

Read guide to all summer
concerts, from venues to
apparel, on p. 5...

the Echo)))

Read about the five
tennis state qualifiers
on p. 11...



Illiana Christian High School

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Lansing, Illinois

Wind Ensemble blows away competition

*Wind Ensemble
performs excellently
at Super State,
securing first place*

Cate Peerbolte
Reporter

On Friday May 5, Illiana's Wind Ensemble captured 1st place at the Super State band festival.

The group of 43 students traveled by coach bus to Champaign Illinois. The band competed in the A division, which consisted of 6 schools including Illiana.

Mrs. Mennenga, the band conductor, said, "We nailed it. The band played two very difficult pieces and did an awesome job."

The Wind Ensemble will be the Honors Band next year. This means they will not be judged next year, instead they will be the fea-



Jack Barth plays clarinet for Wind Ensemble during an concert earlier this year.

Photo by Jeff DeVries

tured band at the end of the event.

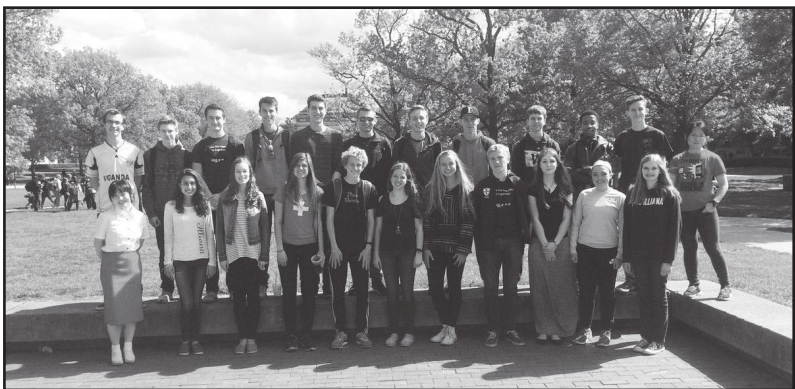
Senior, Jason Eberly said, "It was amazing to congratulate each other once

we heard we had won. It was so cool because we all did it together."

Freshman Kayla Sylvester said, "I was con-

fident in the band because we had been practicing for so long. We all just wanted to do our best to sound as good as we could."

Sophomore Alec Vander-Zee said, "It was awesome to be able to play in that auditorium because it is almost acoustically perfect."



Math team poses at the University of Illinois outside in the beautiful weather after the competition.

Photo by Rob Lagerwey

Math Team scores big at state finals

Jo Mulder
Reporter

On Saturday, May 6, Illiana's math team traveled to the University of Illinois for state finals. The team competed in division 2A and placed twelfth out of forty-eight schools that had advanced from regionals. Events ranged from individual testing to group testing.

According to Mr. Rob Lagerwey, one of the team's coaches, the team prepared for matches by holding practices after school which the team

attended if they were able.

Team events are split up into a freshmen-sophomore group and a juniors/seniors group. The groups took part in relay races, which were a race to see which team could finish the problem fastest. They also solved problems in a school like manner.

In the end the team scores added up allowing the Fresh-Soph team to place third, the Junior-Senior team placed sixth, the Algebra II team seventh and the Geometry team eighth.

From bags to riches, Go Club raises money for Red Letter Camp

2nd annual Bean Bag tournament encouraged Illiana community to come together, to support others at red letter camp

Tessa Buiter
Reporter

Held in the parking lot and sponsored by Go Club, the 2nd Annual Bean Bag Tournament on Friday, May 12 raised money for the Red Letter Camp.

Consisting of Illiana students and few others from the community, two member teams competed for a set of bean bags and boards, which sophomores Colton DeJong and Matthew Lagestee won.

"It feels good," said sophomore Matthew Lagestee. "I thought we'd go far, but I didn't expect to win."

Colton DeJong said it was great time with great food. He also enjoyed that many different people were there.

"This is Jeff Kroll's and my first tournament," said junior Jordan Miller. "Miss Johnson asked us to play, and I said sure why not. We got slaughtered."

Senior Derrieus Pendleton said, "I like that the tournament brings people together from all over the school and that it's for a good cause."

The cause is the Red Letter Camp offered by Rehoboth Christian School in New Mexico. The camp serves students from kindergarten to eighth grade.

Singing and devotions begin their morning, followed by lessons and activities like hikes. Throughout the day they do a "help someone" project.

Junior Esther Lagerwey said she enjoyed the event's being outside this year. "It was a taste of summer," she said.

Sophomore Emma Wheeler said "I thought it was a really good way to raise money, and I really enjoyed it, especially making T-shirts because me and Hope really got into our team name Best Friends."

Praise Crowd members grilled and sold food during the tournament, and led worship afterwards.

"We cooked the food. We sold it. We dropped a burger in the grill," said Praise Crowd member junior Johnathan Lightfoot. "I risked my life for this event. I almost died."

Lasting impact, but not what expected

Wandering the halls four years ago, feeling completely lost, I and my homeroom, a group of mostly strangers, raced to beat other freshmen homerooms in a scavenger hunt. The one thing on the list that I remember was a class's mural. As we



Collette Bouwer
Co-Editor-in-Chief

looked up at the wall, covered in signatures of people who walked the same halls, I thought, this will someday be my name. And I started dreaming about how Illiana would remember me. I was going to change Illiana for the better, and at the end of my four years Illiana was going to wish more of me stayed than just my signature on the wall.

This wasn't really the way I thought all the time, but I definitely acted like it at times. Once, I tried to make the girl with the locker next to me, Morgan, like Illiana. I wanted to impact her experience at Illiana, make it better. I showed her to a class the first day and I talked to her every so often. At Christmas I gave her a little gift. I wanted to help the new girl, but I also wanted to be remembered for stuff like that.

Little did I know she would prove to be a far greater blessing to me. Throughout the year, she's become a highlight of my day. I talk to her when I'm upset, excited or tired, and she does the same. She makes me laugh everyday. I thought I would impact her, and I was blind to how she could impact me.

That's what my whole experience at Illiana has been like. I went around my four years trying to make Illiana a better place. I wanted to make a lasting impact.

It made me a better person by trying to do that, but it was pride to think that Illiana needed to be remade by me. I'm just one of thousands of people who have spent their four years and graduated. And while I think I've made valuable contributions, I am not naive. No one at Illiana will remember me in a few years.

If someone told me that freshman year, I would probably have been offended. But now, I could not care less. During my four years, I met new people, I experienced new things, I learned, I cried, I laughed, and I grew.

I thought I was going to change Illiana, but instead Illiana changed me.

I used to care about my name being on the wall, but now instead of wanting to be remembered, I want to remember. I want to remember people like Morgan. I want to remember my girl friends who walked beside me all four years. I want to remember the teachers that molded my outlook on life. I want to remember the classes, chapels, and praise crowds that grew my faith, and I want to remember the love I felt inside Illiana.

So now, as I leave Illiana, instead of engraving my name on Illiana, I discover Illiana engraved its name on me. And I am so thankful.



Freshman Jaden Dejnton prepares his meal on the community grills while others celebrate in their own ways of tailgating or picnicing.

Students celebrate one last time before summer with annual Spring Cookout

Kendall Smith

Reporter



Photos by Jeff DeVries

On Tuesday, May 16, Illiana had its final cookout of the school year. It opened with beautiful clear blue skies and the temperatures in the mid-80s.

"It's sunny out. It's too hot for me, but I'm still having fun," said sophomore Virgil Key.

Students ate a variety of foods, from hamburgers and hot dogs to steaks and sandwiches. A few just foraged.

"I just tried to mooch off of people," said junior Charles Buiter.

A number of seniors grew sentimental as this was their last Illiana cookout.

"I'm sad yet happy because of what's ahead in the future," said senior Sarah Schoon.

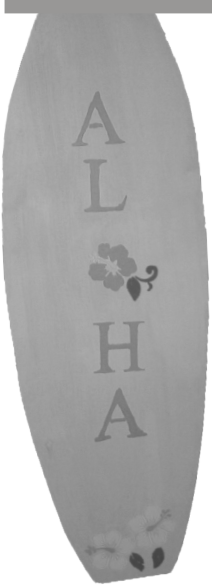
Other seniors, however, had other things on their mind.

"I'm just so close to graduation I don't want to do anything else besides just graduate," senior Janae Van Hook said.

'Hula's ready for banquet?

Caleb Last

Reporter



Junior Senior Banquet, the second of Illiana's two school sponsored dances, is coming to Illiana on Fri-

day, May 26th.

The theme for this year's banquet is "Le'ale'a Hula" and is based on a Hawaiian luau. Senior Carla Lopez said the committee wanted to differentiate from last year's theme, which was "a black tie affair." Compared to last year's theme, which Lopez described as more serious, and this year's banquets will be more colorful and fun.

On the day of the banquet, says Lopez, the banquet committee

will leave school during break and go to set up the banquet. Involved in the setup is putting up the backdrop and preparing each table's centerpiece.

Ms. Bultema, Spanish teacher and head of Junior Senior Banquet Committee, said the process for picking the theme for banquet is mainly completed by the committee members, who vote from several ideas.

Junior and senior students who are not on

the committee will get out of school at 12:45 on Friday, May 26, to get ready for the banquet.



Photos by Beth Boonstra

After 12 years of devoted service to math department, Mesman to become Hensel, depart from Illiana

Kade Bouwer

Reporter

After twelve years at Illiana, math teacher Kim Mesman is leaving Illiana. After this school year she is getting married and moving to Indianapolis.

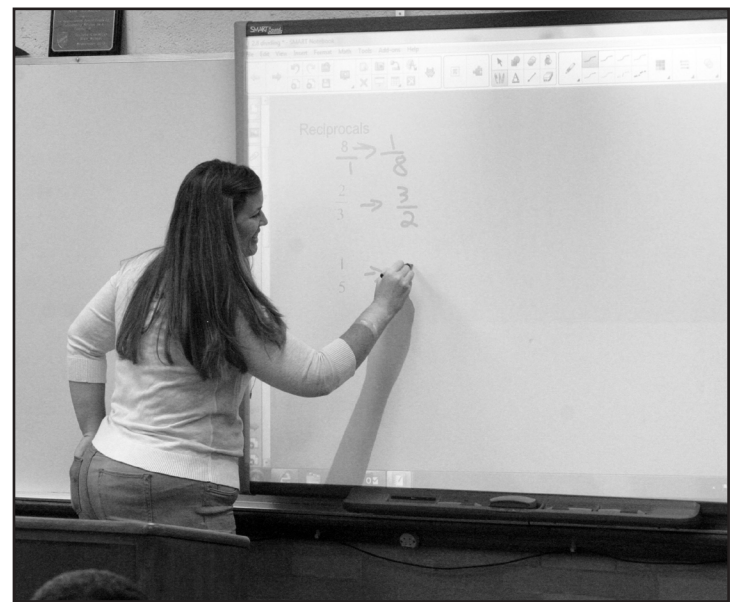
"I feel like I have found my niche here [at Illiana]," said Mesman. "It is hard to leave something you've grown to love."

Students and fel-

low staff members will miss Mesman when she leaves.

Senior and member of Mesman's homeroom, John Eeningberg said, "She related to us really well. She was a teacher figure we could talk to about things going on in school, and she would give us her opinion."

"She sticks with us kids and makes sure we understand everything," said freshmen Lance Mulderink. "I am sad she



Mesman teaches her math class about reciprocals. Photo by Jeff DeVries

is leaving, but happy for her."

In Indianapolis Mesman plans to continue teaching.

Counselor Neil Zand-

stra said, "It will be hard loss for Illiana. She is a great math teacher and a great friend. I'm sure Illiana will feel her absence."



Rose Medema helps student with their homework in the Tutor Center on her birthday.

Illiana to miss Medema after retirement

Emma Slings
Reporter

In 1989, Rose Medema started her teaching career at Illiana. She has spent her years in the resource room helping students with class or homework help and has also taught several classes herself, including Basic English classes, basic earth science, and a life skills class.

“I enjoy most when I can work directly with students,” Medema said. “One of my gifts for this job is that I can see poten-

tial in students even when they’re struggling, and that’s what I try to bring out.”

According to Principal Peter Boonstra, Medema has worked well at Illiana because she “has been a combination of encouragement and a dose of wisdom.”

However, with 28 years of teaching under her belt, Medema is now retiring.

Although Medema hasn’t worked directly with every Illiana student, she’s had a large impact on those she has worked with.

“She gets to know her students, and in return, her students want to know her,” senior Jason Eberly said.

“I’m going to miss teenagers because I think they make me younger,” Medema said.

According to Boonstra, Medema has helped bring academic success to a whole group of students, who otherwise might not be able to be here or would struggle mightily.

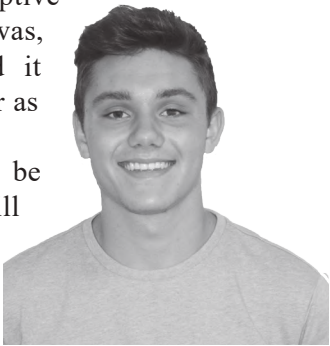
Medema is also known among her colleagues as a practical joker. Boonstra quipped,

“We’re also losing part of Illiana’s sense of humor.”

