

# TIGER TIMES

## January Edition

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## Illini Bluffs begins to implement AI in classroom

By **Josh B.**  
PR Manager

After assembling a task force and conducting a year of research, Illini Bluffs has decided to implement new artificial intelligence tools in all three schools. The AI they have chosen is called Magic School, a platform engineered to help out both students and teachers in the classroom. It was implemented over break after much deliberation about choices regarding which EdTech company the school wanted to go with.

"It's one of the top-rated, if not the top-rated, in safety," Superintendent Dimitri Almasi said. "It also syncs with Google Classroom; there's 80 different kinds of tools you can use as a teacher and student, so it's not just like a Chat GPT put in a prompt."

With those tools, you can do anything from writing an educational parody song, to drafting an IEP for a student based on their specific needs.

"I use it to brainstorm ideas for IEP goals and accommodations." Elementary Special Education Teacher and AI Task Force member, Ms. Carly Scott, said. "I also use it to help me differentiate any materials for different grade levels."

It's also good for creating problems, rubrics and helping teachers structure their class. The tool replaces searching the internet and books for good problems to fill the rubric.

"There are tools that allow me to create



a detailed rubric for each standard, create a variety of math problems per standard and to create multiple assessment ideas for each standard," eighth-grade math teacher, Mr. Martin, said.

But, like most generative tools, there are some worries. Magic School AI does pull from the entire internet, so, while some of it is credible, other parts can be from hateful message boards. It's never entirely safe due to the vast amount of content on the internet, which has left some teachers hesitant to begin implementation.

"Before we share it with teachers or students, we need to ensure that they have the skills to properly evaluate the information that comes from that platform," high school

Librarian and AI Task Force member, Mrs. Coulter, said.

Learning media literacy is the most important task when it comes to learning how to properly use AI tools. Differentiating and choosing what goes in and out of what goes to your students or your teacher is crucial when using generative AI.

As long as students and teachers both are given the proper tools to learn media, news and AI literacy, this tool will assist everybody in the classroom.

"If you're all off to college, these tools are out there," Superintendent Almasi said. "I want to make sure that there's some guidance on how to use these, and make sure that you're doing it in an appropriate way."

## Illinois changes test: Juniors to take ACT, not SAT, in Spring

By **Addy D.**  
News Editor

The state of Illinois switched from the SAT to the ACT this year, but what's the difference, and how does it impact you?

The ACT has four tests — math, reading, English, science and writing — which are then averaged to give a final score. The most prominent difference between the ACT and the SAT is that the ACT has a science portion, while the SAT does not. For the ACT, you will test for a total of 215 minutes. Though this may seem daunting, there are a multitude of resources available for you to utilize to prepare for the ACT.

"Once the state uploads all of the kids' names and I can print the tickets, then we can even go in and take individualized practice tests based on who they are and their scores," high school guidance counselor, Ms. Marvin, said.

Not only will students be able to take personalized practice tests, but teachers will be given ACT practice books to start preparing the students for the ACT with a more centralized focus.

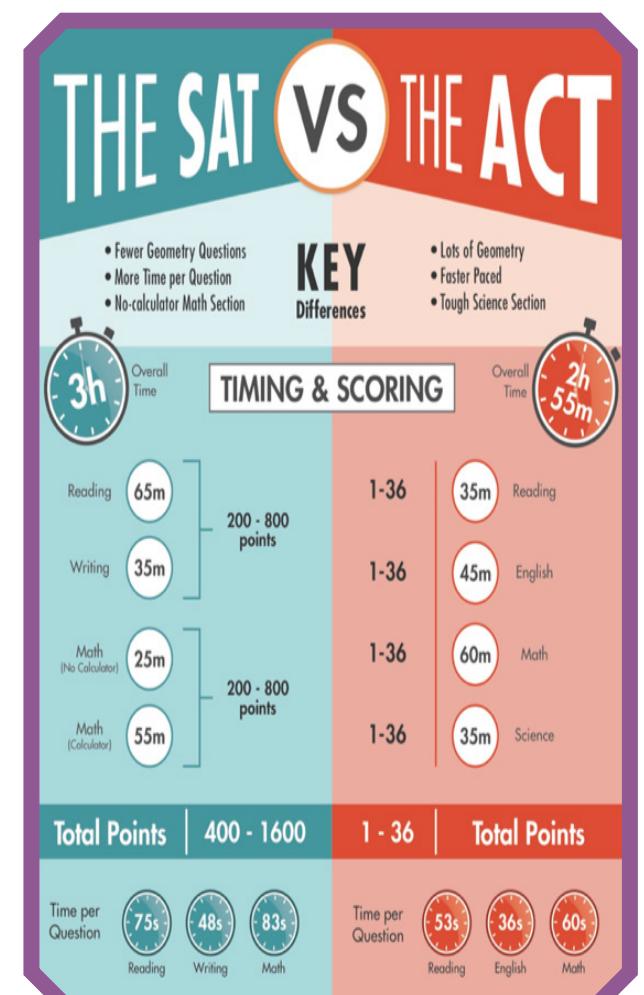
The ACT is based off of the standard high school curriculum in Illinois, so what you've

learned thus far in math, English, reading and science will be what you are tested over. The SAT is the same as the ACT in the curriculum-based math portion, but the rest of the sections are global overview-based. This means that the SAT is asking, "Can you assimilate these three facts and come up with the right answer?"

