

TIGER TIMES

February Edition

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Current events: Four things to note

By Staff

The New Hampshire Primary

The New Hampshire primary had a record turnout of over 300,000 voters on Jan. 23, the previous record being 287,000 in 2016. Trump officially defeated Nikki Haley in the New Hampshire primary, winning 54.3% of the votes and gaining 12 delegates — a total of 1,215 delegates are needed to win the party's nomination. Because of disputes between the New Hampshire primary and the Democratic National Committee, the New Hampshire primary delegates will not count toward the total to win the democratic party's nomination. Because of this dispute, Joe Biden's name was not on the ballot, but the incumbent candidate still managed to win over 63% of the votes by write-in.

The Government Shut Down

A government shutdown is what occurs when congress fails to pass a spending bill to fund the government's spending, or the president refuses to sign the bill. This leaves a funding gap that can cause many government functions to be disrupted, affecting many people and their jobs due to temporary closures. The deadline for a government shutdown can be resolved by passing a continuing resolution to provide a short-term funding plan, allowing more time for negotiations.

On Sep. 30, congress passed a stopgap bill to temporarily fund the government until mid-Nov. to avoid a shutdown. After four appropriations bills, the most recent deadline was Jan. 19. On Jan. 18, congress avoided a partial shutdown by extending the deadline to Mar. 1. Funding for agencies covered by the other eight appropriations bills were set to expire on Feb. 2, but the Jan. 18 legislation extended that deadline to Mar. 8.

The Texas Border Stand-off

In May of 2021, Texas Governor Greg Abbott declared a more widespread use of razor wire between the border of Mexico and Texas and along private property near the Rio Grande in order to prevent illegal immigration. But in 2023, federal agents were found cutting through the wire to rescue migrants in danger. Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton sued the Biden administration over this removal of the razor wire, claiming the agents' actions resulted in "a destruction of state property."

In past standoffs between state and federal governments, presidents have made the executive decision to federalize the local national guard as a resolution. As of now, the debate is still ongoing.

Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo

A fishing lawsuit that disputes only hundreds of dollars may soon have a lasting impact on US policy. Since the 80s, governmental agencies have been responsible for interpreting the laws they oversee, an idea called "Chevron deference." However, a new lawsuit regarding a National Marine Fisheries Service policy that requires fishermen to pay for an "overseer" on their boats may soon change that. Should the fishermen win, lower courts will likely be flooded with litigations previously squashed by Chevron deference; if they lose, this potentially unethical policy may end small fishing businesses.

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New community hours

By Lauren B.

Sophomore Reporter

With so many options, choosing which community hour is right for you can be hard. This semester, so many new community hours were offered to IB students, but which one is perfect for you?

If you enjoy baking, cross-stitching, and OG hot girl walks, Entering Your Grandma Era with Mrs. Roderick may be the perfect community hour for you! It can be hard to find a spot to fit in when you don't enjoy giant parties or staying out late, but in this community hour, you get to embrace the inner old person and do the things you love best!

If grandma skills aren't your cup of tea, Mrs. Coulter's Book Club: Lover's Edition may be the one for you! Curling up in the library with a good romance book is sure to make you feel relaxed. When you finish reading, you can have a nice discussion with Mrs. Coulter and other book club members! "I love that everyone enjoys something different, but we all support each other. It's really a fun way to spend my time and I look forward to talking about my current book there," sophomore Katie A. said.

If you are looking for a relaxing community hour, you can check out Matzke's Mindful Soul community hour. In this community hour, you can enjoy an area where you can practice problem resolution, coping skills, and conversation. If you would rather sit back and chill, Matzke's community hour offers coloring books, playdough, fidgets, journaling, and many other stress relievers.

If you enjoy music, Mr. Hallstrom's Singer/Songwriter & Beginner Guitar community hour is the perfect choice. This community hour focuses on the importance of creating music, and will help you learn to play the guitar and read music!

It can be hard choosing the right community hour for you, but with so many new options, you are sure to find something perfect. If you aren't sure what you like, check out one of the new community hours!



Pictured above: Mr. Hallstrom's singer/songwriter & beginner guitar community hour.

Oscars nominations

By Alex M.

Senior Reporter

On Jan. 23, the 96th annual Academy Awards nominations were announced, with the Oscars to air live on Sunday, March 10, at 7p.m.. The Academy Awards ceremony has a large variety of 24 categories, including five major categories, which include Best Picture, Best Director, Best Actor, Best Actress and Best Screenplay. In each category, the Academy Awards uses a voting system that allows the selection to be limited down to five nominees. Out of all of the nominations produced from the voters, the top three movies or actors supported to win consist of many talents.

