



the  
FLASH

Volume 53, Issue 4

Abbie's  
Stocking Stuffers

great ideas for anyone's stocking!

The Secret  
to delicious fudge...

**SANTA:**

Friend or Foe?

Christmas Traditions  
by Jess Schaller

Paige's Christmas  
Playlist

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!

~your Flash editors and staff ~

Immanuel Lutheran High School, College, and Seminary

Cover Art by Liz Richardson

# THE FLASH

Volume 53, Issue 4

For the last eleven years of my life (eleven out of fifteen, that is), I've helped with the Christmas program. Nine of those years, I lent myself to the traditional "and it came to pass in those days..." recitation. Now that those years are over, it seems like I can't get away. This year I'm helping a new group of young ones learn their songs and passages before the big day. Honestly, I think some of the kids just like being able to finally go to the front of the church like their big brothers and sisters, or they like wearing pretty dresses and getting their hair all done. So many times before the service I hear "Miss Hannah, do you like my new dress/ shoes/ bows?" Maybe it's the special candy bag waiting in the hallway for them after the service filled with peanuts, taffy, and the one healthy item, an orange.

Regardless of their reason, what the kids may not know is how much the congregation loves seeing them up in the front of church. Not just because of the occasional not-so-secret nose picks and the behind-their-shoulders-when-they-really-should-be-singing-the-song glances, or even because they're just so precious. No, people like seeing them because they're so happy they are to be singing about Jesus, and so happy to be telling everyone the Christmas story. People will listen to you if you're that excited about it.

We need to learn a lesson from those kiddos. This season, let's all sing our songs a little louder, and tell that one more person about the true meaning of Christmas. Because all should enter this holiday with the Christ-child on their mind.

Putting the

**Merry**



Into Christmas

By Hannah Hulke



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# Holiday Stocking Stuffers

By Abbie Hein

Need some ideas for some funny stuff to put in your family's stockings this year?

I asked some people what kind of stupid stuff they've gotten in their stockings, and this is what they came up with:



- A duct-tape wallet
- A nerdy tie
- A McDonald's Kid's Meal toy
- Band-Aids
- Gross-flavored jelly beans
- Socks

## Meet the Freshmen

### Sierra Rose Lillo

Sierra was born on a Naval Base on the island of Okinawa, Japan.

This gives her dual-citizenship, which means she is both a Japanese citizen and an American citizen. At the age of 18 she has to declare which one she will be. Her favorite things to do when she was little were play Barbies with her sister, Brianna, grump at people who wanted to take her picture, and read to her sister, Faith, to get her to go to sleep. She has always been a creative person. She likes to sew, cross-stitch, draw, and helped me put together projects for teaching. She has a little brother that she gave the following advice to when she left..."Don't be weird!"



PICKLES :)

### Nicholas Lee Blue

Nick is from Burlington, Wisconsin, also known as Chocolate City, USA. Sometimes we can smell chocolate in the air by our house. When Nick was small, we called him Nickle-pickle because he loved and still loves pickles. Nick also loved Thomas the Train Engine and lip syncing to Backstreet Boys songs. Nick is the youngest of 4 Blue children. He has 1 older sister going to college in Texas and 2 older brothers going to college in Wisconsin. Nick has a cat named "Boo-boo" that adores him and lies on his shoulders whenever he is home.

# More Meet the Freshman

## Rhiannon Celeste Roehl



Rhiannon has an older sister, Amy. She has corresponded with an older birth sister in Phoenix, an older brother in Fargo and another older brother and her birth mother from Milwaukee. She was born in Milwaukee and was adopted the same month the family moved to Eau Claire from Fond du Lac for Prof. Roehl to begin teaching at ILC. When she was little she liked to play with Darin Lau, her neighbor. She especially liked to boss him around. There are a lot of pictures of them as little kids with Stephanie, Heidi and Amy. Rhiannon likes sports, swimming, fishing, watching movies, computers and horses, but her favorite thing is being with her friends or doing things with Amy.

Rachel spent most of her time sleeping for the first 3 months of her life; after that she spent most of her time trying to keep up with her older brothers. Rachel played with dolls when she was young, but if she heard a baseball game starting in the back yard, she always ran out to join in. She was our youngest swimmer at age 5 and was the only 6 year old that could do an IM without being DQd. By the time she was 14, she placed second at state in the 200 Butterfly and placed in top 8 in many other events. Reading, baking, embroidering and scrap booking are among her other hobbies. Her sunny disposition helps her to tolerate and keep her 3 brothers in line. She loves animals and hopes to be a veterinarian some day.

