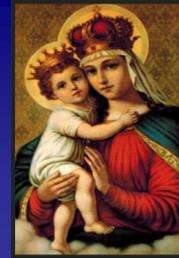


# EXCELSIOR

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## Summit Christmas Play a Success

Summit Academy staged their Christmas program on Friday, December 18th to a packed house. The entire student body took part in the play "Christ Comes to the Land of the Scots". The production was based on the book *Margaret of Scotland* written by local author Anne Guerin. Mrs. Gina Lustig adapted the story and directed the production. As the lights came down, snow began to fall outside, which gave the evening a magical touch.

St. Margaret was born in the early 11<sup>th</sup> century as an English princess, exiled in Hungary. Her family returned to England only to be forced to flee to Scotland a few years later. She was married to King Malcolm III of Scotland in 1070. She was a very prayerful woman who made herself available to the common people for counsel. She served the poor and encouraged the people of Scotland to become more pious. She had a civilizing influence on her husband and his court, and helped him and three of their sons who later ruled to be just and holy leaders. Margaret died in 1093 and was canonized in 1250 by Pope Innocent IV.

Seniors Rachel Waters and Dean Stubbers played the leads of Margaret and King Malcolm. Caleb Currier, also a senior, acted as the king's advisor Fergus, who met his

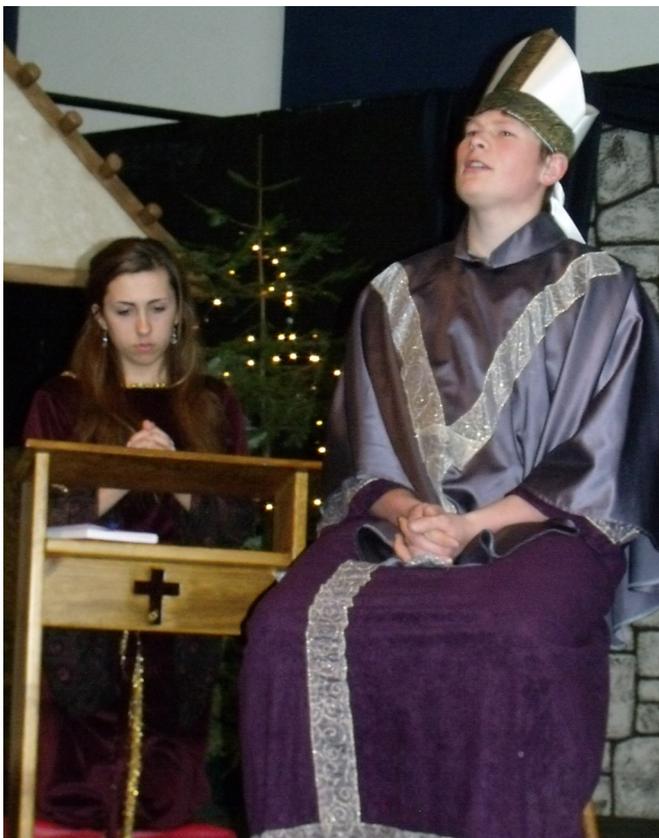


*1st and 2nd grade shepherd boys look up at the angelic host*

demise at the hands of Malcolm during the play. The remaining senior high and junior high played Scottish ladies and the kings men. Junior high boys played several parts, filling in as the queen's brothers and Scottish townsmen. Boys in preschool through grade six acted out a young boy's dream as dragon slayers, while the third and fourth grade girls enacted a young girl's dream of being a princess. The kindergarten and first grade girls were wedding dancers at Margaret and Malcom's wedding. Ice princesses played by the fifth and sixth grade girls danced during another scene to represent Margaret waking up to a new-fallen snow. The preschool girls assisted the ice princesses as little snowflakes.

After a long estrangement, Malcolm gives Margaret a jeweled Bible as an attempt to reconcile their relationship. Margaret accepts the book and tells Malcolm the story of the nativity. Mary and Joseph played by Erin Chmelik and Justin Wassmuth came on stage with baby Jesus, played by Justin's 5 month old brother Weston. The

*(Continued on page 2)*



*Left: Margaret seeks counsel from her confessor*

*Above: 7th-8th girls as ladies in waiting*

(Continued from page 1)

swaddling-clad Weston laid peacefully in Erin's arms while 1st and 2nd grade shepherds recited a poem and then the entire student body processed onstage with candles to adore the newborn King.

*Margaret of Scotland* author Anne Guerin attended the production and was available before and after the play with signed copies of her book. The book *Margaret of Scotland* can also be purchased at amazon.com.



Top Left: *Fergus threatens King Malcolm.*

Top right: *3rd-5th grade boys prepare to slay the dragon.*

Above: *5th and 6th grade girls perform their snow princess dance*

Right: *High School boys as the king's men*



## Administrative News

Summit students and staff are cherishing their last few weeks with Mrs. Karla Krogh. The Krogh family is moving to Boise this spring, as Mr. Krogh takes on a new position in his family's lumber mill. While we've known about the move for a few years it's hard to lose such a great part of our Summit family!

Mrs. Krogh has taught 5-6th grade for 5 years. She will teach through the end of 2nd quarter, then be home to prepare for their move. The Krogh children will be with us for a few more months. Mrs. Michelle Sonnen will take over as homeroom teacher for the 5th and 6th grade. Mrs. Sonnen remains head of language arts for grades 1-8 at Summit, but the language arts teaching duties for grades 1-4 will go back to those homeroom teachers.

