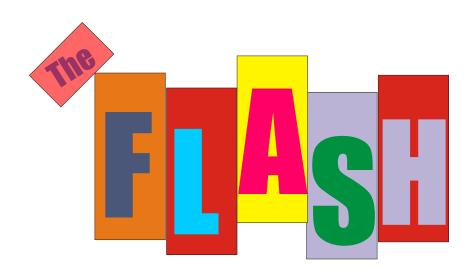


Why do you seek the living among the dead?

He is not here, but is



Volume 57 Issue 8 April 14, 2014

Tour2K14

By Kirsten Brandle

For spring break many Immanuel students head home, or head to a friend's house to spend a relaxing week away from school, and especially homework. But for 32 students, Spring Break doesn't mean a trek home; it means getting into a coach bus and touring the nation, singing praises to our Savior. This year, the big destination was Texas. We all enjoyed breaking out the shorts and tank-tops for a much needed and appreciated break from the cold! While in Corpus Christi we were able to take a detour and head to the beach! It was fun in the sun for some, while others had a little too much sun and came away sporting a nice sunburn. Someone had a bright idea to feed the seagulls that hung around the shore and soon enough we were dodging desperate,

dive-bombing birds left and right. We were able to see a lot of very fascinating places. We saw where President Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas, Texas which was very interesting. One of the best parts of tour is definitely meeting all the wonderful people who belong to churches we visited. It is great to be able to spread the Gospel to everyone who comes and hears the praises sung to our Savior. Tour is an amazing week and we feel so blessed to have been a part of it!

Contents

Pg 1: Tour Choir

Pg 2: Art is an Art

Pg 3: Random Facts Bracketology

Pg 4: April Fool's Day

Joci's Lines

Pg 5: Word Association **Pg 6:** Rebecca Kazemba

Pg 7: Tobor

Pg 8: Blind Date

Pg 9: A Fresh(men's) View on Sports

Pg 10: Building Bridges

Pg 11: Frozen Review

Pq 12: Son of God

Pg 13: Throne of Games

Pg 14: Inside Idioms

Pg 15: Life. Hacked.



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Artisan

Featuring: Kelly Beekman

By: The favorite art student :)

So there's this sweet, perky lady that always seems to be smiling about something on campus this year. She is the Art teacher, Mrs. Kelly Beekman. She's the art teacher that can do everything, and I mean everything. From drawing, painting with acrylics or watercolors, sculpting, carving, and mosaics, she's a natural. I asked when she first got into art and she simply replied, "All my life."

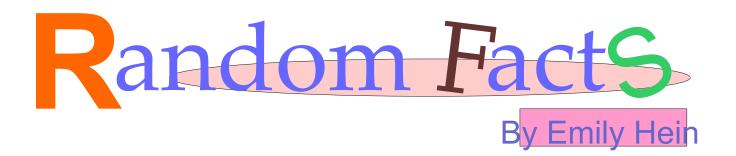
Her work proves that she has indeed been doing this all her life. When she introduces us to a new project, she demonstrates for us what we'll be doing flawlessly and with ease. We all gape at her with our mouths open, and she gives us that infamous reply "It's sooooo easy. Trust me."

Mrs. Beekman is as patient as one person can ever be. I mean, she has to be; she teaches her son, Josh! I asked her what THAT was like and she told me Josh has never been a very patient person (I guess he missed that gene) which drives her crazy. But she is still patient and always willing to help out anybody who asks for it, even those people who are a couple projects behind...

Finally, I asked her what it was like to teach such an amazing, wonderful, artistic, ridiculously fabulous class. These were her EXACT words: "They are awesome, excellent, very hard-working, and soooo funny!"

Yeah, that's right!

2



The only 15-letter word that can be spelled without repeating a letter is "uncopyrightable."

Recycling one glass jar saves enough energy to watch TV for 3 hours.

In England, in the 1880s, "pants" was considered a dirty word.

Ernest Vincent Wright wrote a novel, Gadsby, which contains over 50,000 words, but not a single letter E. Benjamin Franklin gave guitar lessons.

Minnesota has 99 lakes with the name "Mud Lake."

The average American eats about 11.9 pounds of cereal a year.

Beluga whales, also known as white whales, are born black.

Dogs are mentioned 14 times in the Bible, while cats are not mentioned once.

