

Marisol Nicasio, Staff Reporter

TFN welcomes new AP, Mr. Humphrey

As a new addition to the school, Mr. Humphrey's position is to assist with building control and oversee academic discipline, attendance, and student safety over the entire building. Humphrey has a background in different educational careers such as an algebra teacher and a dean at Crete-Monee High School. "I grew up in the area. I attended Woodrow Wilson Elementary School and Wentworth Jr. High School," said Humphrey. As the new assistant principal, he has a goal to make students feel welcome. "It is important to create systems and structure for students to thrive and succeed. I want to create an environment where students want to be involved and look forward to coming to school every day. Students should see more than just the surface level of what this job is, overall I just want the students to feel welcomed and affirmed in a very safe and thrilling environment," added Humphrey. Humphrey also wants the students to know a little more about himself such as he is a very big family man. "I love sports and am super big on basketball. I played college basketball at the D1 level at the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, not only did I play basketball, but so did my entire family." Lastly, Humphrey wants his students to take advantage of high school, always try their best, and do as much as they can to prepare for their future.



Mr. Humphrey, Assistant Principal
Photo credit: Marisol Nicasio



Dean Posley models the official T.F. North beanie. Beanies can be purchased for \$6 in the bookstore.
Photo credit: Lizbeth Solorio, Thorntonian Staff Photographer

Story by Luis Pelayo and Lizbeth Solorio, Thorntonian Staff reporters

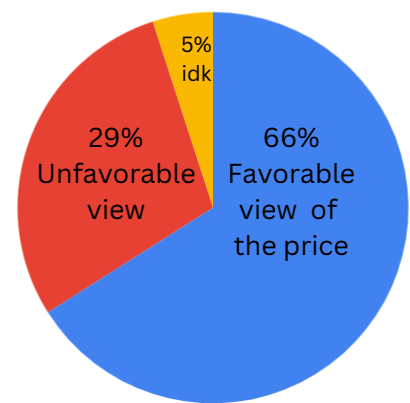
Administration introduces new beanie policy

Students now allowed to wear TFN headgear in the building

On the first day of school, Thornton Fractional North's administration announced the release of the school's first official headgear, a black beanie with the TFN crest. "What we have found is that when we work with students who are wearing headgear, they are like, 'I need something on my head' or 'I'm having a bad hair day' or 'It's a comfort'...It's like having a security blanket or like a security stuffed animal. We found that having something on their head was something that was really important to people," said Principal Rucinski. Rucinski explained the idea originated at Bremen, and after some back-and-forth discussions, the policy was passed by the Board of Education. As expected, when the news hit, students had many questions and concerns. For example, Why was this policy made? What does the future of TFN headwear look like? Why was the beanie priced at \$6? These and other questions were asked by students in a survey given two weeks ago. According to the survey taken by 120 students, the majority were fine with the policy. Though, about one-third saw the policy as unnecessary or wished for variations of school-appropriate headgear. Some students mentioned how they wished they could wear their own hats or hoods instead of the school-approved beanie. The student handbook prevents students from

bringing their own headgear due to the fact students may bring headgear that is inappropriate in the learning space. The policy could change or add new options or be extended in the future. Rucinski said, "For this whole year absolutely not...the handbook gets approved once a year... Could we possibly get a new style hat? Yes since that doesn't necessarily change the handbook." Furthermore about a fourth of the students surveyed had a complaint about the price saying it was too much, but Rucinski had a rebuttal. "We're not trying to make any money off this...We buy them for \$600 per 100. We started with 100 which is where that \$6 comes from." Rucinski said if students have questions he is open to feedback.

How do you feel about the price of the beanie?



Meet the New Teachers

Anahi Martinez, Liliana Krueger, & Gaby Barraza

Learn about our new T.F. North faculty members.
page 3

Thorntonian Insider

Rogelio Romero, Jasmine Pastrana, & Ximena Gutierrez

See what it's like to be part of the Thorntonian Staff.
page 5

Guest Playlists

Tianna Bowen & Marisol Nicasio

Looking for a new song to add to your playlist?
page 8

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor can be sent to our social media handles or thorntonian@tfd215.org.

