

The Howler

TF SOUTH HS - 18500 BURNHAM AVE. LANSING, IL

Issue 3, Volume 2--DEC 23/JAN 24

Holiday Traditions Across the Pack

Kylia Ward, EIC and Morgan Scott, ME

Since Covid started, families and traditions have changed. From Christmas traditions, birthday traditions, and some different celebrations. One of the most changed traditions was holiday traditions. There are a lot of similar holiday traditions and odd holiday traditions. People travel for holidays and even some people don't participate in the traditional activities. It's more about family and quality time. Some families now do not celebrate holidays or it is not as much of a big deal. I interviewed some people around the school, listening to what they have to say about their holiday conditions. As far as Christmas goes a couple people still follow

the so called normal traditions like baking cookies and opening one present on Christmas Eve. We even asked Jamie Metoyer and she stated that she not only bakes cookies, but also

attends the midnight mass. Quinn also states that her family bakes all types of cookies and trades with other people so they'll all have about four different cookies by the

eat food in the car. She said those were her best memories of Christmas. Everybody's families are different because we also spoke with Joseph Napier and him and his fam-

we tape money under different chairs and hide gifts like under the couch and all around the house" and Napier also spoke about what him and his family does for Christmas "Everyone that comes to Christmas dinner has to bring five gifts with a minimum of \$10". Every family is different, so we also learned that some people don't celebrate Christmas, they just act as if it's a normal day. For everyone that celebrates holidays we hope that you all are enjoying this holiday season, and for those who don't celebrate these holidays we hope you all are having some good days.



makes ornaments. Then we went on to talk to Tammy Quinn and she said that her family participates in cookie exchanges, and she also

end of the night. Carey has two little girls and she said when she was younger, her mom used to take her to go see the Christmas lights and

ily does ultimate bingo "What happens in ultimate bingo is everybody comes in and gets a bingo card, and before the family comes

THE COUNCIL IS IN

by: Annika Biegel, Features Writer

There are many welcoming and very interactive clubs that are offered here at TF South for students. Student Council is one of the many clubs that students participate in. The Student Council has many opportunities and events that allow students to have a say at this school. Student Council plans and puts together events such as homecoming, winter formals, comes up with the themes for the dances, and other social events. This club also opens the door for students to serve the community and help individuals throughout Lansing by participating in community service. A big community service project that is organized by the student council is Break-

fast for Veterans. This is a day for veterans to come and enjoy a nice breakfast that is provided and served by the members of the club. Not only is it a great act of service but it also allows students to get to know and hear more about the veterans and their interesting stories and background. Vice President, Junior, Kaylyn Imala shares her interest and love for helping others in the organized community services that take place, "We offer our time to give back to the community and support people that have a lack of resources". Student Coun-

cil gives opportunities for students to give back and participate in fun and --- activities and events. The Student Council is also a great way to meet other students. Student Council is interactive and takes a



group effort to organize and run various events. "It is fun to meet other individuals that share the same compassion of giv-

ing back as well as hearing other ideas to learn from" adds Kaylyn Imala. Student Council is a great way to share your opinions and ideas for events that other students including yourself may attend.

Everyone has different ideas and opinions and student council allows students to express and share their thoughts to contribute to the school and the community. Students are also able to share concerns they have and find a possible solution to it. Student Council is an enjoyable experience and

club to be a part of. Being in charge of social events and helping raise money is all really important to the school and making sure the students have just as much say in school matters. I really encourage anyone who is interested in joining a club to join students council and take part in making a difference and being involved with the school, community, and a collaborative environment with your friends and other students.

A Thrilling Showdown: Thornton Fractional South vs. Crete-Monee Girls Basketball Game