"Jaws" is the most common name for Goldfish in the UK.

You use 200 muscles to take one step.

It only takes 7 pounds of pressure to rip your ear off.

Crayola is a French word that means "oily chalk."

BRACKETOLOGY

By Sam Lisak

Every year around March a certain fad takes place on campus. People who have never paid attention to a single college basketball game that year are testing their luck for a chance to win a free dinner with Prof. Lau. But why is filling out a bracket so entertaining?

Last year around 786,000 were filled out online according to ESPN; not including ones printed out and filled.

Still, out of the huge mass this year, perfect brackets were nearly impossible. At the end, the odds of a perfect bracket (which was 9.2 quintillion to one) was kept out of reach by the innumerable upsets; Duke to Mercer, and 11th seed Dayton reaching the Elite 8, both, and more, destroying almost every bracket. There has never been a perfect bracket. Yet still, they are relentlessly, meticulously filled out by fanatic fans, guessing who will win the dance. Though not many guessed that UConn would, and fewer still that both 8th seed Kentucky and 7th seed UConn would play in the championship game. I can speak from experience, having a horrendous bracket this year in which I barely got 50% of the first 32 games right. Still, at least for the optimistic bracketeers, there is always next year.

April Fools' Day: Where did it come from and what are some good pranks to use?

By: Olivia Albrecht

It's that time of year again when all of the practical jokes and pranks are being played on some innocent and some not-so-innocent people. So how did all of this begin? Well, there are many origins and it's hard to know which one is real. But one claims that it began in 1564, when France changed its calendar, moving New Year's Eve from the last week of March to January 1st. Those who continued to celebrate the end of the New Year's week on April 1st were called fools.

Another says that it began in Gotham, England. Starting in the 13th century, the town residents heard that King John could claim any road his property that he stepped on, so they refused King John to enter their town. The king sent soldiers to force their way in, but the residents pretended to be lunatics, and the king decided that their madness meant their previous punishment wouldn't work. Therefore, April Fool's Day celebrates their sneakiness.

The stories are endless. Now that you know how it started, what are some good pranks to pull on your friends?

- 1. Tape an air horn underneath their chair. When they sit down, they will go flying!
- 2. Put mayo inside of donuts so it looks like "filling"
- 3. Put out a bowl of Skittles, M&Ms, and Reeses Pieces
- 4. Put cream cheese in a deodorant stick
- 5. Toothpaste filling in oreos :)
- 6. Post-it note their car
- 7. Mix Sprite and soy sauce together until it looks like Coke or Diet Coke
- 8. Place a ton of mini marshmallows on top of a ceiling fan and wait for someone to turn it on.

Well, there you have it! Happy pranking, everyone! :)

oci's Lines

Oh the risk, the nerves, the awkwardness of a blind date, Forced conversation we've all come to hate. But my peers, let us take a bow, for the gleeful chaperone, our own Prof. Lau. He gossips like my grandma, brings young lovebirds together, until in desperation they resort to talk of the weather. My classmates, give them support, please listen, never was a story of more humor than this of Jagi, and her Tristan.

Wasdociation By: Jadyn Mielke

First Word

Beautiful - Bryan

Bacon - Phil Pigs - Sarah J Swine - Rachel G Swoon - Jocelyn Princess - Carl R Bride - Katie N Bridezilla - Becca K Godzilla - Grant H Tokyo - Caleb Oster Japan - Danielle Kamikaze - Joseph A Bombs - Joey B Boom - James Explosion - Deb Rocket - Jack Ship - Mattias Big - Gabby Dogs - Mick N Mutt - Savanna Leash - Rose Child - Jagi Annoying - Megan Fly - Brandon Swat - Ben N Badminton - Nate Cat - Faith Dr Seuss - Abby P









End Word

Books - Clay

5



By: JimboSlice

JS: How many siblings do you have?

RK: 7, I am the third oldest.

JS: Who is your favorite of your seven siblings?

RK: Nope, I'm not answering that.

JS: So this is gonna be a big season for softball with you as pitcher. How do you think it will go?

RK: It'll be something; we'll just have to wait and see.

JS: Is it true that your roommate, Rachel Schaser, has an absurd amount of stuffed animals? RK: Yup, it is a bad obsession. When they fall out of her bed during the night and knock everything off the desk, it's just not a good thing. She has a colossal panda, a ginormous mouse whose nose you can pick, a large horse, and countless more.

