

THE TIGER TIMES

January 2025

The Tiger Times

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WINTER FORMAL

BY: GRACE WALKER, CO-BUSINESS MANAGER

The 2025 Winter Formal Dance took place on February 1st in the Commons area at Fort Scott High School at 7 pm. The student council decorated the Commons for the theme of Winter Wonderland. According to student council sponsor Mrs. Rogers, there were around 250 students in attendance. Seniors Sutton Horn, Caleb Elton, and Avery Stewart DJ'd for the dance. Many popular and fan-favorite songs were played that night, such as "Hot To Go" by Chappell Roan, "Party in the USA" by Miley Cyrus, "Sticky" by Tyler, The Creator, "Not Like Us" by Kendrick Lamar, "FE!N" by Travis Scott, "Never Lose Me" by Flo Milli, and "OD CRASHIN" by Baby Kia. The dance concluded around 10 PM. Winter formal was yet another success by the student council!

Seniors Jocelyn Fess, Cadence Hunziker, Annabelle Gorman, Avery Stewart, and Sutton Horn face the bright light and pose. Photo by Kiara Thompson.



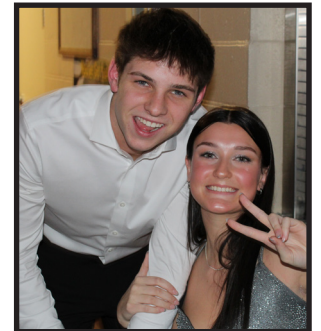
Senior Jaden Garcia grooves to the tunes at Winter Formal. Photo by Kiara Thompson.



Junior Raylee Cowan dances in the center of a dance circle. Photo by Kiara Thompson.



Seniors Sutton Horn and Avery Stewart take a break from DJing. Photo by Kiara Thompson.



Senior Annabelle Gorman feeling the beat and getting into the groove. Photo by Kiara Thompson.



Seniors Essence Mathis and GG Willard pose stunningly. Photo by Kiara Thompson.

SPIRIT WEEK

BY: ABBAGAILE SZCZEPANSKI

Tiger Times Editor

In preparation for winter formal students dressed out in an array of different themes to flaunt their school spirit. Monday was “PJ Day” which meant that students could dress in their most comfortable clothes. On Tuesday, students dressed up as “Fire vs. Ice”, meaning they dressed as if it was summer or winter. Next up, on Wednesday, the student body dressed as their favorite teacher. There were many familiar outfits and some incredible dedication to one’s character! The next day

was “Snowball” where students dressed in either all blue or white;



Jon Barnes poses in his fire outfit. Photo by Abby Szczepanski.

some students did both. On the final day, Friday, students dressed in their class colors: Freshmen wore grey, sophomores wore red, juniors wore white, and seniors wore black.

Sophomores Mary Maloun and Jessie Tate-Harper pose with their festive Bluey pjamas. Photo by Abby Szczepanski.



Top Ten Albums of 2024

BY: LIBERTY MICHAEL

Tiger Times Editor

2024 brought many great albums. The best albums include “Eternal Sunshine”, “Hit Me Hard And Soft”, “Chromakopia”, “Short N’ Sweet”, “Cowboy Carter”, and “The Tortured Poets Department”. Out of all the albums released this year, I will review which was the most influential and which had the best lyricism to determine the best album of 2024.

“Eternal Sunshine” by Ariana Grande was released in March and wasn’t as popular as a few of Ariana’s other albums. While some songs aren’t as popular, a few of the songs became hits. The biggest hit on this album is “Yes, and?”. This song was a huge hit compared to most of the songs on the album. Overall, this album wasn’t anything extraordinary, but the vocals, like

all of Ariana’s albums, are fire. 8/10 “Hit Me Hard and Soft” is Billie Eilish’s third studio album is full of hits. The biggest among them is “Birds of a Feather”. Also, almost all of the songs on the album have their own TikTok trend. The lyricism and beats are impressive and different than what she has ever done before. 10/10

“Chromakopia” by Tyler the Creator wasn’t worth the popularity it got, and I’ll die on this hill. It wasn’t a bad album by any means, but too many of the songs sounded the same or were annoying. A few of the songs were worth the fame, but most were not. Overall, Tyler can do better. 7/10

“Cowboy Carter” by Beyonce was overrated and underrated at the same time. At first, I assumed it wasn’t good because I had only heard “Texas Hold ‘em”, and thought it sounded like a fake country song.

