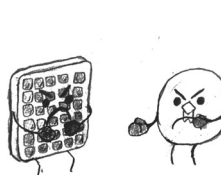




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Purple Press

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Treachery & murder at OWL

Macbeth, Shakespeare's tale of ambition gone wrong, returns to the OWL stage tonight

Hazel Carroll
Staff Writer

A battle, people with swords, blood, death. Suddenly... the lights begin to flicker and three strange people appear on stage. Their words are hard to discern -- what in the world is a "hurlyburly"? What the heck are you watching? To answer your questions, you're watching the opening scene from Shakespeare's Macbeth, this year's fall play, which

opened last night at 7:00, and continues through Friday. Those three weird sisters are the witches, and their job is to tell you what will happen to our main characters: Macbeth, Lady Macbeth, Banquo, & Macduff. But what exactly is Macbeth about? "[Macbeth] is a cautionary tale of what happens of how power can lead to corruption and misery," said eighth grader

Daniel Meekin who plays the first witch, "it is an interesting and crazy tale." When Macbeth hears a prophecy that he will become king, at first he is hesitant to believe the three witches who foretold this event. However, when one of the witches' other prophecies comes true, he decides that, with the help of his wife, Lady Macbeth, he will kill the king and seize the throne. What follows is a trail

of blood, death, and destruction, all lead by the misguided ambition of one man. "It's a play about desire and how far we're willing to warp our world to get what we want and keep what we think is ours," said theatre teacher and director Rebekah Rentzel, "It pushes everyone to play to the top of their game. Macbeth is an all-or-nothing kind of a show, and all the designers and



Deborah Tesfamariam, Daniel Meekin, and Mira Iwaszek, who play the three witches in the school's production of Macbeth, pose for a picture at rehearsal.



Bike tech teacher Joe Blegen helps 10th grader Cyrus Slinger with a bike (left). _____ fixing a bike (right).



OWL staff photo

Hands on learning

Bicycle mechanics class gives students the opportunity to learn real skills in the classroom

Grace Bellamy
Staff Writer

Students are clustered in pairs around detached bike wheels, working on lateral wheel truing, and the classroom is filled with conversation about one thing or another. A student's voice rises above the chatter and yells out "Hey Joe, can you help me

with this?" Joe Blegen is the teacher for OWL's new bicycle technology class. He is also a full time bike mechanic at County Cycles. The school received a grant to work with Project Bike Tech, a program that trains high schoolers with bike mechanic skills and job preparation training. The class

is primarily hands-on, falling in line with EL Education principles. Project Bike Tech is a program that teaches high schoolers about bikes to create job opportunities and teach core academics. The classes are designed to practice other skills like resume writing and interviewing for a job.

PBT was started by bike shop owner Berri Michel who partnered with the Santa Cruz board of education to create a class similar to the auto shop classes that were created by the auto shop industry in the 1930s. The class is designed to be very hands-on, in line with OWL's EL Education curriculum. "So we set out to create new generations passionate and knowledgeable about

Bikes, 2



Girls protesting on Robin's corner in St. Louis, Missouri.

Robin Pettypiece

#StandOnEveryCorner

Helena Squires Mosher
Staff Writer

During the past few months in St. Paul and Minneapolis, you may have seen a group of people on a street corner, holding signs that say "THE TRUTH MATTERS" or "VOTE AWAY HATE!" If you've driven through the

intersection of Marshall and Fairview, you may have seen Grant Boulanger, an Open World Learning spanish teacher, holding one of the signs as well. This summer, Grant felt that he needed to do something about President Donald Trump's southern border immigration policy that had been

making the news. He sent out an email and a Facebook event to some friends, and then went to the Snelling overpass that's above I-94. A few people joined him, and they stood with signs for a couple of hours. At first, Grant thought this was going to be a one time thing, but at the same time

in South Minneapolis, a man named Bryce Tache had begun to do the same thing. Like Grant, Bryce was unhappy that children were being separated from their families at the United States southern border. He started to protest in a park near his house every day. He continued like that for 130 days, with more and more people joining him over time. Friends of Bryce's created

