



Progress made on new scoreboards

BY LILY HALTER

The Huron Arena and Tiger Stadium are getting an upgrade, brand new scoreboards are in the works with the district.

When asked why the School Board decided to invest in new scoreboards, Huron School District's business manager, Kelly Christopherson, stated, "When Daktronics sold the school the scoreboards for the arena in 2004, the school was told that the scoreboards had an expected life of 10 years. We have used them for 20 years. The School Board has been actively studying the new scoreboards since 2022. The School Board decided to combine the

scoreboard purchase with the new addition to the high school." This has been a highly debated decision to come to, but will be for the better of the schools.

This upgrade also includes the scoreboard at Tiger Stadium, as the existing one was purchased in 2007.

According to Christopherson, several other upgrades are being made. "The other things are remodeling the high school FACS room, new welding room ventilation in the CTE Center, a new portion of the high school roof, an entire replacement of the middle school roof, some high school music remodeling, and

new middle school boilers." These changes were a long time coming and are necessary to the expansion of our growing school system.

When asked about a possible time frame for when the arena scoreboards would be complete, Christopherson answered, "The scoreboards have been ordered from Daktronics and they are building them. The goal is to have them installed before Huron hosts the 2025 State B Girls Basketball Tournament in March." This is an exciting time to be a sports fan and a student, the future of Tiger sports is looking bright.



PHOTO BY KIRSTEN DEGEEST

The current arena scoreboards have been in place since 2004. The new installations will bring Huron in line with many other AA schools in the state.

The superior grading system

BY BROOKE HUNTER

Huron High School must utilize a weighted GPA system. A weighted GPA system is a grading system where more challenging classes count for additional grade points. Many school districts across the United States, like Rapid City and Sioux Falls, use weighted GPAs, however, Huron does not.

Weighted GPAs are superior to unweighted GPAs for various reasons. First, weighted GPAs are more appealing to colleges. According to Forbes magazine, "A weighted GPA can give you a leg up against other applicants during admissions season." Thus, having an unweighted GPA puts students from Huron at a disadvantage to their counterparts from places like Sioux Falls. Additionally, weighted GPAs are more fair to students who enroll in difficult courses. Imagine that you take a challenging math class and get a B, while your peer takes an easier class and gets an A. In an unweighted GPA system, this would ruin your 4.0 and look worse for you in college than the student who took the simpler class. This is unjust and causes students to fear partaking in demanding but rewarding courses. After all, who would want to pointlessly risk getting a low grade to engage in a difficult class when, for some, getting a B or C is the end of the world? Instead, weighted GPAs incentivize entering demanding classes by giving students buffer points.

Some may argue that weighted GPAs are unfair to students who don't take challenging coursework, because they reduce their appeal to colleges. However, those students chose simpler classes, and weighted GPAs don't lower the grades of anyone engaging in regular courses. They simply give credit to those who work harder. It is clear that if we want to reward students for hard work instead of punishing them for it, Huron High School must switch to using weighted GPAs.



PHOTO BY KIRSTEN DEGEEST

School hours need to be reduced

BY SAY GLAY



PHOTO BY KIRSTEN DEGEEST

The Huron High School hours are too long and need to be shortened. There is no point of being in school that long, especially when half of the time, we aren't even learning. Each class is 75 minutes, resulting in free time at the end. Some classes do use up all the time given, but others don't. Instead of making the class hours so long, we can shorten them, and spend our days more sufficiently. Both teachers and students won't have to waste time until the bell rings.

The total hours spent during school are 7-8 hours, when it should only be 5-6 hours. If school started at 8:55 and ended at 2, each class would take an hour, including lunch. This would be perfect for everyone to spend the rest of the day however they liked, including extra time in the morning. Kids would be able to

practice more on their sport, make money, hangout with friends, and even finish up assignments. The problem with this is that there would be no room to fit in SRB. How could we find time to fit in SRB when the school hours are taken up? To fix this, we could change up the schedule to only having SRB's on Fridays. Each class would be 48 minutes, with lunch still being an hour. Students usually don't do anything during SRB, but if it were to be only on Fridays, they wouldn't waste 30 minutes everyday.

