

Trifecta of Brebeuf Athletes Take Home Mental Attitude Award

By Casey Rector '20
Staff Writer

This fall sports season featured three of Brebeuf's senior athletes coming home with the Mental Attitude Award for each of their respective sports. Grace Roudebush of volleyball, Dillon Howell of football, and Katherine Modrall of cross country each brought home the Mental Attitude Award. The Mental Attitude Award is given to a senior in each sport who excels in mental attitude, athletic ability, academic scholarship, and leadership throughout their entire tenure as a high school athlete. This student must be nominated by their coach and principal, and must also be participants in their sport's state final. The IHSAA Executive Committee then nominates one of the seniors who applied to win this prestigious award, and this year, the Committee picked three of Brebeuf's very own students to be honored for their spirit of cooperation, outstanding level of athletic competence, and leadership



Grace Roudebush '18

exemplified on and off the field, and high degrees of success academically.

All three athletes received strong support and motivation from those around them throughout their high school athletic career. "[Brian Murray] has taught me so much about the game and how to be a team

player. I have really improved my skills in all aspects with him as my coach. I also think my experience in general has taught me so much. After playing with these girls for the past couple of years, I know everyone's tendencies, allowing me to better understand how my teammates will react during games," says Grace Roudebush on who helped her the most with developing her athletic abilities along with mental attitude. As for Dillon Howell, he says, "Coach Roessler has had a huge impact on my mental attitude and leadership skills. He has set a great example of how to be a leader, and I have paid attention to how he leads and learned a lot from him." Katherine Modrall draws inspiration from her teammates, saying, "I think my teammates have helped me the most because they push me every single day! Each and everyone of them are always working their hardest and

it keeps me pushing myself physically and mentally. I think past seniors have set a great example for me on what it means to be a great leader and how much a positive attitude can affect a team!" These three athletes used their support from their coaches and teammates to harness their leadership abilities and become role models on their teams. When asked how she tries to be a leader on and off the field, Katherine Modrall responded, "I try to show leadership by always setting a good example by listening to coaches instructions and always pushing myself to my limits! I also try to be encour-

aging to everyone on the team and work to unite us all!" Dillon Howell takes a different approach, saying, "I don't try to show leadership, I try to succeed. In order to succeed, I know I have to work hard, communicate effectively, and have a positive attitude." As for Grace Roudebush, she says, "It was extremely important that I had good relationships with everyone on my team. I



Dillon Howell '18

Photo Credit: Mr. Higginbotham

encouraging my teammates." Brebeuf has certainly been represented well by these athletes all four years of their time here, and they are each honored and grateful for being recognized by the IHSAA in this way. "I am extremely honored to have received this prestigious award. I am appreciative and grateful that so many people have recognized my hard work and took the time to advocate for me to win this award," says Howell. Katherine Modrall shared similar sentiments, stating that, "It is so rewarding, and I can't thank my coaches and administrators enough!" As for Grace Roudebush, she



Katherine Modrall '18

Photo Credit: Mr. Higginbotham

wanted the underclassman to feel like they could come to me with anything, whether it be volleyball or school related. Earlier this season, I had talked to my coach about how it is important that we have all types of leaders on the court. I am not normally the loudest person on the court, so I took on the role of leading in a more quiet manner by

for me to win this award," says Howell. Katherine Modrall shared similar sentiments, stating that, "It is so rewarding, and I can't thank my coaches and administrators enough!" As for Grace Roudebush, she says, "It is extremely rewarding to be recognized, adding just another great thing to an already amazing season."

It is fairly rare for a smaller school like Brebeuf to have three winners of the award in one season. Only larger schools like Carmel High School have accomplished such a feat in the past. Of the 25 winners of the award since 1965, this year is the first year to feature three athletes from Brebeuf receiving the award. All three will leave Brebeuf having had a very successful and rewarding athletic high school career.

Test Anxiety no need to be afraid

By Colin Chambers '20
Staff Writer

Test anxiety is a physiological condition that causes worry, dread, and fear in the life of any student. In fact, research by the Princeton Review shows that anywhere between 25 and 40 percent of students experience test anxiety in their life. This condition can invoke tension, negatively impact student performances, create barriers in a student's learning environment, and much more. With finals being an upcoming threat to many Brebeuf students, it is important to understand what causes test anxiety and how to deal with it. So what can students and instructors do in order to alleviate and fix the problems that are associated with test anxiety?

1. Being prepared: Clearly, one of the best ways to prepare for a test is to study and make sure you understand the material. It is definitely an obvious way to alleviate text anxiety, but by studying and understanding the material you will be tested over, your brain will be much less stressed out when the inevitable test day comes.
2. Lowering the impact of any one test: This is one that students cannot control, but one that instructors must control. Lowering the impact of any one score generally means having a lot of points available in the class or having a weighted grading system. If tests do not account for a huge amount of a class grade, students are less likely to be stressed out before they have to take an important test. Additionally, if there are numerous points available in a class, tests will not count as much towards an overall grade, and thus won't cause as much stress for students.
3. Getting a good night's sleep: Being tired is never fun, but being tired on a test day is even worse. Studies show that students who get a quality night of sleep before a big test will have less anxiety going into the test and receive better overall scores for the test. Having adequate rest is generally better than staying up all night cramming.
4. Eating something or chewing gum: If it is allowed during a test, eating or chewing gum can help you relieve some tension that you might feel during a test. It will help you relieve anxiety because it can serve as a distraction to the turmoil of emotions you are experiencing when you have test anxiety, as long as it is allowed in your testing environment.
5. Familiarizing students with test format: Like with the weighted grading system, students can't control how well they know the test format, so it's up to the instructors to do so. If instructors faithfully familiarize students with how the test will look and how it will be graded, students will experience much less stress while taking the test.
6. Don't pay attention to others: If other people taking a test are writing away and you hit a blank, it is likely that you will get stressed out and feel stupid. However, paying attention to what others are doing only distracts you from taking the test to the best of your ability, so take the test at your own pace and ignore what other test takers might be doing.
7. Starting Quickly: Having a blank test with no answers can be stressful, so starting as soon as you can will help to alleviate some anxiety. If you need some confidence, try to find some questions that you feel are easy so that you can have some faith in your own test taking abilities.

8. Getting to the classroom or testing site early: Being stressed that you will be late for the test will only worsen anxiety, so make sure you are on time for your test. This may involve getting to your class or testing room early and having all the required testing supplies out and ready to go.

9. Staying on time/Watching the clock: Nothing is more stressful than realizing you are only halfway done with a test and there are 5 minutes left. To avoid this, make sure to scope out the test before you start and take a guess on how long parts of the test will take. Make sure to watch the clock to be sure you are staying on pace to finish the test in time. If a problem is giving you trouble, skip it and come back to it later.

10. Avoiding negative thoughts: Always think positive thoughts during a test. Negative thoughts and feeling will only bring you down and make it harder to focus on the test at hand. Always put the test into perspective, know one test will not always define you, and that your future is not directly dependent on getting a perfect score on a test.

So, test anxiety can be an intimidating part of every exam, but there are ways to alleviate and prepare so that you never have to deal with text anxiety. As a student, being prepared and focusing on your own test are some of the best ways to try and evade test anxiety. For teachers and instructors, making sure students know what to expect going into a test and making tests have less of an impact on overall grades are the best ways to stop students from stressing out when the day of a test comes. Although finals can be scary, if you make sure you are prepared, there is no need to be afraid when the imminent test day comes.