### • RACHEL ARLENE SCHASER



## RYAN MUELLER

Ryan is the oldest of three children. He has a younger sister, Emma, and a younger brother, Jared. Ryan has loved music since he was very little. He used to turn just about anything into a musical instrument. He started playing piano when he was about four years old, just by hearing a song. He loves dogs and has talked about being a veterinarian since he was very young.



# SANTA: *Love* OR *HATE* ?

By Liz Richardson



I remember the exact moment in time. It was a dark night in December, a few weeks before Christmas. I was approached by my mom, who told me we had to talk. As I fearfully tried to remember if I broke anything recently, I was led into my room where my mom sat me down.

“Beth,” my mom said, “Did you ever wonder why you never see characters like the Easter Bunny, Santa, or the Tooth Fairy? Did you ever wonder why Santa has the same colored wrapping paper as Mom and Dad? Did you ever wonder how the Tooth Fairy knows you lost a tooth? Did you ever wonder how the Easter Bunny knows not to put marshmallow Peeps in your Easter basket?” She paused. I stared up at her with huge, bewildered eyes. I was only 8, but I knew where she was going with this.

“They’re not real, honey,” she said sweetly. I could only sit in suffering silence, internally reduced to an emotional train wreck.

Perhaps you’ve had a similar experience. Maybe you didn’t believe in the three I did. Maybe you just believed in Santa, or you caught your parents doing the Tooth Fairy’s job. Maybe you didn’t believe in any of the fictional characters. Or maybe you believed in Harry Potter instead.

Everyone has an opinion on whether or not a parent should encourage their child believe in Santa. I’ll very gladly share mine: I definitely encourage it. Even though I was devastated when I found out he wasn’t real. After all was said and done, I was glad I had believed in the first place. It gives kids reason to use their imaginations, and brings a little bit more joy and wonder into ordinary life. It’s hard to imagine *not* having a childhood Christmas with Santa in it. After I knew Santa wasn’t real, I was no longer as excited for Christmas Eve, because I couldn’t try to pull all-nighters so I could see him. I stopped putting teeth under my pillow when I knew the Tooth Fairy wasn’t real. Somehow, a little bit of spirit was missing without these characters buzzing around in my imagination. Everything seemed painfully ordinary to me after my revelation. Ignorance was bliss.

“ everyone has an *OPINION* on whether or not a parent should encourage their child to believe in Santa. ”

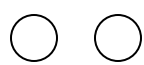
Even though I went through a bit of withdrawal afterwards, I still look back on those days of believing in Santa with love. I still pity the non-believing kids, because they are missing (or already missed) out on the Christmas magic that Santa brings. Sure, he’s nowhere near the center of Christmas, and it’s sad to think about how many people make him a replacement for Jesus. But he is an extra something. It’s hard to explain, but the holiday somehow seems livelier knowing a jolly, fat grandpa with an army of pointy-eared elves cares whether or not I have a good Christmas. Santa should never take the spotlight from our Savior, but he is a small part of Christmas that I still miss.

# A Cheery Christmas Playlist for You. By Melanie Hallstein

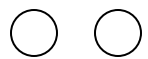
Turn it up! Now's the only time of year you can listen to it, so sing along, dance around, live a little. Just beware of the nearest scrooge, and be prepared to show him all the greatest hits of the season to make him forever celebrate Christmas in his heart. Hopefully this mix of new and old, funny and classic will break the ice of his cold soul and warm his stockings by the fire.



- "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas"**  
by Judy Garland ( my absolute fav X-Mas song)
- "Last Christmas"**  
By Wham! (instant classic)
- "All I Want For Christmas..."**  
by Mariah Carey (sing along.. just ask Christina)
- "Silver Bells"**  
by Bing Crosby (he has the most beautiful voice)
- "Santa Baby"**  
by Eartha Kitt (great for the dorm...)
- "Silent Night"**  
by Taylor Swift (greatest rendition ever!)
- "Sleigh Ride"**  
by Relient K (watch the music video)
- "What Child Is This"**  
by Immanuel Tour Choir (debut December 9<sup>th</sup>)