Both the ACT and the SAT are required; however, both tests can be retaken as many times as you want, but you will have to pay for the retakes yourself. If you wish to retake your ACT, then Ms. Marvin can provide you with the test, but you must take it at either Bradley or ICC. Also, in applications, you can submit your "super-score," which is the average of your best section scores from different test dates.

Your ACT score, which is the average of all five of your scores, will determine if you're college-ready. An average score of 17-24 suggests that you are performing at the expected level, with a 36 being a perfect score. However, for a four-year college, readiness is more of a mid-to upper-twenties range. A high score can only help you, so try your hardest.

Juniors at Illini Bluffs will take the ACT on April 19, 2025. The test will last 215 minutes, not including breaks.



## Tiktok Ban

By Alexis R  
Editor-in-Chief

While you may not personally have TikTok downloaded on your phone, someone you know was definitely going through it on Jan. 19, 2025, when TikTok decided to shut down its servers in the U.S.

TikTok, while not needing to shut down its servers and only needing to be removed from the app store, went dark for a lot of its American users due to a nationwide ban of the app over accusations of data collection.

While the servers were only down for roughly 14 hours, users were in an uproar throughout the entire duration of it on various different social media sites. Threats of a TikTok ban have always been present, but it truly did stop everyone in their tracks once they realized it wasn't just a misplaced threat.

Back in 2020, during his first term, President Donald Trump wanted the app banned or sold to an American company, simply because he deemed it a threat to national security. The company that owns TikTok, ByteDance, originally was very reluctant to sell the app. It was believed that the company using TikTok was stealing data from its American users due to the parent company being based in China.

The app was only truly considered for being banned in 2024 due to the pre-existing security concerns, and the fact the app had heavy bias towards the people of Palestine. Pro-Palestinian bias was definitely a huge driving factor in the app being put on the chopping block, especially considering a lot of companies and corporations rarely speak up for the people in Gaza. Lots of TikTok users utilized the app to advocate and show their support for the country of Palestine, which resulted in the push to censor and ban imagery coming from journalists who were trying to document everything that they could.

The TikTok ban was essentially a form of censorship, a way for the American people to be shut off from the rest of the world. TikTok is, for lack of a better term, a highway for news and information to be shared globally due to its popularity. People use it as their main source of news for this very reason. When you take these kinds of tools away, you are actively censoring what people are seeing. This has been a common theme in history, most notably with the banning of books, and there's a high chance that there will be even more censorship happening in the near future.

While there was an extension to the time TikTok has to change owners, users are still wary on what the future holds for their beloved app.



### Important update from TikTok

We regret that a U.S. law banning TikTok will take effect on January 19 and force us to make our services temporarily unavailable.

# 2024 Ins and outs: What we're taking with us into the new year

By Kennedy K.  
Voice Editor

2024 gave us everything from Chappell Roan to Domingo, but while we remember it fondly, there are some things we need to leave behind when going into 2025.

Here's what's out as we pass the halfway point for the decade.

### Name brands

Name brands are one of the many things people plan to leave behind in 2025. Rather than the bags with brands plastered all across them or sweatshirts that scream Nike or Adidas, we see more people leaning towards quiet luxury.

### Stanleys

In the last few years, Stanleys have dominated the water bottle market with little to no competition. Over the last few months, people have been opting for a more practical option rather than the 40-ounce tumblers. Owalas and Brumates are growing in popularity with their unique color combos and spill resistance.

### Flare leggings

Activewear has been a staple for many closets the last few years, and the leggings trend is not going away anytime soon. Although the classic leggings are still very relevant, the spin-off flare leggings are facing a decline coming into the new year. We have seen people start to cycle this popular piece out of their wardrobe these past few months.



### Tazz Uggs

Uggs have been, and will continue to be, popular. Each year, more and more people are repurchasing the same Tazz uggs. The shoe itself makes a statement of style and comfort while being very difficult to obtain. The Tazz Uggs have been out of stock for weeks, allowing alternate brands to sell "dups" to those who are not willing to wait.

