



# THE FLASH

Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary

Volume 50 Issue 4

Friday, December 21, 2007



## Christmas Issue



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## Winter Formal 2007

*Leah Fleischer and Rachel Mackenson*

Saturday night, December 8, was a night many students at Immanuel had been anticipating this semester. It was the night of the Winter Masquerade.

Around 5 in the afternoon, to start things off, students snapped pictures of each other in front of the frosty windows and elegant snowflakes in the commons, as a reminder of how that wonderful evening began.

When the lounge was opened up to everyone, we headed inside to the hall that was lit with twinkling lights, candles, and a towering Christmas tree. The windows were frosted over also, and a cozy atmosphere was created. Everyone was seated and we all settled in. While everyone was seated and we all settled, while everyone chatted, harlequin masks of sequins, feathers, and glitter were being made to wear as tokens of the ball.

And who could forget the wonderful staff of waiters and waitresses who served us all? They whisked us away with crisp apple cider and warm, delicious bread. The four course meal, prepared by Alana Ahrens, was fit for royalty.

Speaking of royalty, there was also the crowning of the King and Queen of the Ball,

and the crowning of Jack Frost and Frostine. Many people were nominated, but only four were chosen in the end. The lovely King and Queen were, Jordan Albrecht and Brittany Voit. Chosen for Jack Frost and Frostine were Christopher Voit and Lauren Franson.

Throughout the evening, carols were sung in groups. Most notably, a large group of guys singing, "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" and Prof. Buck and Prof. Sydow's performance of, "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas."

To end off the night, the professors performed a rap of the story of Jack Frost and Frostine. Leading the group was Prof. Kranz with Prof Reim, Roehl, Buck, Sydow, and Gullerud. And on that note, we all left with wonderful memories of the evening's festivities.

We are very thankful of all the hard work and effort. The Activities Committee put forth into making that special night a success!

**Issues from the *Flash* this year will appear online soon! Check it out at the ILC Webpage!**

## Christmas at the Thierers *Jo Thierer*

It seems as though most people would agree that their families begin to grow closer and friendlier toward each other during the Christmas season. I on the other hand am not sure that that is always true. Take my family for example. Ah, where should I start? Okay, well I'll tell you about my last years Christmas. When I got home, I was greeted by an array of Christmas lights that my brother had strung up earlier that week. After the usual greetings from the family, the fighting begins. My mom, instead of joyful, gets really stressed and starts freaking out about the house being a mess and no one is helping her, but sometimes I don't blame her for being stressed because she works nights and comes home and cleans too. My sister finds this time of year the best to suck up to my mother. She will sweep, mop, do dishes, laundry, pretty much anything she can to get a pat on the back from my mom. My mom likes to come up with new themes for our tree every year. Let's see. Some of the past themes were: Only angles on

the tree, all bulbs (you know those shiny ball things that distort your face when you look into them,) and then there's the tinsel tree! Also along with tree themes, my mom likes to have a new tradition every year, which doesn't really make sense, because a tradition is something that you do every year, not pick a new thing that everyone else has done for a tradition. My dad's the one in the family who tries the hardest not to be seen, so then he won't have to deal with the arguing or work. My brother Nick who is 21, finds joy in the things that seem to make kids 10 and under happy. He loves to cover the house in lights and when I say cover I mean cover the house in lights. Last year he made a Santa sleigh and reindeer for the top of the house. He also likes to make amazing gingerbread houses. My oldest brother, Jim, is busy with my niece, who likes to grab everything on the tree and my nephew who loves to try to peek at the presents early. I like to relax and soak in the season and take a break from school,

maybe do some Christmas cooking. That of course doesn't fly with my ma. So yes, my family does get a little insane, but by the time Christmas Eve is here, my family relaxes and starts to enjoy one another. By the end of the night, we all enjoy each other, and we play games and have hot cocoa. When it gets to presents time, we all gather and put each of our gifts in front of each other. My favorite person to receive gifts from is Nick, because he worked at a hotel. He liked to get things out of the lost and found and wrap them up for gifts. To sum it up, my family is crazy, but I don't think I would have it any other way!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



## Ice Cream, Gag Gifts, and TRANSFORMERS! *Mariah Brown and Melanie Hallstein*

Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, is when it all went down. There was a blanket of white snow, and everyone felt the Holiday spirit, which was reason more to have our freshmen party.

We battled the elements, trekking through the many layers of snow until we arrived at Prof. Lau's house. Our party started off with a hilarious, fun-spirited game of Apples to Apples. Continuing on, we played a rambunctious game of Bunco.

To settle down, we made delicious sundaes (toppings included Oreos, peanuts, cherries, chocolate syrup, M&M's, caramel, sprinkles, etc.). Following that, we had an adventure opening our exchanged gag gifts. Those worth mentioning would be Matthew Iverson's hot pink halter tank inscribed "Mikel's #1 Fan!" from, who other than, Mikel Marzofka. There was an over dramatic performance when Mikel opened her present, "a horrific, gory, obscene" stuffed toy mouse slashed open and painted with blood red finger nail polish, given by our very own Tyler "demented" Greene. Hannah Sprengeler, a girl on the go, received a man's travel kit from Mariah Brown, AKA Marita Café. Baby Schaller, a completely oblivious freshmen boy, got an adorable teddy bear bowl equipped with necessary Gerber fruit snacks, good for developing strong teeth, from a very caring Melanie Hallstein.