Medema said her most fun memories of Illiana are whenever pranks are involved, one of her favorite ones having to do with weird-looking vegetables at a teacher’s convention.

When she retires, Medema plans to upscale old furniture.

“It’s sort of the same thing [as I’m doing now], being able to see beyond what is in front of me and upcycle. I guess I’ve been upcycling students all along!”



Jacob Thompson
Co-Sports Editor

My struggles with having Attention-Deficit Disorder

I’m pretty sure anybody who knows me could probably guess I struggle with ADD. I have a hard time focusing, remembering to do homework, and sitting still. I’ve have always had these traits growing up. Teachers would tell my mom how disruptive and social I was, but I was told it would get easier as I “matured.”

Well, let’s be honest, I still haven’t really matured. I’m still the 12 year old who laughs at the dumbest stuff and is loud and loves attention. Around the end of my freshman year doctors officially diagnosed me and I started taking medication. At first I was really embarrassed and didn’t tell many people, but as my grades went up, my pride did too and I would tell anyone who would listen how well I was doing in my classes. I lived for getting my test back and seeing a good grade and asking around knowing not many people did better.

Then summer rolled around and I took my time off from school. About three weeks into my sophomore year I realized I was slowly losing every friend I really had. The medicine I was taking made me quiet, serious, agitated; all traits I never had experienced. I wasn’t making people laugh anymore. I was so focused on school that the rest of my life went downhill. I became sad, and as a result I started making bad decisions. My relationship with God was at an all-time low.

I have to thank Mama T, though. One night she got sick of me being agitated, and angry all the time. She had always said “I want the real Jacob” because I had become something I wasn’t. So I just stopped taking my medicine.

I seriously thank God. I didn’t start gaining my friends back or anything the next day. But my life has taken a dramatic turn. I can finally be me again without always having this bitterness the medicine would give me. And as of today most of my friendships and relationships are back to normal and life is good. But now I have to try and deal with this whole ADD thing without taking medicine. It’s really hard but activities really help keep me focused and calmer. Working is almost like my medicine. It helps me get out all the built up energy I have and helps me focus when trying to do my homework.

So my point in writing this column is to help some of you relate. High school can be some of the roughest times in anybody’s life and it helps to know that even some of the most wild and happiest people really do struggle. In my four years I’ve realized how impactful just a small comment or word can be. So I encourage you to talk to somebody, get help, and know I’m here to talk. God is good and sometimes you have to go through trials to realize how good he really is.



Valerie Swets leads flute section for Lansing’s Good Neighbor Day Parade.

Illiana band marches in Good Neighbor Day, Tulip Time parades

Natalie Togtman
Reporter

On Saturday, May 6, The flag corps and marching band, which is a combination of Wind Ensemble and the Symphonic Band, marched in Lansing’s Good Neighbor Day Parade. The bands played “Washington and Lee” (also known as our fight song), “Funky Town” and “Ghostbusters.”

The bands began practicing after their final concert in February, and the flags practiced their routines all of second semester in preparation for this parade. The two groups don’t practice together during club until the week before the Good Neighbor Day Parade.

Mrs. Pat Menninga, the band director, said, “I choose the songs we play by picking one song from the pep band, one difficult song, one simple song, and one the kids get to choose. This year they chose ‘Ghostbusters.’”

The following Saturday, May 13, the groups again marched in the Tulip Time Parade in Holland, Michigan. The parade features dozens of marching bands from schools all over the Midwest.

“My favorite part of the parade is that we, as a percussion family, become super close in marching,” said sophomore Hannah Last. “Even though walking is painful we still get the chance to bond.”

Students strut their stuff, raising money for cancer foundation

Maddie Holesinger
Reporter

Mr. Kamphuis, the Illiana art teacher who also teaches the Stewardship section of RPOC to freshmen, challenges his students every year to go out and serve as a final assignment. Freshman, Chiquerra Brown and Tristen Porter decided to take that challenge to a whole new level.

Instead of doing the usual bake sale, these two students put together a fashion show to raise money for the Leukemia Research Foundation on Friday, May 5.

“It was really [Brown’s] idea. She thought it would give Illiana students the chance to not be insecure about themselves and just have fun,” said Porter.

With the help of a couple oth-

er Illiana students, the show was a success. Although they didn’t have the turnout they had hoped for, enough students participated to raise around \$215 for their charity.

“I definitely do love fashion, but the money we raised going to cancer patients tops it off for me,” said Joann Huitsing, an Illiana junior who modeled in the fashion show.

There were three other models who helped put the fashion show on. They modeled their own clothes, but in three different categories consisting of formal, semi-formal, and sleepwear.

“I liked the formal wear the best because we got to dress up and we all looked really good,” said Caylynn Towns, an Illiana freshman who modeled.



Students pose for picture in their modeling clothes

Photo by Jim Kamphuis

Seniors 2017

Answer key:

(((*PIP: Post-Illiana Plans*)))

(((*SC: Secret Crush*)))

(((*WW: Words of Wisdom*)))

Adetolani Adeyefa

PIP: Travel around the world and taste foods like Gordon Ramsey

SC: Bruno Mars

WW: Life is like an egg; try not to get a shell in it.

Opeyemi Akinbobuyi

PIP: Going to Vincennes University

SC: Moana

WW: Get involved with things after school; you might just meet your best friends.

Gabriela Alicea

PIP: Moving to Peru to open my very own Alpaca farm

SC: Kyle Church

WW: Learn from everyone, but never imitate anyone.

Chloe Baker

PIP: going to college, starting a youtube channel.

SC: Jesse Jay Ellis, Ben Skrbina

WW: Try out even if you don't think you're good enough; do it!

John Barth

PIP: Study Business and Theology at Wheaton College

SC: Louis Armstrong

WW: Take joy in your faith.

The Christian life is one of en-

joyment and contentment.

Jessica Batterman

PIP: Studying accounting at Illinois State University

SC: Tony Lucito, Colton DeJong

WW: Don't worry as much as I did; spend more time having fun.

Ethan Beezhold

PIP: Biomedical Engineer

SC: Gillian Fiene

WW: The voucher isn't that important; just skip sometimes.

Joshua Boender

PIP: Sky Dive

SC: Meg Wiersema, Autumn Olthoff

WW: Branch out of your class... There are cool people there!

Ashley Bonner

PIP: Cornerstone, then work

SC: Josh Smits, Jake Pals, Jake Lyzenga

WW: Illiana life hack: if you're a soccer girl, ask Turk for money

Collette Bouwer

PIP: Calvin College

SC: Gregory Leystra

WW: Bloom where you are planted.

Jordan Brookins

PIP: University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana

SC: N/A

WW: Not until you walk in the shoes of every gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, hateful, and loving person will you understand how precious life truly is.

Whitney Brummel

PIP: Have two kids, loving family, good paying job.

SC: N/A

WW: Strive for the very best you are.

Everett Buiter

PIP: Marine Corps, stealing all the gold from the Vatican

SC: Emily Koditek

WW: Eat bugs, bugs are full of protein. Everyone should eat bugs. Also cigarettes don't cause cancer; smoking does.

Nicholas Burris

PIP: Working at Waffle House cleaning bathrooms

SC: Tiffany Ketelaar, Gabby Kreykes, Lauryn Haymer, Brittney White

WW: Do not, do not, do not co-sign a loan

Kenneth Caston

PIP: Philanthropist and Psychia-

trist

SC: Lizzie Knot, Lexi Terpstra, Gillian Fiene, Lily Olthof

WW: "Rusteez, where you too, can look like me! Kaaachow!"

Joshua Chancellor

PIP: I'm going to Africa to hunt lions and avenge Mufasa's death!!!

SC: Mia VanderZee, Ashley Bonner, Damaris Jackson

WW: Want to get out of debt?

Then sell your car!!! -Dave Ramsey

Kyle Church

PIP: Working at Menards and going to UTI or South Suburban College and own my own car without debt.

SC: Gaby Alicea

WW: Don't put any ads on Craigslist.

Joshua Clay

PIP: College and kickboxing

SC: Grace VanDam

WW: School stinks, make the most of it.

Bria Cole

PIP: Being a police officer

SC: N/A

WW: You have to be able to accept failure to get better.

Scott Conrad

PIP: Grace College

SC: Sydney Shaffer

WW: watch Star Wars

Dale DeJong

PIP: Dordt College for Mechanical Engineering

SC: Maddie Holesinger

WW: Sell the car and pay cash for college -Dave Ramsey

Stephen Deng

PIP: Go to college

SC: Think about good grades.

WW: Knowledge.

Erik Detmar

PIP: Become the #1 Wiffleball player in the world.

SC: Lily Olthof, Autumn

Olthoff, Lily Gerstner

WW: It's all about the FI-CO!

Anneke DeVries

PIP: Studying Speech Pathology at Calvin

SC: Tim Schaaf

WW: Allow God to continually soften your heart so that it beats for what His heart beats for, people.

Corey DeVries

PIP: Video games, hockey, sleep, money

SC: Brianna Plemons

WW: Stay out of trouble.

Jessica DeYoung

PIP: Nursing at Ball State University

SC: Jake Lenting

WW: Get yourself a Latina best friend.

Elyse Dunham

PIP: Attending Grace College, majoring in psychology

SC: Hanna VanderWoude

WW: You don't have to wear makeup to be beautiful.

Jaimie Dykstra

PIP: Starting in this fall at the American Academy of Art.

#StarvingArtist #HereICome

SC: Chat Noir, Jack Frost, Hiccup Haddock #FandomQueen

WW: Silence is Oppression's best friend.

Joel Dykstra

PIP: Valparaiso University for Engineering

SC: Grace Van Dam

WW: Don't speed through the neighborhood.

Isaiah Easter

PIP: Forbes 30 under 30

SC: Maddie Holesinger

WW: Be diligent so you can chill, and if you fail at being diligent, chill anyways. Learn to listen to those different than you—you may learn something.

Jason Eberly

PIP: University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana

SC: N/A

WW: Proverbs 3:5-6

John Eenigenburg

PIP: Attend Purdue Lafayette

SC: Anna Delahunty, Lily Gerstner, Karli Petrarca

WW: Do your homework. Sell your car. IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FICO.

Jesse Ellis

PIP: Nursing at Millikin University

SC: Lizzie Knot, Ashley Pigatti, Gillian Fiene

WW: Don't go to Chipotle every day. You will end up broke like me.

