

Illiana bids farewell to murals (pg. 9) and campus memories (pg. 8)

the Echo)))

Illiana Christian High School

This issue contains:
The Gecko
...and...
Senior Pages

Volume 72 Issue 9 May 25, 2018 Lansing, Illinois

Students battle for extra cookout in Penny Wars

Dominic Turkstra
Reporter

During the first week of May, Illiana students engaged in Penny Wars, a fundraising competition that pitted the four classes against each other. Students donated money, mostly pocket change, to containers labelled with their class, but any donated pennies were dropped into the jars of opposing classes because the pennies “decreased” the money raised in that jar. Hence, the game allowed people to raise their own totals and sabotage the giving efforts of other classes. The prize for winning? An extra cookout.

By the end, the top two grades were the seniors with a total of \$1,130 and the freshman with \$740. The total amount raised was \$2,632.60.

Mrs. Dutton said she got the



Students compete by collecting money for technology at the new campus.

Courtesy of Illiana Christian's Facebook.

idea for Penny Wars from when she attended Timothy Christian, where students did the same thing.

Senior Austin Ohm said that he would like it if Illiana started to allow the senior class to have an extra cookout since it's their last year here

and it would push you to bond with some students you may have not talked to too often. Ohm also added, “You don't work for what you earn, but you earn with what you get from gifts.”

Sophomore Justin DeVries con-

tributed with 12 pennies in the sophomore jar, hurting his own class's efforts. Freshman Brendan Kamp said he was disappointed that they didn't get the win. Sophomore Jacob Gibson said he had a feeling that the seniors would win Penny Wars since

it was their last year and they would go all out to win the cookout.

During the cookout on Tuesday, May 8, many seniors chatted with each other, played football and beanbags, and listened to music.

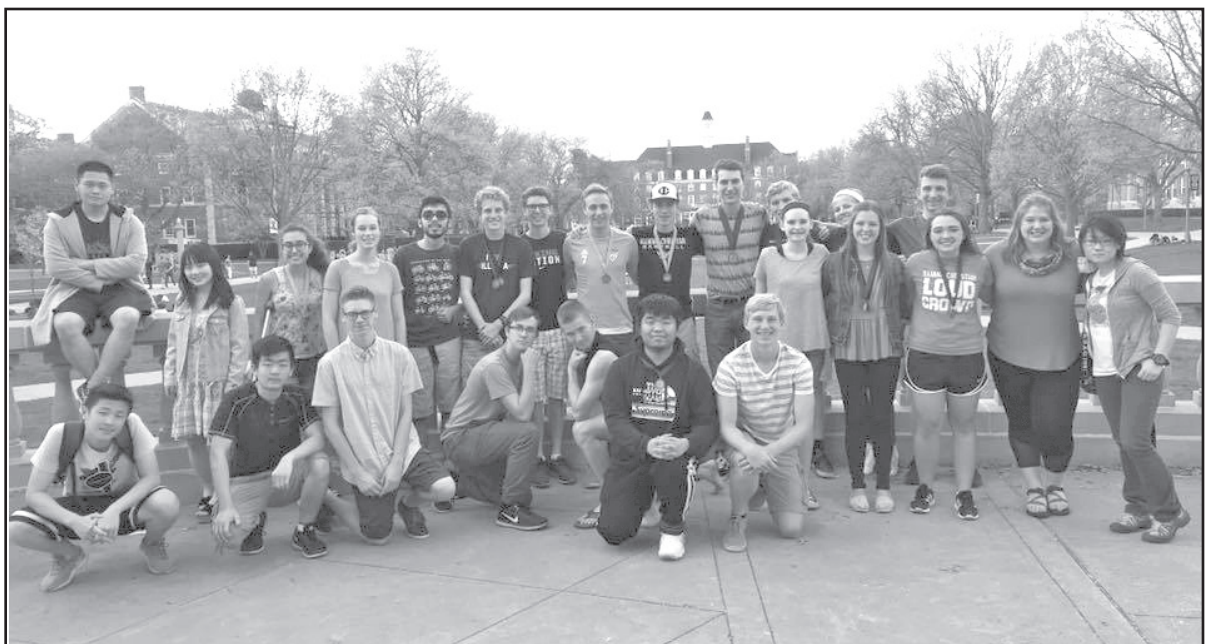


Photo by Mr. Rob Lagerwey

Math team gathers on the campus of the University of Illinois where they competed.

Math team has mixed feelings about 12th place finish at State

Cassie Laninga
Co-Photo Editor

Illiana's math team placed 12th out of 53 teams at the state math competition at the University of Illinois on Saturday, May 5.

Illiana's algebra 2 team placed 10th in the state, the calculator team came in 6th, the two-person team came in 10th, and the two junior-senior relay teams finished 7th and 8th in the state. All winning team members received medals.

Math teacher Mr. Lagerwey said Illiana's math team has been the regional champions for at least 12 years in a row, allowing them to qualify for state for each of those 12 years.

“It was exciting to compete at the University of Illinois with close to 3000 other high school math students,” said Lagerwey. “We will lose several seniors who have made important contributions to the team, and we now need to build up the members from the lower grades.”

Junior Raul Garcia said, “It's a good social event. We were really able to bond through it.”

“It was a good year,” said junior Sam Boonstra, who said he has high hopes for bringing home a trophy next year. “We all need to work harder.”

“I practiced,” said senior Andrew Feikema. “Some of us did well. Some of us didn't practice enough. If we put in a bit more effort, we would've come back with a trophy.”

Go Club's Beanbag Tournney aids Crisis Pregnancy Center

Cate Peerbolte
Co-Feature Editor

On Friday May 11, thirty-seven pairs of Illiana student and members of the Illiana community came together for a bean bag tournament in the back parking lot. Go Club sponsored this event; ?????? was raised for the Wakisa Crisis Pregnancy Center in Uganda. The I2U spring break team brought supplies and took a tour of this facility in March.

The tournament began at 7 p.m. and continued as the sun went down. The teams were

set up in a single elimination bracket. Pairs faced off on eight sets of bags set up in a line.

Collin Bultema and Andy Vanderbent won the tournament. Bultema said, “We had to go through five rounds. Mr. Haan and Luke Haan were toughest competition in the final round.”

The game ended with a score of 21-15.

Vanderbent added, “I was a little nervous going up against Mr. Haan, but a few throws in I knew we had an easy win.



Photo courtesy of Emma West

Seniors Emma West and Rachael Groen sport goofy costumes as the “UndeFEETed” team at the Beanbag Tournament.

Life advice from Illiana’s bathrooms

Things happened to me in Illiana’s women’s bathrooms. I don’t know why they happened to me. They just did. I’d be going about my normal day and BAM, the next moment I’d be laughing so hard I was crying trying to tell my friends what just happened to me in the bathroom. I’d find a white rabbit sniffing around the floor or get shoved up against the wall by a screaming freshman flinging the door open. Sometimes the lights would flicker on and off and I’d walk into a bathroom strobe light dance party. I’d



Cassie Laninga
Co-News Editor

see girls crying and dancing and taking pictures in the mirror, and then I’d wish the windows were opened so I could crawl out.

High school is a variety of boring and bizarre events strung together. Not everything is clear cut. Some say, “High school will be the best four years of your life.” But that idiom gave me high expectations that were never met, leaving me to think I’ve missed out on some amazingly wonderful, out-of-this-world high school experience like the 30-year-olds who played high school teens in 90s movies had. High school isn’t some simple plot line with a climax and happy ending. It’s just a cluster of random events, a stepping stool to get us into adult life. It’s boring days and fun days and confusing days. It’s even meeting new people in the bathroom. We don’t understand why events occur and we question the true meaning behind them, even though not everything is full of meaning. And although we may not always understand why things happen, how things are connected, we still wonder about them and let those experiences shape us into who we are.

God has a funny sense of humor. He throws things at me and I question them for days. Why was there such a thing at Illiana called Worm Club where boys ate dirt out of flower pots? What ever happened to Carrot Club? Why does Kyle Zuide-ma make sheep noises all the time? Why do sophomore boys scream in the dining hall? Why is Andrew Feikema so good at laughing in French? He says it’s all in the nose, but I don’t know. Why do underclassman look older than me? It’s all so confusing. What does any of it mean?

I can’t even explain the things I do. I used to tape pictures of Tom Cruise in my locker even though I hate the man. I just wanted to pretend I had an obsession with him. Don’t ask me why, because I’ve asked myself why, and I can’t come up with an answer.

We don’t always have control over what goes on in our lives. We don’t always know why things happen, and that’s okay. Life is confusing and messy, and only God can see the whole picture. Everyone is different. We connect and cross paths, and I believe that every person knows something someone else doesn’t. I learn from other people’s attitudes, actions, mentalities, and humor. Each person impacts me in a different way, and for that I’ll forever be thankful for Illiana. I don’t always know why I needed to run into a person in the hall, at the store, or even in the girls’ bathroom, but maybe it’s not for me to know right now. Maybe it’s for God to know, and for me to find out later.



Marching band students prepare to march in the parade. Courtesy of Spire

Band perfoms, bus doesn’t

Liz VanDrunen
Co-Feature Editor

Illiana’s Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band marched in the Good Neighbor parade in Lansing, Illinois on Saturday, May 5. The band marched down Ridge Road for 2 hours. The pa-

rade ended at Lan-Oak Park where the participants were served lunch. On the following Saturday, May 12, the bands traveled to Holland, MI to also perform in the Muziek Parade for the Tulip Time Festival. The students left from Illiana around 8:30 in the morning and drove 2 hours to Hope College.

Following the parade, the students ate a late lunch at the Tunnel Park in Holland. They arrived back to Illiana at 9:30 that night. Band conductor Pat Menninga said, “Both parades went smoothly, except for that one of the buses broke down on the way home from Michigan so we were two hours later than planned.”

Junior Elizabeth DeYoung said, “It would be nice if we could get a float for the band to sit on, while we play. That way we could do better songs.” As of now, the administration and Menninga have not decided whether they will participate in the parades next year after the school moves to Indiana.

Wind Ensemble honored at SuperState

Jordan Bivins
Reporter

On Friday, May 4, Illiana’s Wind Ensemble went to the University of Urbana-Champaign to perform at the SuperState Band Festival. SuperState is a state band competition where directors must submit a re-

cording of their band to get selected to compete. This year’s Illiana team was the Honors Band, a plaudit they received by capturing first place in the 2017 Class A division. Being the Honors Band also meant that they were not allowed to compete this year. The Honors Band is the last team to perform in its

division. Senior trumpet player Paul Kamp said his favorite part of the trip was that Illiana went out on a high note. He said, “It’s always nice when the last time you play something, it’s not your worst time playing it.” Junior trumpeter Elizabeth DeYoung has been in

Wind Ensemble for two years. She said, “It’s nice to get to know the people of the band. [Also], the Krannert Center has great acoustics.” Because of the move to a new campus in Indiana, this will be Illiana’s last year performing in the Illinois SuperState competition.

2018 Student Awards			
Award	Recipient	Award	Recipient
Art	Stephanie Van Deel	Sousa	Esther Lagerwey
	Michelle Van Kalker	Instrumental Music	Jeffrey Kroll
Bible	Jordan Miller	National Choral	Sara Bosman
	Ashton Wilson	Vocal Music	Benjamin Fabrizius
Business	Justin De Boer	Family and Consumer Science	Megan Meyer
English	Joshua De Young	Industrial Technology	DavidVander Zee
Drama Crews	Stephanie Van Deel	Physical Education	Nathan De Vries
	Michelle Van Kalker	Principal’s Leadership	Aerial Shaffer
Drama Acting	Thomas Ericks	Illiana Citizenship	Jordan Miller
Journalism	Beth Boonstra	Rotary Citizenship	Beth Boonstra
Math	Matthew Haak	Athlete of the Year	Austin Ohm
Social Studies	Esther Lagerwey		Madison De Young
Science	Jesse Hoekstra	Scholar Athlete of the Year	Payton Smit
German	Esther Lagerwey		Emma West
Spanish	Paul Kamp	Co-Valedictorians	Matthew Haak
			Esther Lagerwey
2018 Student Scholarships			
Richard Vanden Berg Memorial	Beth Boonstra	Cathy Beezhold-Peerbolte Memorial	Emma West
	Sara Bosman	Joshua Daniel De Boer Memorail	Thomas Ericks
Jim Huizenga Memorial	Maria Powers	Calvin	Esther Lagerwey
Luke Witvliet Memorial	Nathan De Vries	Vernon J. Boerman Memorial	Isabelle Neibert
	Riley Goodwin		

New Christian high school introduces competition

Beth Boonstra
Co-Editor in Chief

As Illiana leaves the Lansing campus for St. John, a new Christian high school is springing up in South Holland, IL, hoping to fill the need that some people saw for a Christian high school in the area. Unity Christian Academy will begin with a freshman class in August 2018 and has currently capped its enrollment at 30.