Corner, 6

Concert choir plans an ambitious tour

Singing their way to New York

Paloma Leone-Getten
Staff Writer

and New York City. The first stop will be on Sunday, at Niagara Falls for a tour before getting back on the bus and driving to Greenfield, Massachusetts for the night. On Monday, the choir will be performing at Four Rivers Charter School, and then traveling about two hours to Boston. Then, on Tuesday, they will explore Boston, including a guided tour and a cruise in the harbor at night. On Wednesday, concert choir will perform at Codman Academy Charter Public School before driving for a little less than

This May, OWL's concert choir of 74 students will be leaving choir teacher Alex Federer's second floor classroom, getting on a bus and going all the way to New York. The concert choir will be going on tour, performing at 3 stops along the way. They will leave on Saturday, May 18th and drive 15 hours before their first stop. Concert choir will be performing at three other EL Education schools as well as stopping to experience Boston

Choir, 2



Alex Federer

Concert choir performing at Hamline United Methodist.

Purple Press

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Choir, 1

four hours to New York City. Thursday, they will go to the One World Observatory, tour Ellis Island and Liberty Island, explore Central Park and then go to a Broadway show. On Friday, the students will perform at MELS school and then begin the 19 hour journey back to Minnesota, arriving on Saturday.

The cost of going on tour is \$1,300 per student. The choir department understands that this is a lot of money and is providing scholarships for students who need them. To make this money for scholarships, the concert choir performed with the choir From Age to Age and also will be bagging food at Cub on several Saturdays.

It is very important for OWL's concert choir to go on tour, according to Alex, because there aren't many choir programs similar to this one in the EL network. "We will be a model for other EL schools to see how a choir works in the system," said he said. This trip will also be a chance for the students to bond and experience new places together.

However, the choir still has a long way to go until tour in May. Alex has many things for them to perfect before performing. "Practice, blend, work on notes, rhythms, I could go on and on." Semester two will bring even more pieces to work on, with less time to practice them until the tour. However, he does acknowledge that this choir has already come a long way this year. "Currently, they are in a great spot and I'm extremely happy with the progress they have made thus far," he said.

The students in concert choir are getting more and more excited as the tour draws closer, although some are concerned about the 15 and 19 hour bus rides. "I get car-sick, so hopefully I'll be able to sleep a lot," said 10th grader Ella Pratt. "But I'm excited to travel and to see what other schools think of our choir and how their music might be different. It's gonna be fun to create a better bond with my classmates."



Ella King

10th grader Leo Dungan-Seaver lays out for the frisbee.

Manatee fifth in fall league

Low key warm up helps team prepare for spring season

Leo Dungan-Seaver

Staff Writer

The OWL boys frisbee team layed out to a fifth place finish this season, and, with another fall season under the belt, there was a lot to take away.

With a final record of 6-2, the team said they were pretty satisfied with how they did. Junior Jedi Casas, a captain of the boys team, said "This was a good season for all of us, we did super good this year and I'm excited for spring."

As for newer players the boys fall league experience seemed to work out well, getting even playing time and scoring points at an alarming rate. OWL 8th grader Lars Neske described his experience as a middle schooler on the team as beneficial: "While it was hard at first playing against bigger players, it helped me understand high school fris-

bee so much more."

The fall league experience is not as competitive as the main spring season, but it isn't just messing around either. All of the teams have good spirit to an extent and the games are competitive, making it a great experience for all skill levels.

As far as why fall season is important, Boys frisbee coach Joe Ling states that the fall season is "an opportunity for players to shake off the dust and get some repetitions in throwing and catching in." It is also a rare opportunity to play full field outdoor frisbee before the spring season, making it very valuable. "We use the fall season to work on spirit of the game, which is really the most important part of frisbee at any level," Joe added.

The spring season for ultimate begins in March.