The top three nominations for Best Picture consist of "Oppenheimer," "Barbie" and "Poor Things." While "Oppenheimer" is at the top of the pedestal with 13 nominations, "Poor Things" is close behind with eleven. "Poor Things" has been selected for a variety of reasons, including the quality of acting present throughout this film. Unfortunately, "Barbie" is a little behind the others in terms of nominations, short with just eight nominations. One of the expected but unreceived nominations was for Margot Robbie, who fans believe was unjustly left out of the category for Best Actress.

Justine Triet, Martin Scorsese and Christopher Nolan were nominated as the top three directors to win the Best Director award. All were nominated for how their directing helped influence the acting performed for their movie. Triet, who directed "Anatomy of a Fall," received nominations while also only being the 8th woman to ever be nominated for this award. Scorsese directed "Killers of the Flower Moon," which received 10 nominations, including one for the Best Actor. Nolan, who directed Oppenheimer, is shortly behind with eight nominations.

The three top nominations behind the Best Actor award are Bradley Cooper, Colman Domingo and Paul Giamatti. Bradley Cooper was nominated for his portrayal of Leonard Bernstein in Maestro. Colman Domingo was chosen for his powerhouse performance in the biographical drama "Rustin." Another significant nomination was Paul Giamatti's, which recognized him for his performance in "The Holdovers." In this film, he stars as a bad-tempered and grumpy history teacher, his most significant role in recent years. This nomination also comes after nearly 20 years of no nominations, giving him another chance.

See Oscars page 6 to continue reading



Unleashing the potential:

A new era for the scholastic bowl team

By Zoe C.
Copy Editor

The scholastic bowl team here at Illini Bluffs is gearing up for an exciting season, with a change in leadership. After only two years under the guidance of Mr. Adamczyk, the team is now under the expertise of Ms. Amanda Robison. Although Adamczyk had experience in trivia and was good in areas like current events and history, most players believed a fresh and ambitious coach was exactly what the team needed.

"I will say that what I do lack in experience, I make up for in student advocacy. I think some teams just need a coach who will fight for them and their needs" Robison, new head coach said.

As the team prepares to take on their rivals, they reflect on the contrasting coaching styles of their former coach and the positive changes brought by their new leader.

Lydia G, the varsity captain, recalls that Mr. Adamczyk's coaching style was more passive. She recalls he would shake his head, seemingly disappointed with practices and meets. "Ms. Rob is a lot more involved and interested in everything," Lydia said.

As Robison navigates coaching for the first time, her dedication to the team shows despite her lack of experience. She ensures that the team has access to all the necessary resources and practice materials. It's clear just how much the team loves her by how everyone pitches in during practices to improve the team.

"Lydia, Cole, and Josh deserve the biggest shoutout! They have also helped me a lot and in a way were a coach for me. I don't think I would have been able to help the team as much if it wasn't for them" Robison said.

Only two meets in, the varsity team has already won five out of six matches. Many of the players said they hope to go to state again this year, while others like having fun with their friends beyond the

competition. From practices to bus rides, the most cherished aspect of scholastic bowl is the camaraderie among team members.

"My favorite part of scholastic bowl is the fact that we're a ton of nerds who can get together and get along because we're all nerds." Josh B, a junior on the varsity team said.

This shared passion for knowledge and the joy of learning brings the team together and makes practices truly enjoyable.

"The varsity team last year consisted mainly of seniors. This year there is a variety with more Juniors, Sophomores, and Freshmen." Cole J, a junior on the varsity team said.

Additionally, the team has a new "secret weapon" according to Josh - freshman Crew F, the math whiz. With Crew's expertise in mathematics, the team now has an advantage when it



Pictured left to right: Cole J., Josh B. and Crew F.

Senioritis:

Combatting the lack of motivation in the last stretch of high school.

By Rebecca R.
Copy Editor-at-Large

So, you're struggling with senioritis, especially when there's only five months of school left, but what is senioritis? Senioritis is generally considered a lack of motivation, leaving you to shrug off your responsibilities like homework, studying and going to class. What are some ways to help get your motivation back? Here's a list of the five best ways to combat senioritis.

Prioritize organization

Keep your things organized. If you can't even see what you have to do, how will you know to do it? Make a to-do list or write it on a calendar. If you can see it, you're more likely to remember to do it. You could put your papers in order of when they're due, so you know what to do first.

Set goals for yourself

If you set little goals for yourself, it can be easier to manage. Ex: Finish your paper then you can play video games. If you set small goals for yourself with rewards, it can seem like a smaller task and it can help you get it done faster, and the faster you can get things done, the less time you have to spend worrying about them.

Make time for yourself

Don't spend all your energy on school work, and make time for yourself within your busy schedule.