JS: I've heard from sources that even though you grew up on a farm you're not that outdoorsy.

RK: Well, I like outdoors, just not camping, I hate camping; it is stupid.

JS:What is your view on professional sports?

RK: Well, I never had cable as a kid so I never watched any.

JS: What is the fish's name?

RK: Cow.

JS: What is the theme song for your life?

RK: If there was a song about hating Russians, that would be it.

Emily Marzofka: How does it feel to have super thick hair like the mane of a lion.

RK: Great

FAVORITES:

Book: Papillion by Henri Charriere

Movie: The Patriot

Color: Green Number: 15

Class: History

President: George W. Bush

Person on Campus: James Schaser (in your face

Rachel)

Superhero: Batman

ILC Memory: The pool in Lauren and Emily's room Prof: Schierenbeck, Roehl, and Danielle Ryan

Band: The Beatles





The Tale Of Tobor

By: Kevin Schrader

On March 27, a caravan of vehicles set out from Immanuel, bound for Minnesota. In tow were nine high school students, three adults, two graduates, a grade-schooler and a very precious, unique piece of machinery. There was an air of excitement about, and whispers of a great and mighty crossbow. What group on campus could this possibly be? Robotics.

This year, like previous years, the Robotics team traveled to the University of Minnesota to compete in the FIRST Robotics regional competition. For those unfamiliar with the Robotics season, here is a quick rundown.

The week before our Spring Break ends, FIRST Robotics unveils the rules of a game. Any FIRST Robotics team (like our Tobor) must build a robot to compete in this game over the course of six weeks, starting the day the game is announced. This year's game involved working with other robots to put large exercise balls in your opponent's goals. The scoring system was complicated, and the best ways to get points were either by passing to teammates or launching the ball into a goal or over a truss, both of which were six feet in the air. Once the build season ends, the robot must be bagged, tagged, and put away until the competition.

Team Tobor's design this year was truly fearsome. Our beloved Tobor featured a menacing crossbow that stared down the competition. Tobor certainly packed a mighty punch. . . when he worked.

Unfortunately for the Robotics team, Tobor was plagued by wiring errors, programming bugs, bad components, and mechanical disasters. On Thursday, which is a practice day, Tobor missed many of its matches. Some of the problems persisted till Friday, causing us to miss a few ranked matches. Even when Tobor got out on the field, it was rare to see it in working order. Much of the time, our drivers were forced to use Tobor merely as a moveable blockade of sorts. Due to problems with our forklift, our fearsome crossbow was inoperable for many of the matches.

Worse still, once the forklift was repaired, the drive team had so little experience with the forklift that we couldn't even get the ball to the crossbow. All in all, it was a pretty dismal and disappointing performance for Team Tobor. Once the final rankings were revealed, Team Tobor stood at a poor 56th place out of 60 robots.

Still, it was a good learning experience for the team, and I am confident that if these problems had been rectified before the competition, Tobor would've been much more of a game-changer. Team Tobor's eyes are now back on the future, eagerly anticipating the next game, ready to prove their mettle.

Awesome paint job!



The team at the regional.



Blind Date

sponsored by:

FLASH

By: Prof Lau

With nearly 80% of the vote, Jaqi Gerbitz and Trysten Hallahan were chosen by the student body for the first date.

Jaqi, through no fault of her own, arrived quite late. This gave Trysten and Prof Lau some time to "chew the fat" in his office. World affairs and musical tastes were discussed.

After Jaqi arrived, the trio left in Prof Lau's 2000 Saturn with the hole in the muffler. (Prof. Lau regretted not borrowing Darin's brownish rust car for the venture.)

With both dressed in casual and clean clothing, Jaqi and Trysten were first taken to Kwik Trip to purchase cookies and bananas, each using a coupon. After some urging by Prof. Lau, the Kwik Trip staff opened two boxes of cookies to remove one chocolate chip and one M&M cookie so the coupon could be redeemed. (They were out of singles.) Total cost of two cookies and two bananas - 31 cents.