Mixed league affords unique opportunities

Girls relish the opportunity to compete against boys

Ella Pratt

Staff Writer

The OWL fall mixed ultimate frisbee team is a co educational team open to middle and high schoolers. The sport has a big place in the hearts of many OWL students, which is one of the reasons why just about everyone on the boys team and some girls go to Harriet island twice a week after school for practice despite the cold Minnesota fall weather.

The teams played their first games in early September and wrapped up the fall season in early November. The team went 3-8 this year, but Tom Hobday, 11th grader at OWL and captain of the mixed fall frisbee team said "Considering how we split up the talent, we still played very well, maybe not record wise but we created a better team chemistry."

The mixed fall league team practiced with the boys team on Mondays from 3-5 for captains practice and practiced with the high school coaches

on Thursday's from 4:30-6:30 to prepare for the Saturday morning games.

For girl frisbee players, the mixed league was the only option for ultimate this fall seeing there is no women's league. Girls who played mixed league saw it as a good way to develop as a player. "Playing with the boys, helps with building up aggressiveness as a player because the boys on the mixed team typically are more aggressive players which encourages the girls to match their energy and attitude," said Lauren Mitchell, 11th grader at OWL.

9th grader Lili Hobday said, "The points were longer with more complex, and the team had a strong bond." Lili plans to play her first year for the wo-manatee in the spring. "I'm excited to be apart of such a big sport at OWL," said Lili, who already plays varsity basketball and volleyball for Humboldt.

Becoming gradually more competitive



Photo courtesy of Humboldt Athletics

The combined swim team from OWL, Humboldt, and Washington poses before a meet earlier this fall

OWL swimmers, many of whom started in eighth grade, help HUMWOW to third in the conference

Helena Squires Mosher

Staff Writer

Competitive swimming has become a big deal for many high school girls at Open World Learning. The HUMWOW swim team, which combines about 30 swimmers from OWL, Humboldt, and Washington Tech, placed 3rd in the conference finals this year.

The swim season starts in mid-August, and goes until the end of October. During that time, the HUMWOW team practices for 2 hours every day after school. They have one meet a week, on either Tuesdays or Thursdays. Being in the pool every weekday is tiring, but worth it. "When you're doing extremely hard

stuff every day, it really bonds you all together," says Freya Ebbessen, a 10th grader who joined the team in 8th grade.

Some of the first OWL members of HUMWOW started swimming on club teams in the Twin Cities, and then joined the school team. After that, friends of the swimmers wanted to get involved. "I think we all kind of pressured each other into doing it," says 10th grader Linnea Campbell, who joined in 7th grade. "I thought it would be a fun chance to hang out with them more."

The team has not only grown, but improved a lot over the past few years. Because many of the members have been swimming with HUM-

WOW for a while, they're able to see themselves and their teammates get better. "When I joined the team four years ago, we won only one meet," says Madigan Lodahl, a 10th grader. It had been HUMWOW's first win in four years. "Now we are 3rd place in the St. Paul conference!"

The HUMWOW team has developed a sense of community and friendship between the three schools, and are very invested in it. "Each year I feel more committed to the sport," says 10th grader Lily Deutsch. The team is happy to have a break from the pool now, but are excited to dive into a new season next year.

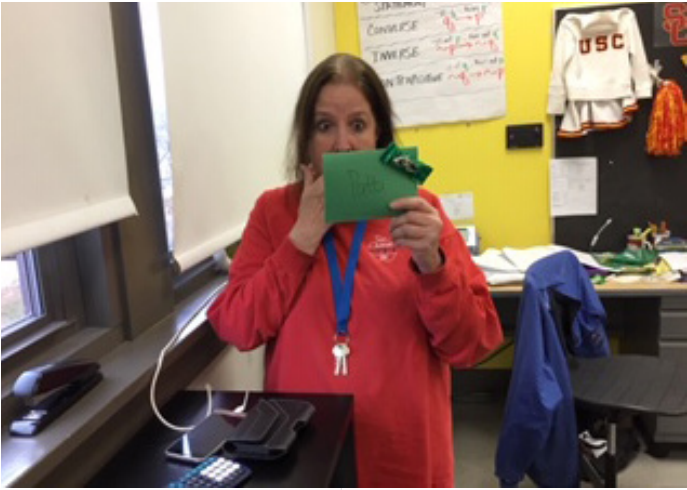


Photo courtesy of ORAKA

Math teacher Patti Hosfeid reacts to a friendly letter she received during the ORAKA competition

ORAKA encourages friendly competition

Katie's crew wins winter edition

Lily Deutsch

Staff Writer

Writing anonymous thank you notes to peers and teachers is a start, but dressing up as a chicken could get you the most points. Think your crew can win a competition about kindness and adventure?