## Paige's Holiday Playlist



**By Paige Louderman**

- 30 days .....by Nevershoutnever
- Yule Shoot Your Eye Out.....by Fall Out Boy
- Wishlist.....by The Ready Set
- When You're Around..... by The Downtown Fiction
- Sleigh Ride.....by Relient K
- All I Want for Christmas is You.....by My Chemical Romance
- Last Christmas..... by Hawk Nelson
- Forgot it was Christmas..... by The Downtown Fiction



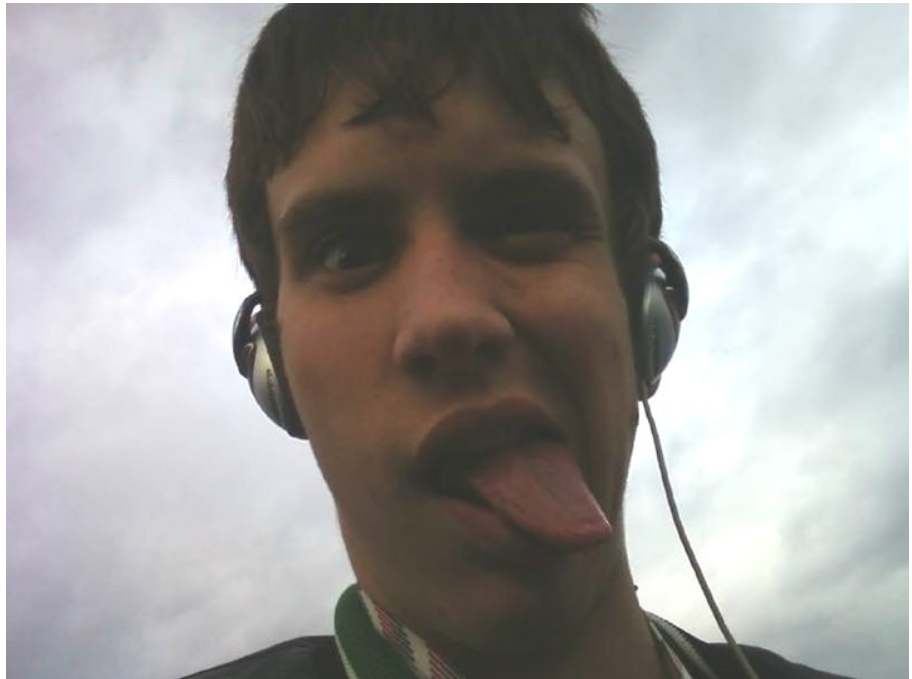
# Senior Spotlight: Noah Joseph Meyer

By Prof. Joe Lau

Born: October 9, 1992 in Eau Claire to Gary and Susan Meyer (nee Brandle). He is the middle of five children, and the only boy. Ranked in order of positive sports experience at ILHS:

1. Cross Country
2. Baseball
3. Basketball

He admits that cross country tops his list because of all the team's success. Noah recently shaved his massive facial growth to please his basketball coach Tom Williams who prefers the clean-cut look, and to dispel any rumors that he had joined an Amish community.



Some of his most memorable moments at ILHS were this year's trip to STATE in cross-country, and David Rehm's foul which led to an overtime loss to Plum City on C-team basketball.

His hobbies outside of school include drumming and playing with his 6-month-old golden retriever, Scout.



In the future he wants to return to Immanuel for college to see if the LORD wishes for him to pursue a seminary degree.

He prefers chocolate to vanilla, anti-perspirant to deodorant, and literature to math.

When asked about any words of wisdom he simply stated, "We are all..." (Boys' PE class knows what he is trying to say.)

Jordan Pansch sees Noah working in ten years.

Kurt Koenig believes Noah will wear Bermuda shorts in his attempts to surf off the Northeast Coast.

David Rehm pictures Noah living in Kansas City, married with three kids, and the CEO of a conglomerate of candy companies.

May the Lord richly bless the rest of his senior year!

# Rachel's *Ridiculous* Recipes!

It's that time of year again! Christmas is just around the corner, and with it comes the excitement (and sometimes hassle) of getting Christmas presents. Delicious food comes with this fantastic holiday! Here some recipes to kick your Christmas Break off to a great start. Have a great Christmas everyone!

## Raspberry Truffle Fudge

### Ingredients

- 3 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 1 (14 ounce) can sweetened condensed milk
- 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- salt to taste
- 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup raspberry flavored liqueur
- 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

### Directions

Spray a 9x9 inch pan with non-stick cooking spray, and line with wax paper.