Prof. Lau then contributed to our gift-giving. Most of us received XXXXXXXXL t-shirts, but a

lucky few got teddy bears! The toy, envied by all, was a plastic "Sully" from Monster's Inc., given to Hannah Sprengeler. Quadruplets were formed with the Gatorade "hold nothing back" fashionable tees, which were given to Luke Wittorp, Mariah Brown, Isaac Schaller, and Denny Peterson.

The excitement continued with the movie Transformers, the feature presentation for the eve. Throughout the movie, we ate chips and delicious homemade salsa, provided by Katie Oster.

Mariah Brown, Melanie Hallstein, David Knutson, David Rehm, Thomas Mayfield, Isaac Schaller, and Matthew Iverson formed the amazing, all-powerful, action-packed TEAM TRANSFORMERS!, never to be forgotten.

Although we had a great night, and the snow was much appreciated, because of it some townies (Randy Oster, Deanna Kelly, Ali Froelich, and Austin Skinner) weren't able to attend.

We would like to thank Prof. Lau and his family for the generosity in letting the class of 2011 "bring down the house!!"



## Blessings of Christmas

*Melanie Hallstein*

White flakes fall outside a window,  
All hills blanketed in snow.

Icicles droop from gutters high,  
As wind sweeps about the sky.

Inside, stockings hang by the fire,  
Cookies and milk are waiting there.  
The flame glitters, its warmth bestow,  
While coals giggle and spread the glow.

Red and emerald, gold and white,  
Special colors- oh, how bright!  
Slippers on children slide right past,  
As they make the moment last.

Christmas tree decked with care,  
much time and effort put forth there.  
The ornaments, beautiful on the tree  
Are memories from moments of glee.

Carolers come and sing the word  
with all the followers who have heard.  
Compared to Jesus, 'tis nothing, it seems,  
Yet they will allow their light to gleam.

Gifts brought here from gen'rous hearts,  
laid beneath the tree departs.  
Into tingling fingers, appreciative,  
Of all the love their parents give.

How we have taken for granted our lives  
Before this humble Christmas night.  
Spreading to all news of cheer  
That Christ was born— yes Christmas is here!

## The Greatest Gift

*Anonymous*

As the snow begins to fall  
and the lights decorate the house,  
we get caught up in the present,  
the paper, the cards, the fun.

But the Christmas season is more,  
it's time to look back on Him.  
What happened long ago  
in the stable of Bethlehem.

So when Christmas comes,  
you think of all the presents,  
all the cards that you'll receive.  
But don't you ever forget about,  
the Greatest Gift of all.



## The Story of Frostine

*Hannah Bernthal*

In a kingdom far away, there was a king and queen who had a daughter named Frostine. The king and queen were going to throw a grand ball for her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, the age when young maidens were to be wed.

Frostine did not like the idea of an arranged marriage. All of the princes in the kingdom were bossy, controlling, only listened to their advisors, and wouldn't think for themselves. She didn't want that, but for her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday she would have one night to find the perfect groom.

Everyone in the land was invited to the grand ball, from the richest count to the homeless vagabond living in the streets. All night Frostine danced, drank pomegranate punch, and talked with the men. But alas, she didn't find a single man among them who was suitable to her.

Then a man came up to her and asked her to dance. He seemed kind, somewhat mysterious,

and was absolutely gorgeous! She accepted and they had a marvelous time. But another man came up to them asking for assistance. "I will be right back," he said as the other man dragged him away. But he never returned. The next day Frostine searched the kingdom far and wide but could not find him.

In time, her father got sick of waiting for her to choose a husband, so he arranged for her to marry a prince from a far off kingdom. Frostine refused, but there was nothing she could do. The preparations were already underway before Frostine was told. Three days before the wedding, they told her she would marry the prince they chose.

On the day before the wedding, everyone traveled to the far away kingdom. When she met with her prince's parents they welcomed her into their kingdom. The king said, "Bring in Prince Jack to meet Frostine!" She then saw Jack was the man from the grand ball.

They lived happily ever after, and every year since then a masquerade ball was held in honor of them.

~ Jack Frost & Frostine

## Candy Cane

*Katie Oster*



Daughter: "Oh Papa, Papa, look at me,  
put the candy cane on the tree!"

Papa: "My darling, darling, you are so sweet.  
But did you know that is a special treat.  
There is a story that must be told,  
It starts way back in the days of old."

Daughter: "But why the stripes of white and red?"

Papa: "He was whipped for our sins and bled.  
All the suffering He endured,  
By His stripes we are cured.  
His blood washes away your sins you  
know,  
Making us pure and white as snow."

"I pray that you, through all your life  
may see.  
These candy canes on every Christmas  
tree.

And reminded of this story you'll be,  
And all that Christ has done for you and  
me."

## The Frostine Rap

*Prof. Kranz*

In a faraway hood  
Life was good  
As it should  
With a king  
Full of swing  
Was the man with the bling  
Made the scene  
With his queen  
So serene  
And their daughter Frostine  
Who was turning eighteen.

