

The FLASH

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Senior Spotlights

Full Name: Benjamin Andrew Sumei
 R: What's your favorite thing to do in the great city of Eau Claire?
 B: That's a dumb question. Um, my favorite thing to do in Eau Claire would have to be just hanging out with the boys and causing trouble.
 R: What about Kimbo?

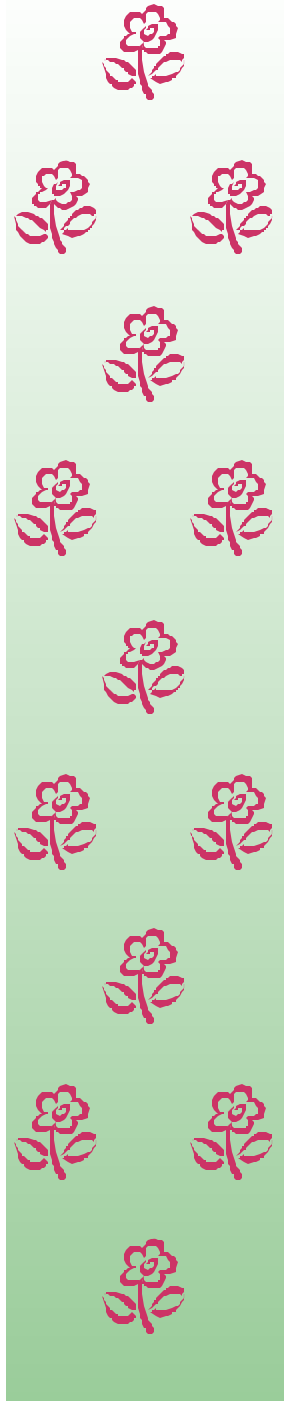
B: She doesn't count for this.... okay, long walks on the beach...
 R: What's your favorite kind of ice cream? (What brand, what flavor, why, whatever...)
 B: Mint chocolate chip... or is it... yeah the green one with the chips. The little bunny rabbit one.
 B l u e B u n n y . That's it.



shoes... Nike or Adidas?
 B: Nike.
 R: What's your best dorm/ high school memory?
 B: Off-roading in Altoona with the guys.
 R: Did you go off-roading in the sweet y e l l o w truck?
 B: You mean H e r m a n ?
 Yes, I did.
 R: How has your experience at

Arby's been all in all?
 B: Interesting to say the least. But definitely a lot cooler with Andrew and Rachel.
 R: Last words?
 B: Enjoy your high school years as much as you can because they'll be gone before you know it. And always remember to keep the Lord in mind in everything that you do.
 R: Speaking of

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Monopoly? Really?

By Roberta Abbott

I live for the simple pleasures in life. For instance, this desk. This desk is massive. It is so big I almost don't know what to do with it. Normally, the students here at ILC spend all their time trying to figure out how to manage a school book (to look like you're paying attention and maybe follow along a little), various notes passed from around the room, the current letter you're working on to whomever, perhaps a Flash article, and of course, the essential sleeping space. There simply is not enough room on the desktop to complete all these functions without dropping something or being humiliatingly exposed in front of the class as a failure at the students' multi-tasking chore. This desk, however, is so large that I have plenty of room to do as I please - I bet I could play Monopoly if I was so compelled. Check out the massive desk in the back left corner of room 8. It is fabulous.

Another Spectacular Spotlight...

Full Name: Andrew John Squires

R: What's your favorite thing to do in the great city of Eau Claire?

A: Oh man. I dunno, Eau Claire? Well, my favorite thing to do in Eau Claire, would be hanging out with friends, and going to the Acoustic on weekends. I like to go disc golfing at Tar Ridge, when I get to go. But right now



you heard of it? Well, anyone

it's too cold.

R: What's your favorite kind of ice cream?

A: My favorite kind of ice cream would have to be Blue Moon ice cream. Not many people have heard

of it. Have

that I've ever talked to has agreed with me.

R: What brand is it?

A: I don't really know; it's almost like a novelty flavor. You can only find it at like the little ice cream parlor places. There's this one called Lick's by my house; it's pretty awesome.

R: Whose shoes would you rather be in right now... Martha Stewart's or Michael Jackson's?