Andrew Fabrizio

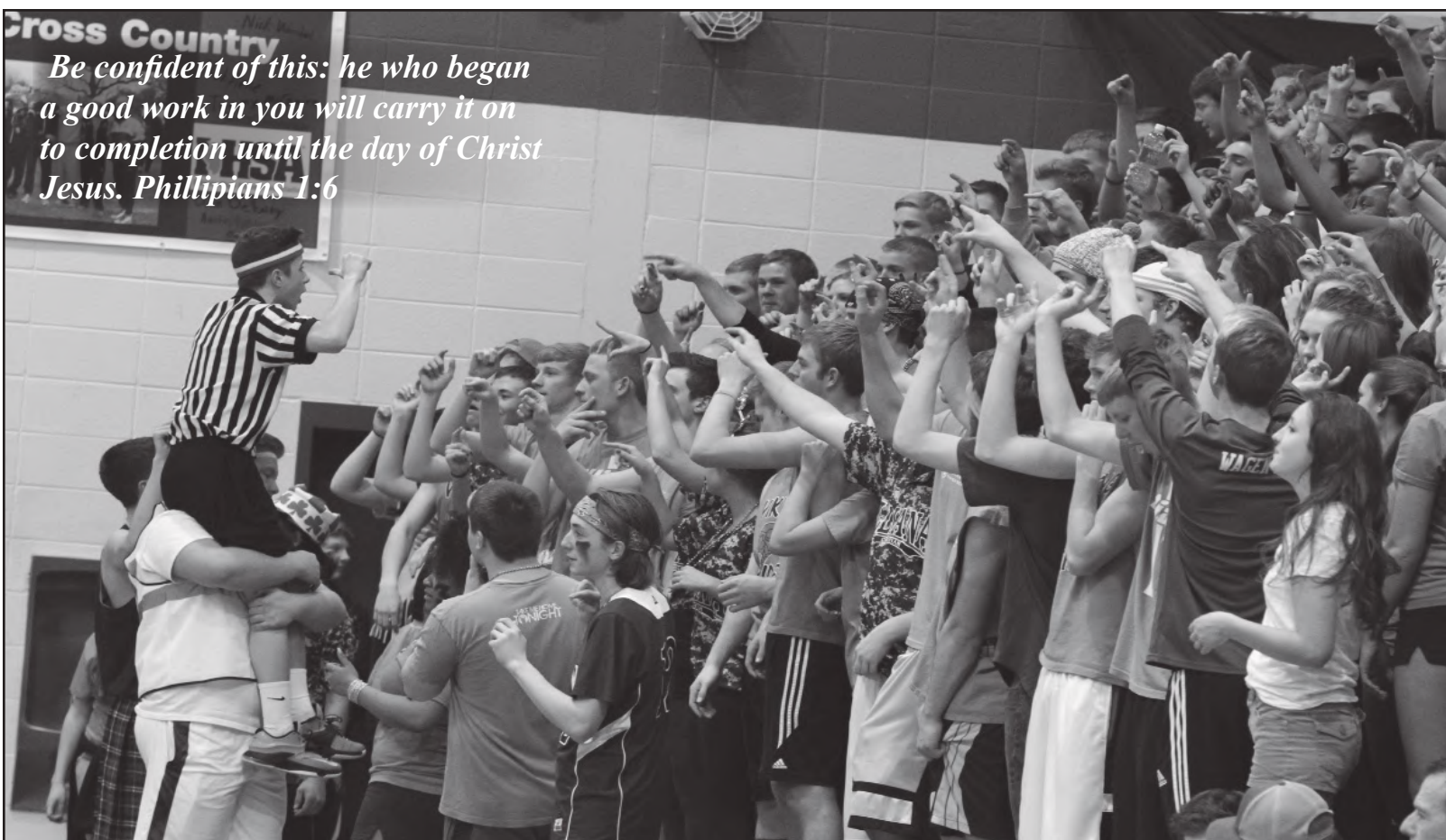
PIP: Going to Ball State

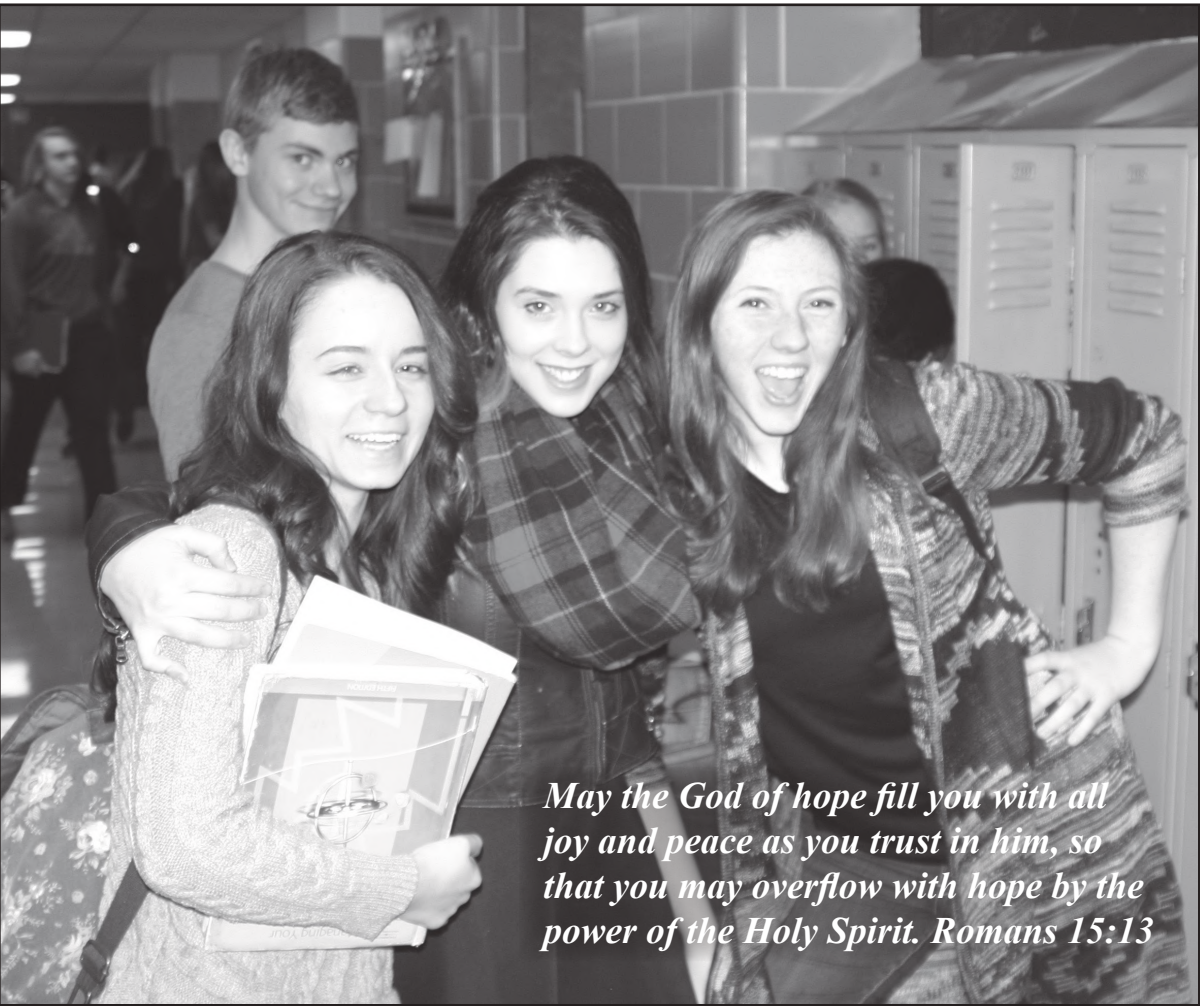
SC: Danielle Zander

WW: Don't be an overachiever.

Nia Fuller

PIP: Studying accounting at Olivet, becoming a nail technician





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

SC: Justin Gaddis
WW: Keep a small circle.
Justin Gaddis
PIP: Go to the United States Air Force
SC: Eden Schipper, Brittany White, Hannah Kortum
WW: Pay cash for college
Laci Gibson
PIP: Attending Indiana Wesleyan to study nursing
SC: Marcos Hernandez, Kade Bouwer, Lawton Bouwer, Tim Triezenberg
WW: Don’t work in food business.
Blake Gossage
PIP: Get a degree in biomedical engineering, continue to medical school
SC: Jacklyn Vander Zee, Elon Musk, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
WW: There’s always time for calculus.
Imannie Greer
PIP: Illinois State University
SC: Norman Standish
WW: Stay focused. Friends come second; school comes first.
Alexandra Guiliani
PIP: Indiana Wesleyan
SC: George VanRyn, Andre Smits, Jake Lyzenga
WW: High school doesn’t matter.
Mikerra Hall
PIP: Going to College at NIU
SC: Mikerra Hall
WW: “The future belongs to those who prepare for it today.”
Lauryn Haymer
PIP: Purdue Northwest
SC: N/A
WW: Life is like a box of chocolate, you never know what you’re going to get.
Dillon Herman
PIP: Accountant
SC: Money, Lizzie Knot, anyone that will take me
WW: “I dug, you dug, he dug, she dug, we dug, it’s not a beautiful poem, but it’s very deep”

–Kyle Musch
Micah Hescott
PIP: Work for Gayety’s
SC: Karlie Detmar
WW: Don’t like your best friend’s sister.
Jason Hillegonds
PIP: Military
SC: Carlee Faber
WW: N/A
Luke Hillegonds
PIP: BC to hoop and hit the link
SC: Anna Delahunty
WW: Spell your snapchat name correctly: amos- dukeatud86
Tim Hoeksema
PIP: Bet money
SC: Maria Powers
WW: Don’t do drugs, they aren’t as fun as you think.
Ethan Hoekstra
PIP: Study Engineering at Dordt
SC: Maddie DeYoung, Rachel Batterman, Anna Delahunty
WW: Don’t run.
Bo Hofstra
PIP: Going to Purdue
SC: Gabby Kreykes
WW: Jared Jonkman got me through high school.
Noah Holderman
PIP: Go to college, haven’t decided where, undecided major
SC: Yeah right
WW: I don’t know, I’m not a wise person.
Zachary Huisman
PIP: Trinity Christian College, become an accountant
SC: N/A
WW: N/A
JoAnn Huitsing
PIP: To work for Rob Zombie as his personal makeup artist and have a salon/tattoo parlor of my own
SC: Isaiah Easter
WW: Try crazy things and meet crazy people and those crazy people will soon become your best friends.
Vanesa Huizenga
PIP: Majoring in elementary education and special education

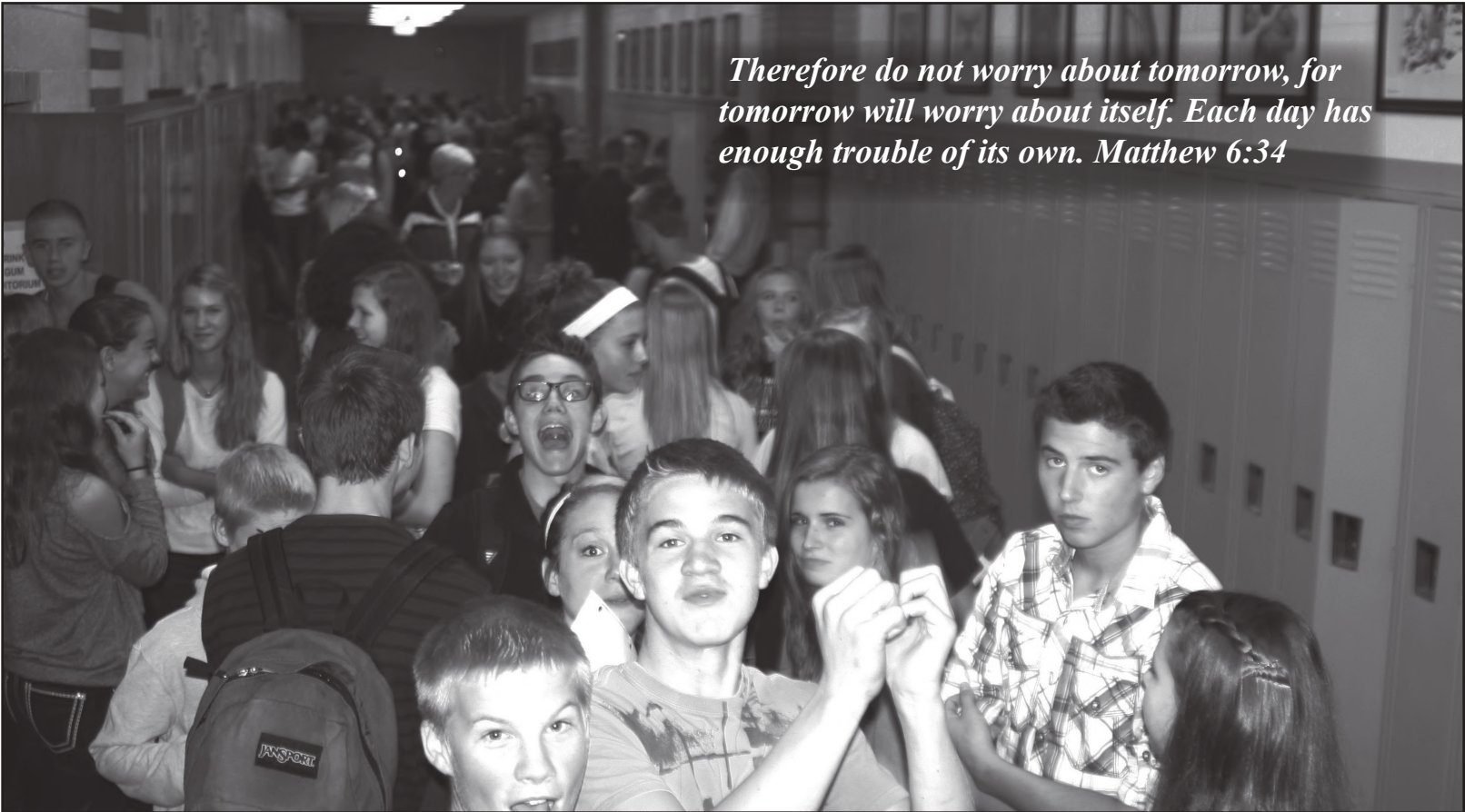
SC: Sam Dekker
WW: If you have Mr. Bosman as a homeroom teacher, you’ll never get counted for tardies.
Cassandra Iaconelli
PIP: To become a sports announcer
SC: Myself lol
WW: You can’t have happiness without pain. Just like you can’t have sunshine without a little

rain.
Amanda Ipema
PIP: Trintiy Christian for Accounting
SC: Justin DeVries
WW: Walk on the right side of the hallway.
Damaris Jackson
PIP: Olivet Nazarene, Army ROTC, youth ministry and international missions. I also plan on continuing in writing music.
SC: Isaiah Easter
WW: Do not alter your personality to fit the mold of someone else. You’re not meant to be like them. Remember, when the world has told you lies, you are priceless in His eyes.
Marissa Johnson
PIP: To be an actuary
SC: A boy two lockers down from me (I think).
WW: Don’t act like your age; have fun. –Dirty Dan
Jared Jonkman
PIP: Trinity Christian College
SC: N/A
WW: Enjoy your time in high school; it goes by fast.
Alaina Kats
PIP: Trinity Christian College: Major- physical education, Minor- Theology
SC: Justin DeVries
WW: Talk with people who make you see the world differently.
Tiffany Ketelaar
PIP: Going to South Suburban

for radiology
SC: Tony Lucito
WW: Don’t get into/start drama. No one wants it.
Joseph Klapak
PIP: Attend UTI
SC: Dave Ramsey
WW: “Sell your car” –Dave Ramsey
Juliana Knot
PIP: Calvin College
SC: Josh Smits, Garret V-zee, Josh Harris, Matthew Huizenga
WW: Make friends with the Spire people, so you get in the yearbook a lot.
Emily Koditek
PIP: Go to college at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
SC: Everett Buiter and Kyle Zillioux
WW: Do your homework at least most of the time.
Ryan Koontz
PIP: Run Cross Country and Track at Cornerstone University
SC: Maddie DeYoung, Gillian Fiene, Eden Schipper (Baby Cow Eyes)
WW: If you work hard enough at school or a sport in high school, it will pay off in college. Be the Drake in a school full of Meek Mills.
Hannah Kortum
PIP: I am going to Paul Mitchell school for cosmetology
SC: Ben Wiersema, James Vandermolten
WW: Coffee is a necessity in