Between work, school, sport or whatever extracurricular you may participate in, make time for you and things you like to do. Don't let everything else get in the way of your schoolwork, make sure you still have energy left to do your work.

Acknowledge your hard work

Give yourself credit where credit is due. You've worked hard to get where you're at, and it's almost over, so don't give up when you're so close. Don't doubt yourself. You've gotten yourself this far, you can make it the rest of the way. It may not feel like it right now, but four years into school is a lot of work. Although you might have had your ups and downs, you should acknowledge your work and efforts that you have put forth, and continue to persevere for the last small portion.

Don't keep yourself to a schedule

Most people would say the exact opposite, but if you put yourself into a schedule, you may get yourself stuck in a rut. While it can be good to keep yourself on a schedule to help stay organized, it's also good to mix it up every once in a while. Do something new, take yourself out somewhere, go somewhere you've never been before, sometimes it's good to keep things different. A change of pace could be beneficial if you're struggling to keep focused.

Senioritis can be hard to overcome but some support from others and the end of the year right at our fingertips can be great motivation to keep going. Don't let senioritis drag you down right at the end of the year. These tips may not work perfectly for everyone but they can help if you need it. Don't let senioritis take your grades down. Keep going. The end of the year is right around the corner.

Student spotlight: Anna C.

By Katie A.
Sophomore Reporter

Boom, Clack, Thump, Da-dum Da-dum are the rhythmic sounds of Sophomore Annabelle C., rocking the drums for not only the Pep Band but also the Jazz Band. Whenever she's drumming, it's hard to look away; she draws your eyes and ears in.

Anna is a well-rounded individual with a charismatic personality that she graciously shares with all of Illini Bluffs. If Anna isn't beating on the drums, she is shining on the dance floor as a member of the IBHS Dance Team.

Anna brings an upbeat energy and positivity when the team performs at half-time. Anna balances being a Chamber Singer, keeping the Concert Band in time, and being a Scholastic Bowl whiz. She graces the theater stage, most recently as Kitty in the IBHS 2023 production of "The Drowsy Chaperone."

"Being involved in the activities you love is worth getting out of your comfort zone for! It takes lots of time, practice, and patience, especially with a busy schedule around the school year, but it's what I enjoy." Anna said.

During her free time, she enjoys playing music, doing crafts, and watching Disney movies.

Playing at and setting up for Holiday Lane, being a part of the Jazz Band and performing in the school musical are just some of Anna's favorite memories at school. The annual Veteran's Day program stands out as her personal favorite event, sharing "the sequence of musical performances I get a little bit of everything."

Anna works hard, describing her work ethic as "determined yet usually unfocused... despite that, I believe I'm willing to get things done."

Looking to the future, she hopes to become a music teacher and perform music. Anna's love for music shines through, with her creative ear, and willingness to listen to different genres. She is looking to "pick a goal for the future and then work towards that."

Anna has a wonderful sense of humor and compassion that makes those around her feel safe and welcome. Her smile is contagious, and she always lifts others' spirits. Anna is truly an amazing student and friend, and anywhere she goes she brings positivity and kindness.



Pictured above: Anna C. poses moments before her audition.

Top five Valentines Day gifts

By Aidan R.
Copy Desk Chief

The season of love is fast approaching, and many people are scrambling to find a gift for their significant other. If you happen to be one of those individuals, don't fret! Here's a combined list of the top five Valentine's gift ideas.

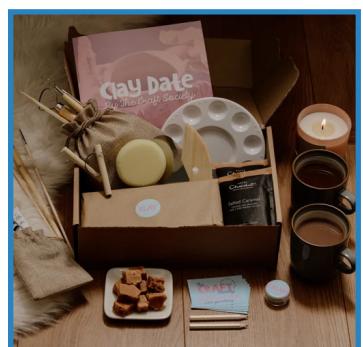


Plush bouquet

If your recipient likes to stick with the trends, these viral Walmart TikTok plush bouquets will be perfect for you! They start at about \$17, and there are a variety of options available to purchase in-store. Some of the iconic characters featured in these cozy bouquets include Bluey & Bingo, Chucky & Tiffany and Snoopy & Woodstock. But don't worry, if these characters aren't your cup of tea, the official Walmart website offers endless others to choose from. Each bouquet offers a minimum of two plushies, a few plush flowers and a flower wrap to keep everything nicely organized.

Themed gift basket

Themed gift baskets have been around for quite some time, and I can happily say that they stand the test of time. Finding a key interest of the special someone who you are gifting would be the first place to start. After finding a theme, you should begin doing an online search of different items you would like to add to the basket. For example: If your recipient loves plants, you could get them a wicker basket with a few plants, soil, nutrients and any other relevant products.