Unity’s mission is to empower a diverse community, united by Christ, to achieve excellence in education for the flourishing of all creation.

Unity board member Bill Boerman-Cornell, who has close ties to Illiana, said, “My broad understanding is that the original group of people

who met were hurt by the decision to move Illiana, but within just a few meetings that became utterly beside the point. When you think about it, if you drive south on 294, you have Timothy to the Western side of the city, then about 40 minutes later or so, you have Chicago Christian, then about thirty minutes after that is Illiana’s current location, then another 30 minutes down 394 is the new location.”

Sally Larsen is on the Board as well as on the Education Committee and Executive Committee. Larsen said, “When Illiana’s association made the decision to relocate, a group of people saw the need to maintain a witness in high school Christian education in this area. While there were some strong words spoken at the last

association meeting, the conversation about this new possibility was not born out of protest or anger, but in recognition of a need and opportunity. Precedent exists for new Christian high schools because of a desire to have a Christian presence in a community; both Illiana and Timothy are great examples of this. They were offshoots of Chicago Christian—Illiana in 1947 and Timothy in 1952. God has blessed all three of these schools as we trust He will bless Unity. We view Unity as a school with a common purpose/goal as Illiana, educating children with a Reformed perspective. In this sense, we see ourselves as sister institutions.”

Illiana’s principal Peter Boonstra said, “I was a little hurt when I heard that the name of this school was go-

ing to be Unity because from my perspective it doesn’t seem to be uniting.”

Boerman-Cornell said, “...It is a little puzzling why people would think that students from Calvin Christian (or Lansing, or anywhere else) belong to Illiana. The feeder schools are not part of a system.”

Boonstra said, “While I understand the logic of having school’s evenly spaced around the Chicagoland area, the fact is that the situation is actually much more complex than that. ...We at Illiana believe that we must continue to serve the same area that we’ve been serving for many, many years, and that includes South Holland and that includes Lansing. ...Illiana has served this community very well

for 70 years and we hope to continue to serve the same community for many years.”

Boonstra has worked with Okuley, helping when he can and always willing to share his opinion. He hopes that their mutual support can continue despite a rough start.

“They are not my enemy,” Boonstra said, “but are coworkers in the field, plowing these fields for Jesus. And while we certainly may be squabbling about whose field we’re plowing in and where the property line is . . . , it doesn’t change the fact that we are still coworkers in the kingdom working to make sure that young men and women understand who they are and how their lives advance God’s kingdom.”

Farewell to Faculty Members

Guidance counselor Mrs. Helen Bussema



Kylie Boss
Reporter

Guidance counselor Mrs. Helen Bussema will retire this year after serving as a guidance counselor at Illiana for the last thirteen years and as a math teacher for twelve years earlier Illiana.

Bussema started working at Illiana in 1987, teaching math. Later while at Illiana, she began taking classes at Governors State University to get her Master’s Degree in Counseling. Bussema then began counseling at differ-

ent high schools in the area until she came back to Illiana and has worked here for thirteen years as a counselor.

Bussema said she has been praying about the decision for several years.

“I just felt that making this my last year just felt right,” Bussema said. “I’m at peace with this decision, and as much as I love my job, I want to spend more time with my family. I want to do things that the business of the school year doesn’t let me do.”

Fellow guidance counselor

Neil Zandstra said, “Her calm demeanor, professionalism, and Biblical counsel has had a strong impact on the students and staff in the Illiana community.” According to Zandstra, Illiana will lose an exceptional listener and a hardworking counselor able to handle tense situations with compassion and empathy.

Replacing Bussema will be Mrs. Melanie Benes, a former guidance counselor from Harold L. Richards High School, according to her daughter, sophomore Taylor Benes.



marathonpundit.com

Statue commemorates holocaust victims.

German students take sobering field trip

Kylie Boss
Reporter

Students from German III and IV traveled to Skokie to visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center on May 18. Marketing director Mrs. Jenna Dutton and admissions director Mrs. Marie Limback chaperoned.

At the museum, a tour guide led the group around the museum, showing events starting from World War I through World War II to illustrate how the Nazis came to power, according to senior Esther Lagerwey.

After the tour, added Lagerwey, the group listened to a World War II holocaust survivor.

“It was really cool because . . . the next generation won’t be able to listen to survivors anymore. It was really interesting to hear her story,” Lagerwey said.

The group originally planned to go out to eat at a German restaurant afterward, but unfortunately the restaurant was closed, so they ate at a mall nearby, said junior Erin Yonkman. They later returned to school at the beginning of seventh period.

Senior Ashton Wilson said his favorite part of the trip was “being able to see . . . the effects [of the Holocaust] not only specifically for Germany but how it affected the entire world.”

Mr. Fennema organized the trip, but unfortunately was unable to go because of the girls state track meet. Dutton and Limback stepped up as guides to chaperone the trip.

Family and Consumer Sciences teacher Mrs. Carol Piaskowy

Maddie Holesinger
Co-Editor in Chief

Mrs. Carol Piaskowy, Illiana’s family and Consumer Sciences teacher, after 33 years of teaching, is done serving at Illiana.

“The decision has been a long time coming. I sensed that God was pushing me in this direction, but I was resisting it. Over time it has become more and more

clear,” Piaskowy said.

Throughout her 33 years, she has had the opportunity to teach in a middle school, junior high, high school, and a college. She served for twelve years at Illiana.

“I love my job, but I know God has something else in mind for me,” said Piaskowy.

At this time, Piaskowy has no plans set in stone, but she looks forward to spending time with her grandbabies and traveling with her husband.

“It’s the people that have been such a blessing,” said Piaskowy. “I have been so blessed personally by my teaching experience. The students and faculty have just taught me so much. When you think that you are doing the teaching, they’re teaching back. It’s just so great.



Applied Technology teacher Mr. John VanDeel

Jaden Denton
Reporter

After a long career that includes two different stints teaching at Illiana, Mr. John VanDeel is retiring.

VanDeel has worked at Illiana for 21 years as the woodshop and CAD teacher and is now

retiring to go camping with his wife and to visit his daughter.

VanDeel, a former carpenter, has taught woodworking to kids, but he’s also educated them about other trades. Once he even built a masonry shed to introduce his students to the bricklaying trade.

VanDeel has many fond memories, but a few stand out to him.

He said, “My two very best moments have occurred this year. I have had the privilege of teaching two of my grandchildren, Justin Foust . . . and Becca Foust This has been by far the greatest blessing during my teaching career.”

“He has a very relaxed class and he’s very relatable,” said sophomore Trent DeVries. “He’s probably my favorite teacher.”

“It’s all God’s timing, that’s the best answer,” said VanDeel. He went on to explain his secret to a long and good life. “Just remember to have everything in moderation and look both ways when you cross the street.”



Comments from the Class of 2018

Answer key:

PIP: Post-Illiana Plans

SC: Secret Crush

A: Animal that describes you
FW: Four words that describe high school



Tabitha Adams

A: Dolphin
 SC: Alex Eenigenburg
 FW: Something is always changing
 PIP: College

Katrina Baker

A: Hippo
 SC: Carter Dorn
 FW: So done with it...
 PIP: FGCU

Rachel Batterman

A: Cat
 SC: Justin Van Prooyen
 FW: "Why don't you smile?"
 PIP: American Academy of Art in Chicago

Rylee Benes

A: Gazelle
 SC: Chinese Food
 FW: It's not spelled "Riley"
 PIP: Purdue Lafayette for computer engineering

Kayla Bivona

A: Flying squirrel
 SC: Jacob Ipema, Zac Efron
 FW: Take off your earbuds
 PIP: Purdue Northwest

Brittany Bonnema

A: Wolf
 SC: Garrett Vander Zee
 FW: What even is this?
 PIP: Liberty University, studying general biology to become veterinary technician

Beth Boonstra

A: Giraffe

SC: Simon Molenaar

FW: Better than Middle School
 PIP: Calvin College, undecided

Sara Bosman

A: Monkey]
 SC: I have one?!
 FW: Interesting ride, God designed
 PIP: Northwestern Christian

Ryan Boss

Grant Buikema

A: Ostrich
 SC: Lexi Terpstra
 FW: I want to leave
 PIP: College

Charlie Buiter

A: Worm

SC: Silver 2002 Ford Focus 2x3
 FW: Smoking cigarettes seemed cool

PIP: Struggling with nicotine addiction

Tessa Buiter

A: Ant eater
 SC: Dante Sullivan
 FW: Senioritis is too real
 PIP: South Suburban for Occupational Therapy Assistant

Collin Bultema

A: Loch Ness Monster
 SC: Gillian Fiene, Lexi Terpstra
 FW: Way too long
 PIP: Liberty University

Gracie Bultema

A: Ant

SC: Lucas Smit
 FW: Go, Fight, Win, Yeah
 PIP: Purdue Lafayette for chemistry

Gino Camacho

A: Lion
 FW: Time to be alive
 PIP: Military or college

Aliyah Chancellor

A: Wolf
 SC: Tom Ericks, Ashton Wilson
 FW: Stressful but also fun
 PIP: DePaul University, study business administration and art

Austin Clark

A: Monkey

SC: Lauren DeBoer, Becca Foust

FW: Fast, entertaining, busy, fun
 PIP: Dordt, study biology, play volleyball

Evan Conrad

A: homa sapien
 FW: Mitochondria: powerhouse of a cell
 PIP: Become an Automotive Technician

Mykel Cross

A: Wolf
 SC: Ashley Bultema, Taylor Huizenga, Emma West
 FW: Epic
 PIP: College and work

Zariah Cross

A: Chihuahua
 SC: Matthew Price
 FW: Gone like the wind
 PIP: College

Lauren Curtis

A: Mermaid
 SC: Tom Ericks
 FW: Really stressing me out
 PIP: Studying Biomedical Science at Eastern Kentucky University

Justin DeBoer

A: Giraffe
 SC: Julia Kooistra
 FW: Well, that was quick!
 PIP: Purdue Northwest for Constrution Engineering

Nick Deja

A: Sheep LOL
 SC: No one here
 FW: WAS THERE REALLY HOMEWORK
 PIP: Army National Guard, go to UTI

Alyssa DeJong

A: Parrot
 SC: Eddie Spoelman, Justin VanDrunen
 PIP: Study nursing

Keagan DeVries

A: Ferret
 SC: Chalupa, Lorin Smits, Qdoba
 FW: It was too long
 PIP: Calvin College, get married, have family