## 'HTTYD' live action trailer review

By Ayden B.  
News Reporter

"How to Train Your Dragon" the live action movie has just released its second trailer. It is set to finally premiere on June 13, 2025. However, there has been some controversy over the casting of many characters including the infamous female lead, "Astrid."

I really like most of the casting, though I don't agree with a few picks. I absolutely love Gerard Butler as Stoic, he is the original voice actor and no one would have been able to bring back "Stoic's" iconic voice like him. Mason Thames as "Hiccup" is a good fit to me, he looks the part and his acting skills are awesome. Nick Frost as "Gobber" just looks and feels right, he seems like he will be able to bring Gobber to life.

One of the picks I'm just not confident in is Nico Parker as Astrid. Though she is an amazing actor, she just doesn't look like the Astrid I remember. Seeing her just doesn't instantly make me think that is Astrid. Another character I'm not 100 percent on board with is Julian Dennison as "Fishlegs." It's the same thing I love

his acting, I just don't see Fishlegs when I look at him.

The trailer looks amazing from the shots of Hiccup on the cliff to the dragons flying across the sky. We get to see iconic scenes like Stoic telling Hiccup he will kill dragons and Hiccup meeting "Toothless." We get to see the arena where the battles take place and we get a teaser to the later movies with Hiccup's glider.

The next thing I noticed was the CGI for Toothless and the other dragons. It is absolutely beautiful. He looks just like how I imagined he would look in a live action movie, although we don't see the CGI for many other dragons. If they keep the CGI for toothless for them then these dragons will be amazing. I am worried about how they are going to do the Red Death because if the big bad looks horrible that will ruin the movie.

In summary, the CGI is amazing, the scenes look beautiful and the casting for most characters is amazing. I am extremely excited to see this movie, it truly feels like I have been waiting for this moment forever.

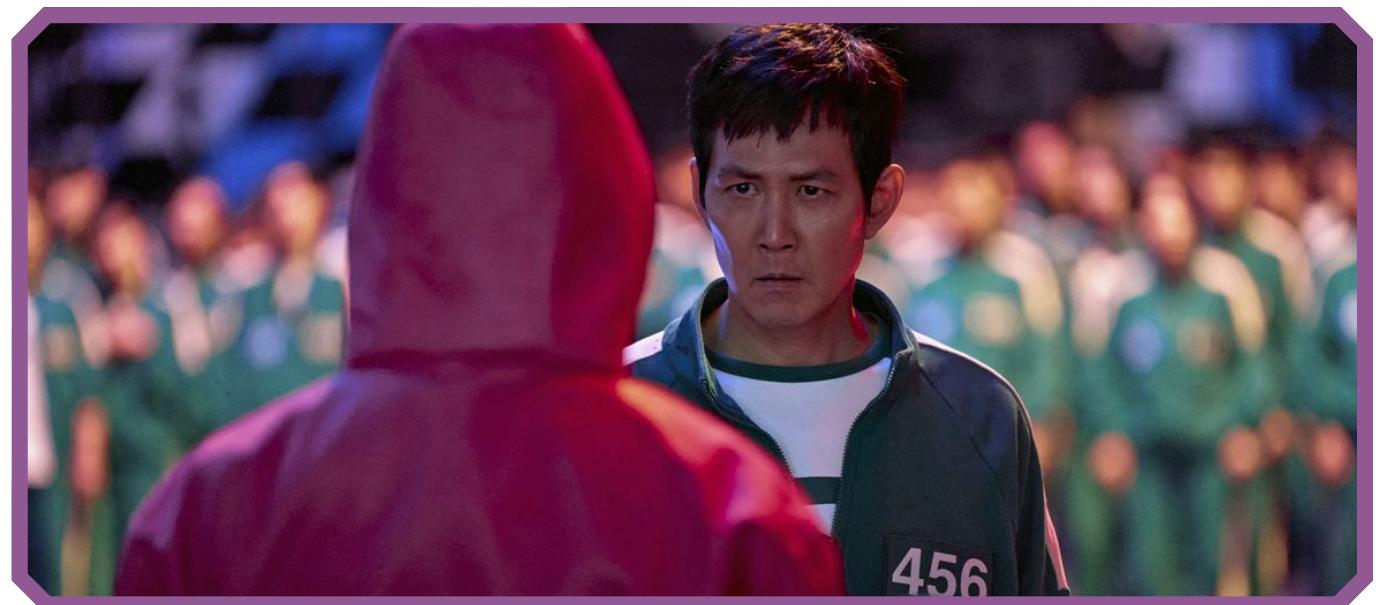
# 'Squid Game' season 2 review

By **Alexis R.**  
Editor-in-Chief

On Dec. 26, 2024, Netflix released the second season of their hit series "Squid Game" to their streaming platform. This season follows our protagonist Seong Gi-Hun as he navigates through the games once again as he tries to put an end to them.