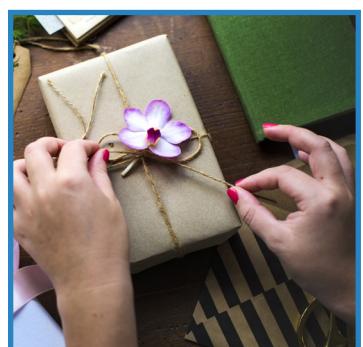
Date night in a box

Perhaps you and your partner prefer to spend quality time together, rather than simply just getting a gift. Well, a thought-out "Date Night in a Box" would be the perfect gift for you to throw together. A simple canvas, paint, brushes, and a nice note of appreciation is a very easy and prime example of this type of gift. Another thing to note is that this can be something that you can continue to enjoy, even past the holiday.



Lego flowers

Need something fast but thoughtful? Try checking out LEGO's line of botany sets. These unique and beautiful LEGO arrangements are perfect for anybody, regardless of budget. There are plenty of options, including the brand-new collection that just came out, featuring a bouquet of roses, tulips, cherry blossoms, and so much more. While some sets are more expensive than others, the prices range from \$7 to \$60, but they will last you a lifetime.



Get creative!

Are you someone who enjoys the simpler things? If so, consider gifting something more traditional. Handmade gifts are always a thoughtful idea when considering a gift for someone. Something simple like writing a letter or poem, painting a picture, or writing a song are all extremely creative ideas for the Valentine's season.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb. 1- Megan R.

Feb. 2- Conner F., Harlow M.

Feb. 4- Will G.

Feb. 5- Aubrey D., Hannah T.

Feb. 8- Emmi W.

Feb. 12- Tori B.

Feb. 14- Brooke G.

Feb. 16- Cole G.

Feb. 17- Quintin B.

Feb. 21- Wyatt K.

Feb. 22- Josh B., Natalie R.

Feb. 24- Meadow H., Kage K.

Mean Girls review: Burn (book) it

By Adrienne G.
Editor-at-Large

Mean Girls is a movie that I was somehow able to watch as a kid, and one of several teen classics my mom and I would sit and watch together. Given its significance to me, I excited to see the new one.

But the movie's original cast was something nobody could ever replace, and this new Mean Girls movie has proven it.

Regina George was always the mean but extremely hot girl in the movie, with Cady being the new, weird girl from Africa. But Angourie Rice as Cady and Reneé Rapp as Regina did not hit the mark as these two girls. The way they were styled throughout the entire movie and the way they portray the characters did not match the original whatsoever. Neither Regina nor Cady hit the "it girl" mark left by the old Regina and Cady.

This movie itself is based on the Broadway musical adaptation of the original film, but when advertising this movie, the marketing team was not clear about this being a full-blown musical. For fans of the original, this led to a lot of confusion.

During the Halloween party scene, Regina takes Cady's man, but moments before that, Regina breaks out into song and has everyone freeze where they are. For those of us expecting the rising tension of the original scene where Cady has to back down embarrassed dressed as the bride of Frankenstein, the new scene was just plain cringy.

The 2003 Mean Girls movie was the definition of Regina George, iconic, stylish and forever the greatest on earth. This new movie will always and forever stay in my burn book, captioned as follows: "Mean Girls (2024) a wannabe imitator not fit to share the 'Mean Girls' name."



2024: What's in, what's out?

By Lalaina Z.
Copy Editor

With the beginning of each new year, comes many new trends and resolutions. A good few are keepers, while many others need to be kept in 2023. With that being said, here's my take on the ins and outs of 2024.

In: Minding your own business

This piece of advice is crucial for 2024. Don't be so caught up in other people and what they are doing and just focus on your life. This allows you to achieve your own goals and dreams without unnecessary distractions. This also prevents meaningless stress and drama, which will overall make this year better for you and your well-being.