If so, ORAKA is for you. ORAKA is a competition between crews that OWL holds each year. When science teacher Megan Hall went to an EL conference a few years ago, a teacher told her about Oraka. She took it back to her crew

and they turned it into the Owl's Random Acts Of Kindness Adventure challenge. "I thought it was a really cool way to show kindness towards others," she said. All judging is done by the Narwhals -- Megan's crew -- which means they cannot compete. They used the point system from the other school, but graduate Siena Leone-Getten made the point system into a rubric.

The rules state that participation and involvement from your crew is necessary, you

Oraka, 3

Macbeth, 1

actors are bringing their best game."

With astounding lights, sets, and scenes, there's a lot to be excited about.

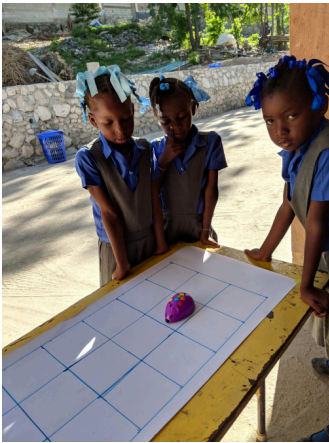
Macbeth features a cast of 19 with senior Jaime Upton, and juniors Eponine Diatta and Noah Morris as the three Macbeths, senior Athena Bolton-Steiner as Lady Macbeth, freshman Nora Verner as Macduff, and seventh grader Mirabelle Iwaszek, and eighth graders Daniel Meekin and Debora Tesfamariam as the three witches.

Remember, Macbeth opens tonight, and in the words of Rebekah: "By the pricking of my thumbs, something wicked this way comes to a theatre near you. We'll see you there!"

Playgoers will also be treated to a deluxe, professionally-printed playbill, complete-with plot summaries, character bios, feature stories, and more. The program was created by the Advanced Placement Literature class.



Espen is surrounded by students at the A New Arrival Center (ANAC) school in Haiti during a visit in Port au Prince. Three girls learning about coding (top right), Espen and his younger brother Stian stand with Jonas, their interpreter (bottom right).



Espen Asper

Helping out in Haiti

An OWL family makes its second trip to perform community service at a school in the Caribbean

Espen Asper
Staff writer

At the A New Arrival Center (ANAC) school in Port au Prince Haiti, all the classrooms are open air, have chalk blackboards at the front, student artwork on the walls, tables and chairs lined up facing the front, and a metal sheet roof.

The facilities may not match what we have in Saint Paul, but these students still come to school everyday because they know the value of their education.

“I greatly value my education and take academics seriously because I know that coming to school and coming to ANAC school is a privilege,” said Launise, a 8th grader at ANAC.

About two months ago I had the opportunity to go travel to Haiti with my family with an organization called KOZEFO. My family and a friend had the opportunity to teach coding to students at ANAC, which goes through 9th grade.

“Seeing all those pictures represent how we have been helping many Haitian learners whose parents could not afford to school and we all supporters, contributors and donors make it happen because we believe education is the key to succeed. A million of thanks to KOZEFO for all they do and keep doing in Haiti,” Said Jonas Jean-Baptiste, English

teacher at ANAC, referencing a shared photos album of the trip.

Haiti is a Caribbean nation that shares an island with the Dominican Republic sandwiched between the island nations of Cuba and Puerto Rico. It is slightly smaller than the size of Maryland. Haiti was in the news in 2010 when the nation suffered devastating earthquakes. Travelling in Haiti, I noticed that there are no school busses, almost no paved roads, and few if any green lawns. Almost all houses have walls with razor wire, there were vendors lining on the sides road, and trash almost everywhere.

