



## This or That

See if your preferences coincide with those of the student body in Skyline's Holiday Survey...

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## Did you shop Amazon.com this winter season?

Check out Amazon.com's Most Bought Gifts list this 2015 holiday season...

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Meet Nativity...

## Eight Facts You Didn't Know About Christmas

By Ari Keim

1. If you received all the gifts of the Twelve Days of Christmas, you would have 364 gifts.
2. Pope Julius I said that December 25<sup>th</sup> will be celebrated as Jesus' birthday.
3. The Polish put Spider webs on their trees because they believe a spider made a blanket for Jesus.
4. Christmas was not celebrated in the USA until

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1870

5. About 35 million Christmas trees are sold every year
6. 1962 was the year that the first Christmas postage stamp was issued.
7. 1/6<sup>th</sup> of all sales in the USA are during the Christmas Season.
8. Alabama was the last state to make Christmas a legal holiday (1907)

## Nativity Prepares for 2015 Christmas Concert

By Megan Ryan

The most wonderful time of the year is already upon us! In just about two weeks we will be off school and celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus, the reason for this school. We have our Christmas tree set up for everyone to see as soon as they walk in, but how else is Nativity getting ready for the holidays?

On December 13, the Nativity band and chorus had their annual...

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2015-2016 Hilltoppers Boy's Basketball Team

## Hilltoppers Plan for Successful Season

By Maddyson Melochick

The boy's basketball season has quickly approached. The boys have been working hard, on and off-season. Even though they lost 4 starters, the Hilltoppers are preparing for a successful season. The five starters include Eric Nelson, Price Szeliga, Ayden Adams, Derrick James, and Travis Hunyara. With four seniors and one junior starting this season, the Hilltoppers have an experienced starting five. The

boys also have a strong, solid second string with Jake Evans, Riley White, and Mike Winter coming in, which won't hurt when the starters need a breather. Price Szeliga is really excited for this season he knows how good they are going to be. "Ball is life," said Szeliga. He plays all year around almost everyday. The Hilltoppers are looking at a successful season. The team is 2 – 1, and are looking for a winning record.

(continued from page 1)

Christmas concert. The concert included performances from the Nativity band, Nativity concert chorus, and the feeder school band. The Nativity Christmas Concert is directed by Mr. Schimpf, the band and chorus director. Each year Mr. Schimpf tries to include some traditional as well as some more secular holiday songs. This year's concert will feature the songs: White Christmas, Old English Christmas, God Bless Us Everyone, Christmas Swings, and many others.

## Midterm Stress

By Cassie Wranitz

When midterms occur all students become stressed out. One midterm lasts for an hour and fifteen minutes and midterms have a fifteen-minute gap in between them. Since the midterms are so long there is a lot of material on them. The material is always hard to memorize. It could take hours to study for just one midterm, and there are seven midterms to study for.

Midterms make students stressed, teachers on edge, and everyone worried. Stress is not good for anyone. When a person has continuous stress for a week there are effects on the body. When stressed out for a given amount of time a person builds up stress related tension and they become overworked.

To avoid becoming too stressed students should study before the day before the test. Students could also study one subject a day and start at least the week before midterms occur.

# Holiday Survey: **This** or *That*

Compiled by Maddyson Melochick and Skylar Stoudt

53% of Students **WENT BLACK FRIDAY SHOPPING** 47% **DID NOT**

73% of Students Prefer **CHRISTMAS** 27% Prefer **NEW YEAR'S EVE**

58% of Students Would Rather **RECEIVE** 42% Would Rather **GIVE**

50% of Students Prefer **COLORED LIGHTS** 50% Prefer **WHITE LIGHTS**

56% of Students Prefer **BLACK FRIDAY** 44% Prefer **CYBER MONDAY**



## + Then & Now: Seniors Reveal Their Childhood Dream Jobs

By Skylar Stoudt

The first time someone asked us about our job aspirations, we were in preschool. Fast-forward almost 13 years later, and things have changed. We have discovered that princess isn't a real job occupation, and NASA is no longer sending astronauts to the moon. I asked the senior class about their job aspirations *then* and *now*:

