

THE FLASH



THE FLASH

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From your Editors...

Attention! We are here to inform you of a very real and very dangerous disease sweeping through campus- the 3rd Quarter Blues. Side effects include, but are not limited to: sleepiness, perpetual coldness, boredom, sluggishness, irritability, sadness, rudeness, tears, a desire to throw things at walls really really hard, and in extreme cases, the flu.

Do you have the 3rd Quarter Blues? We sure do. Being cooped up on campus for the long and chilly months of Wisconsin winter is a major bummer. But never fear! The end is coming! Soon the sound of ruling snow melt and the smells of spring will be in the air once more. Baseballs and softballs will soon fly through the air (sometimes diagonally) to gleeful friends just itching to get out and toss the ball around. Walks to Shopko won't be so chilly, so campus won't be so hard to get away from. Until this glorious time, there are some things you can do to relieve these blues. Mini Classes are a great way to relieve some the side effects of 3rd Quarter. Classes didn't start until 8 AM so that's 20 extra minutes of sleep you just banked up. Win! If you were fortunate to get into some food classes, pie or pizza is sure to brighten your outlook on life. Spring Break is just around the corner as well. Maybe Wisconsin won't exactly be springy yet, but at least you can sleep in a little bit. Those in Tour Choir have a nice warm trip to South Carolina in their future. Hello 70°! If you live somewhere warm, and get to go home for spring break, bully for you! And of course there is the CLC Grade School Basketball Tournament to look forward to. The people, the pool time, the basketball! What's not to love?!

As you can see, there are a lot of things to look forward to. So, if the blues have you down, take a deep breath, and realize that it will get better. Until then, hit up a kindly upperclassman with a car. If you ask really nicely, most will hook you up with a ride off campus. Stay strong, friends! Together we can beat the infamous 3rd Quarter Blues!

Becca Naumann
& Nate Buck

BEFORE BREAKFAST

Faith Lillo

You know who the morning cleaners are. You can spot them in class, heads jerking up periodically, eyelids fluttering. But do you know what happens before you wake up? Do you ever think that maybe their eyes aren't closing because they're tired, but because they've seen too much?

Alex Fleischer: The Man With the Keys. He's seen it all, from huge spray-bottle fights that left the lounge coated in cleaner, to things that I can't even reveal in this article. Prof. Sippert has been reported in the gym

at 5:30, practicing soccer drills, telling cleaners that they can go about their business as long as they stay out of his way. Perhaps the strangest story of all was when a truck driver was found taking a pit stop in the bathrooms. But the Commons isn't the only place that sees action before dawn; I've heard my fair share of tales from AC workers too. Dozens of photos of James Schaser have been found (ask

Laura about that). Plus, there's always Mr. Porath, who may seem like a jolly fellow in broad daylight, but when you're half-asleep with earbuds in, you'll never see him coming.

My advice to the cleaners? Take off your fancy wireless headphones and be on your guard against truckers and soccer balls. As for everyone else—just don't complain about being tired to us, or you'll be getting some Windo-Clean to the face.

Wise FOOL's Take

On sports

Gunny Sippert & Sam Buck

Boy's Basketball Update

Girl's Basketball Update

The guys have had an exceptionally tough schedule this year, and are really starting to hit their stride. They put up two amazing 4th quarters against Alma/Pepin(32-20 scoring) and Eleva-Strum(27-10), falling just short in both games. The Varsity boys team currently has a 4-12(3-9 Dairyland) record and sits in 4th place in the Dairyland-Small. They close out the home portion of the season with Senior Night on the February 17 versus Blair-Taylor. To finish off the year, they travel to Alma, looking for revenge against the Alma/Pepin Eagles. Three days after, the Lancers have their last game at Spring Valley against the Cardinals.

Caleb Noeldner(9.8 ppg), Bryan Sydow(7.9), and Carl Ryan(6.5) currently lead Immanuel in scoring this year. Carl(5.7 rpg) and Jonah Albrecht(4.4) are the team's top rebounders, while Noeldner(2.2 apg) and Sydow(1.4) are taking charge in the assists department.