Britney Olaleye, Managing Editor

In an epic showdown on Monday, November 27, 2023, the varsity girls basketball teams from Thornton Fractional South and Crete-Monee faced off in a highly anticipated matchup. This highly anticipated game had fans on the edge of their seats, witnessing an intense clash between two talented teams. In the first half, right from the tip-off, it was clear that both teams came ready to compete. Thornton Fractional South showcased their offensive skills, moving the ball with precision and finding open teammates for high-percentage shots. Their teamwork and smart plays allowed them to take an early lead. Crete-Monee, however, refused to back down. They displayed resilience and determination, attacking the basket aggressively and

capitalizing on defensive opportunities. The score remained tight as both teams traded baskets and defensive stops. As the second half began, the intensity only grew. Thornton Fractional South's players stepped up their defensive game, contesting every shot and forcing turnovers. Their solid defense translated into offensive success, as they converted steals into fast break points. Crete-Monee adjusted their strategy and showed great teamwork and communication. They executed their offensive plays with precision, hitting crucial three-pointers and attacking the rim with relentless determination. In the final moments, with the game hanging in the balance, both teams fought fiercely for the win. The atmosphere in the gym was electric, with passionate

fans cheering on their respective teams. The players left everything on the court, displaying incredible heart and desire. But in the end, Thornton Fractional South couldn't quite pull off the win. Crete-Monee's defense was just too strong and they made some clutch plays that sealed the deal. But let's give props to the Red Wolves for giving it their all and putting up a good fight. It was a tough game, but they showed some serious skills out there. Even though they didn't come out on top this time, it's important to remember that every game is a learning opportunity. They can analyze their performance, identify areas for improvement, and come back stronger in the future. The dedication and teamwork displayed by the TFS players should be commended. It's all part

of the journey, and I have no doubt they'll bounce back with even more determination. Keep pushing forward! Keep your head up, there's always the next game! Several players stood out during the game. Jaiden Thompson, guard for Thornton Fractional South, showcased exceptional court vision and leadership, guiding her team's offense with preci-

sion. Her ability to shoot threes during crunch time and make smart decisions was instrumental in this matchup. For Crete-Monee, Dejah Yankawat displayed remarkable scoring ability, consistently finding ways to put points on the board. Her offensive and defensive skills along with her determination were evident throughout the game.



Red Smoke From The Pack

Taisen Jimerson, Editor In Chief

Thornton Fractional South Boys Basketball Team defended their home court from Shepard Astros recording 63-27 point win on Friday night December 1, 2023. First Quarter was shaky as both teams were creating space on the floor but weren't falling through with scoring. Red Wolves were pushing and moving the ball up and down the court but came short with opportunities and second chance points in this quarter. Ninth Grader Amari Dukes scored the first point for the pack. Second Quarter The pack took off from

shepard as they were hitting more perimeter shots. Players like Alex Lesure and Rashad Peoples were scoring on the outside as we were neck and neck with the Astros. Role players were helping the starters as we had better rebounding, steals, defense, and assists than the Astros. Leading into half time The Pack formed a more efficient game plan to do the unthinkable coming into the second half. Third Quarter starts and Amari Dukes tops it off with a Big Man Bucket off a pass. Sam Townsend had tough lays entering the third

quarter, Axcel Mbamdeu helped with screens on the backcourt, and Eion Ikner helped on the more defensive side with blocks and contesting shots. By mid Third Quarter the Red Wolves were already up by a 19 point blowout. Shepard couldn't keep up as they were causing major turnovers and wasn't having any motion frontcourt and neither backcourt. At the end of Third Quarter Shepard gave the game to the Wolves as we were fully in control of the game and the outcome. Everybody on the team received minutes

and made an impact in this game ranging from starters to role players to bench players. Entering the 4th Quarter The Pack was up by 30 points as the score was 52-22. The game speed was fast, exciting, and worth watching. MVP of the game goes to Amari Dukes as he records 17 points for The Pack. With the help of Rashad Peoples hitting 4 3 pointers=12 points and Jaylen Taylors' performance of 10 points and 5 steals, we closed out on the astros. Knowing that our 3 main scorers made magic, lets shed light on players that played their

role to help carry the team. Players like Alex Lesure, Axcel Mdamdeu, Eion Ikner, Cedric Tientchiu, And Sam Townsend. We had dogs on the court putting on for our school and we as a school need to show great appreciation and support for this team. Good win Red Wolves, Red Smoke for the Win.