One thing this season does a lot better than the previous one is introducing a really interesting cast of characters. Compared to season one, I've found that these characters have been a lot more enjoyable and memorable. I'd definitely say that Thanos, a rapper who went into debt due to investing in a failed cryptocurrency, was one of the most memorable for me. His energy and overall attitude throughout the season was so fun and I was definitely laughing every single time he showed up on screen. Another pair of memorable characters for me would be Jang Geum-ja and Bak Yong-sik, a mother and her son duo who both, unbeknownst to the other, signed up to participate in the games. Their dynamic and relationship was always bringing a smile to my face, and they definitely had the scenes that pulled on my heartstrings the most.

Along with those characters that pulled at my heartstrings, we had a lot more representation this season in terms of queer representation. Player 120, also known as Cho Hyun-ju, is a trans woman who entered the games in hopes of winning enough money to support her transition. Her character overall was a huge breath of fresh air to see in mainstream media, especially because her identity as a trans woman was simply just a fact and wasn't the entire point of her character. She proved herself over and over again to be a very valuable asset to the ragtag group we start to see develop itself halfway through the season. All of her scenes were very thoughtful and I could definitely see her being a



good example of the trans community, just simply for the fact she was very sure of her identity and how she presented herself to the other players. Some of the players reacted very negatively toward her, but those who got to actually know player 120 just accepted the fact she was a trans woman and would be as respectful as they could to her identity.

No matter how lovable these characters are, there are still some glaringly large issues overall with the season itself. In terms of plot, this season definitely falls short compared to its predecessor. The first season took itself a lot more seriously, which meant we got a lot more about the characters and their lives. The story itself didn't feel that dragged out, either. It was that perfect blend of rushing in the high adrenaline parts and taking it agonizingly slow in parts that required time and care. Season 2, in comparison, would be agonizingly slow in parts that really were just not that interesting. They focused on certain characters, which weren't even in the games nor were they introduced in the first season, that didn't really need that extra screen time. It also felt, overall, very rushed.

However, I found myself enjoying the teamwork aspect of the season compared to the first's focus on individuals themselves. In season 1 there were teams, yes, but in season 2, with at least the main

group, it felt a lot more like a family. A collective unit of people who actively watched out for each other. The teamwork aspect also ended up making the games a lot more interesting because there were those stakes of having people make that difficult choice of who they wanted to prioritize for safety reasons. I'm hoping that, with the new character dynamics introduced at the end of season two, the games will continue to reflect those values of companionship and the anxiety that comes with not being able to ensure the safety of every person in your group.

With season 3 coming out this year, I really only have one thing I want improved upon: pacing. This season tried its hardest to fit so much story and background into a small timespan and it was, in theory, fine, but there were points where I felt as though it would've been a lot more interesting to focus on one specific point. The first season did this really well, in my opinion, and was able to successfully get the viewer from start to end of the season without them feeling as though they had been rushed through an overly complicated plot.

I believe that if they fix the pacing issue and continue to maintain the character dynamics and personalities of the second season, Squid Game season 3 could potentially be the highlight season of the show.

## One-on-one: To take a snow day or to not to take a snow day

### Let it snow

By **Alex R.**  
News Reporter

Snow days, love them or hate them, there's a reason behind them. The reason schools have snow days is mainly because conditions outside are unsafe or there is a type of outage. When Illini Bluffs does snow days they will add an extra day at the end of the year when there's no school on Fridays. Many students hate when a free Friday is taken from them and would argue against snow days, saying they'd rather do a day online than miss a day.

It's important we have snow days, because roads could be too icy, making it especially hard for the newer drivers to keep control. Ice is unpredictable and anything could happen. Other possible reasons for a snow day could be that heating has gone out in school and won't allow classes to operate properly. That's where the argument comes in: Why not switch to online classes?

Although other schools may do their classes online, Illini Bluffs has no plans to do so and with the unpredictable weather, many teachers and students may or may not have the proper equipment to teach/learn at home. As much as we hate losing a free Friday, it feels right to have a snow day to keep everyone safe.

### Stay in school

By **Walker A.**  
News Reporter

Having a snow day may be fun for you but for others it can be stressful. In Illinois, you have to be at least 14 to be home alone. So with you being out of school, your parents may need to take time off to watch you. Parents with jobs that require working in the snow, such as lawn care or cleaning driveways, they'd be unable to take time off. Most jobs don't give snow days off, so if your parents are both at work they would need someone to watch you.

The students who would take part in the free lunch program at the school are a reason you might not want to have a snow day. Being a part of a free or reduced lunch program allows students in need to be able to have breakfast and lunch at school, and take some weight off of the parents.