In: Putting your phone down

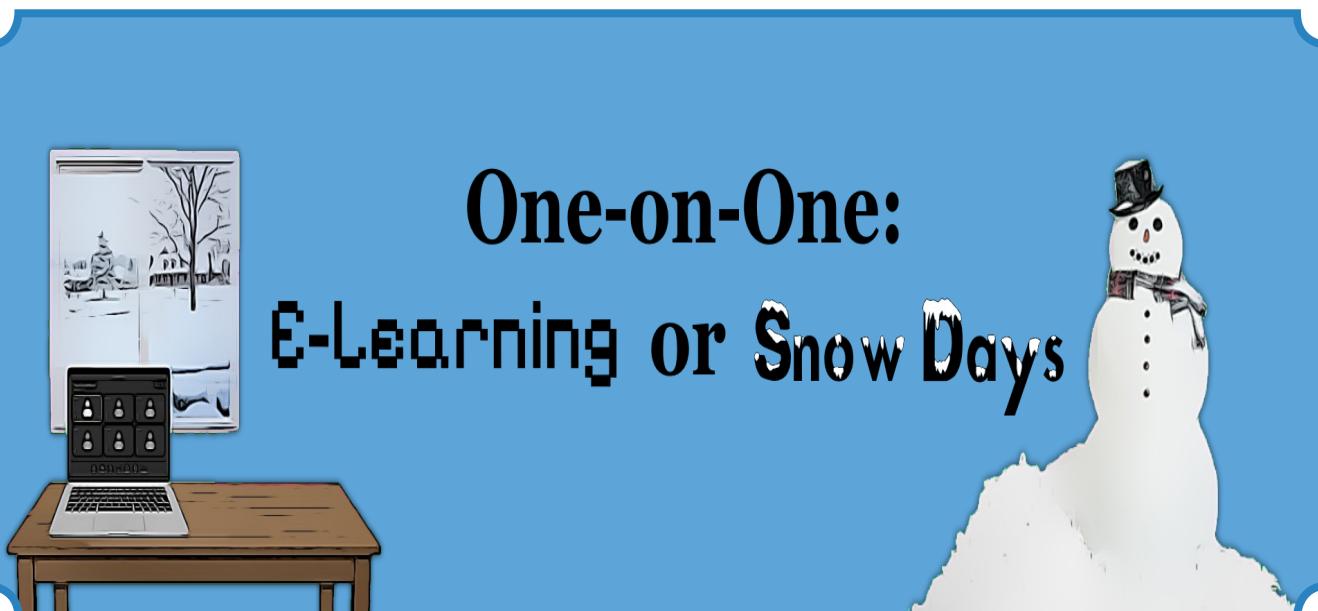
We all have that one person in our life that cannot function without their phone. Whether you're going out to eat, hanging out or just simply having a conversation, they are always scrolling on their phone. If this is you, you need to stop. Getting off your phone and being social promotes mindfulness and helps you focus on the present moment instead of getting distracted by social media. You might also find that a social media detox every once in a while will also benefit you. This will positively impact your year significantly.

Out: Chronic complainers

"I'm tired," "I don't want to do this," "This is so annoying." These are all things that should stay in 2023. I understand not wanting to do things, but there is absolutely no reason to voice it every two seconds to the whole world. It doesn't change the situation and doesn't contribute to anything, and being completely real, we do not care. So instead, just keep those thoughts in your head and it will be okay.

Out: TikTok Influencers

These TikTok ads and influencers are convincing people that expensive things are the best to have. They are the reason that kids are going to different makeup stores and buying \$50 products that they do not need. People are buying \$45 Stanley cups instead of a tumbler that looks the exact same from Walmart for \$10. With that, there's also the Ugg slippers that are \$95 instead of getting simple slippers for \$20. These influencers are the reason that most of these have become a trend.



One-on-One: E-Learning or Snow Days

Plug me in

By Lauren B.
Sophomore Reporter

Waking up to a snow day is an exciting treat, but not having any school can have several consequences. E-learning is an effective way to keep the school schedule intact and to keep the school going on those long winter days.

Snow days mean fun in the snow, a chill day off from school and Fridays in April and May. Although a snow day is fun, we won't get any Fridays off at the end of the year. Everyone looks forward to endless four-day weeks, but each snow day we take means a Friday at school.

The best thing about a snow day is laying in bed with your PJs on all day, but you can do that with e-learning too. You don't have to worry about waking up early or getting ready for school, just wake up, leave your PJs on, and hop online!

Snow days are fun, and incorporating a little bit of school work into the day off won't ruin it. E-learning may not be the fun choice, but it's the best choice when it comes to effectiveness.

Let it Snow

By Nolan S.
Senior Reporter

There is an indescribable feeling of relief when you wake up, check the news and see that your school has been canceled. You know you are free to do whatever you want; you could go back to bed, binge-watch the newest Netflix releases or build a snowman. The possibilities are endless!

Snow days are few and far between, so why try to taint their beauty by forcing students to be stuck behind the screen watching hard-to-understand video lessons and attending Zoom calls? This type of off-brand learning compromises the quality of students' education. Also, e-learning is entirely at the mercy of an internet connection, which can easily be spotty when there is enough snow to cancel school.

Some may argue that they don't want to make the days up at the end of the year. I understand, but it makes a lot more sense to make it up later in the year and enjoy your unexpected day of leisure and not sacrifice the quality of your education.

