800 with CIEE. There was also a payment plan involved that allowed him and his family to pay the money in periods. He states, "...me and my mom were selling grapes at her school...i was working really hard after work I would make grapes...some family members also helped out too." We talked about culture shocks he experienced in a different country. He first mentioned his struggle with adapting to the language. "...obviously language, everybody either spoke Spanish, French or Russian...English wasn't a major thing you had to know there." He also talks about the home feeling he felt in Spain and how friendly and open everyone was. "I feel like everyone treats each other like they're family." CIEE is a study abroad program and so he mentioned the educational part of his experience in Spain. "...so that was a shock as well...I didn't take that into account, I knew I was there to study Spanish and everything but I didn't expect that workload." Overall Jemani thoroughly enjoyed his experience with CIEE and in Spain and recommends it to anyone looking to study abroad!



TFS CLASSES: A MATTER OF CHOICE

by: Alexander Rodriguez, Staff Reporter

The school system in TFS is really good but it can always be improved. A lot of kids this year and other years got sent to wrong classes and couldn't switch to the original class they wanted to go to. TFS is a good high school where they allow students to pick what classes they want. This gives students their preference of what they want to learn and what they want to do for the future.

TFS should try a new type of system to help students to get into a class they want and if that class is full they can choose another one instead of just being put in a class they know nothing about. The students of TFS choose their classes for the next year. In the spring they are shown a list of classes and are able to choose what class they want to go to for their next year of high school. The new fix that students should be able to do is to make a list/choose multiple classes. They can choose a popular class like the main class they want to go in and 2 more classes that they wouldn't mind going to. This way the people who actually want to be in that class can have a higher percentage of being in the class they want.



A lot of kids just choose random classes because they don't really care about school/even being in that class which robs people who actually do want to be in that class and learn in there because they like it. If the school lets the students choose 3 classes 1 main and 2 other classes that are classes students kinda like or don't mind being in, the problem of getting put in another random class will decrease. In conclusion TFS does have a great school system and is very good as a school and how they give kids the freedom to get what classes they want. Also they can use some

improvement with letting kids choose more classes so if one of them is filled then they have other options they don't mind going too instead of just being dropped into a class they don't want to be apart of.



FEATURE 5

INFINITE SCHOLARS COLLEGE WAS A SUCCESSFUL AF- FAIR

One of the most important decisions you can make is going to college and choosing what you want to study. On Wednesday, September 24th, TF South hosted the Infinite Scholars College Fair, which invited any interested seniors to go and explore their options, as well as providing on-the-spot opportunities. Schools like Purdue Northwest and Northeastern University offered on-the-spot acceptance while other schools offered on-the-spot scholarships as well. College wasn't the only opportunity offered however as there were options to join a branch of the military such as the Air Force or Navy. Joining branches of the military can help students pay for college as well, under the G.I. Bill. Finding colleges can be difficult for many students, but finding work shouldn't be. The fair also offered opportunities to find work such as the Lansing Public Library offering a job search program and State Farm offering positions to work with them.

The Infinite Scholars College Fair isn't the only college focused fair offered at TF South as later in the week the College, Career, and Transition Fair was also hosted here at TFS, offering similar opportunities to learn more about desired colleges while also opening more opportunities to follow a trade and specialized career. Some students noticed however that not all colleges that appeared to be "advertised" were present, such as UIC which was displayed on a nearby presentation but was not present at the fair. While not all colleges offered On-The-Spot opportunities, they still provided valuable information to any students that were interested in any programs they offered.

by Rolando Hernandez, Staff Reporter





FEATURE

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LIFE OF BEING A HAIRSTYLIST

by: Zaria Cooper, Staff Reporter

Being a hairstylist is more than just doing hair it's about creativity, patience, and building trust with clients. Many hairstylists work in salons where they have access to professional equipment, established clients, and a steady work environment. In contrast, my journey as a hairstylist has been different because I often style hair for people at school. While I share the same passion and dedication as other stylists, the way I practice and promote my work is unique, and it comes with its own set of challenges.