The team is currently playing the best they have all season, and will be looking to use this momentum to take them far into the WIAA State Tournament.

The Lady Lancers basketball team has had an incredibly successful season thus far. They have an 11-2 record in the Dairyland Conference and a 3-1 non-conference record, adding up to a 14-3 record overall. Immanuel currently is in 2nd place in the Dairyland-Small conference, just behind Independence. The girls' only two losses have come to the Indees, including a heartbreaker in Independence. Their remaining games include Senior Night against Alma/Pepin on February 16, and a trip to Spring Valley on the 17th.

Emily Hein and Johanna Meyer are leading the Dairyland-Small in points-per-game scoring, with 18.8 and 15.4 respectively. Chara Meyer is 3rd in rebounding in the Small, averaging 8.5 per game. Hein and Meyer also are conference-leaders in assists. Emily is tied with Lacey Filla(Independence) with an average of 3.6 assists/game. Jo is right behind them with an average of 3.2.

Coach Doctor James Sydow has reached the win-mark of 107. This is his final year of coaching the girls and he's looking to reach a fourth straight regional title game, a second regional title in the program's history, and possibly even further.

Eulogy Curls For

Faith Lillo

You may think you've seen your old pal Kenny Winters walking around campus lately, but make sure you look twice before you tap him on the shoulder and ask him to play hacky-sack. Chances are it's Justin, his newly-shaved brother. Justin's beloved curls are nowhere to be found, and everyone seems to be mourning the loss. You may be crying yourself to sleep at night, wondering how he could do such a thing, why he would ever give up his iconic mane. I investigated the topic to give you some peace. I spoke to Justin himself about the scalp that has caused so much grief, and he says he had no

choice to shave it after losing a bet that C-team would win against Altoona. He felt like when he lost the hair, he lost a part of himself, and his head is considerably colder now, so he plans to let it grow back out. If you look at Justin and you feel yourself overwhelmed by anguish, try to put that pain behind you. Remind yourself that this isn't goodbye. This is just a, "See you later. I'll be back in a few months." The freshman we once knew will return to us. For now, we'll just have to watch and wait.

Mini Classes

Jadyn Mielke

February 18-20 was mini classes this year. I am here to report on all the fun things we got to do during probably one of my favorite parts of third quarter. There were many classes to choose from, but if you didn't get into the one you wanted, don't worry. You'll probably have another chance next year, unless you're a senior. Not surprisingly, the food classes filled up pretty quickyt. Pie and pizza making were a huge hit. Besides those, there were also many opportunities to learn new games. Scrabble, 500, chess, and Ticket to Ride were a few interesting ones you could have learned how to play. Thursday we had a religious session in the morning where apologetics, evangelism, attending a secular college as a Christian, how to deal with addictions, and Christian music were all options to choose from. In the

afternoon we had a sort of job fair which was a little different this year. I hope everyone learned something valuable during that session. Aside from those were a number a amazing classes. Archery, badminton, curling, and a golf simulator were some for those who maybe wanted to test out their athleticism. There were a number of art classes as well for those who like that sort of thing. An acting session and a number of writing classes were also options. If you needed to relax a bit, there were facials and spa from the knees down that you could have chosen. Those were just a few of the many classes we had the opportunity to pick from. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making it possible, and a big thanks to those who traveled to teach these classes. As always, it was a lot of fun and a great experience!

Winter Formal

Rachel G.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, the formal dinner has came and went
A good time by all was spent.
A Renaissance theme welcomed us to the hall
We all really had a ball.
Prof Rodebaugh cooked and the Profs did a skit
Activities Committee told us where to sit
The girls looked so fine, the pies were divine,
The boys cleaned up well, they sure looked swell.
A movie played in the gym
Girls were walked to the dorm by him.
I've run out of rhymes
Formal was a good time.

6

Craziest JOBS

Joci G.

Do you clean bathrooms at 5:30 am every day of the week? Do you work in a warehouse with a set temperature of 39.4 degrees F? Count your blessings. It could be much, much worse.

1. Fuller - The unfortunate souls of the Middle Ages who were left with this job had it bad. Fullers' jobs were to make good cloth out of wool. This was done by placing strips of wool into a large tub, pouring in gallons of stale urine, and stomping on it with their feet.

