



The Flash

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Snow Days!

By Liz Povolny



Winter Wonderland

Every time I walk outside, or look out my dorm-room window, I notice the beautiful snow covering the ground like a white fleece blanket. Rather, it *was* beautiful until the snowplows had their way with it! Even so, we can all appreciate the beauty of this spectacular creation of God's.

Eau Claire road crews had to put in almost 300 hours of overtime just to clear the snow dumped on the area by the 9.4 inch snowfall on Friday and Saturday, January 21 and 22. That meant more than 16 hours of work for each of the 22 crew members serving just the Eau Claire area, forget about the rest of Wisconsin!

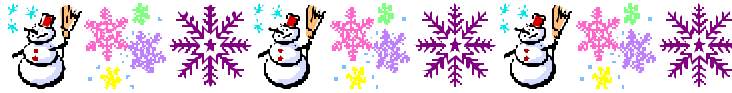
I wanted to take this opportunity to fill you in on a few interesting "snow-facts." Of course everyone knows that no two snowflakes are the same, and that each has six sides. But there's a lot about snow that we don't all know, and since we have to spend almost HALF our year dealing with it, we might as well know what's up!

Did you know that each snowflake is made up of anywhere from 2 to 200 separate snow crystals? A snow crystal is a crystal that has formed around a tiny bit of soil that has been carried up into the atmosphere by the wind. So snow crystals are really just dirt that has been wrapped up in ice. Do you still want to grab every fistful of snow you see, and eat it?

Scientists think that there are really four different shapes of snow crystals. All of them have six sides, except one that is shaped like a spike. The different shapes depend on the tem-



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Senior Spotlight!!

Full Name: Kristin Lynn Bomber

Q: Being the first born in your family, do you get any special privileges?-

A: Yes, I get my own room, but that's because I'm female. (I'm thinking! I think out loud!) I kinda get spoiled. I get to do things first, like I get to drive first...and that's pretty much it.



Q: What's the first movie you remember seeing in a theater?

A: I think it was Free Willy...I'm serious, I think it was.

Q: What was your first favorite TV show?

A: What kind of question is that!? I don't remember! I never really had a favorite TV show...but now I think it'd be Lost...such a good show.

Q: What is your earliest memory?

A: No, no, the earliest thing I remember is being a crayon?? No, no, it was with Mrs. Wuerch and we were part of a rainbow. But I was a cook who cooked the rainbow with Andrew Holland. That was in kindergarten.

Q: What's the first thing you do in the morning?

A: That's a dumb question. I don't really have an answer for it. I get up and shut off my alarm, if that helps you.

Q: Last words?

A: That's it? That's all the questions? I'd say, don't be a loser, play sports because if

you don't you'll be bored out of your mind on campus. From a Christian perspective, I'd say cherish the friendships that you make. You know what...this is dumb! I'm trying to think of the words to a song. Shoot... If you know the movie, I live my life a quarter mile at a time, nothing else matters, and for those 10 seconds or less I'm free.@ Libby, put in this thing from a song.

ANo, Bombs, it's too long.@

After much threatening...

*"I hope you never fear those mountains in the distance,
Never settle for the path of least resistance,
Living might mean taking chances,
But they're worth taking,
Lovin=might be a mistake,
But it's worth making..."*

-Lee Ann Womack (I Hope You Dance@)

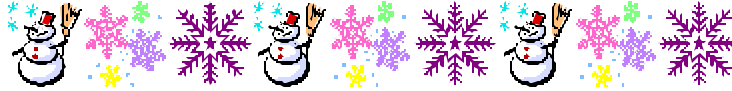
By Rachel Libby

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perature in the atmosphere. Also, if the crystals spin like tops as they fall to earth, they will be perfectly symmetrical. If not, they will be lopsided. As groups of crystals fall, they clump together to form snowflakes.

The way God turns something so ugly and menial as a particle of dirt into something so beautiful and fascinating as a snowflake is simply amazing to me. I hope that we can all appreciate it's beauty this winter, even while trudging through it to our next class... and who knows- maybe one of these days the Profs will declare a SNOW DAY!!!





Yeah, That's Kinda Weird!

By Jackie Beekman



It's the middle of winter in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and as I look around there seems to be a void. Something is missing. Then it dawns on me: no birds. No birds anywhere! The more I looked the more vacant the scene was. I guess I had never really noticed the vast array of birds that were all around me. As I continued pondering this newfound wonder, I thought about how the people in the south must feel. Do they think that it is weird that as soon as the winter comes, all these birds come flying in from all over? I would imagine they'd notice the difference, considering that the bird population almost doubles.