According to my research, grades 6-12 are required to have 962.5 hours of school (doe.sd.gov). That is why we have 175 days of school each year, but because of the required hours we only have to add 18 more days. Even during those 193 days, we get a lot of time to ourselves.

Huron construction is problematic

BY JESSALYN NOYES

The construction in Huron is unnecessary and inconvenient. Dakota, which is the Main Street in Huron, has been under construction for months and it's affecting people and businesses in many ways. The majority of businesses on Dakota are losing customers because people either can't or don't know how to access them.

There are others who have either been struggling and thinking about shutting down or have already shut down. This road has been under construction for months and it won't be finished



until October 2025.

This project is unnecessary because Dakota is known for its scenery and many trees, but with the construction they are tearing them out. This is being done to create a bike lane and have more

parking spaces. However, I've never noticed people riding bikes as an issue because they can just go on the sidewalk. I've also never seen there being no parking spots available. With this being done, cars have to take detours, which makes side streets crowded.

I can see why people may think this is necessary because many of these roads, including Dakota, haven't been updated since their original construction in 1931. These projects will cause the town to look better, but I think there is a much easier and quicker way to do so.

Best Christmas Crooner



BY KRISTIN WHEELER

In a matchup of Bing Crosby vs Mariah Carey, who would reign supreme as the top soundtrack of the season? Mariah released her hit "All I Want for Christmas is You" in 1994. The upbeat, bouncy pop song has overcome the difficulty of breaking into the Christmas song standards and has shown 30 years of staying power in the songs that we hear on the radio, at the grocery store, and at holiday festivities each season. While Mariah's song is undeniably catchy, it's not enough to fully encapsulate the feelings of the Christmas season.

Bing Crosby's radio version of the song "White Christmas" was released in 1942, and has spent 82 years reaching generations. Bing's holiday influence doesn't stop at just one song, his discography features many other classics such as "Silent Night," "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Jingle Bells," and "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas," and many more. Many of the songs we consider classics today are due to Bing's influence and his warm, velvety baritone that evokes nostalgia for the young and old alike. Bing Crosby truly shaped the sounds of Christmas. That's just not something that the self-proclaimed "Queen of Christmas" can match.

Whether Mariah's contemporary pop style song continues to hold its place in the Christmas hits generations from now remains to be seen, but we know that Bing Crosby's contributions to sounds of the holiday season continue to hold true. His voice and musical style have become the standard of what Christmas sounds like, and solidifies Bing Crosby as the king of Christmas singers.

Dogs are better than cats

BY MYLES CLARK

I believe dogs are better than cats for reasons such as trainability, adaptability, and loyalty. First, dogs are easier to train than cats because cats are too smart and self-sufficient to learn what you teach them. Whereas a dog, you can train them to a variety of different jobs. For example, guard dogs, guide dogs, emotional support dogs, and rescue dogs. What can cats do other than catch mice? Dogs catch foxes and other pests that eat livestock.

Another reason why dogs are better than cats



is adaptability. Dogs can adapt to many positions and climates. Dogs, such as the Siberian Husky, can take to cold air of the Arctic, the Great Pyrenees Australian Shepherd mix can guard

herds of animals, and the Bernese Mountain Dog can find and rescue people lost in the snow. What adaptability do cats have? The ability to sleep anywhere?

Finally, dogs are much more loyal than cats. Dogs are a man's best friend for a reason. They see us as their family. While cats see us as their property, or as their servants. Also, cats are a problem in Great Britain. They are considered pests because they kill most of the wildlife. That is why I believe dogs are better than cats.

Why funding NASA supports America

BY JAXON ANDRU

While many people brush off NASA as an unnecessary use of government money, the inventions made by NASA make life easier for millions daily. NASA uses a whopping 22.6 billion dollars yearly, which is only 0.3% of the national budget for space exploration. However, while that may seem like an exorbitant amount, due to the restrictive and expensive nature of personnel and especially making spacecraft, NASA can only perform a few



PHOTO BY AURORA DREYER

large-scale missions at a time.