2. Groom of the Stool - In the monarchy of England, one of the most respectable positions in the king's court was to be the king's... bathroom attendant. This man's job was to wipe the king's behind and collect his stool for examination to monitor his health. Yep.

3. Tanner - You might think tannery wasn't quite so awful, because you're more familiar with it. You're wrong. Hides were soaked in huge pits of lime for softening. Then the hair and fat were scraped off by hand. Lastly, these hides were soaked in tubs of water and dog feces for "cleansing."

4. Mortician - Well, this is my personal opinion. But the steps these morticians take to make dead guys look..not dead, are crazy. The embalming process still used today involves gluing the eyelids shut, tying the jaw shut, massaging corpses' muscles, draining the body of fluid, and more. Plus, people tend to die at inconvenient times, so you might get called into work at 2 am.

5. Slaughterhouse worker - If you are willing to risk possible amputations, having to chase down escaping animals, and coming home smelling like blood and guts, then go for it. Apparently companies have trouble keeping workers from quitting. Huh.

6. Leech Collector - Back to the Middle Ages. I'm sure you all know how way back in less medically advanced times, doctors would "bleed" patients in attempt to heal them of whatever illness. Certain people had to collect the leeches, of course, and simply waded into certain ponds until they had many attached to their legs, then dropped them into buckets and sold them.

FADS

Katherine
Reim

Whether it's food, clothing, or hobbies, fads are all over the place. 2014 was a year of a lot of really crazy fads and ideas. Here's a recap along with my opinions on them.

Under Armour- It's comfy and cool but it costs WAY too much. Just go to Old Navy or Target.



"Bae" - If you're going to say anything, say 'babe.' Actually don't, because that's gross too.

'Frozen' - Yes!!

Leggings- They're really cute when they're worn as leggings, not as pants.

They're not pants!

Beats headphones- Why spend \$200 dollars on a pair of colorful headphones when you could spend ten times less on an ordinary pair?

'Harem' pants- If you like 'em and can pull them off, go for it. But if you can't, please don't try.



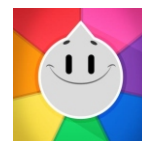
Grumpy Cat- What's the deal, though?

Selfies- Are they just a fad? Will they stay a fad?

Cruffins- The new cronuts.

Croissant+muffin= yum

Trivia Crack- The best thing ever!!
Whoever came up with this is a genius!



{ JOELLE Autumn Beekman }

By Rachel Gerbitz



Joelle Autumn Beekman was born on November 11, 1996, in Eau Claire, WI. She has four older sisters, one older brother, four brother-in-laws, six nieces and one nephew. Joey took dance class for 12 years. She works at Shopko. She is awesome at hair and make-up. Joey immensely enjoys watching "Once Upon a Time." She is not the biggest fan of her brother's dog, Bonnie, but is generally a dog person. In her free time, Joey goes to the gym and practices dance. Who would play Joey in the movie of her life? Anna Sophia Rob. More importantly, who would play your best friends, Rachel and Jady, in the movie of her life? Rachel McAdams and Zooey Deschanel.

What will Joey be wearing at our ten year class reunion?

Jady: Joey will be completely decked out in leather with metal studs.

Kirsten: Her Elsa dress from banquet junior year, but with higher heels. She will also be dancing when she saunters in.

Sarah: Nothing will change. She will be wearing an owl sweater.

Seth: Leather. She'll ride in on a motorcycle.

Plans for next year: Joey will be attending UW Eau Claire to major in Kinesiology with a minor in dance.

Fun Fact: Joey has to touch the bottom of every concave object she comes in contact with before putting it down.

Words of Wisdom:

"ALWAYS FIND A
REASON TO SMILE"

[FAVORITES]

Color: Turquoise

Food: Spaghetti

Prof: Dave

Movie: Harry Potter and the Half Blood
Prince

Clothing Accessory: Jackets

TRYSTEN KYLE HALLAHAN

Jadyn M.

