

TIGER TIMES

May Edition

Vol. 3 | No. 10 | May 10, 2024

A school year in review

By Staff

Thumbs up

Unplugged day-

On March 8, Illini Bluffs held its first-ever unplugged day where students and teachers alike were not allowed to use any sort of technology. The purpose of the day was to keep students away from their phones and promote interaction with their peers. This was encouraged through a raffle, which took place at the end of the day. Students could gain tickets for the raffle at the end of each class for staying off their phones, along with extras to be given out if they displayed excellent social interaction. Overall, this day appeared to be a huge success and we hope to see more events like this in the future.

Community Service day-

Illini Bluff's 3rd annual community service day on March 8 was a great success. The community service day is rooted in giving back to the community and helping those in need. When Principal Almasi first took over, he went through and restructured the schedule, making it a point to keep the community service day due to the overwhelmingly positive response from the students and staff. This year's activities included making and donating blankets, volunteering at the Salvation Army, and planting veggies in the school garden.

Sports Success-

Illini Bluffs saw a sports season filled with unprecedented success. Girls athletics had an incredible post-season run, with volleyball advancing to the sectional championship and girls basketball making it to the state championship game for the first time in school history. The boys were also successful, with the boys cross country team making it to sectionals for the first time in school history, the boys basketball team making it to super sectionals, junior Jackson Carroll winning wrestling state in the 144lb weight division, Ian O'Connor placing sixth at state and Hunter Robbins being the first wrestler to go to state all four years of high school. Even non-athletic teams saw great success, with the E-sports team placed second in sectionals and attended state for "Rocket League."

Thumbs middle

Snow Days

Snow days, are they worth it? While you get the day off in the winter, and get a day off from school, is it worth having to spend a nice warm summer Friday in school? For many students, this is a mixed topic. Some people love to have a break during the cold winter and spend the day warm at home, whilst others would rather be enjoying their three-day weekends in May.

Solar Eclipse-

Students eagerly filed out of classrooms, teachers and principal included, excited to view the partial solar eclipse. The temperature dropped about 7° as the moon had casted a shadow over the school. On April 8, The whole high school was in the track field taking a break from the usual routine, and a chance to connect with nature and each other.

This shows the school's commitment to fostering curiosity as well as a love for science. It also acknowledged the importance of mental health and well-being, giving students fresh air and a much-needed break from academics. It was a day that will be remembered for years to come, and an example of how education can go beyond textbooks.

Thumbs down

Construction

Road construction has been plaguing many routes and slowing many in their travels. Main street in Pekin, Kingston Mines Hill, and the bridge on Airport Road are examples of notable road construction. The random road construction all at once makes it a huge nuisance to drive around without being slowed and stopped. The projects could have been broken up better to prevent it all at once. Overall, a huge thumbs down for driving.

Final note

By Celine L.

Editor-in-Chief

Traditionally, every special edition of the Tiger Times has an editor's note explaining the importance and significance of the edition. While this one doesn't have much more than a spring theme, it's an important edition to me.

The May edition is my final publication of the Tiger Times as Editor-in-Chief. It's a bittersweet moment to be writing this final note, but I will be forever thankful for this experience and all the people I've had the honor of working with this last year.

About a year ago now, Kristina Petrey passed the torch to me as Editor-in-Chief. I was quite shocked when she first asked me to take over her paper. Despite my fear, I took the opportunity without hesitation.

I'll always be thankful for Kristina since she taught me everything I know now. Thanks to her I was able to find my true passion as well as my future career path. With the knowledge I've gained, I've also been able to teach our next editor, Aidan R., everything he needs to know.

Through the Tiger Times I was finally able to be pulled out of the shell I was in all through high school. I learned how to communicate better with people and to not be scared of trying new things. I also learned the importance of true journalism in today's society.

Overall, this was the best year of high school. I wouldn't trade it for anything. I'm thankful for the skills I've learned and the people I've found. If anyone reading this paper ever thinks about joining, do NOT hesitate. It could truly change your life.