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine 3 cups chocolate chips and sweetened condensed milk. Heat in microwave until chocolate melts, stirring occasionally. Be careful not to let it scorch. Stir in the vanilla and salt. Spread into pan, and cool to room temperature.

In a microwave-safe bowl, combine cream, liqueur, and 2 cups chocolate chips. Heat in microwave until the chocolate melts; stir until smooth. Cool to lukewarm, then pour over the fudge layer. Refrigerate until both layers are completely set, about 1 hour. Cut into 1 inch pieces.



## More from Rachel's Ridiculous Recipes!

### Apple Orchard Punch

#### Ingredients

- 1 (32 fluid ounce) bottle apple juice, chilled
- 1 (12 fluid ounce) can frozen cranberry juice concentrate
- 1 cup orange juice
- 1 1/2 liters ginger ale
- 1 apple

#### Directions

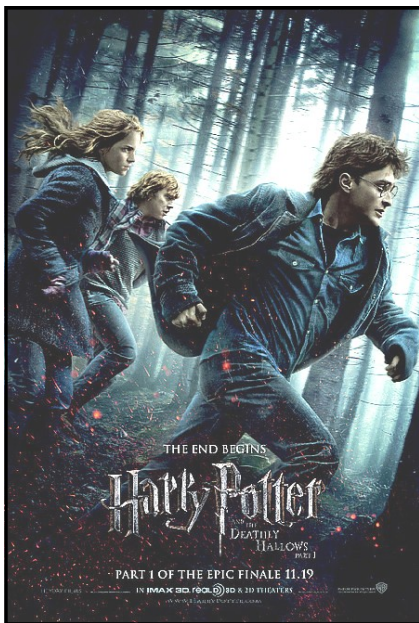
In a large punch bowl, combine apple juice, cranberry juice concentrate and orange juice. Stir until dissolved, then slowly pour in the ginger ale.



Thinly slice the apple vertically, forming whole apple slices. Float apple slices on top of punch.

## Soon to Say Goodbye : *Harry Potter*

By Brianna Lillo



So, you may be the kind of a person who has kept up with all the HP websites, “fanfic,” and “wizarding bands” and gone to loads of conventions. You may have just read the books. You might hate the whole franchise. But if you’ve been alive for the past month, you have definitely heard that the first part of the seventh Harry Potter movie came out November 19<sup>th</sup>. In this movie, Harry, Ron, and Hermione are looking for the horcruxes, which are basically keeping Voldemort immortal. The only clue they have is a note signed R.A.B. in a fake horcrux. As someone who has read the books, I loved the movie. It stayed in line with the books a lot better than the other movies have (probably because they split it up into two movies). Some of my favorite parts were cut, but I still liked their take on the book, especially the extra lines they give Dobby at the end (so sad!). I definitely recommend the movie (and the books! A thousand times more than the movies!). And we’ll all (mostly) be waiting for the second part to come out on July 15th.

# Immanuel: A PiECE OF TRASH?

**By Josh Ohlmann**



A few weeks ago an experiment was conducted on the campus of ILC. The purpose of the experiment was to observe people and see if they would pick up pieces of trash that had been placed in their path. 169 people were observed. 8 people picked up the trash. That's 5%. This question was asked in a survey after the experi-

ment: If you see a piece of trash on the ground, will you pick it up? 57% said yes, and 43% said no. Many people, when asked after the experiment why they didn't pick up the trash, said they didn't see it. Some people looked at the trash but didn't pick it up.

What does all this mean? Recently a fellow employee where I work has been talking to me about ILC. He called ILC a piece of (expletive) school, that I was wasting my time, that a degree from this college isn't worth anything in the real world, and he asked me why I was limiting myself? This is the perspective of the world. The sin-riddled, vile, and hell-bound world. To them ILC is a waste. It's not the real deal to them, as it is to us. The world holds in high esteem public school/college, underage drinking, having sex before marriage, doing drugs... The world would have us turn from the grace of God to the appealing evils of the Devil.

Every one of us knows that this campus is a blessing from our gracious and loving God. We have something truly special here. A haven from the world. It is a shield against the Devil. It protects us from exposure to sin. How should we act towards this blessing? Should we take it for granted? Should we treat it poorly? This is where the results of the experiment come in. The numbers reflect a student body, myself included, that is, perhaps, taking for granted this gift, a student body that is not always treating it right by something as simple as picking up litter on the ground. I know that, personally, I often consciously ignore trash when I see it. The results of this experiment should be an eye-opener for all of us.