Cartoon by Sophia Ferris-Rowe '19



Cold and Flu Season a downfall of winter

The Arrow Staff

Editor-In-Chief

AJ Morton '18

Section Editors

Opinion - Megan Hess '18
New & Features - Ellie Burdick '18
Arts & Entertainment - George Kite '18
Sports - Alex Shukri '19
Page 8 - Conner Carlock '19
Web & Media - Molly Connors '18

Staff Writers

Cameron Durm '20
Carson Woods '21
Casey Rector '20
Colin Chambers '20
Elizabeth Brase '20
Emily Blaiklock '19
Himmat Ghoman '20
Jett Jenkins '20
Kevin Assou '21
Natanya Katz '21
Nicholas Boccone '20
Shaan Mishra '21

Advisor

Jen LaMaster

President

Father Jack Dennis

Mission

The purpose of the student newspaper is to report, inform, entertain, and serve the community of Brebeuf Jesuit while upholding our core values. We provide an outlet for student works, ideas, and opinions to be showcased, expressed, and respected. We regard spiritual growth, love, intellectual competence, openness to progress, and social justice to fulfill our duties as a student publication in a Jesuit school.

Letters to the Editor

The Arrow encourages readers to share comments, suggestions, or complaints by submitting letters to the editor. Editors reserve the right to edit letters for clarification or for space limitations. Libelous or profane letters will not be published. Email us at arrow@brebeuf.org

By Emily Blaiklock '19
Staff Writer

The cold and flu season is back and worse than ever, hitting most of the Brebeuf community. One by one, each student is getting a nasty cough which then leads to a terrible head cold. Since the weather has changed so drastically this year with the winter coming sooner than it normally does, not everyone is adapting to the cold. One day it will be 70 and sunny, then the temperature will drop 40 degrees the next day. Not only is the temperature outside hard to read, but also in the school the temperature is different every single day. Students are wearing a sweatshirt and still remain to have the chills, but the next day they are sweating.

Sick days for a lot of students have been in use lately. While laying in

bed all day may sound relaxing, many students would rather be at school without a fever. "It feels as if I was hit with the black plague. Wash your hands everyone!", says Bridget Fox '19 who was ill this flu season.

Everyone has their ways of recovering from the flu. I have gathered some information from students on what they do on their sick days. Some do not even leave their bed and basically have their parents be at their beckon call, others take cold or hot showers depending on their fever and watch movies. Medicine and cold rags on foreheads always seem to be the right way to go when a fever is approaching.

Like Bridget Fox said, everyone wash their hands and stay clear from any of your friends who could get you sick. Wearing a coat is also important with these horrible weather changes.

The cold and flu is no the only virus that is spreading throughout the halls of Brebeuf. Many students have been hit with infections, especially ear infections that are hitting students one by one. A close friend of mine was recently diagnosed with an ear infection. Mallory Reist '19 says that it was the most pain she has been in in a long time. Sometimes the pain would be so bad that the poor girl would have to leave school. Once she got home after a half days worth of pain from school, she would take her antibiotics prescribed from her doctor that helped tremendously. After a few weeks on the antibiotics, she was cured and is better than ever!

This time of year, it is extremely easy to catch any type of illness, so avoiding contact with those who have a cold or any virus will help keep you healthy.

The Ignatian Identity Review coming this January

Nick Boccone '20
Staff Writer

The Ignatian Identity Review is coming up in January, where a committee working for the Jesuits will come to Brebeuf to evaluate whether Brebeuf meets the Jesuit standards.

The Ignatian Identity Review takes place every five years and is the reason that Brebeuf is allowed to be called a Jesuit school. In fact, some of the surveys that students took earlier in the year are used to help the Review committee make some of their decisions. According to Assistant Principal LaMaster, "Five years ago they came

and gave us some suggestions and we have achieved all of those."

The review committee is composed of students, parents, and faculty from the midwest region whose goal is to see if Brebeuf is living out its mission or not. Brebeuf will issue a report to the committee explaining what the school has done since the last review and what it plans to do in the future. They base their review on five different domains; the most important of those domains are judgement, educational excellence, and spiritual formation.

For students, this may not have any direct effect on your day to day work,

however, "There will be people walking around that might ask [you] questions," which creates, "a chance for students to tell them what they want to see changed." Basically, students have nothing to worry about. Students won't have any unusual schedules or altered days, just some reviewers observing the school.

The review is scheduled for January 22-24, so students should be aware of the adults roaming the building and possibly asking you questions. Make sure to represent our school well!

Holiday Giving in the spirit of generosity and goodwill

By Natanya Katz '21
Staff Writer

The holiday season can be a time where we get caught up with ourselves, our lives and our problems. Finals may be looming and Christmas is on its way, but during this time of year it's important to take a step back from our lives and understand that everyone is dealing with similarly or possibly more, stress-filled lives.

The holiday season should be a time to enjoy family and friends. Many impoverished families struggle to provide for themselves on a regular basis, let alone providing gifts and celebrations for their families for the holidays. This season, spread generosity and joy beyond the small circle of our lives and friends. There are so many ways to help out Indianapolis families and in need this season.

The Help for the Holidays Drive has been a service activity held at Brebeuf for many years. This year homerooms collected toys for the Crisis Office. "They

[the Crisis Office] have something called the Christmas store... families are able to come in and shop for presents" Mr. Klingler in the Community Service Office shared.

For those students who missed the homeroom announcements for the toy drive, Mr. Klingler assures that there are plenty of other service opportunities to get involved in this season. He encourages students of faith to start within their faith communities for service and donation opportunities. Beyond this, other community centers have drives and service opportunities for the holidays as well. Shelters and centers throughout the city benefit from volunteer help for holiday meals and giving. Mr. Klingler mentioned the Fay Biccard Glick Neighborhood Center. The neighborhood center is just a few minutes away from Brebeuf on west Seventy-First street and is a human service center that serves people of all demographics in the Crooked Creek area of Indianapolis. A quick visit to their website will inform you of all the donation and service opportunities.

This season, get out and help around Indianapolis! Mr. Klingler reminds everyone that, "A big part of the holiday season... is trying to lift others up in the



Students pose with the items collected in the Holiday Drive

Photo Credit: Mr. Klingler

spirit of gener-

osity"

Preparing for Finals tips from underclassmen and upperclassmen

By Emily Blaiklock '19 and Elizabeth Brase '20
Staff Writers

Finals week is some students most stressful few days due to the heavy testing given by their teachers. Each student prepares for the gruesome exams in many different methods. Organizing time, focusing outside of school and being able to motivate yourself to get in

the right mindset to study is very difficult to do for most teen students. We gathered upperclassmen and lowerclassmen study techniques in order to prepare for finals week. The four students we interviewed had different study methods, but were all very beneficial to doing well on their exams. These students methods and study tools are very influential to the Freshmen who have not yet experienced finals week at Brebeuf.

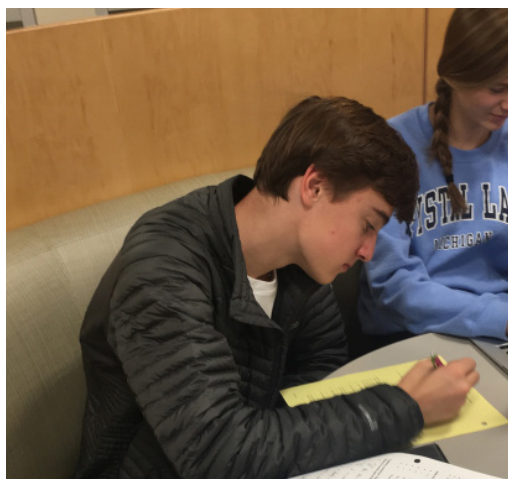
Tessa Klein '20, explains that organizing your studying to fit your methods best will speed up your study process, she states "I actually go through them and edit them so they are personalized for me and make more sense to how I study, I edit each question so I know what it is asking and work it out faster." She also advises to create a calendar outside your school planner for best organization and motivation when you look at it. Motivation for underclassman is also a large key for study time, you have to consider which classes you need to study the most even if it isn't your first final. Jack Kovach '20 advises freshmen to first prioritize your classes, he describes how he is able to now judge which finals will

be the hardest, and compare it to which classes he may have the lowest grade in. Secondly, setting distractions, including stress aside. "When I study I try to put my phone aside so I don't get distracted and just give myself enough time to go over everything slowly. Most importantly I try not to get too worked up or stressed out because that just makes things more difficult, and hopefully I've set myself up so that I don't need to do amazing on my finals to get the grade I want." He advises freshmen to establish good study habits now, as it will help a huge amount in the future.