Her parents said  
That she must wed  
A man like a prince  
They tried to convince  
But that made her wince.  
She hated the thought  
Of her love being sought  
By some dude who's a loser  
More often than not.  
She didn't want to take leaps  
She wanted love for keeps  
It gave her the creeps  
To think of an arrangement  
Her parents were planning for  
her engagement!

Despite it all  
They had the gall  
To plan a grand ball  
A masquerade ball  
To which all sorts of guys  
Would descend like flies  
And look her over with longing  
eyes  
Through the peep holes of a

lame disguise.  
In full array  
They made their way  
To take her hand at this soiree'  
It was so passe'  
Like a bad toupee.

But she played along  
And faced the throng  
And did no wrong.  
She drank her punch  
And had some lunch  
And even danced with a bunch  
Of klutzes who stepped on her  
feet  
Which wasn't so neat  
And quite indiscrete  
Like a hippo in heat.

The night wore on  
And on and on  
She started to yawn  
Her face was drawn  
It was almost dawn!  
Then along came a man  
Who was gorgeous and tan  
Hotter than a frying pan  
Cooler than a catamaran  
Even had an attention span  
Frostine was an instant fan!

They had a marvelous time  
So sweet and sublime  
Like a clever mime  
In a nursery rhyme  
Until suddenly  
Intolerably  
The man was gone  
He was long gone  
Why did he blow?  
Where did he go?

She looked for his face  
In every space  
But he was gone  
Without a trace.  
Just up and left  
He was so deft  
Like a brilliant theft  
An exit stage left.  
Frostine was bereft  
Of what to do next  
She was so perplexed  
And extremely vexed  
Had she been hexed?

So now in a lurch  
She began a search  
Throughout the land  
For the man  
Who was so grand  
And perfectly tanned.  
But I hate to report  
The search fell short  
Like a bug on a wart  
He was gone.

Her father, the king  
Then did a strange thing  
With his signet ring  
And declared that Frostine  
Just barely eighteen  
Would marry a prince  
Just three days hence  
Which to her made no sense  
And made her feel tense  
At such an offense so immense!

But all she could do  
Through this hullabaloo

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## Features / Opinion

*(Continued from page 6)*

Was to buy into  
And be subject to  
The law which made her blue  
And feel like the stomach flu  
After too much mulligan stew.

Preparations were made  
Loads of lemonade

And meat was sauteed  
In orange marmalade  
Even a grand parade  
Through the penny arcade  
But to Frostine it was all  
An empty charade.

When the prince arrived  
Frostine was revived

No longer deprived  
When beholding her mate  
Like a dream blind date  
She saw afterall  
The same man she had met  
At the masquerade ball!  
(And that's a wrap  
Of the Frostine rap!)

## Girls Dorm Christmas Party

*Christina Hein*

Alana told us it would be awesome.... We just didn't know WHAT would make it awesome. It's the girls dorm Christmas party! Being held on December 16, we are looking forward to it. Student council members (girls, of course!) were in charge of getting an invitation to each townie girl. Alana invited book house staff, prof's wives, coaches, etc. also.

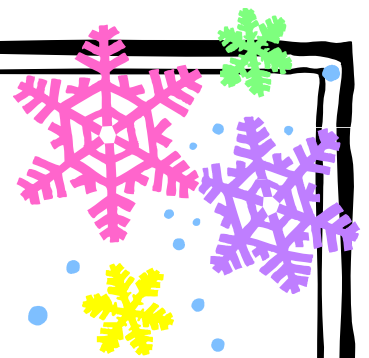
The whole two weeks before the anticipated party were contests of all kinds. Contest number one was a coloring contest. Very exciting- five people tied for first. Contest number three was a "fluffy snowman" contest. We had to stuff our faces with jumbo marshmallows and whoever could say "fluffy snowman" the best, won. Congrats to Ashlee Ver Mulm for taking first place, and Jo Thierer coming close being in second. Contest two was gross- eating jell-O as fast as you could. Blegh! Contest four was a relay race in the upstairs hallway of the dorm at a late hour of 11:30 p.m. Contest five hasn't been performed yet- - the same teams as the relay race have to dress one member to look like Santa. Should be very exciting. Wonder what the actual party will be like. . .



## Just a Question

*Katie Bischoff*

Just a question. . . How come we're not allowed to walk on the grass, but they're allowed to plow it? I've always had the idea that grass is meant to be walked on, not looked at! I never understood why we couldn't walk on it. I thought the reason was because we'd tear up the grass. In my opinion, doesn't the plow do way more damage than our feet do? So why do they plow the snow off the grass when time can be better spent scraping the snow and ice off of the walkways and parking lots when they are still slippery?



## Christmas Story

*Katie Bischoff*

Last year I wrote an Editorial based on one of my Christmas stories about our spider-infested trees. So this year, I decided to tell another infamous Christmas story that happened. This one is a little more serious.

