

ALBUM OF THE YEAR



Cowboy Carter

WHO WAS ON THE BALLOT:



The Tortured Poets Department



Hit Me Hard and Soft



The Rise and Fall of A Midwest Princess



Brat



Short n' Sweet



Djesse Vol. 4



New Blue Sun

Westhill weighs in on the Album of the Year (so far)

Aleeza Ata
Reporter

The 2025 Grammy Awards were the talk of the town among students, especially regarding the Album of the Year category.

Beyoncé's *Cowboy Carter* ultimately took home the crown, however, if Westhill Vikings had to choose, the results might have been a little different.

This year, the nominees included a wide range of genres, from country and jazz to hyperpop and alternative.

The competition was tight, with many hits to choose from. However, in the final decision many people were disappointed with the winner.

"I think that Beyoncé should not have won Album of the Year," said Emilie Jacinto ('27). "Like, who listened to that album? I don't think anyone actually listened to it and thought 'Wow this is great.'"

Jacinto believed that Billie Eilish should've taken the prize home instead. "I think Billie Eilish should have won because more people genuinely listened and liked her album more than Beyoncé's and a lot of the songs went viral [from Billie's album]."

Many other people thought that Billie Eilish should've won as well. Its powerful message, unique sound, and TikTok popularity made it a clear winner to many students.

Bella Witt ('27) said, "I just feel like Billie should have won because everyone likes her and she makes such good music and she's so talented. Everyone is always using her songs on TikTok."

Witt also thinks that Beyoncé is no longer in the picture of mainstream artists anymore. "I feel like no one listens to Beyoncé anymore. I've never heard anyone say their favorite artist is Beyoncé."

While *Hit Me Hard and Soft* was clearly a fan favorite, another artist has also caught students' attention: Sabrina Carpenter.

"Out of the albums nominated for Album of the Year, I think Sabrina Carpenter should've won because I think the average person can name five or six Sabrina Carpenter songs from *Short n' Sweet*," John Raciti ('27) said. "I can't even think of one Beyoncé song."

He also thinks another album should've had a spot on the nomination list. "I also think Tyler the Creator's album should have been nominated, because it was very popular and had a big impact on a lot of people."

Although the Recording Academy chose *Cowboy Carter* as the Grammy winner, Billie Eilish and Sabrina Carpenter seemed to be the top choice on the charts and the school halls.

Whether it was Billie's range of emotional vocals or Sabrina's catchy lyrics, *Hit Me Hard and Soft* and *Short n' Sweet* have caught the eyes (or ears) of Westhill Vikings the most.

In the end, it's not about the winner of the Grammy trophy, but about the impression these albums left on our school community.

FEATURED ARTWORK:



A PORTRAIT of Kendrick Lamar at the Super Bowl Halftime Show performance in oil paint on canvas. Image by Tamara Hill ('26)