Seniors to graduate abroad

Ceremony moved to New Zealand in order to avoid messy complications and restrictions

Lili Hobday

Claiming to “feel bad that the seniors are missing their last year of high school,” the OWL administration released controversial plans yesterday to send the class of 2021 to New Zealand for their graduation ceremony. “New Zealand is COVID free, and we’ll be chartering a jet for them obvi- ously, to limit their exposure,” said Principal Dave Gundale. “The entire staff will be com- ing because we all really need a vacation. It was just such a bummer last year, for the class of 2020 to have a virtual graduation, so we didn’t want that to happen again.” The beach-side ceremony will be streamed on Facebook Live, so that families can still watch the seniors graduate. Additional- ly, residents of New Zealand will be hired to sit in the audi- ence, so it’s not so empty. “We missed out on so much, so like, we deserve to go,” said senior Lachlan Corner. Rumors have circulated that the full retreat money for the next decade is being used for this 10-day (not including their 14-day quar- antine upon arrival) over-the- top “field trip” for the seniors. Dave and the PTO have both declined to comment on that matter.

Summer ‘21 to be cut short

In a highly contested de-
cision, SPPS announced on Monday that due to teach- er recommendation and low performance on standardized tests, students will be return-
ing to school a month early next year. “It was a tough de-
cision, but we really feel as though this extra month will be vital in getting students back on track,” said the super-
intendent. Students will start on Mon-
day, August 2nd and plans are in the works for a full 7 hour school day from 8:00 to 3:00. Many students are outraged by this decision, saying they’ve been waiting for summer for what seems like forever and are now seeing it ripped away from them. “I’ve done this school year is stare at my computer screen. I’ve stayed inside to be safe but now that vaccines are rolling out, I want to have the best summer of my life, not spend a third of it sitting in a dusty classroom,” said 11th grader Paloma Le-
one-Getten. Others agree with the deci-
sion, many stating that they’ve learned nothing this year and are nervous for when they actually have to start doing said Dave’s	raft story fab-
ricated?

Chiefs refuse to concede Superbowl 55

“I don’t think it’s an option this time around” Libby Nelson

After gradually pulling back on promised COVID-19 relief, President Joe Biden an-
nounced Tuesday that in place of the $1,400 stimulus check, he will be personally sending out gift baskets and “Get Well Soon” cards.

Over the past couple of months, we have watched President Biden neglect the wishes of his constituents. First with the “children de-
tainment facilities,” and then with the two thousand dollar stimulus check being cut in fourteen hundred. It can’t get worse than that, right? Wrong. Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris have started their deliveries of COVID-19 relief gift baskets, and no, the card does not include a stimu-
lus check. After very little con-
sideration, the Biden admin-
istration decided that $1,400 wasn’t low enough, and the money could be put towards more military weaponry.

“Nobody’s perfect, at least he’s not Trump! I’d actually enjoy blueberry muffins more than I would two thousand dollars,” said local Democrat Robert Simpson. Many others did not share this enthusiasm when they received a COVID relief gift basket. The basket included popcorn, homemade

Gift baskets on the way

Biden decides stimulus checks not an option this time around

Libby Nelson

Staff Writer

An IRS official delivers one of the first gift baskets that president Joe Biden sent out in place of stimulus checks.

Purple Press Staff Photo

A bummer last year, for the class of 2020 to have a virtual graduation, so we didn’t want to go, said senior Lachlan Corner. Rumors have circulated that the full retreat money for the next decade is being used for this 10-day (not including their 14-day quarantine upon arrival) over-the-top “field trip” for the seniors. Dave and the PTO have both declined to comment on that matter.

Students will be seeing the front of the school building a month earlier than usual in fall 2021 (left), Dave is putting in extra hours this spring to make sure he is ready for the unprecedented August start date (right).
Dave’s reputation sinks
New documents show Dave exaggerated infamous white water rafting story

Helena Squires Mosher
Staff Writer

"Following the release of documents thought to be long gone, Open World Learning’s principal Dave Gundale has been shown to have established his white water rafting story that he tells every year."

"This new information has been verified, confirming that Dave didn’t actually fall into the rushing water of a dangerous river—prompting his crew to paddle back up to get him—rather, he just got his hand a little wet. ‘What a weak-kid,’ said 7th grader Bob- by Flenderson, after reading through the papers.