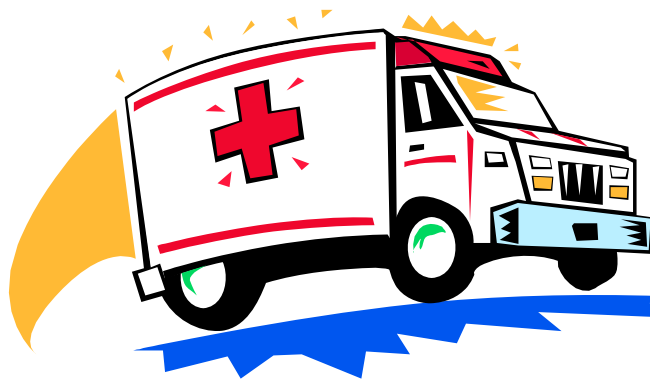
I'm not really sure what year this happened, but it was sometime after 2000. It was a normal Christmas Day. Our family had gone to church, and as our tradition goes, our entire Karnitz side family got together. This year we had it at my Aunt Teri's house. Our family filled the living room, and we all ate our traditional turkey dinner. After dinner, the football game was turned on, and everyone gathered around to open presents. Our next tradition after opening presents is to play Bingo. The parents bring prizes to win like McDonald's Dollars, Dairy Queen dollars, little knick knacks, etc. My grandpa usually reads out the numbers. We all spread out, and Krissy, Teri, my grandma, and I ended up on a table in the dining room by the kitchen. We started playing Bingo. Everything was just as it always was with my grandpa bellowing the numbers out and my grandma always asking, "What'd he say?" The prizes slowly disappeared over time.

My grandma started feeling kind of crummy and asked Teri for some Tylenol. So my aunt went to the kitchen. Krissy and I kept playing. We heard

my grandma's pieces fall on the ground. We looked up and saw her slumped over in what appeared to be an attempt to pick them up. Teri was talking over her shoulder telling my grandma what meds she had to offer. Krissy and I realized then that my grandma wasn't moving. We called her name and touched her hand then frantically called out to my aunt, "Grandma fainted! She isn't moving!" It took a second for everyone else to realize what was going on. During this slight confusion going on, my grandpa had no idea what was going on, and kept reading Bingo numbers. We finally got his attention and told him Grandma had fainted. My Uncle Jerry (Krissy's Dad) took action. He is a paramedic for AMR, so he called his buddies. A couple of us rushed outside to guide the ambulance in. I still couldn't really believe what happened.

After a couple minutes, I heard the sirens. I got out of the way as the paramedics rushed in with the stretcher. They eased my grandma to the floor and started checking her vitals. My grandma woke up and looked around her and asked why she was on the floor. We told her she fainted, and she didn't believe us! She said she

was fine and kept sighing because the paramedics kept fussing over her. They took her away on the stretcher with an oxygen mask on her face. It was weird and scary to see my grandma like that. Needless to say, Christmas was over after



that.

It turns out my grandma ended up being fine, and I don't think they knew why she

## FLASH back

*Lauren Franson and Hannah Gerbitz*

We found this article in an old issue of the *Flash* issued just before Christmas.. You can kind of tell it's old!

You know Christmas is coming when:

- 1) You and your roommate can't stand each other anymore
- 2) You can't find any clothes and realize they are packed
- 3) You don't get any letters from home anymore
- 4) The only things on people's stereos are Christmas songs
- 5) Instead of 11 more shopping days till Christmas, you sing 8 more school days till vacation
- 6) You're flat broke and you still haven't done your Christmas shopping
- 7) There are lots of little marks on the wall, you're counting the days.
- 8) The mistletoe is more popular than the TV set
- 9) You see Christmas reruns of reruns of reruns of reruns. Of reruns.
- 10) You start making New Years resolutions
- 11) There's tape stuck to the carpet, couldn't quite wrap that bulky package
- 12) Mrs. Schaller's Christmas singing fills the halls



## "It's Christmas in Your Mouth"

*Jennifer Squires*

When you read the title to this article you might ask yourself, "what does she mean by that?" Well I'll tell you how this phrase came about. A few weeks ago, on a cold day, I had a craving for a warm delicious drink from Starbucks. So when I got there I was deciding what to order, I always try to pick something new and my eyes were drawn to the seasonal drinks on the menu. Maybe it

was because the whole place was decorated for Christmas or because the cashier told me that this particular drink was delicious, but I was intrigued by the sound of a 'Peppermint White Chocolate Mocha', so I ordered it. After I paid and waited for my drink to be made, I took the first sip of my holiday treat. It was such a delicious drink, it was like a mix of hot chocolate, cappuccino, peppermint all at the same time. So later that week I was talking to m mom on the phone and of course I had to tell her about the drink I had because I knew if she tried

it she would love it too. I told her the name of it and she kept asking me what it tasted like and I couldn't narrow it down to a single description so this is pretty much what I said in response, "I don't know Mom, the only way I can describe it is... well, it's like Christmas in your mouth!" My mom thought it was pretty funny and keeps reminding me of that phrase. This got me to thinking what other holiday treats are 'Christmas in my mouth'? Well, every Christmas my whole family looks forward to lefse. For those of you who

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## “It’s Christmas in Your Mouth” (continued)

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aren’t Norwegian, and are deprived of lefse during your holiday, it is a thinly rolled potato treat, it looks kind of like a funny version of a tortilla. Lefse is best enjoyed with butter spread on it and there you go, Christmas in your mouth. Another Norwegian treat that’s insanely delicious is Spritz cookies. Spritz cookies are a treat for the eyes and the mouth. They taste a bit like sugar cookies and they are usually green and in the shape of Christmas trees or wreaths. I could go on and on about all of the delectable Christmas treats that I love to eat but I’m afraid that would get a bit boring. So this Christmas I hope everyone enjoys their favorite Christmas treats.