*"Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." 1 Peter 4:9-11*

God wants us to take care of the gifts He's given us, both spiritually and physically. ILC is both to us. Not only is ILC a shield for us but it is a beacon for the unbelievers that come across it. People see the difference in Christians. Picking up litter on campus is an excellent way for us to bring glory to God and to show our love and appreciation towards Him for what He has given us.



# Senior Spotlight: Isaac Matthew Schaller

**By Abby Sydow and Jo Ohlmann**

**Q:** When and where were you born?

**A:** Right here on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1993, at 11:23 PM

**Q:** Any plans for college?

**A:** Do I have any plans for college...um, kind of, nothing really set in stone.

**Q:** So, we've heard that you really enjoy InfiniTea...How many times do you go there per week?

**A:** Not enough. I used to go just about every other day, sometimes every day. But now I'm out of money, so I can't go as much.

**Q:** What do you do in your free time?

**A:** Umm...go to InfiniTea, sleep, drive people places, and hang out with you guys.  
(*Meanwhile Hannah and Isaac are arguing in the background.*)

**Q:** You work at Dairy Queen, right? How is that? What's the best creation you've made?

**A:** It's interesting. (Ponders this question.) Hmm...chicken strip Blizzard.

**Q:** Jess tells us to ask you about your really big head?

**A:** (Gives me an exasperated look.) Ya... I guess I do have a pretty big head. My siblings have only been calling me Big Head since I was like two.

**Q:** So you had surgery on your ACL this summer and had to stay off it for a while. Do you miss playing sports?



**A:** I miss baseball... immensely. (*Scratches chin.*) I miss other sports... even basketball, sadly. Not the practices, just the games and having something to do.

**Q:** Do you ever think that this day would come, where you would be in the Senior Spotlight?

**A:** (Lauren gives me a funny look.) NO, psh. (*coughs*)

**Q:** Besides your sister, who's your favorite sophomore?

**A:** Umm... (*scratches chin*) That's not fair, there are too many sitting next to me! I'd probably get, like, shot or something.

**Q:** What's your favorite high school memory?

**A:** Oh... steak with Lauren, Lydia, and Gamble. Playing at Carson sophomore year, mystical Coyote Fields, and then grilling with Randy and Thomas. And then every time I spent with Abby.

### **Fun Facts about Isaac**

- Has ginormous calves
- His car smells like boy
- Used to be very crafty
- Doesn't look like any of his siblings
- Has extremely good hearing
- He has a dead person inside him
- Has a sweet DQ cd

### **Where will Isaac be in 10 years?**

Lydia Albrecht - Isaac will be super rich and drive around in his expensive car listening to his Dairy Queen cd and will be well-known for his Grilling company.

Nate Wilke - Schaller will own his own his own sandwich and tea shop in Watertown, SD. He will be married and have ninetuplits, all of whom have blonde hair and blue eyes, and play on the same little league team coached by Schaller.

Jess Schaller - Isaac will be living in Washington, working as an engineer for Boeing. He will have such a well-paying job, that his wife will be able to stay home and make him all the macaroni and cheese that he wants, while raising their three kids ( one of which will be a girl named "Supa-fly"). They will all have blonde hair, blue eyes, and ridiculously large calf muscles. During the summer when he's not working or playing baseball, he'll fly his private jet over to Detroit to watch his beloved Tigers.

**And of course, he'll return to South Dakota whenever possible, because of his SOUTH DAKOTA PRIDE!**

## Senior Spotlight:

# RACHEL CLARK MACKENSEN

By Christina Hein



C: Rachel. What was it like growing up in Italy?

R: A lot of interesting people. I don't have a lot of memories from there except I went to preschool and they were all really mean and competitive. I remember doing somersaults on our brick driveway. Oh, these two elderly people treated me like their grandchild and gave me candy. True story!

C: Besides looking through newspapers for pictures of your family to put in your scrapbook...

R: Oh, my goodness, I never should have told you that! Shop, babysitting, hanging with friends, watching movies, volleyball, and not physics projects.

C: So what's it like being the BABY of the class?

R: You are the butt of many jokes. You kind of get treated like a.. well, baby. Like a grade schooler. It's fun, I like it. I enjoy it. I embrace my youthhood.

C: A lot of people know that you have this Zac Efron folder. What would happen if somebody (like me) took it and never gave it back to you?