Being a Saturday afternoon, the next logical stop was Sam's Club. Neither of the couple had been there before. Samples of at least ten food products were consumed. Most received high marks. Jaqi thought the chicken Dino-Bites were a bit sketchy. Prof. Lau couldn't pass on the Digiorno \$4 rebate, so three pizzas for \$10 were selected for purchase.

Since music was playing in the background while they were waiting in the checkout line, Trysten, and then Prof. Lau, spontaneously broke out into some sort of jig. Jaqi did not feel compelled to join in. The group was then alerted by store personnel that an express checkout was available in another part of the store. Go figure.

Since time was of the essence, the casual atmosphere of Fazoli's was chosen over the highbrow offerings of the Olive Garden (for which Prof. Lau had forgotten his coupon anyway). The pasta feast was ordered. This came with a tub of spaghetti and meat sauce, a tub of fettuccine alfredo, eight breadsticks, and a family sized salad. Trysten seemed alarmed that fettuccine noodles kept appearing in his spaghetti dish. The group discussed the appropriate amount of butter to have on a breadstick. Secrets about Trysten and Jagi sharing an affinity for Harry Potter books were revealed.

Prof. Lau initiated conversations aimed at revealing what makes each of the two who they are, Jaqi was excited to find out that Trysten has relatives named Heaven and Angel. The conversations seemed relaxed and natural.

All too soon it was time to head back to campus. It was decided that Trysten would get the to-go box of leftovers. Since the date started late, time wasn't available for all of the other planned activities. Farewells were spoken. Overall, not a bad date.

Side note: The FLASH plans to sponsor at least one more date this year. After receiving feedback from our readers, we intend to make the next blind date truly "blind." It may involve kidnapping and blindfolds. If that sounds like your idea of fun, be sure to sign up.



A Fresh (men's) View on Sports By Sam Buck

And Gunny Sippert

MLB SEASON PREVIEW

Hopefully by the time this issue of the Flash comes out, the weather is looking up, and all of our ILHS sports teams can get outside. Baseball and softball can take grounders on an actual field instead of the hardwood of the gym floor. Despite how the weather happens here at the high school level, the pros are not fazed by such a thing as the elements. The marathon, 162-game, 2014 MLB Season has begun. As the Boston Red Sox go out to defend their 8th World Series title in franchise history, they have plenty of great teams to beat out. One of the experts' favorites this season again is the Washington Nationals. We heard all about how the Nats were supposed to make a deep postseason run last year, but failed to even make the playoffs. Despite the 2013 season disappointment, the baseball writers trust in 21-year old, slugger, Bryce Harper, and ace Stephen Strasburg to lead them to October. While the Nats might be a favorite, we think that there are better teams out there. Especially, out west. As in the AL West. The Texas Rangers are always contenders for the playoffs, and the Oakland A's have won the last two division titles. The Los Angeles Angels, like the Nats, are hoping to have a bounce-back year, after missing the playoffs with their new free agent pickups in the 2012-13 offseason, Albert Pujols, C.J. Wilson, and Josh Hamilton. The Seattle Mariners, meanwhile, are trying to avoid becoming this year's Angels. They signed former Yankee second-baseman, Robinson Cano, as well as many other free agents this offseason in order to bolster their lineup and rotation.

Meanwhile, in the NL, there are many teams that could end up fighting for the pennant. These teams include Washington, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Los Angeles (Dodgers), Cincinnati, and more. St. Louis is a contender every year as of late, and do not show any signs of stopping this year. They are coming off an NL title, and a World Series loss to Boston in six games. They are in a tough division, with Cincinnati and Pittsburgh also coming off Wild Card berths. L.A. is the favorite out in the west with 2013 NL Cy Young winner, Clayton Kershaw. They do have some competition with a solid Arizona team, and an improved Colorado Rockies squad. Atlanta will definitely give the Nats problems, but we don't see any of the other three teams in the NL East contending for the division title.

	NL Champ	AL Champ	MLB Champs	
Sam	LAD	Detroit	Detroit (In 6)	
Gunny	Pitt.	Boston	Pitt. (In 7)	



Bridge Project By Prof Lau

Around this time of year, Physics students build bridges. The goal is to create something aesthetically pleasing and yet able to carry a heavy load. (Which bridge characteristic do you think is more important in the real world?) The materials are Popsicle sticks and glue. As I watched Darin watch Rhiannon build "their" bridge I got to thinking - always a dangerous activity.