Amazing Job on the newspaper! It looks great. I really like the timing of it and weekend suggestions.

Thanks,
Mr. Kawa

I am writing to you about possible ideas for your newspaper. I think it would be great to include details about the Homecoming dance. Also, if it is possible and a theme hasn't been chosen yet, would it be possible to include a way for students to pick out certain ideas in maybe a Google Form then have them vote on the most popular theme? Also, I would like to say that your newspaper is very good. My first time reading it was today, and it seems to be very well written. Thank you for your consideration,
Jada Chriss, sophomore

Dear Jada,
Student Council has already picked a theme. We plan on covering Homecoming in our next issue.
Thorntonian Staff

I'm most excited about our first Spirit Week. After seeing great outfits on the first day of school, seeing even better and personal looks for a full week will be amazing. One great artist for the guest playlist is Beyonce, any song by her is a win in my book.
Quentin Hall, sophomore

I enjoyed reading the school's newspaper. I enjoyed how the newspaper started off very positive, how an image of the bell schedule was included, and how instructions on how to use a combination lock were included. Next time I would like to see maybe a list of movies to add to our "Watch List." instead of just songs.
Kacie Turner, sophomore

I really enjoyed all the graphics that were put into this issue. The graphics are bright and catch my attention which allows me to understand the information you're trying to give out. I especially enjoyed the how to open a lock segment! Great job!!
Favor Babatunde, senior

I love how you guys added a tutorial on how to open a locker. I thought it was very helpful to those who are struggling to open theirs. Keep up the good work!
Florah Dismuke, junior

I am sophomore Aaliyah O'Banner, and I've read the newspaper, and I like it! I was wondering if maybe you can add information of future games and/or the upcoming Homecoming events. I have been wondering and asking students I know on the football team when is their first football game and who they are playing against. The answers are always mixed up and sometimes I don't know who to believe. It would be cool if you guys could add information about my favorite sport, badminton; and who we can talk to about joining? Oh! And also, the games. I really like the newspaper and I hope to read more very soon!

While reading the paper I really enjoyed the Spotify segment. It had lots of great song picks by the staff! I hope to see more versatility with the songs in the future.

Sincerely,
Rayna Franklin, sophomore

Per the request of my teacher and my own curiosity, I have read your most recent newspaper. I have to say it was pretty impressive! I'm used to newspapers being dull and devoid of humor, but I've got a good laugh reading this one. I like how when the board members were introduced, the descriptions stayed true to their personalities. I know some of the members personally, and I have to say the descriptions were pretty spot on! Keep up the great work, and I look forward to the next!
Best regards,
Angel Black, sophomore

I really enjoyed the part in the paper where it was introducing all of the Thorntonian Staff. I also really liked the part with the song picks from some students. It is really helpful for finding new music.
Sophia Maxey, sophomore

I would like to say what I liked about the newspaper after reading it. First, I love the determination that the newspaper has about how nothing is impossible and how with patience and resilience, anyone can persevere. Secondly, I love how the newspaper wants to hear more voices from other students and how it would represent more talented students here at TFN. Lastly, I would like to suggest that you can print out papers on how to unlock a lock and hang them in the hallways so that no one has trouble opening one.
Sincerely,
Miguel Iniestra, sophomore

This is my first time reading the school's newspaper, and I can say that I really enjoyed reading it. I liked how they introduced every member of the Thorntonian Staff and the roles they play to contribute to the newspaper, what they are doing outside of school, or what they want they want to be in the future. One topic I would like to read about is sports, an update on how every fall team is doing during their season, or just information on sports that I can join during the fall.
Osvaldo Roa, sophomore

Hello, my name is Kameran Washington, and I just wanted to say that I really enjoyed reading the paper because it showed how everybody plays a significant role in doing what they need to do to grab the attention of people's minds.