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



Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own. Matthew 6:34

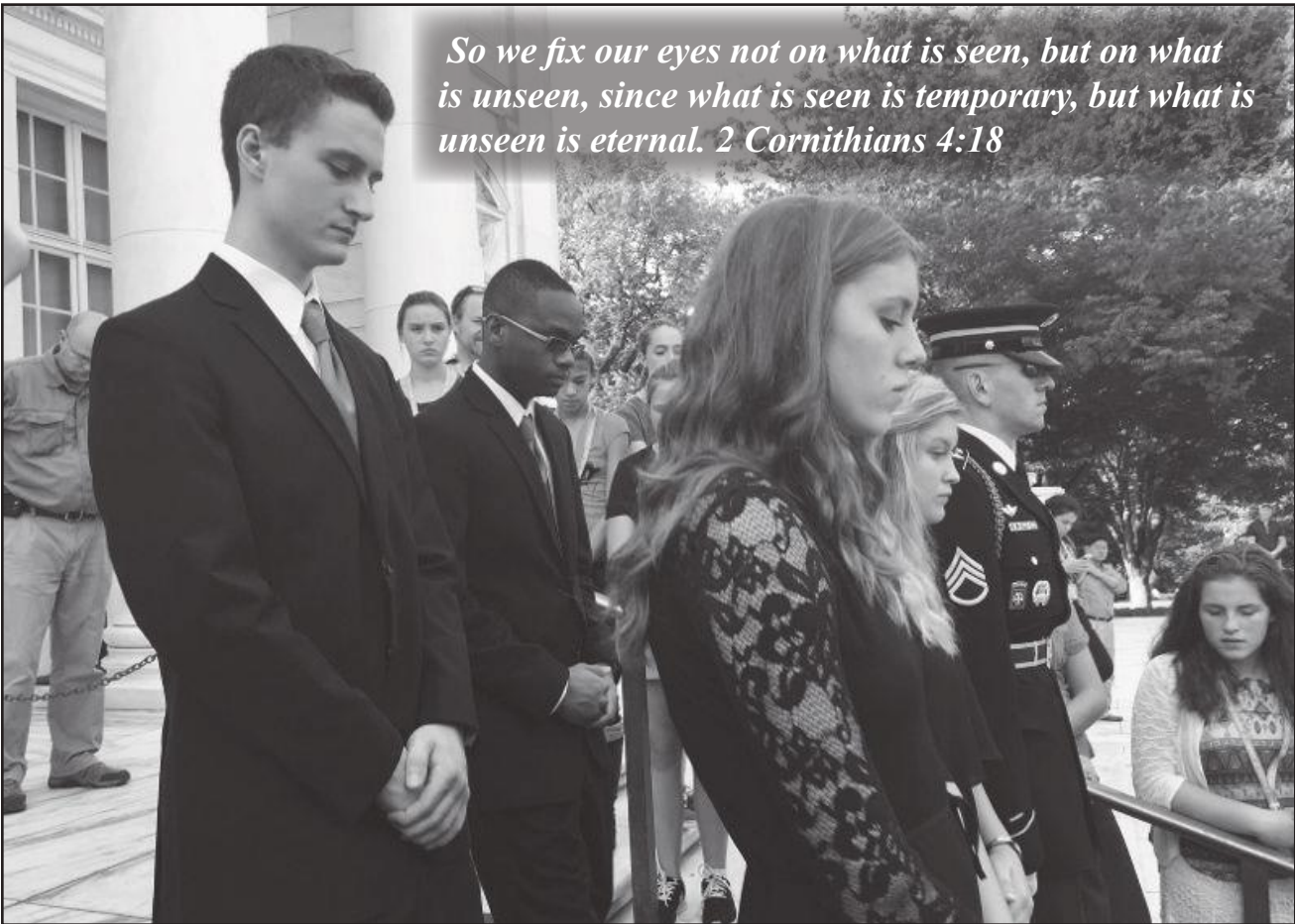
the morning!
Holly Krajewski
PIP: Studying Technical Theater at Vincennes University
SC: Myself
WW: In 20 years, the things you're stressing about won't matter.
Gabrielle Kreykes
PIP: Attend Saint Xavier University to play basketball
SC: Bo Hofstra, Nick Burris, Tony Lucito
WW: Fight the effects of aging.
Brianna LaRock
PIP: Go to college and move into my own house when I get out
SC: Jake Pals, Tanner Oppenhuis
WW: Never let the things you want make you forget the things you have.
Caleb Last
PIP: To become the first citizen of France and conquer Europe
SC: Victory
WW: I came, I saw, I did. Veni, vidi, feci hoc.
Zachary Leeson
PIP: Make money
SC: Riley
WW: Don't die.
Nathan Lindemulder
PIP: Pipe fitting and HVAC
SC: Ashley Pigatti
WW: Mr. Turkstra and the teachers aren't that scary.
Carla Lopez
PIP: Get married, have kids, graduate college, become a teacher.
SC: Justin DeVries
WW: Saving is 80% behavior and 20% head knowledge.
Madalyn Maatman
PIP: Playing volleyball and majoring in elementary education at Indiana University Northwest
SC: Joah DeVries, Colton DeJong, Collin Bultema
WW: Don't stress so hard on grades, have as much fun as possible because the years go by quick.
Hannah Maurello
PIP: Going to Indiana University to study animal behavior/

Zoology; one day have a happy life with a house full of family and animals.
SC: Max Klain
WW: Pet as many dogs in your life as humanly possible and you'll always feel loved.
Emma Mazrimas
PIP: Studying counseling at Trinity Christian College
SC: N/A
WW: Don't worry too much about college plans. I changed mine four times. God knows what you need.
Jensen McGuire
PIP: Fox College for Dental Hygiene
SC: Steven Otte, Ben Van Til, Jacob Ipema
WW: Senior year goes by quick. Don't constantly wish it was over. Enjoy it while it lasts.
Jacob Miedema
PIP: Mechanic
SC: Morgan Lindemulder
WW: Don't let school rule your life.
Asia Miller
PIP: College (Loyola University Chicago), Pre-Med
SC: Garret VanderZee
WW: Enjoy where you are now because life will pass you by in the blink of an eye. Cliché, I know, but it's incredibly true.
Brittani Molina
PIP: Study sonography at SIUC
SC: Adam Levine
WW: Colorful lipstick makes everything better.
Jacob Mulderink
PIP: Going to Ball State
SC: Ashley Clark
WW: "Pay cash for college" –Dave Ramsey
Alyssa Murrin
PIP: Going to school for radiology.
SC: Jake Lyzenga, Andrew Smits
WW: Freshman, you're not as cool as you think you are. –All the upperclassmen
Kyle Musch

PIP: Calvin for Pre-Med
SC: Rachel Batterman, Meg Wiersema
WW: Make time for fun. Life is about more than just getting straight A's.
Gianna Natale
PIP: Going to the Illinois Institute of Art to study interior architecture design.
SC: Tony Lucito, Josh Smits
WW: Never give up, always strive to achieve your goal.
Abigail Neibert
PIP: Nursing school at North Park
SC: Johnny Depp
WW: Don't make big plans, and if you do, be ready for them to be screwed up.
Gina Novotny
PIP: Playing volleyball and going in to the nursing program at Grace College
SC: Tom Ericks
WW: Never turn down free Dunkin'.
Jacob Olthoff
PIP: Welding
SC: Megan Wiersema
WW: Diesel gets you females.
Oreoluwa Osineye

PIP: Go to UIC, Pharmacy school, travel
SC: No, no, and no
WW: "Life can always change; you just have to adjust" –Drake
Neal Pawlowski
PIP: Live life like Larry/work
SC: A double quarter pounder with cheese
WW: "I wish there was a way to know you're in the good old days before you've actually left them." Andy from *The Office*.
JP Peerbolte
PIP: Going to Purdue
SC: Lizzie Knot, Anna Delahunty
WW: The curve is your friend.
Christian Pelke
PIP: Going to GVSU and pursuing a law degree.
SC: Grace VanDam
WW: Don't blue pass Mrs. Drost's class.
Derrieus Pendleton
PIP: Perform on Broadway shows
SC: Kayla VanderZee, Heather Wiltjer
WW: Anything is possible if you put your mind to it.
Brittany Pickard

PIP: Go to college, have fun
SC: No one you know
WW: Do as many fun activities as you can, such as the plays, musicals, and sports teams.
Lucas Pospychala
PIP: Purdue Northwest
SC: Anneke DeVries
WW: Listen to Jon Bellion
Elva Qin
PIP: Study in US, go to college in state
SC: N/A
WW: Be a man. Do the right thing.
Alejandra Ramos
PIP: Don't worry about it.
SC: N/A
WW: Worry about yourself instead of other people.
Nicole Reichert
PIP: Attending Governors State University
SC: Derek VanProoyen, Jacob Ipema
WW: Attend as many Loud Crowd and Praise Crowd events as you can; they are the best!
Avrey Riemersma
PIP: Attending Grace College, majoring in math-education secondary
SC: Lance Mulderink
WW: Make sure all the teachers like you the first year and then you can do whatever you want the next three.
Noah Rogan
PIP: Work/Trap
SC: Gillian Feine, Kass Weemhoff
WW: If you can't trust them, don't hang out with them.
Kyle Schaaf
PIP: Purdue Northwest baseball and construction management
SC: Ashley Bultema, Lexi Terpstra, Anna Delahunty
WW: When you TP Turk, plan on him finding out.
Eden Schipper
PIP: Attend Purdue University West Lafayette's School of Engineering
SC: Mark Hernandez, Justin Gaddis
WW: Take advantage of Dunkin happy hour



So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal. 2 Cornithians 4:18

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



Sarah Schoon

PIP: Wait... there's a future after this
SC: Chewbacca and Kyle Church but out of these two I'm more likely to get a date from Chewbacca.
WW: "Never underestimate a man's ability to make you feel guilty for his mistakes" –Rihanna

Sydney Shaffer

PIP: I am going to major in Architectural Engineering at Milwaukee School of Engineering
SC: Trent Kamp
WW: Love one another. Be good to each other.
Benjamin Skrbina
PIP: Nurse
SC: Alex Guliani, Emma Groot
WW: Talk, not too much, not too little. Good luck.

Deborah Smith

PIP: Attending Wheaton College
SC: Ben Fabrizius
WW: If you aren't gonna be loud in loud crowd, don't come!

Kendall Smith

PIP: Be better than you. Rule the world.
SC: N/A
WW: Everything hurts here. Please help.

Andrew Sons

PIP: Make billions!
SC: Lauren Woo, Ashley Clark
WW: Be weird! It makes school a lot more fun.
Norman Standish
PIP: Retirement
SC: Gillian Fiene, Anna Delahunty, Grace VanDam, Annie W.
WW: Don't mess with Boom.

Nick Tambrini

PIP: Trinity Christian College
SC: Elizabeth DeYoung
WW: Don't procrastinate.

Jacob Thompson

PIP: Mr. Turkstra's Secretary
SC: Lizzie Knot, Lily Olthof, Lexi Terpstra
WW: Turk doesn't like when you eat a banana with a peel on it.

Elizabeth Triezenberg

PIP: Grace College yo
SC: Ben Fabrizius, Tim Schaaf, Keagan DeVries
WW: Personality/attitude is

everything. Jeremiah 29:11

Noah Uhter

PIP: Be successful.
SC: N/A
WW: Get involved in an activity. Don't be plain. Don't go into debt.

Max VanDam

PIP: A Gatorade manufacturer.
SC: Jessica DeBoer, Lexi Terpstra, Amber VanKalker, Lily Gerstner
WW: Do your homework because those are the only grades that matter.

Hanna VanderWoode

PIP: Flight attendant
SC: Caleb Perez, Sam Boonstra, Charlie Buiters
WW: If you have nothing nice to say, don't say anything at all. I was pretty quiet in high school.
Kayla VanderZee
PIP: Going to Indiana State University to major in Interior Architecture Design
SC: Andrew Smits
WW: Spend more time with people who bring out the best in you.

Emily VanEssen

PIP: Nursing at Purdue Northwest
SC: Ben Fabrizius, Kade Bouwer
WW: Don't let others control your life, especially your happiness.

Janae VanHook

PIP: Interior Design
SC: N/A
WW: Dream big then take a nap.

Jason VanKalker

PIP: Olivet Nazarene University
SC: Morgan Lindemulder
WW: Going out > studying
Ming VanKalker
PIP: Calvin College, Michigan Engineering/Pre-Med
SC: You're all too boring for me

WW: Keep track of your grades, teachers will give them without telling you.

Hope VanProyen

PIP: Attending Bethel College
SC: Matthew Rietveld, Norman Standish
WW: Keep a blanket in your locker, find a couch, and take a nap during study hall.