As for upperclassmen, a few explain that for most, it seems like a lot bigger deal than it is, so do not stress more than you need to but still be prepared. Meredyth Jones '19 describes how time in the long term is an important factor for studying, "I figure out how much time it is going to take to do my homework, and set aside certain times to spend with my family/friends. But three weeks before finals I take 30 minutes a night to review each of my subjects so they are fresh on my mind." She similarly talks about prioritizing her first, and most important finals. Leading up to the night before, she

spends most of her time preparing for her final the next day, and not stressing too much on it the next morning right before, as it distracts her and adds stress. But her overall motivation is getting into a good college, and earning a job, she reminds everyone "grind now and shine later." Henry Goldenberg '18 also explains the benefits for your future of doing well, and mental motivation. Eating well, getting sleep and going to see your teachers and doing the study guides is important when you know you need it, "I study for my finals so I can get helly bands."

As finals are coming up in the next few weeks, be sure to talk to your teachers about material and tips, as well as upperclassmen for the best advice on studying, timing, and mental health during stressful testing times. Be sure to keep time for your family, friends and extra activities also so you are not overloading yourself with material that may make you forget! Wish your classmates good luck, and to keep these tips in mind during the next few weeks!



Jack Kovach '20 studying math in the library.

Photo Credit: Elizabeth Brase '20



The Holidays in Our Houses different backgrounds in the holiday season

By Natanya Katz '21
Staff Writer

My family is Jewish and we don't celebrate Christmas. Although I have Hannukah, it's a quieter holiday compared to more major Jewish holidays. Seeing that it's on the lunar calendar, it often falls during finals. Some years, my Hannukah is lost amongst the piles of study guides and notes. By the time school break and Christmas roll around, I'm just watching everyone else enjoy the holidays.

My family does have our own rituals around Christmas time. To me, the holiday means visiting my family in New York. We spend the night of Christmas Eve seeking out Manhattan's top rated Chinese cuisine and ice cream while enjoying the city wrapped in string lights. By some sort of "Christmas magic," New Yorkers become friendly, the lights of the city become brighter, and streets begin to calm.

At times during the season, I feel like there is no escape from Christmas. Its reach is far and unavoidable. One year I seriously considered holing myself up in my basement under a mattress, in tornado-drill position, until the season passed.

Other times I feel annoyed and left out of the festivities. The hype for Christmas is enormous and seems to begin earlier each year. This year I was a especially peeved when my neighbor put up Christmas lights the day after Halloween.

Aside from of all this, there are actually a lot of parts of the holiday season that I piggyback off of. Something I always look forward to are the sales that occur throughout the holiday season. Every year my family and I always find terrific deals at our favorite stores. I always notice people are nicer, friendlier, and smiling more. Everyone I speak to appears to be filled with more enthusiasm. As an avid Starbucks drinker, I, of course, enjoy all the holiday drinks that are insanely delicious. Seeing that my family does a lot of traveling during Winter Break, air travel is much more convenient. Most years we will travel on either Christmas eve or day, which is always funny because people think you are sacrificing your holiday for better deals. In all actuality, we are not sacrificing anything and are just trying to steal some deals. Overall, the holiday season is actually quite fun for me. I enjoy the beautiful season and cheery atmosphere with my friends and family. Happy Holidays!

Nick Boccone '20
Staff Writer

My family and I are non-denominational Protestants. That means that my Christmas experience revolves around the origin of the holiday: the birth of Jesus. Perhaps the first sign at my house that Christmas is coming is the decorations. My family decks the halls with several images of Santa, a Christmas tree with ornaments, and most importantly, a nativity scene.

The Sunday before Christmas and on Christmas Eve, the service at my church is an extremely special occasion. Each year, the members of my church dress up to hear the story of the birth of Jesus and celebrate his effect on our world, our community, and our lives. The pastor always enjoys preaching this and everyone in the crowd is full of joy and excitement for the season.

Christmas Eve also includes baking cookies as a family and watching my Dad's favorite Christmas movie, White Christmas. The whole night is full of fun. When it's finally time to go to bed, my siblings and I take longer than usual to fall asleep. The anticipation of Christmas morning keeps us up late and makes us get up early.

When everyone is awake and my parents are ready, my family has

a unique tradition of singing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus and then heading into our living room to find several well-wrapped presents. We spend the morning opening gifts and taking pictures, which is common these days among many families, regardless of religion. Once the gift giving has ended, my dad starts cooking a nice meal while my siblings and I enjoy our presents.

In the afternoon, my family sets out a nice family meal. We all enjoy the ability to have a good dinner with each other and appreciate the many blessings that we have.

The next day we celebrate Christmas with my grandparents and the rest of my mom's side of the family. It's a truly special day. We get together as a family, talk, and share gifts. The event takes the entire day. We all go home stuffed with food and grateful for our new presents.

The Christmas season is a time of joy and happiness for my whole family. It's a special time of the year for our family. Despite how busy we are, we manage to come together and spend quality time with one another during this season. All in all, the season is full of positives.

Ultimately, the Christmas experience for me is centered around Jesus and family, two of the most important things in my life.



Photo Credits: Natanya Katz '21



Photo Credits: Nick Boccone '20

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

why winter holidays are the best

Cameron Durm '20
Staff Writer

It's a great question, for sure. Over many years, we, as students, have spent years mastering the art of celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, or other winter holidays that we celebrate in our society. I have spent nearly sixteen Christmases honing my holiday-time skills. The music, traditions, and overall heart-warming feelings that you get from the holidays make them what they are today.

Mariah Carey's legendary "All I want for Christmas is You" really puts me into a festive spirit, no matter what time of the month it is. In fact, just a while back in August, it pulled up on my shuffled playlist, and I did, indeed, feel a little bit of the holiday spirit. Silent Night, White Christmas, Joy to the World, and I Have a Little Dreidel are musical treats that highlight the holidays that we love so much. Plus, let's also not forget that we have a long two-week break to de-stress from the finals and assignments that we, as students, dealt with on a daily basis all throughout the semester.

Traditions are extremely important for the winter holidays. It's what truly makes us have fun while celebrating our different holidays. Something that my family loves to do is make cranberry bread the night of Christmas Eve and eat it after we open presents on Christmas morning. As a child, my family would also always set out dry granola or oatmeal for Santa's reindeer to eat. In the morning, all the granola would be gone and I would be going crazy thinking that Santa's Reindeer had actually come by. These little things, that made my past Christmases so great, are what

truly still affect how I think of Christmas today. I remember all those sleepless nights, waiting for Santa to come down the chimney, and then go crazy at 5 A.M. when I see that all the milk and cookies had been eaten.

In the end, the holiday season is always a fun time to celebrate with friends and family, and to see what everyone's been up to. As we all wind down for the holidays, stop and look around for a while. You don't want to miss it, so make sure to cherish it.



Pictured above is Cameron Durm's Christmas tree in his home. Every year, Cameron and his family decorate their tree to begin their holiday festivities. Him and his family listen to Frank Sinatra's Christmas album.