First off, I am very proud of the first issue. I think it turned out very well for it only being the second day of school. I like how you guys talked about the staff members included in the newspaper and their personal interests. I would suggest adding more news/details about upcoming events (in-depth).
Kiara Gardner, sophomore

Upcoming Events

Sept. 13 North-South Game at TFS
Sept. 15 Hispanic Heritage Month
Sept. 26 Parent Teacher Conferences
Oct. 4 Homecoming Game
Oct. 5 Homecoming Dance
Oct. 15 End of Quarter 1



2024-25

Thorntonian Staff

Staff Reporters:

[Tianna Bowen](#)
[Ivy Finley](#)
[Marisol Nicasio](#)
[Jasmine Pastrana](#)
[Gaby Barraza](#)
[Liliana Krueger](#)
[Luis Pelayo](#)
[Anahi Maritnez](#)
[T'niya Hampton](#)

Editorial Board:

[Emily Sanchez, Art Director](#)
[Rogelio Romero, Social Media Director](#)
[Ximena Gutierrez, Asst. Editor-in-Chief](#)
[Aidan Jordan, Editor-in-Chief](#)

Faculty Advisor:

[Mr. Joseph Stephan](#)

Established in 1925, the Thorntonian is produced by the Advanced Journalism students of T.F. North High School. It seeks to provide an open forum for all members of the D. 215 community. Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the official position of D. 215 unless otherwise noted.



Senior Portrait Make-up Dates:
September 24, 25, 26, 30 October 1
Go to page 9 for more info.

Meet the new T.F. North teachers

Story and Photos by Anahi Martinez, Lily Krueger, & Gaby Barraza

Ms. Nieto loves listening to music, jogging, and reading Spanish literature whenever possible. Nieto began teaching at 29 years old, and after an 8-year break due to personal reasons, she began to teach at Lincoln Elementary School. Subbing was Nietos' first job at Lincoln, and it became a permanent teacher job in 2017 as a science teacher. Nieto has a very close friend who told her about the position at T.F. North, and since Nieto knew since she was younger that this was her dream, she took it. Nieto has always had a passion for teaching and helping students; in her heart, she knew that was all she wanted to do. Nieto advises the students at T.F. North to have dreams, set goals, and realize they can accomplish anything they want with a plan, hard work, dedication, and determination.

Ms. Metcalf is a licensed cosmetologist in Illinois and Indiana, which is also what she teaches here at North. She is extremely passionate about what she does. Metcalf has been teaching since 2013 and says the students are what motivates her to teach. She found out about TFN through the website when she previously worked in an administrative role at a different school and ultimately decided to make the transfer as it was closer to home. She said that she enjoys giving back to the community and believes that the cosmetology program here at TFN is amazing, but the main reason she began teaching was to change the industry. Metcalf's advice to the students here at North is to stay focused, stay encouraged, and practice self-care.

Ms. Vaughn graduated from college and worked at T.F. North as a VSA teacher last semester. She was applying for jobs when she got a call from North. She loves reading and is passionate about writing. She's an English teacher and teaches the 9th and 10th grades. She decided to come to T.F. North because she likes the student involvement here, and it also suited her values, as well. She decided to become an English teacher because she is passionate about helping students. She's very good at helping students connect books to their own lives. Vaughn advises that the students should try to get involved with the school because you never know the possible opportunities.

Mr. Hampton has been coaching football for over 15 years, has served in the military, and is a current barbershop owner. He teaches barbering here at TFN and was an assistant dean at his previous school before transferring to TFN. He said that he discovered TFN through our website and chose to work here to help and benefit kids with his knowledge regarding the barbering field. He became a teacher as it was his lifelong passion and he has a strong desire to benefit others and play a key role in their potential success. Mr. Hampton believes students are a reflection of their reality, so what you put out reflects who you are.

Mr. Hernandez has been teaching for 13 years. He teaches Algebra 1 mostly for freshmen. He enjoys coaching track and cross country. He has a wife and two kids, a 7-year-old son and a 3-year-old daughter. He enjoys spending time with his family, and he loves movie nights. Hernandez loves watching basketball and is a huge Purdue fan. His previous position was as a high school math teacher at Merrillville High School in Indiana. He was also the head girls cross country coach and head track coach for the high school. He decided to come to T.F. North because his wife went to South, and he liked the education program better in Illinois. It was closer to his home as well. Hernandez decided to become a math teacher because he's always been great at math, and he had teachers who've impacted his life and he wanted to follow in their footsteps. Hernandez advises the students make sure they are doing what they can to lead them to a better life however they will define that.