A: I'd have to say Martha Stewart's, uh... yeah. I don't have much more to say on that.

R: You'd rather be a woman?

A: I'd rather be convicted of insider trading than of what Michael Jackson's up for.

R: Speaking of shoes... Nike or Adidas?

A: You know what? A lot of people probably already know this, but I don't really care about sports or sports brands... you know what? Etnies. I don't really have any of that other stuff. I don't really know what that's all

about.

R: What's your best dorm/ high school memory?

A: I'm gonna have to think of something appropriate here... let's see... there's so many! There's probably too many to just pick one... but like, I dunno.

R: Just pick one.

A: Everything kinda like goes into one. I guess dart baseball is pretty good, in the guys' dorm. I think I drank like twelve cans of soda.

R: What exactly happens at dart baseball, anyways?

A: Well, it's dart baseball, and then... it gets kinda interesting. The things people wear, or lack thereof. Yeah, it just gets pretty crazy.

R: Last words?

A: Man, I'm not good at this whole interview thing. Well, take it easy. Don't work too hard. And stay with God. Everyone says that, but it's true.



Springy Spotlight

Full Name: Madeline Anne Wright

R: What's your favorite thing to do in the great city of Eau Claire?

M: Driving along the little railroad tracks at Carson cause that's always entertaining. And yelling things out the car window, waiting for a [certain someone] to stop by... picking up cones.

R: What's your favorite kind of ice cream? (What brand, what flavor, why, whatever...)

M: Ooh! That is a good question! There's just so many ice cream flavors in the world! I'd have to say Baskin Robbins' Pralines and Cream. That caramel just melts my tastebuds.

R: Whose shoes would you rather be in right now...

Martha Stewart's or Michael Jackson's?

M: Dorothy's. (Hysterical laughter) She's got those red ruby slippers. What else could you ask for? You just click 'em and you go anywhere. But back to the question... Not for the trouble he's in, but I'd have to say Michael Jackson, because he's



one talented artist.

R: Speaking of shoes... Nike or Adidas?

M: Adidas. I mean, what's up with the swoosh? Get with the three stripes. Swoosh is the noise a basketball makes when it goes through the net, not for the noise your shoes make.

R: What's your best dorm/high school memory?

M: My 17th birthday... the hairy carrot. Higgins?!? In-manuel, what can I say? It's kinda boring.

R: Last words?

M: Give Prof. Sullivan a chance- he's pretty cool outside of class. But there was that one time when he jumped up on the desk. Be cool, stay in school. All the

pros say that. That's right... I'm getting somewhere in life. Oh, and good passage... "Yet I am always with you; you hold me by my right hand. You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will take me into glory."

~Psalm 73: 22 and 23

WHERE'S THE CREATIVITY?

Our school had a great deal of talent, whether it be in sports, drama, or academics. I also know that there are many people in this school who are capable of writing. THE FLASH NEEDS YOU!!! While we do have a great writing staff this year, we can always use new people and fresh ideas. There is so much freedom to write whatever you feel like (within reason!) that you can't use the excuse that you have nothing to write about. If you don't think of yourself as a funny writer, or feel that your work might not fit in the FLASH, you can write for the school's new Christian magazine, called the Beacon. Now, you may be saying that the Beacon isn't new, we've had it for a long time and no one reads it. Well, yes, that version of the Beacon pretty much died, which is why we're trying something different with it. This new Beacon will be less of a poetry publication and more of a Christians helping and building up Christians type of booklet. Geared toward helping each other through tough situations common to our lives and to encouraging one another in our daily walk with God, this magazine NEEDS writers. Even if you already write for the FLASH, we will only put out two issues of the Beacon this semester, so that's not very demanding in the way of article output.

So whether you write for the FLASH or the Beacon, get your creative juices flowing and WRITE!!

By Shannon Roehl



Kimberly's Spotlight!

Full Name: Kimberly Ann Roth

R: What's your favorite thing to do in the great city of Eau Claire?

K: (Laughs) There's not really anything to do in Eau Claire. I don't know! Go see a movie.

R: What's your favorite kind of ice cream? (What brand, what flavor, why, whatever...)

K: There's a lot. I'd have to say cookies and cream, Mooney's Brand.