**Ayden Adams:** Pharmacist/Spiderman → Mechanical Engineer

**Andrew Belding:** Pro Baseball Player → State Police

**Julia Bendetti:** Veterinarian → Nurse

**Bonnie Charles:** Doctor/Rock Star → High School Teacher

**Leeann Charles:** Firefighter → Police Officer

**Clayton Chung:** Bus Driver → Accountant

**Tyler Cooper:** General → Politician

**Makenna Copeland:** Psycho Analysis for the FBI → Musical Theater

**Josh Cromyak:** Science Major → Athletic Trainer

**Adrian Datte:** Movie Director → Special FX

**Billy Devers:** Football Player → Welder

**Cecelia DiNicola:** Doctor → Head of a Company

**Kaitlynn Esemaya:** Fashion Designer → Pediatric Neurologist

**Jake Evans:** Power Ranger → Undecided

**Derek James:** NBA Player → Accountant

**Jeffery Ho:** Didn't Want to Work → Accounting or Business

**Jocelyn Holobetz:** Rock Star → Accountant

**Travis Hunyara:** Actor on SNL → Undecided

**Collin Larkin:** Lawyer → Chemical Engineer

**Carley Lionetto:** Veterinarian → Veterinarian

**Lindsay Lord:** Teacher → Social Worker

**Anchor Mao:** Superman → Business Owner/Ironman

**Becky McCloskey:** Olympic Gymnast → Mechanical Engineer

**Isabelle McDonnell:** Ice Cream Shop Owner → Communications

**Elise McGovern:** Princess → Speech Pathologist

**Lauren Moyer:** Artist → Artist

**Eric Nelson:** Spy/Power Ranger → Engineer/Spy

**Linh Nguyen:** Teacher → International Studies

**Tung Nguyen:** Superhero → Lawyer

**Chris Opolsky:** Fireman → Lawyer

**Shannon Reiley:** McDonald's Worker/Ariel → Physician's Assistant

**Marcus Renninger:** Baseball Player → Swat Team Member

**Michaela Royer:** Veterinarian → Animal Control

**Brett Rushannon:** Teacher → Teacher/Restaurant Management

**Bailie Shockley:** Veterinarian → Psychiatrist

**Jordyn Simmons:** Veterinarian → Registered Nurse

**Olivia Smarr:** Veterinarian → Speech Pathologist

**Rachael Souchak:** Teletubby → President of the United States

**Travis Steele:** Pro Gamer → Accountant

**Skylar Stoudt:** Architect → Journalist and Lawyer

**Ashley Strausser:** Astronaut → Physical Therapist

**Dakota Tray:** State Trooper → Graphic Designer

**Dustin Tray:** Carpenter → Nursing

**Rebekah Troy:** Baker → Nurse

**Belle Wangjaroenwet:** Veterinarian → World Traveler

**Amy Jo West:** Teacher/Veterinarian → Social

Worker/Early Childhood Educator

**Cierra Zelanko:** Fashion Designer → Athletic Trainer

## Students on The Holidays

Compiled by Skylar Stoudt

"My parents' love."

- Rachael Souchak, senior, *on the best Christmas gift she has ever received*

"I can see my driveway from my bedroom window. In first grade, my parents were walking the presents in, and talking. I looked out the window, and saw all my presents, and started crying. I stopped believing in Santa Claus before my sister, Reighly, who is

four years older than me."

- Maddyson Melochick, junior, *on how she found out Santa isn't real*

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."

- Eric Nelson, senior, *on the best way to spread Christmas cheer*

"It's A Wonderful Life because it made me cry."

- Madison Clarke, sophomore, *on her favorite Christmas movie*

"All I Want for Christmas is You the Fifth Harmony cover, because I love

Fifth Harmony with all my heart."

- Julia Klembara, sophomore, *on her favorite Christmas song*

"Jesus being born."

- Tyler Zimerofsky, junior, *on the true meaning of Christmas*

## Western New Year's Traditions + A Brief History

By Chloe Manus

New Year's is a holiday celebrated by many around the world, typically beginning December 31<sup>st</sup> continuing into January 1<sup>st</sup>. Many traditions include eating, spending time with friends and family, making resolutions, and watching fireworks. The first recorded celebration of New Year's was in Mesopotamia during the Spring Equinox, and in 46 BC, Julius Caesar introduced a calendar following solar patterns rather than lunar patterns. This moved their New Year's celebration from March 1<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>. In the Middle Ages, the Church barred many old Roman traditions, resulting in New Year's being celebrated at a varied date rather than a constant one. In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII changed the calendar, which restored the date of New Year's

celebrations to January 1<sup>st</sup>, which is when people in the West celebrate New Year's today.

In Europe, some regional celebrations include private fireworks, going to beaches, and having polar plunges. In London, people watch fireworks alongside the River Thames. In Scotland, there is a popular street party at Princes Street in Edinburgh.

In Switzerland, the final match of the Spengler Cup hockey tournament is held on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

In America and Canada, there are parades, football games, ice hockey games, concerts, and religious services. In America, a toast is made to the New Year, along with fireworks and parties. In New York City, a large ball is dropped above Times Square when the countdown to the New Year hits zero. Afterwards, there is a large party involving fireworks and live music. In

Canada, there is a tradition where people go to beaches and run into the cold water as a greeting into the New Year.