Migration is a perplexing topic. What if other animals had to migrate here to Wisconsin? Like, if it got too cold way up north and polar bears had to migrate to Wisconsin? Actually, that would be kinda neat. I love polar bears. If they weren't wild, were de-clawed and didn't want to eat me, I'd go give one a hug! But back to the subject. Can you imagine just having all the polar bears walking across the border and saunter on to campus? How weird would that be!

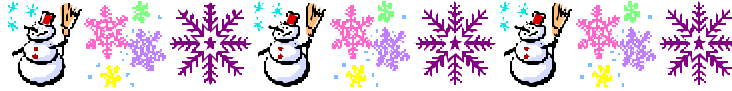


Another question about migration often brings a smile to my face. What if the birds got lost? I'm not quite sure that's even possible, but what if it was? I mean, what if they ended up in Australia or something? I've heard that they keep sparrows as pets, and I thought that was absurd because frankly, sparrows aren't the most beautiful bird in the world. But then I remember that brightly-colored parakeets, which we consider so exotic, are just as common to them as sparrows are to us. (Wow! I apologize for the fact that I keep getting so off subject!)

The one thing that I wonder, not to mention, wish, about migration, is what if people migrate? Now being from Wisconsin, knowing how insanely cold it gets here, and not liking it one bit, I don't think people migrating would be half bad! Come to think of it, that would be so awesome! No winters, but now intensely scorching summers would be so great, I don't even know!



It really is a shame that people don't migrate, nor do polar bears. But hey, I'll bundle up and stick it out for another couple months. But in all seriousness, it's truly amazing how God created an internal clock and compass in birds so they know right when and where to go. But it still is strange to look around and see nothing flying around in the air, save for a few snowballs. I have so many more "what-if's" on this topic, but I think I've reached my FLASH capacity for this issue! So in conclusion, there are so many bizarre things about migration that all I have to say is: Yeah, it's kinda weird!



Senior Spotlight!!!

Full Name: Samantha Rae Barthels

Q: Being first born, do you get any special privileges?

A: No, actually I have to do most of the work.

Q: What's the first movie you can remember seeing in the theater?

A: I don't really remember much before I was like 8. But I think it was Beauty and the Beast because I loved that movie when I was little.

Q: What was your first favorite TV show?

A: Rather sadly, it was Mr. Rogers. Mr. Rogers and Lambchop. And the Elephant show. But I always hated Barney.

Q: What's your earliest memory?

A: Well, like I said earlier, I can't re-



member a lot. I think it's when we moved into our house up in Detroit Lakes. That was when I was 6 and that was like a really big deal for me.

Q: What's the first thing you do in the morning?

A: Hmm...let's think through this. I take a shower. It would've been to smack my alarm clock but Erica does that now.

Q: Last words?

A: Well, basically put God first in your life as a top priority, and look to Him in all your troubles. This part will make sense if you think about it...no, let's skip that part. Oh, and don't mess with my other personality. Not a lot of people know about that but it's been going on for a while now.

By Rachel Libby

The Laws of Life...

Alabama:

Dominoes may not be played on Sunday.

Putting salt on a railroad track may be punishable by death.

It is legal to drive the wrong way down a one-way street if you have a lantern attached to the front of your automobile.

Arizona:

It is illegal for men and women over the age of 18 to have less than one missing tooth visible when smiling.

Hunting camels is prohibited.

When being attacked by a criminal or burglar, you

Collected By Bekah Barthels

may only protect yourself with the same weapon that the other person possesses.

Iowa:

A man with a moustache may never kiss a woman in public.

One-armed piano players must perform for free.

Kisses may last for no more than five minutes.

Michigan:

It is legal for a robber to file a law suit, if he or she got hurt in your house.

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Response to “Naptime”

Prof. J. Lau

Danielle Ryan, as ILHS students' rights advocate, once again posed an intriguing argument which, no doubt, is supported by the majority of students at Immanuel. The concept: permissible napping during daytime study halls. Although I acknowledge the logic behind many of her arguments I feel compelled to present the other side of the issue.

First, according to state guidelines for educational institutions, students must attend a certain number of class hours in a school year. We are allowed to include study halls as class hours only if they are educational in nature. Knowingly allowing students to sleep during these class times would seem to be an inappropriate application of the state's requirements.