With the day off you might not think about how school would be when you get back. The teachers would need to make sure that their plans will be able to change. For example, in our school, we don't get homework on Fridays, and no tests on Mondays, which sounds good but if you were to have a test on a Friday your teacher can move it to the next school day they would need to come up with a plan for that day.

# Chinese New Year Predictions: What does this year have in store for you?

By Mazzi R.  
Copy Editor

Chinese New Year is a culturally significant holiday and event in China, along with many other Asian countries, though each country has its own, slightly different, version. China's specific traditions include not washing hair, giving food offerings and burning incense at home altars. The lunar New Year tradition marks the end of winter, the start of spring and the beginning of a new year on the Lunisolar Chinese calendar.

Despite having an unknown period of origin, many believe it started sometime during the Shang Dynasty (1600-1046 B.C.), meaning the celebration holds at least 3,000 years of history. The event begins on the new moon that appears from Jan. 21 through Feb. 20. This year, the new moon is taking place on Jan. 29.

One of the biggest additions to Chinese history is the 12 zodiac animals, which are used to help people predict and understand

what the New Year will be like and better understand their fortunes for the upcoming year. This Chinese New Year will be celebrating the year of the Wood-Snake, which will bring wisdom and transformation.

Whether you are a freshman or senior, you were most likely born between the years 2006 to 2010, meaning you've landed in one of five, out of all twelve, zodiac animals that hold this predicted fortune for the New Year.



**2006 Dogs-** You're predicted to have a stable and rewarding year with continuous surprises and financial growth, with your dedication and professionalism leading you success in career and relationships

**2007 Pigs-** Good luck. This year is predicted to bring interpersonal challenges that'll require tact and composure to navigate conflicts and maintain relationships. But, keeping level headed, you'll manage to overcome challenges along the year.

**2008 Rats-** You will have a stable year because of your quick thinking along with unique perspectives, and you'll make successful decisions that bring your career to new heights.

**2009 Ox's-** Your predictions for this year are great, you'll enter a stable and fruitful year along with steady progress in your career with good relationships with colleagues that'll ensure success.

**2010 Tigers-** Despite being lucky enough to have our school mascot, you may encounter some challenges that'll require hard work, but with a steady approach you'll manage to gain opportunities. If you maintain a positive mindset and focus on personal growth you'll manage to overcome obstacles.

## Senior Column: Billie, my support system

By Lanie H.  
Copy Editor

To be able to say that I'm a senior is crazy; the last four years have gone by so quickly — like it was over in the blink of an eye. I've grown to realize why so many people tell me to enjoy high school. High school is where I can live my best life because once it's gone and you become an adult, you must learn to take care of yourself and not rely on others to do it for you. I do know that throughout high school, the one person that was always there for me was Billie Eilish. Her music

helped me get through it, even when I didn't think anyone was there for me.

The sudden change from middle to high school was rough. Between being raised in a generation where a worldwide pandemic stole our 8th-grade year, changed how we grew up, and transitioning into freshman year, life was hectic. At this time, Billie's music helped me stay calm and get through high school even when schoolwork would pile up.

At the end of the day, I knew that, waiting for me, was the many songs that had a significant impact

on me and my life.

She has changed my life for the better and has so much knowledge and support for this world. That's why I love her music, so much and for those who are closest to me laugh every time I bring her up because she's all I talk about.

In the end, senior year is almost over, and it still feels like I'm a freshman walking in the doors for the first time. However, I am excited to see how my life changes, and thank not only Billie but also my friends, family and the teachers who have encouraged me to be my better self.



## Artist of the Month: Lily R.

By Addy D.  
News Editor

The title, "Artist of The Month," is not one to be given to an unfit individual, and freshman Lily R. is extremely deserving. Lily is a part of Illustrations, a class taught by Mr. Hallstrom, and has a multitude of impressive pieces, but one of

her most recent illustrations has captured the eyes of many.

"I wanted to do a different take on one of Hallstrom's assignments," Lily R. said.

Lily loves creating and the ability to interpret things in her own way.

"I love being able to express the creativity from my brain onto a piece of paper," Lily R. said.

## Senior Column: My high school wrapped

By Annabella S.  
Cartoonist

It doesn't take a prodigy to notice that life can be pretty monotone at times. You could compare it to notes on sheet paper — played out and often going through the same patterns, you make your way through a symphony of endurance.

High school really demonstrated that for me. Almost every day felt like listening to that symphony on repeat. For a while, it was amusing, but eventually, it became overplayed, and I just wished someone would turn it off. I was overly concerned about my grades and worn out from the number of new lessons I had to memorize time after time. It was a horrible cycle of waking up, going to school, devoting hours to homework, being exhausted and repeating. The whole time, I wished I could skip that infernal song.