Trysten Kyle Hallahan and I go way back. Sure we might not have known each other until four years ago, but we were both born August 2, 1997, so an intangible bond between us was thus formed. Because of this “rainbow connection,” as some might call it, it was only natural that I was the one to be writing his senior spotlight. Sadly, other than the rainbow connection, Trysten and I do not actually hang out often with each other. Therefore, I asked the man

who would know Trysten probably better than any other person in the school to help me, Seth. Unfortunately, Seth was in study hall at the time and Prof. Sullivan did not think it would be beneficial for him to help me. So, I asked Prof. Sullivan if he would be willing to accompany me to interview Trysten. He kindly accepted, and we walked into the art room to find Trysten, wearing a shirt with a deer on it, painting a deer. “So, Trysten, do you like to hunt?” Prof. Sullivan asked nodding to Trysten’s attire and deer painting.

“Uh, no, actually I don’t hunt deer,” Trysten replied.

“Why are you wearing a deer shirt and painting a picture of a deer then?” Sullivan asked, making a good point.

Trysten then stared at his painting and replied somewhat adamantly, “Because I’m a poser!”

Sullivan then continued to pepper him with questions, “Why are you poser?”

“I’m insecure,” Trysten sighed.

“Why are you insecure?”

“Because my goatee isn’t very nice.”

“Why are you growing facial hair?”

“Because I’m a poser! And to save some food for later.”

“Where will you be next year?”

“In the Marines doing combat support, metalworking, or engineering.”

“What’s your commitment?”

“Four years active, then four years reserved.”

“Do you think there’s going to be a war after you’re done training?”

“Possibly.”

At this point in the conversation Prof. Sullivan switched topics to perhaps what the female readers are most interested in learning about. Trysten’s love life.

“Has a girl ever fallen for you?” Sullivan inquired.

“Well, I tripped Katie a few days ago,” the ever funny Trysten replied.

This led to Sullivan and Trysten talking about his dating life which he would not allow me to share. If you’re interested, I’d ask him yourself.

A few more personal questions later, and after I think Trysten was a little more than uncomfortable, our time ran out. I hope this interview gave you a better understanding to our very own Trysten Hallahan. To recap, Trysten is a poser. He will be training in the Marines next year and is looking for a funny gal who wants to have a good time. Next time you see him be sure to compliment him so he won’t feel so insecure.





NICHOLE JENNIFER Brandle

Nichole Jennifer Brandle was born in Brookfield, WI on August 14, 1997. She is loved by all who meet with her, especially her dog Jovi... and her beautiful twin sister, Kirsten (; I had the special privilege of writing her senior spotlight! Yay!

-What is your favorite high school memory?

Probably the photo scavenger hunt freshman year with Katie, Sarah, and you.

-Aww! I love that I'm a part of your favorite memory, Coley!! So out of all the weird things that people do, what would you say your biggest pet peeve is?

Ugh, definitely when people leave hair in the shower... It's so gross!!

-Ha, that IS gross! If you could have ANY superpower in the world, what would you choose?

Um, probably flying. That would be pretty cool.

-Good choice! That's probably what I would choose too!! But we're twins, so I guess that makes sense...

If we were twin super heroes, I'm pretty sure we'd be the Wonder Twins... 'Nuff said. And Kaitlyn could be our space monkey!!

-Excellent idea!! I think she'd be up for it!! Ok, back to questions... Do you have any interesting stories about zoo animals?

No comment.

-Ok! Just wondering! Because I certainly do!! And if anyone is wondering, just come and ask me!

(:

No!!

-Ha ha! Who is your celebrity crush?

Probably Jeremy Jordan...

-Oooo! He's cute!! So do you have any advice for the younger classes?

Make sure to branch out and get involved. High school is supposed to be the best years of your life, so don't squander them.