Photo Credits: Cameron Durm '20

The Holidays with Watko walking in a Watko wonder- land

Megan Hess '18
Op-Ed Editor

Everyone, regardless of your background, has different traditions during the holiday season. For Ms. Watko, a beloved teacher at Brebeuf Jesuit, the traditions that make up her holiday season are filled with love and excitement.

The holiday season is the season for giving. In my mind, giving does not necessarily mean buying gifts of great worth or monetary value. Giving can be anything that represents or shows the love you hold for an individual. The beginning of Ms. Watko's holiday season is always spent buying gifts for her friends, family, six grandchildren, and her two children. Though these gifts are not overwhelmingly extravagant, but they do represent the love and appreciation Ms. Watko has for the people in her life.

The holiday season is most memorable because we are, hopefully, surrounded by the people we love and cherish the most. Ms. Watko, in addition to buying gifts for loved ones and, of course, decorating her house, spends time with her friends and family. Every year, Ms. Watko and her daughter bake sugar cookies and thumbprint cookies. She affectionately recognized that although her daughter isn't much of a baker, she is an excellent icer. They make it work. She also always has gatherings with her friends, whom she has been friends with since her son graduated from Brebeuf. A part of her holiday season that seemed to bring the most joy and excitement to Ms. Watko was spending time with her grandchildren. Every

Christmas, Ms. Watko has taken her six grandchildren to different places all over the city. Some of the places include the zoo, the polar express train ride in Fishers, IN, the circus, and different plays. She tries to give her grandchildren a memory that they can cherish forever. She also enjoys watching The Holiday with Cameron Diaz every year.

In addition to the traditions of Ms. Watko's holiday season, she also has very fond memories from when she was a young girl. Growing up on a farm meant terrific hiding places for presents from her parents. Every Christmas, Ms. Watko's father would make it appear Santa had delivered all their presents by driving their sleigh from their barn past the front of their house. The tracks from the sleigh would make it seem Santa had come the previous night. Like Ms. Watko's memory, we all hold memories like this in our heart.

The end of the holiday season means the new year is coming. Most people, including myself, deem the beginning of 2018 as a way to make resolutions. Most people make resolutions to attempt to better themselves throughout the year. When I asked if she had any resolutions for the new year, she said that she did not, but for good reason. Though Ms. Watko has always made resolutions for the new year, this past year she did not. She simply lives her life as she pleases. She is happy and content and if she feels a change is necessary, she does so instantly. You don't need to save your biggest or best resolutions for the start of the year.



THIS HOLIDAY, DISCOVER YOUR INNER ELF.



Ireland Stevens '18: "I love Elf. It is the best holiday movie."

Philip Hess '21: "Elf."

Nikita Rao '20: "My favorite is Elf, because it's a lighthearted movie that really puts me in the Christmas spirit!"



Antonia Schafer '18: "Buddy the Elf what's your favorite color?". Just kidding that's not my favorite. The Polar Express is one of the most beautiful movies ever made."

Madison Mora '18: "The Polar Express all the way."



Shaan Mishra '21: "Christmas Vacation is my favorite. It's so funny."

Casey Rector '20: "Christmas Vacation and Elf are the two best, but Diehard also happens during Christmas."



Ms. Parson: "White Christmas."



Mrs. Brown: "Diehard."

Braves' Favorite Holiday Movies

the greatest season bringing the best films

Ellie Burdick '18
News & Features Editor

Along with cold weather and good food, the holiday season brings something highly anticipated by many: holiday movies. Whether your family has a tradition of watching the same movie each year, or Freeform's 25 Days of Christmas is playing on your TV at all hours of the day, the presence of holiday movies is significant.

With the holiday season ap-

proaching, people are gearing up for the classic movies that are on rotation upon the conclusion of Thanksgiving. This prompted the question: why do holiday movies hold a special place of the hearts of so many? According to Psychology Today, these films are appealing "not only because of their content, but also because they air at a time of year when we are taking stock of our lives and relationships, reflecting on endings, and imagining new beginnings". Whether the love of these movies is that

deep for everyone or people simply love the plot, many people look forward to watching their favorite around the holiday season.

I took it upon myself to do a quick survey about the favorite holiday films of some of our very own Braves:

While everyone may not agree on which holiday movie is the best, we can all come to the conclusion that this season is filled with films which bring joy to all.

Top 5 Christmas Song Countdown

best songs moving into the new year

By Jett Jenkins '20
Staff Writer

With the Christmas in full swing gives birth to the overwhelming amounts of Christmas music throughout the public. From the radio, to the mall, to office Christmas parties, Christmas music is a major cog in the joy of the Christmas season. In every genre of music, there are always several classics that are constantly played throughout the holiday season. In the light of the Christmas season, let's take a look at some of these classic Christmas songs.

5. Jingle Bell Rock by Bobby Helms - This song's funky beat is catchy throughout and is probably in every malls' and Christmas playlist. Its lyrics give the listener remind the listener of the things that make Christmas such a jolly time of year

4. White Christmas by Irving Berlin and Bing Crosby - With the help of two classic Christmas artists in Berlin and Crosby, this song gives everyone that listens to it a yearning for their own White Christmas wonderland. This song just brings out the coziness of the winter season that cannot be unmatched.

3. It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year by Andy Williams - This song has been played throughout several movies and is always a go-to song when you are making your Christmas song playlist. This song defines the jolliness of the Christmas season and puts the Christmas spirit in everyone that listens to it.

2. All I Want for Christmas is You by Mariah Carey - This song is

a classic, and it might just be Mariah Carey's most popular song of her career. It's a mix of a classic Christmas song and mainstream pop that has the ability to get stuck in anyone's head for days.

1. Jingle Bells by - This Christmas song was probably the first Christmas song that you had ever heard or learned. In fact, this song is probably the first song you think of when the words, "Christmas song" are spoken. The song's easy-to-learn lyrics also allows anyone to sing this Christmas classic, which is what makes this song #1 on the countdown.

Cooking C

By Carson Woods '21
Staff Writer

Christmas is the time of year where everyone gets merrier. If that means just a little or a lot it is the holiday to help bring joy to others and of course, the cook.

Christmas Tree

Enjoy this creamy appetizer made in tree shape, perfect for Christmas

- Ingredients:
- 8 oz of cream cheese, softened
 - 1/2 cup chopped drained roasted red bell peppers
 - 1/4 cup chopped ripe olives
 - 1/4 cup chopped fresh basil leaves
 - 1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
 - 4 spinach-flavor flour tortillas (8-10 inch diameter)

Directions: It requires about 20 minutes of preparation time and takes a total of 2 hours and 20 minutes

Step 1: In medium bowl, mix all ingredients except tortillas and olive pieces. Divide mixture among tortillas, spreading to edges of tortillas. Roll into triangle shape, using fingers. Wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate at least 2 hours but no longer than 24 hours.

Step 2: To serve, cut rolls into 1/2-inch slices. Place olive piece at bottom of each triangle to look like tree trunk; secure with toothpick.

Homemade Peppermint Bark

This layered delectable treat is a mix of semi sweet chocolate, white chocolate, milk chocolate, or dark chocolate can be used.

- Ingredients:
- 8 ounces high-quality semi-sweet chocolate, broken into pieces
 - 2 teaspoons of canola oil, divided
 - 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract, divided
 - 8 ounces high-quality white chocolate, broken into pieces
 - 25 peppermint candies, crushed

Directions: Requires about 20 minutes of preparation, 10 minutes of cooking, and will be ready in about 2 hours and 30 minutes

Step 1: Lightly grease a 9x9 inch pan and line with waxed paper, smoothing out wrinkles; set aside.