Best dressed

By Lalaina Z.

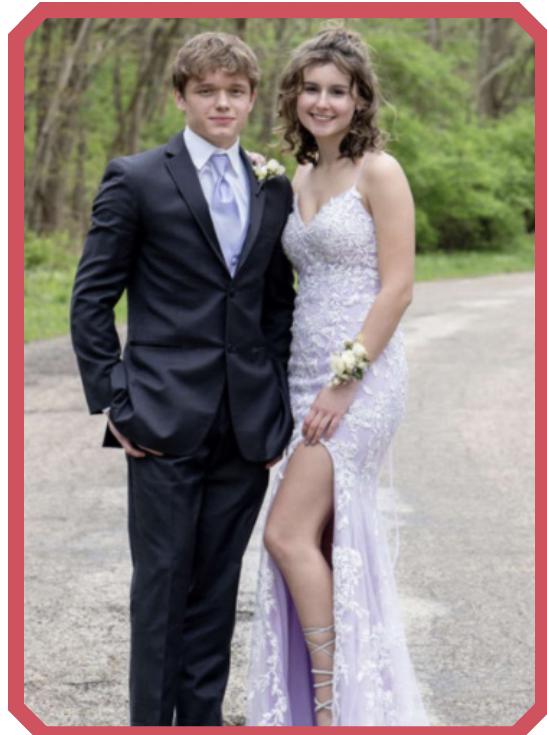
Copy Editor

Prom season is a very hectic time that requires much planning. Oftentimes, students start shopping for their prom dresses months in advance. On Saturday, April 20, Illini Bluffs High School held its prom at the Pere Marquette hotel, and the students that showed up definitely dressed to impress.