Review/Sports³

A taste of Detroit

Tacori Jennings; Review Editor

On November 23, 2023, Shavon West, the owner of Von's Vittles located at 8350 Hohman Ave, in Munster Indiana, was recently visited by The Black Foodies. The Black Foodies are a Married couple in Chicago who review food and give small businesses exposure they need. Today I asked West some questions about her experiences. "So what are your thoughts on the Black foodies coming to visit"? She expresses, "I've been following them for years. It is a blessing to be able to have them in my establishment and be able to show them that what I got is something everyone needs." Then I asked "What was your experience meeting them?" she responded "I was so nervous

meeting them but they were so down to earth and just super kind and friendly". Since the video was posted I asked her a few more questions. "Since the video how has business

us. As the weeks go on we get more and more new faces and valued clients." "What are your dreams for the near future of the restaurant" "I have big plans for the restaurant, new items

grow and show Chicago the real taste of Detroit. I highly encourage everyone to visit one day and enjoy some of the delicious food and sweet treats. Our restaurant adds eccentric

wants, ranging from having Soul Food Sundays, captivating menus for people with lavish taste, and expanding on our desert options. Even if Von's Vittles is a weekend restaurant right now, our business has been exploding with the Munster Community and Chicago Community marketing us around the Chicagoland area.



been treating you?" She answered "Business has officially gotten busy and I am so grateful and excited about what the future holds for

and maybe more open hours and due to the business growing." As the amazing turnout since the video Von's Vittles has been able to

but tasty new flavors for people looking to enjoy a to-go meal on any type of occasion. We are accustomed to our customer's needs and

What does the future hold for these superstars?

After the Texas Rangers won the 2023 World Series over the Arizona Diamondbacks, the big question over the off-season has been. Where will these 2023-24 free agents sign over the winter? The biggest free agent is Shohei Ohtani. The two way superstar made a name for himself in 2021 hitting 46 HR while also going 9-2 on the mound, posting a 3.18 ERA and 156 strikeouts. Ohtani also won the AL MVP and silver slugger award alone in 2021. Ohtani has only gotten better since then. From 2021-2023, Ohtani has won two MVPs, made three All-Star teams, won multiple silver sluggers, and won the AL Cy Young award in 2022. All of which is the reason why Ohtani is big on the market for free agents in the MLB. Big targets for Ohtani are the San Francisco Giants, Chicago Cubs, Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Mets, Texas Rang-

ers, Boston Red Sox, and the Toronto Blue Jays. Ohtani isn't the only big name on the free agent market. Young 27 year old Dylan Cease of the Chicago White Sox is a big name on the market. The young right hander made a name for himself in 2021 with a 13-7 record and a 3.91 ERA. That year, Cease helped the White Sox make the post-season where they ended up losing in 4 games against the Houston Astros. Cease really made a name for himself in 2022 when he finished second to veteran Justin Verlander in the AL Cy Young voting. Cease

recorded a 2.20 ERA with 227 strikeouts and a 14-8 record. Top teams to land on Cease are the Los Angeles Dodgers, Atlanta Braves, and Baltimore



Orioles. Other mentionable free agents include Cody Bellinger and Yoshinobu Yamamoto. Bellinger won rookie of the year in 2017, where he helped lead the Dodgers to the

World Series. However, since 2019 Bellinger hadn't been the same where he struggled with injuries and hitting. Bellinger signed with the Cubs in 2023 as a free agent, where the 28 year old did not disappoint. Bellinger had arguably one of his best seasons where he hit .307 with 26 home runs. His comeback season was enough to win himself NL comeback player of the year. Bellinger is a top target for the San Francisco Giants and the New York Yankees. A return to the Cubs is also not out of the question for Bellinger, as the

Andrew Denahl, Sports Writer

Cubs were close to making the postseason in 2023. One of the biggest and most hyped up prospects and targets is Japanese pitcher Yoshinobu Yamamoto of the NPB (Nippon Professional Baseball) league. Yamamoto, 25, has spent his professional career in Japan and is already worth over \$200 million. Yamamoto is a huge target for the New York Yankees, New York Mets, Los Angeles Dodgers, and Chicago Cubs. Yamamoto had a stellar 2023 season in Japan, as he had a 17-6 record with a 1.16 ERA. As we head into the new year, it will only be a question of where will these young stars sign?