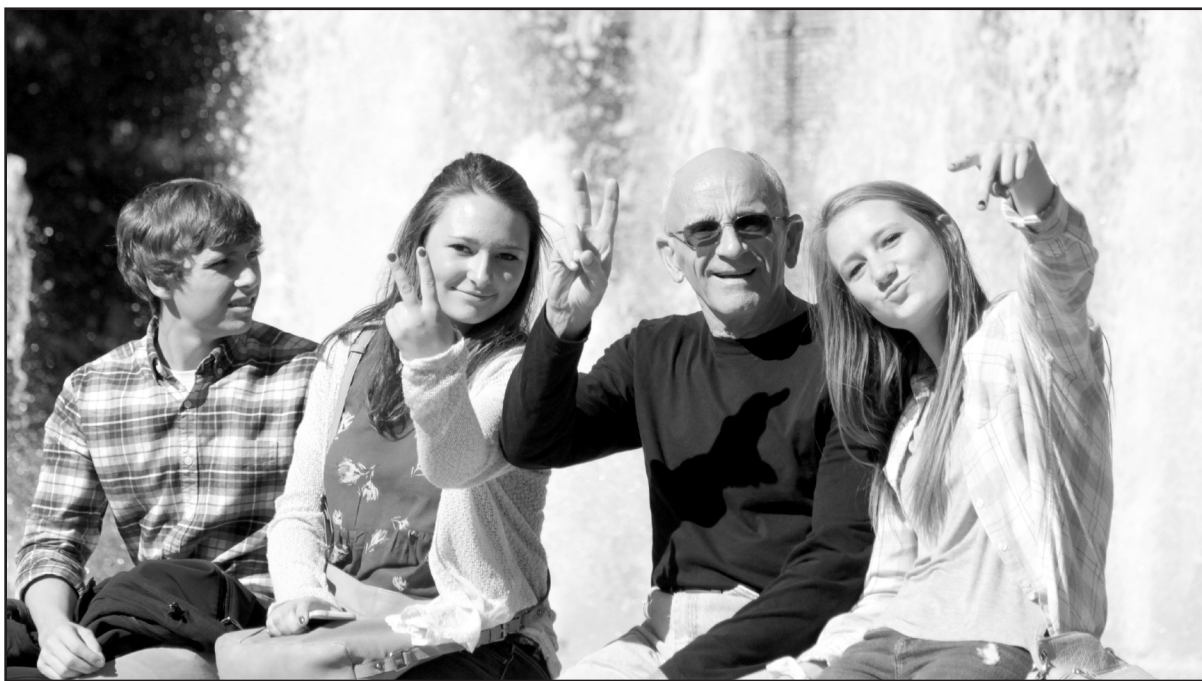
Nathan DeVries

A: Lion
 SC: Emma West
 FW: A waste of time
 PIP: Navy, college

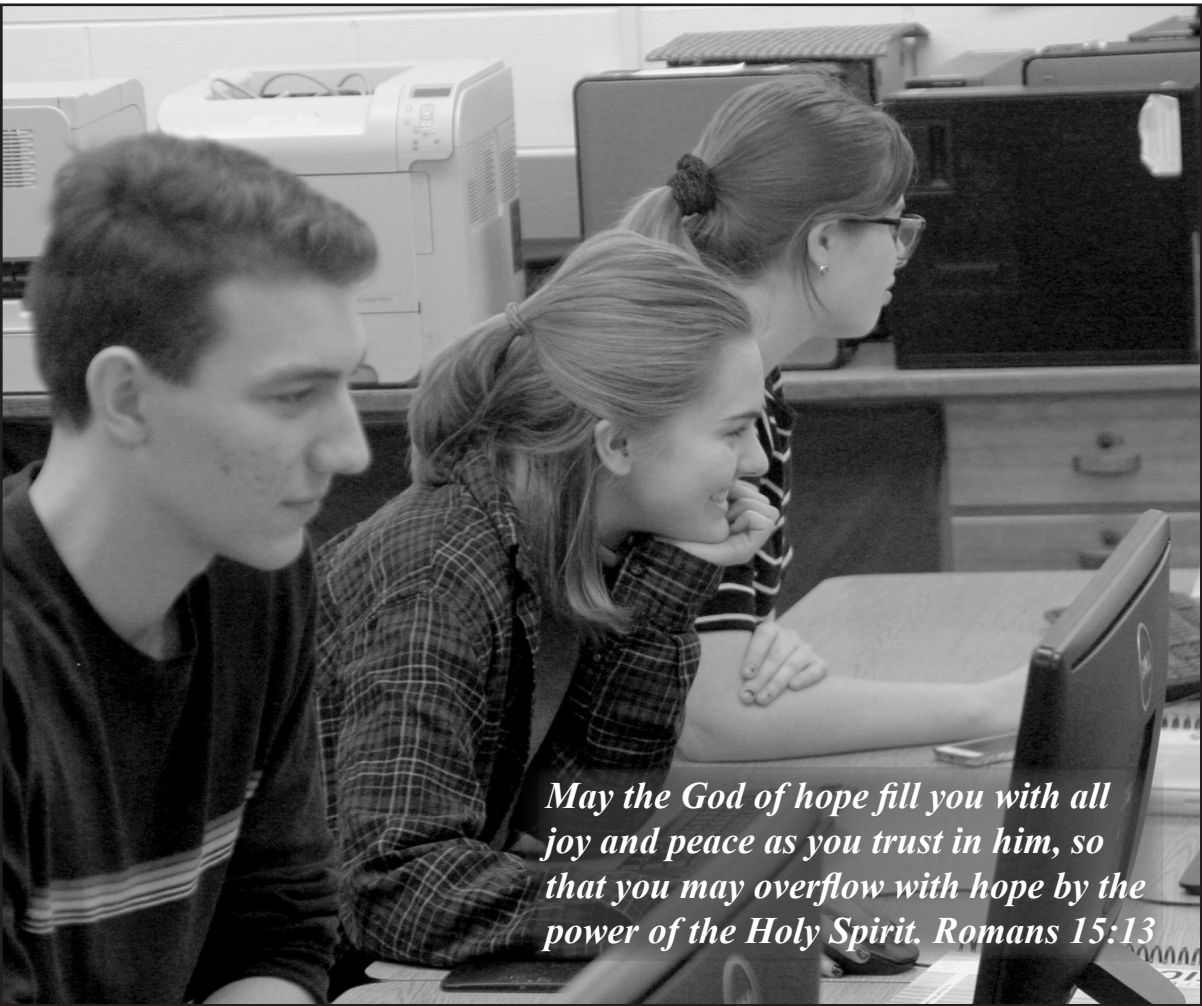
Josh DeYoung

A: Human
 SC: Charlie Buiter's 1990 Pontiac Bonneville LE
 FW: Porta Potty Rolling Downhill
 PIP: Burn tons of money to reverse inflation.

Lauren DeYoung



Be confident of this: he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Phillipians 1:6



May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13

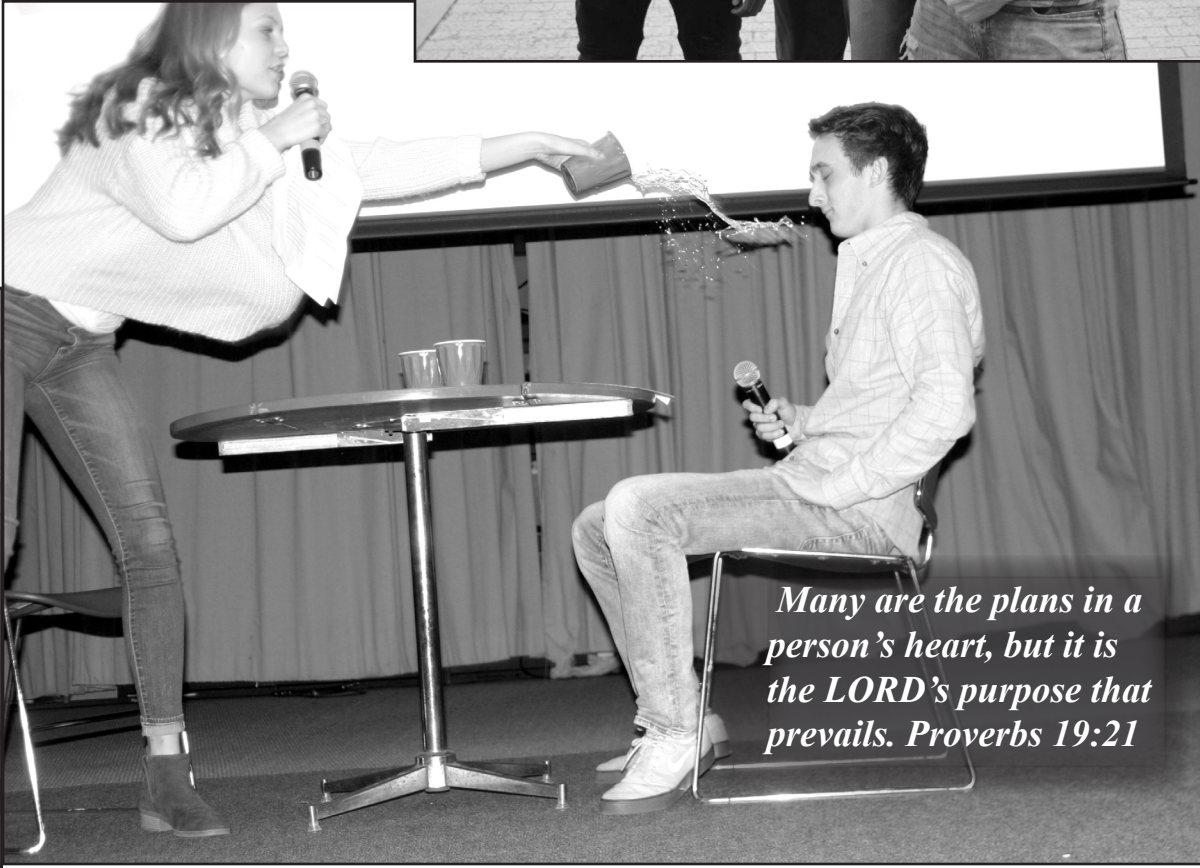
A: Giraffe
SC: Eddie Spoelman, Zach Roach, Carter Doorn, Logan VanEssen
FW: idk
PIP: Grand Canyon University for nursing
Maddie DeYoung
A: Cocker Spaniel
SC: Josh Otte, Justin Van Prooyen
FW: busy, spontaneous, roller coaster, foundational
PIP: Studying Biology at IU Bloomington
Ryan Disselkoen
A: Sea Cucumber
SC: An uncomfortable amount of people, Aslynn Riemersma
FW: I won't use this.
PIP: Purdue, Biomedical Engineering
Mya Dixon
A: Leopard
SC: Jesse Williams
FW: When is it over
PIP: Purdue Northwest, studying computer science
Tom Ericks
A: Snow Leopard
SC: Lauren Curtis, Jenna O'Brien
FW: Hard work, theater, friends
PIP: Going to Purdue West Lafayette to become an Engineer
Malik Evans
A: Bird
SC: Michelle Van Kalker, Kayla Bivona
FW: Eye opening experience

PIP: Go to college, move to the DR
Carlee Faber
A: monkey
SC: Justin Van Prooyen, Kaleb Dennis
FW: Was way to fast
PIP: Nanny, Community College at Moraine Valley
Ben Fabrizius
A: Slow Loris
SC: Ester Lagerwey, Ashley Clark
FW: Too Fast, Too Long
PIP: Study German and business. Acquire debt.
Kayla Fabrizius
A: Panda
SC: Max Wegner
FW: pro-cras-ti-nate
PIP: Eastern Illinois University
Kyle Fabrizius
A: Parrot
SC: It wouldn't be a secret then
FW: It is almost over
PIP: Join the military
Andrew Feikema
A: a tiger with a dolphin head
SC: Marxism-Leninism-Maoism
PIP: Calvin College
Collin Flipse
A: Dawg (roof...rrr)
SC: Kaley Jane Gutierrez I
FW: Illiana Christian High School
PIP: Purdue Northwest
Riley Goodwin
A: Mongoose
SC: Fletcher Bandstra
FW: Why does everyone smell

PIP: PhD in Geriatric Psychology
Spenser Graham
A: Dolphin
SC: Wendy Teune
FW: Athletic, Academic, Social Student
PIP: Go to college
Rachel Groen
A: squirrel
SC: Zach Roach, Matt Lagestee
FW: tends to get wild
PIP: Fox Business College
Matthew Haak
A: A hummingbird in the body of a giraffe
SC: Katrina Baker
FW: Pretending to like people
PIP: Study architecture at University of Illinois
Nicholas Hammond
A: Quokka
FW: Nah, it's not that.
PIP: Purdue University Northwest
Joshua Harris
A: Kangaroo
SC: Lizzie Knot
FW: When is this over
PIP: College
Sarah Hernández
A: Giraffe
SC: Travis VanDrunen, Logan

VanEssen
FW: Chipotle helped me through.
PIP: Trinity Christian Collenge for education
Nascha Hladek
A: Jaguar
SC: James Maslow, Alex Pettyfer, Jace Norman
FW: Interesting, fun, exciting, awesome
PIP: Indiana University Northwest, studying fine arts, running cross country
Jesse Hoekstra
A: Otter
SC: Ashley Clark
FW: long, monotonous, boring, stressful
PIP: The University of Dordt
Taylor Huizenga
A: Giraffe
SC: Matt Lagastee
FW: Miss J's homeroom rocks
PIP: Cornerstone University, majoring in exercise science, playing volleyball
Dominique Jackson
A: Unicorn
SC: No one
FW: stressful, fun, happiness, loving
PIP: College
Evan Jones
A: Wolf
FW: Trillness is the key.
PIP: Kentucky State University
Bethany Junker
A: Butterfly
SC: Brandon Schutt, Tim Schaaaf
FW: I love my Momma
PIP: Methodist University for softball & Criminal Justice
Paul Kamp