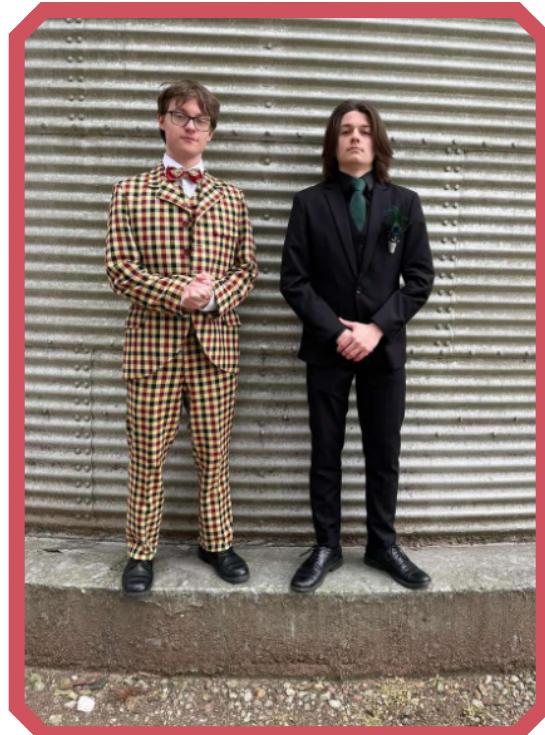
Lauren C. & Josh H. -

Ethyn D. & Brody B.-

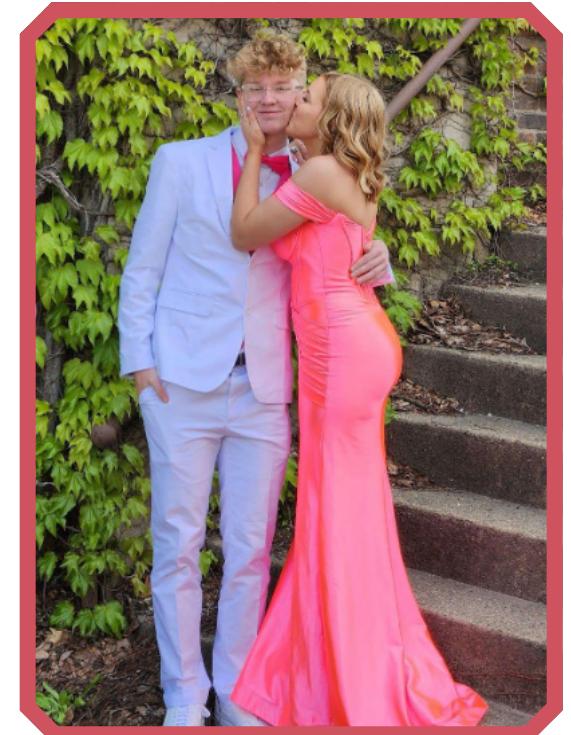
Toby C. & Adrienne G.-



Prom queen, Lauren C. rightfully claimed her throne in a lavender dress from Simply Elegant. Prom King, Josh H. matched with a dark gray suit with a lavender tie. This look was very elegant and it made them look like royalty.



Brody showed out with a black suit with a green tie from Amazon for \$80. Ethyn rocked a checkered suit from The Costume Trunk for \$75. This unique suit made him completely stand out, and it was iconic.



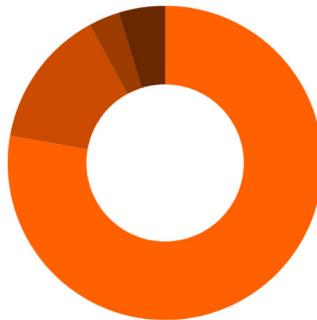
Adrienne wore a hot pink dress from Simply Elegant for \$320. Toby wore an all-white suit with a hot pink bowtie. The highlighter pink color stood out and they looked great.

2024 Senior Wrap-Up

There are **62** seniors this year

They had an average GPA of **3.301**

There were **10** 4.0 seniors
and **11** named state scholars



Future Plans

77.8%
Seniors plan on attending college
14.3%
Seniors plan on doing a trade
4.8%
Seniors plan on going to the military
3.2%
Seniors plan on going straight to work

Activities

29

Seniors are in sports
(8 of which have gone to state)

20

Seniors are in fine-arts
(Band, Choir, Theater, and Art Club)

18

Seniors are in student
leadership
(NHS, Student Council, Interact Club)



Victories

The class of 2024 has won almost every class competition they have been in.

- 3** Powderpuff wins
- 2** Anything Goes wins

Graphic by Dylan W.

Senior Column: Don't sweat the small stuff

By Nolan S.

Senior Reporter

As graduation approaches, it's easy to think back on all the good and bad memories, the many ups and downs, but the biggest takeaway that I've learned from my four short years of high school is not to sweat the small stuff. And surprisingly, hippos are the catalyst that sparked this philosophy.

Hippos are amazing creatures and one of the most dangerous in the world, yet they spend most of their time lounging around in the water and doing nothing. They are completely unfazed by the world around them. Hippos ignore all the annoying flies, fish and other creatures, because they don't affect them in the long run. They find their own peace in life by ignoring all the things that just don't matter.

In our lives, it's easy to get caught up on the small things and stress over small inconveniences, but it is important to just move on. If you get a bad grade on a test, or the waiter messes up your order, it is essential to not think about it and move on. You can always get a better grade on the next test or possibly get a refund. These small inconveniences aren't what

truly matters in life, you need to focus on the important things such as your relationships, passions and your own happiness.

In the grand scheme of things, the minor inconveniences you experience during your high school years are just a minuscule part of your life and it is important to adopt the hippo philosophy, live each day like a hippo soaking up the sun... unbothered and not a care in the world.



Senior Column: Time flies by

By Tommy P.

Senior Reporter

With graduation right around the corner, all the good or bad memories are flying through my mind. Will I miss school? I'm not sure. I will definitely miss having to do the bare minimum, that's for sure. I would compare it to the likes of a chameleon. Slow moving with not much care in the world, but the real message here is that the chameleon has a short life span, just like the span of high school in your life.