Step 2: Place the semisweet chocolate and 1 teaspoon of the canola oil in the top of a double boiler over just barely simmering water, stirring frequently and scraping down the sides with a rubber spatula to avoid scorching. When the chocolate is melted, stir in 1/4 teaspoon of the peppermint extract. Pour the melted chocolate into the prepared pan, and spread evenly over the bottom of the pan. Sprinkle half of the crushed peppermints over the chocolate layer. Refrigerate until completely hardened, about 1 hour.

Step 3: Place the white chocolate and the remaining 1 teaspoon canola oil in the top of a double boiler over just barely simmering water, stirring frequently and scraping down the sides with a rubber spatula to avoid scorching. When the chocolate is melted, stir in the remaining 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract. Pour the white chocolate directly over the semisweet chocolate layer; spread evenly. Sprinkle the remaining crushed candy over the top and gently press in. Refrigerate until completely hardened. Remove from pan; break into small pieces to serve.





Buys of Christmas 2017 check out these cool gifts

By Carson Woods '18
Staff Writer

The merriest holiday is coming our way! Christmas is a time of giving and celebration. It can also be the time of getting gifts from family and friends. Some know what they want to give and receive, while others do not know what they want for Christmas. Here are some ideas to spread the holiday cheer!

What does Christmas Mean to You?

viewpoints from Brebeuf students

By Alex Shukri '19
Sports Editor

As the snow (hopefully) starts to fall around us, and the temperatures drop, the holiday season starts to come alive. These are just a few people's thoughts about what Christmas truly means to them...

Nina Jain '20- Christmas is a time of year that I get to spend with my family. It means a lot of fun while baking delicious food, and also means fantastic smells, lights, and movies. As a non-Christian, I don't celebrate St. Nick's or the birth of Jesus. But I do still celebrate Christmas, X-mas to me, because it means family bonding and festivities! When I was younger, I had Santa, but I will always enjoy and appreciate this time of year.

Deijhah Scurry '18- Christmas is a time of togetherness and love. Everyone is happy, looking at gifts they have given and received, and you are happy about both. I'm just as satisfied giving gifts as I am receiving them. Christmas is surely a gift to me!

Natanya Katz '21- My family's Jewish, and we don't celebrate Christmas. I don't get into the holiday spirit in the traditional sense, but I do get into Starbucks' peppermint mochas and all the amazing sales. My family's Hanukkah is low-key and usually during finals. Yay! During the break, we visit our family in New York City and spend Christmas seeking out Manhattan's top-rated Chinese cuisine and ice cream.

Zoe Mervis '19- Christmas is a time for tradition. My family goes up to my grandparents house, along with many of my relatives, spending the day eating and playing board games. I'm Jewish, but my grandparents are Christian, so I celebrate both Christmas and Hanukkah.

Zev Burton '18- In the weeks leading up to Christmas, I take refuge in my house and turn off any radio station that plays Christmas music, and only allow Hanukkah music to play from my stereo. On Christmas day, I get Chinese food, along with most other Jews. It's a real party. Christians should try it out sometime.

Christmas

joy. One way you can make your holiday merrier is with new food. These holiday recipes can

Roll Ups



Roll up tightly. Press each tortilla

Red Velvet Hot Chocolate

Why not put even more Christmas in hot chocolate? This recipe is an easy to make and is luxurious, chocolatey, and tastes just like a drinkable version of red velvet cake!

Ingredients:
¾ cups of milk chocolate chips
¾ cups of whole milk
¼ cups of heavy cream
¼ cups of red velvet cake mix
2 tablespoons of skim milk to thin it out to desired consistency

Directions: This requires about 5 minutes of preparation, and 10 minutes of cook time

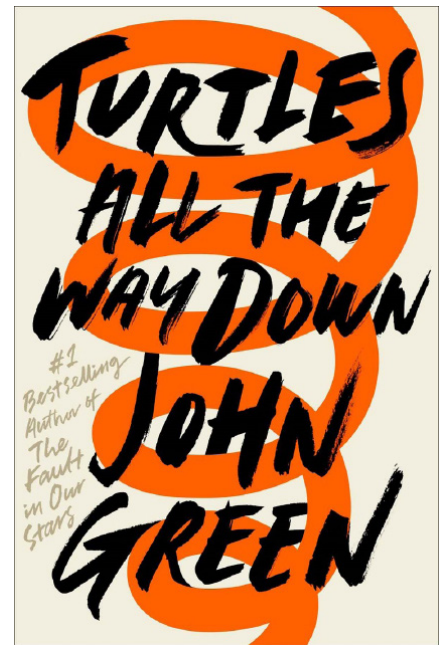
Step 1: Place milk chocolate chips, whole milk, heavy cream, and red velvet cake mix into a saucepan. Cook over medium low heat, whisking constantly, until hot.

Step 2: Once hot, add in optional Chambord and pour into two - four mugs.

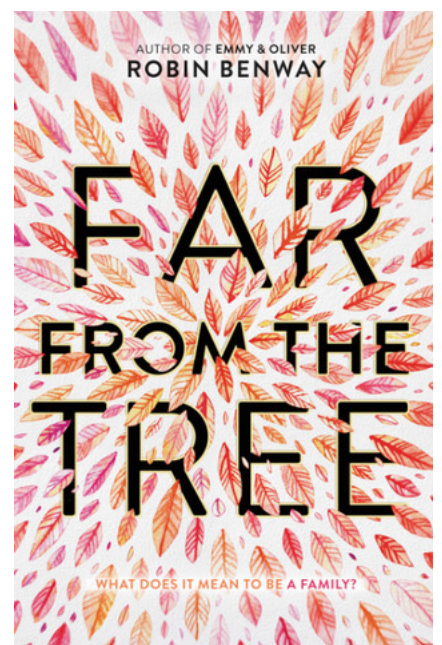
Step 3: If the consistency is too thick for you, add in skim milk until desired consistency is reached and rewarm in the microwave. Enjoy!



For the Bookworms



Turtles All the Way Down: By John Green, "An incredibly powerful tale of the pain of mental illness, the pressures of youth, and coming of age when you feel like you're coming undone." -Shelf Awareness



Far from the Tree: By Robin Benway, "Far From the Tree is a touching story about the strength and love of unconventional families, and the unbreakable bond of siblings near and far. Robin Benway's characters are authentically crafted, full of heart, hurt, and hope." -Brandy Colbert, author of Pointe and Little & Lion

For the Techies



Oculus Rift and Touch Virtual Reality System- Whether it is jumping into a video game, a movie, a destination around the world, or hanging out with friends on VR, the Oculus does it better than any other. Sells for \$399. Also found in Brebeuf's Makerspace!



iPhone X- Apple's latest breakthrough phone featuring a borderless, OLED screen, wireless charging and facial recognition cameras. Sells for \$999.

All images used on this page are open source images retrieved by Brebeuf Arrow Staff.



Restaurant Reviews: The Gallery all fluff or delicious filler?

By Elizabeth Brasse '20
Staff Writer

A café that is on the rise in popularity in the brebeuf community has begun taking interest to many students. The Gallery Pastry Shop, located in South Broad-Ripple Indianapolis, focuses on a European style of pastries and desserts. All ingredients are made from scratch, and very detailed but not too sweet. The owners, Chef Ben Hardy, and Alison Keefer have been married, and owned the shop for a few years as Ben Hardy has been a pastry chef for almost 15 years. During the week, The Gallery is open for all meals, later on weekends and open only for brunch on Sundays closing at 3pm, and closed on Mondays. They serve regular lunch and dinner items as well as an open bakery! Along with specialized cakes for occasion, they serve wine, beer, champagne, ad many specialized juices, coffees, flavored waters and sodas.