"The repercussions of this lie have yet to be decided, but many members of the OWL community have expressed distrust in Dave. ‘How are we supposed to believe anything he says now?’ said Spanish teacher Tim Le- one-Getten. Multiple students have been noticeably down trodden, mourning the loss of such an inspiring tale. ‘It’s a shame,’ commented 9th grader Sally Thompson, ‘It never got old!’ When approached by Purple Press reporters, Dave declined to comment."

Grant reveals he can’t speak Spanish

Sayan Lunde-Leiva
Staff Writer

"I fear pressure from stu- dents and administration, Spanish teacher Grant Boul- anger admitted last week that he doesn’t really know Span- ish.

‘I don’t think I can make up any more fake words,’ said Grant, who had been impress- ing us for years.

‘Grant’s Spanish class is fun, almost too fun of a class,’ said 9th grader Anja Gundale. After looking up a Spanish word Grant was teaching, she found out that it wasn’t a real word, and she exposed him to the whole school. ‘Spanish with Grant was so fun, too bad I didn’t learn any real Spanish,’ said 9th grader Elena Davis. Principal Dave Gundale said he was very surprised and dis- appointed. All the other teachers were clueless that Grant was faking.

Grant said he managed to keep this secret going for years by avoiding textbooks, and instead focusing on oral com- prehension. That meant no one could check what he was saying.

Grant now plans to teach pottery full time and hopes that everyone will forget about this.

Megan and Leo are fostering cats in their new house

Hiroko Ziele
Staff Writer

In an effort to make the world a better place, OWL teachers Leo Bickelhaupt and Megan Hall decided that in- stead of moving into the new house that they bought last month, they would use the space to start fostering cats.

“We were originally going to do all these renovations to the house, but then we thought about how our cats and how there are so many more cats who deserve a loving home,” Me- gan said, “and if we have space, we might as well use it for a good cause.” I’ll be a nonprofit.” They started a GoFundMe page to raise money to get all the necessary equipment such as cat food, bowls for food and water, and litter boxes. "It’s go- ning really well so far, and I’m excited for when we can actu- ally get started and meet the cats we’ll be fostering because you know, cats are cool,” Leo said.

Megan and Leo are hoping to be able to foster at least 20 cats, and all cats will be wel- come. As for the names of the cat fostering nonprofit, they haven’t decided yet. “I think we’ll let the kids come up with it since they are good at com- ing up with clever names,” said Leo. The two of them teamed up with the city council and St. Paul Mayor Melvin Carter for legal purposes.

Leo and Megan are set to start running their nonprofit later this year. ‘We will be sure to follow all the COVID-19 guidelines. I think we are doing a really nice thing for us, for the community and for the cats. We’ll be making a lot of people smile,” said Megan.

GoFundMe set up to fund OWLs pandemic prom outfits

Elen Musk and James Bridenstine, the CEO of NASA, have been collaborat- ing to provide all OWL stu- dents with lunar landing suits.

These are the latest technolo- gy and will keep students and chaperones 100% safe. Some parents arranged a GoFundMe page to be able to afford all of the suits. After students re- ceive their lunar landing suits they will have the opportunity to bedazzle them. This can in- clude sequins, glitter, fabrics, and you’ll even be allowed to draw on them with crayons.

Students to wear lunar landing suits for prom this year
Senior Spotlight

Izzy

How many years have you been at OWL?
12 years.

What are your plans for next year?
Probably nap on top of the piano even more.

What's been your favorite class in high school so far?
Science.

What extracurriculars are you involved in?
High jumps and very occasional spirals.

Favorite field work trip and why?
I don't like trips, because they involve the car, and the vet.

If you had a walk up song, what would it be?
Love cats.

How tall are you?
About 6 inches.

What's your favorite class so far and why?
English, because Preston can tell me apart from Zeke.

Who's your favorite senior?
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Where do you think you're going to go for college?
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That One Little Cat

Peanut

History day student fakes topic for project, advances

Katie Craven, 7th grader Jimmy Tyson confessed to fabricating his state-worthy project.

Although they recognize that it's not good, seniors not exempt

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The Star Wars galaxy is expanding...again

Three new movies and yet another TV spinoff are in the works

Nicholas Streng Staff Writer
Following the success of Star Wars’ first original live-action series, The Mandalorian, fans were thrilled to hear the announcement of many more Star Wars spin-off shows, such as The Bad Batch, The Book of Boba Fett and Andor. But there’s an upcoming movie known as Rogue Squadron. It seems like the world of Star Wars can’t get any bigger, but it has. Lucasfilm and Disney have just unveiled three upcoming Star Wars movies, as well as one new TV series.