R: Whose shoes would you rather be in right now... Martha Stewart's or Michael Jackson's?



K: (Laughs again) Martha Stewart's. What did she do? She only did like something with stock markets, she's not like a child molester.

R: Speaking of shoes... Nike or Adidas?

K: I have both but probably Nike.

R: What's your best dorm/ high school memory?

K: I don't know... Conference Champs in softball. When Ben asked me out. Hanging out with the girls in the dorm.

R: Last words?

K: Phillipians 4:13- I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Music Rocks!

By Jackie Beekman

Music. Music is such an awesome thing. Music is a huge part of my life. Where would we be without music?! It's so powerful. It can express so many emotions: happiness, sadness, anger (which is scary sometimes), fear, love, heartache, excitement, the list goes on and on. Listening to music is so relaxing, for me at least. To be able to relate to the lyrics makes it even better. I have CD's for every emotion ranging from "my happy-place music" to "screaming rage music"...which is only for the really bad days. I love listening to music as well as playing it on the piano and singing. I like to write my

own music too. It's nice to find lyrics you can relate to, but to be able to express your own feelings and thoughts in songs is even better. It's like a relaxation-therapy. You get your mind cleared, and out on paper. What's even more fun is dancing to it. Not dirty-dancing, like silly and happy dancing. (If you were on the bus on the way back from Abbotsford, you know what I'm talking about!) That kind of, do-whatever-you-feel-like dancing makes you so...well, happy! Maybe euphoric is a better word. Music serves so many purposes. (To take out some

aggression isn't one of the better ones, but it's a purpose still the same.) Praising the Lord is one of the best. Everyone sang and danced in the Bible. The children of Israel, David, Mary! Music makes ya happy! And it's a way to express it. Think about how boring and dead the world would be without music. BORING! It's a blessing, and one of my favorites. So next time you need to relax, just clear your mind, or find someone who understands your problems, there is a song out there with just what you need! Sing and dance like there's no tomorrow and you will feel happier! Trust me, music is good like that.





Cash Back Update

- 1) \$30,000 was awarded by Oakwood Mall (just for shopping) between 30 area schools the 1st semester & \$30,000 is up for grabs for the 2nd semester as well.
- 2) Messiah Grade School is involved in this 'Cash Back for Schools' program and received just over \$1,656.00 the 1st semester, finishing 4th from the top !!!
- 3) Any receipts from 11/29/04 forward can still be validated and accumulate points for this 2nd semester of the program. 2nd semester ends May 16th, 2005.
- 4) What counts as a valid receipt: Any receipt from any store in Oakwood Mall.
- 5) What else counts: Any receipt from the Café Court (in fact ,food/beverage receipts give double points !
- 6) What else counts: Save those movie ticket stubs
- 7) What else counts: Any receipts from dining at Garfield's, TGI Fridays or Timberlodge Steakhouse.
- 8) What to do with those receipts: Take them to the mall customer service desk located at the head of the Penney's wing and have them validated for Messiah, or drop them in the locker boxes located throughout the mall, drop those stubs/ receipts in the 'Cash Back' boxes in the dorms, bring to Messiah School and drop in the collection box in the fellowship hall. (If you need to keep your receipt, write your name on it, and it will be returned to you)
- 9) Other ways to help earn points/cash for Messiah: Register your e-mail address with Oakwood Mall, at www.oakwoodmall.com Registration instructions can be acquired in the ILC Computer Lab & at Messiah School.
- 10) Who can help: Anyone interested in helping Messiah Grade School earn cash for their school; including ILC students and families visiting Eau Claire.
- 11) Did you ever think there'd be a benefit awarded to Messiah Grade School because of your shopping, movie going, and dining out at Oakwood Mall in Eau Claire ? **JUST KEEP YOUR RECEIPT AND TURN YOUR TRASH INTO CASH FOR MESSIAH SCHOOL.**



Contributed by Linda Joos

A FRIENDLY REQUEST

God demands our complete focus when we come to chapel to listen to His Word, asking that we avoid distractions that would subtract from our reverence in worship. Physical affection distracts both the givers and receivers, as well as those surrounding. Therefore, the natural conclusion is that physical displays of affection should not occupy chapel time.