Ms. Cheers is the youngest child of five. She enjoys Legos, puzzles, and video games. She is a huge Marvel fan and loves action movies. Her position at T.F. North is the band director. Cheers has always been passionate about music her whole life, and the main reasons she decided to be a band director were so she can give back to the community and her musicians can take the next step. She heard about T.F. North through Battle of the Band when the marching Meteors performed. Her previous position was the director of band at Huth Middle School. She directed marching, concert, symphonic, and jazz bands. She decided to come to T.F. North when she saw the performance and saw potential in the marching band. Cheers advises that students should think about their future and how their actions will affect them in the long run. She also said that she would love it if the students came out and supported the band at the Rich Township Marching Band Festival on October 19th.



Top: Ms. Metcalf & Ms. Vaughn
 Middle: Ms. Nieto & Mr. Hampton
 Bottom: Ms. Cheers & Mr. Hernandez

Future Teachers Club

Sponsor: Mrs. Bivins

Email: wbivins@tfd215.org

Are You Interested In a Career in Education?

You may be interested in pursuing a career in early education, elementary, middle, or high school. You may want to teach your favorite subject, be a coach, or maybe even be an athletic trainer. If this is something you want to do career-wise, well,

THE FUTURE TEACHERS CLUB IS FOR YOU!

What Do We Do?

The Future Teachers Club is sponsored by Mrs. Bivins, and it will provide you with activities and events that will build your resume and help you get accepted into a college or university education program. This club will develop your leadership skills and allow you to network with professionals in the educational field.

Your Future

It will also expose you to various scholarship opportunities available to future educators! Also, once you are in college, we will provide mentorship that will guide you as you navigate your post-secondary education!

How To Join?

Scan the QR Code below & complete the Google Form
Join our Remind101 by texting -
[@teach3e](https://www.remind101.com/join/@teach3e) to the number 81010

Send [Mrs. Bivins](#) a message once you join [Remind101](#) and she will send you more Information!

Or you can email [Mrs. Bivins](#) at wbivins@tfd215.org



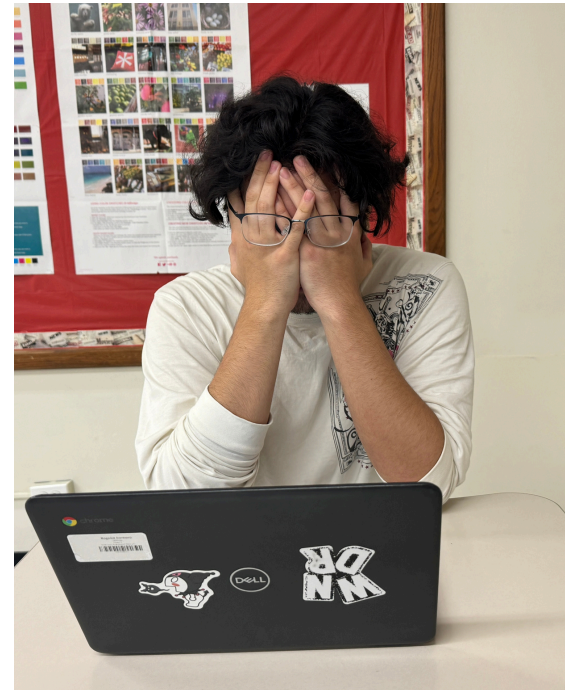
Story and Photos by Jasmine Pastrana, Rogelio Romero, and Ximena Gutierrez

A week in the life of a Thorntonian Staff member

A behind-the-scenes look at the process of how we create a newspaper

Some of you might wonder what it is like to be part of the Thorntonian Staff. A typical week as a Thorntonian Staff member goes like this. After one of our issues is released, we celebrate because it's not that easy to put a newspaper together, especially since some of us still don't know what we're doing. Then, we plan the next issue. As a class, we have group meetings and share ideas or events that can make a good story. Then after that we get to make Instagram reels to help promote the issue. Making social media posts is one of our favorite parts of this class. It feels like free time because of all the creative things we get to post. We love coming up with ideas based on what is trending on TikTok. We hope our audience gets our sense of humor. Don't get us wrong, there are still some challenges that we have to go through as reporters to get our stories published. In class, we have deadlines that we have to meet in order to get our paper published. It does add pressure but not enough to freak us out.