A: trout
SC: Ashley Clark
FW: Middle school was better
PIP: College, I'm going to try to meet interesting people around the world.
Virgil Key
FW: Thanks Illiana, very cool!
PIP: Trinity
Joshua Khan
A: Lion
SC: No one
FW: An insightful educational experience
PIP: College
Raijai King
A: White Wolf
SC: Tabitha
FW: FaZe UP!!
Megan Kooyenga
FW: I finally made it
PIP: IUN for nursing
Andrew Kort
A: Lemur
SC: Mackenzie Lich-Eenigenburg
FW: I want to leave
PIP: Electrician
Jeff Kroll
FW: Yes
PIP: Purdue Northwest, studying construction engineering and management
Sarah Kuiper
A: Dolphin
SC: Eddie Spoelman, Justin Van Prooyen, Jason Schutt (my bestie)
FW: Entertaining, challenging, exciting, long
PIP: Purdue University, studying nursing
Esther Lagerwey
A: Lioness
SC: Simon Molenaar, Jacob



Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails. Proverbs 19:21



Ipema, Ben Fabrizio
FW: academics, involved, music, laughing
PIP: Calvin College for political science/international relations/
German
Cassis Laninga
A: llama
SC: The Echo Staff boys, Scoopie, Joey Neumeyer’s camo sweatshirt, Justin Van Prooyen
FW: Entertaining. Stressful. Bizarre. Hot
PIP: Study radiography at IUN
Dylan LaRock
Jake Lenting
A: Doggo
SC: Tori Terpstra
FW: I made big money
PIP: Work hard, build skyscrapers
Johnathan Lightfoot
A: Black Panther
SC: orange or grape... I can’t decide,
FW: I came. I left.
PIP: Calvin College and something you’ll see later.
Tony Lucito
A: Great white shark
SC: Emma Olthoff, Lorin Smits, Kristine Neumeyer
FW: I love steak quesaritos
PIP: Baseball at South Suburban, hang out with Jake and Isaac
Isaac Lyzenga
A: Pork Chop
SC: Lily Olthoff, Lizzie Knot
FW: Legendary
PIP: South Sub, become cop
Jake Lyzenga
A: Brown Bear
SC: Lizzie, Knot, Lexi Terpstra, Anna Delahunty
FW: Awesome ride with friends
PIP: Becoming electrician

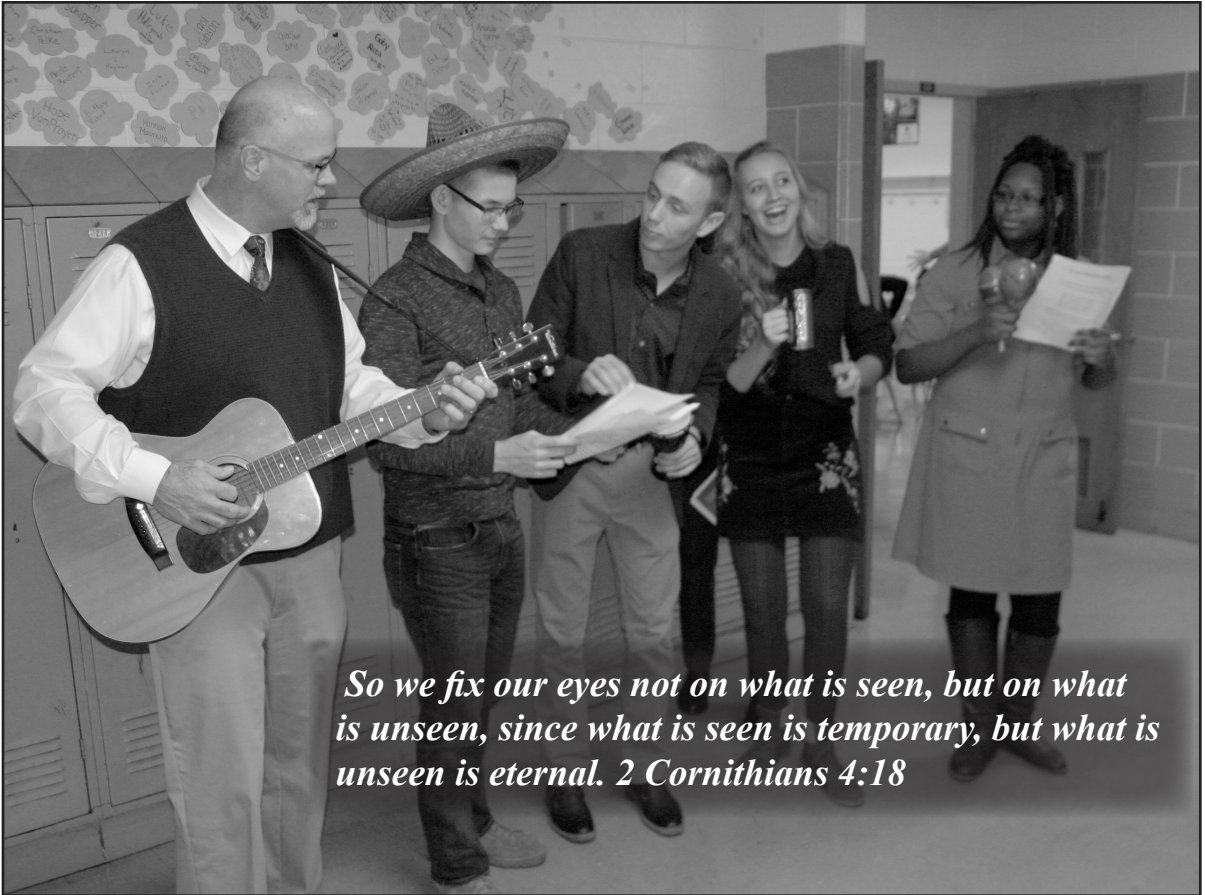
Sarah Maguire
A: Wolf
SC:Channing Tatum
FW: Need more coffee please
PIP: Work
Lauren McClain
A: kangaroo
SC: Jacob VanderZee, Joseph Gibson, Charlie Buiters, Mykel Cross
FW: I am not Aerial
PIP: Eastern Illinois University for nursing
Zach McNary
A: Largemouth Bass
SC: none
FW: Was not fast
PIP: College at Southwest Michigan College
Max Men
A: Kuala
SC:
FW: Can’t wait for graduation
PIP: St. Olaf College, study business analysis
Megan Meyer
A: Dolphin
SC: Lumiere
FW: memories, exciting, growth, discovery
PIP: Nursing major at Dordt
Jordan Miller
A: “Philosoraptor”
SC: My mom, dad and father
FW: Awesome, Great, phenomenal, ____
PIP: Moody Bible Institute & ministry work
Emily Montalvo
A: Arctic Fox
SC: RJ
FW: A literal train wreck
PIP: Loyola
Joe Neumeyer
A: Red hawk



SC: Learjet 24
PIP: College, fly for Air Wisconsin
Austin Ohm
A: Gazelle
SC: Sophia Thompson
FW: Work hard, play hard
PIP: IUPUI
Tanner Oppenhuis
A: Panda
SC: Emma Olthoff
FW: A lot of procrastinating
PIP: Work and make money, excavation
Jake Pals
A: Deer
SC: Kate Ohm
FW: A ton of homework
PIP: Olivet Nazarene University
Jake Patton
A: Horse
SC: Emma Olthoff
FW: Memories that will last
PIP: Work
Karli Petrarca
A: gazelle
SC: Tavares VanKuiken

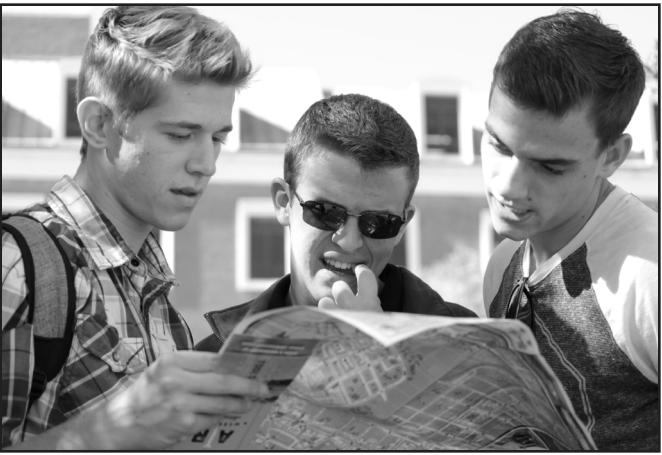
FW: success, procrastination, friendships, growth
PIP: Studying Speech Pathology at Calvin College
Kaitlyn Pickard
A: Bunny
SC: Tyler Raniey, Donald Trump
FW: Ridiculous, crazy, fun, fast
PIP: Business Administration
Maria Powers
A: Corgi
SC: Anna Lenting
FW: I need more sleep
PIP: Occupational Therapy
Matthew Price
A: Lion
FW: Freshman, sophomore, junior, senior
PIP: College
Cody Reichard
A: Lizard
SC: No one
FW: Glad to be done
PIP: Have fun, better myself
Ambrose Resa
A: Honey Badger
FW: No time, no sleep

PIP: Military
Kyle Reynhout
A: Lion
SC: No one
FW: Fun memorable
PIP: College
Matthew Rietveld
A: Parasite
SC: Maddie DeYoung, Ashley Clark, Lizzie Knot, Abby Mejan
FW: Fun bro. It was.
PIP: Trinity
Brianna Rogers
Jason Schutt
A: Wallaby
SC: Ashley Clark, Sarah Kuiper (my bestie)
FW: Illiana Christian High School
PIP: Purdue University, maybe medical school
Arial Shaffer
A: Goat
SC: Matthew Haak, Jaden, Felix, Evan Conrad
FW: I am not Lauren
PIP: Attend Washington University in St. Louis
Joey Smit
A: Koala
SC: Ashley Clark, Luc Smit
FW: I was so wrong
PIP: College?
Lucas Smit
A: Sasquatch
SC: Calie Ritzema
FW: Dude it’s on fire
PIP: Olivet Nazarene University
Payton Smit
A: Cougar
SC: Ashley Clark
FW: I saw Veldman dance
PIP: Aviation at Liberty University
Josh Smits
A: Bulldog
SC: Lizzie Knot, Audrey Luo
FW: You got any ketchup?
PIP: Calvin College, have eyes open to new ideas
Isaac Sodergren
Maurice Sullivan
A: Lion
SC: Don’t have one
FW: Construction worker
PIP: Undecided
Valerie Swets
A: Horse or Koala
SC: Travis VanDrunen
FW: Procrastination, Musical,





May your unfailing love be with us, Lord,
even as we put our hope in you. Psalm 33:22

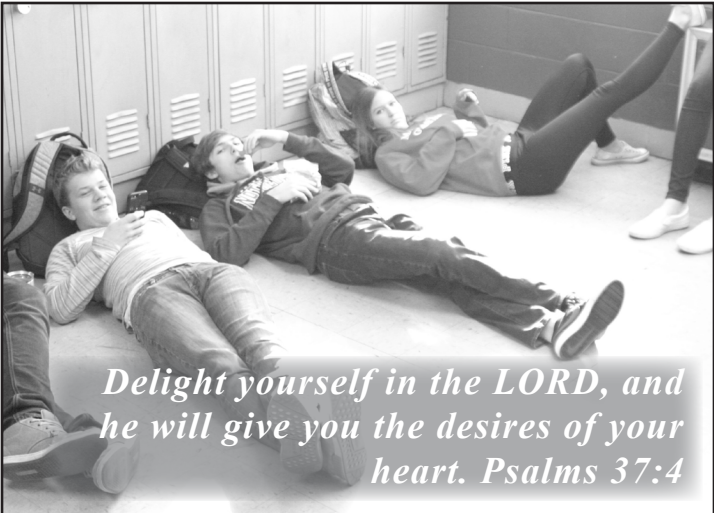


Acting, Adventure
PIP: Calvin College Nursing
Jacob Terpstra
A: Tiger
SC: Lizzie Knot
FW: fun, enjoyable, entertaining, amusing
PIP: Working
Tori Terpstra
A: Seahorse
SC: Eddie Spoleman
FW: friends, fun
PIP: studying cosmetology at Paul Mitchell
Jared Trivette
A: Peacock
SC: Emma Olthoff, Lexi Terpstra, Anna Delahunty
FW: Amazing journey with friends
PIP: College, undecided major
Grace Van Dam
A: monkey
SC: Camden Van Beek, Logan Frederick, Jacob Winters
FW: growth, self-discovery, fun
PIP: going to Liberty University in Virginia
Stephanie Van Deel
A: Squirrel
SC: Bob Duncan
FW: Slowly cutting my hair
PIP: Art school
Andrew Vander Bent
A: Sloth
SC: Gillian Fiene
FW: Waste of my time
PIP: Action plumbing
Jared Vander Woude
A: Ox
SC: April Vander Bent
FW: Please Leave Me Alone
PIP: Don't worry about it
Dave VanderZee
A: Chinchilla
SC: Why?
FW: Why won't it end?
PIP: Electrician
Garret VanderZee
A: Giraffe
SC: Lauren DeBoer
FW: Great!
PIP: Dordt
Jonathan VanDrunen
Michelle Vankalker