I also had the opportunity to experience Haitian transportation first hand. There they have Taptaps, which are kind like a public bus. They are mostly pickup trucks with seating in the bed of the truck and some are just cars. I was able to ride in both a car and a truck Taptap. The boundaries of personal space are kind of thrown out the window because your only paying to get somewhere, and they will often fit up to 12 people in the back of a pick up truck.

The students at ANAC impressed me with their enthusiasm. They came to school every day to learn. In Haiti only about 50% of kids go to elementary school and only 50%

of those kids go to middle and high school, so that’s only 25% of kids that complete school.

Even with the small resources available to the school Kozefo has been able to provide them with Chromebooks that they use once a week. This is just one of the small things KOZEFO have been able to provide ANAC with to help better the education of the students.

Recess at ANAC was a fun thing to watch. I heard the sound of some of the kids singing with my dad. Some of the older kids playing soccer with cinder blocks as goal posts. Kids talking with friends and playing frisbee with my brother Stian. All of the kids were having fun and were in there element.

This was a really eye opening experience and just to see the determination in the students to learn is really inspirational, and i wash we had that same determination. Even though Haiti is a impoverished country they still strive to grow.



Espen Asper

A view of the outdoor indoor-outdoor classroom at the ANAC school in Haiti. Above right, a group of ANAC students peer into the camera.

OWL archers enjoy live, moving targets

Bow hunting takes patience, but offers quality time outside

Emily Yang
Staff Writer

Sitting 20 feet high in the air in a 3’ x 3’ tree stand, I wait for a deer as the leaves blow red and yellow through the thick woods. The canopy wavers over head. Waiting for the sun to rise, life is quiet all around. The cool air awakens all of my senses from my head to my toes. Sometimes I see a deer, and sometimes I don’t.

Through the OWL archery team, many of the students have branched out to participate in the bow hunting season. The bow hunting season goes from september 15 through december 31. People from the ages of 10 and up are eligible to participate.

Weekends are spent in the woods, waiting hours before seeing anything, but it is usually worth the wait. Last archery season in Minnesota, there were a total of 100,800 archery hunters with an overall success rate of 18.7%. The total number if harvest were 21,058.

Seventh grader, Liliana Espinosa has been practicing shooting with her a compound bow since she was 8 years old. Her grandparents own a cabin in Hinckley with nearby land where the family hunts that they go hunting on.

The young archer stood in her tree stand for three and a half hours in early November as she hit her mark in the heart. She is very proud of her recent achievement of shoot-

ing her first doe.

“My favorite part is after I shot the deer and I feel proud,” said Liliana.

Shooting your first deer can lead to many different emotions and feelings. Being nervous is a normal feeling especially if it is your first deer. Liliana and her family use every part of the deer, not wasting any part of it.

“I had mixed reactions. I was happy. My grandparents do this thing where they celebrate the deer’s life. We use every part of the deer’s body,” said Liliana

Another OWL student involved in deer hunting is senior Donald Post Jr. From having the string come off of your bow, forgetting gloves and release, to having a bulky tree stand, Donald has lived through it all. Donald has been a part of the archery team since 7th grade and now is one of the four captains. Through joining the archery team, Donald met new people who opened a door to hunting. Hunting has always been a big part of Donald’s family, from his grandpa, to his uncles, and even his dad.

“It depends on what season it is. When it’s rifle season I go with my dad. During the archery season I go with my coach Mark, and sometimes with Emily (myself) and her dad,” said Donald.

Some hunters prefer bows, and some prefer firearms.

During the early hunting season, archers get first dibs in trying to get their deer before being disturbed by other firearms. For bow hunting, you must have very accurate shooting skills to successfully harvest your deer. Being able to keep calm and steady isn’t an easy thing to do. When hunting with a rifle it is easy to hit your mark hundreds of yards away.