REVIEWS

The fantastic game of Spider-Man 2

Benjamin Gresham, Photographer

Spiderman 2 is a game on ps5 that it is a very interesting game with a very good story line and a very interesting turn of events.I recommend that everyone try to play this game if you have a ps5 I would definitely recommend for you to play this game as i played the game as well and when I tell you it was amazing the turn of events and a really good story line.But the real way to have the best experience possible is to go back to the first spider man game of 2018 when it first came out and it was something very unexpected to all of gamers at all.It had beautiful graphics and a very good story with our main character peter parker as Spiderman and his experienc-

es as a superhero and the very hard choices that he had to make as well though at the end the hard choices where his best choices for the people of new york city and he saved many lives.And in Spiderman he has an apprentice and this leads us to another game that ties to the story again miles morales. Miles obtained the same powers as peter parker and became his apprentice and also gained some new abilities as well.This spin off is basically how miles is taking on challenges on his own without Peter by his side because he has to go overseas with his girl and now miles is on his own protecting his own New York cCity with new challenges and even bigger enemies.But with is

procure form his family and the help of his friends he overcame the challenges and made sure that New York City was safe once again. Then that brings us to the most important and recent way is Spider man 2 which of course has both master and apprentice and this is show now peter sees his best friend heavy for a long time and finally has a good reunion but things take a turn for the worst later in the story as there is a big crisis that New York City has to face once again and peter and miles team up once more to take out the invasion and keep new york city once more but if you really want to know what happens,go and play it yourself. Once again it is a very



good story and game as well but do you thing would you recommend this game to your friends if you played it?Or if you never played that game to you would you explore it for yourself you decide and as always Red Wolves be spectacular and stay safe.

Netflix's "Leo" Shines Bright

"Leo," the recently released musical on Netflix, guarantees an enjoyable experience for the entire family. The casting of Adam Sandler as Leo is an amazing decision, considering he has created hits like "The Chanukah Song," "Phone Wallet Keys," and "Grow Old With You." Sandler's appearance is also a promising sign of a good time, due to his history in comedic films. From start to finish, "Leo" captivates us with its lively and vibrant scenes. The characters, though they are seemingly simple children, reveal surpris-

ingly deep stories that allow viewers to connect with on a personal level. The art style contributes to the over-

One aspect that helps with the appeal of the film is the relatability of the characters. The children in this film



all visual experience, using bright colors, and amazing animation.

are faced with common issues. This helps the audience relate to

them, because they can easily see themselves in those children. Despite the film being great, the songs are occasionally being hard on the ears. However, the charming plot and the development of interesting characters compensate for this. The story unfolds with Leo's wisdom at its core, offering lessons that can resonate with audiences of all ages. Leo becomes a guiding figure, encouraging personal growth and learning for everyone involved. Even grumpy adults find

by Logan Daigre; Review Writer

elements of relatability in characters like Ms. Malkin. The character of Ms. Malkin, an evil substitute teacher, is revealed to have a complex story. In essence, "Leo" is a well-rounded family film that mixes humor, relatable characters, and valuable life lessons. The amazing story, and complex characters make it an amazing watch, not just for families, but individuals as well.

Holiday Kickoff with Terror

Coryannah Hearn, Review Writer

The movie, Thanksgiving, was released on Nov. 17, 2023. It was directed by Eli Roth, who's also the director of Hostel. The movie overall was good and interesting due to the plot having a twist to it and the killings being mysterious. The movie has the characters of Jessica(Nell Verlaque), Gabby(Addison Rae),Yulia(Jenna Warren), Evan(Tomaso Sanelli), and Bobby(Jalen Thomas Brooks). It takes place in Plymouth, Massachusetts and it's about five teens who go to a store that's participating in Black Friday but the store hasn't opened yet. After the teens break into the store with many people outside wanting to get in, chaos arises in the store after everyone gets in and this leads to people getting killed over silly mistakes. With a killer on the loose, targeting the ones who mainly participated in

the Black Friday incident, the teens start to investigate and strive to uncover the truth about who the true killer is. As they do that, the killer has it out for those five teens and wants to kill them since they made a meme video of the incident that night. Additionally, the killings inside of the movie made it better and developed the plot even more because it made the audience stay on the edge of their seat. I feel like the plot could have had more to it and could

have evolved around something different but the movie wasn't bad at all. In my opinion, I would rate this movie a 8/10 because it had plot