The Knights of Ren
Fans will remember the Knights of Ren from Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker, in which they accompanied Kylo Ren on his journey to capture Rey and the Resistance, only for all of them to be slaughtered by Kylo when he made the heroic choice to reject the Dark Side of the Force. They will once again be seen on screen in their upcoming appearance in The Knights of Ren, which will stream on Disney Plus in the year 2022 and will take place before the events of The Rise of Skywalker. The series will be directed by J.J. Abrams, and consist in length of eight episodes for its first season. Abrams has teased that the series will be very action-packed and suspenseful. There will be a lot of scenes that’ll get people on the edge of their seats,” he said in an interview. “As we follow the Knights’ journey, they’ll get into a lot of disastrous situations, and you won’t know if they survive or die.”

Planet Killer: A Star Wars Story
Everyone who’s watched Star Wars is familiar with the iconic Death Star, the space station with the capability to destroy entire planets. Planet Killer: A Star Wars Story will fully explore the origins of this terrifying superweapon — as well as see how it was built. Directed by Gareth Edwards (who previously directed Rogue One: A Star Wars Story), the movie is set to release in 2023. It reportedly will be in a documentary format, with Guy Henry, the actor who portrayed Grand Moff Tarkin in recent Star Wars media, narrating over the entire runtime. When asked about what that was like, Henry described it as “excruciatingly boring.” The whole movie is just, like, space crates and fortifications moving around placing machinery down. I didn’t even know it was a Star Wars movie until I was halfway done.”

GONK: A Star Wars Story
The GNK, or “gonk” droid in Star Wars has been widely praised and beloved by fans, and is easily one of the most recognizable droids in the galaxy. So it should be no surprise that Lucasfilm has announced a spin-off movie starring a gonk droid, titled GONK: A Star Wars Story, set about forty years before Episode I: The Phantom Menace. The film will be directed by Jon Favreau and Dave Filoni, both of whom previously worked on the first two seasons of The Mandalorian. It is scheduled to be released in late 2021, alongside The Book of Boba Fett and a synopsis has been released ahead of the chapter of the ever-expanding world of Star Wars, we follow the inspiring story of GNK-1, a simple droid programmed to power starships. Separated from his owner, GNK-1 will embark on a journey across the galaxy, stopping at nothing to find his master. Favreau has reportedly stated that the entirety of the movie “will be about his actual journey, so it’ll just be a lot of scenes of him walking in the desert or across a corridor, bumping into stuff along the way, or maybe he’ll just be waddling across a rug

Paw Patrol is humorous, while real
“↑The genius of such a show is only found once in a lifetime.”

Otis King Staff Writer
Few shows have engrossed me and given me as much nuance and incredible story telling to regularly ponder at length. The genius of such a show is only found once in a lifetime. Now, people might say that The Last Airbender, or Spongebob Squarepants is the best cartoon of the century, but I disagree. It’s Paw Patrol.
Well to wall emotional nuance and an amazing portrayal of courageous rescue animals brings to this show a level of realism that is truly refreshing in these times. Not to mention the show is quite hilarious, delivering an excellent mix of classic jokes with newer edgy humor mixed in. I see nothing wrong with this show. In the case of Avatar the Last Airbender however, you have sloppily written characters with coupled with ridiculous plotlines. (Not to mention the weak love story between a fox and a grader and an 8th grader...) All in all, if you want an incredible show, capable of producing your children for the classics like Twin Peaks, The Sopranos and Breaking Bad, look no further than Paw Patrol.

Kansas City Chiefs refuse to concede Super Bowl loss
Head coach claimed that the Bucs’ “only made it seem like they won”

Ted Dobkins Staff Writer
Claiming that the 2021 Super Bowl loss was a “Pyrrhic victory,” the Kansas City Chiefs and their head coach Andy Reid came out publicly on Sunday February 7th stating a massive claim, that Super Bowl 55 (a game they lost to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 9 to 31) was actually a win for the Chiefs and that in reality, the Buccaneers lost.

The Chief’s Head Coach Andy Reid made a statement hours after the game, “There is no way the Buccaneers won, they only made it seem like they won. The Chiefs scored way more points than the Buccaneers, and we will not leave the stadium until there is a recount of the points, and it’s shown that we actually won.”