Wrestling regionals

By Will G.
Junior Reporter

As boys' and girls' basketball teams start to get ready for their regionals in March, the wrestling team also starts their regionals in February. Feb 2 starts the grind for all wrestlers who want to make it to the State Farm Center in Champaign. The Tigers are looking to send Ian O'Connor, Hunter Robbins, and Jackson Carroll to Champaign, but before they worry about the state, they need to make it out of regionals first.

Hunter Robins has been to state every year he has done wrestling in high school and looks to continue this streak. Hunter is projected the number one seed in his weight class out of the regional. Hunter weighs in at 113 pounds and is 34-0 on the year for personal matches. Ian Akers of Peoria Notre Dame is the toughest matchup for Hunter in his region, with Hunter beating him 2-0 already. Hunter still has nine matches left until he meets the 45-match limit in the season before regionals. He looks to go undefeated throughout the remainder of the season.

Ian O'Connor has also been to state in all of his years wrestling in high school. Ian is projected the number two seed in his weight class as he battled some losses in the season. Ian weighs in at 138 pounds and is 32-4 on the year for his personal matches. Ian's toughest matchup in his regional will be Ethan Monson from Aledo Mercer County, with Ian and Ethan tied at 1-1 in matchups this year. Ian also has nine personal matches for the rest of the year, with a tournament and senior night. Ian could sneak into the number one seed with a win out from here to regionals. With a win out from here to regionals, Ian could sneak into the number one seed.

Jackson Carroll has only been to state two years in high school, but that is because he is in his third year

of wrestling at the high school level. Jackson looks to also join Hunter in the projected number-one seed in his weight class. Jackson weighs in at 144 pounds and is 30-2 on the year in personal matches. Kaden Inman of Menden Unity is one of Jackson's top matches for sectionals. With 13 matches left, Jackson looks for a win-out season in the last couple of weeks to keep the number one seed.

The whole of the Tigers' wrestling team is preparing for their final tournaments and matches as well as their regionals. As regionals and state are still weeks away, the Tiger finished up some of their final matches with senior night and at the Randy Bowman Leroy Tournament with Hunter and Jackson finishing in first of their weight classes and Ian finishing third in his weight class. Hunter, Ian, and Jackson look for their repeats at heading to state and coming home with a state championship title.



Pictured left to right: Jackson C., Hunter R. and Ian O.

The dangers of diet culture

By Celine L.
Editor-in-Chief

Diet culture is a very unfortunate trend our society is beginning to obsess over. Diet culture is defined by a social expectation of what we should eat and look like, and if we look a certain way, we will be more socially accepted. People are desperate for a so-called "healthy lifestyle," but this obsession just leaves them feeling worse in the end.

There are many different kinds of diets and lifestyles out there. Sadly, a lot of these diets end up being confusing, restrictive and overwhelming. Food is supposed to be something nourishing and enjoyable. You should never feel ashamed or insecure about what you're eating.

Diet culture tends to get in our heads and makes us think more about being thin, looking like all the other girls on Instagram and TikTok, rather than being healthy and fulfilled, looking like ourselves. This mentality often leads to cutting out entire food groups that are perceived as "bad foods" in order to lose weight. Some people even begin to believe that some foods are "dirty" when they get caught up in this idea of dieting.

Cutting food groups and associating certain groups with weight loss or gain creates food fear, guilt and insecurity. Fearing foods and eating in general can easily lead to an eating disorder.

While eating disorders and avoidance behaviors can provide that temporary relief one would be seeking, it just reinforces the fear, making matters much worse in the end, potentially severely affecting your overall health as well if left untreated.

Most people look for a "quick fix" rather than a long-term, genuinely healthy lifestyle. These quick fixes can do significant harm to our bodies, leaving them worse than we found them.

Diets tend to be very unrealistic and hard on our bodies, failing about 95% of the time, forcing us to go back to the start. This process is known as "yo-yo dieting," which is linked to poor sleep quality, a higher risk for insomnia, sleep disturbances and sleep apnea.

The lack of quality sleep is also associated with weight gain due to increased fat intake, overall quality of food and the total calorie intake. Poor sleep and weight cycling are also associated with poor cardiovascular health, mostly affecting women, and can also reduce arterial oxygen tension.

The main point to remember when seeking a healthy lifestyle is that health cannot be defined by the way we look or a number on a scale. Body diversity is what makes us human. Even if everyone in the world ate exactly the same, we would all still look very different.

Humans aren't meant to be the same "ideal" shape or size. Everyone will always be uniquely different, so don't feel ashamed for indulging in a basic human necessity. Your body is your home, so take care of it.



Student Survey: Are snow days worth it?