## Technicolor Memories: Rediscovering the Classics

*Megan Schierenbeck and Jennifer Squires*

If you’re like us, when you’re flipping through the channels and you see an older movie, you think, “Skip! Not for me!” But, a word to the wise: if that movie you’re about to skip over is “White Christmas”, it’s worth putting the remote down for. Starring Bing Crosby (who made “White Christmas” a hit song), this movie follows the story of two men \*Wallace and Davis) who met in World War II. After the war they decided to combine their stellar voices and take their show on the road. Wallace and Davis become an instant hit and perform at night clubs around the country. Davis is always trying to find Wallace a woman so Davis can have some alone time, but Wallace is anything but interested - that is, until they

meet the Haynes sisters. The Haynes sisters are a musical sister act that seem to only have one song: the infamous “Sisters”. As Wallace and Davis watched the sister act, Wallace couldn’t help but be captivated by Betty Hayne’s blue eyes. Davis and Judy Haynes decided to play match maker to Wallace and Betty. Davis, being the trickster that he is, conned Wallace into following the girls to a remote inn in Vermont. The rest you’ll have to see for yourself. What did you think, we were going to tell you the whole movie? But what we will tell you is that this movie is full of romance, humor, plot twists and oh yes, singing and dancing (and lots of it!). So this Christmas, make yourself some hot chocolate and curl up in front of the TV and

### THINGS THAT SET THIS MOVIE OVER THE TOP:

- The song all about snow
- The repeated line, “Vermont should be beautiful this time of year, all that snow and trees.”
  - Judy and Davis’ dance on the dock
- Judy and Betty’s “Sisters” Song... Blue fans and all.
  - Wallace’s performance of “White Christmas”
  - Wallace and Davis’ imitation act of “sisters”

## Senior Spotlights

**Billy Bruckbauer***Written by Becky Gerbitz*

Becky: First off, do you want this in interview format or paragraph format?

Bill:

\*Looks confused\* Is that the one where you write everything I say and put "Becky says" "Billy says?"

Becky:

You want me to quote you or just paraphrase?

Bill:

INTERVIEW!!!

Becky:

Okay, I'll quote you verbatim. Your full name is William Robert Bruckbauer, right?

Bill:

Correct

Becky:

Where were you raised?

Bill:

Depends...At my house, at my grandparents house, and at my other grandparents house.

Becky:

City?

Bill:

Golden Valley...quite unfortunately.

Becky:

Childhood role-model?

Bill:

Can I have multiple childhood role-models?

Becky:

Yeah.

**Bill:**

I'd hafta say my cousin Gideon Bernthal. The only cousin Gideon I have. And my Grandpa Crandall. Even though he's kinda scary sometimes.

**Becky:**

Current rolemodels?

**Bill:**

\*smiles\* My cousin Gideon Bernthal...and Superman.

**Becky:**

Best high school memory?

**Bill:**

\*chuckles\* O-o-h...There are too many. Let's see. \*sighs\* \*laughs some more\* Perkins and tying third floor up Jr. Year...All the door handles so they couldn't get out.

**Becky:**

How have you changed since Freshman year?

**Bill:**

I think I've maybe become a little less violent, but some may disagree...And maybe...Maybe, just a little more maturity. Not too much...It wouldn't be fun.

*\*This is coming from the guy who couldn't quit saying "I want to hurt people" over and over before Chapel a few nights ago,*



*and also the guy who is making a sniper for his art project.*

**Bill:**

That's not fair!

**Becky:**

Any regrets?

**Bill:**

Not at all.

**Becky:**

What are you gonna take away from ILHS?

**Bill:**

\*Laughs at things that will remain off the record\* Lets see...One of Prof. Roehl's TV connectors that he let me

*(Continued on page 12)*

## Billy Bruckbauer (continued)

*(Continued from page 11)*

borrow sophomore year, unfortunately no squirrel tails, the fact that I broke Nick's fingers at the beginning of sophomore year...

*(And this is coming from the guy who says he's gotten less violent!!!)*

**Bill:**

THAT WAS SOPHOMORE YEAR!!!

Continuing on...A very successful relationship and many other friendships...Christian friends. That's sufficient.

**Becky:**

Any plans for after high school?

**Bill:**

Seven more years back here baby.

**Becky:**

Words of wisdom??

**Bill:**

If you're gonna break any rules, definitely don't get caught. Perkins is great at 2:30 in the morning, but again, don't get caught. Yeah, basically if you're gonna do anything wrong, don't get caught.

**Becky:**

Got a favorite Bible passage?

**Bill:**

Psalms 23...The LORD is my Shepherd. I shall not want.

**Becky:**

Favorite food?

**Bill:**

Deer. Actually, deer kabobs.

**Becky:**

Favorite class or should I not ask?

**Bill:**

I'll tell ya that it's not math. It's probably a tie between the history classes and sophomore religion and senior religion.

**Becky:**

Song?

**Bill:**

Favorite song? Well, my favorite hymn is 370...And my favorite song...

**Becky:**

Hang on, what is 370?

**Bill:**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less. And my favorite song is a tie between two great country artists. Lets see... "The 8<sup>th</sup> of November" by Big and Rich, and "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue" by Toby Keith.