{ THE
FAVES }

Prof- Sullivan or Reim

Ice Cream Flavor- Butter Pecan

Color- Green

Sports Team- The Wisconsin Badgers

Song- Dream Lover by Bobby Darin

Quote- "Aaaaaaa!" -Robert Plant from "The Immigrant Song"

MOVIES

By Ben Naumann



2015

Well, the new year is here, and a new year means new movies! There seems to be a lot of sequels or “old story, new spin” kind of movies this year, so I’ll just jump right in. First off, we have *The Spongebob Movie: **Sponge Out of Water***. I have seen this movie and it’s a little weird, but in a good way. The Krabby Patty Formula disappears during a raid that Plankton organizes on the Krust Krab. Spongebob and his friends have to work together and follow the clues to the culprit.

Another biggie this year is ***Avengers: Age of Ultron***. When Tony Stark tries to jumpstart a dormant peacekeeping program, he inadvertently reanimates the villainous Ultron. Tony and the rest of the avengers must join together once again to stop him.

I’m sure you’ve all heard a lot about ***Jurassic World***, featuring Chris Pratt playing Owen Grady. After the events of *Jurassic Park*, the program was revamped and *Jurassic World* was opened. However, after ten years, interest in the park begins to decline and scientists create a new species to interest visitors. When the dinosaur becomes too smart for its own good and starts hunting humans, the park goes on lockdown. Grady must stop this cunning beast before it’s too late.

Two incredibly similar films will be appearing this year as well, ***Insurgent***, the sequel to *Divergent*; and ***Mockingjay - Part 2***, the final movie of *The Hunger Games* Series. I honestly don’t think I need to say much about these movies, so I’ll leave you with two words: Expect Whining.

Something that we haven’t heard much about, there’s supposed to be a new ***Fantastic 4*** movie coming out in August. This probably is going to be an old story with a new twist. Also, ***Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens*** should be coming out in December. No plot line has been revealed for that yet.

Other semi-exciting movies are coming out this year. ***Minions***, a backstory of those little yellow guys before they met, will come out in July. ***Tomorrowland***, a story of a boy-genius and an optimistic girl who embark on an adventure to explore a land apart from time and space comes out in May. ***Ant Man***, Marvel’s latest superhero, comes out in July. A new movie, called ***Pan***, is an interesting film on the beginnings of Peter Pan and his relationship with Hook and the Lost Boys. Possibly the most interesting mystery of the year is the new ***Mission Impossible*** movie starring Tom Cruise. Although the plot has not been revealed, the movie is expected to come out at the end of July. I’m definitely expecting great things from this one. It looks like we have a lot to look forward to. So grab your movie tickets, buy your pound of popcorn and liter of soda, and hold it in until the end of the movie, because it’s going to be a good year!



The Pangolin

Jadyn M.

Ever heard of the mighty pangolin? If you have, congratulations, you're awesome. The pangolin looks like a scaly anteater and is cousin to the armadillo. They can curl into a ball like the armadillo, wrapping its tail around itself. It is the only known mammal with scales. These fascinating scales are made of keratin, the same substance which human fingernails are made from. Speaking of fingernails, they also have sharp claws which they use to dig for ants. These claws, however, are so sharp it is difficult for them to walk on them so they tuck them under and normally walk on their hind legs.



Their large tails help to balance them. They also have no teeth, so they slurp up small stones to break up food in their stomachs. What else would you find in a pangolin's stomach region, you

might ask? Well; their tongue is so long when it is inside its mouth, it rests all the way in its abdomen.

Pangolins are solitary creatures, and only interact with other pangolins to reproduce. Males can weigh up to 50% more than the females. Rather than males seeking

out females, the male pangolin will urinate in different locations and the females will find them. If more than one male is interested in a female, they will use their tails as clubs to fight each other. After a baby pangolin is born, the mother and the baby will burrow for a while until the young one is ready to face the world. The mother will then carry it around on her back unless she senses danger, at which point she will clutch the baby to her bosom and curl into a ball letting her scales protect her. These adorable creatures are endangered, and two species are critically endangered. They are hunted for their meat and are eaten in many parts of Africa, China, and Vietnam.

Look up pangolins if you want to know any more about this beautiful species.