Professional hairstylists usually have a set location where they work. A salon gives them a space to meet new clients and allows them to benefit from walk-ins and referrals. They also have access to professional products and tools that make their job easier. For example, stylists in a salon can rely on the business's advertising, which helps them reach more people. I, on the other hand, don't have that same setup. Instead, I practice my skills by doing hair for people at school. This gives me a chance to show my talent in braiding, styling, and creating different looks, but I don't always have the resources a salon provides.

Another difference is how we each get clients. Many hairstylists already have a steady list of people who book appointments regularly. They may also use social media pages, websites, or business cards to promote their services. For me, it's more difficult because I mostly depend on word of mouth at school. Some students know me for doing hair, but it's not always easy to convince classmates to become clients. People in school may not always be comfortable getting their hair done during or after classes, and sometimes they look for older, more experienced stylists instead. This makes promoting myself harder compared to professionals who already have a strong reputation.



Still, doing hair in school gives me valuable experience that many stylists don't get at the beginning of their careers. Every time I work on someone's hair, I practice my techniques and improve my skills. Even though finding clients can be challenging, I learn how to advertise myself by talking to people, sharing my work, and building trust. This helps prepare me for the future when I want to grow into a professional stylist with a bigger client base.

In conclusion, while professional hairstylists and I share the same love for making people feel confident and beautiful, our journeys are different. They may have the advantage of resources and steady clients, but I have the determination to build myself up from school. Doing hair in school has taught me that promoting yourself takes creativity, confidence, and persistence. Even though it can be difficult to get clients, I know the experience I'm gaining now will help me succeed later as a hairstylist.



BOO BASH HOMECOMING 2025

by: Jayla Williams, Staff Reporter

Hello Red Wolves, Homecoming 2025 is around the corner. The theme for Homecoming is Boo bash and will be on October 25. This year we have a week filled with pep rallies, spirit week, girls powder puff and the highly anticipated homecoming football game. We highly encourage everyone to participate in the spirit week along with the junior and senior girls in the powder puff game. The powder puff game is one game of flag football junior's vs seniors. last year powder puff game class of 2026 defeated class of 2025 will class of 2026 remain undefeated or will class of 2027 take the win. There will be a hallway decorating contest with the participants of different clubs and classes. Don't miss the first pep rally Friday where the school will come together to cheer on our football team as they go against Bremen right here on the home field at 6pm October 24.



BOO BASH

SPORTS/EDITORIAL 8

GETTING MY POINT A-CROSS (COUNTRY)

by: Jaylennsia Rhea, EIC

I am on the Cross Country team and I would say doing interviews with my teammates puts things in perspective. Not only did I enjoy it, each and everyone of my teammates' answers were unique. They inspired me to want to surpass my own limits as well. This was the first year of me doing cross country and I loved it. Most of everyone on the team is friendly and in the interviews mostly everyone had detailed answers. I used my teammates advice for a race and PR so their words were helpful. I thought about what

Eduardo said "this race is against you and yourself and you can't blame it on anyone else, doing your best to make the team proud. " and Josue saying "push your limits"

Everyone had their own unique mental state for running 3 miles and what pushed them to keep going I thought about pushing myself for my team and pushing my limits. I had the chance to talk to thirteen people and even though some of them didn't make it to the interview part of the newspaper, everyone was inspiring and really seemed to care about each other. No one's interview was self centered and led back to caring about their teammates. Listening to everyone's interview I felt a real connection between teamwork and friendship. Running with my teammates on the same team is one



thing all though you are a team it's also you as a individual as well. So hearing everyone's perspectives in detail on their Cross Country experience was like seeing it from their eyes. Each person on the team is encouraging and strives to better themselves. Being on the Cross Country team I learned a lot from them and they inspired me to want to be better. While running my races I think about my teammates and how they all collectively wish their teammates the best. It is a positive atmosphere with hardworking students with nice personalities.