twists that I wasn't expecting, which I love to see in thriller movies such as this. This movie was definitely different because some of the events were unexpected and I have never seen a horror movie based on Thanksgiving. In my opinion, October-November is the perfect time to watch this movie anytime because it's not too far away from Halloween nor is it too early for Thanksgiving. If you want to get a good laugh out of a horror movie, this one is the one to go to especially since it's new and the characters enhance the plot. I would recommend the movie, Terrifier, because it's similar in a way. Terrifier is about a man who

is going around killing people on Halloween in a clown costume. The movie is a good movie but it is gruesome so I wouldn't recommend watching it around younger audiences. In conclusion, the movie was definitely something new this season and I would suggest watching it at night because it has a more eerie feeling to it and makes the atmosphere more intense since the movie in general was scary and funny.



Scott Pilgram takes off in his new animated series!

by Antoine Morgan, Review Writer

Scott Pilgram Takes Off is a new animated show based off the 2010 film, Scott Pilgram VS The World. Scott Pilgram Takes Off takes a different approach to the story as it takes a spin onto the original story to make a completely different story all together. Originally, Scott is supposed to win against his fight with Matthew Patel like in the movie, but he suddenly loses this time. Everyone suspects that he's dead until Remona hears his voice in her dream, causing her to believe that Scott is still alive and one of her evil exes have kidnapped him. I think that this was a perfect take to put a new spin onto the story. In this animation, we get to focus more on Remona as a character and what's she like as she is determined to find and

recuse Scott. This adaptation of the story allows the creator to give more characters who didn't have screen time originally to shine such as all of Remona evil exes, Wallace, Scott's roommate, Scott's band, S** Bomb Bomb and young neil. The way they were able to allow to give more depth into characters who were just there in the 2010 adaptation was amazing. Another thing that they did amazing with was the animation of the show. The animation was amazing throughout the series as it never failed to amaze me. The direction of the show is what also what really amazed me. Another thing to note is the voice acting. The voice acting was done by all of the characters 2010 counterpart, which they did a outstanding job on. I

think they conveyed their parts perfectly throughout the whole series. One thing I had a slight problem with was the ending as it kind of feel slightly rushed at the end. As much as I would want to get more into the ending, I'd rather you watch the show itself and create your own opinion on the ending itself. To conclude, Scott Pilgram was a amazing take on the 2010 classic and the original comic book. I definitely recommend that you give this show a watch.



Reviews

Is Good Burger 2 Better than the original Good Burger?

by Aaliyah Harb, Review Writer

After just over 25 years, the movie “Good Burger 2” has been released on Nov. 22, 2023 on the streaming platform Paramount+. “Good Burger 2” is a good nostalgia trip for fans of the original film. “Good Burger 2” is not as comical as the original but shares the same plot as the original “Good Burger”. In “Good Burger 2”, the main characters Dexter and Ed, played by Kenan Thompson and Kel Mitchell, have to team up yet again to save a good burger from another threat but this time they are fighting against

Kurt’s sister Katt Boswell from Mondo Burger, played by Jillian Bell. I didn’t like the animation and felt like they were very random and

not making the movie less entertaining and harder to become engaged with. Dexter struggling with family issues and being a failed

entrepreneur kind of that having such well known people in the movie helped keep some people interested in the movie.

the appearances of some famous people today such as Mark Cuban as an investor like always, Liza Koshy, Kai Cenat, and Pete Davidson. I felt I also liked how although the main characters are older than they were from the original movie their characters are still played in the exact same way. I didn’t like the bad usage of animations and how although the plot was similar to the original movie it didn’t really entertain me as I expected it to. Although both movies are really wacky and weird, the original “Good Burger” is better than “Good Burger 2”.



did not really correlate to the plot of the story. I feel like the plot was kind of too similar to the origi-

entrepreneur kind of threw me for a loop and was very unexpected. Some of the things I liked were

that having such well known people in the movie helped keep some people interested in the movie.