Random Facts

By Emily Hein

- Bears can run at speeds up to 40 mph.
- Some fish, like the great white shark, can raise their body temperature.
- King Henry VII officially declared February 14th as St. Valentine's Day in the year 1537.
- In Ancient Rome, some slaves could be tortured for styling their master's hair poorly.
- The world's smallest mammal, the bumble bat, can be found in Thailand.
- There were 124 midgets hired to play the munchkins in The Wizard of Oz (1939).
- The average number of wedding proposals on Valentine's Day each year is 220,000.
- The warmest temperature ever recorded on Antarctica was 3 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 47% of all McDonald's profits come from Happy Meals.
- Atelophobia is the fear of imperfections or of not being good enough.
- In Victorian times, it was considered bad luck to sign a Valentine's Day card.
- The cherry trees on Cherry Tree Lane in The Mary Poppins film were real, but the blossoms were fake.

Common Misconceptions

By Lainy Durst



- Black holes are not really “holes: but hugely dense objects with massive gravitational pull
- The Great Wall of China is not really visible from space
- Dogs really sweat by salivating and regulate their temperature through panting. They actually sweat through footpads.
- It does not really take 7 years to digest chewing gum. It passes straight through your body
- You don’t actually have to wait 24 hours to file a missing persons report
- It is okay to wake sleep walkers. They will be confused and a little disoriented, but you will do no physical damage to them. They are actually more likely to injure themselves while sleepwalking. (I should know; I locked myself outside once.)
- Napoleon wasn’t actually short. He was 5’7”, which is actually quite tall for a French man at the time
- Viking’s horned helmets were actually created by a costume designer for a 19th-century Wagner opera

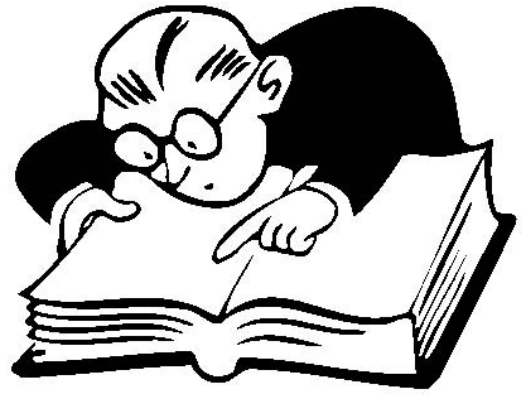
Joci's Lines

By Joci Gamble

Oh, 3rd quarter,
the unspeakable horror,
with the dark days shorter,
I’m a solemn reporter.

The air is freezing,
the groundhog’s teasing,
everyone’s sneezing,
and the congestion ain’t easing.

The grades are dropping,
no one’s out walking,
athletes are flopping,
I’m going to bed.



Beginning Word:

SPRING

WORD ASSOCIATION

By
Jadyn
Mielke

Baseball
Sand
Beach
Ball
Red
Rojo
Internet
World Wide Web
Mom
Family
Sister
Brother
Tornado
Chaos
Yikes
Mornings
Sunrise
Rooster
Egg
Basketball
Swish
Fish
Skeleton
Halloween
Candy
Canteen
Sugar
Tea
Cup
World

Bread

Austin
Jack M
Jack M
Joey
Deb
Levi
Luke
Carl R
Rachel G
Emma G
Jon G
Nick W
Carter
Zack T
Jenna
Lainy
Emma M
Adam F
Sam B
Beaker
Bryan S
Seth
Katie L
Gabby
Ben H
Phillip S
Gunny
Dwight
Riley
Ethan
Johanna

Nate's Take on

The US Dollar: Inevitable Collapse?

With Nathan Buck

This time no one asked me a question. They gave me a statement. This is what they said: "Within 20 or so years, the US dollar will be completely defunct and we will enter another Great Depression."

I have thoughts on this, but I also investigated further. (sources: CNN, Reuters, Money Morning, Rense) [Please, if at any point while reading this, you ask the question, "Why doesn't the US just print more money?" then either think hard about it, or ask me personally.]

The problem with all of this "theorizing about the future" and collapse of the US dollar is that things change and are also totally unpredictable. But conversely, a lot of human nature and original sin is extremely predictable. So could this happen? Are theorists and experts out there basing this on statistics, hypothesis, or history?