Sometimes the people we need to interview are either busy, cancel at the last minute, or never get back to us, which makes writing our stories even more stressful. Writing is different for every reporter on the Thorntonian Staff. Some of us have more difficulty than others. Mr. Stephan is the main reason we are all on track. He is always motivating us to move forward and come up with good ideas. Yes, he talks to himself all the time, but he has a great sense of humor that always makes us laugh and smile. He makes sure that everyone is enjoying the class. Our class environment feels like a big family. Everyone is always there for each other. Everyone is helping one another with whatever they can. We think the extra support plays a big role in getting an issue out on time. This is our favorite class, and we enjoy every moment we spend together. Overall, we do have a lot of fun with the Thorntonian, but it still takes a lot of work. Now if you'll excuse us, we're going to go celebrate since this issue is done!



Above: Social Media Director Rogelio Romero struggles to find ideas for his story.



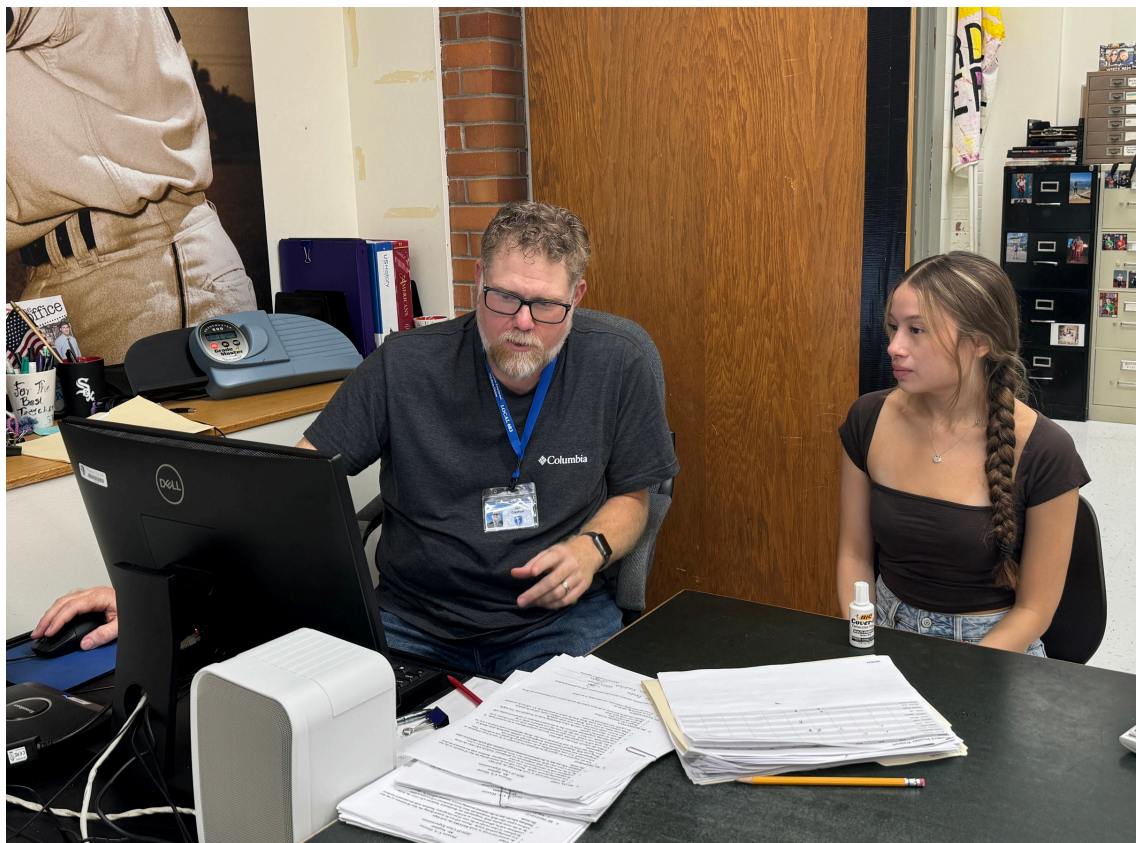
Middle: Thorntonian Editor-in-Chief Aidan Jordan helps new Thorntonian Staff report Luis Pelayo with his beanie story.