The Godfather: is it Really the “Greatest”?

by Zoe Pitts, Review Writer

The Godfather, a 1972 film directed by Francis Ford Coppola who also directed Apocalypse Now and The Conversation and many other films. The Godfather has been acclaimed by critics and watchers all over to be the greatest film of all time. But does the title still hold up today after all these years. Many students in Thornton Fractional South have commented about the bores the film brought or it was just nothing special. The film is about a family, specifically a family and their crime syndicate. The first scene we get to see Vito Corleone played by the one and only Marlon Brando. Vito is a father and a mob boss who’s in the middle of work even on his daughter’s wedding day, while celebration is going on underground work is in play. Which I like in this film, it constantly gives two perspectives: the dark and the light. Crime, blood, and animosity and then there’s joy, love, and companionship both scenes constantly going back and forth. We get to see the insight of life of a crime syndicate, and an Italian family. The wedding we are introduced to the eldest son of Vito Corleone,

Sonny Corleone a husband next in line for being Don head of the family then we got the adoptive son Tom Hagan who’s also the lawyer and the consigliere (Advisor to a Mafia Boss) to the family. Next we get to know Fredo and then the daughter and bride of the wedding, Connie. While we see all these characters and their personalities we only now are missing one son, the youngest, Michael. Played by Al Pacino who starred in the well known classic Scarface. We get to know that Michael is a civilian, a man who has no part in crime related things in the family. He’s also a veteran with a charming girlfriend. Michael isn’t a stranger to what his family does and not afraid to talk about it with his girlfriend. The movie

plays out and as things go on the darker it gets. We get iconic scenes and amazing acting. We also get to see amazing development with the youngest son. The movie had great suspense and the music score played along with the suspense so nicely. One scene when Michael was in the hospital had me at the edge of my seat

part in the film. I really enjoyed the cinematography and the lines were really thought out. Though I didn’t enjoy Marlon Brando’s Vito Corleone. I liked it and just didn’t enjoy it as much like I thought I would. His lines were laughable, I just couldn’t take him seriously. And how I said I like the development of Michael. I just wished I saw more of that development, it felt like those scenes were cut. We know he goes from a carefree loverboy to a stern hard man with a few scenes of him in Sicily but to cut to a year later was just

disappointing. How did he mourn after the losses he experienced? And now to the famous complaint of all: “It’s too long”, “Boring”, “Fell asleep”. Personally I didn’t think it was boring until the last 20 minutes of it, that’s when it got hard to finish it. But I pulled through. And then the last ten minutes I did enjoy it. People got what they deserved and the last shot of the film was fantastic the way Diane Keaton played Kay Adams Michaels wife. The emotion in the last shot showed a perfect director’s choice. Okay now what everyone is waiting for, is it “The greatest of all time” Personally I don’t think so, It’s a fun movie with a nice theme but not the greatest maybe at the time of release in 1972 and started the revival of mafia movies but since it’s been hyped of so much after watching it I feel let down. It’s not “the greatest of all time” for me it was more like “The greatest of its time” I see why people like it, it’s exciting with a great cast. Who doesn’t enjoy the thrill of a Mafia movie? And I would watch it again, maybe even see the other two films. But It’s not a favorite movie of mine, not even memorably as I would say Goodfellas was. But so far of all the mafia movies I watched it’s in the top five.



waiting for what’s gonna happen, I even got jumped scared. Al Pacino really showed the paranoia Michael was feeling in this scene amazingly. And it also proves to me that the Director should go into horror films. We also get introduced to more characters whose role plays a bigger

part in the film. I really enjoyed the cinematography and the lines were really thought out. Though I didn’t enjoy Marlon Brando’s Vito Corleone. I liked it and just didn’t enjoy it as much like I thought I would. His lines were laughable, I just couldn’t take him seriously. And how I said I like the development of Michael. I just wished I saw more of that development, it felt like those scenes were cut. We know he goes from a carefree loverboy to a stern hard man with a few scenes of him in Sicily but to cut to a year later was just