It's a combination. And though there are many frauds out there, there are also quite a few that know their stuff. For example, Jim Rickards was an Asymmetric Warfare Advisor for the CIA and the Pentagon. He claims he was part of a top secret division called "project prophecy," which tried to predict when human and economic disasters would arise. He states that all the signs point to the realization that the world will slide into a 25 year economic depression. (Money Morning) He's written books on this collapse of the US dollar, and how to prepare, and he's the only expert I've listened to on this topic. Many others have done the same. So some do know what they are talking about. Could the US dollar actually fail?

Yes. Quite possibly. In fact, I will even go as far as to say, unless the United States and other nations have drastic (and I mean drastic) changes, the US dollar will collapse, and maybe even soon. Now, why will it collapse?

We all know the US is in huge financial debt. Around three trillion dollars worth of it. Imagine a standard pallet stacked 4 ft. high with 100 dollar bills. That's \$100 million. Now there's ten of these pallets. That's \$1 billion. Now, think about a trillion dollars. That, in terms of pallets loaded with \$100's, is a whopping 10,000 pallets. And we owe 17 trillion dollars (Rense). Do the rest of the math, I'm done. Anyways, all this debt piling up not only is an amount of money almost incomprehensible to us, but could also potentially be a weapon or political shackles.

We are not the only ones in debt. Nor are we the country with the largest debt-to-GDP either. Japan has the highest debt-to-GDP ratio, closely followed by Greece, Italy, Portugal, Singapore, (US is sixth) Belgium, and Sudan (CNN).

Here's the recipe for disaster pie, namely the US dollar collapsing and becoming worthless: First add about 180 or so countries that are in debt to each other. Print off a ton more money and throw it into the mix as well. Add to that mix a dash of unemployment, a bit of hoarding-more-than-we-are-spending seasoning, and then add the facts that many countries such as China and Russia are converting their once vast reserves of US dollars into gold or Euros. Let set for a couple of years or so, sprinkle with a fair amount of human nature, political tension, animosity, conflict, and disasters, and voila! Disaster pie! (Let bake in oven until destroyed.)

Now take Greece for example. You remember the parable of the Ungrateful Servant, correct? You know- he had a huge debt owed to his master, and his master forgave him his debt. But then he turned to another servant who owed the Ungrateful Servant far less money and demanded he pay, and when he couldn't, he threw him in jail?

Nate

Continued

Well, if the US dollar does tank, this is what I believe may happen. Greece owes a ton of people a ton of money. Way more than they take in and make. And we owe China a ton of money. Say China says, "We need our dues. Pay up your debt to us right now." We, not wanting inflation to rise, will go to Greece and demand their debts to us. Greece, unable to pay, will go somewhere else, or completely fall into disarray and anarchy. This could, and most likely would, send a domino effect through nearby countries and the world. There will be so much US currency floating around worth next to nothing, that it will eventually become the very thing it is made of-- as worthless as the bark of a tree made into greenish paper.

Now, what would this mean for the rest of the world? Well, the US dollar has declined 40% against the Euro in the last two years (Reuters). China, Russia and other countries have converted their reserves into Euros, creating a global lack of faith in the dollar. If the dollar collapses, the world will drastically change. The US economy will utterly collapse, which goes without saying. It would be really, really, really, really bad. It would also throw the whole world into a great economic depression. Nations with large debts will not be able to overcome them, and slide into bankruptcy. The economies of the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and other dollar-rallying nations will completely crumble, and many would face total breakdown in society; poverty, rampant crime, no law and order, etc. Asian nations and Middle Eastern nations that have depended on us for trade will suffer for a long time, but may come out sooner.

The European Union, or EU, will be in the best position if this all were to pass, and would become not only the dominant world power. But also economically and possibly taking either financial or militaristic advantage of other nations or countries that have failed. We could possibly see a world united under one currency, the Euro, and/or a world that looks to one leader. This wouldn't last long if it happened.