I don't like graduation. Never have, probably never will. To most, I suppose, graduation is a time of excitement, a milestone in life, a new beginning (thus the name "Commencement Ceremony"). To me, it is change, of which I'm not a big fan. It also means goodbyes, of which I'm even less of a fan. Students only have to "go through" a few graduations in their lives; teachers have to do it every year. Although I'm happy for those who are happy to graduate, it is my least favorite school day of the year.

To spend time getting to know students over the course of 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, even 11 years - only to have them leave - is not easy on this fellow. Evident in all schools, but perhaps more so at ILC, bonds are formed. There is nothing like years of shared experiences to bring people together, especially those who share faith in a common Savior.

Back to bridges. Build and repair what you can while you are still here. Two vivid memories from my high school years come to mind. I had a best friend through most of my high school years. We had met at summer camp our eighth grade year. Some time during our Senior year we grew apart and didn't spend much time together. I'm not sure why. About a week before graduation we happened to be alone in the same room together. We had a long talk and expressed how grateful we were to have been friends for all those years. It was probably the most meaningful conversation I had in high school. I would have hated to have graduated without it. A few years later he died unexpectedly from a heart defect. I'm glad we had talked. The Class of 1985 only graduated seventeen students - three have already passed away, all males.

My second memory is when my girlfriend broke up with me. Up until that time I had thought she was "the one." God had other plans. I remember her telling me that I would make someone a great husband, it just wasn't going to be her. We remained friends and she even helped me get together with my would-be-wife. We are still friends today.

Back to bridges. Friends are like the Popsicle sticks that make up the bridge. Friendships at ILC are not always aesthetically pleasing. Sin makes it that way. We can be selfish, proud, cruel, and uncaring in our relationships. The nature of friendships often change as we grow as individuals. Pressure on the sticks can cause warping and cracking and weak spots. We say and do things we regret.

In the few short weeks remaining in the school year, take advantage of the opportunities to reapply some glue to spots that have been weakened over time. You may not believe me when I say this now, but for many of you, the most lasting and important relationships you will have in your life are with people you met here at ILC. Don't take your Christian friends for granted. If a bridge is to carry a heavy load it needs periodic maintenance. Say those things you need to say; do those things you need to do. You won't regret it.

10

Our hearts in Christian love; The fellowship of kindred minds Is like to that above.

Movie Review

By: A humble, unbiased critic

So, I'm sure all of you have heard that remarkably annoying line that has been repeated so often I can now say it in my sleep: "Do you want to build a snowman?" For those of you who don't know where this even came



from, it's from the movie Frozen. Frozen is about a girl named Elsa who was born with crazy ice powers which can apparently bring snowmen to life... Anna, Elsa's younger sister, who wants to marry a man she just met that day, (yes, that day) Kristoff who has a really weird relationship with a reindeer named Sven, a snowman named Olaf who likes warm hugs, a psychotic merchant from Weaseltown, and Hans an extremely charming man. This movie takes place in a Scandinavian country and is filled with drama, love, romance, orphans, quotable lines, songs that get stuck in your head, chocolate fondue, and ice, lot's of ice. It has a pretty original storyline I'd say, with a really good twist at the end, and it defines love the Right way: "Love is putting someone else's needs before yours."

For those of you out there that hate this movie and haven't even seen it because of all the ravenous fans it pulled out from the deep, that's unfortunate because it is a good movie. I will



admit there were a few people out there that almost ruined it for me too, but I gave the movie a chance anyway and I Loved It. Just give the movie a try, even if you don't think it's your 'kind' of movie. I have not met a single person that has outright said, "I did not like that movie." So I think there's potential for you to like it too.

And for those people that put "Let it Go" on repeat in the room across the hall in the dorm.
Please stop. I beg of you. I understand that it's a very deep emotional song, but there's only so many times I can 'let it go.'

Son of God

By: Kevin Schrader

The *Son of God* was released February 28, 2014. It is an expansion of the TV series "The Bible," featuring the same actors as well as many of the same scenes. *Son of God* is an episodic picture of Jesus' life, culminating in His death and resurrection. It is told in the past tense by the Apostle John while he is exiled on the Isle of Patmos.