A: Lemur
SC: Thanos
FW: Art, art, more art
PIP: College, art education
Derek Van Prooyen
A: Mongoose mixed with pangolin
SC: Leah Davids
FW: Went way too fast!
PIP: Taylor University
Cambrie VanRockel
A: Monkey
SC: Logan Van Essen, Justin VanDrunen
FW: Laughs, lit, L's, lazy
PIP: Grace College
George VanRyn
A: Kangaroo
SC: Lexi Terpstra
FW: A lot of homework
PIP: Purdue University, Lafayette
Rebecca Walstra
A: Turtle
SC: Tom Ericks
FW: Can I leave yet?
PIP: Trinity Christian College majoring in Math Education and Middle Grades Education
Patrick Wang
A: Panda
FW: It is finally over
PIP: College, Business

management, MBA
Christin Washington
A: A giraffe
SC: Makhi Blossongome
FW: It could be worse...
PIP: Loyola to get my doctorate in psychology
Becca Weblo
A: Bunny
SC: RJ Hamilton
FW: I don't like you
PIP: Esthetician
Emma West
A: llama
SC: Dontreal Butler, Eddie Spoelman
FW: Never left after school
PIP: Hope College, majoring in

nursing
Jesse White
A: Fox
FW: Fair, adequate, expectable, reasonable
PIP: College, write a story
Ashton Wilson
A: Silverback gorilla
SC: Jordan Miller
FW: Hey, that's pretty good
PIP: Moody Bible Institute
Kyle Zuidema
A: Sasquatch
SC: Leah Davids
FW: There's homework due today?!
PIP: Study biochemistry and Spanish at Calvin College

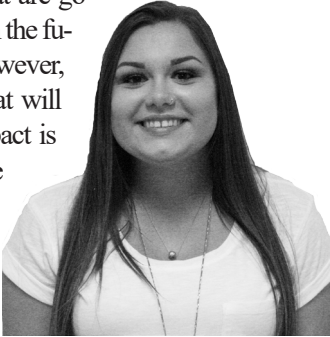


Delight yourself in the LORD, and
he will give you the desires of your
heart. Psalms 37:4



Welcoming environment builds confidence

I've taken away a lot from these past four years at Illiana. Things like the teachers here are extremely kind, tardies are always worth it, and there are a lot of people who don't shower on a regular basis. While all those things are wonderful observations, they aren't all life-changing realizations that are going to benefit me in the future. One thing, however, I do take away that will have a lasting impact is the confidence I've gained while being here.



Riley Goodwin
Co-News Editor

I came to Illiana from a small public school where I was constantly picked on and bullied for the way I looked, the way I dressed, and the fact that I didn't live with my parents. So, coming to Illiana terrified me. I was scared that the same thing was going to continue happening for the next four years. All I knew about Illiana was that everyone was super smart and super rich, two things I was not. I had this preconceived notion in my head that everyone was going to be really judgemental and unaccepting of me and my past, and that I'd be shunned like a yellow starburst.

Well, thankfully, I was wrong. In fact, Illiana welcomed me with open arms. I was leery of telling people my story, but I soon learned everyone saw it as nothing more than a testimony on how far God has brought me, and how far He is going to catapult me into a bright future. I've also learned that although most people here are loving and accepting, there are always a few who will do their best to tear you down, and that is fine, or maybe not fine, but it is a fact I can accept. Not everyone is going to like you or support you, but they'll certainly help build your character.

I am walking out of Illiana with my head held high, and that's the first time I've been able to say that confidently in my life, and I give a lot of credit to this place and the people in it. The teachers here at Illiana have blessed me more than I could've ever imagined. I had good teachers in grade school, so my standards were high, and boy did they get surpassed. There has never been a group of people so dedicated to bettering the lives of children as the group we have here. The teachers have been loving and supportive in nearly every situation. In the least chiché way possible, they have helped mold me into the person I am today, and have been terrific examples of the type of person I hope to be in the future. There have been times where I've literally sat in the bathroom and cried while a teacher sat next to me and prayed for me. You can't get that just anywhere. Illiana is special. Staff and students have instilled a sense of pride and confidence in me that my own family wasn't able to do, and I am overwhelmingly thankful.

Now that I'm going into college, I'm going to see the side of the world Illiana has carefully been preparing me for. All those RPOC classes from first semester freshman year are going to be coming back to me, but nothing is going to help me more than the confidence I've gained. I'm going to go out into the world with my head held high, knowing without a shadow of a doubt that, because of God, I've got this, and I know that, my friends, because of Illiana.

Reminiscing with friends

As graduation grows closer, I think about just how much I'll miss Illiana. Even though it has had it's problems, I love this school. Thanks to Illiana, I've met some amazing people who have impacted me and made me the person that I am. As I look back on memories, I'd like to share them with you.

As I think back on some the funniest moments I've had at Illiana, I can't quite pinpoint one moment, but many begin in Sarah Hernandez's car.



Lauren Curtis

Co-Arts Editor

Twenty-nine dates at Chipotle, ten deep talks at Red Mango, seven sniffs of Mid-Summer's Night at Target

(yes, I know that sounds weird. It's her favorite candle, so she would go to Target to sniff it), five trips to the mall and many other adventures. Sarah's car has taken us through it all. One time after a basketball game, Sarah drove full speed over a median in the Target parking lot. (It was snowing, but don't ask me how we didn't see a big patch of grass and a tree in the parking lot.) Lucky us, the car tire blew out, so we were stuck in the car for about an hour, waiting for her dad to come rescue us. Usually, I would've been really frustrated and angry because it was late and I was tired, but being stuck in a car with my best friend (I would recommend it), was so much fun. We turned the music on loud and danced outside in the cold, took videos and acted like we were Youtubers (I still have that video for anyone who wants to see). I was laughing the entire time.

So thank you Sarah, for always entertaining me with your dance moves and your off-key version of Mariah Carey's "All I Want For Christmas". Thank you for always pulling up with your car and being ready to have deep conversations with me when I need it. Thanks to you, this year has been an interesting one and I'll never forget it.

Everyday can't be your day, and I definitely had a few of those days. I'm probably the clumsiest person anyone has ever seen, so it's no surprise that I have a few embarrassing moments. I remember on the DR Trip, while we were at a church service, my chair broke while the pastor was giving announcements. I could tell everyone was watching me. The ushers had to help me up and get me a new chair. I was so embarrassed. What made it even worse was that a few minutes later, I had to get up and sing with the group in front of the whole church.

That moment definitely was embarrassing, but I can say that I've learned from it. There are always going to be times when you fall down on your butt, but you've got to learn to get up, brush yourself off and move on. I learned to do so, and I can say that it's only helped build my confidence. Now that I look back on that moment, it was embarrassing, but it was also kind of funny. I encourage you to conquer your embarrassing moments; you'll laugh at them later.

I couldn't end this without looking back on my greatest moments at Illiana. What I am most proud of is my work on the ECHO staff. I remember being a sophomore and wanting a voice at Illiana, so I decided to join Journalism. I didn't think I would stay in the class too long. I mean I had a passion for writing but no skill so I thought it would end badly. Boy was I wrong. I have been writing on the school newspaper for three years and have loved every second of it. Not to say that it wasn't challenging at times, but seeing the finished product of every paper makes it worth it. I can even say that my writing has improved from when I first joined in 2015 (shoutout to Mr.DeVries). It has been a pleasure reporting every basketball game, laying out every arts page and writing every column, editorial and news story. Thank you so much for reading.

Signing Out

-Lauren



Photo from the 1952 Spire

Adele (Kortenhoven) Kroll's senior year book photo

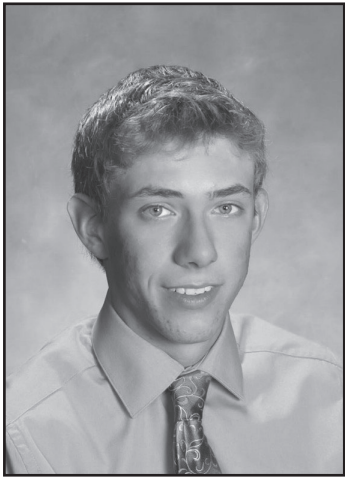


Photo from the 2018 Spire

Jeff Kroll's senior yearbook photo

One family first, last to graduate from Lansing campus

Beth Boonstra

Co-Editor in Chief

Illiana's Lansing campus contains memories from across the decades. Many things have stayed the same, but the times have also changed drastically.

Senior Jeff Kroll is part of the last class to graduate from this building, the end of an era. Kroll, who commented that the building has grown and changed since

it was first built, added, "I don't think the community has changed much."

Kroll's grandmother, Adele Kroll, was a freshman when Illiana first started in this building in 1948, a much different era.

In 1948 this campus was not what it is today. It was only the first floor, front (north) row of classrooms, office, teachers' lounge, library (where the old nurse's office is down the stairs

by the office entrance), and chapel which was enough to hold the entire school at once. There was no gym.

Without a gym, sports were limited. Some guys would play basketball elsewhere after school. Some of the girls also wanted to play basketball, so they got permission to go to a Lansing school to play. Every other Friday the Visual Ed Club (senior guys) would show a "moving picture." Most girls, including Adele, would stay after school for Sewing Club.

"The only thing girls would go to college for was teaching," she said. Adele Kroll remembers four or five couples from her class of only 42 students getting married or engaged right out of high school.

According to Adele, Illiana looks different not just in its building and newer technology, but also in the ethnic makeup of the student population. Illiana has been around since long before Civil Rights and has benefited from diversifying the school.

"The kids are the same-old teens as they were back then, a couple trouble makers, but mostly nice kids." Adele remembers that the entire business class once turned their desks around before the teacher walked in.

Adele said, "Today I still am friends with about twelve girls from my class. We just got togeth-

er this past week for breakfast... We talk about teachers and high school stuff sometimes..."

This group of girls from the class of '52 has assumed the same role that Adele remembers having back in the day: organizers. She was in the Seniorettes at Illiana. They would hold assemblies on some Fridays, decorate the Christmas tree, sell food, host bow day. This group of girls has since organized all of their class reunions. "We had to stop after the 65th... because too many people were gone.... We used to have a sheet with those all those who have passed away.... Most of the teachers are gone now."

Adele said that the great teachers Illiana had back then and still has are what contribute to its excellence as a school.

She believes that if those who helped to build the Lansing campus of Illiana could be here today they would "be happy it lived up to its expectations. This building has filled its full capacity and has served its purpose." She believes that, just as Illiana had to start off in a new building once before, the change was necessary in order to give students more opportunities. She understands well the excitement and activity students can expect in opening a new campus.

Senior Jeff Kroll agreed, "I think it's time. It's been a good 72 years. It's time to move on."

Memories at the Illiana building

Jack Rudenga: Class of 1971

Maddie Holesinger

Co-Editor in Chief

Mr. Jack Rudenga, graduate of the class of 1971, once walked the halls of Illiana sporting long hair and khaki, corduroy pants. Now, as a teacher, he finds each hallway triggers dozens of memories from across the decades. Back in the day, Illiana had only the lower gym which could not accommodate large. So hosting the illustrious homecoming game was out of the question. Instead, students gathered at T.F. South for the basketball games, all in their nicest clothes.

"It was strange having all these students dressed up, ready for the game and not even having it at our home gym," said Rudenga. "All the students dressed up even though here was no dance at the time."

Rudenga added, "All the students would either go to Barnabees or The Red Wheel restaurant after games. Those were the hot spots at the time, where students would go to hang out."

Scot Olthof: Class of 1981

Haleigh Olthof

Co-News Editor

"We got this bright idea. Jeff Krygsheld had a four-wheel drive truck that was kind of jacked up and could go places other cars couldn't. There was a mini golf place on Torrence with this enormous green fiberglass dinosaur. The mini golf place was closing down, someone bought it out or something, so we thought it'd be cool to borrow the dinosaur and put it on the roof at school. So we drove down the railroad tracks in Jeff's truck to the mini golf place, ran through the fields, somehow unbolted the dinosaur, and put it in the truck with its head sticking up over the hood. We drove all through the back roads in Lansing so we wouldn't get caught. Then we used the garbage dumpster in the back parking lot as leverage to get the dinosaur onto the roof of the old cafeteria. On Monday morning, kids came in and there was this giant dinosaur. Some of my friends [who were involved in the prank] had loose lips, and the principal, Mr. Otte at that time, asked them to remove the dinosaur."