By Kyra P.
Senior Reporter

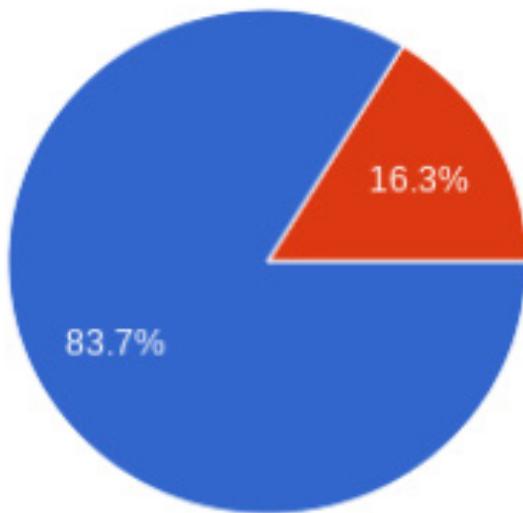
A long-time debated question still stands: Are snow days worth it? The majority of students, 83.7%, said yes. They stated it was too dangerous, "I would rather not put myself in harm's way to go to school in the winter." Or it's just a problem for later, "Having school in May sounds like a later problem."

The minority, 16.3% of students, said they would prefer not to make it up at the end of the year. "Because it's closer to summer and I don't want to be in school anymore." And, "I would rather be in school when it's cold and I can't do anything outside, than in the summer where I will have more freedom."

It seems as though most students prefer to keep their snow days off as pure as the fresh snow that blankets their yards, even if it means having to make up the days later.

After a multitude of experience with online classes, perhaps they know best; although, the minority would say that their time doing e-learning during COVID better prepared them for e-learning.

At the end of the day, it seems that snow days are here to stay. For the time being, the vast majority of students can rest easy in their warm beds on snowy days when getting to school isn't possible.



Oscars Cont.

The top nominations for the Best Actress award were Annette Bening, Lily Gladstone and Sandra Huller. Annette Bening was nominated alongside Jodi Foster for their acting in *Nyad*, the performance of the older American long-distance swimmer as she swam from Cuba to Florida back in 2013. Gladstone's performance in *Killers of the Flower Moon* gave her a nomination for Best Actress, as well as being the first Native American to be nominated. Huller was nominated from two films, *Anatomy of a Fall* and *The Zone Interest* as movie critics are saying that her acting is so phenomenal that it is the most deserving this year.

Lastly, the award Best Screenplay was nominated to *Anatomy of a Fall*, *The Holdovers*, and *Past Lives*. *Anatomy of a Fall* directed by Justine Triet was nominated because of how their characters were shown to portray different emotions and deal with the consequences of their actions including the anxiety and

stress following it. *The Holdovers* directed by Alexander Payne received five votes for having a nominee in Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Picture, Best Original Screenplay and Best Editing. Finally, *Past Lives* directed by Celine Song was nominated for two awards because of the films produced of their characters' two lives coinciding with their past.

Today the Oscars have a huge impact on the world, entertaining a large crowd of people. As well as impacting the actors, directors and even the crew's lives. 24 seems like such a small number but these nominations help shape actors and future films being made.

Editorial Cartoon: IB's approach to winter weather

By Josh H.
Editorial Cartoonist



Illini Bluffs inquiries: IB's hotspot for anonymous advice.

By Delaney O. & Lauren C.
Senior Reporters

There is something that I've been wanting to tell my parents for a while, and I'm not sure how to tell them. It's really important to me, but I feel like they won't understand. What should I do? Should I tell them?

Doubtful Daughter,

I'd like to start by saying that confiding in your parents can be a scary thing, even more so if the information you wish to share with them is important to you. If this thing you want to share with your parents is one that has been on your mind for a while now, my best advice is to get it off your chest, no matter how hard this may seem. Going into this situation, prepare for the possibility that they may not fully understand or agree with you. Keep in mind that everything your parents do is most likely because they love you. A difference in opinions about what is best for you is really just the both of you trying to look out for you as best you can. In summary, tell your parents but be open to and prepared for their opinions as well. Good luck!

-Delaney O.

Recently, I found out that one of my best friends betrayed me and didn't tell me about it. I had to find out from someone else, and it made me so angry. Should I go on without letting her know I know? Or should I tell her that I know and possibly lose her?