After listening to the whole album, it’s not too bad. The lyrics are ok and most of the music is catchy. It’s just not as good compared to what she has released before. 6.5/10

“The Tortured Poets Department” by Taylor Swift was not good. The lyricism is mediocre compared to what Taylor can do, and the music is bland. It didn’t have a lot of popularity. Most people agree with what I’m saying about it. This is just nothing compared to Folklore and 1989. 6.5/10

“Short n’ Sweet” by Sabrina Carpenter was worth some of the fame. It’s good if you like pop music like that. The most popular song was “Espresso”, and it’s a good song, even though it was way overplayed. 8/10.

Overall, Billie Eilish’s “Hit Me Hard And Soft” was the best album of 2024 with both its lyricism and music alone being outstanding.

MONTHLY SENIOR ADVICE

FROM DAWSON KORINKE:

“Just take it day by day! Things will get better. :)”

FROM EMERSYN LOGUE:

“Befriend people that you wouldn’t expect you’d be friends with! Have fun!”

Valentine's Day is Dead

BY: BRONSON SMITH

Opinion Editor, Business Manager

Disclaimer: *This only discusses Valentine's Day, not romance, love, or anything else.*

Valentine's Day is a great example of how to turn a minor holiday into a multi-billion dollar money printer. Our culture believes that if you don't get your significant other a Valentine's Day gift, you are a bad person, you hate your partner, or something similar. I think about Valentine's Day a little bit differently. I think the best way to celebrate Valentine's Day is to just spend time with the person you love. Whether that is going out to

eat or staying home and watching your preferred YouTube slop channel. I believe if your "other half" breaks up with you over something as trivial as a lack of a box of chocolates, you should've broken up anyway. If you read this and think, "Man, I wanted a box of chocolates," then go with your partner and get some chocolate together and make it a date. Finally, if you're thinking while getting chocolate, "I hate spending time with this person," you should break up as soon as possible. I hope this helps in these trying times.

Girlhood

BY: GRACE WALKER

Print Editor, Co-Business Manager

It's scary growing up. We remember the days of Barbie dolls and tea parties, rainbow swimsuits and yard sprinklers, bows and Twinkle Toes sneakers. But, as we grow older, we lose the simplicity of being a child, especially that of being a young girl. If you're anywhere on social media, I'm sure you've seen the infamous "Sephora kids": a term used to describe young girls usually between the ages of 9-13 who shop at makeup stores for products they surely don't need. Because a numerous amount of parents are giving unrestricted access to smartphones, young girls are consuming content that is becoming harmful. It seems we are "getting older, younger". However, social media is truly not the cause. Expectations are what's to blame. Society forces more and more expectations on young

women as each year passes. These expectations drive girls to emulate the women in their lives. They learn to criticize their body, the way they look, and to put their childhood behind them. The effect is young girls hide their "childish" practices, but that young girl still remains. We wear bows and have our girl dinners. We watch old "Barbie" movies and put on dresses and spin in the mirror. We hang lights around our room and dress in pink. We giggle while we talk about who we like, and we dance like we have dreams of becoming a ballerina. My advice is to be kind to that little girl and take care of her. Let yourself be a girl because that's who we are. We are still just girls who are learning how to be a woman.

Student Spotlight

BY: GRACE WALKER

Print Editor, Co-Business Manager

Macey Conner



Senior Macey Conner poses for her senior photos. Photo by Kenny Felt.

Macey is a senior who is involved in activities such as Orchestra, Zero Reason Why, and NHS. Macey's favorite teacher at FSHS is Mrs. Clark.