R: First of all, I would find you. Hunt you down, hunt down that folder. I would make you get a Zac Efron folder of your own that you would have to keep. I'd buy a life size figure of Zac Efron and put it in your room and screw it into the wall so it can't come off. Don't ever do that!

C: Kind of like your Taylor Lautner guy?

R: Pretty much, but he doesn't have as pretty pictures as Zac Efron, which is a downside.

C: I know you have a lot to pick from, but what is your favorite blond moment?

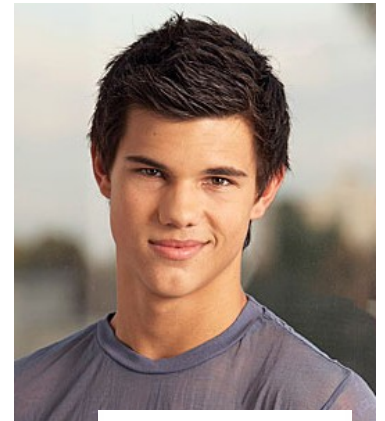
R: My favorite or the most well-known?

C: How about the funniest one.

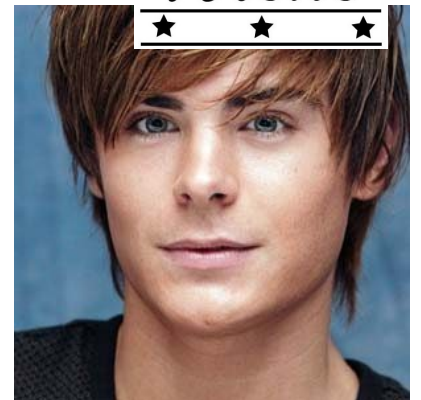
R: Cricket (those who don't know the story can ask Rachel). There's just not a lot, I can't remember them. And the one in History class with Jesus. That one was pretty funny.

C: Tell me about your car.

R: My baby! I love that thing. It is a 2002 VW Cabria convertible, red. Very nice. Pretty sweet, I'm happy that it's my first car. And when you put the key in the ignition it makes this funny little noise like some British...German song. Like when the queen comes in. Her entrance music. Like a trumpet. I wish I could make that noise!



*Versus*



C: If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

R: I'd like to be...a jaguar. They're cool looking, and fast. That's a very important component. And they can be kind of scary. Intimidating. They reign over the feline population.

C: What's your dream man?

R: Oh, but that's so hard! Can I have a combination? The body of Taylor Lautner, the wit and personality of Ryan Reynolds, and the smile of Zac Efron.

C: What's the most you've ever spent on one shopping trip?

R: Around \$200, all for the good of others.



C: Favorite number and why? Can I guess? Is it 12?

R: Yes. Number 12. I don't know how to explain that without sounding like a creep. He, that number, made my taste in men better.

C: What are some of your favorite memories from high school?

R: Jonbob, going to the boys' last basketball game last year, managing varsity volleyball this year, going to the Twilight movies, late night Perkins runs, our all-nighter, and going to state volleyball.

C: Anything else you want to say?

R: I'm really going to miss everybody. I'm gonna be like Cameron Diaz in The Holiday, when she doesn't have any tears left, because I'm going to cry them all out at graduation.

In ten years, Mikel says Rachel will be married to an extremely attractive man, probably someone named Zach or Taylor. She will have two little children who have their ears pierced since birth, wear Velcro bows in their hair, and answer Jesus to every single question asked. She will take breaks out of her schedule stabbing small children with syringes on the count of two to watch all of her crazy soap operas, and get her weekly mani/pedis. She will probably live in a cardboard box or a mansion, but no matter what, she will always be loved by those around her. THE END.

“ **Be your own person; don't get stuck in the crowd.** ”

**Rachel Mackensen's**  
**Words of Wisdom**



**Keep going!**

**Two more prophecies.....**

## FAVORITES

Food: Chinese food

TV Show: One Tree Hill and Glee

Prof: Lau and Mrs. Reim

Actor: Ryan Reynolds

Movie: The Proposal

Band: Either 2 A.M. or The Fray

Bible Passage: Jeremiah 29:11

Clothing Item: Leggings

Disney Movie: Mulan

**RACHEL'S SPOTLIGHT (continued)**

**Leah claims that 10 years from now Rachel will be a nurse working at a private practice, helping deliver babies and taking care of little kids. She will be married to a very attractive man. He will work from home, running his own private business and helping raise their two kids, Jacob and Elizabeth :]**