Even with these restrictions, NASA can still manage to make several groundbreaking inventions and discoveries. Among these inventions, include baby formula, which helps mothers unable to produce milk for infants naturally, and can save the lives of children worldwide. Alongside creating the tech necessary for new domestic products, NASA could help revolutionize old sectors of the economy. Mining, which has remained unchanged for thousands of years, should be outsourced to asteroid mining, most of which have a large number of rare metals on Earth like gold, lithium, iron, and others. However, this is still in its early stages, as explained by PBS.

Though people say that money could be better spent elsewhere in the government and helping our citizens directly, I believe that funding NASA is an expense that is well worth the cost. Thanks to discoveries by NASA, which doesn't only do space exploration, we know more about natural phenomena on Earth than we ever have before. Alongside this, the physics and science at NASA could revolutionize several industries if applied. However, since the space race missions have slowed due to lack of funding, with more, we could resume exploring our solar system and beyond.

The dangers of Teslas

BY IZZY SCHAFFER

Tesla's Cyber Trucks are often called the transportation of the future, because of their unique design, interior sound system, and the durability of the car.

One of the special features of this car is its durability. This may seem perfect for a car, but upon closer inspection, there are dangerous flaws. It's a known fact that every car model is crash-tested. What considers a car safe for most crashes, and what keeps the occupants safe is how impact energy is absorbed by the car instead of energy going to the occupants. According to "Crumple Zone Physics Demonstrate How Stiff Plastic Materials Can Help Prevent Injury and Save Lives" when cars "crunches" the impact energy goes to the car, rather than the people inside the vehicle. When the energy is absorbed by the car it prevents whiplash or even death in some instances. All of this to say, when the truck was subjected to a crash test, the car didn't crunch, which is very dangerous in cases of crashes. The lack of absorption could harm the occupants in the truck, but also there is a risk of seriously injuring people in other cars.

Another issue with this car is the "unbreakable" windows. This idea sounds good, but when you apply it to real situations, flaws are revealed. If the worst happens, a car crash takes place. Car doors could potentially be prevented from opening. In dire

situations, car windows are broken to retrieve people from cars. These aforementioned unbreakable windows demonstrated in videos on social media, certain situations can become worse if the windows aren't broken as swiftly as they need to be.

While some improvements could be made to these cars, issues are so prominent that this car shouldn't be placed on the market for general consumers.



PHOTO BY AURORA DREYER

Wicked takes on the big screen

BY EMMA AHLERS

Wicked (also referred to as *Wicked Part I*), directed by Jon M. Chu, is the first of a two-part film adaptation of the popular Broadway play of the same name. The story serves as a prequel of *The Wizard of Oz*. It explores the origins of Glinda the Good and Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West. Ever since the film's release in the U.S. on November 22, it has been very successful. The film has broken multiple all-time box office records and is receiving an overall positive reception among fans. I believe that this praise of the film is very much deserved.

I saw *Wicked* the day after Thanksgiving, and when I left the theatre, I had much more intrigue for the story than I had before. At the start, the previous knowledge I had of the Broadway play was minimal. I knew the basic premise, and I had heard a handful of the songs, but I did not know the true depth of the story.

The movie starts the story after the Wicked Witch has been defeated. As the people of Munchkinland celebrate her death, one of the munchkins asks Glinda if she was once friends with the Wicked Witch. She says yes, and the scene transitions into the past. There are flashbacks of Elphaba's upbringing; she was discriminated against for her green skin. Her younger sister, Nessarose, meanwhile, is praised for her good looks.

After saving her sister from classmates from pushing her wheelchair through powerful magic, Elphaba gets chosen to be privately tutored by Madame Morrible, the Sorcery Studies teacher at Shiz University. Elphaba accepts her offer, hoping that with the opportunity, she could see the Wizard of Oz and ask him to get rid of her green skin. Unfortunately for Elphaba, she has to share a room with Galinda Upland (who later changes her name to Glinda), the most popular girl on campus.

Seeing the dynamic of Elphaba and Galinda evolve throughout the movie was very fun to watch. At the start, Galinda is an insufferable, bratty character; I hated her at first. However, this was done on purpose. It helps make her growth by the end of the film more satisfying. Elphaba, meanwhile, starts the story closed off and quiet. She gains a lot more confidence as the story progresses. Overall, the evolution of these characters over the course of the film is very interesting to follow.