Melanie VanTil

PIP: Studio Arts at Trinity

Christian College

SC: Nifty ditty chocolate milk
WW: Don't listen to the conversations between Mr. Kamphuis and Mr. DeVries; you will be scarred.

Matthew Vargo

PIP: College at Valpo studying business
SC: Cassie Iaconelli
WW: Don't let fear stop you from doing the things you love.

Mia Verhagen

PIP: Trinity, travel the world, die alone.
SC: Woosh
WW: Don't whisper to your mannequin during CPR class.

Samuel Vree

PIP: Trappin' with Rogan
SC: Ashley Pigatti, Emma Wheeler
WW: Don't make tall jokes.

Cora Walsh

PIP: Going to Joliet Junior College for Culinary
SC: James Klapak, Lance Mulderink; they only like me cause I feed them at break though, lolz
WW: If you're having a bad day, go down stairs and Mrs. Piaskowy will make your day! Also, Mr. Turkstra is a candy addict, so if he gets mad at you just give him candy!

Kassidy Weemhoff

PIP: Attending Taylor University
SC: Kade Bouwer, Alex Wondaal, Garret VanderZee
WW: Remember, when you forgive, you heal. And when you let go, you grow.

Elizabeth Wenzel

PIP: Buy a cow and start a Dude Ranch
SC: Snowball the pig from Animal Farm
WW: Snow falls up, the wind just blow it and makes it look like its falling down, snow falls up, Charlie Brown.

Brittany White

PIP: Business at South Suburban
SC: Andrew Fabrizius, Justin Gaddis, Nick Burris
WW: Don't be that one kid walking on the wrong side of the hallway

Machaela Whitlock

PIP: Graduate from Trinity

Christian College and own 7 dogs
SC: N/A
WW: People will remember the faces of all who stop in the middle of the hallways with their backpacks sticking out into traffic (not in a good way).

Kyra Williams

PIP: Go to college
SC: Justin Gaddis, Nick Burris
WW: "You're always one decision away from a totally different life."

Ashley Wiltjer

PIP: South Suburban College on a softball scholarship studying to be a Radiology Technician
SC: Matt and Nick VanEssen
WW: If you're already late... take your time... you can't be late twice.

Heather Wiltjer

PIP: Play softball and study nursing at Olivet
SC: Jared Krygsheld and Tony Lucito
WW: N/A

Brayden Wynsma

PIP: Hopefully going to South Dakota for College
SC: Tierza Leeson
WW: There is no need to be afraid of Turk.

May Xing

PIP: Start college in spring 2018. Volunteer in the northwestern part of China, travel to Norway
SC: N/A
WW: Sometimes you think life is easy. It's not the next day.

Cassandra Zajkowski

PIP: Work to invest in a riding facility for disabled people/kids
SC: Ummmm...
WW: Don't slack off, if you want something, work for it. Noah didn't build an ark sitting watching wheel of Fortune.

Danielle Zander

PIP: Attending Trinity Christian College to study Psychology and Criminal Justice
SC: Tim Schaaf
WW: Your grades will never define you. I promise.

Sean Zhu

PIP: Maybe I will go there again to help
SC: N/A
WW: Everyone needs help.

Showing up last minute better than missing it all

Gaby and I missed the senior picture during the cookout and I feel as if that describes my entire high school career.

Freshman year I was friends with almost the entire grade. The entire class was one big friend group, but, that made it hard to hang out because nobody had a big enough house for that. Because of this misfortune, people started to make their own smaller friend groups. I never wanted to be a part of a clique and exclude people, so, in turn, I was the one who was excluded. That really put a damper on my freshman year and the beginning of my sophomore year. I tried not to let it bother me, but I had a rough two years. Joshua 1:9 is a lot easier said than done. "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." I wasn't very strong or courageous through it. I know now that God was with me through it all, but in hard times it's difficult to see what God's point is in it.



Hanna VanderWoode
Photo Editor

Life started to get better at the beginning of second semester sophomore year. I went to homecoming with some kid named Ethan Kamp and he brought me to hang out with his friends. They soon became my friends too and I finally had people to hang out with on the weekends.

That's when I met a couple of the great friends I have today. We spent almost every day together my junior year, but then they graduated and went off to college. At the beginning of senior year, once again, I was left with barely any friends. Life started to get a little rough but I was determined to have a great senior year so I started branching out. I became friends with a couple of the girls in my class and my senior year has been going quite well!

Because of Kamp, and the girls I met my junior and senior year, I went out more, I spent more time with my family and I grew closer to God. I go on walks with my dad at least once a week, I say I love you to my friends and family every time we part, and I pray every night, thanking God for all He has done for me.

Sometimes a person needs to go through a rough time to come closer to God and understand that the things, such as cliques, of the world are nothing compared to what God has in store for our lives. I know that's a pretty cheesy thing to say but it's true. Had I not been alone a lot of my high school career I wouldn't have the great friends and boyfriend that I have now and I wouldn't have as strong of faith as I do. I'm thankful for the struggles in my life for bringing me to where I am today.

Not being in our senior picture describes my high school career because I wasn't involved in a lot that happened at Illiana and I wasn't always close to my classmates, but, by the end of the year I kind of just showed up in Illiana's student life. Kind of like my showing up in the picture even though I missed the moment it was taken. Thank you, Photoshop!

Keep your inner child alive

Since I turned 18 nothing has changed. It's been three months since my birthday, and I still say that I'm 17 when people ask how old I am. Just because I turned 18 doesn't automatically make me an adult. I think that becoming an adult is



Elyse Dunham
Co-Feature Editor

a process. You have trials and errors. You also don't automatically get rid of your child like behavior; honestly, I don't think you should ever get rid of it. Obviously there are certain things that just won't be the same as when you were a child. For example, you won't wake up in your bed after falling asleep on the

couch, you won't have your mom to bandage you up after you fall off your bike, and you won't be able to spend your whole Saturday morning watching cartoons. But there are certain characteristics of a child that somehow disappear from the lives of adults.

Something that I've struggled with all through high school is making friends. It's hard to find friends when everyone around you judges you and just can't look past the insinuations that they have already made for you. But with children there are no judgements. Kids look around themselves, and all they see are so many opportunities to make friends. I teach a couple dance classes and the kids are all under seven years old. In the beginning of the year most of them were shy and wouldn't talk to anyone. But eventually they all found ways to have fun with each other and that's all that matters. Seeing them call each other best friends when they only met each other a couple weeks ago makes me long for something like that. It has taken me my whole high school career to find a group of friends that I truly feel comfortable and loved in, and I can't thank God enough for them every day.

Something else that I admire about children is their willingness to follow Jesus. Children don't really question the Bible and what it has to say. They follow the Lord fully, although they might not understand everything. Working in kids' church on Sunday mornings really shows me how children find so much joy in praising the Lord. They sing at the top of their lungs and they don't care what everyone else thinks.

Kids don't care what other people think. They think they know who they are and they're okay with that person. They don't face the tough questions about their identity because they feel confident in themselves. They wear a superhero costume every day for a week and respond to the pastor during his sermon maybe because they don't know any better or because they feel confident with themselves.

We need continually to grow these characteristics in our own lives because, as time goes on, we lose them because of hurts and disappointments we experience. When people laugh at you because of something you said or the clothes you wear, you learn to put yourself down before anyone else has the opportunity. As people like to say, "You are your own worst enemy." We continually bash on ourselves because we don't want to feel the humiliation we've felt before.

Whenever you're feeling like all your self-confidence has been sucked out of you, think about what your younger self would do. My younger self would be dancing through the hallway calling everyone who passes by me my friend. My younger self would also care more about spending time with the people who love me rather than worrying about the judgements of people who don't know me.

We should all take a lesson from our younger selves: go against the flow, be and love yourself, don't judge others, and love the Lord with all your heart.

Embarrassing, awkward, cringe-worthy

Illiana students reminisce about their most embarrassing moments



Jordan Miller

It was a very hot June day for my dad's wedding. I have a history of not doing well in heat. I was my dad's best man. My responsibilities were rather little all I had to do was walk with my older sister down the aisle and stand for a hour or so. I told myself you got this as I put my tuxedo on. My dad's wedding was the first time meeting a majority of my step-mother's family. I knew I had to make a good impression. The moment came for the service to start. All was going according to plan. Then for some odd reason the air conditioning in the church turned off. At first nothing seemed to bother me, just a little sweat that's all. Then after ten or so minutes I started to feel a tad bit dizzy. My older sister across from me was mouthing the words, "are you okay"? I was definitely not okay. My vision started to darken and I collapsed in the middle of the wedding service on the stage. My grandmother gasped loudly and came to my aid swiftly. I started to throw up a little. During this everyone was silent and watched. I sat down for the rest of the ceremony because I did not have the stomach to stand back up for the rest of the service. I thought to myself latter, "great first impression on the new family". To this very day I am still teased by all my relatives at family gatherings.

Ore Osineye

My most embarrassing moment was in 8th grade of middle school. The whole class was seated in their assigned seats and ready to start class. In the middle of class I began to sneeze. While I sneezed at the same time, I had passed gassed. I was so embarrassed, but luckily only one person heard me pass gas. We both laughed about the awkward situation and went on about class.



Hannah Last

I got to school that day, and as I was walking down the hallways to go to homeroom, I heard a lot of people laughing, but I didn't know why. When I got into homeroom, the guy I had a ginormous crush on was in there laughing too. All the people continued to enter homeroom all cracking up. Finally, a girl informed me that I had a hole in the back of my pants, and everyone had seen it, including my crush. Then of course that morning it was my turn to go in front of the whole class to read devotions.



Josh Smits

It all started one Summer, Sunday night, after church. People from my Church all went to a house after the service, and naturally, the kids all went downstairs. I had to use the restroom so I went to the downstairs bathroom which wasn't finished and was surrounded by insulation. Once I finished my business, I searched for some toilet paper but my search was barren, so I resorted to my surroundings. Insulation seemed like toilet paper so I used that and soon regretted my decision. For the next 3 days I was taking baths with special mixes to help get all of the fibers out.

Sam Gaich

So I was in 3rd grade in Miss Zandstra's class at Crown Point Christian School. Every year we have an annual Winter Jubilee. So that day we all wore our class shirts to school but since it was winter outside I wore a sweatshirt. I was getting a bit toasty so I decided to take it off. So I take it off and next thing you know the girl next to me is screaming bloody murder and I'm like what's wrong and I look down and my shirt also came off with my sweatshirt. Everyone in the class was laughing at me and I just ran to the corner covering my little man boobs and crying. Miss Zandstra was ticked so she sent me to the hallway and I proceed to go to the hallway...without my shirt.



SUMMER SURVIVAL CONCERT GUIDE

Lauren Curtis
Co-Arts Editor

LOCAL CONCERTS AND FESTIVALS

Tim McGraw- Country singer, Tim McGraw, will be performing at the Allstate Arena on August 31st. He will be accompanied by his wife, Faith Hill. Tickets start at \$77.

J Cole- On July 24th and 25th, rapper, J Cole will be performing at the United Center, promoting

his new album “4 Your Eyez Only”.

Future- Future along with Migos, Tory Lanez, Kodak Black and Zoey Dollaz (rappers), will be performing at the Hollywood Casino Amphitheatre on June 2nd. Tickets start at \$50.

Lollapalooza- Every year, Chicago hosts Lollapalooza, a music festival hosted on August 3-6. The 4 day-concert will feature artists such as Chance the Rapper, 21 Savage and Big Sean. Single day tickets start at \$120, 4 day passes start at \$335.

Pitchfork Music Festival- Another, fairly new, 3-day concert, will be held in Union Park. Celebrities such as Francis and the Lights, Solange and Isaiah Rashad will be performing throughout the 3 days. Tickets are \$75 a day, and \$175 for a three-day pass



Photo courtesy of pinterest.com.

Dear Illiana,

At the last Praise Crowd of my senior year here, Mr. Davids talked about looking back and saying thank-you. This idea was not a new concept to me considering I had already been planning on writing thank-you notes to those who have impacted my life in the past four years. But with the impending deadline of my last column in the Echo sloshing around in my head, a moment of pure inspiration came upon me.



Kassidy Weemhoff
Co-Arts Editor

I have decided to write you, Illiana, a letter to say thanks. First, thank you to the faculty who, though at times seemingly unfair, showed the love of Christ through their class work and one-on-one attention. You all make impacts on students that will be with them the rest of their lives (that’s a long time!). I am thankful for the knowledge you have imparted to me and the wisdom you have poured into me. I now know how to balance a check, the difference between a “spatula” and “rubber scraper”, how to properly diagram a sentence and different ways to apply scripture to my life. Thank you, faculty, for smiling at me in the hallways and taking time out of your lives to ask me about mine.

Next, thank you to my friends. To those who know me deeply and those who say “Hi” as we pass in the lunchroom, I am grateful for your willingness to form those relationships that can be hard to navigate and your commitment to be present in them. Thank you to those I have been on staff, committees and councils with, it has truly been a pleasure to work (and play) alongside you. I am so thankful for friends who uplift instead of tear down and for friends who pushed me out of my comfort zone into experiences I will never forget.

