



FLASH

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From The Editors...

Hello all. Here it is, the last edition of the year. I'll apologize right away, because it is rather half-heartedly tossed together. It's been a busy couple of weeks. Honestly, the main purpose of this edition is to get in our last few senior spotlights, so be sure to check those out. We also incorporated a few articles from the Journalism class, those of Brent Rutz and David Hein. Quite a bit has occurred this year, from retirements to athletic accomplishments, to the possible creation of a new student council. If you're interested in those topics, check out the Lance, or better yet, ask the students themselves. I'll go ahead and speak for everyone when I say that, as much as we students might whine, we are incredibly blessed for the social and academic environment we have all found a place in. On that sappy note, I'll once more thank my workaholic partner Jaqi Gerbitz, and all of our readers and contributors. Have a great summer everyone!

Joci Gamble

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Beachin'

Juniors Fight for Relaxation

David Hein

Summer: A time to sit in the sun and enjoy an ice cold glass of lemonade on the beach. The only problem is that the beach by Lowes Creek, on the Immanuel Lutheran campus, was eroding away. Four students decided to change that on Sunday, April 3, as they worked together to make a bigger and better beach.

"I wanted a nice place to hang out." This was the thought of junior, Jonathan Gamble, as he rounded up three fellow classmates, James Schaser, Ben Naumann, and David Hein, to make a new beach by Lowes Creek. They grabbed their rakes and shovels and went to work. They cleared away the dead grass and leveled out the ground, and in three hours, they had themselves a beach. "It wasn't hard," said co-founder James Schaser. "It got you sweaty; it got you busy; it got you calluses on your hands, though."

The old beach where students usually went to hang out has been eroding away for a couple of years now, and was hard to access. The new beach is easy to find, and easy to get to. "It will be a great place for students to hang out and take a swim," said Gamble.

Not everyone shares these thoughts though. Professor Ross Roehl, who lent the rakes, doesn't think it will last. "Consider the environmental impact," Roehl said. "Consider the springtime flooding."

Despite the lack of encouragement from Roehl, Gamble said that they are "scouting new locations" for future beaches. They also plan to upgrade the new beach by placing sand near the shore, dragging sticks and stones out of the water, and possibly expanding it. "I can't wait to hang out there," said Gamble. "There's nothing better than lying on a beach on a nice, sunny day."



The Final Countdown

Seniors Anticipate Impending Graduation

Joci Gamble

Year after year, thirty-some Immanuel Lutheran high school students walk across the well-worn path of the gym's stage and into a future beyond that of ILHS. The question is, are they ready to?

America's culture today deems high school graduation as a stepping stone, a moment of impact in a young person's life. It's indisputable that every senior looks forward to the occasion, but with dread or excitement? It seems that many of them share senior Matthew White's opinion, "I'm kind of tired of high school and want to do something new."

Parents, teachers, and students alike recognize the existence of "senioritis," otherwise known as the lack of motivation in the face of conclusion to a high school career. While it generally has a negative connotation, some may see it as a blessing and a curse. "I think it's mostly a curse because you still have to keep your grades up, and you're not actually done yet. But it kicks you into gear so that you graduate." -Shannon McDonald

Though the group seems to be aching for the day to come, the students know that their time at Immanuel was an absolute blessing. Whether or not seniors are "ready" for graduation, they know that this last month or so will be cherished for years. The class has banquet, a senior trip, field day, a last choir concert, and many other things to look forward to in May. Ready or not, the class of 2016 will be out of town in the blink of an eye. Regardless of whether they realize it or not, the seniors will carry their Immanuel experiences and memories with them through the years. "I hope that ILHS will be a support system for these seniors in college and their careers. For me Christ-centered experiences such as Tour Choir, religion classes, and conversations with friends and pros helped build my confidence to encounter new experiences in my life. When challenged with things I couldn't handle on my own, my fellow Christians have supported me through the struggles and brought me back to God's word." - Principal and Senior Class Advisor Joel Gullerud.

Nestled in the Quiet Beauty

A Review of the 2016 Banquet Speeches

Caitlyn Sandeen

Banquet: the event everyone, mostly the girls, look forward to all year long. It is also the last big event before graduation. It signifies the wrapping up of the school year, and the farewell to the seniors of that year.