**Becky:**

Good call!!! What are some of your biggest pet peeves?

**Bill:**

Depends on what mood I'm in. Usually I don't have one, but if I'm in the right mood, whenever Mikel opens her mouth.

**Becky:**

Got a worst quality or would you rather not share? Or are you just an all around good guy? OR...Should we ask Vanessa?

**Bill:**

Umm, probably math if that counts as a quality. Otherwise, my face.

**Becky:**

Secret ambition? Or are you a "If I told you, it wouldn't be a 'secret' ambition, now would it" person?

**Bill:**

Here I thought you were gonna say, "If I told you I'd hafta kill you." Umm...I dunno if I even have a secret ambition. I don't think anything I do is a secret. If I had one it would hafta be becoming a sniper.

**Becky:**

Anything else?

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(Continued from page 12)

**Bill:**

Yeah. All of you that are gonna be on second floor next year, I know the hiding spots and will not be a nice RA when it comes to banned games. If I get the job, of course. And I had nothing to do with the R-Rated Rebuttal Rebuttal. (After several attempts by me to spell almost everything) How come you're the editor of anything?

**How would you describe Billy in a few words or less?**

**Chad:**

Outdoorsy and spastic

**Adam:**

How many is a few? Good guy. He's a good guy. He can work when he wants to. Um, and he's a lot more innovative than people give him credit for.

**Nick:**

\*laughs hysterically\* Just put that down as my response: "laughing hysterically."

**Me:**

A few words don't sum it. up

**What was your most embarrassing or memorable memory with Billy?**

**Chad:**

\*laughs\* I don't think we have time. No, we don't have time.

**Adam:**

I think anything we've done could be considered embarrassing.

**Nick:**

Wow...Um...Smashing his head into the floor repeatedly saying "Don't do that again." Each word emphasized with his head hitting the ground at every word. Um...Ah. When I pulled him...Oh okay! Billy. He has Knutson and Higgums in a head lock like this, beatin' the snot outta Higgums, and Higgum's glasses go flyin'. I'm sitting there and I'm like "Knutson

don't do it." And Knutson just yells "NO!" He jumps on both of 'em and Billy goes like this and he's got Higgums facing this way and Knutson facing this way, and he's running around smashing 'em into trees! No, one of the most memorable is trying to get that kid outta bed every morning. That's the most memorable right there.

**Me:**

Freshman year when I took his hacky sack and he almost killed me? There's a bunch, but I'll ditto Chad. Oh! I got one! When Billy and Nick and Adam all came into Chemistry laughing like they were gonna die and couldn't stop until after lunch!

**How had Billy changed since freshman year?**

**Chad:**

His hair is a different color, he's gotten a little bit tougher and he can run a little bit faster too.

**Adam:**

I didn't know him since freshman year, but since Junior year I guess you could say that he's quote-un-quote "grown up."

**Nick:**

\*laughs again\* He calmed down when he started dating. It's a kinda scientific thing. No, he's mellowed out a bit.

**Me:**

He slows down and takes the time to listen...I credit Vanessa for that.

**Where do you think Billy will be in 10-20 years?**

**Nick:**

Behind a pulpit somewhere.

**Me:**

Doing everything he's always hoped he could do, and loving whatever it is. He'll be pastor of seven mission congregations with

(Continued on page 14)

## Billy Bruckbauer (continued)

(Continued from page 13)

three kids...All red heads!

**If you could give Billy a theme song, what would it be?**

**Chad:**

"Bad to the Bone" or "Highway to Hell."

**Adam:**

\*laughs\* "Save a Horse Ride a Cowboy." No.

Just kidding. "8<sup>th</sup> of November."

**Nick:**

"Billy's Got His Beer Goggles On"

**Me:**

"I'm So Much Cooler On-line."

## Ryan Heinze

JR: What's your full name?

RH: Ryan Paul Heinze

JR: Where were you born and raised?

RH: Mankato, MN, I was raised on a farm where I lived for nine years.

JR: Who was your childhood role model?

RH: My dad

JR: Why?

RH: He knew how to fix everything.

JR: Who's your role model now?

RH: Now there's a lot of people. I look for little things I admire in a lot of different people.

JR: Like what?

RH: Hardworking, honest, willing to lend a helping hand.

JR: What are you planning to do next year?

RH: Go to the CVTC for wood techniques (construction) to build houses. I've always wanted to build my own house.

JR: Best high school memory?

RH: The freshman party at the Roehl's cabin.

JR: what's your best childhood memory?

RH: Combining corn with my dad. I especially loved it when we'd go late at night and I could stay up late.

JR: If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be?

RH: Minnesota, or anywhere in the Midwest. I like my Midwest.

JR: What was your best Christmas ever?

RH: Last Christmas, when I started getting practical things.

JR: Like...

RH: Socks, shampoo, boxers...

JR: Was this a good change?

RH: Yes, actually.

JR: How have you changed since freshman year?

RH: A lot older, taller, probably fatter. (At this point,

### RYAN'S FAVORITES:

**School meal: Chicken Rice Cheese Casserole**

**Food: Pizza**

**Music: Anything but jazz and classical**

**Class: Geometry**

**TV show: Lost, anything on the Discovery Channel**

Emily Roehl adds, "He's more outgoing." I look at Bri and she indicates his chin.)