Thank you, student body, for showing me that life is far from perfect. Thank you for revealing the issues of society and helping me to realize that everyone has their own struggles. I have seen racial tension played out in the halls and mental illness bring suffering to lives. I am grateful for the knowledge that real life is full of stress, sorrow and injustice because there is no hiding that this school has held it’s fair share of problems. But for every time I have seen someone struggling in these halls, I have also seen someone smiling. Thank you for also bringing joy into a place we sometimes think has none.

To the Illiana building, congrats. You have withstood many thousands of footsteps everyday with only a few funky smells and a leaky roof to show for it. Thank you for holding so many memories, both good and bad, inside your doors. I am grateful for the generations of wall art spanned across the bricks to show progression while at the same time bringing us back to past decades. Thank you Illiana building for your many years of service and I wish you the best as you head into retirement.

As I leave this shore and set my course on a new sea, I look back to Illiana and admit that although I am filled with excitement to move forward, I can’t forget how much four years here as impacted me. Thanks to you, Illiana, I have started to figure out God’s purpose for me. I have found my self-confidence, have found my gifts and have found a relationship with Christ that I can carry into college and whatever is next.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kassidy



Photo courtesy of youtube.com.

10 CONCERT SURVIVAL TIPS

1. Get tons of sleep the night before.
2. Brainstorm Instagram captions.
3. Make a poster.
4. Pack a concert emergency kit (portable charger, selfie stick, extra cash, etc).
6. Memorize lyrics to popular songs.
7. **BE EARLY.**
7. Bring friends.
8. Look for good lighting.
9. Drink **tons** of water.
10. Dress appropriately.

FESTIVAL ATTIRE TIPS

Boys:

1. A loose fan t-shirt is always a go to.
2. Shoes such as Vans or Converse are the way to go. Comfort is important.
3. Try a faded straight fit pair of shorts. They go with anything.
4. You are NEVER too cool to wear a hat., especially if they make a statement.
5. A trusty bookbag is a nice accessory to go with your outfit

Girls:

1. Be Bold! Color is a good thing, so use it.
2. Floral is always a good thing, but don’t clash different florals. Let it speak on it’s own.
3. Do not wear culturally offensive clothing.
4. Use jewels to make your outfit sparkle.
5. Unless you want to sit down all day, wear comfortable shoes.



Photo courtesy of buzzfeed.com.

Vanessa Hudgens and Austin Butler at Coachella.

a general admission ticket get to enjoy every moment of vocal and instrumental bliss.

Aside from headliners like Drake, Lorde and Kendrick Lamar, this festival gets a majority of the hype from celebrity attendees who

endorse the weekend-long musical events through social media. Because of Coachella’s rising popularity, other concert and music festivals have become summer staple for young adventurers across the country.

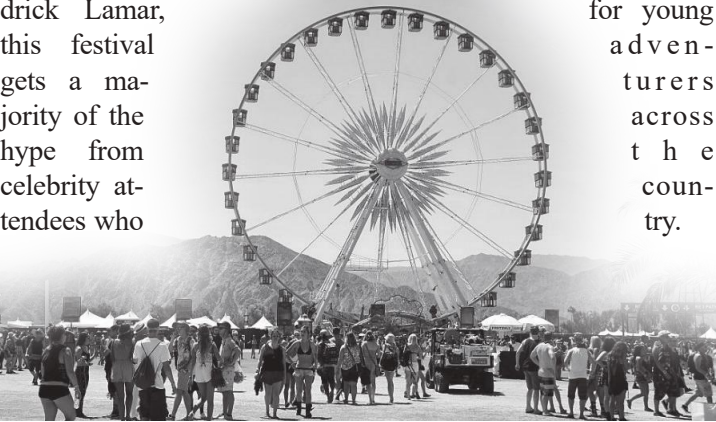


Photo courtesy of wegotthiscovered.com.

TREND REPORT

Kassidy Weemhoff
Co-Arts Editor

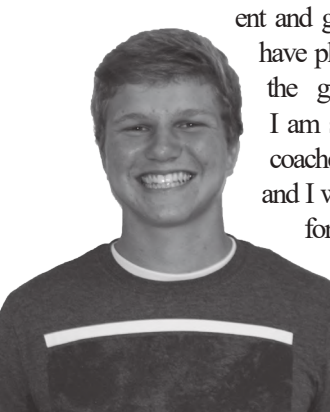
What’s better than eating an oversized soft pretzel while listening to your favorite artists and being surrounded by fringe-wearing fans? For those who attended Coachella, not much.

Located in Indio, California, this musical festival has been the talking point of social media in recent years and has turned into the pinnacle of fashion trends displayed on the many celebrities who attend.

This year the festival was from April 14-16 and 21-23, bringing about 100,000 people to the area. Coachella, not unlike many other concert festivals, contains a massive lineup of popular music artists from all genres. Those who choose to pay the \$400 for

Join sports,
become part of
something bigger
than yourself

For those of you that don't know me my name is Luke Hillegonds and sports are practically my life. I am super competitive and I love being active and challenging myself in different activities. I am a 12 sport athlete award winner which means I have played for a lot of different



Luke Hillegonds
Co-Sports Editor

ent and great coaches and I have played with some of the greatest teammates. I am so thankful for my coaches and teammates and I wouldn't trade them for anything. I am thankful for Mr. Rudenga and all the teammates who I played golf with for all the fun times we had on the golf course and on the bus. I am thankful for my many golf coaches but especially for my teammates who I have played with forever. My basketball teammates were my best friends and will continue to be for the rest of my life. I am thankful for Coach Blink and Mr. Zandstra who gave me the chance to play tennis, and I am thankful for my tennis teammates who make me laugh all the time.

However, I wasn't as grateful as I sound while I played and I wasn't as successful as I hoped to be either. I choked twice during sectionals in golf. I wanted to go down state so badly but I lost in a playoff one year and played awful another year. In basketball our team lost in the regional championship and I worked hard to try to get a chance to play at sectionals but I lost again.

Throughout my whole high school sports career I worked so hard to be what I thought was successful, but along the way I learned that playing sports isn't just about winning. In Illiana sports I was a part of something bigger than myself. I always was a team player and I always wanted to play my best so I didn't let my teammates down. But it was always about winning for me and I took for granted the leaders I played with, and the memories I made. Looking back now I can see how great my teammates were and I have built friendships with some of them that will last the rest of my life.

So my challenge to you is to join a sports team or join a club or join a math or debate team. When you come together with other people to achieve a goal, it is incredible the friendships that will be built and the fun you will have along the way. Illiana is full of great people that you can meet through sports and clubs so that you can be a part of something bigger than yourself.



Photo courtesy of JP Peerbolte

Senior Kayla VanderZee clears the ball against Chicago Christian at Paarlberg Park.

Girls soccer ends 5-9

Liz VanDrunen
Reporter

The girl's varsity soccer team finished its season after making it to the second regional game against Peotone on Friday, May 12.

They ended with an 5-9 record for the season.

Senior and co-captain Ashley Bonner said, "We had a rough start in

the beginning and never thought we would get as far as we did, but it's exciting that we did."

Senior Kayla Vanderzee, co-captain, said, "We're really supportive of each other and keep each other up, on and off the field."

The JV team ended its season with a record of 4 wins and 3 losses on Tuesday, May 10 with a loss to Riverside Brook-

field.

They started the season as a younger team with only three returning players out of the twelve girls.

Returning JV player, sophomore Kylie Boss said, "We had lots of girls who had never played soccer before, so the returning players and coaches really worked to help them to develop their skills."

Softball makes final out in championship game

Alex Wondaal
Reporter

The Varsity Softball season began with a 10-15 record, but the girls are hoping to turn their season around and advance to super sectionals in late May.

The Vikings, coached

by Nicole Wondaal, won/lost their regional championship on May 20. Senior 3rd base woman Chloe Baker said that in order to advance far into the post-season the team will need "better fielding, fewer errors, and better hitting."

Senior pitcher and

shortstop Heather Wiltjer, who will play at Olivet Nazarene University after graduation, said that one of the team's best games was defeating Aurora Catholic Central in a twelve inning game. Wiltjer said that in order to advance into the post-

season they'll have to use their most valuable talent, never giving up.

Freshman pitcher Jessica Deboer said her favorite part of the season was spending time with her team and pitching a game in which she allowed no opponents on base.

Volleyball team bows out in semi-final

Grant Gibson
Reporter

The Boys volleyball team finished their season with a record below .500.

Matches to be noted, according to Coach Dave Bosman, include a home game against Marian Catholic and a tournament round against New Trier, the state runner-up last year.

"Against Marian Catholic, our team played consistent the whole game" and went on to win it, said Bosman.

Teammates including senior team captain Jared Jonkman and junior Austin Clark agreed that, although they lost after the second set, they also stuck close to New Trier the whole match.

Jonkman said that lots of their losses resulted from not finishing games well and

that they would have worked more on that with the team if given more opportunity. Clark agreed and said that he thinks having more practice earlier in the season would

have helped too.

Many players stood out or rose to the challenge. Juniors Payton Smit and Clark both agreed that sophomore Mark Hernandez, a 6-foot-

6-inch hitter specialising in front-row offense, stepped up to the challenge.

The team ended its season with a lost to St. Rita in the Regional semi-final game.



Photo courtesy of Colleen Vander Woude

Junior Jared Vander Woude prepares to bump the volleyball in a game against Nazareth Academy.

Male Athlete of the Month

Senior Jason Eberly is one of the most winningest tennis player in Illiana's history according to Coach Zandstra. Jason Eberly recently took 2nd place in the Metro Suburban Conference and 2nd in sectionals in singles and qualified for state the 4th year in a row. He qualified for doubles down state as a freshman but he then started to excel his sophomore year. His sophomore year he and his partner won conference and took second in sectionals. His junior year he and his partner won conference and won sectionals and almost made it to the second day of state which nobody at Illiana had ever done. Jason Eberly will finish his tennis career as one of the most successful tennis players to ever walk through these doors.



Female Athlete of the Month

Freshman Gillian Fiene has been running since 6th grade and has always excelled at it. Breaking the 2 mile record, 1 mile record, and the 800 meter record Fiene has dominated all season taking 2nd in conference, 2nd in sectionals, and 3rd all in the 800 meter.

Fiene gives much credit to her teammates in helping her along.

"They always keep things fun but also encourage me to train hard." says Fiene. "They helped push me and helped to keep the pressure down. There wasn't pressure to win just to do your best and that's one thing I appreciated."



Sophomore Lawton Bouwer hits a shot at the net during warmups.

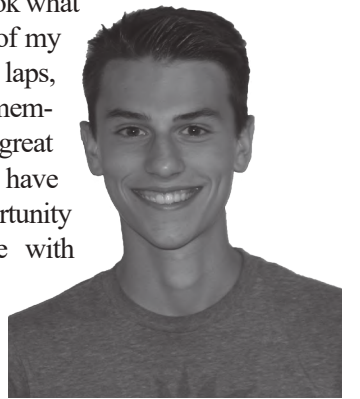
Photo courtesy of HR Imaging

Sportsmanship praised

At the tennis team's sectional competition on Saturday, May 25 at the Park Forest Tennis Club, a club member on the court next to the Illiana doubles teams sent our school a letter that included the following: "I just wanted to compliment [these boys] on their comportment. They always said 'thank you and you're welcome' any time one of our balls went into their court. They complimented their opponents on their good shots and treated them with respect. Since so often we hear bad things about how teenagers comport themselves, I wanted to let you know I was impressed with your students. Great job by the students and coaching staff for instilling those values."

Thankful for team

I knew senior year would go quick, but wow, that was really fast. I have finally come to realize that high school is over for me. It wasn't finishing AP tests or final projects but a Track Conference that made me realize that it was the end of an era for me. As I took what would be one of my last cool-down laps, I started to remember all the great people that I have had the opportunity to spend time with while running cross country and track for Illiana.



My first experience with Illiana cross country was a week before my freshman year of high school. I had been to a few summer practices and I knew a few of the guys on the team, but there still seemed like a ton of people I didn't know. I had no idea what to expect at camp and all I knew was that the running was going to be a little more difficult than middle school cross country. I heard rumors that at cross country camp they ran twice a day but I thought that it couldn't be true. Turns out I was not ready for two-a-days.

JP Peerbolte
Co-Sports Editor

When I got on the bus at Illiana leaving for Michigan, I knew only three other guys I who I ran with in middle school. I was intimidated by all the new faces. After spending five hours on a bus with the team, I caught a glimpse of the strong friendship they had, and I doubted that I would ever be included in on that friendship.

It took me at least two days to learn half of the guys' names and the rest of the names took the entire week. I tried to spend as much time as possible learning names and making friends, but it felt like I was always trying to recover for the next workout.

Once I started to get a hold of a few names, the guys became less intimidating. Team building exercises were nerve-racking because I did not want to mess up, but the guys were very welcoming and I started to feel more like a teammate.

Cross camp my freshman year was a great time and I always wish that I could go back and live it again. The adventures that we went on were amazing, and I loved being included and treated like a teammate after only a few days. Like a family, they ate meals together, prayed together, and did devotions together. They were people I wanted to be like and it was a family I wanted to be a part of.