There was a major plot point that I did not expect from *Wicked*. In the world of Oz, there are talking animals along with regular people. One of these animals, Dr. Dillamond, is a history professor who happens to be a goat. He is the last animal professor at the university. All throughout Oz, animals have been slowly losing their rights; some have even lost the ability to speak due to being silenced. Elphaba is furious once she discovers this; she becomes determined to help save them, and develops a



PHOTO FROM UNIVERSAL PICTURES.COM

friendship with Dr. Dillamond, as they are the only two people who respect one another.

With all that is happening in the world now, I truly believe that the message of this plot point is extremely important for people to hear. This concept is not something that just happens in fiction. It is real. There are so, so many groups of people being silenced for just existing. Discrimination is painted as a horrible thing in the film; we need to apply this to our real world and see that the discrimination millions of people face every day is not okay.

The music of *Wicked* is wildly iconic in the musical theater world. It is very important that the performances of these songs are done just right. A majority of the soundtrack was recorded live on set, rather than in a studio. That fact made the film feel even more like a traditional musical performance. It is also very impressive that they did this. The choreography of this film appears very high energy and complex. I am not a singer nor have done any plays, but I know that making sure the voice sounds good while dancing is very difficult. I was most impressed by Cynthia Erivo, the actress for Elphaba. During 'Defying Gravity,' Erivo is flying and spinning around on a broomstick; and she had to do this while singing. I can not imagine how hard this had to be. Her efforts paid off though, because her performance was chilling. The viewer can really feel Elphaba's determination and strength through her powerful voice.

In summary, I truly enjoyed watching *Wicked*. It is a fantastic film, with an amazing story, fascinating characters, and beautiful songs. I personally recommend this movie to anyone, even if they are not familiar with the Broadway musical.

Look no further for Christmas entertainment All the reviews anyone and everyone will need

BY ERIANNA DEVRIES

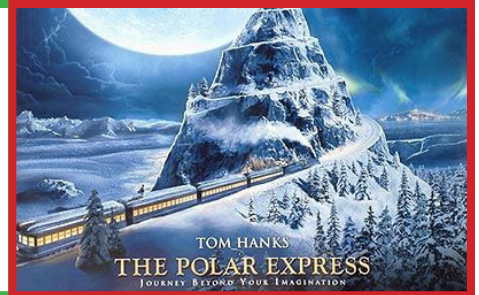


NATIONAL LAMPOONS CHRISTMAS VACATION

National Lampoons Christmas Vacation is one of the best movies I've seen. The movie is about the Griswolds having Christmas at their house with all of their in-laws and cousins. Clark Griswold's cousin Eddy comes to visit. His family lives in an RV, so he has to empty their shi**er down a storm sewer because it is full. My favorite part about the movie is when the squirrel runs in the house and cousin Eddy's dog chases him. A cat gets fried up and falls through the floor because it died. The Christmas lights on the tree cause one of the great uncle's toupee to get fried off. Another really great scene is when they are trying to find a perfect Christmas tree. In that quest they get stuck under a semi-truck, and have to get out from underneath it. They then run into a snow bank trying to avoid a snow plow. It truly is a good movie because all you do is laugh.

The Polar Express

A good Christmas cartoon would be *The Polar Express*. The movie is about never stopping believing in Santa no matter your age. The kids in the film go to the North Pole on a train. They get in all sorts of trouble and the hero boy mistakenly picks up a fallen bell. He gets to keep the bell and can only hear it if he believes in the Christmas spirit. The hero boy still hears it no matter how old he gets. Even when he had kids, he still heard the bell. I liked the movie because it is sweet and kind-hearted. It shows that no matter how old you are, you can never stop believing in Christmas. They also have one of my favorite Christmas songs "Believe" by Josh Groban. The song is a beautiful and sweet Christmas song. The song is exactly what the movie is about.