My time here at this school felt so long throughout the years, but now that I'm near the end, it has made me realize how quickly it went by. Being here for three-fourths of my life flew by super fast. All this for another four years minimum of schooling. I'm not sure how I feel about that, but a lot of people say that college is supposed to be an amazing experience, so I guess I can't complain that much. Pros and cons that's for sure.

The chameleon is very laid back and mostly lets things come to them. They tend to blend in and just go with the flow and I feel like that reflects me a lot as a person. That is one of my regrets that's for sure, I wish I was

more involved with school events and sports. However, that doesn't take away all the good memories I still had throughout my school days. Now it's time for adulthood where everything gets serious, gotta fend for myself now.

Overall, as much as I said "I hate high school" I will miss it and always cherish the memories I made along the way. As I realize how much harder life is going to be compared to now it makes me wish it will never end, but at the same time, I know I need to move on and pursue my goals.





Hank A. - LeHigh (Pennsylvania) Basketball

Hank is a well decorated high school sports athlete. His accomplishments include 2 time regional and sectional champ, 2 time all conference Tomahawk and ICAC, IBCA all state first team and Media all state first team. Hank is majoring in Business at LeHigh University, a division 1 school, and is going to play basketball.

Hunter R. - St. Cloud (Minnesota) Wrestling

Hunter R. was quite an accomplished wrestler during his time at Illini Bluffs, qualifying for state four times, becoming the state runner-up in his division twice (2022 and 2023), earning all state 4 times and earning Chuck Murdock All area wrestler 3 times. He also holds record of 158 wins and 11 losses, is a 12 time national All American in high school and U20: a top record in program history. He plans on attending St. Cloud University in Minnesota on a partial scholarship for wrestling and plans to study exercise science in the hopes of eventually becoming a chiropractor.

Ian O. - Bryant and Stratton Jr. College (Wisconsin) Wrestling/Soccer

Ian was a member of a few sports during his high school career, including wrestling, soccer, baseball and bass fishing. In wrestling, he became a 4 time state qualifier while placing 6th his senior year. He also had earned 2024 1A Academic wrestler of the year and earned Chuck Murdock All area wrestler twice. He was also an accomplished soccer player, being team captain 3 times, 2 time sectional all team and a member of the 2023 All Star Team. He is attending Bryant and Stratton Jr. College and plans on majoring in engineering while earning a minor in business.

Student spotlight: College athletes

By Hunter R. & Wyatt H.
Sports Editors

Addy C. - Illinois Central College Volleyball

When it comes to volleyball Addy Clark has many achievements. Some of these include First and Second team in the tomahawk conference and Second team ICAC conference. She was also a part of the girls basketball team which placed second in the state this past season. Addy plans on attending Illinois Central College to continue playing volleyball and plans on studying Exercise Science-Kinesiology.



Josh V. - Bradley (Illinois) Baseball

Josh Vaughn is an ace when it comes to baseball, racking up quite a few achievements. These include first team all state and three time all-conference; he also set a state record of second-most consecutive strike outs in state history this year by pitching a perfect 21-strike out game. He was also a part of the sectional championship basketball team this year. Josh is committed to Bradley University for baseball and hasn't decided on what he is majoring in.

Annabelle F. - Heartland Community College (Illinois) Volleyball

Annabelle has been a part of the volleyball, basketball and softball team all four years of her high school career. Some of the achievements she's achieved include State Championship for softball in 2021 and 2022, State Runner-Up in 2023, State Runner-Up for basketball in 2024, IHSA Academic Team this year, and Peoria Journal Star All-Area Volleyball Team in 2023. Annabelle is committed to Heartland Community College to continue playing volleyball and will be majoring in nursing.

Reese C. - Illinois Central College Volleyball

Reese is graduating with the class of 2025 and plans to attend Illinois Central College to play volleyball and study business. During her time here at IB, she was a member of the state-runner-up girls basketball team and a member of the 2023 regional championship-winning volleyball team. During her senior year volleyball career, Reese was awarded 1st team for ICAC and 2nd team for Tomahawk Conference.

See spotlight P. 4

Senior survey: How likely are you to attend the ten year reunion?