Now, do I believe this? Kind of. I believe if it did happen, this global chaos would happen. I also think that the US is in a huge pit right now, and that something really big is needed to get us out, or we'll be trapped, waiting for our doom. Jim Rickards says, "That there is now nothing that America can do to prevent the collapse of its currency, and its economy." He knows more than I do on this, I'm certain, but I'd like to think not. I sincerely hope that most of this is just a big futuristic apocalypse prologue to a Hunger Games-esque book, but even if it isn't, I don't overly worry. One, it's because I live in Wisconsin. And Wisconsin is always the one safe haven in movies. Two, is because though I agree that the past makes the future predictable, no one can actually see the future. So many things could happen, and I don't want to base my future on something that "could happen". I mean, the idea that it may is in my mind, but still. Apparently, the general consensus on how to prepare for the collapse of the US dollar and world economic downfall is to buy up large quantities of gold and other precious metals, as these won't "expire" like printed money does. However, I wonder how many of us or our parents actually look at gold prices and say, "How about that gold bar? That's a good one. I'll exchange all my yearly pay for that." Probably not too many. God looks after us well enough, and will continue to always. Anyways, that's what I think.

**TRYSTEN
CONTINUED**

What's your favorite quality about Trysten?

SETH: He's round and squishy, like a plush bear

JOE: He is fun to have around if you feel like making a fool of yourself or aren't trying to pick up women.

Caleb H: You can always count on him to break your windshield.

BRIAN S: If you ever want to shrink wrap someone to a tree, Trysten is your man for the job.

Basketball Word Search

C	F	O	U	L	K	V	S	H	O	O	T	Z	X	G	S	U	F	ALLEYOOP
F	G	N	I	L	E	V	A	R	T	Z	C	Q	G	B	E	T	R	BACKBOARD
J	T	D	M	B	T	W	H	G	O	Q	L	O	V	H	G	J	Y	BASKET
D	A	N	F	K	A	E	R	B	T	S	A	F	W	S	R	D	T	BLOCK
E	S	A	J	Z	Y	F	Z	T	F	Y	Z	S	C	Q	A	N	A	BOXOUT
S	K	Y	D	U	M	J	F	F	C	Q	M	T	B	W	H	U	E	CENTER
R	A	Y	T	D	M	R	O	B	W	B	X	I	C	C	C	O	L	CHARGE
B	M	H	Q	C	R	P	O	O	Y	E	L	L	A	M	C	B	Y	COURT
G	G	X	L	D	I	A	S	M	Z	H	C	K	P	F	M	E	L	DRIBBLE
U	N	R	P	T	L	B	W	H	C	Y	O	K	A	Q	J	R	T	FASTBREAK
A	T	C	E	N	T	E	R	R	O	W	U	L	S	Y	B	A	D	FOUL
R	U	C	Z	A	E	V	N	N	O	T	R	S	S	A	R	T	X	FORWARD
D	O	V	A	L	G	X	E	T	Q	F	T	D	C	O	O	B	L	FREETHROW
P	X	B	F	K	T	L	B	L	E	K	P	K	J	V	P	S	Y	GUARD
O	O	G	N	V	B	P	L	U	K	K	B	U	I	Q	O	J	J	HOOP
T	B	Z	O	B	R	X	O	V	A	O	S	P	Y	P	O	T	I	JUMPBALL
E	V	A	I	E	O	K	C	E	A	T	H	A	H	A	H	O	I	JUMPSHOT
A	J	R	S	Z	X	E	K	R	G	A	J	U	B	K	L	D	Q	LAYUP
M	D	S	B	G	G	U	D	T	U	R	N	O	V	E	R	R	U	PASS
B	J	U	M	P	B	A	L	L	K	N	U	D	M	A	L	S	W	PIVOT
R	L	V	W	O	R	H	T	E	E	R	F	X	H	E	P	V	N	PRESS

ALLEYOOP
 BACKBOARD
 BASKET
 BLOCK
 BOXOUT
 CENTER
 CHARGE
 COURT
 DRIBBLE
 FASTBREAK
 FOUL
 FORWARD
 FREETHROW
 GUARD
 HOOP
 JUMPBALL
 JUMPSHOT
 LAYUP
 PASS
 PIVOT
 PRESS
 REBOUND
 SHOOT
 SLAMDUNK
 TEAM
 TIPOFF
 TRAVELING
 TURNOVER