First, let me begin with the positives. *Son of God* does a great job of showing Jesus's kindness and humanity. Diogo Morgado does a great job of displaying complex emotion throughout the first two thirds of the movie. *Son of God* also brings to light the social and political struggles of the day, which the Bible doesn't describe too explicitly. There are many scenes of Roman oppression, rebellions, taxes, and the cry for deliverance, giving otherwise unmentioned context to some Biblical events. Jesus's ministry is also emotionally charged, eliciting cheers and tears from the Jews around Him. After the credits rolled, the audience was left in silent contemplation.

Unfortunately, there are quite a few places where the movie adaptation simply falls short. Much of the movie, such as the meetings of the Pharisees and the conversations of Pilate, simply is not recorded in the Bible. Some parts of the Gospels are included, but are out of place, adapted to fit a particular situation. While this is powerfully effective at times (calling of Matthew—I shed a single, manly tear), it isn't good to rewrite Scripture. Other parts of the movie are flat out wrong. For instance, at Jesus's ascension there were around 500 disciples, yet in the movie there are only the eleven and Mary Magdalene. It also is very generic about Jesus's teachings. All that the movie says for sure is that he respected governments, gave people second chances, and didn't believe in force. The details of salvation remain a mystery.

However, the strangest thing about this movie is its portrayal of Jesus. Jesus is constantly shown smiling with a somewhat "happy go lucky" vibe. However, this isn't really the picture of Jesus that is displayed in the Bible. Every word that Biblical Jesus spoke was full of weight and meaning. He never sugar-coated the truth, and He said some pretty condemning things.

So in summary: it isn't entirely accurate, Jesus is a bit hippy-ish, and it has a vague message, but I still recommend watching this movie. It really helps visualize and put into perspective some of the things that happened in that time period. It brings life to a story we're all familiar with. However, in this case, the Book is definitely better than the movie. Final Score: 3.5/5



Throne of Games NCAA vs. NBA

The King of Annual Sporting Events; the Ides of Initiation; the Tournament that Leaves the NBA Wallowing in its Showy-Dust; March Madness at its finest, which is virtually every year.

By: Nathan Buck

Caesar knew that March was an important month; but did he know how important? No. He didn't know about March Madness; the one and only. It is well known in America that to not follow it is a crime against humanity, and is punishable by up to 5 years in prison.

To me it's a shrine, a nationwide holiday that's a big deal, perhaps the biggest deal to annually come out of sports itself. The thrill is exhilarating. As sports analyst Rodger Sherman says, "College basketball is a sport where teams spend five months deciding whether they are good, and then we throw 68 of them in a ring with knives, and if they lose a single game they die. It sounds like a really stupid idea, but fun things happen."

The idea I'd like to debate is that just a single month in college basketball has more to offer than a whole year of NBA basketball. I still like the NBA, but when I watch a game, it almost feels more like I'm watching fake reality TV; the players seem to act up for the camera. Whether it's changing their name to Metta World Peace, verbally abusing another player, or getting in bar fights the morning after a game, the NBA seems more akin to WWE-- where you can tell the players are still strong and athletic, but they do anything they can to increase the hype and roar, and it all becomes sort-of fake to me. Another reason is that almost everyone in the NBA is uber-good. There are stars that almost everybody knows; LeBron James, Kevin Durant, Dirk Nowitzki. But ask a person for one college basketball player's name? If they can, props to them. College basketball is fast. It's perhaps four years max that a player is on a team in the NCAA, so you don't really know them well. This is also because it's more about the teams, not the players. Wisconsin; Duke; Florida; Kansas; unless you're a fan, you only start hearing about a good player if their team does well. And players strive to make their team good. NBA teams whittle huge amounts of money away to get the best players, and then players have 5, 7, even 15 years to further prove they're good. The NCAA is the point in a standard professional basketball player's career when he has to get his name out there. He wants to keep doing this, and for money. And who wouldn't? So what do they do in order to be recruited by top NBA teams? They try; and they try hard. (If Bruce Willis had played in the NCAA, March Madness would have been A Good Month to Try Hard).