Kansas City players and staff went on to make more claims, such as Reid claiming that undrafted people and dead people participated in the game, helping the Buccaneers win. On February 10th, the Buccaneers were celebrating the annual Super Bowl victory parade in Tampa Bay, Florida. Players and staff celebrated on boats out on Tampa Bay, but an angry mob of Kansas City fans stormed in and stormed the streets and the bay, forcing many Buccaneers players and officials to be evacuated. The Kansas City fans brought their own signs and banners. They started celebrating their “Victory” at the Super Bowl, in hopes of convincing more people that they actually won. However, this attempt to overturn the Super Bowl did not affect the outcome of the match, and later that day the rioters had been driven out of Tampa Bay. Reid remained defiant after the victory parade, ordered, saying, “This game is far from over.” However, the game had actually ended three days prior. At the time of this article’s publication, no further attempts have been made to overturn the results of the Super Bowl and many Kansas City executives have been accused of inciting the stadium storming.

24-hour hand washing study inconclusive
Violet Wright Staff Writer
Disappointing health care professionals around the world after a year of research, the CDC announced Monday that a study conducted to determine whether washing your hands for 24 hours a day would prevent COVID-19 recently drew to a close without a meaningful conclusion.

“The study was, regrettably, unable to find enough compliant participants for a statistically significant result,” the study team said. Study, 3
**MN Timberwolves maintain the best record in the NBA**

**Elizabeth Hallanger**

Throughout time, there have always been incredible works of art that are just as powerful today as they were when they were created, such as paintings, music, and even film. Of course, there are the well-known iconic films that we have thought provoking films that have stood the test of time, such as *The Godfather*, *Star Wars*, *Boo-Boo*, and *Juno*. The plot is centered around our titular main character, Garfield, and his relationship with Odie, the dog, who is a constant nuisance. Odie soon becomes involved in a local pet show, and is noticed by a television host, who wants to have Odie on his show, however,Odie, his owner, declines. The next night, Garfield's frustrations hit a breaking point, and he lets Odie loose, though he soon vows to find Odie. Garfield then goes through various adventures through the city, saves Odie from the evil television host, and learns an important lesson about friendship. Now, from first glance, this may seem like a regular children's movie to you. However, look deeper, and you'll find the true meaning. With just a bit of analysis, it's clear to us that Garfield is an obvious allegory for the modern, everyday working class citizen, just look at his love for lasagna, a (regular) angular food, much like a daily paycheck and hatred of Mondays. In turn, this makes Odie an allegory for those at the bottom of the societal hierarchy, and, seeing how the whole story is centered around stopping the television host from taking advantage of Odie, it's not unlike how those of the top 1% take advantage of those below them. And that's just a surface level analysis. There are many more hidden details throughout the movie that you could go on about. Like the significance of the song that plays during Odie's performance of “Mama” by The Black Eyed Peas, a song infamous for its tasteful and meaningful lyrics, how Garfield and Odie's relationship is a metaphor for the political climate of the US, and how each of Garfield's animal companions throughout the movie represent the four horsemens of the apoca- lypse. However, I think one of the most thought-provoking and heart-tugging elements of the movie was the characteriza- tion. The characters in this movie are the element that got me the most. In this movie, Garfield overall seems consistent in his regular self in the comics: lazy, carefree, sarcastic, and an avid lover of lasagna. However, his character develops much deeper than that in the film, where his character growth is truly a cinematic masterpiece. Shown best through the way he in- teracts with his companions, his growth from unwilling to befriend the new addition to his life, to learning to get along with a member of the opposite species is genius and brings tears to my eyes each time I see it. His relationship with Odie is also quite a powerful meta- phor for the true goodness of mankind, and that, no matter who we are or what we look like, we can still come together to help one another. A truly powerful sentiment from such an unsuspecting film. In conclusion, Garfield The Movie is truly a hidden gem, up there with many of film's greatest works. With its many hidden, deeper meanings in both the larger overall plot and smaller details, and complex and emotional characters, it's a shame that this movie was overlooked by the general public. However, now that I've spread the word, I recommend that you watch/watch the re-release for yourself; however, this time, try to look a little deeper. I can guarantee that you will consider it a true classic, as well.

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**Garfield proves to be a meaningful story**