Working in the summer, and off season of soccer, Brebeuf student Manny

Arias '19 enjoys working at the Gallery in his spare time, he describes his working experience very positively. "A warm welcoming environment. When I first started working there, I felt welcome from the second I started. Everyone is so open minded and accepting, I love everyone I encountered there. They offer me free food a lot, and it's super good, they have their own garden so all the food is fresh. Working there helped me open my eyes to the business world and how privately owned businesses run."

From across the Brebeuf community, the newly discovered café has made great reviews of experience and taste. The Gallery is a great place to eat, study, and enjoy the weather. Not to mention the outdoor patio they include during the warm season! The small shop has a great setup with decorations, lights, picnic tables and outdoor deck. The Gallery is recommended among the Brebeuf community as a great spot for meals, family, snacks, friends and studying.



The front of The Gallery in Broad Ripple.
Photo Credits: Elizabeth Brasse '20



A summer seasonal dessert.
Photo Credits: Elizabeth Brasse '20

Check out the *Arrow* podcast with Livingstan Benjamin about the state finals at brebeufarrow.org

Metro Diner a true classic diner

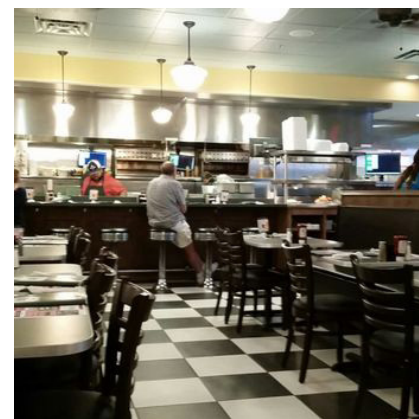
By Himmat Ghoman '20
Staff Writer

Metro Diner opened its first location in Jacksonville, Florida in 1938. The Metro Diner quickly became Jacksonville's favorite breakfast place. Today the Metro Diner has locations in eleven states, including Indiana, and serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. In fact, there's a location only five minutes from Brebeuf which is open from 7am to 8pm (located at 2258 W 86th St, Indianapolis, IN 46260).

On Tuesday, I decided to head over to Metro Diner for breakfast. I sat down and took a peek at the menu. After a short while, I decided to order the chicken and waffles with a side of bacon. When my food arrived it was cold. I asked if they could warm it up and the waitress apologized about it being cold and took it back. She brought it back warm and I dug in.

The first thing I noticed was that the waffles were dry. When you ate the waffle it turned into sand in your mouth and was hard to swallow. The chicken wasn't the best either, it was very greasy and was not crispy. The perfect chicken and waffles in my opinion contains a hot and soft waffle with a side of crispy fried chicken. The Metro Diner chicken and waffles were far below my expectations. The bacon was the best part of the meal.

Overall, I recommend that you don't eat at Metro Diner. There are many other options that serve the same food, but of a higher quality. I don't plan on eating at Metro Diner again due to the low quality food, however the staff at Metro Diner is very friendly and quick. They didn't hesitate to take back the cold food I was served and remake it, but at the end of the day it's all about the food, in which Metro Diners gets a low rating.



The Interior and the front of Metro Diner on 86th street.
Photo Credits: Himmat Ghoman '20

Atlas Obscura in Indiana what's weird down the street

By George Kite '18
Arts and Entertainment Editor

If anyone is ever bored with friends on a weekend, why not visit your local renovated insane asylum museum? Or why not take grandma on a visit to the local graveyard to visit the graves of famous gangsters? If anyone has ever needed directions to a spooky or interesting place, and learn more about it, look no further than to Atlas Obscura.

Atlas Obscura is itself a company, founded in 2009 by Joshua Foer and Dylan Thurau. They have an online compendium of places on their website, www.atlasobscura.com, which also has articles about cultural events and tours you can attend around the world. The site is a collaborative project,

with anyone being able to submit places and become an "explorer".

The company published a book titled "Atlas Obscura" recently, with their greatest collection of places around the world. Each place can be visited, and directions are given in the book. From abandoned islands full of cats and ruined cities, to bizarre house built by people even more bizarre, to historical sites of battle and murder, you will find them all in "Atlas Obscura".

Indiana has no shortage of strange and interesting places, and Atlas Obscura has recorded them all. Take a walk through Crown Hill cemetery, and you might stumble across the grave of the infamous criminal John Dillinger. His coffin is protected by iron and cement, since his family, after

seeing people taking dirt and flowers put on his grave, were afraid someone would steal the corpse. You can see today that his gravestone has had bits of it chipped off by souvenir collectors; quite ironic that people steal parts of the grave of one of the world's greatest robbers.

Or, perhaps you really, really want to visit a real old insane asylum? Take a trip to Westside Indy, and you'll find the Indiana Medical History Museum. Formerly known as the Central Indiana Hospital for the Insane, this place is the oldest pathology laboratory in the United States. Though the rest of the asylum was torn down years ago, this place has all sorts of odd medical devices, brain cutaways, and other testaments to early 20th century mental health. You can only visit during a tour, which start on the hour from Thursday to Saturday. It's hidden behind converted apartments and an abandoned factory, but it's well worth the visit

In Alexandria, Indiana, you can visit the world's largest ball of paint. Since 1977, Mike Carmichael let his young son cover a baseball with paint multiple times. They continued to cover it with paint many times a day, eventually having to put it into a barn with special suspension to sustain the paint ball's weight. Today, after 24,000 coats of paint, it weighs two and a half tons. You can visit the giant ball of paint and paint a layer on yourself with your color of choice.

If anyone ever picks up the book "Atlas Obscura", they will find all sorts of obscure and strange places to visit. Whether it be haunted houses, weird museums, or historical landmarks, they can be found everywhere, including here in Indiana. These odd places might just be in your backyard or down the street.



The world's largest ball of paint. It is quite large.
Photo Credits: Roadtrippers



The front of the Indiana Medical History Museum.
Photo Credits: George Kite 18



The tombstone of John Dillinger.
Photo credits: Wikimedia Commons

Xbox One X a new breath of life for the gaming console?

By AJ Morton '18
Editor-in-chief

With the arrival of a new version of the Xbox One and the advancement of 4K gaming in both the PC and Console gaming communities, the quality of graphics has been rising quickly. The new Xbox One X is a powerful console that outperforms any of the previous versions of the Xbox One or the PS4. The new console was released on November 7th for \$499, which was considered a hefty price for many, but in reality lines up with the release price of the Xbox One in 2013. This new console comes with a lot of improvements that allow it to run higher quality games smoother. I preordered an Xbox One X and was able to trade in many old games and consoles to help me pay the lofty price.

While I "tested" the new console out I compiled some things that I noticed when jumping from an Xbox One to the X. First of all the graphics look sharper, I am

still currently using an older TV that doesn't support 4K graphics so I am certainly not reaching the full potential of the of the X. The ability of the X to have 4K graphics is actually a really big deal, because it puts Microsoft's console up on the same graphical level as most gaming PCs. The idea of consoles has always been to appeal to more casual gamers, since consoles are cheaper and easier to set up. This new console marks an advancement in console gaming because it puts the X on the same level as some mid range gaming PCs without the effort of building or optimizing said PC. PCs have always dominated the gaming market from a performance and graphics viewpoint, Microsoft wants to make their new version of the Xbox one a competitor with gaming PCs.

I also noticed some games that were a little slow and sluggish run much faster on the X. For example I have always loved Skyrim, and some of the mods that I play with made my game run slowly. With my new Xbox games like Skyrim that require

a lot of processing power to run don't lag at all, Skyrim has been running smoothly with my new console and has actually impressed me with the load times which are much faster than my old Xbox One ever had. And while consoles will never truly be as optimized or customizable as PCs are, the X does a good job of being the most optimized console to date.