RH: Oh yeah, I can grow facial hair.

JR: What will you take away from your time here?

RH: Christian fellowship and all that, sports, friends... everything else is pretty boring.

JR: What's your favorite Bible passage?

RH: John 3:16, it was my confirmation passage.

JR: Do you have any words of wisdom?

RH: If I was a wise person, I might...

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## Ryan Heinze (continued)

*(Continued from page 14)*

JR: What do you do in your free time?

RH: I don't have free time.

JR: Then what do you do in your expensive time?

RH: Well, my time is pretty expensive for my boss!

JR: What would you rather be doing right now?

RH: (Laughing) There's a lot of things I'd rather be doing right now... sleeping, for one.

JR: Best thing you've ever bought?

RH: My truck.

JR: Chevy or Ford?

RH: Chevy!

JR: Where do you see Ryan in 10-20 years?

Adam Kolb: Working for a landscaping company for the president

RH: Make that a contracting company

Bri Heinze: Married and building houses with his cousin Kyle, living in Mankato

JR: Describe Ryan in a few words:

AK: The kind's got style



## Megan Rehm

*Written by Nate Rehm*

What is your full name? Megan Ruth Rehm

Where were you raised? Eagan, Minnesota.

Who was your childhood role model? My mother, because I've always wanted to be a teacher just like her.

What's your best high school memory? Perkins at a rather late time of night, joking around and having hash browns.

How have you changed since freshman year? I've become a bit more confident, more ready to move on past high school, and maybe a little more mature.

What will you take away from your time here? The friends, definitely the friends. Also



being brought up with God's word.

What are you doing after high school? I'm

*(Continued on page 16)*

## Megan Rehm (continued)

*(Continued from page 15)*

gonna be a teacher. I'm coming back here to Immanuel for at least my first two years of generals, and then maybe moving on to UW Eau Claire (for the teaching degree)

Words of Wisdom? SMILE because God loves you. Always be happy, and in bad times, think of good stuff.

Do you have a passage that got you through hard times/ Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

Describe Megan in 3 words:

Louie Decise: intelligent, self conscious, and pretty

Nate Rehm: happy, comforting, and sister

Emily Roehl: Energetic, enthusiastic, and positive

Most memorable memory with Megan?

LD: The Arby's incident with Isaac

Schaller and David R.

ER: Going to the hospital with her when she had tonsillitis, and getting dressed in the morning.

NR: Frisbee golf at night

How has Megan changed since freshman year?

Kelly Hensel: Megan is louder, more mature, and I gunna be my bridesmaid.

LD: She has gotten more mature, thinks ahead better.

Where do you see Megan in 10-20 years?

ER: Teaching TVBS in India with many adopted kids.

Liz Barthels: Schoolteacher married with a gorgeous guy and five kids.

Steph Winters: She's going to start a Christian Day School in Iowa where I live so my kids can go there.

### MEGAN'S FAVORITES:

**Food: Potatoes and Pasta**

**Class: Choir and Art, definitely take art your senior year.**

**Song: Anything by Taylor Swift right now, especially "Our Song" and "Tim McGraw"**

**Pet Peeve: When people their knees on the desk in front of them.**

**Worst quality: Worrying**

**Secret Ambition: To grow six feet tall.**

## The Hidden Dangers of Tanning Beds

Joey Reim

People think fake baking is a waste of time and money, not to mention bad for your health. Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer. Every year, there are 59,940 new cases of melanoma (the most dangerous kind of skin cancer), and 8,110 of those cases are fatal. (Over 1 million people each year are diagnosed with other types of skin cancer each year.) Tanning greatly increases those risks, so why would anyone want to go tanning? Well, it is a fact that family history and skin type also affect the chances of skin cancer and both of those are in my favor, I figured I was safe. And I probably am, from skin cancer. But as I learned the hard way, there are other dangers to tanning beds, such as nasty chemical burns.

It was my fifth time tanning. The salon seemed clean enough and I always

used the goggles they provided to protect my eyes. However, this time, something wasn't right. After about four minutes I felt the skin under my left eye start to sting. It didn't go away so I covered it with a clean rag. Then the skin under both eyes started to sting, bad. I removed the goggles but it kept hurting. I turned up the radio to try to distract myself from the pain, thinking it wasn't anything serious, but after a few more minutes I couldn't take it anymore. I got up and my face was a little red. I told the lady working there what I felt and she told me that the sanitizer they dipped the goggles in didn't look diluted enough to her so she gave me a washcloth and told me to wash my face right away. A few hours later the redness was still there, along with the stinging, plus I



was getting yellow spots under my eyes. The next morning my eyes were swollen, yellow, and they felt like someone had lit my face on fire and then was trying to put it out by stabbing it with needles. The doctor said it looked like a chemical burn. She gave me some ointment to put on it and told me that if I had to go tanning, to get my own goggles.

So ladies, and, yes, even men, if you decide it's worth the time and money to get a nice, even tan, rest easy, only 8,110 people actually die of skin cancer each year. Just don't

## About the Plowing

Anonymous

I've been hearing some people talking about why in the world the grass gets plowed on campus sometimes. Well, I'm not exactly sure this is why, but I have a pretty good feeling it may have something to do with it. During the early and late winter, the



temperatures may get over freezing during the day and some snow melts. When snow melts on the grass by the paths, it doesn't stay water for long because it will freeze again that night. So then it becomes ice and is slippery. If parts of the grass are plowed, however, then the snow melts on the grass and freezes there (and who cares if it freezes there!?) Just a thought.