What I hadn't considered though was simply changing my tune... literally. One day I found that listening to the right songs I gained back my spark during that passionless haze. Putting on a good song while going through my day transformed the bleh into bleh but simultaneously with beautiful melodies. Music made the necessary humdrum more than just ambiance. It legitimately inspired me and brought me mindfulness. Now, getting through high school is just a dance for me. I'm so grateful for music, it's genuinely one of the biggest parts of my life, and to be able to listen to it while going through my everyday life is a blessing.



Artist of the Month, Lily R.

# Two athletes join '1,000 point club' in same game

By Grace H.  
Assistant Sports Editor

Only four male athletes have reached 1,000 points in their high school basketball careers over the past 10 years, but for the first time in recent history, two guys hit 1,000 points in the same game.

On Jan. 7, 2025 against Peoria Heights, Toby Cooper and Devon White reached the 1,000 point mark. Before the game, Toby had 993 points while Devon had 983. And by the final buzzer, both had made school history.

Both Toby and Devon have been working together in basketball for years. They actually started their varsity career in the same game.

As a freshman, Devon was one of the five starters in the Thanksgiving tournament game against West Prairie. Devon ended up getting injured sometime in the first half of the game. With Devon not in the line up, Toby got playing time. He "didn't think he was going to play," but he did.

While Toby and Devon didn't play together in their first game, they have in many games since. Each one has played in over 100

varsity games, motivating each other to do better.

"If one of us is having an off night we try to motivate each other the best [we can]," Devon said. "We try to see who can [score] the most. And keep pushing each other to be the best we both can be."

This motivation extends beyond the game, though. At practices, Toby and Devon hold each other accountable.

"We get pretty competitive [in practice]," Toby said. "In games we push each other to win."

Over the course of their four years, the two have seen three regional championships, two sectional championships, and two supersectional appearances together.

"Both of our supersectional appearances have motivated us," Devon said. "We had two close losses which makes us want the win even more."

With Devon and Toby's senior year season coming to an end, both guys have plans for their futures.

"No plans for basketball," Toby said. "It's over for me after senior year."

While Toby's basketball career is ending Devon's isn't.

"I don't know where yet," Devon said. "I'm still doing recruitment stuff. That's the goal to play after high school."

In the meantime, both boys are looking forward to a long postseason run, one filled with plenty of opportunities. One head coach Trey David views as highly "rewarding."

"As a coach, I couldn't ask for more than to witness our seniors grow, not only as athletes, but also as young men throughout our time together," David said.

"From sitting back to back school win records and eclipsing 1,000 career points to back to back elite eight appearances and becoming team captains this year, their accomplishments speak for themselves."

Regardless of the outcome of the season, David is especially proud of these two athletes, whom he has coached since they were "energetic third graders."

"We've experienced many highs and lows together, but through it all, Toby and Devon have remained composed and humble."



Pictured left to right: Toby C., Coach Trey David and Devon W.

## Superbowl Predictions: Who got it right?

By Sports Staff

Before the NFL conference championships, our sports staff sat down to make their predictions about who would make it to the Super Bowl: Here's who got it right – and wrong.

### Brendan - Washington Commanders

The Washington Commanders are without a doubt one of the most surprising teams in football this year. From a 4-13 record last year to a 12-5 record this year, they have had one of the quickest turnarounds in NFL history. They are now in the NFC Conference Championship and are facing the Philadelphia Eagles to try to make it to the Super Bowl. They beat the Eagles last time they played, and I am positive that they can do it again. The Eagles have a you-pass defense, and Washington will have to take advantage of the small mistakes that are bound to be made. They have been very good against teams over .500 all year, and I believe they have everything they need to win.

Starting with Jayden Daniels who is arguably the best rookie quarterback in the last 20 years.



He plays with so much confidence and has a kind of maturity for a rookie that is never seen. They also have Terry McLaurin who is one of the best and most underrated receivers in the league. He has breakaway speed and has had 1000 yards the last five seasons in a row. They have a very strong defense who are very mature and are almost all veterans. If they can keep their composure and play a strong four quarters they will come out with a win and go to the Super Bowl.

### Will - Philadelphia Eagles

The Philadelphia Eagles will win the Super Bowl this year. The Eagles are 14-3 this year and are in the NFC championship game for the second time in the past three years. They will have a tough task in the NFC championship



game as they face division rival, Washington Commanders. The Commanders are led by a young quarterback in Jayden Daniels and are exceeding all expectations. Even though the Commanders are on a hot streak, the Eagles have too much experience and better weapons. They have the experience of being in the NFC championship game and have been in the Super Bowl before. Also, their skill of players is much better than any other team that is left in the playoffs.