This year the banquet theme was “Nestled in the Quiet Beauty,” courtesy of our Alma Mater. The decorations were simple and the venue was unique and unlike anything we have used before. The class of 2016 selected Professor Mark Kranz and Seniors Laura Naumann and Sam Lisak as their speakers.

Professor Kranz started out by telling the students about flamingos and how their color is determined by what they eat. He said that it is different for people, saying that they don’t always show what they feel on the inside. Soon the seniors will be leaving the bubble of Immanuel Lutheran High School. We should take a page out of the flamingos book and not be afraid to show our Christianity.

Kranz was just warming up and continued with the second half of his speech in which he cleverly used the names of the seniors in a story. For example Jesse and Marcus needed to Phil (Phillip Schaller) up their car, and they White their feet on the Matt, referring to senior Matthew White. Overall, it was a well-received speech and even earned a standing ovation by some.

Next up was Naumann. She started off her speech with probabilities. She said that the probability of the 32 students that were graduating to be randomly selected was basically impossible. She then referred to our class passage Jeremiah 29:11, saying that we are blessed that it was not up to chance, and that God knows His plans for everyone. She then did a recap of the highlights of each year of high school. She spoke of the top songs, movies, and class events that happened. “Her speech was sincere and heartwarming,” senior Phillip Schaller said of Laura Naumann’s speech.

Last, but not least, Samuel Lisak stepped up to the microphone. He started off by quoting some of Martin Luther King, Jr’s “I have been to the Mountaintop” speech. Then he went on, giving advice to the returning students and telling stories of high school memories with his classmates.

When asked about the planning process and whether they enjoyed being picked for speeches this is what Sam Lisak and Laura Naumann had to say, “I decided to talk about what I thought people would be interested in and also I choose something that I thought was important for people to hear or remember. I enjoyed it for the most part; it’s a fun experience.” (Sam Lisak) “I was on a road trip when I found out I was nominated to give the speech. I had a lot of time to brainstorm. At the time, we were covering the topic of probability in Precalc, and I thought that would be a good basis for the speech. I would guess that I spent around two hours on it total. Yes, I enjoyed doing it, because I had the attention of my peers, and I had the freedom to discuss any topic I wanted; even something as important as the rest of our lives.” (Laura Naumann)

Margaret Caird

Sam Lisak

Where, When? Fond du Lac, WI, on December 23, 1997

Plans for after high school? Marian University in Fondy for psychology. I want to be a social worker. **Favorite high school memory?** I don't remember any. Daily naps with Shelby in my sophomore year after school.

If you could have dinner with any 3 people, who would you choose? Selena Gomez (she's my spirit animal), Zach Efron (obviously), and Donald Trump so I can yell at him.

Are you a rollerblading pro? I've never fallen or gotten a scratch, but one time Lainy and I crossed Stein and she face-planted after hitting the curb.

What's life like back in Pittsville? It's pretty lit.

What's one talent you wish you had? I wish I could dance really well. *Leah interrupts, "You can dance a little bit".*

How's your relationship with your dog? The best way to explain this is: she's half human, half dog, and I'm half dog, half human. So together we're 100% human and dog.



Favorites

Class: English 11

Prof: Pfeiffer

Team: Milwaukee Bucks (Own the Future)

Animal: Dog (if you couldn't tell)

Color: gold

Candy: jolly rancher

Food: Mexican

Place: North Carolina

Pastime: Adventuring with my dog in Pittsville in the 100 acre woods

Senior: Me and Sam Lisak

BROOKE ELIZABETH WENDLAND

Jonathan Gamble

Q: Where and When?

A: July 9, 1998, in Shakopee, Minnesota

Q: Favorite sport?

A: Volleyball

Q: Favorite thing about volleyball?

A: I don't know, I love a lot of things... The adrenaline rush and the chemistry with the team

Q: I heard that "a plywood" fell on you. Comments?

A: Jesse and I were building our chicken coop and I dropped the plywood on my shin [continues story]... I'm not good with plywood.

Q: Favorite high school memory?

A: When we won [volleyball] regionals. That was, like, the best day ever.

Q: What will you miss the most?

A: Definitely my Christian friends.

Q: What are your plans next year?

A: I'm going to RCTC (Rochester Community and Tech College) in Rochester, Minnesota. They are the Yellow Jackets. I'll be playing volleyball and going for nursing there.

Q: Advice for current and future high schoolers?