Gabe Menser-Roberts

Gabe is a junior who enjoys drawing and creating art. He also has a big passion for Scooby Doo, both the movies and the show. After high school, he plans to attend an art college to pursue a career as a cartoonist. His favorite classes are Art and Work Skills.



HOMECOMING: FORT SCOTT V. INDY

BY: GABBI MAJORS

Tiger Times Photo Editor

The Lady Tigers basketball team had a successful game on homecoming night against Independence. At halftime, the Lady Tigers were up 23-3 and won the game with a final score of 38-23. Following the Lady Tigers, the Tigers basketball team went up strong against Indy with Marbery scoring the first two baskets. However, by the end of the first quarter, they were down 8-15. In the second half, the boys started hot with Kanin Brown hitting a three-pointer. Despite the Tigers fighting hard, they came up short 42-68.



Queen candidates: Seniors Lydia Witt, Annabelle Gorman, Avery Stewart, Jocelyn Fess, and Dakota Hazelbaker. Photo by Kendal Armstrong.



Winter Homecoming King candidates: Seniors Eli Martin, Sutton Horn, Jaden Garcia, Brody Gomez, and Blaiton Terry. Photo by Kendal Armstrong.



Senior Dub Chipman shoots a layup to cut the lead of Independence. Photo by Bryleigh Hymer.



Homecoming King and Queen: Avery Stewart and Blaiton Terry. Photo by Ella Regan.

Fort Scott Takes on Frontenac Tournament

BY: COLTON ROGERS, *Sports Editor*

Our Varsity basketball teams attended the Raider Classic Tournament in Frontenac from January 23rd - January 25th. The Lady Tigers finished No. 2 with two exhilarating wins, one of which went into double-overtime. They faced a riveting loss to Blue Valley SW. The girls played some very tough competition, and they showed up and taught them how to play Fort

Scott basketball. On the boys' side, the Varsity Tigers played Frontenac battling for fourth place. They came up short and ended up placing fifth in the tournament. Despite the loss to Frontenac, the boys picked up their first win of the season against Colgan and will continue to build momentum into the second half of the season!



Senior Ty Marbery gets the game started with a jump ball. Photo by Kendal Armstrong.



Junior Kanin Brown blocks a shot from the opposing team. Photo by Kendal Armstrong.

The varsity basketball girls hold up their 2nd place plaque at the Raider Classic in Frontenac. Photo by Jamie Rogers.



TIGER STRONG

BY: CLAIRE MCELROY

Writing Advisor, Sports Editor

The Tiger powerlifting team, led by Coach Martin, had their annual home meet on January 25th. Many schools were present, bringing in a total of 236 lifters to the event. The team did very well, and many lifters from Fort Scott placed in the top three for their respective weight classes. Results from the meet were as follows:

Girls

3rd place - Cassidy Eador, 105 and Delci Tucker, 215

2nd place - Ella Regan, 140 and Emily Moore, 165

1st place - Jocelyn Fess, 114

The girls' team also placed second overall

Boys

3rd place - Luke Harris, PWT

2nd place - Broderic Wright, 242

Congratulations to all of the hardworking powerlifters who were in attendance!



Senior Broderic Wright lifts 275 with his game face on. Photo by Annabelle Gorman.

Senior Jocelyn Fess squats slowly with precision. Photo by Annabelle Gorman.



Success for Tiger Wrestling

BY: MAHAYLA KILPATRICK
Editor, Social Media Manager

Our Tiger Wrestling team has held their own this season and has had quite a bit of success. They had a strong start with the boys and girls teams ranking, with girls at No.3 and our boys at No.9 for KWCA rankings. These team ranks wouldn't be possible without successful individual rankings. For our girls, we have Caellen Wescoat 5th in 105#, Kenna Miles 1st in 110#, Jerri Smith 3rd in 115#, and Ali Simhiser 2nd in 190#. On the boys' side, we have Trace Metcalf 6th in 150#, Brody Gomez 1st in 165#, and Lennox Vann 4th in 175#. In addition, girls wrestling

took home the Burlington Team Championship for another year in a row!!