# The Golden Compass: Atheistic Trash or Cinematic Treasure?

*Alex Hulke*

Many of you have probably already heard of the Golden Compass, the new movie from New Line Cinema about a little girl who goes on some fantasy adventure with atheistic themes and undertones. You have also likely heard from different sources that the movie has no atheistic themes, or that it is rife with them. However, neither of these points hits the mark exactly on where the film stands on atheism, but before I discuss this topic further, let me give you a short synopsis on the actual movie. New Line was hoping that this movie would be the next Lord of the Rings trilogy, but it is clear to me that this will certainly not happen. For one thing, the movie was bad. Not horrible, but still bad nonetheless. I have not read Phillip Pullman's books on which this movie is based, but I can imagine that a lot of content, especially exposition, was ripped out of his stories when adapting them to film. The first hour or so of the movie deals with a little girl named Lyra, who has a silly sounding last name, and her soul, with an equally silly name that I don't remember either. Basically, all people in her world have their souls outside their bodies in the form of animals called Daemons, and those souls are somehow connected to a mysterious substance called Dust. However, this is completely irrelevant because neither of these fantasy elements are developed beyond their names, but the story seems to suggest that they are important. This will confuse you, because they keep hinting that Dust is important, but



they never tell you anything about it. Anyways, back to the "story." Basically, there are these kids at a school and some other kids nearby or something and they keep getting kidnapped by the sinister Gobblers, and no, they are no more sinister than

they sound. Oh, and there is also this off topic part where this guy from the oppressive and mean Magisterium (aka Roman Catholic Church, or organized religion is general) is trying to keep the college from revealing any truth but their own. These truths are never revealed; I mean we never figure out what this even means except that it is supposed to be atheistic that an oppressive church like organization is repressing free speech. Anyways, back to the story, more kids get kidnaped and Lyra wants to save them but can't leave the school, but then Nicole Kidman shows up, and she has a retarded name too, but that isn't important, and then they go to London, and then she is mean and not letting Lyra do what she wants, so Lyra runs away, and they chase her, and then some Gyptians save her, and then they take a boat to Norway, and then there are these armored ice bears, and then they find this evil soul stealing Magisterium building, and then they destroy it, and then there is a big battle between Cossacks and witches and Gypsy pirates, and then Lyra flies away in an airship to save her father and then the movie is over and you wake up and go home. Okay, so it was a bad movie, but was it

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## The Golden Compass (continued)

(Continued from page 18)

atheistic? Yes, but only if you are looking for it. If you go in expecting to find atheism, you will find it. Assuming that the Magisterium represents religion, it is atheistic because it portrays everybody in the movie as wanting to be free to do whatever they please, but the Magisterium “knows what’s best for them even though they don’t know it themselves” and wants to impose their ideas on everyone else. If this is atheistic, then yes, the movie was atheistic, but it was a horribly weak attack on religion. For one, it offered no convincing argument as to why we should be able to do as we pleased. Also, they never said why it was bad to listen to the Magisterium. The only bad

thing they did to people was cut away their souls to isolate them from the evil effects of dust, which we know nothing about. If they are trying to convince people that religion is bad because it cuts your soul out of you, they probably are not going to convince anyone. Overall, I say don’t go to this movie unless you have free tickets like I did; it’s a waste of time and money and even though it is not going to make you an atheist or anything, it just isn’t good enough to justify sitting in a dark theater for two hours watching a shoddy big budget film. Sorry New Line, this series is never going to live up to Lord of the Rings by a very long shot. Also, Phillip Pullman, you are truly horrible at making up fantasy names.

## Editorial

*Megan Schierenbeck*

The day after Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the most magical time of year. It’s the official start of the “Christmas season.” Despite the crowded stores of Black Friday, I love the exciting feeling that the countdown to the 24th has begun. I can always feel the anticipation mounting at the first snowfall and when I take my first sip of hot chocolate. And let’s not forget the biggest event of December: the decorating of the Christmas tree. Seeing the ornaments I’ve had since I was a kid brings back a flood of



good Christmas memories.

But, of course, even though these are some of the best things about Christmas, it’s not the real reason we celebrate it. We’ve all seen those heart-warming Christmas specials on TV that spout “family: or “helping others” is “what Christmas is all about.” I was recently shocked to hear a song on the radio with the line, “Remember the true meaning of Christmas... Remember Santa Claus, remember all the toys.” I couldn’t believe that

this was an actual song! Obviously Santa is not what we want to remember at Christmas. Of course as Christians we know that this holiday is really a celebration of Jesus’ birth. It seems like this is so obvious we don’t need to be reminded of it, but it is easy to get caught up in the Christmas food or carols or presents.

One side note, however: I don’t want to suggest that we shouldn’t enjoy the other things about Christmas. After all, God have us these blessings to enjoy and as long as we keep Him as our focus we should feel free to relish our hot chocolate and enjoy the sight of our decorated Christmas tree.

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*Merry Christmas!!*



*~From the Flash Staff*