Melanie says that Rachel's life goal (soon to be discovered) is bringing babies into the world! She'll realize this after having visited the set of Grey's Anatomy, in the pediatrics ward. She'll be inspired. And McSteamy will compliment her on her beautiful hair, and he'll take her out to dinner. They'll get married in Venice. She'll win some sort of award for her huge heart, and her beautiful baby girl (who she delivers herself) will be in commercials. AND she'll have her own restaurant/ beauty shop. She's very motivated :)

## What are your Christmas Traditions?



By Jess Schaller Before we all leave for Christmas break, I asked students around campus what their traditions are. A big tradition associated with Christmas is of course, opening presents. 44 students said that their families open presents on Christmas Eve, while only 9 students open presents on Christmas morning. 20 students open presents on both days. Here are some other traditions →

- having snacks on Christmas Eve
- finding the pickle
- watching *It's a Wonderful Life*, *A Christmas Story*, and *The Nutcracker* on Christmas Eve.
- decorating cookies
- eating at a Chinese buffet for dinner

**Help!**

**Enter this year's T-Shirt contest.**

Last year we ordered T-shirts for the FLASH and I think they were well received with many orders placed. We'd like to do this on an annual basis. We are proposing a contest to get ideas for this year's T-shirt. Idea suggestions or sketches should be given to the editors by the end of January. Ideas should include both a design and a slogan. The winner will receive his/her T-shirt for free. Make use of Christmas break to work on it.

**Thanks.**

**-The Flash Staff**



# A Sweet and Simple Christmas Thought,

from Melanie Hallstein



Suddenly seasonal, after Thanksgiving, we were bombarded with Christmas sales, Christmas cookies, Christmas colors, Christmas movies, Christmas music, Christmas decorations, and the list goes on! Focusing on "the real meaning of Christmas" is beyond inspiring. This is the celebration of the beginning of salvation for all people! You'll hear that exact message rephrased many times throughout your life, and it's sometimes difficult to hear the true message amidst the repetition. But try to wrap your mind around the fact the Jesus's birth means freedom, a promise of life everlasting for all people! Thanksgiving isn't the only time to be thankful! Be happy, for Christ has come to live for us! And life is so so so great.

## SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: RANDALL EDWARD OSTER

as interviewed by mikel marzofka



M: Randal Edward Oster, we'll start off easier. When and where were you born?

R: I was born October 2, 1992, Eau Claire, WI.

M: Wow, you're old...

R: Yes ma'am :)

M: So, as a basketball manager, I hear you have a love for basketball, is this true?

R: Yes.

M: What is your most glorious moment in basketball, or sports anywhere?

R: Definitely when we made it to state for Cross Country as an entire team. That was pretty cool.

M: I've also heard that I should ask you if you think if it's possible for someone to have seven pack abs...Is this true?

R: This is completely possible. I am absolutely positive.

### FAVORITES

**Sport: Basketball**

**Food: Pizza**

**Color: Blue**

**Prof: Schierenbeck**

**Celebrity: LeBron James**

M: Do you like being a senior, is it really different?

R: Yeah, I do. I like it 'cause now I'm the old guy freshman look up to :)

M: What advice would you like to give younger people?

R: Pay the due respect to those in authority to you. You can write that :)

M: What are some of your favorite high school memories?

R: You can't just ask somebody that; that's really hard...

M: Just name the first ones that pop into your head.

R: Alright, definitely going to state for Cross Country...actually all of cross country and basketball. Going to Rod and Gun with Thomas and Isaac. Thomas getting stuck in a tree. (He takes out his phone to show me a hilarious video of Thomas attempting to slide down a tree that Randy had simply jumped from.)

M: Randy, tell me what the scariest moment in your life was?

R: I don't think I have one...oh wait. When I was really little, like eight or something, my mom and I were in Sam's Club, and she lost me completely. I was running through the entire store looking for her and I couldn't find her. Then finally I was running around one of the corners and I bumped right into her.

M: Are there any special talents that you would like to make us aware of?

R: I can bend my tongue into the shape of a four leaf clover, and I am double jointed in my left thumb.

### random fun facts about randy

- he's gone to state twice for Cross Country
- he's color blind . . . and in Art
- he loves his Mommy



## TEN YEARS FROM NOW.....

Rachel Mackenson: Randy will go pro-baseball and be married with four tall, very tan children. He will feed them protein shakes two times every day. Randy will also have a cat-catching business for stray cats. He will be an avid Pokémon-card trader and will reserve one day a week to watch chick flicks with his mom.