Junior Kenna Miles throws down her Paola opponent. Photo by Riley Marchiano.

COACH FEEBACK RECEIVES THE HORIZON AWARD

BY: DAETYN FOWLER

Online Editor

Out of 32 teachers, Coach Feedback, who was nominated last year, was recently awarded the Horizon Award. The Horizon Award recognizes excellent secondary teachers (teachers who specialize in certain subjects at the secondary level). Teachers can be nominated for this award in their first year of teaching.

Last year, Coach Feedback was a Special Education teacher, and he feels that all of the Paraprofessionals and other SPED teachers deserve some kind of recognition, as well, because they made his first year easier by helping with all the challenging tasks that go along with teaching.

Coach Feedback talks with students in the student section during the basketball game against Independence.
Photo by Kiara Thompson.

He also shared that he was excited to have received the award as a new teacher. To close the interview, he stated, "FSHS is awesome because of the students, paras, teachers, and all other staff". We sure are lucky to have him at FSHS. Congrats Coach Feedback!



MLK Day

BY: LIBERTY MICHAEL

Editor

On January 20th, Fort Scott High School was not in session in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. We celebrate this day to remember his legacy of fighting for the rights of many people. After his assassination in 1968, the potential holiday was a controversial idea. Many people wanted the holiday, but it came up short of five votes in the House. But later, due to Corretta Scott King and Stevie Wonder's making of a petition that gathered over 6

million signatures, Martin Luther King Jr. Day officially became a national holiday after being approved by President Ronald Regan in 1983. Today, many people remember Martin Luther King Jr. on the third Monday of January by giving speeches, going to marches, or posting about it on social media.

Donald Trump's Second Term Begins

BY: CLAIRE MCELROY

Writing Advisor, Sports Editor

As of January 20th, 2025, Donald Trump officially holds the title of President of the United States for a second term. This marks the second time in history that a president has served two terms non-consecutively, and the first time a convicted felon has served as president.

Trump has faced many challenges through his political comeback. Though he was impeached twice in two years and faced criminal charges and convictions, such as fraud and defamation, a majority of Americans have allowed a return to the White House with a 312-226 electoral college win over former Vice President Ka-

mala Harris, securing all seven swing states.

In his inaugural address, President Trump heavily criticized the current state of the nation and accused the previous administration of corruption. He has already started to uphold his promises to defend right-wing values and alter existing U.S. immigration laws and tariffs on adversarial countries. On his first day in office, he signed 26 executive orders, many of which dealt with the U.S.-Mexico border. President Trump has proclaimed, "The American Dream will soon be back and thriving like never before."

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

- Martin Luther King Jr.



Thank you to our January Sponsors!

Club Overview:

Thespians are State Bound

BY: TOBI LARRABEE

Online Editor

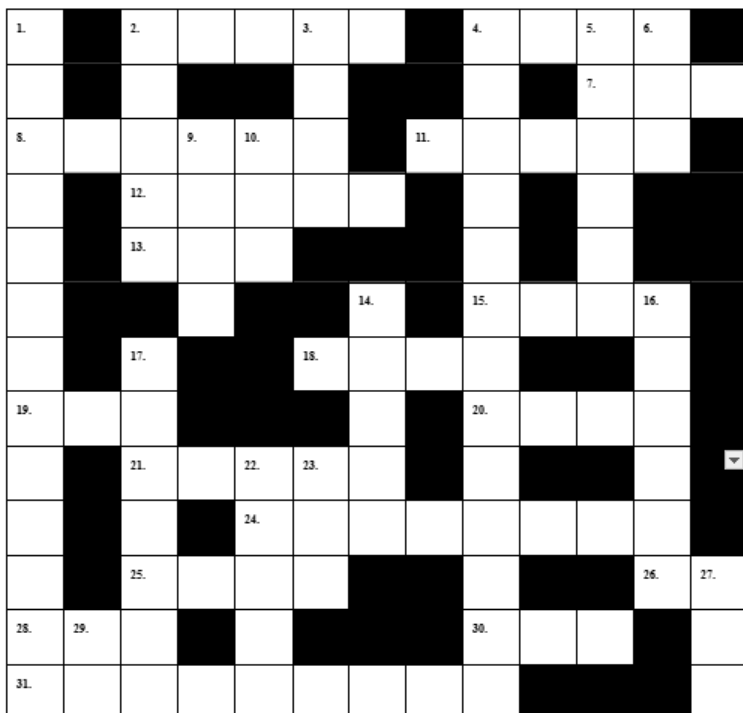
The FSHS Thespians attended the Kansas State Thespians Festival in Wichita from January 9th through 11th. The festival featured various workshops, including tips on performing and acting, as well as training and leadership development for the Student Thespian Officers. During the event, the Thespians enjoyed numerous performances, including “The Neverland Project” and “The Tempest”, along with the mainstage shows that were put on each night such as “Les Misérables”, “Six”, and “Hadestown.” Additionally, there were colleges and vendors there as well. The Thespians