Sharon Bultema: Class of 2002

Kade Bouwer

Co-Sports Editor

Sharon Bultema, teacher at Illiana and graduate of Illiana's class of 2002, said, "We used to have CAB (Class Activities Board). It was a student activities committee and they would plan assemblies to play games. It was a lot of fun, but it got kind of crazy with all the students together. Some examples are we did this dating show in the small gym, called Singled Out. So, you would have one single girl and three guys. The girl would just get to know them and then she chooses one. They brought in guys from Chicago Christian and then they went on a date afterwards. So that was fun. We also did Olympics between the classes in the big gym. One of the reason we don't do that anymore is because we did an egg toss and one of the students competing just threw the egg in the crowd. So that kind of ruined it."

TOP 5 CLASS MURALS

From Editors Lauren Curtis and Natalie Togtman

1



Class of 2001

What we like most about this mural is the contrasting of the two sides. We saw this picture as a representation of Garden of Eden before and after The Fall. It truly is sickening, and the mural shows that as it fades from paradise to hell on earth. Every little thing is packed with so much detail which really makes the mural as powerful as it is.

2



Class of 1997

Besides the awesome bearded man, also known as Father Time, there are many reasons as to why this is our second favorite mural. There is so much detail in the scenery; every cloud and bush is shaded just right and looks so realistic. Father Time also looks very realistic, and we can tell that the artist put lots of time into his facial detail. The idea behind the mural is unique, and it got our attention.

3



Class of 2011

Just a little history behind this mural; this was the year that there was a student from Germany, the Dominican Republic and several from South Korea. The concept of the mural in itself is cool; we love how it shows Illiana's diversity. The centerpiece of the mural consists of musical instruments, a basketball and the Greek Muses of acting, all important activities at Illiana. Also, with the bright, bold colors and fun design it's hard not to catch your eye.

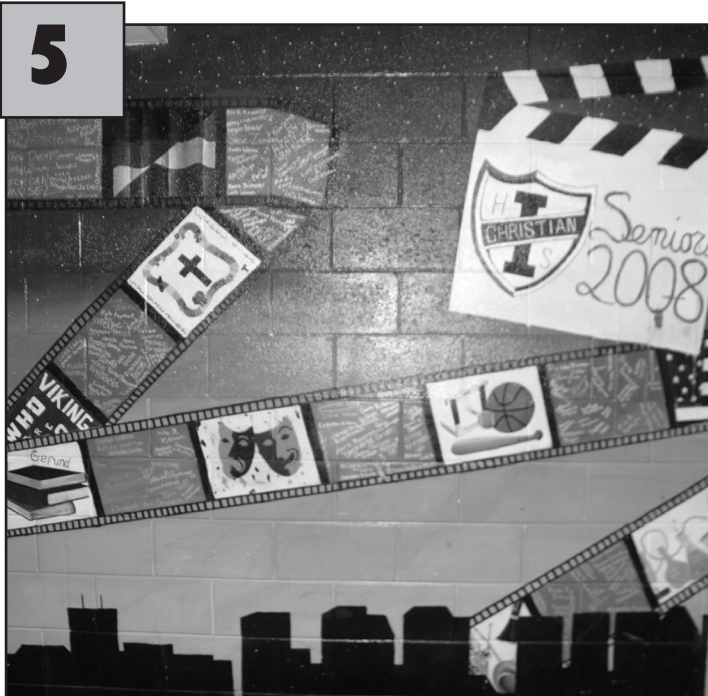
4



Class of 1998

The style of the mural really popped out to us as we walked the halls of Illiana. There was really nothing like it. It reminded us of the type of art you'd see on the side of a train, and we love it. Although the hands are a little off-putting, the graffiti style of the mural draws people's attention. We think this mural embodies Illiana's goal as a school to welcome newcomers with open arms as if they were family.

5



Class of 2008

The mural's ombre background sets a beautiful scene. It's a nice day in Chicago, with the beautiful sunset and the building silhouettes. The paintings of student life really embody a true representation of Illiana and all it has to offer. This mural is a movie, showing outsiders the inside, and we love it.

Illiana leaves decades-old tradition behind, walls to be captured on video

Lauren Curtis

Co-Arts Editor

After nearly four decades, Illiana's administration has decided to discontinue the Senior Walls at the new campus.

Early in the design process for the new campus, the architects liked that students left a mark on the building, and they initially planned to continue with Senior Walls. Art teacher and Design Committee member Mr. Kam-

phuis added that "they [even] planned to remove a few Senior Murals and move them to the new campus."

After choosing the colors for the new school, however, the Design Committee and Principal Boonstra chose to drop Senior Walls because of their inconsistency and graffiti-like appearance.

Boonstra said, "We don't see the new campus as a blank canvas, since it will already be

painted."

In the Main Commons of the new campus, there is space reserved for student murals, but those murals are as of yet undetermined.

Illiana plans on digitally recording the Senior Walls to put on video display at the new campus to celebrate the school's history.

Mr. Boonstra said, "It's a matter of on the one hand preserving the history, and on the other hand moving on and starting something fresh and new."

Q. How do you feel that Illiana is discontinuing the Senior Walls?

Matthew Haak: "I was hoping to be part of designing the Senior Mural, but unfortunately that's not gonna happen."

Summer Ruiter: "It's a little disappointing walking through empty halls, but I'm looking forward to a new tradition at the new school."

Tom Ericks: "I'm going to miss the daily reminder the school has of the graduates, especially my parents."

Issy Neibert: "I feel like it's stripping away some of the school's identity."

Mr. Haan: "We're still trying to continue a tradition, just changing it a little bit. There's nothing wrong with change."

Question and answer with the senior class’s athletic award winners

Sportsmanship Award: Esther Lagerwey *Four years of tennis*

Q: Who or what motivated you to act with sportsmanship?

A: I would say that when I was a freshmen and sophomore a lot of seniors and juniors were really influential to me because they had really good sportsmanship, and they displayed Christian character. They really made me feel invited into the team, Collette in particular. She really made me feel welcome.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

A: We were on the bus on the way home, and we stopped at the oasis, and we all got Panda Express, but my fortune cookie didn’t even have a real fortune in it, so I went on a rant and all of us started ranting.

Q: Is there a specific example of when you showed outstanding sportsmanship?

A: In practice, even when people are negative and we are not doing well, I always try to encourage people to do well. Sometimes when one person does that it changes the dynamic of the team.



Photo by Jeff DeVries

Sportsmanship Award: Garret VanderZee *Four years of soccer, volleyball; two years of basketball*

Q: Who or what motivated you to act with sportsmanship?

A: There isn’t a specific person, but for me I saw the teams that succeeded were those that had good leadership, and those where the whole team would want to be successful. That is what I wanted on the team, so that’s what I did.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

A: I would say it’s just Sam Gaich on the soccer field. He always thought his FIFA rating was the highest on the team. Jason would make FIFA ratings. Sam thought he would be number one, but it turned out he was around seven. He was very salty about that.

Q: Is there a specific example of when you showed outstanding sportsmanship?

A: I don’t have a specific moment, ...but I try to be leader all the time.”



Photo by Penny Smit

Scholar Athlete of the Year: Emma West *Four years of soccer, basketball; two years of tennis, volleyball*

Q: What are some tips for academic and athletic success?

A: Don’t procrastinate. Try to work ahead as much as you can. Don’t get frustrated and try to remember why you joined that sport and push yourself to be good at academics too.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

A: I think it is really memorable how far we went in basketball last year. That was cool to be a part of that experience, and also this year for soccer. We went pretty far too.

Q: What do you credit your success as student athlete to?

A: A lot of it has to do with my situation. I’m not put in a situation where I have to have a job after school, so I think that allows me to really be involved at Illiana. I think our family dynamic, one where we are pushed to do our best and be involved helps too.



Photo by Jeff DeVries

Scholar Athlete of the Year: Payton Smit *Four years of soccer, basketball, volleyball*

Q: What are some tips for academic and athletic success?

A: High school is about three things: academics, extracurricular activities, and social life. You get to choose two out of the three. I chose academics and extracurriculars, namely, three seasons of sports. Learning to manage time was key to being successful for me.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

A: My favorite memory from the past four years was winning Regionals in soccer this year. It was the first time in ten years that boys won regionals and it was a blessing.

Q: What do you credit your success as student athlete to?

A: The answer definitely has to be God. He chose to bless me in these ways and I pray that I was a good steward of these gifts during my time at Illiana.

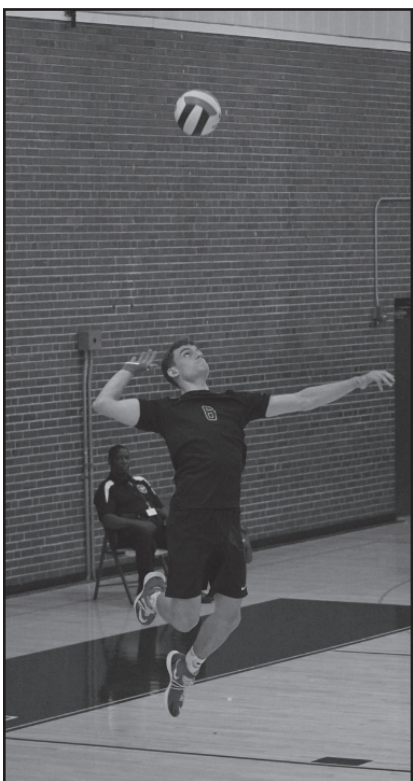


Photo by Penny Smit

Athlete of the Year: Maddie DeYoung *Four years of cross country, track and field*

Q: What do you credit your success as an athlete to?

A: My team throughout the years has been very close. Running is a different sport in the sense that we all understand the pain each other is going through in a race so having them to support me has been awesome. And I have a great family that is always there for me.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

A: My best memories definitely are from cross camp and Michigan meets.

Q: What is some advice you would give to younger athletes, specifically runners?

A: Any sport that you get really competitive in is going to be hard and taxing on your body and mind, but don’t let a bad day or game stop you. Let it be a motivator because the reward will be that much greater.



Photo by Joe DeYoung

Athlete of the Year: Austin Ohm *Four years of cross country, track and field*

Q: What do you credit your success as an athlete to?

A: Hard work, dedication, and a great coach... my teammates have been really helpful too.

Q: What is your favorite memory?

A: Standing on the podium at track and field state finals and at cross country state finals

Q: What is some advice you would give to younger athletes, specifically runners?

A: Always listen to your coach, work hard, and run in the off-season.

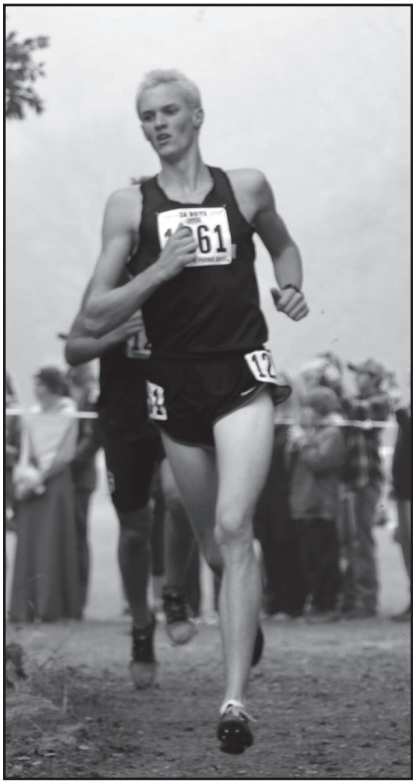


Photo by JP Peerbolte



Photo by Michelle Bouwer
Junior Seth Bouwer serves while playing in the Sectional semi-finals

Tennis caps off historic season with trip to state competition

Maddie Holesinger
Co-Editor in Chief

The Illiana boys tennis team, after a smashing season with a nearly perfect record, has finally come to an end. The team was undefeated until its conference meet. The boys carried the second best record going into the conference tournament, yet the team ended up placing fourth out of nine. The team mostly credited its success to the new coach, Mr. Michael Eberly, whose son, Jason, was the best player on their team last year before he graduated. The focus at practices has shifted from scrimmages and looking at the game as a whole, to looking at the minute details of the game, which in turn change the way the game is played. “Our coach played college tennis, so he is more focused on technique, which is a big difference [from last season],” said junior Parish Towns. “We have all improved this season, and we are more confident this year.” At sectionals, the team

planned to do well and they lived up to their own expectations. They placed first out of many schools. The State competition will be held on May 22, and Seth Bouwer, Lawton Bouwer, Kade Bouwer, Andrew Smits, Andrew Feikema and Matthew Reitveld will be competing. “I’m hoping I can win state, but we need to be realistic,” said junior Lawton Bouwer. “One win at State would be nice for me... and Seth, I guess, if we both make it.” Overall, the boys had great team chemistry, which contributed to their success and their season as a whole. The highlight of their season, unanimously, was beating Timothy Christian High School. It was the first win for Illiana against them in twelve years, and the excitement after that match was palpable. “When it comes to tennis, I like [Timothy Christian] less than Chicago Christian,” said junior Seth Bouwer.