By Aidan R.

Copy Desk Chief

Throughout your high school career, you are destined to make connections with people that you had never thought you'd talk to before. The thing is, after high school, where do we all go?

Depending on your plans, these four years could be the last time you ever see your classmates again. For the graduating class of 2024, we decided to send out a senior survey and gather everyone's opinions and plans on attending the infamous 10-year reunion.

We asked everyone "How likely are you to attend the 10-year reunion" on a scale from one to five, with one being "absolutely not" and five being "absolutely." The responses we received were quite interesting; Senior Lily L. gave a positive response, leaving a five for "absolutely" in attending. She elaborated further, and told us, "I love my friends, and want to see what everyone is up to!"

We see similar responses in others, such as Morgan L. saying "I think it would be super fun to reconnect," and

Ella B. "I want to see what everyone ended up doing after High school!"

While there were tons of people have an interest in attending, we also saw the far end of students having zero interest, whatsoever. Students like Adrienne and Lalaina have made it clear that they do not have any intent to come back to the IB district after they have graduated.

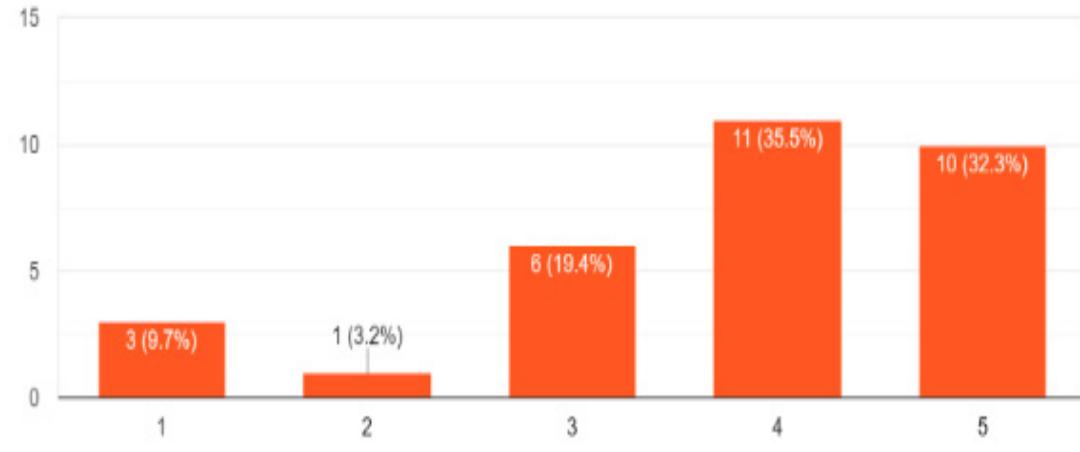
The two had left a 1 for interest, stating "absolutely not."

Now, of course, everyone is going to have varying opinions, but there are always going to be the few in the bunch who are unsure how they feel about attending.

Senior Celine L. left a response,

How likely are you to attend the 10-year high school reunion?

31 responses



claiming "I feel like once I'm gone I'm gone, but there's always a slight possibility I'll change my mind." This seems to be a general consensus of the people who voted anywhere from 2-4.

Lastly, there was one that really stuck out to me. Senior, Ethyn D. left an uncertain 3; he had, most definitely, the

most relatable of all the answers:

He says, "If I 1. Remember. And 2, get the notification."

With this, hopefully, it encourages you to attend. It's always a nice thing to reconnect with the people you grew up with after such a long time.

Spotlight cont. from P. 2



Brooke B - Spoon River College (Illinois) Volleyball

Brooke Buchen had a very successful high school sports career. Her resume includes a softball State Championship in 2021, a volleyball team captain sophomore year, multiple basketball honorable mentions for conference teams and a second team tomahawk conference her senior year. And to wrap it up a second place state finish in basketball this year. Brooke plans on attending Spoon River College to play volleyball and study Nursing.