Zhou B. Art Exhibit: Spotlight on Naomi Brennick

by: Christian Freeman, Review Writer

The Zhou B Art Center. A beautiful space in Chicago with multiple stories containing various stories of the amazing artists that have come from many walks of life in order to share their passion for art, and their stories. This is the story dedicated to the artist; Naomi Brennick. Naomi, currently attending classes and programs at the Aart Institute of Chicago, she's been pursuing a career in sculpting during her time at the school. In 2019, Naomi would begin experimenting with bronze casting and would sculpt the figure that could touch the heart and mind of many people. The piece of art I personally went to see was a man sculpted under the name "Daddy long legs". Daddy long legs is an all blacked out figure with elongated legs, and his most prominent attribute: His seemingly malicious mask. While the mask at a glance can be seen as a simple white mask, the more you look the more you see it. A seemingly devilish grin and a furrowed brow to invoke a feeling of malignancy. A terrifying figure that any who have experienced nightmares, hallucinations and dreams can relate to. This is the feeling Naomi Bren-

nick set out to achieve. A figure made in her mind from her own experiences, that many can relate. As said by Naomi herself when asked about what feeling or ideas she wants her art to convey: "I use material techniques to create expectations that change the more an object is observed. My work is often based on very specific and complex stories of my life that I'm trying to translate into objects and images that communicate how those experiences felt internally...I try to make the audience uncomfortable and intimately confronted with something that needs to be decoded and filtered through their own personal experiences." (Brennick). Naomi Brennick conveys this perfectly. Her art isn't just thought provoking, it's as if you're looking out of a window during a stormy night. You could swear you saw something... but it's only the more you look do you truly get superstitious. Your fears manifest from the darkness of what you believe to know. It's

only when you truly understand what you look at, do you realize how wrong it is to take something so seemingly menial at face value. Naomi Brennick is a genius at the Art of not just sculpting, but the thought provoking ability to make one un-



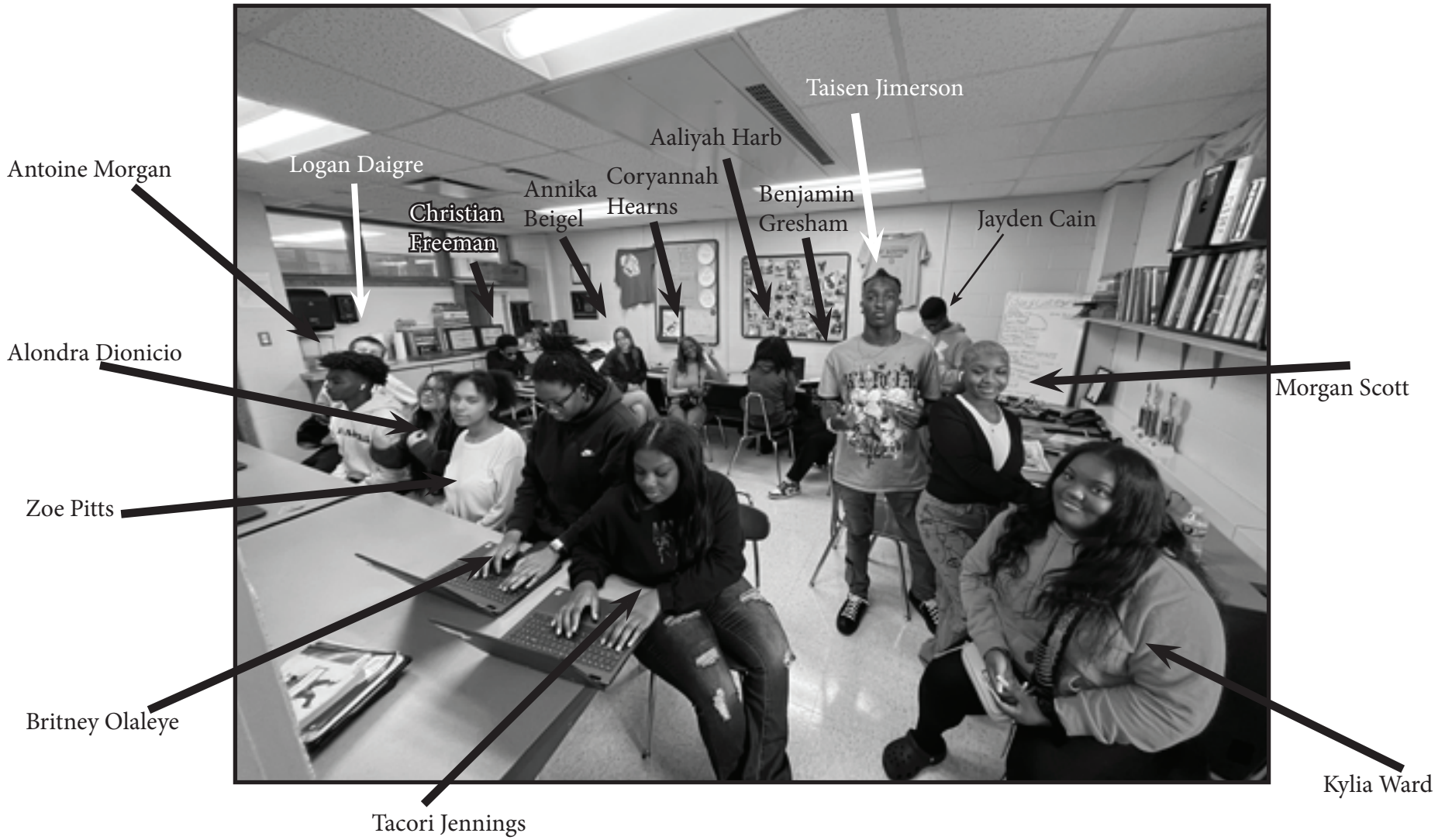
comfortable. To make one reflect on the life they've lived and the experiences they've had in order to understand her art. That leads us into the Artist herself. What is her stance on her passion? How does it feel to be an artist? What is her inspiration? And ultimately, what is her goal? I've reached out and have an answer to all of these questions. And we could not have hoped for better. To begin with, What is the main inspiration behind her beautiful art? Naomi relays: "Moments from my life are definitely the main thing that fuels my art. Stories, feelings, memories, places that I want