New Year's EVE



### ATTENTION SENIORS



Financial Aid Applications (FASFA) can be filled out in January/February. For now you and your parents should set up the FAS ID prior to filling out the FASFA. Go to [www.FASFA.gov](http://www.FASFA.gov) to create your ID. Get this step done early! See Mrs. Stasulli or call if you have any questions.



# Amazon.com's Most Bought Gifts 2015

By Skylar Stoudt



- 1) Fallout 4 - PlayStation 4 \$63.90
- 2) Amazon Gift Card \$50.00-\$1,000.00
- 3) 25 CD – Adele \$9.99
- 4) Inside Out (Blu-ray/DVD Combo Pack + Digital Copy) \$22.99
- 5) Apalus Brush Hair Straightener \$39.99
- 6) Fitbit Charge HR Wireless Activity Wristband \$149.87
- 7) UDI U818A 2.4GHz 4 CH 6 Axis Gyro RC Quadcopter with Camera RTF Mode 2 \$109.99
- 8) GoPro HERO \$129.99
- 9) Cards Against Humanity \$25.00
- 10) Xbox One 500GB Console - Gears of War: Ultimate Edition Bundle \$299.99
- 11) Exploding Kittens: A Card Game About Kittens and Explosions and Sometimes Goats \$20.00
- 12) Fire, 7" Display, Wi-Fi, 8 GB \$49.99
- 13) Starbucks Gift Card \$25.00
- 14) Kindle Paperwhite \$119.99
- 15) UGG Women's Classic Short Boot \$154.95

# Christmas Prom

By Maddyson Melochick

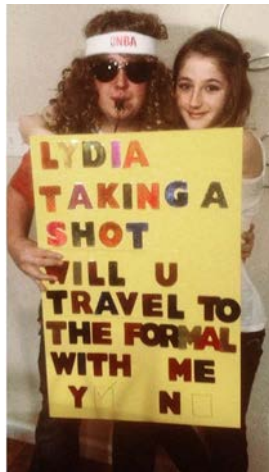
Christmas Prom is once again approaching. Girls rush to book hair appointments, and to purchase the perfect dress. While the boys, get their suits and order flowers last minute. Prom will be held at Hill Crest Hall on Sunday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. Prom will cost \$40.00 per person, and \$75.00 per couple.

Prom promposals have been blowing up our Instagram feeds this fall season. For those of you who don't know what a promposal is, it is when a boy asks a girl

to prom in a cute and unique way. For example, Ayden Adams asked Isabelle McDonnell with Berries, and said, "It'd be *BERRY* cute if you'd go to prom with me!" Promposals will be back during the months leading up to Spring Prom, but for the time being, we can savor the promposals below.



AK *promposals* to CW



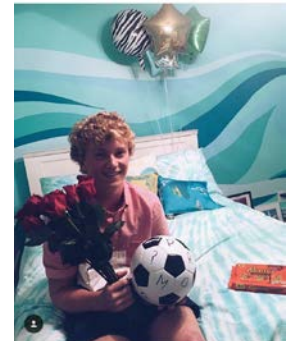
KC *promposals* to LG



DG *promposals* to NB



CM *promposals* to EF



RM *promposals* to CP

AA *promposals* to IM



NQ *promposals* to MS



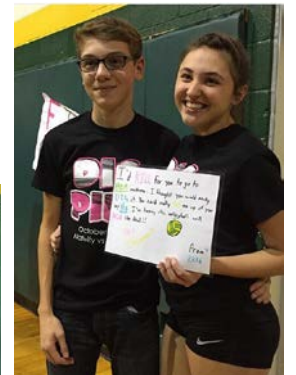
PV *promposals* to MM



TZ *promposals* to EW



JB *promposals* to EC



JC *promposals* to CM





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**Value Then**  
**Value Now**  
**Values Forever**

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## Athlete of the Month: Ayden Adams

By Maddyson Melochick

**Age:** 18

**Hometown:** Pottsville

**Grade:** 12

**Coach:** Kevin Kennedy

**Sports:** Soccer, Basketball and Baseball

**Position:** Small Forward

**Goal for This Season:** Win the District Championship

**How do you maintain being a student and an athlete?**

Budgeting my time, and never getting enough sleep



**Game Day Rituals:** Listening to Music

**Who is your favorite athlete?** Allen Iverson

## Meet Nativity...

By Skylar Stoudt, Photographed by Bailie Shockley

### Tyler Zimerofsky

**Grade:** 11<sup>th</sup>

**Hometown:** Pottsville

**How long does it take for you to get to Nativity by car?**  
45 seconds

**Favorite Teacher:** Mr. Jones

**Favorite Schuylkill County Delicacy:** Roma

**Clubs:** Interact, International, Science, Student Ambassadors, Campus Ministry, Music Ministry, & Concert Chorus

**Sports:** Cross Country & Track