During every interview I found everyone to be a lot more interesting than what I imagined. Each interview describes some of my teammates as a person and their outlook on the team. This year the girls Cross Country team is really making history . We had our first girls meet at a classic meet and lots of the girls on the team found it fun. In conclusion, Cross Country proved to be a sport worth doing and a team worth putting your time in.



SPORTS

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TFS CROSS COUNTRY RUN WITH POSITIVITY

by: Jaylennsia Rhea, EIC

When talking to the cross country team I asked Coach Belli about her core values for the team and what type of athletes she was looking for to be on her team this was her response. "My core value is mostly positivity and supporting each other and so I am looking for someone who doesn't give up but also supports their teammates and looking for someone who is open to try new things and learn new things themselves as well. " As a student on cross country I found her answer really insightful and speaking of students Josue Delgado says about his motivations to join cross country in the first place he said "The path my sister took doing Cross Country and I was inspired. At first I didn't really get it like what is the point in running so many miles, but then when I tried it myself and I was seeing the improvement in my athleticism and the person, I started to become more of a patient person to get consistent with other things by searching within myself, and I fell in love with the sport in that way and that is why I am the person that I am today." Following along with Eduardo Ramirez within an athlete's career there can be obstacles they will have to overcome and learn from. For instance Eduardo said "That time was



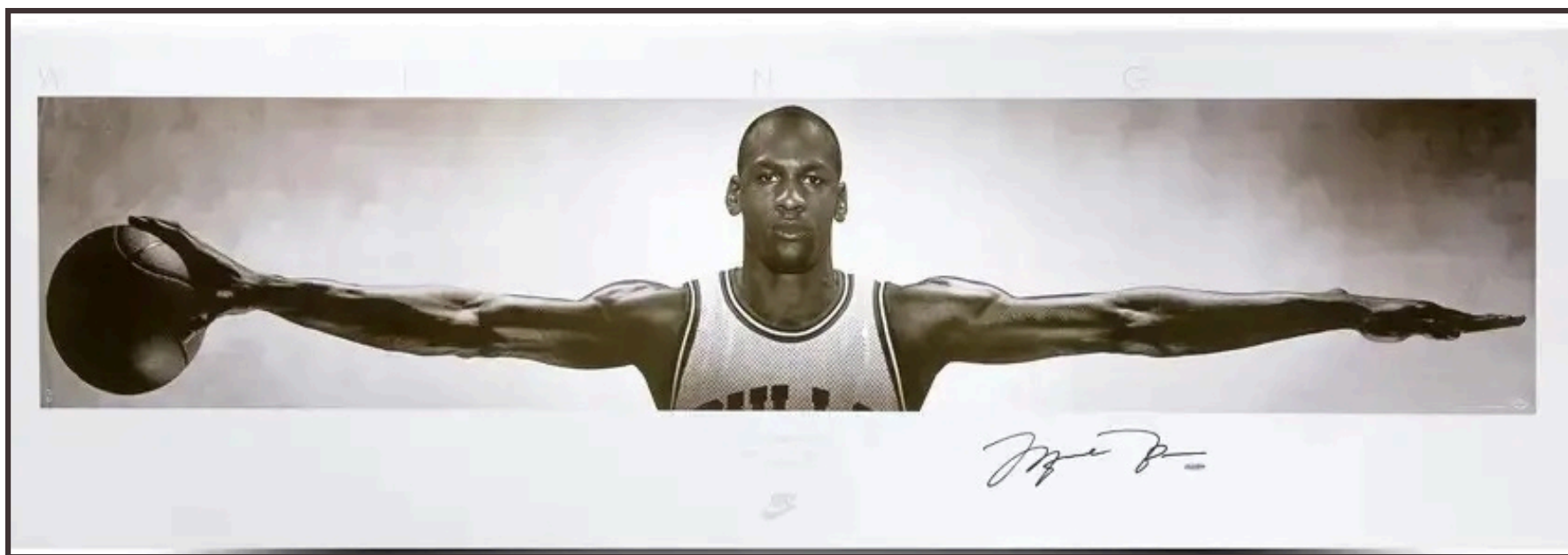
during a meet it was the second time ever in my junior year it was like nitty two degrees it was very hot and I was drenched and thirsty and I wanted to give up and walk throughout the whole race, but I was like no I can't I just have to keep pushing myself towards the finish line and doing my best to make the team proud. I learned that things may always look but hard work always pays off." And of course with these obstacles we wonder why they continue to push themselves in this sport.