Another important detail involving the X is the fact that many games are being given a designation called "Xbox One X enhanced" which is given to a game when it has extra graphical features that are enhanced by the X. Some of these games include Madden 18, CoD WWII, and Assassin's Creed Origins. I have both Madden 18 and CoD which both run very well on the X. I played both games on my Xbox One

before trading it in and I have noticed significant improvements in the graphics between the two, as well as the aforementioned improved speed.

I believe that if someone is truly interested in having the best possible experience on console they should probably get the X, however while it adds some nice improvements it is far from being a must buy.



The Xbox One X, shown above, playing Battlefront 2.
Photo Credits: AJ Morton '18



Braves Finish Runner Up at State a last hurrah to the Brebeuf football season



By Shaan Mishra '21
Staff Writer

The team was ready for postseason action with strength on both sides of the ball. The offensive line, led by seniors AJ Neier, Max Siegel, Deuce Walker, and Devin Harrison, formed the foundation for senior RB Noah Delumpa's rushing attack. The passing game was led by senior QB Derrick Ozobu and senior WR Jacob Pressler. The defensive side was led by senior defensive lineman Brandon Wertz and senior LBs Dillon Howell, Micah Jackson, James Kroot, and Clay Mayer. The Braves' secondary also featured seniors Miles McIlwain, Thomas Wilson, and Daniel Ingram.

The Braves again defeated Guerin 21-6 in the first round of sectional play, with a pick-six by senior LB Dillon Howell and another interception by FS Simon Banks. Senior WR Jacob Pressler provided a huge play on special teams by blocking Guerin's punt, which Howell returned for a Braves touchdown. The Braves' defense also forced two fumbles from the Golden Eagles.

The Braves moved on to the sectional semifinals against the Blackford Bruins in Hartford City. The Braves battled through the tough conditions for a convincing 42-14 victory. Freshman Isaiah Martin rushed 11 times for 154 yards and a TD, also busting out a massive 57-yard run. Sophomore Jay Higgins rushed for 38 yards and a TD, and junior Charlie Dapp rushed for 34 and a TD. Higgins also added 11 tackles and two for a loss, also forcing a fumble. Gabe Wright was huge on special teams, adding both a punt return TD and a kick return TD.

The following week, the Braves defeated the Southmont Mounties in the Sectional Championship at home in a blowout win. Derrick Ozobu passed for 151 yards with touchdowns to Noah Delumpa, Jacob Pressler, and Junior Michael Bales. The Braves' special teams provided huge plays, with Simon Banks returning a blocked punt for a TD, and Sophomore Gabe Wright re-

turning a punt 89 yards to the house. Braves' safety Miles McIlwain also picked off the Mounties and returned it for six. The Braves won, 48-14, for their first sectional championship in four years.

Next up for the Braves were the West Lafayette Red Devils, coming into Indianapolis with an incredible 11-1 record, headlined by defensive tackle Purdue commit George Karlaftis. However, the Braves were not deterred. After allowing a first-quarter field goal from the Red Devils, the Braves marched down the field, capped off by a 2-yard run by Derrick Ozobu to put the Braves on top, 6-3. The Braves were able to hold on through the third quarter and the first half of the fourth thanks to rock-solid defense headlined by a massive end zone interception by junior Adam Vanderkooy.

Unfortunately, a misstep by the Braves' defense allowed West Lafayette WR Kyle Hazell to slip loose for a 53-yard TD with only 1:15 left in the game. But the Braves refused to back down. On the ensuing kickoff, senior Daniel Ingram lateraled the ball back to Miles McIlwain, who ran the ball up the sideline for a 75-yard score to give the Braves a lead they would never relinquish. As Red Devils QB Luke Touloukian dropped back for a hail mary opportunity, the Braves sacked him to finish the game, after which the members of the student section who had braved the 30° weather stormed the field. Through hard work and determination, the team pulled off a major upset, 13-10, giving them the Regional Championship and allowing them to sing once more. Coach Roessler said after the game: "I am super proud of our kids. It doesn't always work out the way it did tonight... To have this great moment in these kids' lives, everything we've done has been validated."

A regional victory at home meant a semi-state battle in South Bend against the Mishawaka Marian Knights. The Brave community geared up for the two-hour journey: in addition to the football team's two player-buses and one equipment bus, the school brought a student-fan bus and a family bus.

At the time of kickoff and throughout the game, Brebeuf fans, with their fatheads and pom-poms, constitutes over half of all fans in attendance.

The Braves started off hot, holding the Knights to a three-and-out and successfully converting a perfectly executed fake punt. They struck first on a 26-yard pass from Derrick Ozobu to WR Gabe Wright, giving the team a 7-0 lead. Kicker Alex Potts would add a 29-yard field goal in the second quarter, extending the lead to 10.

Rain had started to fall on the field at the beginning of the second quarter and picked up in intensity as the game progressed. With 3:26 left in the second, a bolt of lightning struck behind the Marian bench, leading the teams back into the locker room for a delay. Per IHSAA rules, the game would only resume if 30 minutes had passed without a lightning strike. However, the storm only got worse, forcing the team and the fans to stay inside. As the team waited inside the cafeteria, fans were seen touring the nearby campus of Notre Dame and playing basketball inside the school gym.

After two hours of waiting, the teams were able to take the field again in a primarily defensive game. Each team's offense was continually stifled with Braves' sophomore punter Alec Bevelheimer punting seven times. Despite this, a late Braves drive in the fourth quarter, finishing with another 16-yard touchdown pass to Gabe Wright, sealed the game, with the Braves winning 17-0. The Braves' defense finished huge with two interceptions from Senior LB James Kroot and one from Simon Banks.

The excitement was palpable. The Braves would return to Lucas Oil Stadium for the first time since Coach Roessler's first year with the Braves in 2013. As the bus back from Mishawaka rolled in at 2:30 on Saturday morning, the team was ready for a Thanksgiving-week showdown against the Evansville Memorial Tigers.

It seemed both miraculous and also inevitable. Through a 1-3 start to the season, through the loss (and return) of RB Noah

Delumpa to an ankle injury, the Braves kept fighting, never losing sight of the goal of a state championship. The players grew stronger, as a community and as a team. In the week following the win against Marian and in the midst of an eight-game win streak, the players were focused and intent on bringing home the win the following Friday.

Unfortunately, the Braves found themselves outmatched against Evansville. The running game was stifled for only 13 yards, and the Braves' defense never found an answer to Evansville's high-powered offense. Despite spectacular plays such as Miles McIlwain's 77-yard kickoff return, Jacob Pressler's 90-yard reception, and Gabe Wright's 45-yard TD catch, the Braves fell to Evansville, 29-17.

Although the Braves fell in the final, their season was marked by incredible achievements. Derrick Ozobu passed for over 2000 yards in his final year at Brebeuf, and Jacob Pressler finished with over 900 receiving yards. Freshman Isaiah Martin also rushed for a team-high 643 yards. On defense, Devin Harrison finished with 4.5 sacks, and Jay Higgins ended with a team-high 145 tackles. Senior Dillon Howell also received the IHSAA Mental Attitude Award, joining Braves' Kat Modrall and Grace Roudebush in receiving that award.

As many of the Braves' starters were seniors, underclassmen will have to fill many spots in the roster. Some will return from last year, including Michael Bales, Jay Higgins, and Gabe Wright, and many will rise from the JV and freshman teams to become starters.

Regardless of the final outcome, the Braves' season was truly fantastic. They were incredible to watch, from the very first game in August to the final game at Lucas Oil in late November. They brought the school together in cheering for a common cause and left their legacy upon our school. The Arrow congratulates the team on a great season and a job well-done.