Even after years of not seeing anything but squirrels, people like Donald believe that even if you don’t see anything, it is about spending time with people. The best part for him is going camping during the hunting season with his friends and it’s a good break from school.



Donald Post

Senior Donald Post looking down from a deer stand.

bikes. And it’s such a fun way to learn!” said Berri.

OWL has always been involved with the health and wellness department in the district. When Project Bike Tech reached out to the district,

There’s a school near Joe’s house that has a bike program that goes out on rides and overnight trips, and learns how to fix bikes. He sent Spanish teacher Tim Leone-Getten, who’s a customer at County Cycles, an email suggesting something similar at OWL, setting the wheels in motion. He met with a group last February, where “they asked me to teach the class,” said Joe. He didn’t expect to teach the class when he first brought up the idea, but it turns out that “I really like teaching,” said Joe.

The labor demand for bike mechanics is expected to increase by nearly 30% according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This is due a shift in transportation systems in urban planning: more and more cities are expected to become more “bike-friendly,” increasing the amount of bikers and need for mechanics.

The Bike Tech class will be offered again next year, with a few upgrades. It will be both a year-long and a semester class. For students who took the class this year, Bike Tech 2 will be an option, where they will focus on more advanced topics like wheel-building. There is also potential for teaming up with Humboldt, who has a welding class.

Oraka, 2



Photo courtesy of Oraka

Members of Alex’s crew pose aftet placing post it notes of appreciation for the custodian on the trash can.

need evidence of completing a challenge, such as a picture, it’s important to follow the safety policies and that all challenge submissions must be submitted on time. Crews can write to owloraka@gmail.com is a place for evidence submissions and questions.

The most recent ORAKA challenge wrapped up last week. Katie’s crew won the competition with 162 points. Caryl’s crew was second with 143 points, and Grants crew won on the strength of 114 points.

This year’s version featured adventure challenges such as dressing up as your school mascot, decorating an area of the school with fall colors, or recreating a scene from a favorite cartoon. Along with the adventure challenges, there

were also kindness challenges such as cleaning your crew leader’s room, writing kind messages and notes to staff, or making treats for your buddy crew.

Historically, there seems to be an unofficial crew rivalry between social studies teacher Katie Craven’s crew and Spanish teacher Tim Leone-Getten. Teacher Katie Craven mentioned, “Our crew as a whole is very competitive...We have participated every year that I have been a crew leader and we look over the challenges and decide who will do them.”

“In Tim’s crew we are also very competitive and use that to our advantage. Our strategy is to plan ahead so we can get as many challenges done,” said 10th grader Madigan Lodahl.

Senior Spotlight

Donald Post



How many years have you been at OWL?
Five
What are your plans for next year?
Go to college and study. And have a great time.
What was your favorite class in high school?
CIS with Damon
What extracurriculars are you involved in?
I did archery, ultimate frisbee, and I did baseball for a few years.
What was your favorite fieldwork trip you’ve been on and why?
I liked the 8th grade Mississippi River ones, but the 12th grade ones were pretty fun because it opened my eyes up to maybe doing Outward Bound later on in life.
What’s your favorite book, movie, or TV show?
My favorite movie of all time is Les Miserables. I love Hugh Jackman from the X-Men and it’s great to see him sing about bread.
If you had a walk up song what would it be?
Eye of the Tiger and I would yell Adrian like Rocky because of Adrian from crew.

That One Little Kid

Calvin Vang

How tall are you?
Not sure, five six maybe.
What’s your favorite fruit?
Um, probably pear.
What’s your favorite book?
Percy Jackson. The first one.
Who’s your favorite senior?
I don’t know about that...
Where do you think you’re going to college?
I don’t know any colleges.
What’s the weirdest thing about OWL?
Uh, the recess time.
What’s your favorite school lunch?
The nachos.
What elementary school did you come from?
Phalen Lake Elementary.
What’s your favorite class?
Gym class.



OWL in pictures

Asian culture night on Novemeber 29th!

Current students and alumni dancing and singing at Asian Culture Night.