At the helm of the offense is veteran Jalen Hurts. Jalen has led this team to the playoffs in many seasons and into the Super Bowl a couple of years ago. He is having a down year compared to others, but he is still a top QB in the playoffs. Jalen threw for over

2,900 yards with 18 touchdowns and 5 interceptions while rushing for 630 yards and 14 touchdowns with 4 fumbles lost. He did deal with a few injuries himself and to his wide receiver one and two as well as his tight end one. Philly gets better on the ground with MVP finalist Saquon Barkley, Saquon had a career year with the Eagles and looks to punch his ticket to the Super Bowl. Saquon rushed for over 2,000 yards and had 13 touchdowns and 278 receiving yards with 2 touchdowns. Aj Brown is the top receiver for the Eagles and has played like it. Even with injuries this year he was able to get over 1,000 receiving yards with 7 touchdowns and continue to be a massive threat. His companion Devonta Smith, aka the "Slim Reaper," wasn't able to get over 1,000 yards but was able to haul in 8 touchdowns. Smith is a fast and reliable receiver to make plays happen. The Eagles will have either the Bills or the Chiefs in the Super Bowl but their defense is solid enough to slow down both Josh Allen and Patrick Mahomes.

**See Superbowl on p6**

# Superbowl Cont.

## Toby - Buffalo Bills

The Buffalo Bills are set to face the Kansas City Chiefs in the AFC Championship Game on Sunday, January 26, 2025, at 6:30 PM ET at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Missouri. This matchup marks the fourth playoff meeting between these teams in the past five seasons, with the Chiefs having won the previous three encounters. However, the Bills secured a 30–21 victory over the Chiefs during their regular-season meeting in Week 11. The Bills' offense, led by quarterback Josh Allen, has demonstrated significant growth and consistency throughout the season. Their defense has also been effective in limiting opponents' scoring opportunities. Given their regular-season success against the Chiefs and their overall performance, the Bills have a strong opportunity to secure a victory and advance to Super Bowl LIX.



Quarterback Josh Allen is a central figure, seeking to guide his team to their first Super Bowl appearance since the 1990s. Running back James Cook is expected to play a crucial role in exploiting the Chiefs' run defense, and wide receiver Khalil Shakir has emerged as a key target in the passing game.

Defensively, the Bills will rely on their pass rush, with players like Greg Rousseau and A.J. Epenesa will need to generate pressure to disrupt

Mahomes' rhythm. The performances of these players will be instrumental in determining which team secures a spot in the Super Bowl.

## Devon - Kansas City Chiefs

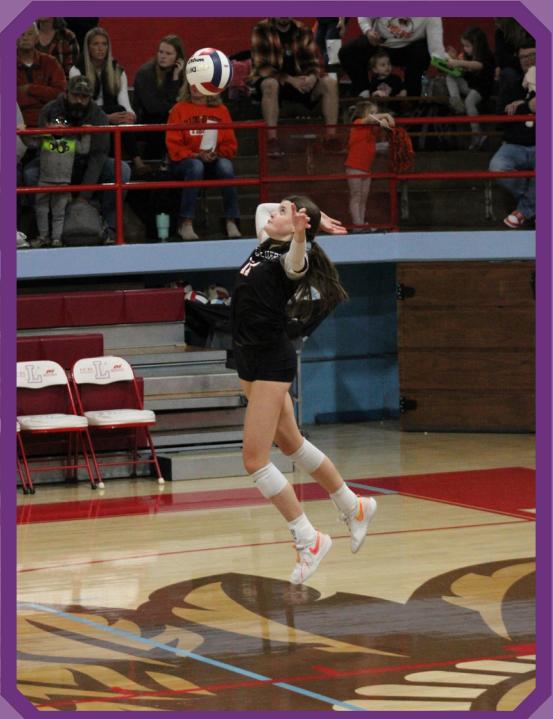
The Kansas City Chiefs have a really good team this year with a record of 15-2. Here are a few reasons why they might just take home the Super Bowl trophy this year. Their quarterback is one of the best in the league. His ability to make plays, both with his arm and his legs, and

his ability to win in big games is truly what they need to win. To go along with their great QB they also have insane offensive firepower. With weapons like Travis Kelce and a strong receiving corps, their offense is explosive and can score from anywhere on the field. Head coach Andy Reid is a seasoned coach with a wealth of experience. His play-calling and game planning are top-notch, and being able to make tough decisions in tough times is what makes them one of the top teams in the NFL. Their defense has been stepping up, making crucial plays and stops when needed. Their defense isn't probably where they want it to be, but they are still a good defense team. They also have a lot of experience having been to the Super Bowl recently, they know what it takes to win and handle the pressure.