Wyatt H. - Carl Sandburg (Illinois) Basketball

Wyatt Hendel was a varsity basketball player for three of his four years of high school, becoming a starter for the team his sophomore year. He was on both Sectional winning teams and helped the team place second his junior year and fifth his senior year at the Macomb Holiday tournament. He was also an honorable mention for last year's all-conference team and made this year's second all-conference team. He know plans on attending Carl Sandburg College where he will play basketball.



Avery V - Monmouth (Illinois) Track

Avery's hard work and dedication has definitely shown through these past four years. She has participated in track and cross country all through high school, and plans on continuing track at Monmouth. She runs the 100m, 200m, 400m, and has dropped an impressive time in her 5k race, working up to being the fastest on the team in both sports. Avery plans on studying elementary education and art post highschool. With a 4.0 GPA and a sub 28 second 200m, she has a great headstart to her college and track career.

Ella B

Greenville University (Illinois) Dance

Ella Basham has been apart of the dance team for 7 years throughout middle and high school. She was also the captain of the team during her Junior and Senior year. Furthermore, Ella will be attending Greenville University to continue her dance career, and plans on majoring in digital media.



Lily L - Illinois Central College Basketball

Lily Luczkowiak was a varsity basketball and volleyball player during her high school sports career. She was a main part in her basketball teams success which led to a second place state finish. Lily had many achievements including, first team all-tomahawk and ICAC all four years, IBCA honorable mention last year with a first team this year, and a Peoria Journal Star sports all area team. Lily will be attending Illinois Central College where she will continue playing basketball and will major in business.

TikTok trends in review:

By Tommy P.
Senior Reporter

With all the controversy, Tiktok is in a questionable state at the moment, but not only that the content in the app is also making waves across the platform. Some people call it quite outrageous, while others love it very much. The TikTok "rizz" party is a video of a bunch of kids at a birthday party dancing to "Carnival" by Kanye West and other hits. Another thing is the Lebron James videos with the "You Are My Sunshine" audio by Johnny Cash. These trends have taken over TikTok and have changed TikTok for the worse, or the better, some would say.

The TikTok rizz party is one of the most known trends on TikTok. Every single person with TikTok has added rizz to their vocabulary. This trend originated at a party for a 16-year-old where they were listening to Carnival by Kanye West. This trend is mostly the joke of the century with celebrities knowing about it and saying it. The meme was furthered by everyone making characters out of the people in the videos such as "The Group Leader," "Turkish Quandale Dingle," "Second In Command," "Tomato boy", etc. These characters are all over TikTok and don't seem to be leaving anytime soon. Is that a good or bad thing? You tell me.

The Lebron James sunshine trend has newfound fame on TikTok. The trend consists of a bright, flashy picture of Lebron with the Johnny Cash "You Are My Sunshine" audio. The trend originates from the very biased takes that people have for Lebron James in the ultimate goat topic between him and Micheal Jordan, with the trend making fun of the people who think that way. This continued to gain momentum when the playoffs were coming up and Lebron Fans joined in on the trend. At this point, it seems like the song is dedicated to the player. The trend is similar to the "Rick Roll" meme, where it kinda just pops up everywhere. Overall I don't know how I feel about this meme. I enjoyed it at first, but after a while, it got kinda old because of the mass over use when it's random and all the same.

Ian Hawke trend

In conclusion, these two trends have corrupted TikTok. I think this state could be quite problematic for future trends. The massive support makes people more influenced make similar trends, which I believe helped influence the "Brainrot" era TikTok is currently entering—which is a whole other story.

Argyle Movie Review

By Lauren B.
Sophomore Reporter

If you enjoy watching "Laser Cats" on SNL, Argyle would be the perfect movie for you. Packed with twists and surprises, this movie mixed fiction books with everyday reality and created a suspense-filled Comedy/Action film sure to knock your socks off.