And I became a part of that family. I spent lots of time practicing with the team in the hot, humid days of fall and when a workout felt impossible, I was ready to quit. I could easily have given up the running, but I could never give up the community. I am glad I stuck with it and I am grateful for the time I have gotten to spend with the cross country and track teams. I am thankful for the friends I have made, the amazing coaches who always put in countless hours and parents who were always there to encourage us. I hope that I never forget the great memories I have made with my teammates.

After finishing my cool-down lap I reminded myself that I really do love running, not just as a sport, but also as a family.

Boys tennis dominates sectional

Beth Boonstra

Co-News Editor

Things have been looking up for this year's varsity tennis team. With a season record of 10 and 5 and a first ever team win at Sectionals on Saturday, May 20, this team has gone above and beyond through their sportsmanship and abilities. The team competed in State on Thursday, May 25.

The team took second in the Metro-Suburban Conference on

Saturday, May 13. All of the singles and doubles players took second except for sophomore Seth Bouwer who took first at the second singles. And for the second time in Illiana history (the first time only being last year) each member of the team made all-conference.

A notably skillful senior that the team will miss next year, Jason Eberly took second at first singles at both the Conference and the Sectionals. He also

was the only player in the past four years to join the very short list of students to beat tennis coach Mr. Neil Zandstra.

Illiana took first at Sectionals by beating out Marian by 6 points in their composite scores. Zandstra said of their Sectional accomplishments, "I'm very impressed with the sportsmanship, intensity, and hard work ethic that allowed them to achieve this first ever title."

An exciting and

confusing moment for the team was when the first seeded Illiana doubles team of sophomore Lawton Bouwer and senior Luke Hillegonds had to play the second seeded Illiana doubles team of sophomores Kade Bouwer and Andrew Smits, pitting teammate against teammate, brother against brother. The first doubles team turned out on top after a close game.

Eberly, L. Bouwer, Hillegonds, K. Bouwer, and Smits qualified to compete at state.

Baseball wins conference

Haleigh Olthof

Reporter

Strong defense and smart play led to a 14-6 record and a conference title this season for Illiana's varsity baseball team, coached by Darren DeBoer and Brian Van Ryn.

DeBoer said that the team corrected mistakes and learned the mental aspects of the game well, including batting and baserunning strategies. Defense is the team's strong point, partially because of good pitching.

"We will do well in the

postseason if we start hitting," he added.

A high for the team was the win against Andrean on the day of the Pancake Pacer. The players had to be at school at 6 A.M. that day and were already tired when the game started, but they still "beat a team that we just really like to beat," said DeBoer.

Senior Norman Standish also listed that win as a highlight of the season. His season's worst moment, however, was a 0-11 loss to Ridgewood. He said he improved in pitching this year.

Standish also plays catcher.

Junior and first baseman Grant Buikema said his

favorite moment of the season was hitting a home run against Chicago Christian.



Photo courtesy of HR Imaging
Junior Isaac Lyzenga takes a swing during a game against Ridgewood at Illiana.

Boys, girls track finish impressive season

Riley Goodwin

Co-News Editor

On May 17, the Illiana Boys Track team went to sectionals at Marian Catholic High School and on May 18-20 the Illiana Girls Track team ran downstate at

Eastern Illinois University.

Junior Austin Ohm took 1st place in the 3200-Meter Run with a time of 9:47, followed by senior Ryan Koontz who won 2nd place in the 3200-Meter Run with a time of 10:29.

"I am beyond blessed

by God to have the gifts of running," said Ohm.

Junior Derek Van Prooyen also won 2nd place in the 1600-Meter Run, finishing with a time of 4:42.

For the Girls Track team, freshman Gillian Fiene won 3rd place in the

800-Meter Run with a time of 2:13

"We had a total of 7 girls go down to fill all 7 events," said junior Cambrie Van Roekel. "Even though we didn't all place, I had a great time and I'm so proud of my team."

Editorial

Editorial staff's prayers, hopes for Illiana

Through our years at Illiana, the editors have come to care about it deeply. Going into the future, these are our prayers for the school.

"A part of Illiana's mission statement for years has included the goal of diversity, something which the Bible makes clear is important. I pray that as Illiana changes buildings, it will not change schools of thought and belief. I fear that when Illiana moves, we will lose our striving for diversity."

-Beth Boonstra

"My prayer for Illiana is that it become for united, that friendships stretch beyond grades, that every student has someone they can run to when they need someone. I pray that people make connections beyond their friend groups and that we support each other no matter what the barriers."

-Collette Bouwer

"I pray that we work on Illiana's diversity, in staff as well as the student body. To expand diversity in a school, the staff must become more diverse as well. May God also show the teachers and staff members how to adapt to teaching children of different races."

-Lauren Curtis

"My prayer for Illiana is that it will continue to grow in its ability to incorporate the arts into worship. I hope that Illiana will keep giving students the ability to share their talents that God has blessed them

with."

-Elyse Dunham

"I pray that we'd begin to see people the way God sees them. That we'd be able to look past the outward things and see their hearts and minds. I pray that He'd allow people to see us as an open invitation to anyone seeking a friend."

-Riley Goodwin

after we move to the new campus. Calvin and Lansing Christian Schools have a lot of quality students that would benefit from a Reformed education and would bring talent and diversity."

-Juliana Knot

"I pray that we continue to show the love of Christ to those inside and outside of our commu-

wise, intelligent men and women of God and sends them out with confidence."

-Andy Sons

"My prayer for Illiana is people start treating all people the same and breaking down cliques. My prayer for Illiana is more kids learn to love each other with God's love and learn to let the little stuff go. My prayer for Illiana is teachers keep their positive attitudes and stay passionate about their jobs and their students."

-Jacob Thompson

"My prayer is that the staff and students break out of the Dutch/Illiana bubble that most of us have been in since birth to experience more of this beautiful world that our Lord and Savior has created. May God show us the true beauty of His world, the good and the bad, the angels and the demons, so we may understand His sovereign power."

-Hanna VanderWoude

"My prayer is that we may move in the direction God is calling us with gracious attitudes, and that we can develop into being a cohesive body of students without prejudice. May God show us where we need to be changing and give us the hearts to follow His will. May He show us, too, what it means to be an accepting community of believers."

-Kassidy Weemhoff

"May God show us the true beauty of His world... so we may understand His sovereign power."

"My prayer for ICHS is that its mission will continue whether the campus is here or St. John and that ICHS can be a light to the community wherever it is. I pray that we as students will grow in our faith every day and that we will continue to strive to be Christ figures in the rest of our lives."

-Luke Hillegonds

"My prayer is that we continue to reach out to the Lansing-South Holland communities even

nity. I pray that God will show us his plans and guide us on his path. My prayer for ICHS is that we continue to support each other in our similarities and differences."

-JP Peerbolte

"I pray that Illiana doesn't change its heart, that the teachers will still care and stay true to their purpose. I pray that the education doesn't start to mimic the rest of the world. Keep it the way it is, hard! That difficulty builds up

Forgetting Calvin harms Illiana

I am almost a graduate of Illiana Christian High School. I still call myself a Calvin Christian kid.

As graduation approaches, one thought keeps going through my mind: there will be no Calvin kids graduating from Illiana in ten years.

The thought breaks my heart. Both Illiana and Calvin have blessed others and me richly. The two institutions' educations have complemented each other, resulting in a deeper Christian worldview.



Juliana Knot
Co-Editor-in-Chief

But that won't continue. With the school's move to Northwest Indiana, Calvin families have grown skeptical of Illiana. They see a school that has turned its back on them, and they want little to do with it.

Illiana's change of campus was not intended as a slight towards Calvin. I am in no way caricaturing it as such. But as someone who has stood in front of five different, increasingly disinterested Calvin classrooms, the students' opinion is obvious: Illiana doesn't want me, and I don't want Illiana.

Illiana stands to lose a lot more from this mindset than Calvin does. It already has. Gifted students have already chosen other high schools. I've seen them in plays, bringing their talents to the stage. I've seen them at basketball games, leading their teams in scoring- against Illiana. I've seen them in passing back at Calvin, laughing and creating joy.

The creation of the new Christian high school in South Holland, a direct result of the move will lead a lot more Calvin students away from Illiana.

I'm not saying this to hate or bash on Illiana. I care enough to write this column because I love Illiana. Illiana is and has been a phenomenal Christian school, and Calvin students should continue to enjoy the benefits that I and so many other Calvin grads already have. Illiana is about to lose quality students-- at the very least, tuition-paying students-- and the larger Illiana population doesn't care.

If they do acknowledge this exodus, they're angry with Calvin students for being "traitors," or they call them sore losers, as if choosing a different high school because of Illiana's distant location is a trait unique to only Calvin families. There is little will to keep them going to Illiana and even less sympathy to understand their disappointment. Calvin students see a school community indifferent to their problems and look elsewhere.

As I graduate, with many of my friends that I've known since kindergarten, I can't help but want that for the Calvin students below me. But like this column, that wish is too little, too late.

Illiana will soon be a high school without Calvin students, and it won't realize it until they're gone.

the Echo)))

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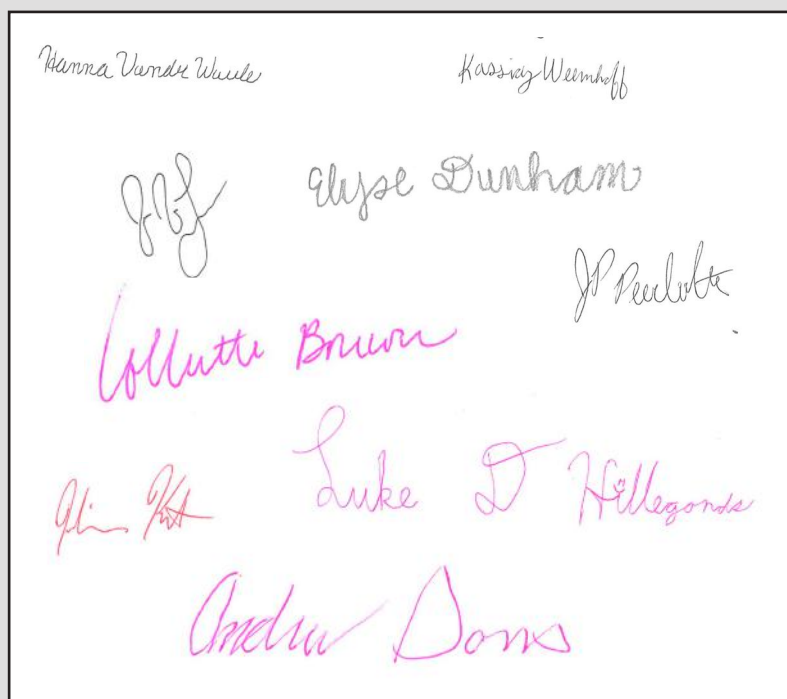
Jeff DeVries

Editorials, unless otherwise stated, have been written by an editor and reflect the opinion of the majority of the Echo staff. Opinions expressed are not necessarily that of the administration, faculty, or student organizations.

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 withheld for doing so.

Signing Out...

The seniors on the Editorial Staff want to thank the Illiana community for reading and responding to our work on the Echo. It was an honor to write and create this newspaper for you.



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

Check out who bought the Lansing building on the back page.



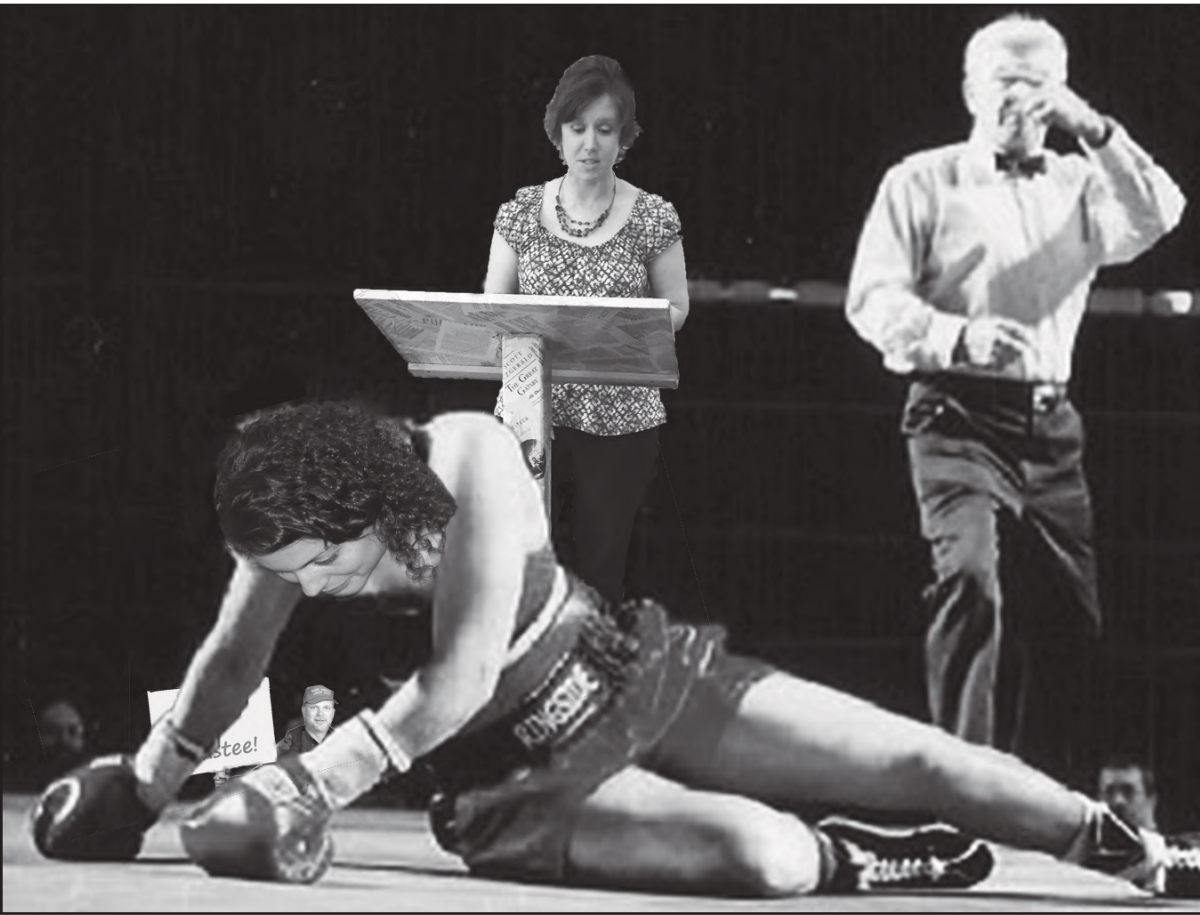
Read about the new, enlarged spinners on the back page.