Home Alone



Home Alone is another Christmas classic. They produced three movies all about the same thing: Kevin getting left behind by his mother and family. His mom works hard throughout the movie to find Kevin, and goes to great lengths to find him. All the while, Kevin is just protecting his house from con-men. The movie was good because it's funny to watch the con-men getting hit with prank after prank. The con-men are dumb and almost get outsmarted by an eight-year-old boy. Eventually, he gets caught and saved by an old man. The mom comes home, and you realize that being left at home alone is not the best thing in the world, as you think when you are little.

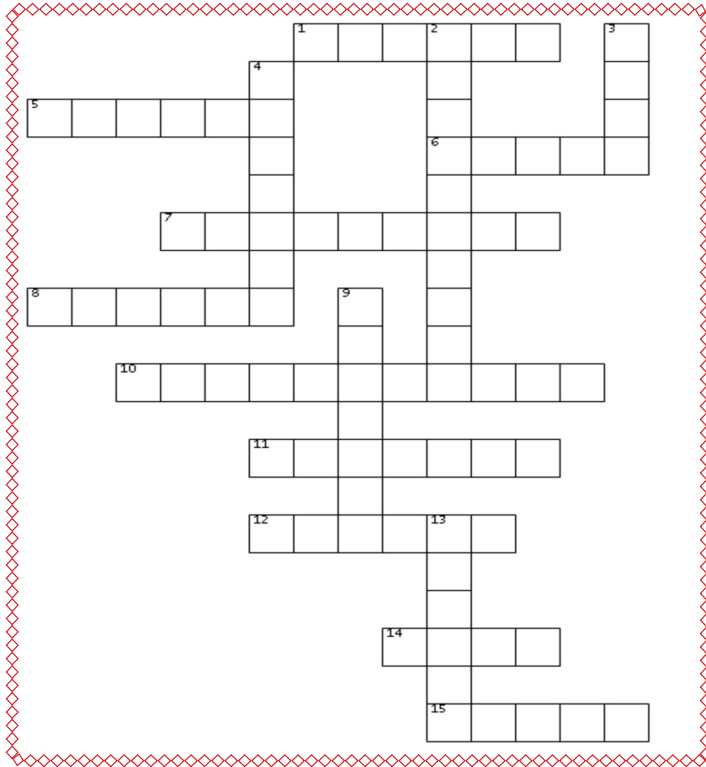
The Christmas Chronicles

The last movie is *The Christmas Chronicles*. I love *The Christmas Chronicles* because Kurt Russell's performance of "Santa Claus is back in town" was a fine job on a Christmas song. That song is one of my all time favorite Christmas songs because it is not super serious or really sad and slow. It is just the right amount of happy over what could've been a sad topic. In the movie two kids stay up and try to see Santa Claus. They do, but then they get in trouble and take Santa Claus with them. When Santa Claus performed that song it was in a jail cell. When he sang and he brought out that Christmas magic, the guards believed he was Santa Claus and let him go. He was able to deliver all his Christmas presents to all boys and girls with the help of the two kids.



Christmas puzzles

BY MADELINE KLEINSASSER



Across

- 1. Traditional dairy drink
- 5. Green Christmas decoration
- 6. Christmas song
- 7. Striped sweet
- 8. Famous snowman
- 10. Treat used to build miniature houses
- 11. Carrot-nosed figure
- 12. Santas ride
- 14. Frozen rain

- 15. Plant with red berries

Down

- 2. An opener or a famous ballet
- 3. The first Christmas, "The First ____"
- 4. How Santa gets in
- 9. Mean or miserly person
- 13. Green Christmas thief



3			2	9			6	
9					6	7		
	5			3				2
	8		7					
			8				1	9
2	6				3	5		
			5					1
1	4		6			2	3	
	2	5			8			4



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|-------------|------------|-----------|
| Cookies | Elf | Evergreen |
| Gingerbread | Grinch | Mistletoe |
| Presents | Reindeer | Santa |
| Sleigh | Snowflakes | Snowman |
| Sugarplums | Tinsel | Wreath |

BY AURORA DREYER

How many people does it take...

The Tiger Stripes Staff put students into the pink practice room in the music department. The first person to email Mrs. Rubish (sarah.rubish@k12.sd.us) with the correct number of people in the room will get a prize.