Second, if study hall supervisors were omniscient it would make things easier. Perhaps there are stu-

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The Parsimonious Pedagogue

Today's topic is mail-in rebates (MIRs). In order to get the most out of MIRs one needs to know the strategy of those who offer them. The reason such large discounts are available through MIRs is that companies understand human weaknesses. They rely on the following:

1. A large number of shoppers will not read the ad correctly and assume the price listed for a product is what you will have to pay at the store and fail to see the **A**with mail-in rebate@in fine print.
2. Many shoppers who intend to send the MIRs will forget about it once they have the product in hand and end up paying full price.
3. Many shoppers will fail to keep track of all the items necessary to complete the

rebate form, e.g., the sales receipt, UPC bar code, the rebate form itself, etc.

4. Many shoppers will not meet the deadlines for the rebate offer and thereby forfeit the rewards.



With this in mind I offer the following suggestions. Always read the fine print. (And believe me, on some rebate forms it will be *very fine print*.) Get your paper work done the day you make your purchase so you don't forget about it. Make copies of everything so you have proof if you don't receive your rebate. Make a checklist of rebates and when you are due to receive them so you can cross them out as they come. Don't let businesses off the hook if they fail to send you a rebate that

you qualify for. Make a stink and don't back down.

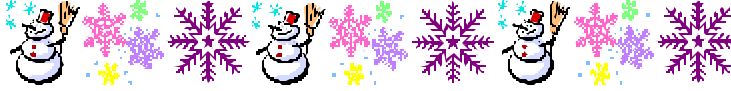
In my encouragement in the use of MIRs I leave you with just one of my success stories. Last year on the day after Thanksgiving I made use of mail-in rebates to purchase \$238 worth of goods for around \$40. A few items I don't even know how to use, but they were free. So if you receive a gift from me that seems rather odd, know I didn't spend too much on it.

Until next time **B** Never Pay Too Much!

P. P. P. S. (Parsimonious Pedagogue Post Script)

It is possible on rare occasions to not only receive things for free with MIRs but to actually make a profit. I'd be interested in the success stories of others in this regard.





Senior Spotlight!!!

Full Name: Rachel Rose Winters

Q: Being first born in your family, do you get any special privileges?

A: Yeah right! [Giggle] I still had to go to bed at like 8:30 till I was in 9th grade. And well...if you want to call getting blamed for everything a privilege!

Q: What's the first movie you remember seeing in a theater?

A: In Good Company...oh, what? Ohhh...the first movie EVER! The last one I remember seeing was Mulan... but that was in like 6th grade. I remember going but I don't remember the movie.



Q: What was your favorite TV show when you were little?

A: Hammer Man

Q: "Hammer Man?!"

A: I don't know. All I know is when I was little my mom hated the theme song, cause I used to sing it all the time.

Q: What's the earliest thing you can remember?

A: I remember crying because my mom wouldn't let me do something. I don't even remember what it was. But we were in our rented house with nasty shaggy green carpet. I ran in my room and cried on the bottom bunk. And I remember sucking my thumb because I sucked forever until my mom put that nasty stuff on it.

Q: What's the first thing you do in the morning?

A: Go to work! ("Jocely, hit the snooze!") No, I hook my hair under the bottom of the top bunk by mistake. And then... I don't know. Trip over all our junk to get to the door [much giggling and reminiscing]. Then Joc does the Napoleon Dance... *every day!*

Q: Last words?

A: I wanna say something good but not something that EVERYONE says. How about...[long pause] uh...trust in God. Don't leave your stuff in Sullivan's office, no. Leave the door to the bathroom open! [Giggling] Um...I don't know. The end.

By Rachel Libby

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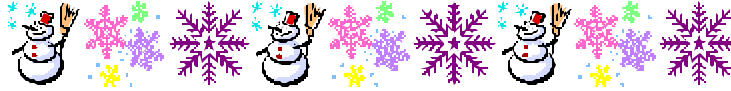
dents who would take quick, beneficial naps for all the right reasons, eager to make the most of their day. But my knowledge of myself and human nature also tells me that the "privilege" is ripe for abuse. Students would also use naps to make up for lost sleep due to playing video games, watching movies, etc., the night before. Sleep is also an escape mechanism, a way to avoid responsibility, and sometimes an utter waste of time and God-given abilities. How is a supervisor to know the nature of a student's desire to sleep?