This is a friendly request, not only from the authors of this article, but from the majority of the students and fellow Christians on campus. It is not only hard for us to focus on the chapel address when there are couples cuddling and whispering around us, but it becomes difficult to prevent unkind or harmful thoughts about the couple from entering our heads.

Many of us have/have had boyfriends/ girlfriends and we know it's nice to be able to sit by them at chapel, but it's simply not necessary to be physical or visit with them while God's Word is being read. Remember that our God is a jealous God who treasures our time with Him. Since we already do not give Him as much time as we should, He wants our full attention when we do gather to worship Him. So please, do yourselves and those around you a favor- leave the hand holding and other romantic flirtations for another time.



A Letter from Someone Who Cares...

My dear child,

It's me, your Father. No, not your father back home, but your real Father— your Heavenly Father. Why do you shift uncomfortably? Do I make you nervous? Perhaps you think I am boring. It shouldn't be that way.

Well, it's been a long time since we last talked. Yes, I know, you attended church on Sunday, and yes, you did thank me for that meal in a quick prayer earlier today— but when was the last time we really spent any time together? Yes, it's true that I am with you every moment of the day, and I will never leave you, but when was the last time you acknowledged me, or tried to include me?

Now, I'm not asking you to be spending every minute of your life meditating in solitude, but I do want to be more involved in your life and daily activities. I'm always here and listening.¹ Feel my presence in everything you do. This baseball season, when you are up to bat, pray for my aide. Before you take that test you are scared of, pray

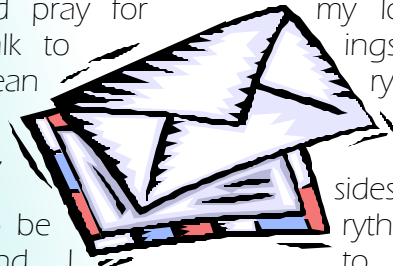
for help from me. Even while you work up the courage to ask someone to Banquet, tell me about your nervousness and pray for my strength. Talk to me while you clean your room, brush your teeth, and fall asleep.

I want to be your best friend. I want to be burdened by all of your worries.² Please, tell me all of your problems. I want to hear about them from you like you would tell a true and trusted friend. I want to listen to you when you are distressed, and I will never grow tired of it. Bring your prayers to me and I will answer them. How many of your earthly friends have that power? Not only am I able to help, but I am eager and willing. I have been here for all of eternity waiting for one of my children to cry out to me so that I may bless them with countless blessings.³ I am waiting, a patient and long-suffering God, for you to ask for my comfort, that I may comfort you;⁴ for you to ask for wisdom, that I may

enlighten you;⁵ for you to ask for mercy, forgiveness, hope, love, faith, anything— that I may smother you with

my loving blessings. I have everything you need— just ask.⁶ Besides, with everything I have to give you, why wouldn't you want to bring all of your prayers and supplications to me?

You say you're too busy to talk to me, to spend time with me, but are you too busy to worry? I know you can do a very good job at focusing on your troubles, which means I know you can do an excellent job at focusing on my words. Instead of thinking about your problems, just remember my promises. Live like my son David, who said with joy, "I meditate on your precepts and consider your ways. I delight in your decrees; I will not neglect your word." Psalm 119:15-16. Find a new passage each week to commit to memory. Write it down, carry it with



(Continued on page 7)

¹ Psalm 121:3-4, ² 1 Peter 5:7, Matthew 11:28, ³ Psalm 50:15, ⁴ 2 Corinthians 1:3-6, ⁵ James 1:5, ⁶ Luke 11:9-10, 13; 2 Corinthians 9:8



Yeah, That's Kinda Weird!

There are some weird jobs out there. I didn't even think about some of them before! Some are cool, some exotic, some just...weird. To name one out-of-the-ordinary job, have you ever wondered who keeps Mount Rushmore looking lovely? Yup, there's a few guys who climb up the faces of history and fill in the cracks and gaps. How random is that? Do you think that was a lifetime dream? Hmm...that'd be weird. What about streetlights? Haven't you won-

dered who changes them when they burn out? Does one guy have the job to just change burnt out streetlight bulbs? Who knows. I've never actually seen one being changed, but if I do, I'll ask whoever's doing it. What about the person/people who think up what to put in greeting cards? That'd be a sweet job. (Mr. Deeds, any-one?) Who thinks up the names of all the color crayons?