Silliana Christian High School

Volume: 8.9 mL Issues: 3.14159265

March 22, 384 B.C.

Location: Nice try, NSA



Rrost reads triumphantly as Kerpstra falls to the mat, asleep.

Photo by CoCo Flower

Rrost wins cage fighting fundraiser for new school

Q-Tip Jhompson
Ladies Man

On May 5 students put down their tacos to enjoy teachers beating the snot out of each other as Silliana hosted the first ever Cage Fight Fundraiser in an effort to raise enough money to pay for the school in a minimum of 12.8 phases. The final round consisted of Drachel Rrost beating Tara Kerpstra (who has years of martial arts training) by knocking her into a stupor with a lecture on the Pendleton Act.

The fight took place at the alternate first phase site which included

the recreation of the historic Coliseum, and a top of the line lemonade stand (another effort to raise more money). The fundraiser was run by Dance Davids, head of nobody really knows, in an effort to gain more money to fund the new Silliana.

“My favorite part was seeing the blood fly while enjoying an ice cold cup of lemonade that’s not lemonade its actually Gaterade,” says junior spectator Wessie Jite. “My father also participated but lost in the first round by 180 which was a bummer but overall this was an A+ event.”

Highlights of the event included

a first round upset in which Vick Reldman demolished Lob Ragerwey in a knockdown, drag-out fight. Reldman then proceeded to run around the coliseum walls beating his bare chest and screaming “Its all about the FICO” at the top of his lungs. In the second round Beter Poonstra edged out Dinny Gyks-tra by putting her in a headlock and dragging her out of the building.

“Overall this has been an excellent event,” said winner Rrost. “Seeing how I am the last teacher left standing, I’m hoping to gain a substantial pay raise in the future.”

Capital Committee sinks ARC concept, redesigns, renames auditorium RAFT

CoCo Flower
Angry Tree-Hugger

The proposed ARC has undergone architectural revision and a name change after the annual Tater Trot fundraiser flopped.

Like Noah’s ark, the ARC--with current fundraising efforts-- would’ve taken 100 years to build. Now, school board constructed a plan instead for the RAFT (the Reduced Allowances for Theater).

The RAFT will basically be the ARC, but with just a slight downgrade. The RAFT will be an asphalt basketball court that, like a real raft, will be designed with no roof.

School board member Peppi Optimist said, “We are so excited about the new changes. It might not be the

ARC, but we will still have the additional basketball court and stage. It will just be open air.”

Teacher Wheff Jite said, “Our current gym doesn’t provide much more rain protection than the RAFT will, so it should be an easy transition.”

However, student Beth Souwer said, “This stinks.” To be fair, that is Beth Souwer’s response to everything.

Athletic Director Keb Damp said, “Since we give basketball priority, they will get the indoor courts, but I’m sure the cheerleaders and wrestlers can get by.”

Actor, Vichelle ManK-alker, excitedly said, “Now we can be like the soccer girls, performing in all conditions.”

Wheff Jite leads ‘Not My Trustee’ march at Lansing City Hall

Cooliana Jot
Pro-Gluten Activist

On April 26, 49 Silliana students, led by teacher Wheff Jite, protested the unfair results of the 2016 Lansing Trustee election. Carrying signs emblazoned with “Not My Trustee,” students marched around the Lansing City Hall, chanting “Wheff is the best!” and “Hey, hey, ho, ho, these trustees have got to go!”

Jite said about the march, “Our great nation picks its president based off the Electoral College vote, not the popular vote. Lansing should

follow suit.”

Jite also added, “I promise to resist every act of this administration. That dictator in city hall is not my trustee!”

Although Jite spoke passionately about the march, several students did not share his enthusiasm. Junior Dee Seived said, “Jite said we were going to Washington, D.C. for the Right to Life March. This isn’t what I expected.”

Other students echoed Seived, reporting that they had even driven in a coach bus for fourteen hours. Senior Vick Timm said, “The shades were drawn the entire

time, and then Mr. Jite announced that we were going to take a short pit stop before bringing it around full circle.”

Jite defended his choice to march in Lansing over Washington, D.C.

“I want to expose my students to the real injustices of local politics,” Jite said. “Our experience marching in Lansing was more authentic and personal than just talking

about it in class.”

Jite also alleged that ballot tampering had taken place. “There’s significant evidence that Chicago Chris-

tian hacked the election. Lansing should proceed slowly before letting any purple and gold puppet take charge of the government.”



In a classic bait and switch, Wheff Jite leads Illiana students, who thought they were going to D.C. for the March for Life, on a march on the Lansing Village Hall.

Photo by Cooliana Jot



Photo by Vanna Handahood
Daughters cheers with spirit in the vacant Loud Crowd for the varsity basketball team as they lose 70-3.

Principal kicks out every fan except Daughters at rivalry Loud Crowd game

F-Elyse Navidad
Pro-Cupcake Baker

On February 3, Silliana’s homecoming game turned into a disaster when the whole population of students in the Loud Crowd were furiously dragged out. Silliana faced their rival Chicago Christian and things got heated between their two fan sections. Both schools became enraged and started yelling rude remarks at each other. Everything got chaotic when the two schools started running at each other in the middle of the basketball game. One student in particular tried to stay away from all the chaos of the night. Sandy Daughters, a Silliana senior, said, “I didn’t want to get involved with the other school because I heard that Mr. Spoonstra puts students in headlocks

if they misbehave. I didn’t want that.” Mr. Spoonstra, Silliana’s principal, did get involved at the basketball game. He tried to break apart fights. When Spoonstra couldn’t handle the students on his own, he recruited Mr. Twerkstra and Mr. Lavids to help him. Soon other adults from the crowd started breaking students apart and pushing them all outside. Daughters’s fears came true when he saw Spoonstra put students in headlocks in order to subdue them as he dragged them out of the gym. Spoonstra said, “There was only one way that the students were going to get out of the gym and although it seemed like a severe tactic the students were too out of control to make any other decision.” Once the chaos retreated the game continued and only one student was left to cheer on Silli-

ana. It was Daughters. “I didn’t really want to go home after this traumatic event and I still wanted to be there to cheer on our team since no one else was left, so I stayed. It was a little awkward at first but I started to come up with my own cheers and I really believe my team spirit really brought the team to victory.” Because of all the chaos the crowning of Mr. and Ms. Silliana was postponed to the end of the game. Since everyone had been thrown out of the game, the administration made a controversial decision. Spoonstra, seeming to willfully ignore Daughters as he waved his arms in the front row, said, “Since no one of any merit is left, Silliana will forgo declaring a Mr. and Ms. Silliana.”

Orkin Pest Control buys Lanisng Silliana campus for practice

Kweem Cheese
Creative Coffee Connoisseur
Dukeatud Chillegonds
Duke’s #1 Fan

After months of debate over who will claim the Silliana school building, the winning bid went to Orkin Pest Control due to the recent ant infestation. Orkin will be using the old building to test their extermination techniques on the large colonies of ants. Vice Principal AJ Twerkstra

said about the deal, “I think that \$12,875 was well spent. We had to take out a loan to pay Orkin so that Orkin could afford to pay what we wanted for the building. “Some people might think that’s self-defeating, but, hey, it takes money to make money,” he said. “Besides, we could always have an “Antsy for a New School” fundraiser with praise crowd to follow.” Senior student Syle Kchaaf [Ka-Kahf] added, “My locker is



Photo by Deff JeVries
An Orkin pest exterminator scales the doorway by the chapel, hoping to escape the havok of the militant ants below.

filled with ants and I am really happy that we paid Orkin to take this old building. I will definitely be at this fundraiser and I will be singing extra loud at Praise Crowd because the Lord has pro-

Intruder breaks into cafeteria, starving Lunch B unprepared for attack

Vanna HandaHood
Crossword Solver

On Thursday May 26, an intruder broke into Silliana during Lunch B. The weak and famined children were defenseless. The administration failed to prepare lunch B students for an event like this. “When we practiced the lockdown drill, during lunch, a couple weeks ago, the drill went off without a hitch. I don’t know how this happened,” said Vice Principal, A.J. Twerkstra after the events of Thursday. Lunch A started smoothly, the students were plump and had plenty to eat. They were on the balls of their feet ready for any intruder if one were to arrive. After the first five minutes of Lunch A, a suspicious character began walking around the gym doors just outside of the cafeteria. One of the students recognized that everyone could be in danger and announced the commencement of the lockdown. Because of their readiness, the intruder thought that the students had all gone home for the day and decided to walk away. Proud of their accomplishment, the Lunch A students feasted on the only food left in the cafeteria, leav-

ing nothing for Lunch B. As Lunch A ended, things got ugly. The intruder returned, and for the first time, the administration realized its April 26 lockdown drill had only covered students in Lunch A. Lunch B was left as sitting ducks. “Lunch B always gets overlooked,” complained senior Nina Govotny. “First they always run out of food on us. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve gone to the washroom before lunch only to find the hot lunch is gone. But this, this is taking neglect too far.” According to eyewitnesses, Lunch B again ran out of food, so students began to get rowdy. With all of the commotion, the intruder from the first lunch heard them from down the block, quickly ran back to the school, and broke inside. He took advantage of the vulnerability of Lunch B students and the ending was not so pretty. “One student who brought a lunch from home threw their lunch at the intruder trying to get him to leave. Another who was weak and starving was crawling toward the door screaming ‘I need food!’ Senior Seborah Dmith

New Fidget spinners bigger, better than ever

Sandy Daughters
Rabbit Breeder

On May 4 the Fijin 17 came out and seems to be the best fidget spinner yet according to students. Fidget spinners, the new toy sweeping the nation, are made for the easily distracted. They come in all kinds of colors and shapes. A spinner has three blades fixed to a rotating middle. The Fijin 17, has 3 blades that measure 3 feet in length. It weighs about 20 pounds and you are required to sign a safety wavier before buying one. You can buy it at any nearby store for a cheap price of \$74.

“It’s totally safe” one employee working for the Fidget Company said. “The longer the blades, the less distracted the kids will get.” “I love my Fijin! I can’t really carry it around much because it’s so big, but the bigger the better. I love it. I can say my grades have skyrocketed because of it,” says Senior Cooliana Jot. Junior Jeven Ones said, “I started spinning it really fast the other day and suddenly I was 10 feet off the ground. I was like an Apache helicopter. It was awesome!”

Some memorable earlier editions include the Fijin 8, which shocked you every 5 minutes, the Fijin 11, which had recordings of Morgan Freeman reciting “Hamlet” and the Fijin 15, which when it would stop spinning, would explode.

JP Peerbolte
Remedial Videographer

Senior Back Jarth has played an integral role on Silliana’s varsity Math Team for the past 4 years. He has won many honors as a Viking, including all-conference, all-regional, and all-state honors. “I always loved doing math problems as a kid,” said Jarth, “I didn’t need friends, I had math.” “He’s so good at math, I think he came out of the womb doing math problems,” said teammate Glake

Bossage. He said he was using his calculator so quickly at state that it caught on fire, an incident that caused a moment of panic. “I thought I forgot my backup calculator in my backpack, but it was just hiding behind my three protractors,” said Jarth. “I don’t know what the team would do without Jarth,” said head Coach Lob Ragerway, “He’s a natural mathlete and I have to put him in every event so that we have a chance to

win.” Jarth’s favorite math events include the 4 by 100 in which mathletes solve 100 problems then hand off the calculator to the next teammate. He also enjoys the individual algebra term reciting competition. “My favorite part about math competitions is that they are never cancelled due to weather, unlike the Illiana girls soccer team,” said Jarth. Contact theillianaecho@gmail.com if you would like to purchase math themed T-shirts to raise money for Back Jarth’s new calculator.

Mathlete of the Month