Third, people who wake up from naps are generally crabby. Students leaving the warm lounge to go up in the bitter cold to Reim Hall for their next class would be doubly irritable and not a joy to have in the classroom.

Fourth, drool spots on our furniture would require professional cleaning.

Fifth, morning breath. Need I say more.

In conclusion, I am in favor of naps during the day if they benefit you and fit into your schedule, but I don't feel class time or study hall time should be used for that purpose.



It's Not WHETHER You Win or Lose, But HOW You Win or Lose!

By Chad Sebyt

I believe it is fair to say that we are all familiar with the saying: "Attitude is everything." Perhaps you have seen it used in a commercial or on a T-shirt. This phrase is most often used in connection with sports. And if I understand its use correctly, it is meant to convey the message that you need a tough, head-strong attitude in order to win.



The ILHS boys varsity basketball team gave me a new perspective of this saying at their last home game versus CFC. I don't know whether or not they played well. I don't feel that I have seen them play enough to make that decision. I will leave that to the coaches. That's their job. What I want to point out is that our guys lost well! I believe any fan could see that our guys were out-muscled and overpowered on the court. In fact, I heard a number of them make this statement. Also, any fan could see the frustration in our players as they battled this team. But I also hope that our fans saw that our guys did not let frustration slip into anger and anger into rage. They demonstrated Christian love by encouraging each other "do all to the glory of God." This they could not do but by the power of the Holy Spirit. It's not human nature to act this way. To God alone the glory!

I am happy to report that the guys varsity basketball team is not the exception on the campus of Immanuel Lutheran High School. In thinking back on my attendance of ILHS sporting events, this is a trend that I have seen over and over again: our teams win and lose well. There have been times when we have not won well, but rubbed the victory in our opponent's face, and there have been times when we have not lost well, but have pouted and complained about bad calls by the referees instead of humbly admitting defeat. In these circumstances, we should have had better attitudes about the game and striving to live to God's glory because it is He who chooses whether we win or lose.

So to Immanuel's athletes I say this: Attitude IS everything. Actually, it is your attitude on the court that determines whether or not you win or lose. You may beat the other team by fifty points and still walk off losers if your attitude did not reflect Christ. But when you walk onto the court or field with a Christian attitude, that is with the mindset that this is an opportunity to show the world what Christ's love means, you will always walk off winners regardless of what the scoreboard says. As the Lord says in 1 Cor. 10:31, "Therefore whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God!" Furthermore, "You were bought at a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Cor. 6:20)





Are You Ready For Some Football?

By Ben Meyer



February 6, 2005— four quarters, three wins to get here. Two teams, one champion: it's Superbowl time! Here's a summary of the Playoffs for those who didn't follow each and every minute of it. To kick off the Playoffs, the Rams beat the Seahawks. This win was followed by the fall of the Chargers to the Jets in the first round. The next day the Vikings finally got serious and conquered the Packers in Green Bay, and the Colts rode over the Broncos to finish Round One. The next week the Eagles flew over the Vikings, and the Falcons soared over the Rams. The Colts put up a good fight against the Patriots, but Manning's magic wasn't enough. The Steelers with the "Bus" (Jerome Bettis) rolled right over the great effort of the Jets. Now we come to the finals, #1 vs. #2 in each division. The air battle between the Eagles and Falcons ended in an Eagles victory, and the Patriots prevailed again, taking Pittsburgh easily, to advance to the Superbowl.

As the Eagles and the Patriots face off in Jacksonville, the question on most people's minds is this—will the Patriots be the first team to win two consecutive Superbowls since the Broncos victories in '98 and '99, or will the Eagles surprise us all and take the victory? Rooting for the Eagles seems a little more risky— this is the first NFC Championship they've won in twenty-four years, even though they've been one of the contending teams for the past three years. In the last three NFC Championships the Eagles lost to St. Louis, Tampa Bay, and Carolina, and two of those games were at home! On the other hand, the New England Patriots have been winners of two of the last three Superbowls, beating the Rams in 2002 and the Panthers in 2004. So who will come out as the victor of Super Bowl XXIX? The game will be showing at 6:30 p.m. (E.T.) on FOX- don't miss it!



(Continued from page 4)

It is illegal to kill a dog using a decompression chamber.

It is illegal to paint sparrows to sell them as parakeets.

Minnesota:

All bathtubs must have feet.

A person may not cross state lines with a duck atop his head.

Nebraska:

If a child burps during church, his parent may be arrested.

The Credit Goes To...

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