Photo Credits to all photos on page: Circle City Conference



Fantasy Football at Brebeuf digital players, visible competition

By Casey Rector '20
Staff Writer

The season of Sundays being filled with football is once again upon the nation, and with each NFL team returning to the actual football field, that brings along countless Americans taking to the digital field to compete in a different type of football: fantasy football. Within the Brebeuf community, students are no exception from this. Brebeuf students don't shy away from partaking in an American tradition as popular as apple pie and bald eagles. Groups of friends all around the country get together to compete in this digital game based on real-life professional performances.

Granted, there is some luck

involved in winning, but there's also a certain amount of knowledge needed to be successful; you must know which players are poised to succeed and which are doomed to have an unsuccessful season. Friends thoroughly compete throughout the season, but the benefits of playing fantasy football stretch beyond the glory of winning. Playing fantasy football with any group of people helps bring them closer together, and it gives them great reasons to become better friends. One example of a group of people joining a fantasy league together is within our school's very own hockey team.

Last year, then-freshman Lane Erickson got nine of his fellow teammates together to participate in a fantasy league. The league renewed for its second year this year, as the teammates found the

league a successful bonding experience. As sophomore defenseman Corbin Riggins says about the league, "You have a common interest each week with each other. Being on a team together, you always have to spend time together anyway. Fantasy football gives us more things to talk about. It helps us become better acquainted even off the ice, and the competitiveness is always fun." The league features a mix of players who either graduated or moved teams for this season to accompany the current team members. Last year's captain Cole Speer and assistant captain Theron Walsh still remain active owners, along with players from last year's team Nolan Seenberg and Mac Perkins, who play for a different team this year. Being in a common league gives everyone in the league an opportunity to keep in contact and catch

up with their former teammates.

This is true for many leagues: they act as a bridge between old friends who aren't able to see each other often. There are countless examples of friends remaining in touch through fantasy. Talking about players, teams, trades, and many other related things gives people chances to catch up. These examples exemplify how fantasy football, a digital online game, is able to play a connecting role in people's lives. So go out and start a fantasy league with your friends, and you will get to experience a great friendly competition with them.

Staff Writer



Important Holidays in December

By

Colin Chambers '20
Staff Writer

With the holiday season quickly approaching, the holiday many people are looking forward to is Christmas. However, Christmas is not the only holiday that occurs in December. Many other important and unique holidays occur in December, and it is the duty of all to appreciate and respect the holidays that are truly the most important.

December 16 - National Chocolate Covered Anything Day: Anything and everything that is covered in chocolate is celebrated on this day. Some examples include chocolate covered raisins, nuts, pretzels, and even worms. No matter what the food is, the fact remains that chocolate makes every meal better.

December 19 - Oatmeal Muffin Day: Continuing with the trend of food related holidays, December 19th is oatmeal muffin day. One can hardly consider themselves a sophisticated person unless their diet consists mainly of oatmeal muffins. A muffin without oatmeal is really not even a muffin at all, so if you are making muffins on this beloved day, make sure to put some oatmeal in them.

December 21 - Look on the Bright Side Day: This holiday occurs on the same day as the winter solstice, which is the day of the year with the shortest amount of daylight. Because of this, it might be a bit difficult to look on the bright side of things, but being optimistic might make this day seem less dreary.

December 23 - Roots Day: This holiday could be referring to the roots of a tree, your ancestors, or even square roots in math. Whatever way you think about them, roots are an extremely important part of anyone's life, so make sure to appreciate roots that appear in your life.

December 28 - Card Playing Day: Christmas is over, and now it's time to forget about all the new presents and take this day to commemorate one of the oldest but still one of the greatest games ever created, cards. So many games can be played with the 52 cards that you should be able to find a game that everybody can enjoy.

December 30 - National Bicarbonate of Soda Day: We may be approaching the end of the year, but we are not approaching the end of the fun holidays. Bicarbonate of soda, more commonly known as baking soda, has various uses in baking and in everyday life. Without bicarbonate of soda, life would be a dull and dreary existence, so make sure to appreciate the beauty that is bicarbonate of soda.



Classic Christmas Delicacies

By Cam Durm '20
Staff Writer

As we all wind down to be with our friends, families, and other loved ones during this holiday season, we will enjoy many celebrations, traditions, and most importantly, food. Food is essential to the growth of a human being, and I like to think that the break gives us time to reflect on that. I sat down to Christmas dinner last year, my mom placed down her famous "Country Potatoes" that I enjoy so much every time I am with my family. My mouth was watering, and that was, until, my grandma put down the weirdest platter I've ever witnessed with my two eyes. Chocolate pie. With Sour Gummy Worms. I had never seen something more atrocious in my life. I did not taste, nor look at the pie for the rest of the evening. Ever since, I've always wanted to explore other crazy Holiday-Time foods that people have enjoyed in the past. The Seasonal Foods Countdown:

#1 - Turkey is great, and a lasting tradition over years and years of holiday celebration. Also, don't forget that Cake for dessert is one of the best things ever invented since sliced bread, but Mixing them? That's a no-go.



#2 - I'm one of the biggest pizza fans that you'll meet, and I'm pretty sure anyone you talk to who isn't lactose intolerant will be completely down for a hot slice of cheesy goodness, but gravy was made to go with biscuits. Not tomato sauce. Nasty.



#3 - No caption. No jokes. This is disgusting. This is a powerade-based Turkey. Maybe if Usain Bolt had a sponsor for Christmas dinner, this may be acceptable. This creation makes me sad.



Tips for Studying for Finals

Jett Jenkins '20
Staff Writer

- 01** DON'T STUDY UNTIL THE NIGHT BEFORE SO THAT YOU CAN REMEMBER THE MATERIAL BETTER.
- 02** PUT YOUR TEXTBOOK UNDER YOUR PILLOW TO ABSORB INFORMATION.
- 03** DO NOT SLEEP THE NIGHT BEFORE FINALS. SPEND THAT EXTRA TIME STUDYING.
- 04** DO NOT EAT BREAKFAST THE DAY OF FINALS. STUDIES SHOW THAT PEOPLE WORK BETTER ON AN EMPTY STOMACH.
- 05** DO NOT ASK THE TEACHER FOR HELP. IF YOU BELIEVE IN YOURSELF, YOU CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING.

A O F X A S E I K O O C D T T
 Z D I R H P K E L O Q N I A Z
 R I N V B J X R B E E N W T Y
 E C A S E T A I A O Q C J Y U
 E A L L X V A L R C Y J Y N L
 D N S N D H S N B D X E L O E
 N D S A N T A C L A U S Z E T
 I Y Y O N M K C A N D L E S I
 E C K X E S L A T B E V T H D
 R A O N E W Y E A R D I V G E
 I N T R N I Z W J W N D X I R
 V E F N T T N I M R E P P E P
 Z W N A M W O N S I H Z L L J
 S T P R R T R E E X G F N S O
 S S C A S T A R S V B A X L E

PEPPERMINT
 TREE
 ORNAMENT
 FINALS
 NEWYEAR
 CANDYCANE
 SNOWMAN
 COOKIES
 YULETIDE
 SLEIGH
 REINDEER
 SANTACLAUS
 STAR
 CANDLES

Love it/Hate it

By Zev Burton '18

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Aardwolfs (Google them, trust me) | 1. Paper cuts |
| 2. Music streaming services | 2. Pandora |
| 3. 80s high school movies | 3. Battery prices |
| 4. 2-hour delays with group breakfasts at Original Pancake House | 4. Sophomore drivers taking spots |
| 5. Corgi puppies | 5. The math inaccuracies of tennis scoring |
| 6. Costco as a first date | 6. Leaving Costco without churros |
| 7. Emily Myers' petition | 7. Jar Jar Binks |
| 8. Coffee at perfect temperature | 8. Automatic flushing toilets |
| 9. The first day of snowfall | 9. December 26th |
| 10. Extra credit | 10. Writing Love it/Hate it |