"Razzle-Dazzle Red"! I bet that guy's rich. You know how at some fancy restaurants at Sea World and stuff, how they have big aquariums as part of the walls? Well,



who cleans the windows inside the aquarium? Somebody's gotta keep them clean! That'd be awesome...part of your janitorial outfit includes scuba gear! How do you get jobs like

(continued from page 6) you, repeat it over and over in your mind, whatever it takes. Find a short prayer each day, perhaps a phrase or even one or two words, and let it come readily to your mind all the time. "Fear not," "Do not worry," and "Yay, God" are just a few examples of these mini-prayers. Let your day be one constant conversation with me— don't leave at the "amen." Let your mind always be open to me, aware of me, worshipping me.⁷ This may take some training, but you will not regret it.

So once again, I want to be your best friend. I have every possible answer to all of your requests and cries for help; I have more blessings to give than you could ever imagine. Don't forget about me again. After all, I did give you the greatest gift that eternity has ever seen— the death of my son and the promise of life eternal. In return I want your attention, adoration, and all of your requests so that I may answer them. Is that asking too much?

Love from,

Your Heavenly Father

By Danielle Ryan

⁷ 1 Thessalonians 5:17

that? Do any of them require a college education? I want one! Well...maybe not. We'll see. But I'm not exactly aspiring to wash windows at Sea World. Oh...that reminds me. What about the people who dress up like Mickey Mouse and Goofy at Disneyland? How do you apply for a job like that? I wonder how much they get paid. Well, I've got more questionable occupations, but I've filled my FLASH capacity for now. I don't know what you think about these jobs, but I say, yeah...it's kinda weird!

(By Jackie Beekman)



Beating the Third Quarter Blues!

(By Danielle Ryan)

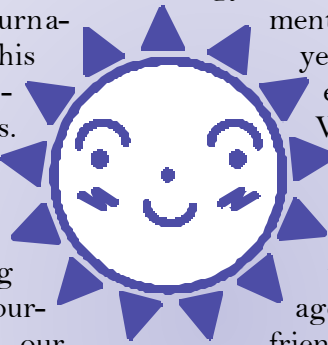
Third quarter at Immanuel has become infamous for being associated with colds, homesickness, boredom, and a general feeling of gloominess. Let's face it— you go an entire quarter straight with no break; you wake up every morning to the same crusty layer of snow that hasn't moved in months; it seems everyone has their own unique variation of the common cold; the bitter temperature keeps you trapped inside the same stuffy buildings 24/7; and you continue to attend the same classes with the same Profs with the same classmates day in and day out for months. Sounds like enough to drive anyone crazy.

However, 3rd quarter can be viewed not merely as a chore but as an opportunity— a challenge. I find it interesting to see the ingenuity of my fellow students each year as winter rolls around and somehow we always find some creative ways to pass the time and beat the 3rd quarter blues. For example, dodgeball: what began as a simple mini-class lunchtime activity evolved into a game that dominated gym time for a few weeks, eventually climaxing in an actual dodgeball tournament. Other distractions include Formal Dinner, Battle of the Bands, this year's "Manly Month of March," Magic, March Madness, Co-ed Volleyball, and, last but not least, Go- the latest surge of couples. Who knows what other strange and creative activities have spontaneously evolved in dorm rooms and open gym times.

All of these things, however, fall far short of our real source of comfort during these trying months. When it becomes so easy to get discouraged, to give up on school and classes, to become irritated with our friends and roommates, and to become

disrespectful towards Profs (or Profs cranky towards students), just relax. You're still going to heaven. No matter how bad the day gets, it *is* going to end and you *are* going to get through it— just like every other bad day that has ever happened. **"Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."** **Philippians 4:4,6-7.**

Ever need a reason to smile? Just remember the blessing God gave Moses to give to His people: "The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace." Numbers 6:24-26. God's face is shining upon you right now, smiling with love, and blessing you with his peace.



This issue of the FLASH has been brought to you in part by...

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