Similar to many movies, this movie is high quality and interesting, but it lacks one important detail: an actual plot. Sure, the storyline seems simple, a writer can predict the future (how original) and people need to figure out why, but instead of following this, predicting the future storyline, it just becomes a lot of fighting and chaos. To me personally, the movie was a jumble of several popular action/comedy films, and in the process of trying to mimic these movies, Argyle fell apart. This movie has several moments where nothing makes sense and you find yourself questioning why you bought the ticket in the first place?

Sam Rockwell was arguably the best character in the movie. He played the part of Aidan and showcased his comedic timing throughout the entirety of this two hour movie, and he was the only one I actually laughed at. Brice Dallas Howard, who played the role of Elly Conway, did a good job with her role, but I felt her character

lacked detail overall. Elly was definitely a filler, and she set up a lot of the jokes, but her lines were pretty bland throughout the movie.

The final problem I had with the movie was the absurd fight scenes. If you want to watch a realistic movie, this is NOT the one for you. I'm assuming the producers and directors wanted to make a cool fight scene by adding colorful powder, but there was so much powder and smoke I couldn't see the scene through all of the fog.

The other fight scene was just as absurd, and Aidan actually jumped up through the hardwood floor and fought off several armed soldiers all by himself, and then proceeded to jump through a wall for no reason. After jumping through a wall, he shot a bomb to get rid of it and landed in a chair after the explosion. Brice Dallas Howard spent the entirety of that scene screaming from the hole in the floor and holding the cat in a baby carrier.

Overall, this movie was entertaining and had some amazing moments, but it was far from great. If you are looking for a movie to stream because you're bored and not because you actually want to enjoy what you are watching, Argyle is perfect for you.

Happy Birthday

May 2.....	Anna T.
May 3.....	Alexis L.
May 4.....	Nico C., Emmi D., Sarah F., Celine L.
May 5.....	Annie S.
May 6.....	Lauren C., Molly W., Ryan W.
May 11.....	Maddi B.
May 15.....	Kaitlyn H.
May 16.....	Wyatt S.
May 17.....	Ava L.
May 21.....	Sydney N.
May 22.....	Ethan B., Ethyn D.
May 23.....	Aidan L..
May 24.....	Ariana E.
May 26.....	Alanza F., Kadyn H.
May 30.....	Ayden B., Christian M, Avery V.

Editorial Cartoon: The trap of graduation



Best dressed cont. from P. 1

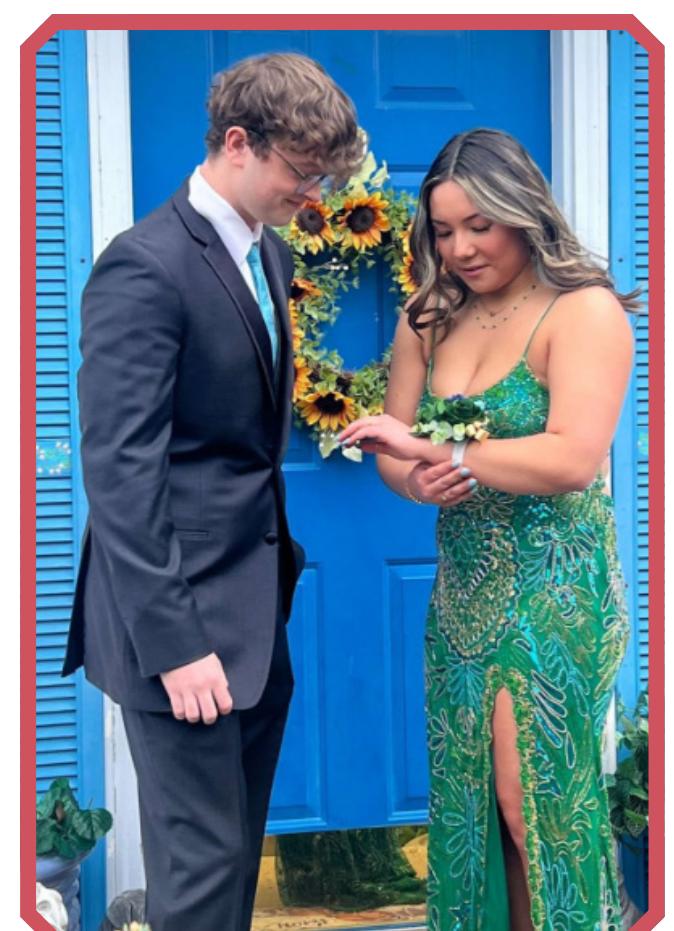
Micah K. & Brooke G.-



Lily L. & Landon W.-



Tommy P. & Nikki O.-



Brooke was dressed in a beautiful turquoise dress from M2Prom. Micah wore a beige suit with a matching tie. The color complimented them and it looked really good.