**Noah Meyer: He will be playing for the Miami Heat, or wherever LeBron James is playing, and he'll have a side job training cats ;)**

**M: What about kids?**

**N: Yeah, but I couldn't text that many zeros after 1 ;)**

**(This was from a text, by the way :))**

**David Rehm: Randy will be a male model with a very attractive wife. They will live somewhere warm. Randy will school all the old guys in just about every sport.**



# BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON

by caleb gerbitz

Another basketball season is underway, and this year's Immanuel Lancers boys basketball team promises to be a good one. Very quickly this season they got off to an exciting start at home with a dunk in the very first quarter of the first game. The Lancers followed that up by winning their first four games in a very convincing fashion against Cornell, CFC, Lincoln, and Independence.

Following the Christmas break, the team will play 15 regular season games, including two against teams that they look to beat at the start of every season, in Blair-Taylor and Eleva-Strum on our home court. This season promises to be filled with lots of exciting games. David Rehm had this to say in anticipation of the new season, "We're feeling good this year. We are working together well and our bench is pretty deep. Our sights are set pretty high. We should have some exciting games."



## EDITORIAL :



"Why did I have to give bad kids all that coal?"

### Christina Hein

Oh boy, that Christmas music...I'm not a huge fan of it until December starts, but it started early again this year. I woke up the day after Thanksgiving to my brothers and sisters blasting their Frosty and Friends Christmas CD. During the day, I listened to a variety of music including Alvin and the Chipmunks, Christmas hymns, and songs from The Grinch and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. The radio doesn't really help much either. Stations play the same music over and over...and over again. I'm pretty sure I heard Mariah Carey sing "All I Want For Christmas is You" about four times in one day.

But even though this music drives me up the wall and back down again, sometimes I have moments where it's the best thing in the world to listen to. I'm not a fan of snow either, but the combination of the two at 9:00 at night, with Melanie and I nice and warm in our room talking about Christmas and singing along to our favorite songs, is really relaxing, especially after a long hard day of studying.

Finals week is usually pretty stressful, and without relaxing things to do, I'm pretty sure a lot of us would go crazy. Everybody's really excited to go home for a few weeks and see their families. Just a few more days left! Merry Christmas, guys. Have a great break!



# Editorial: Oh, Sisters...

♥ From Melanie Hallstein

## “Can’t live with ‘Em... Pass the Presents”



One year, my sister decided she was past the gift-giving stage in her life. She told us all she wasn't buying anything for us, she wasn't going to waste her money on things we might not even like - if we were her true family, she shouldn't have to give us presents to show how much she loves us. Her name should remain anonymous at this point, just one of my three sisters. If you really wanna know... just ask :)

So, the result? She gave NOTHING! But, her family, being as loving, caring, and generous as they are, still bought her gifts. Perhaps it was because they truly loved her. Or perhaps it was because they felt bad if everyone else got to open presents on Christmas Eve while she sat simply watching. Maybe even because it was the only time we spent any money on her. Who knows?

But it was stupid of her, because we all spent time, effort, and used up creativity on her unresponsive self. And all night she didn't hint a bit of guilt, just opened present after present, with a delighted grin on her face if she was satisfied, and a smug, “I TOLD you that presents weren't necessary” muttered under her breath if she wasn't happy about the gift.

I'm not sure what my purpose is in this article - use her as a role model, a contrast, whatever need may be. Just know, for the record, I love my sister to death. Sometimes, though, sometimes... I wonder what's goin' on upstairs (if ya know what I mean). MERRY X-MAS!

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### *Credits:*

**COVER PAGE:** Liz Richardson

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Abbie Hein   Liz Richardson   Melanie Hallstein   Abby Sydow  
 Hannah Hulke   Mikel Marzofka   Paige Louderman   Rachel Mackensen   Brianna Lillo  
 Josh Ohlmann   Christina Hein   Jess Schaller   Prof. Lau   Caleb Gerbitz   Jo Ohlmann

**EDITORS:** Melanie Hallstein   Christina Hein

**FLASH ADVISOR:** Prof. Joe Lau

**LAYOUT:** Hannah Hulke

**TYPISTS:** Jess Schaller   Abbie Hein   Lauren Lisak   Miriam Bernthal  
 Lydia Albrecht   Christina Hein   Sarah Tester   Emily Baker

**COPYIST:** Hannah Tiefel