**Elizabeth Hallanger**

Throughout time, there have always been incredible works of art that are just as powerful today as they were when they were created, such as paintings, music, and even film. Of course, there are the well-known iconic films that we have thought provoking films that have stood the test of time, such as *The Godfather*, *Star Wars*, *Boo-Boo*, and *Juno*. The plot is centered around our titular main character, Garfield, and his relationship with Odie, the dog, who is a constant nuisance. Odie soon becomes involved in a local pet show, and is noticed by a television host, who wants to have Odie on his show, however,Odie, his owner, declines. The next night, Garfield's frustrations hit a breaking point, and he lets Odie loose, though he soon vows to find Odie. Garfield then goes through various adventures through the city, saves Odie from the evil television host, and learns an important lesson about friendship. Now, from first glance, this may seem like a regular children's movie to you. However, look deeper, and you'll find the true meaning. With just a bit of analysis, it's clear to us that Garfield is an obvious allegory for the modern, everyday working class citizen, just look at his love for lasagna, a (regular) angular food, much like a daily paycheck and hatred of Mondays. In turn, this makes Odie an allegory for those at the bottom of the societal hierarchy, and, seeing how the whole story is centered around stopping the television host from taking advantage of Odie, it's not unlike how those of the top 1% take advantage of those below them. And that's just a surface level analysis. There are many more hidden details throughout the movie that you could go on about. Like the significance of the song that plays during Odie's performance of “Mama” by The Black Eyed Peas, a song infamous for its tasteful and meaningful lyrics, how Garfield and Odie's relationship is a metaphor for the political climate of the US, and how each of Garfield's animal companions throughout the movie represent the four horsemens of the apocalyptic horsemen. However, I think one of the most thought-provoking and heart-tugging elements of the movie was the characterization. The characters in this movie are the element that got me the most. In this movie, Garfield overall seems consistent in his regular self in the comics: lazy, carefree, sarcastic, and an avid lover of lasagna. However, his character develops much deeper than that in the film, where his character growth is truly a cinematic masterpiece. Shown best through the way he interacts with his companions, his growth from unwilling to befriending the new addition to his life, to learning to get along with a member of the opposite species is genius and brings tears to my eyes each time I see it. His relationship with Odie is also quite a powerful metaphor for the true goodness of mankind, and that, no matter who we are or what we look like, we can still come together to help one another. A truly powerful sentiment from such an unsuspecting film. In conclusion, Garfield The Movie is truly a hidden gem, up there with many of film's greatest works. With its many hidden, deeper meanings in both the larger overall plot and smaller details, and complex and emotional characters, it's a shame that this movie was overlooked by the general public. However, now that I've spread the word, I recommend that you watch/watch the re-release for yourself; however, this time, try to look a little deeper. I can guarantee that you will consider it a true classic, as well.

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**No movie has a right to be this good**

**Wendell Franklin**

Zoo Wars is a 10/10. No movie has a right to be this good and you will come out the other side a changed person. While this flawless piece of cinema has plenty to praise it may also well start with the phenomenal animation. This movie puts studios like Pixar, Ghibli and Laika to shame with its detailed models and environments and balances realism with a more comic-style style. It’s hard to believe that humans have evolved to create art and the animators should re- ceive enormous praise. Next, on the voice acting and script which were not surprisingly air tight. I will never look at an elephant the same, as I can’t stop thinking of Garfield with the angelic voice of KJ Schrock, actor of Nuke. Chen Tsung was another standout as Boo-Boo was a truly menacing bad guy, right up there with Anton Chigur in No Country for Old Men or The Joker. Zoo Wars also tells a grip- ting story that kept me at the edge of my seat for it’s whole 70 minute run time. From the moment Nuke gets picked up you know you’re in for an ad- venture. There are battles, comedy and even a dark to- ture scene in which Boo-Boo uses some of his most power- ful Sauce abilities, like Guac- a-mole and Tabasco, to try and get Princess Sparklefeather talking. It all leads up to a sat- isfying end that even sets up a sequel. In conclusion, Zoo Wars is a spectacular movie that flew under the radar and needs way more attention than it got. It’s free on Tubi, along with plenty of Evan Tramel others work, and everyone should watch it. I give Zoo Wars a 10/10.

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**What is one of the greatest movies of all time?**

**Elizabeth Hallanger**

During a press conference, Minnesota’s General Manager was asked about the culture that the organization has created. His response was “Our play- ers work so hard every day to continue to improve. Honestly, I know this is going to sound a little arrogant but I’ll say it anyway, we can’t seem to do anything wrong. We haven’t gotten a number 1 pick since we drafted Towns in 2015, but we continue to grow these players into stars.” Minnesota’s next game is at home at Target Center, hosting the Eastern Conference lead- ing 76ers. This will be a fun contest of superstar centers as Kawhi will battle against sec- ond leading MVP candidate Joel Embiid. We can expect Towns and his pack to put up a fight, this could also be a glimpse into a possible NBA Finals matchup.

Speaking of the NBA Fi- nals, the Wolves, who have won 2 of the past 3 championships and have made it to the Finals for the past 5 years, are over- whelming favorites for the title this year.