Outdoor facilities coming next school year

Alex Wondaal
Co-Sports Editor

Because donations to the Building Illiana campaign exceeded expectations in the last two months, work to finish all the outdoor athletic facilities at the new campus has begun. The original plan for outdoor sports facilities was to include just two soccer fields and one extra court or field outside. However, builders are now hoping to complete a baseball field, a softball field, a track with lights, and bleachers with seating for between 900 and 1000 people by the beginning of the next school year.

Building Illiana Director Lance Davids explained how involved coaches would be in the building of fields courts and the track: “Three or four years ago coaches were invited to give some insight in how they wanted [sports facilities] built, but at the end of the day the architects and administration will have the final say.” Athletic Director and varsity baseball coach Darron DeBoer said he’s excited for next year. “People said that if we’re going to build a new campus, we should do it right, and I’m glad that we’re doing the athletic fields right... I’m thankful facilities that people can be proud of,”

said Deboer. He added that heavy spending now will save money in the future because there will be less traveling and renting of courts and fields. Davids added, “Finishing the athletic facilities is a big thing for us because otherwise we would have had to travel all over but this will keep our kids on campus... We’re working on new landscapes to create some outside community. Stay tuned for that.” Junior soccer player Isaac Gomez said of the new soccer field, “I think it will be great. I won’t miss the old field because it’s no good, but I don’t think the new field will make us a better team.”



Sports Catch-ups



Softball

Kade Bouwer
Co-Sports Editor

The varsity softball team broke through this season, beating many quality teams en route to a 16-8 record and a third place finish in the Metro Suburban Conference. Although

they have been battling injuries and sickness of late, they are still determined to end the season strong, hoping for a Regional championship and a deep trip in the state competition. “Our season has gone really well so far. We definitely worked together to pull a couple of big wins. I think we got great

chemistry and we are all working very hard,” said freshmen Jenna O’Brien. “Going in, I knew we had to play at a high level and I definitely think we played at a high level.” Senior Rylee Benes said, “We are really hoping to take the Regional because we haven’t taken a Regional in a few years.”

Boys, Girls Track and Field

Jo Mulder
Co-Photo Editor

Illiana’s boys track team finished its season well with seniors Derek Van Prooyen and Austin Ohm and freshman

Justin Van Prooyen qualifying for state on the 24th and 25th of May. Both teams suffered due to a lot of meets being cancelled for weather, causing a loss of opportunity for personal bests and

records. The girls track had a good season this year and ended on a good note at state, where Gillian Fiene, Maddie DeYoung, Sydney DeJong, and Cate Peerbolte competed.

Girls Soccer

Lauren Curtis
Co-Arts Editor

The varsity girls soccer team ended its regular season with a record of 7-7-1. They also won the regional championship and advanced to the sectional championship before bowing out. Coach Chip Bevan said, “We had a solid season doing very

well against the schools that are more our size and we lost to the larger schools. We did beat Fenton this year in our conference which was an improvement over last year.” Senior Tori Terpstra said, “Our team goal for the season was to grow as a team and to win regionals and advance to sectionals, which we have accomplished.”

Bevan said, “Next year will present us with a lot of changes. We will miss our seniors but are always hopeful that we will continue to receive new freshman talent. The biggest change is that we will begin training again June 18th [because girls soccer is a fall sport in Indiana]. I believe we will do really well next year moving to Indiana.”

Baseball

Natalie Togtman
Co-Arts Editor

The boys varsity baseball team, eighteen boys coached by Joe Ramirez, Bryan VanRyn, and head coach Darren DeBoer, currently has a record of 20-9. Junior Isaac Gibson said, “We had great leadership from our coaches which ulti-

mately helped our seniors lead our team better.” The team has many strengths including hitting and pitching. Overall, the team has twenty-three home runs. Sophomore Tavares VanKuiken said, “Our pitching is definitely a strength. We’ve narrowed it down allowing about two or three runs per

game.” The team won its conference, and will play its first regional playoff game next week Thursday. Coach Darren DeBoer said, “Playoffs will be tough. We’re in a tough regional. We play good teams, but we are a good team. If we play like I know we can, we’ll go far.”

Boys Volleyball

Jo Mulder
Co-Photo Editor

The boys’ volleyball team ended with a season record of 16-13. The team played well and had many good players. A few had over a hundred kills. They had a well-rounded

team with excellent senior leadership. Even after suffering the loss of Mark Hernandez “the tree” to a leg injury, they still performed well. The team began its season chomping at the bit, but as the season went on, they mellowed

out to a good steady pace. The team played well right through their heartbreaking sectional loss to a team ranked second in the state. Coach Dave Bosman said that the team was one of the best he has coached.

Editorial

Illiana 2096: A vision of our future

As we reminisce on the memories that Illiana has provided us with this week, we can't help but also consider the future. Way back in 1948, the folks who started this school had a vision for what it might be. After 70 years, we're finally ditching leaky second-floor ceilings, hidden "catacomb" tunnels, creaky chapel seats, narrow hallways, and outdated equipment in this building. Although the facility is dated, that vision from '48 is still alive. Now, on the cusp of our move to a new campus, we share our vision for what we hope the school looks like in another 78 years:

First and foremost, the Better Illiana through Better Understanding club won't exist because there won't be a need for it. Over the last two decades, our ethnic and racial diversity has grown. And early racial tensions diminished drastically once Illiana addressed it. With continued time and effort of the student body and teachers, we will be a Better Illiana.

We also envision a school where students feel safe to share their questions, trials, and worries. Being open and honest is always a struggle for high-school-

ers. We have so much content being thrown at us, from basic knowledge about our country's history to the deep truths of our God's Word, and it's hard to keep life straight with friends and family as we're still learning about ourselves. But the future Illiana will know how we teenagers work and give our (great-) grandkids wiggle room to be honest about all of their doubts, worries,

Other clubs, however, are working miracles for the community. Illiana excels in caring for the mentally, financially, and physically disabled. TOP Soccer, Night Ministries, and Senior Service all testify to Illiana's ministry and, more importantly, the Lord's work. We hope and pray that the school grows more and more into a body known for its service

dents and administration. More classes would have multiple sections which would decrease the number of schedule conflicts that students currently encounter. We feel that no students should have to sacrifice a passion to fulfill a requirement, and a larger student body would help prevent that.

Another thing that really gets students going is the extracurriculars. Sports, theater, music, and art should challenge every participant enough so that they can grow in talent and in relationships with their peers. And, stage or field, big or small, they will show the character of God in their works.

In the end, what makes this school Illiana Christian is its mission. Our education should always come with a worldview, and that worldview should always revolve around Christ. No matter the circumstances, we pray that Illiana live up to its vision statement, and that for however long this school still exists, it graduates students who are "academically capable people with a comprehensive Christian view of life committed to the challenge of serving God and others." May it always be so. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

"Although the facility is dated, that vision from '48 is still alive."

and questions without the consequences of being looked down on by staff or laughed at by peers.

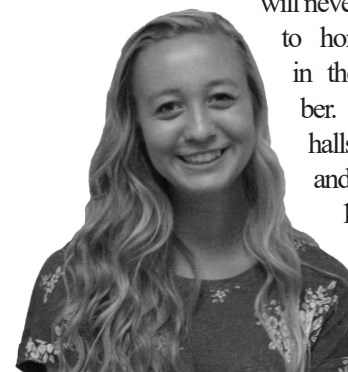
And when they don't want to go to a guidance counselor about their problem for reason X or Y, their "Big Brother" or Dorchaesus partner will always be willing to help them. It's no secret that in today's Illiana, those clubs geared towards helping students who need it were flops. Hopefully, in the future such endeavors will actually be successful.

to the surrounding community.

We also envision Illiana's student body growing until we reach a student body between 700-800 students, the optimal size. A student body of that size would allow ample opportunity for all students to get involved in a variety of extracurriculars. A bigger student body starts to create too much competition for limited spaces. A student body of 700-800 also would make class schedules easier for stu-

Last time in building surfaces memories

In these past couple of weeks since colleges have started getting out for the year, I've seen several recent alumni returning to reminisce about their times at Illiana, here, in this building. Maybe I'm a bit slow, but it has just recently dawned on me that I will never be able to do so. I



Beth Boonstra
Co-Editor-in-Chief

will never be able to come to homecoming games in the gym I remember. I'll never walk the halls with my children and show them locker 1021 where my friend once left a piece of jello filled with the small intestines of the pigs we dissected in biology, the media center where we

put Oedipus on trial for what was clearly voluntary moral corruption, the chapel where I painted a mural and had many impactful encounters with the truth and grace of Christ, the bench that I literally ran into during Freshman P.E. giving myself a concussion, my parking spot where someone, I'm still not sure who, left a futon as a joke. As much as some like to deny it, I don't think we should pretend that Illiana is going to be the same as it was. I came to realize that these next couple of weeks would be the last times I'd be standing in the Illiana I knew.

Growing up, I lived in five different houses, three different states, and never once did I want to move. In fact, I can remember nights spent crying because I didn't want to move. I didn't want to leave behind the treehouse that my dad built, the lake that we canoed in, the barn where my animals lived, the bedroom where I felt comfortable. But the funny thing is that once we'd move and we'd been living in a new house for a while and we would eventually move again, I'd be so upset to leave that house, the one that I had once dreaded moving into. I came to realize that my attachment wasn't so much to the building as it was to my sweet memories there. But the only thing that made those memories so sweet was the people that I had with me.

Illiana's moving campus will be similar. I may never get to see the Echo room where I wrote this article, I may never stand in the front lawn of school where I once built a snowman or watched crazy kids eat dirt, I may never point out the microwave with which I nearly started the school on fire on several occasions, I may never picnic in the field for another cookout, and I may never set foot in another classroom in this building. But I know that it's not the building that made these memories great. The Echo room would be just a mice-infested, broom closet without the grumpy, stressed, and amazing editors that work in it in harmony/war. You may think that the front lawn of school is insignificant, but that's only because you've never seen it with a snowman on it or with a bunch of sweaty teens sitting around the tree with spoons full of dirt. And the microwave in the cafeteria? I'm pretty sure it could give you cancer just from looking at it, but my friends have had their laughs about my struggles with it. What's a field full of dandelions without all of the friends to share a meal with? And most of Illiana's classrooms really aren't all that interesting. They're just four painted block walls filled with old desks. But when the desks are filled, the classroom comes to life with learning and laughter and love.

I know that Illiana isn't a building, which is why I'm not so sad to be leaving it all behind never to return. I know that though this building may be closing its doors, Illiana isn't gone. I can always go back to visit old teachers, get together with friends, and hold onto the memories. That's the Illiana that I'll remember. I know that there's some truth to the mantra "location, location, location" for buying a house, but I say it takes "people, people, people" to build a home.

the Echo)))

Editors-in-chief

Beth Boonstra
Maddie Holesinger

News

Haleigh Othof
Cassie Laninga
Riley Goodwin

Feature

Grant Gibson
Liz VanDrunen
Cate Peerbolte

Arts

Natalie Togtman
Lauren Curtis

Sports

Alex Wondaal
Kade Bouwer
Jo Mulder

Photos

Cassie Laninga
Grant Gibson
Jo Mulder
Cate Peerbolte

Advisor

Jeff DeVries

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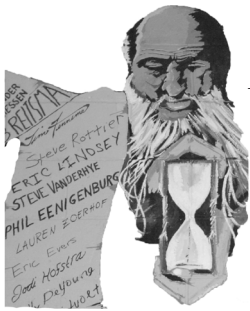
Letters to the editor can be submitted to the advisor or sent to the school. All letters must be signed and must not exceed 250 words. They will be printed provided there is enough room and content is not offensive to the general public. Names will not be wfor doing so.