Mrs. Krogh's contributions to Summit are not limited to teaching. She served as athletic director for 2 years which has been taken over this year by Mr. George Watson. She has coached numerous basketball teams both boys & girls, ranging from 3rd to 8th grade. Mrs. Krogh also organized last year's hike-a-thon at the Fish Creek recreation area.

Mrs. Jeanne Stubbers has taken full-time employment and will be leaving her part-time teaching position at the end of the quarter as well. She taught a high school accounting/personal finance elective for that last year and a half. The students in that class are choosing a different elective for second semester.

Mr. James Reed, new Superintendent for Catholic Education for the Diocese of Boise, paid a visit to Summit on December 16th. He toured the school with Mr. Hickel, met most of the faculty and staff, and joined the students for afternoon prayer. Mr. Reed was well-pleased with what he encountered at Summit.

# From Our Students

The third and fourth grade recently studied Psalms with Mrs. Dalton. After learning about the psalms, each student wrote one of their own. Here are some examples, as they were written.

The lord is comeing. Make a hiway in the clouds for him and we will follow after on the ground. In the second coming he will be walking in the clouds and the lord will say in a booming voice "this is my son come to me and come home to me to the everlasting life. Wher weather is fine and fields are plentiful. A river is flowing of gold and grace of God.

By Levi Wassmuth

Lord, I am small, and you are big. You can do more, I can do less. I have a small life, you have a big life. I love you, you love me. You have more people, I have 10. I love you.

By Blake Aiken

Lord, you know me, I do not know my own cells. You know all my strands of hair, but I do not know one strand of hair. Lord, oh, oh Lord I am small, you are big, wise and yet young. You know me more than I know my self, oh Lord.

By Rachel Sonnen

8th grade student Jessie Sonnen has started a short story. Below is the suspenseful beginning.

They were coming. She could hear their footsteps pounding in the trees behind her. She ran on, knowing it might be the last time she ran. She burst out of the trees into a clearing. A quick sweep of the clearing with her eyes sealed her doom. The clearing was the end of a cliff. She whirled around looking for an escape. The sound of their labored breathing surrounded her, closing off all hope of escape. They were almost upon her. She could smell the sweat upon their skin, putrid from the exertion. They came closer to her, tightening like the rope of a noose. She would not surrender, she would fight until her death. She pulled her sword from it's sheath. She held it out, as if she could win against them. They were closer now. She could see the colors of their clothing, through the trees. Leering they stepped from the trees, certain of their victory. They stepped closer, brandishing their swords in front of them. Closer they came until she couldn't bear their smell anymore. That's when she jumped.

Fearlessly she flew off of the cliff. She fell for about 10 yards before the minuscule rope tugged at her waist. Her fall slowed and she came to a stop. It appeared as if she was hanging in midair. The flaxjon rope was invisible to the naked eye, but it was stronger than any other rope. She heard their voices above her. Some crowed in triumph, certain that she was dead, but others mourned at the thought they hadn't gotten to kill her themselves. She started rocking back and forth, gaining momentum. When some peered over the cliff to see if she was gone; she launched herself. She flew upward through the air, silently swinging in a circular arc. She soared and landed silently on the tree, where she had tied her rope. The Oranc started

back through the woods. She was safe for now. She was almost to her destination.

She had been traveling for a month. She was running; running away from the Oranc. She had been held captive at their camp. That had been her hardest decision: running away. Her mother had convinced her to leave and save herself. Her mother had said, "Go Djanna. You must run. Go north until you come to the country of Tarina. There you will find refuge. Do not get caught." Djanna had not cried as she promised, "I will come back. I promise." Then she had fled into the night. The Oranc did not notice her disappearance until evening of the next night. With their speed and athleticism, they had caught up in a day. Djanna was forced to run during the night, but it seemed useless against them. The next day the Oranc were on her heels. There was no way to outrun them. She would have to use the one thing they did not have. Intelligence. Djanna had won, and they thought she was dead. She was certain to get to Tarina now.



*Sandy the Chess Guy has provided chess practices and lessons after school, which are open to the public, and will host a chess tournament at the school in January.*

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## Upcoming Events

- *Benefactor Dinner: January 31*
- *Ash Wednesday: February 10*
- *Hallissey Tournament: February 12-14*
- *Boys State Basketball: Mar 3-5*
- *Science Fair: March*
- *Parent Meeting: March 9*
- *Easter Break: March 24-April 3*

Summit Academy is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. In addition to federal and state deductions for your charitable contribution, Idaho residents may claim an Idaho State Tax credit which directly reduces your state liability.

Summit Academy does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, gender or national origin.

# Summit Sports

Mr. Ron Frei and Miss Kim Frei are once again heading the boys basketball team. A total of 10 boys turned out for the team, lead by seniors Caleb Currier and Dean Stubbers. The team has played 7 games with a 5-2 win loss record. Only two of the games have been league games and both those were wins. Coach Kim is "looking forward to league games to see how we measure up against other teams." She says the boys are continually improving

and she's excited to see what the rest of the season brings.

Junior High girls volleyball has begun practices and will be coached by Mrs. Amy Rose. Serving as assistant coach is junior Ally Sonnen. Their first match will be held January 26th.

Summit will send a girls team of sixth through eighth graders to the

Hallissey basketball tournament this year. Hallissey is an invitation only tournament hosted by the Diocese. They are coached by Miss Kimberly Frei (alumnus and faculty member).

Fifth and sixth basketball seasons will be starting soon for boys and girls.