Clara dishes on math, life



Nik Logue

Clara helping a 7th grade student in her Prealgebra class.
Clara talks about starting her teaching career at OWL, teaching from an introverted perspective, and the importance of women in the math and science department.

Nik Logue
Staff Writer
What do you think first drove you to teaching?
I always liked working with kids. I always really liked explaining things to people. When I was in tenth grade, I worked with another kid on math and realized that I really liked doing that.

So it was something you always knew was in your blood?
Sort of, I always wanted to do it since I was young, that’s part of it.

And when you started teaching at OWL, it was during an evidently stressful time for the math department...
Yeah, I was in the science department originally. I was hired in January, and I didn’t really know what I was doing—I know a lot more about what I’m doing. But Dave quickly asked me if I would move over to math and I said “yes, absolutely.”

OWL differs greatly from other schools. When you started teaching here, did that require you to leave behind some prior lessons in teaching that you may have learned beforehand?
Honestly not a lot, because I was a new teacher. I didn’t have a lot of preconceived notions, I didn’t have a lot of things built in that I was like “oh, you must do things this way,” because I never really taught much before. I had done my student teaching, and I was hired, more or less, straight out of that, so I didn’t have a whole lot of things to change coming into our school. I was a clean slate, as you might say.

You also play viola for the Saint Paul Civic Symphony. Was music always a passion for you? Or just a hobby?
I started playing when I was three, and I really liked it all through high school. I

played in Minnesota youth symphonies, then high school orchestra, then college orchestra, and then I moved back here after going to college and didn’t play for a few years, then I got back into the symphony. So it’s definitely a stress-relief, and it’s definitely something I use to keep my life balanced. I wouldn’t totally describe it as a passion, I think of it more as something I do that distracts me from everything else that I’m doing. It gives me an opportunity to just focus on music for a few hours on Monday, which is really nice because otherwise I would just...work. [laughs]

I did an article a few years back on introversion and how some of our teachers here are introverts. And you had some very interesting things to say about that. Do you feel like being a little reserved has factored in to your more unique teaching style?
...Yeah [laughs] it’s interesting because if I know that everyone else in the situation is uncomfortable or nervous, then I do my best to try and get other people to relax. I’m more willing to talk with people if other people are nervous or reserved. I really like sitting back and listening too though. Something that definitely comes out of my teaching is that if other people want to talk, I will happily let them and sit back and say “yep, go for it. You people can all talk and I will listen.” I think that’s really the biggest thing about it. Listening is a huge thing for me, and making sure that people aren’t just talking and rambling. You’re actually in tune to what that person is saying, and there’s that level of engagement.

And you’ve also discussed the importance of women in the fields of science and mathematics...
Heck yeah! That’s a huge pas-

Clara, 6



Reviews ‘n’ stuff



A nation divided: pancakes versus waffles

As an age-old debate rages, one man ponders why pancakes don’t get the love they deserve

Angelo Carvale
Staff Writer

These are desperate times, folks. We’re divided as a nation, and to unite us once again is gonna be hard. If you’re on one side, you’re essentially destined to be hated by the other. It makes getting your voice heard one of the scariest things you could do; whatever you say will upset someone. There’s been so much discrimination, it’s heartbreaking.

But it’s time to break down the walls and become one again, and I think I’m the boy for the job. Well, there’s probably someone more qualified than me, but I’m gonna try really hard I swear. There’s gonna be a lot of sass, a lot of unnecessary name calling, and most likely a lot of crying done by yours truly. But it’s all worth it, because it’s what needs to be done to keep us together.

It’s time to call the off the war between pancake lovers and waffle lovers.

If you were thinking of any

other social economic issue, clearly you’re not caught up in current events. So I’ll give you the scoop: Waffles and Pancakes have been at war for about 60 years now. And it pains me to say this, but the pancakes are in the minority here. It feels like they get no respect. At this point they’re an endangered species. So where do we go from here? That’s where I come in. I want to find out what you, the people, think about theses issues. I’ve been conducting interviews, asking some of the top researchers in the biz the tough question, “Waffles or pancakes?”. So now, let’s delve into the minds of three geniuses and assess their true feelings on this important issue.