Ethnos Cookout

Ethnos, a group designed to aid people in talking through race, identity, and cultures, is having a kick off cookout on May 31. Meet the group at Paarlberg Park from 12:30-4:00 pm for food, games, and good conversation. All students are welcome!



The newspaper is a forum for expression; therefore, we encourage feedback or commentary. Please contact us at theillianaecho@gmail.com



Mural paint peeled away from walls in preparation for move, pg. 5.

the GEcho



Juipers's dollar store disguise can't fool us! Full exposure of espionage scandal on pg. 2.

Silliana Christian High School

Volume: 8.9 mL Issues: 3.14159265 March 22, 384 B.C. Location: Nice try, NSA



Scoopie pays visit to Silliana, jail

Lassie Caninja
Co-News Editor

Lansing police mistakenly arrested the beloved Scoopie, Culver's mascot, on Tues., May 8, after finding him in the halls of Silliana and assuming he was the intruder that caused the hard lockdown. Scoopie said he had been on a special visit to Silliana that afternoon, wanting to surprise the students with free Culver's coupons. According to Principal Beter Poonstra, Scoopie was unaware of how Silliana prepares for a lockdown drill, so he found himself in the halls alone.

"So here's the scoop," said Bible teacher Mr. Dark Mykstra, who watched Scoopie through the window of his classroom door. "He was scrambling. It was so hot in the building, almost 90 degrees, and he was melting fast. He slipped in a puddle of his own ice cream." Mykstra said he would have helped "the frozen dairy treat," but he had to think about his students' safety first. The police, which had been called to Silliana as part of lockdown protocol, arrived to the building only to find a "crazy-eyed dripping custard cone on legs."

"They started yelling at him. Scoopie was shaking. They slammed him up against the wall and put handcuffs on him immediately," said secretary Mrs. Tartha Miemens. "When Scoopie tried to explain, the cops got belligerent. One even threatened him with a spoon." Senior Lake Jenting said, "The prices at Culver's are darn tootin' expensive. I think Scoopie had it comin'." Once found innocent, the police released Scoopie from custody. "One lick of jail, and I've had enough of that flavor!" said Scoopie with a tired laugh.

Students clean Jhite's room, find bodies

Mummified remains prove boon to new STEM forensics class

Take Shower
Co-Sports Editor

Pate Nutsandboltes
Co-Photo Editor

In anticipation for the move to Silliana's new campus, teachers began cleaning out their classrooms. This has been especially laborious for history teacher Weff Jhite. Jhite's cluttered classroom was so daunting that he offered extra credit to students who would stay after school to clean for an hour.

Junior Sndrew Arnits said, "I boxed papers from the filing cabinets for four hours and now despite my two mssing assignments and a failed test, I now have a 128% in the class." Senior Fandrew Aikema said "As I slid the couch away from the wall, a toxic stench spread into the room. I ran into the hallway and saw Mr. Poonstra. He asked me why I was running and I pointed at Mr. Jhite's door." Principal Beater Poonstra said, "I went into Jhite's room and the couch was away from the wall. The room

stunk and behind the couch were three bodies." Poonstra later added that the school will be using the body for the STEM program. Jhite said, "I don't know how they got there, or how long they've been there. They probably fell asleep and then slipped through the hole in the back of the couch." In addition to the body, students discovered a tear-stained Jhite for Trustee poster, George Washington's bayonet, forty-two jolly ranchers, and Rom Toozenboom's missing hair in Jhite's room.



Twerkstra tells good joke

Cauren Lurtis
Co-Arts Editor

On May 11, during one of DJ Twerkstra's lengthy DJ's Topics, Twerkstra told a funny joke. Snapchat stories went crazy, reporting how, for the first time ever, Twerkstra told a funny joke. Senior, Lylan Darock

snapped, "My bro, Twerk is hilarious lol." Teacher, Jara Sohnson said, "I was eating a muffin when I heard Twerkstra's joke. I just about choked from laughing so hard. The joke was unexpected and just plain funny." Sophomore, Lanna Enting even said that she saw math teacher Goug Dorter laughing in

class. When asked about the inspiration behind the comical joke, Twerkstra said, "I don't know. I just said what I felt. I've been watching Jerry Seinfeld on repeat for the past month, so I believe that had something to do with it." Secretary Juzzane Sonkman said, "I don't believe that funny Twerkstra will last very long."

Board flip-flops

'Unexpected' opposition leads board to scrap move

Meth Moonstra
Co-Editor in Chief

Haddie Molesinger
Co-Editor in Chief

On Tues., May 12, the school board, after already having approved the new campus move to St. John years before, deemed the move unfit for Silliana at this time because of recent "new information" brought to light. Principal Beter Poonstra said, "The board recognized that we have constituents of some number, uhhhhhhh, we don't know what that number is, but, uh, we have constituents who felt that it was a significant issue that offended them." The board received complaints from two families. Junior Kent Tramp had been looking forward to going to school in a building that wasn't leaking water, infested with mice, and falling apart. "I just don't understand how this can be okay. They already approved it. They flip-flopped. How can we even know that this decision to not move will stick? They're decisions now mean nothing." Poonstra said, "I don't believe it's fair to say that the board, uhh, flip-flopped. A flip-flop is, uh, when you make one deci-

sion and then, without any, uhhh, new information, you just change your mind and, uh, make a different decision. Well, to be quite honest, uhhhh, that's not what happened here." Several students who were in opposition to the move passed around a petition. They received 24 signatures, half of which were signatures of students from other schools. Poonstra said that Silliana could not move because it would "undermine the unity of our community.... We're all working on unity here, uhhh, it's just pretty, uh, hard, uh, to pull it off." Mr. Dance Lavidis, chief fundraiser for the new campus, said, "I am frustrated. We informed the board there would be some opposition to the move, but they signed off anyway. Of course I understood that several students might not attend the new school and I respected their choice, but I really believe the move is good for our community. Now, after only two families, the board has back-pedaled. I don't understand it." "The board did not back-pedal," said Poonstra. "It just changed its mind." In response to the new decision, Lavidis has asked area children to open lemonade stands to pay for a new roof on the current building.

Reldman to retire, become street “performer”

Giley Roodwin

Co-News Editor

Tatalie Nogtman

Co-Arts Editor

After happily serving for 120 years as an economics teacher at Sil-
liana, teacher Vick Reld-
man has decided to switch
careers and become a pro-
fessional street dancer.
This came as a sur-
prise to some, but not to

senior Lony Tucito who
said he saw this coming
all along.
“I knew something
was up after the class
trip,” said Tucito. “There
was music playing down-
town, and Mr. Reldman
couldn’t contain himself!
I posted a video on Twit-
ter and it got like a mil-
lion retweets! I take credit
for the start of his career.”
“He started dancing
like he finally found the
error in his budget!” said
senior Bollin Cultema.

“He
was
not
too
bad, ac-
tually!”
Reld-
man, a
former
concrete
worker,
boasted that
he will be
dancing on
the side-
walks he
paved him-
self. He also mentioned
his friend Sam was
willing to blow his
whole paycheck on
dance lessons so
he’d be able to
join his act.
“Hiding be-
hind my eco-
nomics degree
for 120 years got
old,” said Reld-
man. “My heart was
always in the streets,
and, if I’m going to be
blunt with you, I’m darn
good at it! I sure do get
the ladies!”



Secret photo of Velman discovering his
hidden talent on class trip.

Tech advice from hip, young dude

Brant Bibson

Co-Feature Editor

After the tech assembly, many Sil-
liana students were interested in what
Protect Young Eyes had to offer. Some
brought their curiosity to counselors,
but others wrote to the speaker him-
self. These are their questions:
Dear Protect Young Eyes,
**I sent an accidental direct mes-
sage to @sillianachs over Insta-
gram. It was meant for my very close
friend, but Silliana might open it and
see that I’m not sharing wholesome
memes. What do I do?**
Sincerely, Damaged
Dear Damaged,

Messenger shot even after plea for peace Sports Editor Mo Julder hospitalized by girls’ lacrosse team

Viz DanLunen

Co-Feature Editor

Late Friday night,
sports editor Mo Julder
was viciously beaten by
the Silliana varsity girls’
lacrosse team.
After Julder reported
on the team’s record, the
team jumped Julder in the
Silliana parking lot after
school.
According to bystand-
ers, the captain of the team
demanded Julder print an
apology for reporting on
the team’s 3-13 record.
When Julder pointed out
that 3-13 was, in fact, their
record, the team jumped

him.
Senior Sally Salty
said, “Our record is our
business; no one gets to
hear about it unless we say
so.”
Julder was admitted to
the Fingalls Family Care
Center in Calumet City, IL
and treated for three bro-
ken ribs, a concussion, and
a crushed spirit



Junior Mo Julder recovers from harassment in hospital ward.

Julder said, “Ouch.”
The entire girls team
was brought into Prin-
cipal Beater Poonstra,
where they were given
ice cream and praised for
encouraging journalism
students to “talk posi-
tive.” Because of their
teamwork in the beating
up of Julder, the IHSA
rewarded the team with a
direct shot to the Illinois
State Final lacrosse game.
Junior Holly Hos-
tile said, “I hope that the
Gecho learns from its mis-
takes, and only reports
positive news from now
on. You know, like our su-
per cool new uniforms.”



Juipers, rival spy, pleads guilty to three counts of espionage

Silleigh Molothof

Co-News Editor

Former Silliana teacher
Dr. Mr. Professor Sir Kim
Juipers, PhD has pleaded
guilty to three charges of
espionage after evidence
surfaced that he had been
sending sensitive informa-
tion to students and teach-
ers at Night Christian High
School, where he previously
taught.
“We were in class taking
notes when Dr. Mr. Profes-
sor Sir Juipers accidentally
tapped the SmartBoard and
pulled up an old e-mail to
Night Christian,” said senior
Hatthew Maak, a student
in Juipers’ All on Planbook
(AP) Chemistry class. “He
tried to go back to his Pow-

erPoint, but he just ended
up zooming in and scrolling
through the e-mail, which
showed all the information
he’d been sending to our ri-
vals.”
The e-mail included
plays used by Silliana’s bas-
ketball team, teacher Vick
Reldman’s social security
number, and Silliana’s lunch
schedule.
A student notified Vice
Principal DJ Twerkstra, who
called local law enforcement.
Juipers was escorted from
the building and later impris-
oned.
Juipers agreed to an inter-
view, but his comments have
been omitted for vulgarity.
“I can’t believe Dr.
Mr. Professor Sir Juipers
was a spy the whole time,”
said senior Zyle Kuidema,
“but that explains why he
never made me finish my
online quizzes.”



Praise Crowd testimony ends in disaster

Walex Meatbaal

Co-Sports Editor

Emily Perkins’s Praise Crowd
testimony was cut short after the
crowd booed her off the stage mid-
speech.
Perkins said, “I’m sorry my
testimony wasn’t good enough;
I’ll let some kids with tougher trials
speak from now on.”
“If not even the freshman girls
tear up, get off the stage. Nothing
is more lame than a happy Praise
Crowd,” said frequent attendee ju-
nior Nick Sutton.

Praise Crowd sponsor Dra-
chel Rost said, “I cannot believe
this behavior, and I am extremely
sorry Emily had to go through
that. I tried to stare down everyone
booing, but it was too dark. On the
bright side, Emily will have some-
thing to talk about next time.”
Fortunately, the night wasn’t
cut short because the band repeat-
ed the chorus of Chris Tomlin’s
“Good Good Father” thirty-eight
times. Senior guitarist Tracy Bofa
said, “I was just lost in the beauty
of it all. God is so good, and so is
my voice”

Dear Protect Young Eyes,
I took a selfie a few months ago,
and the cops eventually found out.
Now I’m fighting an uphill battle in
a court case that will most likely end
in my imprisonment for 3-5 years.
How do I fix this?
Please help, Scared Straight
Dear Scared Straight,
I wish you the best of luck in your
endeavors! However, you did make the
choice to put yourself out there on the
Cloud, and you can never take that
back. So, unfortunately, you will be
making an appearance in my presen-
tation—on the slide right before the
woman who Tweeted that she wouldn’t
get AIDS because she was white.
(By the way, I love that show! I’ll
record it so I can see your cameo.
NOW you might be in prison, but LAT-
ER you’ll be rolling in royalties.)