showcased their talents by performing various Thespians like vocal performances, duets, monologues, and many more performances in all the technical aspects in hopes of qualifying for the International Thespians Festival in Indiana next summer. Additionally, the advanced drama class performed a one-act play titled “Brian The Comet.”

As a result of all their hard work, the group brought home a Gold Honor Troupe Award!



#ZERO REASONS WHY



Across

2. Superman's alter ego
4. All work and no ____
7. Fort Scott's regional acronym
8. Big Ben's home
11. Virtue; value
12. Discourage or prevent
13. To talk too much, in slang
15. Action performed on a board or cliff
18. Creators of *Boys Don't Cry*. The ____
19. Used to add a maiden name after the married one
20. Parker Brothers' toy gun
21. Fruit that comes in red or white
24. Mesozoic Era's staple
25. Hopper
26. Tuberculosis
28. Song by Bruno Mars and Rosé
30. Egyptian serpent
31. Before today

Down

1. Love's holiday
2. Sweets
3. Norse letter
4. February 17, 2025
5. Author of *I, Robot*
6. Second to last of the FANBOYS
9. To distribute cards
10. One true pairing
14. Bee's ruler
16. Force exerted by a machine
17. Gives a present once given to you
22. Love and respect deeply
23. Ham producer
27. What one can be as blind as
29. Physical education



MEET THE TEAM



Sophomore Abby Szczepanski celebrates her 16th birthday party with her friends and family. Photo by Caitlynn Tate.

Abby is an editor and writer for the Fort Scott High School newspaper. Her interests include watching *Stranger Things*, doing makeup, and listening to music. She hangs out with friends in her free time, watches movies, and draws. She participates in school activities such as orchestra, art, and the newspaper. Her greatest accomplishment in life is balancing work and school. Abby joined *Tiger Times* because she enjoys writing.



Sophomore Liberty Michael spends time with her dog Piper and a stray she named Boy. Photo by Truchel Michael.

Liberty Michael is a *Family Guy* fanatic who works on *The Tiger Times*. When she's not at work, you can find her doing several activities such as playing with her dogs, listening to music, drawing, crocheting, and writing for *The Tiger Times*. Her greatest accomplishment is her work in the newspaper. She says "The newspaper gives me a way to share my opinion." She's a great addition to *The Tiger Times* staff!

Newspaper Staff

Sypher Cannon, Copy Editor and Puzzle Editor

Daetyn Fowler, Online Editor

Mahayla Kilpatrick, Social Media Manager

Tobi Larrabee, Online Editor

Gabrielle Majors, Photo Editor

Claire McElroy, Writing Advisor and Sports Editor

Liberty Michael, Editor

Colton Rogers, Sports Editor

Bronson Smith, Opinion Editor and Buisness Manager

Abby Szczepanski, Editor

Kiara Thompson, Editor-in-Chief

Grace Walker, Co-business Manager

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