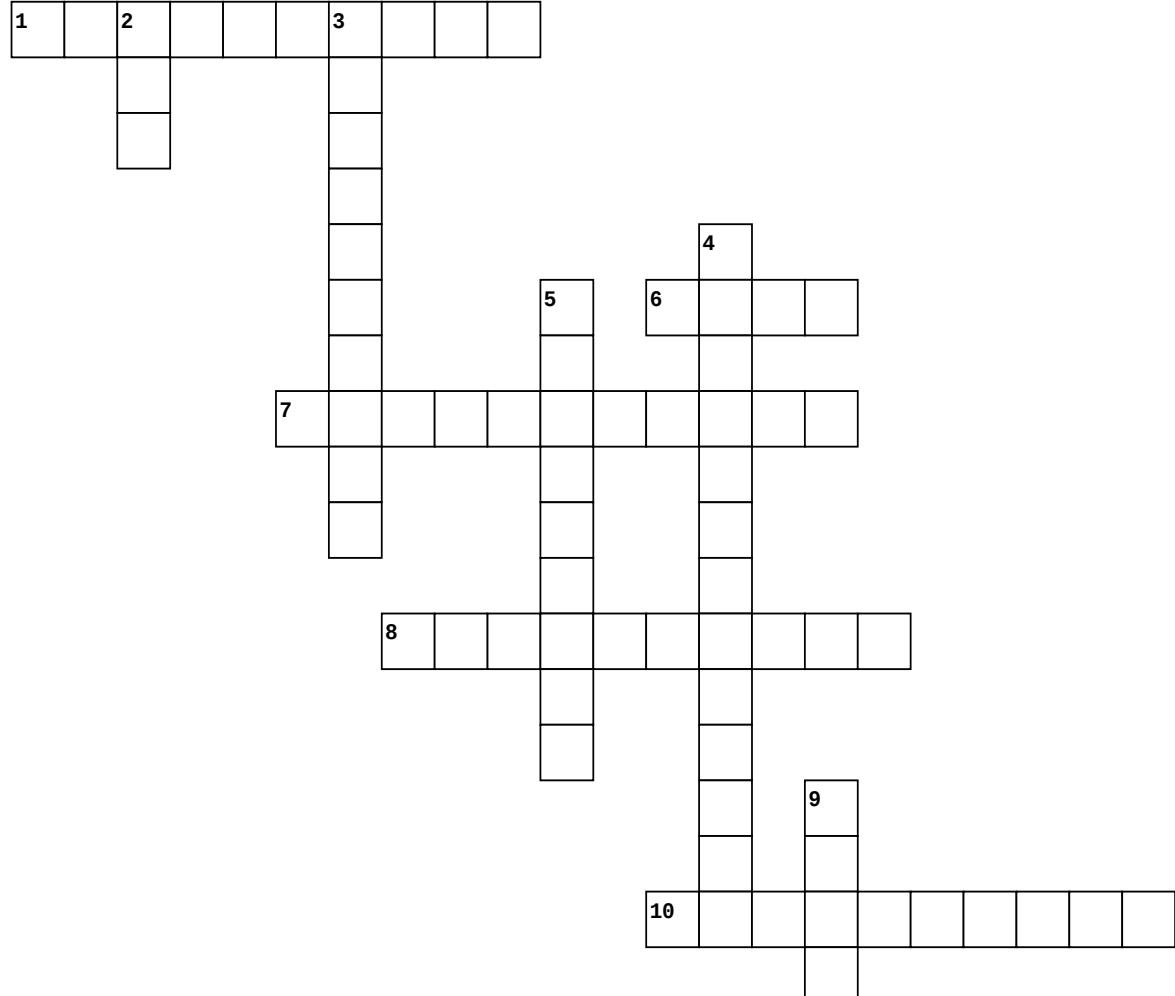
Dear friend on the fence,

The key to any relationship, friendship or otherwise, is healthy, honest communication. Now, I don't know the whole situation, but if you truly value this person and they do you (as they should if they are your best friend), then I think you need to confront them. Do it calmly and maturely and let them know you don't want to lose them. If this is truly someone worthy of your friendship, then you need to be able to be vulnerable with them and trust them with the harsh truth. You don't want to keep living a lie, especially if this is supposed to be your person. You need to be willing to fight for the relationship, but don't compromise your sense of self-worth. Give them a chance to explain, but don't let them walk all over you or manipulate you (I certainly hope they wouldn't, but I don't know the situation). You need to put yourself first and always treat others how you want to be treated. I hope everything turns out well and that you both see each other's value and remain lifelong friends if it's a healthy and balanced relationship. If not, know that it's okay to walk away to take care of yourself and find new friends who respect you and make you feel like the wonderful person you are.

-Lauren C.

February Crossword

Answers posted at ibhstigertimes.com



Across

1. step one
6. frozen water flakes
7. a beautiful bouquet you can put together
8. 12th grade lack of motivation
10. My new years_____ is...?

Down

2. last of a wrestling legacy
3. massive competition
4. a word that you can't describe
5. name for your boo in february
9. everyone's favorite video call service

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