## Photo gallery spotlight

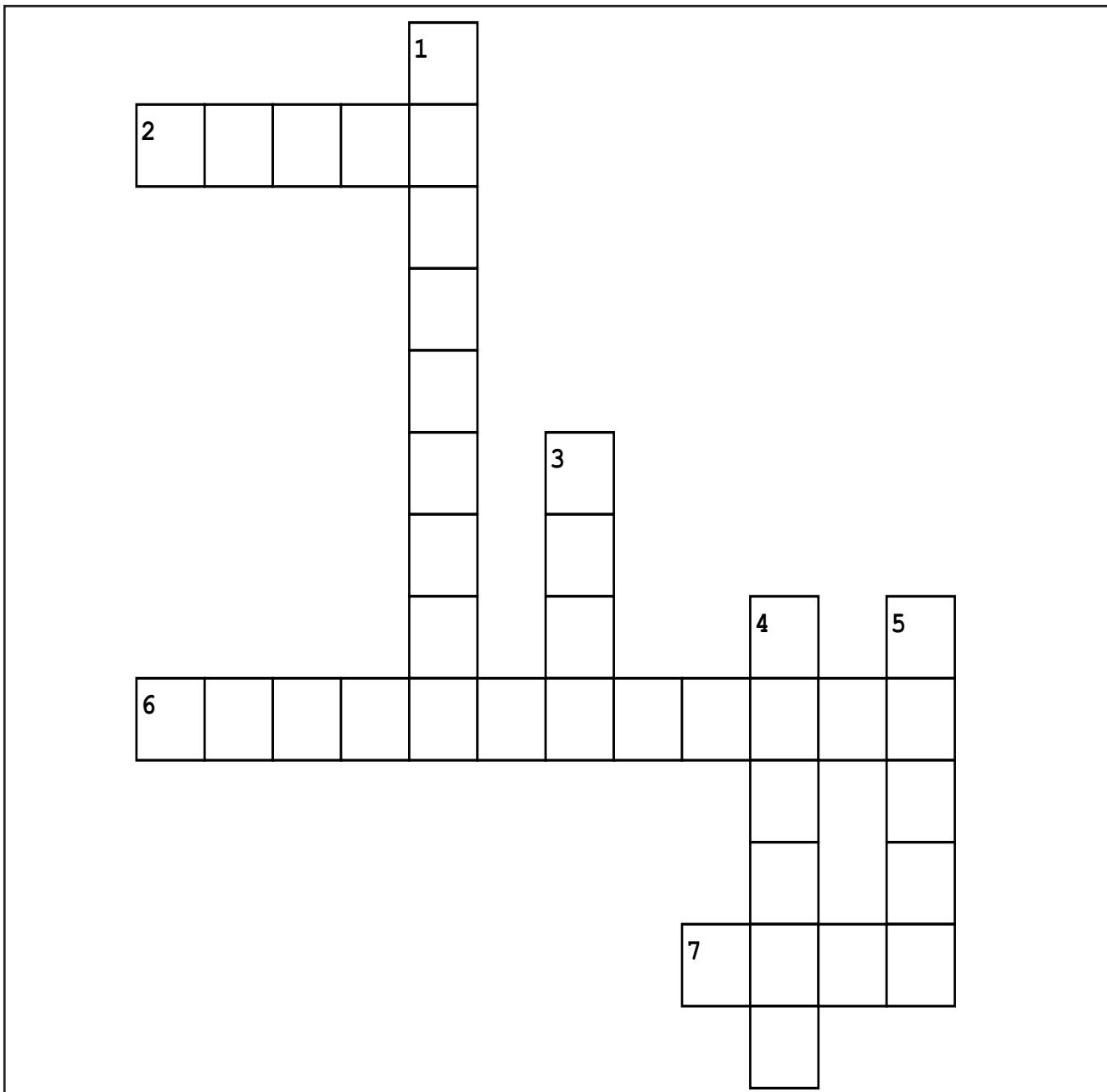
By Grace H.  
Photographer

Check out all of these photo galleries and more from this school year on The Tiger Times website: [ibstigertimes.com](http://ibstigertimes.com)



# January Crossword

Answers posted at [ibhstigertimes.com](http://ibhstigertimes.com)



## Across

- 2. January 20th is set aside to remember and celebrate this civil rights' leader
- 6. It happened on January 20th for the new president
- 7. January is named for a god from this ancient civilization's pantheon

## Down

- 1. Punxsutawney Phil is a fortune-telling animal of this species
- 3. New \_\_\_, New Me
- 4. went dark for 12+ hours then came back
- 5. On the Chinese zodiac, it is this animal's turn to be celebrated, Year of the \_\_\_

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Comic: Life of Larry Ep. 1