A: Make as many friends as you can and have as much fun as you can before it's over. Also, buy baby chicks.



FAVORITES

Prof: Gullerud, for sure

Class: Art

Musical Artist: Lana Del Rey

Cafeteria Meal: Beef Stroganoff

Animal: Andy Roehl

IN 10 YEARS...

Chara: In a trailer home, married, with 4 kids, and a husband fighting in the Army.

Rose: Volunteering at an animal shelter, but also with like 10 babies at home.



Shannon McDonald

Faith Lillo

Even if you don't know Shannon McDonald personally, she's probably caught your attention at one point or another. Whether it was the flower crowns, the tea parties, her bouncy personality, the infamous Monster Mash of 2015, or the five trips to Alma, something reeled me in, and I've been stuck

with her ever since. An exclusive interview helped me fill in the details for the general public—although I'm not even sure I've got her figured out. I met her when her hair was bubblegum pink, and now three years later I'll be seeing it in a bun as she heads off to boot camp. She certainly is all over the spectrum, but I'll try my best to fit this girl on one page.

Favorites

Hair color: BG pink

Book: Graceling

Musical: Rent

Anime: Haikyū

Biking spot: Levis Mound

Flower: Alstroemeria

In 10 Years...

Rose: Reading a fanfiction while floating in a canoe down Lowe's Creek. Just. At peace.

Mattie: She'll be married to some Saudi Arabian dude that she met in the national guard, pregnant, but still going to the gym every day.

James: Probably the head of some fashion design place.

Flash: So, let's get down to it. How are you today?

Shannon, after a long sigh: Senioritis is real.

F: Would you rather be at a Ren Faire than talking to me right now?

S: ... is talking to you at a Ren Faire an option?

F: Best memory from high school. Go.

S: Definitely tea parties at my house.

F: Will blue powerade always be the drink of choice?

S: I know it's bad for me, buuuut. No.

F: Longest you've gone without having to sew something for someone?

S: Just the first fourteen years of my life. It all went downhill from there. I probably have something to do right now, actually ...

F: Longest you've gone without eating pasta?

S: A week.

F: Okay, time to get serious. Alma (gross but correct pronunciation) or Älma (tell-tale sign of a foreigner)? [I gave her this question an hour in advance, but it still takes her awhile to cough up the truth.]

S: Alma. Gotta stick with the natives.

F: Advice to bestow on the people you're leaving behind?

S: Put in the work at the beginning of chemistry class or you'll be lost forever.

F: Ready to graduate?

S: Yes. No doubt, yes.

F: Ready for boot camp?

S: No, but I've gotta be.

Chara Christine Meyer

JS: Where and When

CM: La Crosse, WI, Feb 6, 1998

JS: How many pets have you owned?

CM: Over 40

JS: How many were dogs?

CM: 30; the rest were 2 birds, 2 horses, and 2 cows

JS: Favorite childhood memory?

CM: My Grandpa would come over to the farm and eat lunch with me, and my Grandma would pack me extra food because she knew I would share with Grandpa.

JS: How was living in the guys' dorm?

CM: Sometimes it was weird because I saw a lot of guys in boxers or towels; plus they all called my mom, "Mom," but I got used to it after a while.

JS: How is being the baby of the family?

CM: With the age difference it kinda sucked because when I was younger my siblings were mean, but we're all good now, and I am spoiled.

JS: Plans for after high school?

CM: CVTC for business management.

JS: Advice for Younglings?

CM: Get involved with as much as you can and let God take care of everything.

In 10 Years...

Brooke: Living in a cute little house with her husband and 6 kids. Living the Mama Chara dream! Kayla: Happily married with lots of children who grow up to be extremely tall. These children play basketball their whole lives to make up for their mother's decision to quit basketball back in her glory days. She will also have 29 huskies.



Favorites

Prof: I don't even know.

Fast food restaurant: Chipotle or Subway

Place you've lived: Caledonia, MN

Drink: Milk

Animated Film: Mulan

Breed of dog: Husky, for sure

Class: Art

Speed Round

Purple or Blue: Purple

Spruce or Oak: Oak

Flats or Heels: Heels

Volleyball or Softball: Volleyball

Horses or Cows: Cows

Baby Cow or Baby Dog (I later remembered these are called puppies): Baby dog

Spike or Ace: Spike