But in the NBA, as is often the case, players such as LeBron and Love have already established that they are exceptional on the court; so what's next? Well, more money. Both leagues revolve around money; the NBA to keep making more money, and the NCAA to eventually make lots of money. But the point I'm trying to make is that once players graduate to the NBA, they often need more than just superb skills; they need show. They need to excite the crowds. They need to appear larger than life; in doing this, they establish themselves as super-humans. And then they make even more money. It's a cycle; celebrities and media figures go through this exact cycle too. One thing I love about the NCAA is the sheer number of teams. 351 teams are in NCAA division one, competing from as far away as Hawaii to Harvard. The huge number of teams, for one, creates "mystery teams." Who's TCU? Where on earth is Rice? What's a Salukis? Unless you follow all teams (which would be over-excessive), you won't know these small teams' skills until they pull a surprising upset. It's almost like a new team was created the same year and you didn't know about it. There's only 30 teams in the NBA, and it loses an edge.

Especially when a team such as the Heat wins every single, stinking year. I mean really? Bland. No one else even has a chance. You know who's going to win as soon as the season starts. But in college, the underdog actually can win it all. The huge number of teams in the NCAA also creates some of the best rivalries on the planet, probably behind soccer. In the NBA, rivalries seem to switch with seasons. Celtics beat the T-Wolves last year? Now we hate them; they're our rivals this year! But in NCAA, rivalries are as old as schools themselves. Ancient, burning hatred against area schools, bitter opponents, and all manner of traditions. And each team's traditions are as old as time itself.

13

Throne of Gamescont...

A further reason is the players-aside, stadium atmosphere. To start with the coaches, NBA coaches are egotistical money-loaders that seem to get fired every time their team doesn't make it to the playoffs. NCAA coaches, on the other hand, are greats; Jim Boeheim, Jim Calhoun, Mike Krzyzewski, Rick Pitino. Many came back from coaching or playing in the NBA themselves. They vehemently recruit players and mold their teams. In NBA, you often have the figurehead coach, with up to 30 guys helping him. And seated just at the end of the bench are multi-millionaires, all twiddling their thumbs and anxious for the money. The fans are another thing. In NCAA the seats are lined with school fans, diehard-alumni, game legends such as Charles Barkley and Grant Hill, and wildly excited sports enthusiasts. The NBA? Well, there are fans and enthusiasts too, but mingled in are always shareholders, big businessmen, and celebrities. Why? Because it's like watching a movie to them, and there's money involved. The celebrities get yet another chance to be on TV. To the shareholders it's not basketball between two teams; it's a bet.

When an NCAA team wins in even the early stages of the tournament, the most glorious, sentimental feelings erupt around the court, streamers (or toilet paper, even) fly, and there is such celebration that it makes the New Year's Ball Drop look small. And when a team loses, there is such utter devastation when players and teams alike take the walk down the heartbreak trail. Tears flow all around. And then the bands. Imagine our band with 15 times as many students in it, very good, very loud, and extremely rowdie. Real student fans getting pumped for their games. NBA just pumps a lot of Jay-Z and Rihanna onto the court. I respect everyone who was/is in the NBA (not Dennis Rodman), but I believe the NCAA is where it's at; in the vaulted college cathedrals where basketball is played in all its truth and glory, where history and tradition flow unceasingly, and where Cinderella can actually make it to her ball. March Madness; the one and only.



I am not a cat lover, by any means, but I did find interesting the following cat idioms:

The cat's pajamas

A slang phrase coined by Thomas A. Dorgan in the 1920s when the word "cat" was used as a term to describe the flapper of the jazz era. Combined with a new fashion, pajamas, the phrase came to mean something that is the best at what it does.

"That new icemaker we bought is the cat's pajamas."

Dog my cats

An expression of astonishment similar to, "Well, what do you know!" Originally coined by O. Henry in his short story "Memories of a Yellow Dog."

Put the cat among the pigeons

A British term meaning "to cause an enormous fight by revealing a secret." When the British governed India, a popular pastime was to put a wild cat in a pen of pigeons. Bets were taken on how many pigeons the cat could bring down.



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By Emily Marzofka

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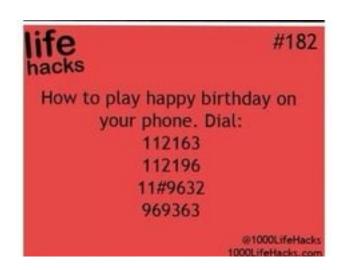
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Mosquito bite? Press a hot spoon onto the spot. The heat will destroy the reaction and the itching will stop.

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