

# CLUB WORLD CUP



BY SABRINA BORMAN

The International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) Club World Cup is a tournament projected to occur from June to July 2025. It features 32 qualified soccer clubs from around the world, with the winning team set to be awarded a pool of \$125 million to \$1 billion. Senior Sebastian Diaz, a fan of the French club, Paris Saint-Germain, said that he believes they will be the team to take home the money at the end of the tournament. Within the team, there are 26 players, but Diaz said his favorites are Désiré Doué and Vitor Machado Ferreira—most commonly known as Vitorinha.

"I think Paris Saint-Germain is going to win because they are having a really good season right now. They are in really good form and have a lot of ability," Diaz said. "The entire team is good, but one of my favorite players is Doué because I like his confidence and since he is only 19 I feel like I can relate to him." Since the tournament is going on

from June 15 to July 13 in various cities across the United States, Diaz said he does not have any set-in-stone plans to watch it just yet. However, he said he will likely make some when the games start to come around. Mathematics Algebra 1 and Geometry teacher at the Bay Adam Cristo said he has a similar passion for the sport. Cristo said he thinks the team Boca Juniors is going to win the Club World Cup.

"I think Boca Juniors are going to win because they have Edinson Cavani and I believe him to be one of the best forwards of all time," Cristo said. "He is the fourth top South American scorer in the entire history of the Champion's League."

Edinson Cavani is a 38-year-old Uruguayan soccer player who performs as a striker for the Boca Juniors club. Some of his achievements include being a six-time French Champion and French Cup Winner. Cristo said it would be a great experience to go watch one of the games, so he will likely attend one. Multiple of the matches take place in the Hard Rock Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, such as those of Boca Juniors and Real Madrid. "Cavani took Uruguay to the quarter-finals in the FIFA World Cup, this was in 2010 but still contrib-



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY SOFIA FERNANDEZ

**FORZA INTER:** Father and son watch the Barcelona versus Internazionale Milano (Inter Milan) game after Inter Milan, the team they root for, qualified for the 2025 Club World Cup.

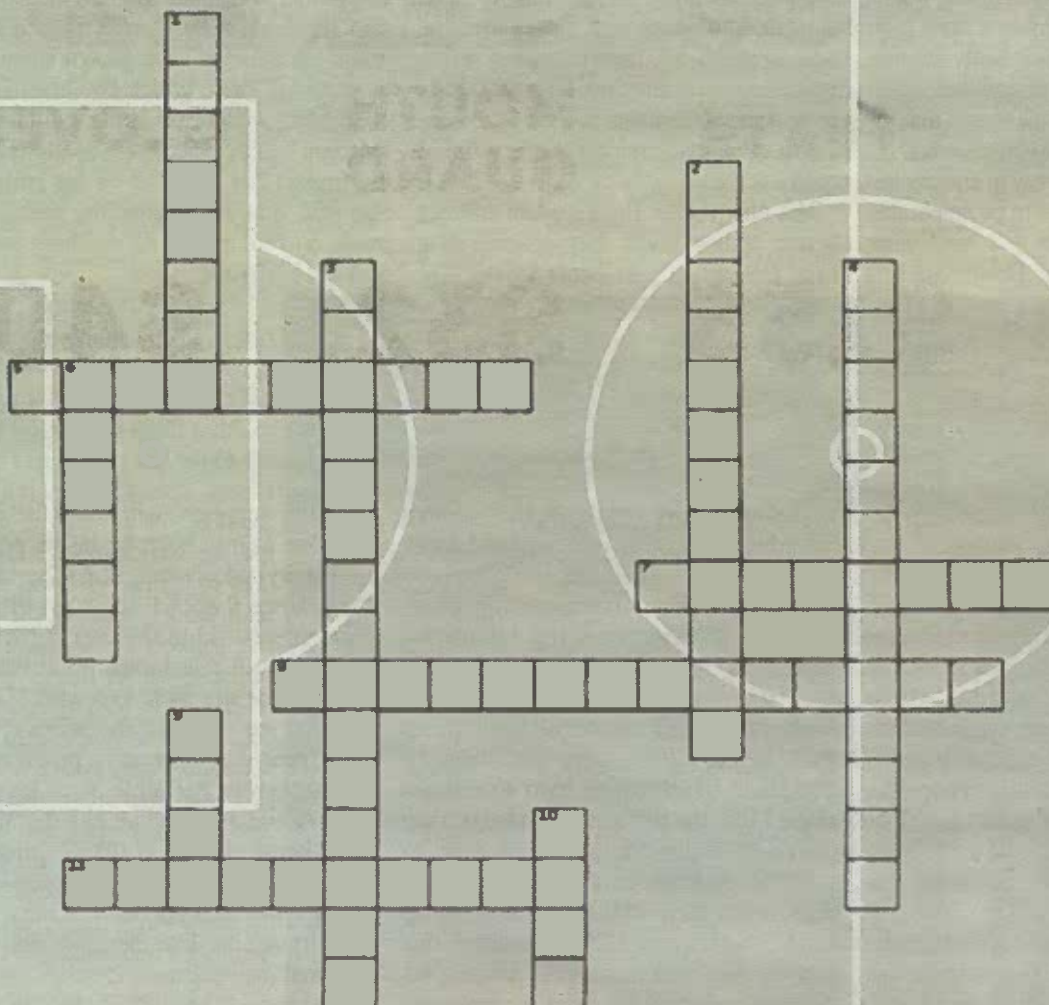
utes to his admiration since it was so unheard of," Cristo said. "I am trying to go to the Hard Rock to see one of the games. I am super excited, this is a once in a lifetime type of tournament that happens in the United States."

Senior Mariana Saninsai she is also awaiting this tournament, however, she is rooting for a different club. Sanin said she believes that Real Ma-

drid has the talent and players to win the Club World Cup, and she plans to watch the games with her family.

"I am supporting Real Madrid during the cup because they are the team I have been watching and rooting for since I was a kid because of my family," Sanin said. "I usually watch soccer games with my family since we are Colombian, and it is a big part of our culture."

## CLUB WORLD CUP CROSSWORD



### ACROSS

5. Team who has won the Club World Cup the most number of times
7. Stadium where the first game of the 2025 Club World Cup will be held
8. Former Club World Cup winner
11. Only player who can use their hands in the penalty area

### DOWN

1. What Soccer is known as outside of the United States
2. Country where the 2025 Club World Cup will take place
3. Only Austrian team to have ever qualified for the Club World Cup
4. Next stage in a knockout tournament after the Round of 16
6. Standard number of players in one team playing on the field
9. Organization in charge of the Club World Cup
10. A team receives one point in the overall tournament if they \_\_\_\_\_ a match