Bottom: Mr. Stephan helps new Thorntonian Staff reporter and Editor-in-Chief of the Chronoscope, Marisol Nicasio.

Photo credits: Ximena Gutierrez

Story and Photo by Marisol Nicasio Was Shrek really at T. F. North?

On Wednesday, August 28th, senior Jose Ruiz was inspired to come to school dressed as one of his favorite characters, Shrek, "I like Shrek. He holds a special place in my heart. I saw the costume and just had to buy it," said Ruiz.



Attention Artists: now is the time to be involved

Emily Sanchez, Art Director

Welcome all fellow artists of T.F. North. My name is Emily Sanchez, and I am the Art Director of the Thorntonian and a member of the Visual Arts Club. The school has many opportunities for young artists to express themselves through art. I encourage all artists at T.F. North to participate. Do not feel discouraged and give the Visual Art Club a try! You can submit your artwork for their future contests. You can also email your work to the Thorntonian to be featured. Our email is thorntonian@tfd215.org. WE DO NOT ACCEPT A.I. GENERATED WORK.



Artwork by Anahi Martinez



Artwork by Reyna Guardiola-Villalobos



Artwork by Alexa Castillo



T.F. NORTH HIGH SCHOOL 2024 YEARBOOK SALE



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Complete this form (one per order) and return to Mr. Stephan with a cash or a check made out to TF NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

YEARBOOK PRICES		PURCHASER INFORMATION	
YEARBOOK	QTY ____ x \$30.00 = \$ _____	FIRST NAME	_____
NAME IMPRINT	QTY ____ x \$ 5.00 = \$ _____	LAST NAME	_____
TOTAL DUE: \$	_____	GRADE	_____
		PHONE	_____
		EMAIL	_____

WE are PROUD to SUPPORT TFN!



Dine in or Carry Out

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Simply, present this flyer or mention TFN Junior Board/Visual Arts Club & Don Pedro will DONATE 15% of your food sales!



Spread the word ~ tell everyone you know!

316 Torrence Avenue, Calumet City

Call 708.862.7747 to place a carry out order or Dine in

NO DELIVERY ORDERS/UBER Eats/Doordash apply to this event

Donation is on FOOD sales only. Present this flyer upon ordering. No credit cards taken over the phone.

GUEST PLAYLISTS

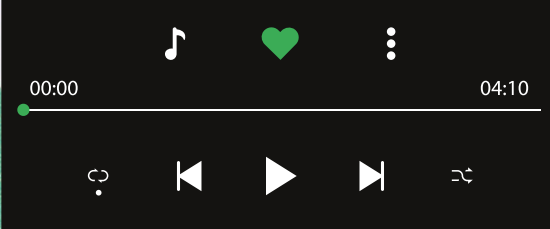
Curated by
Tianna Bowen & Marisol Nicasio

Have a song you love so much that it's always on repeat? These are the songs we can't get out of our heads!

Do you have a song you would like to add to our Hispanic Heritage Month playlist? Email your suggestions for Hispanic Heritage Month Playlist to thorntonian@tfd215.org. Be sure to use your school email address and include your first and last names and your grade. Only school-appropriate suggestions will be accepted. Please limit your suggestions to 5 songs per playlist. The deadline for submissions is 3:30 pm on September 10, 2024.

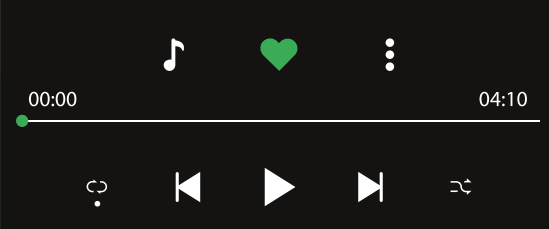
Thorntonian Staff's Picks:

- "No Air ft. Chris Brown" by Jordin Sparks
- "August" by Taylor Swift
- "Die With A Smile" by Lady Gaga & Bruno Mars