Josue answer was "I would say to test my limits of my body. Every single time I ask myself what is the limit to my body? So everytime I start getting tired I don't indulge in that I should slow down because I am tired, instead I ask myself what is the limit I can reach." Lastly, how does the cross country team stay together? Yanis Luna responded with "To build team camaraderie we cheer on everybody and if someone isn't at their best we always motivate them to push themselves and tell them they are always doing a great job. And what we do for fun we sometimes go to Hooters, Buffalo Wild Wings and Dairy Queen. This helps because it gets us all together and creates a really great bond and gets to know everybody." This is the Cross Country team and the ones that represent.



THE TOP THREE SPORTS WITH TALLEST ATHLETES

by: Kedar Wright,
Staff Reporter



This topic has probably crossed several people's minds and me being a good height of 6,0 I have always wondered which top 3 sports have the tallest athletes. Now this can be facts or just information pulled out of my head but I am going to use proven facts and statistics to my advantage and get down. To the bottom of which 3 sports have the tallest athletes because who wouldn't want to know. Surprisingly enough,

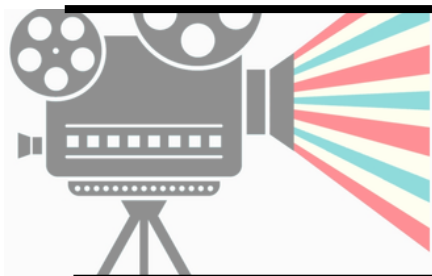
basketball is number one on our list for tallest big men position and tallest guards coming in at starting heights being 6,2 all the way to 6,6 believe it or not that's a pretty tall guard. Basketball is a very physical sport that requires a lot of stamina running back and forth on a court the length and measurement of 94 feet and 54 meters wide alone that with also being over the height of the average man which is 5,9-5, your legs are getting worked to their fullest potential and not an easy task whatsoever and should not be taken for granted.

Our very second sport to the list is none other than volleyball kind of expected because of blockers and past experience myself in the sport these players can range from heights of even the smallest position being over 6,2 the players grow to heights of 6,4

even having their first couple 7 footers its crazy how the human being can grow to such a height but we vary in size and other talents and quirks and abilities with speed and concentration levels you are rewarded with a very deadly player for the opposing teams of course.

Now eventually there has to have been another sport or currently still being played sport with very tall players or athletes and this one blew me away but statistics don't lie and that sport being in question is rowing with the third tallest athletes right next to baseball but rowing involves a lot of wing span usage.

Also lots of leg usage id be assuming your in a boat and working as a duo to row to the finish line or complete the course first or have the second quickest time and this involves height at a good amount proving height has to do with wingspan and leg speed even though some would assume the smaller the legs the quicker but its more stronger being longer because mass needs mass to be pushed, pulled, etc. I can go on for ever but how tall these very skilled athletes are truly prove critics point for these statistics and their results during their races.