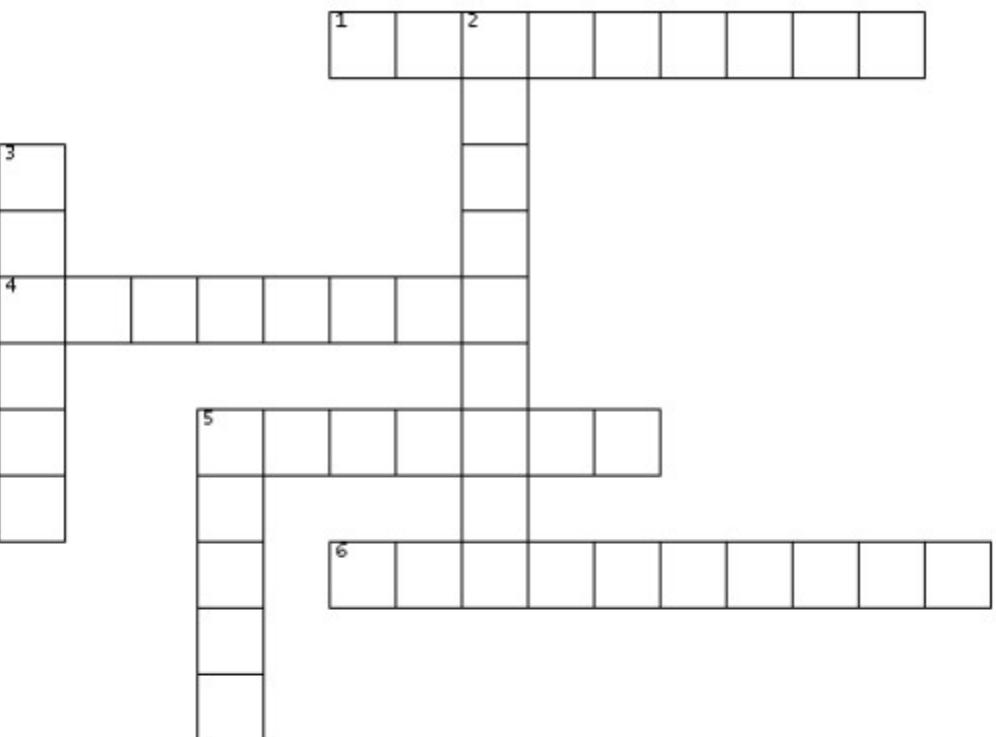
Lily wore a bright orange dress from PGM Dress for \$186. Landon matched with a beige suit and a bright orange bowtie. The color made the dress stand out and pulled the look together.

Nikki stunned everyone in a green dress from Cloud Nine. Tommy matched Nikki in a dark gray suit with a light blue tie. The beadwork was lovely and it made the dress stand out.

May Crossword

Answers posted at ibhstigertimes.com

Tiger Times Staff



ACROSS

1. A celebration of the season of summer occurring at the summer solstice.
4. A social gathering where food is cooked outdoors.
5. A large open-air fire used as part of a celebration, for burning trash, or as a signal.
6. They are a fashion accessory and a practical necessity during sunny summer days.

DOWN

2. A large genus of flowering plants in the family Asteraceae.
3. James American professional basketball player for the Los Angeles Lakers.
5. A place where people go to swim in the ocean, relax in the sand, and build sandcastles.

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Artist of the month: Emma H.