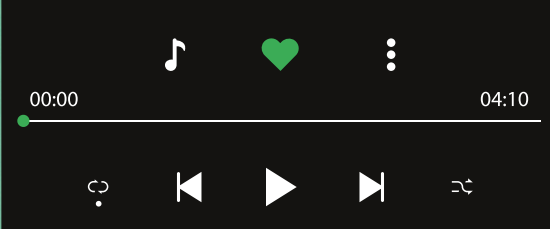
Ricardo Juarez Diaz's Picks:

- "Hasta La Muerte" by Eslabon Armado
- "Olvidarte Como" by Banda Carnaval
- "Wherever I May Roam" by Metallica



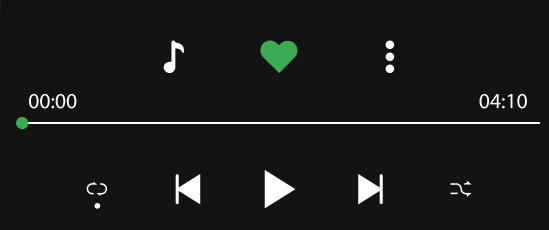
Keniyah Stephenson's Picks:

- "Bad Religion" by Frank Ocean
- "The Diner" by Billie Eilish
- "Like a Tattoo" by Sade



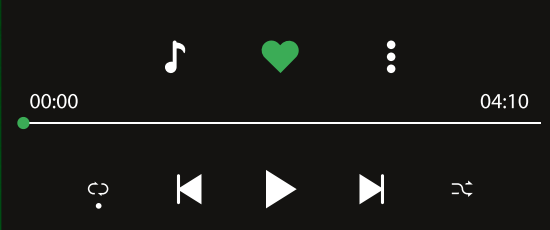
Yesenia Reyes's Picks:

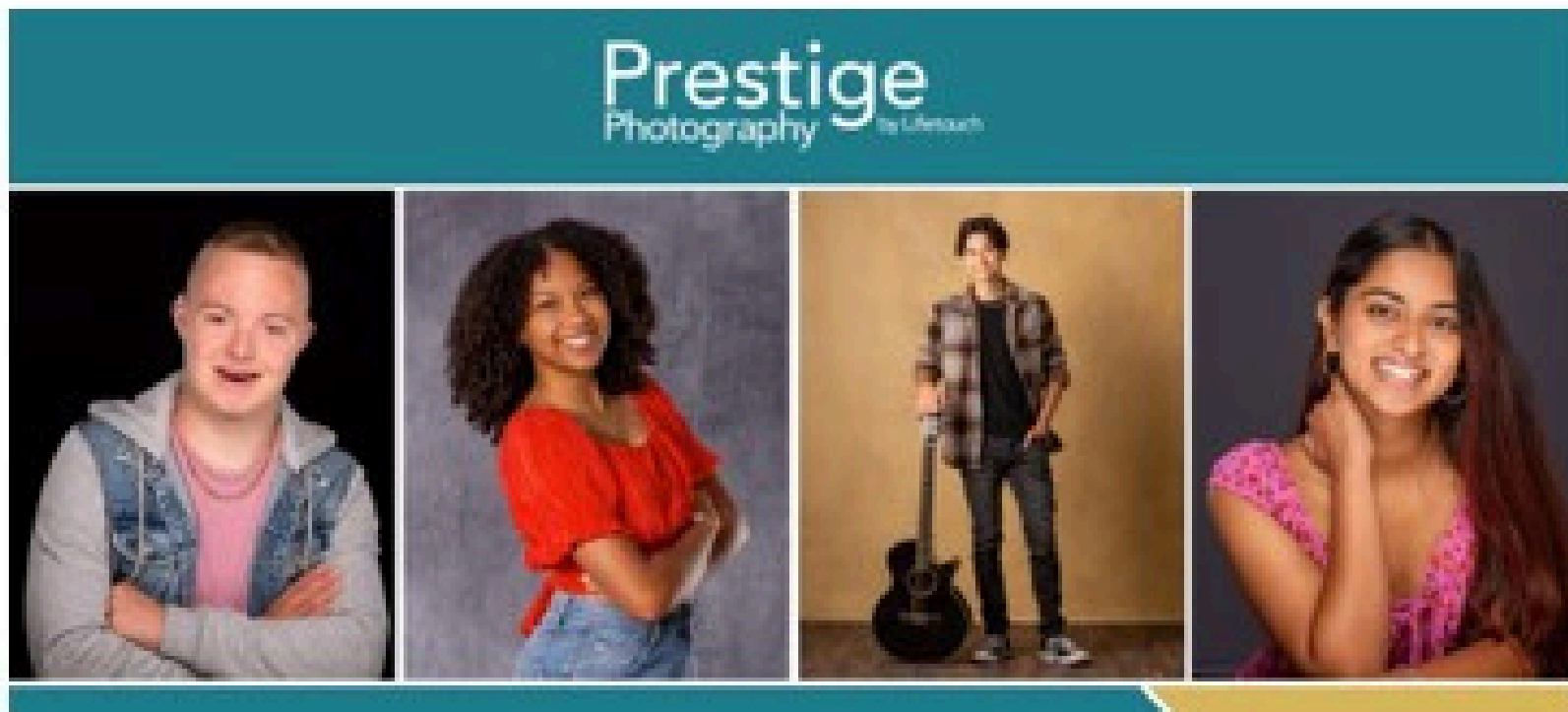
- "You Might Be Sleeping" by Clairo
- "Heavy" by The Marias
- "Mist" by Ateez