REVIEWS

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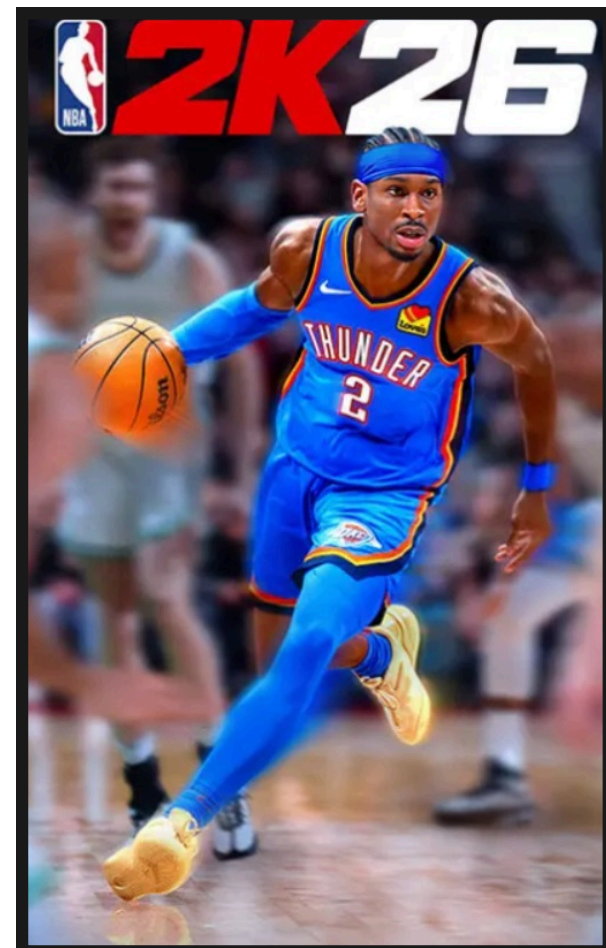
NBA2K26 IS IT WORTH IT? BY LAMONT HAYES

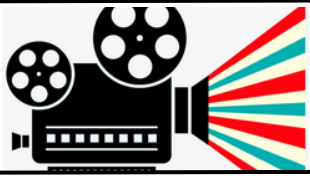
NBA 2K26 is more than just a video game, it's a yearly tradition to basketball fans and gamers, and the NBA itself. The game has new gameplay updates like smoother shooting and better defense. Millions of people play online, watch videos about it on YouTube and even talk about it. Making a My PLAYER feels good to do because you are making your own personal kind of player to play basketball.



There are also downsides, like expensive VC and glitches that frustrate some of the players. NBA 2K26 shows how games keep getting closer to real life basketball, it lets kids and fans live out NBA dreams, even if it's just on a screen. At the same time, it gives a good experience of what the NBA is like.

When playing it also makes you think are we playing for the love for the game or we are just caught up grinding for badges and upgrades.