to spend more time analyzing and understanding on deeper levels. Often turning dark situations into something beautiful. My work touches on mental illness, trauma and pain that is more therapeutic to express than to sit with." (Brennick). To think: Taking a concept of pain and struggle, to reforge it into such a divine concept that could touch the hearts of many who take the time to analyze it. For the intermediate: What is her main goal of being an artist? "My work is often motivated by the chance to feel understood and for others to see themselves and understand their own experiences. To me success is not about fame or fortune, it's a priceless satisfaction and gratitude for what my art is recognizable as mine based on a consistent style from me and that style being unique and interesting enough to create a memory. Recognizability is a defining mile marker of "Making it" in the art world." (Brennick).

Finally, to end with something resounding. How does it feel to be an artist? "Liberation and catharsis. Being an artist feels a lot like skydiving. You know you won't die but it is a risk most people would never dream of taking. Wanting to be an artist is the terrifying moment when you first

look down to realize there are no clear paths or safety nets. Being an artist is the second you leave the plane and realize the air beneath you was not a void but instead a complete limitlessness beneath your feet that had been stuck on the ground." (Brennick). She described it as an experience to those who take a risk for a chance to be free and to transcend the reality everyone is stuck in. Those with no interest won't try, but a great gift is given to those who take the jump. In her own words: "Living as an artist is sitting in the clouds imagining what the world could be instead of sitting on the ground imagining what the clouds could resemble." -Naomi Brennick. Words spoken by one of Chicago's most interesting Sculptors and Artists. I highly urge anyone curious about art to visit the Zhou B Art center. Even to visit Naomi. Some art may not be for everyone, but everyone should be for art. And if you take the time to understand her art, I hope you see Naomi's true genius.

STAFF PAGE



FLASHBACK: 1993

Newspaper staff three decades ago and the staff of the school yearbook in 1993

The HOWLER Staff

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| Taisen Jimerson
Kylia Ward | Editors in Chiefs |
| Britney Olaleye
Morgan Scott | Managing Editors |
| Jayden Cain
Benjamin Gresham | Photographers |
| Annika Beigel
Logan Daigre
Andrew Danehl
Alondra Dionicio
Christian Freeman
Aaliyah Harb
Coryannah Hearn
Tacori Jennings
Antoine Morgan
Zoe Pitts | Reporters |
| Chris Jones | Adviser |



The Howler is a limited public forum. Expressed views do not necessarily reflect the opinions of T.F. South, nor District 215.

TF South High School
18500 Burnham Ave.
Lansing, IL 60428