Delvin Miller's Picks:

- "I Know You" by Faye Webster
- "Blessed" by Wizkid
- "Residuals" by Chris Brown





Class of 2025 Seniors!

Prestige Photography has been chosen as your senior photographer.

How to prepare for your senior picture session:

1. You will receive a notification within 4 weeks.
2. Once you receive the notification, go online to prestigeportraits.com to Schedule your appointment.
3. For tips about your upcoming session and outfit inspiration, visit prestigeportraits.com.
4. If you have any questions call 1-800-736-4775

To be included in the yearbook, you must be photographed by Prestige Photography.

Story by Ivy Finley, Staff Reporter

Max Montesinos: two-sport star

Max Montesinos is an impressive two-sport athlete who is only a sophomore. Montesinos plays varsity football and soccer in the fall season. Students playing two sports within the same season are rare, however the coaches like to encourage athletes to pursue whatever interests them. Head Coach Lagunas of the boys varsity soccer team remembered a two-sport athlete named Rafael Alvarado who played for North when Coach Pignatiello was still a student. Head Coach Pignatiello said that the football program respects the soccer program, and enjoys working with their coaches and players when student-athletes have to split time between two sports. "We have nothing but respect for what they do," said Pignatiello. Montesinos was committed to coming early during the summer to do reps for football before going to soccer. Playing soccer since his childhood, Montesinos is now on the varsity soccer team. According to Lagunas, he is preceded by two older brothers who played in the program. "I'm glad he can influence two different programs," said Lagunas. Montesinos said that he's had a passion for sports for years. When asked how he balances two athletic schedules, Montesinos said that he receives support from his father and teammates. "I just stay calm and focused," said Montesinos.



Are You Interested In Being A Reporter Or Photographer For The Thorntonian? See Mr. Stephan In Room 142.

Upcoming Home Games:

- September 4:
 - Boys Varsity Soccer
 - T.F North v. Homewood-Flossmoor
 - 4:30 pm
 - Boys JV Soccer
 - T.F North v. Homewood-Flossmoor
 - 4:30 pm

- September 5:
 - Girls F/S Volleyball
 - T.F North v. Reavis
 - 4:30 pm
 - Girls JV Volleyball
 - T.F North v. Reavis
 - 4:30 pm
 - Girls Varsity Volleyball
 - T.F North v. Reavis
 - 6:00 pm
 - Girls Varsity Tennis
 - T.F North v. Eisenhower
 - 4:30 pm
 - Girls JV Tennis
 - T.F North v. Eisenhower
 - 4:30 pm

- September 6:
 - Boys Varsity Football
 - T.F North v. Chicago Hansberry
 - 6:00 pm

- September 7:
 - Boys F/S Football
 - T.F North v. Corliss
 - 10:00 am

Our Next Issue:
HISPANIC HERITAGE MO.