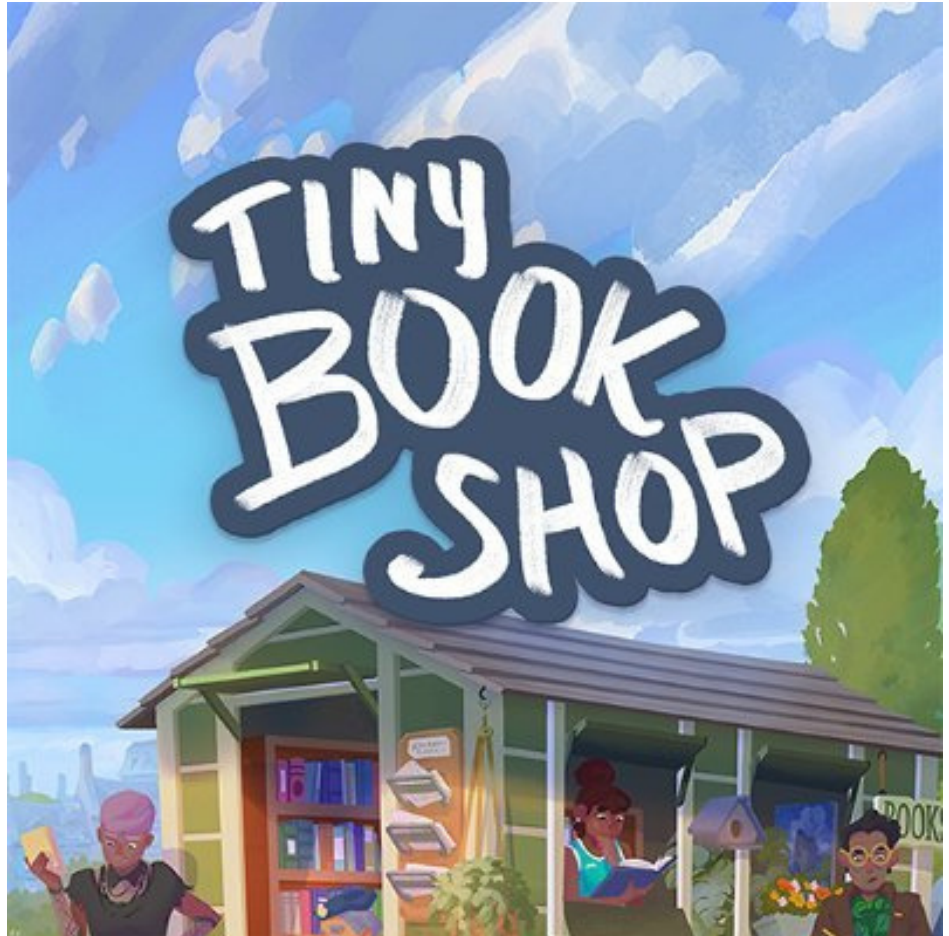




COZY UP TO "TINY BOOK SHOP"

by Brooklyn Moody, Review Writer

My first time playing the game, I immediately noticed the cozy essence and aesthetic. The game follows you as the main character. You're the owner of a tiny mobile bookshop. At the beginning of the game, you decide to get away from the town you're currently in and take an adventure to Bookstonia, which is a cute, cozy, smaller town. When you first set up your bookshop in a part of the town called Waterfront Square, you meet Tilde, the previous owner of the bookstore in Bookstonia. Tilde is an older woman who loves to gossip and also loves crime books. She serves as your mentor throughout the game and your first friend in the town. As the game progresses, you meet more townspeople, old and young, and unlock new locations. In Bookstonia, the people you meet in the game give you tasks to keep the game more interesting and entertaining. I like the cozy aesthetics of the game; it's a calming yet still interesting experience playing the game. The game is easy to play and requires low brain power or thought, without being boring or the stakes not too high to play.



In this game, you also have real book titles in your mobile bookshop, which keeps it interesting and also makes it easier when trying to recommend books to customers, since you might already know about the book from your real-life experiences. The diversity in the game characters is also something I really like in the game; you see characters that use wheelchairs and that have alternative styles, etc.

At times, the game does get repetitive at times because most of the game is spent recommending books to customers. If you like Tiny Bookshop, I would recommend a similar game called Disney Dreamlight Valley. It has a similar concept: when you play Dreamlight Valley, you get to the town dreamlight valley, meet Disney characters, and through quests and conversations, you help the characters and town with their problems. In conclusion, I have very few minor qualms with Tiny Bookshop overall. It's a very cute and cozy game, and it's relaxing yet entertaining.



The global top 5 out of the top 10 shows from September 8th to the 14th

by: Shakira Reed, reporter



Canelo Vs Crawford

The number one show Canelo Vs Crawford had 17.7 million views that week of streaming, the special was once livestreamed on September 13, 2025. It's a boxing match to determine the middleweight champion. Both fighters fought extremely well, a match that's unforgettable.



Wednesday

This year with 15 million views that week. Wednesday can be seen as a dark comedy drawing audiences in from the original series, the Addams family with forms of entertainment since 1938. This is an updated series that goes into the daughter Wednesday Addams lives nevermore academy. What we say is Halloween romance and plot twists. This show is not just for Halloween but to watch all year round for all ages.



Tyler Perry's Beauty In Black

On the more mature side of Netflix an original series, Tyler Perry, Beauty in Black season 2 at number 3 on the list. The mature show can be seen more for adults. They might say season two is full of drama, messy family dynamics, exposure of identities, career changing and struggles with self acceptance.



My Life With the Walter Boys

It's a teen coming of age show. In season two, Jackie follows through with living with the Walters in the series. You can see how Jackie goes through a lot in her personal life, but also in her romantic life. Jackie is torn between two of the Walter boys. It has many conflicts along the way, even at school.



Love Con Revenge

A true crime series that explored scammers. A private investigator does everything to bring justice to the ladies that were scammed. The victims of romantic fraud decided to share their stories and expose the scammer behind it.