My first interviewee was Oliver Brazle Galde, breakfast lover and world renowned cool boy. As expected, he preferred waffles. “You just eat it, and it’s like, ahhhhhh,” said Oliver. Touching words from a touching man. However, one

of his talking points stood out to me. After explaining why he loved waffles, I had realized a majority of where his passion came from wasn’t actually waffle exclusive. “You like, put syrup on it, right? And you put butter on it too.” Sounds a lot like what you do with another similar breakfast food. That’s right, ladies and gentlemen, our panned cakes.

This was an eye opening realization, because it gave me a sense of unity. It made me realize that yes, we have some differences, but I think we have a lot more in common than anything. Maybe we don’t have to live in war for the rest of our lives, and we could maybe, in fact, not hate each other. To quote the band War, “Why can’t we be friends? (x4).”

My second interviewee was a certain Grace Bellamy, world class baker and overall stand out gal. Like our last interview, she was a waffle fan and expressed it in true Grace fashion. “I just like waffles more.”



Espen Asper

This remark, I personally feel, was a bit more arrogant than I was used to. But I think we can get through it and come to a reasonable middle ground.

Since the Grace is such a Masterchef, let’s go over some of the best culinary qualities a pancake can offer. Numba one: They’re literally just fried batter, like that’s the entire meal. But I’ll let you in on why this factoid is an important one. They’re called pancakes for a reason, it’s because they’re

what you would get if you took cake batter and just fried it, getting rid of the entire baking process in general. This is another issue I have with the whole ‘not liking pancakes’ thing, people disregard the fact that they’re literally just fried batter. Can you imagine something more beautiful? Think about the last time you tried to bake and how not well it went. Now, think about taking that and throwing it into a buttery pan on high heat. These facts

brings me back to my main thesis: How in tarnation could you disregard an idea ten times better than sliced bread?

Finally, my very last interview was with the most precious of them all. The gal, the myth, the legend. Jaime Upton. She was also mean to me about my opinions, and in graphic detail. “Because waffles are better. They’re always better, you stupid idiot.” Okay, she didn’t say that last part but you could

Pancakes, 7



In search of great music? Take a listen during some of your favorite video games

Milo Zimmerman-Bence
Staff Writer

I have never been too much into the genres of music that most people seem to like. Not that I will judge you or think ill of you for listening to them or enjoying them, because, at the end of the day, music, like all other forms of art, is subjective. However, I just simply haven’t ever gotten into things like rock or jazz, find most pop music to be samey and boring, and simply cannot stand rap or metal. But before I risk making anybody else hate me forever, I’m going to go into what I do like: cinematic music, the type found in film and video game soundtracks.

Ever since I was six, and saw *Star Wars* for the first time and heard John Williams’s fantastic score, I have been in love. And I believe no soundtracks have impacted me quite as much as the *Zelda* series’. Through this article, I hope to convey just what about it I adore so very much, and hopefully persuade

one or two of you to check it out and perhaps fall in love with it too.

First of all, I think it is important to mention that the music in the franchise is *incredibly* varied. Not only in terms of composers, of which there have been a lot, but also in terms of musical genres. From the orchestral brilliance of pieces like “The Sky” from *Skyward Sword* to the mariachi-style guitar and trumpet flourishes in the indescribably catchy “Gerudo Valley” from *Ocarina of Time* to the tribal percussion and didgeridoo drones of *Wind Waker*’s Earth Temple music to the dark and foreboding synths that comprise the Twilight theme from *Twilight Princess* to the gothic organ and choir featured in the same game’s “Blizzeta Fight” to the traditional Japanese instrumentation of *Breath of the Wild*’s “Kakariko Village” to the insane fiddle and flute of *A Link Between Worlds*’ minigame music to whatever the

Film scores, 7

Ella is convinced she has found the perfect Christmas movie

Ella Connell
Staff Writer

My dear readers,
End your Hulu free trials. Lose the Netflix password you’ve been “borrowing.” Put your router out into traffic. If you still have actual DVD’s lying around, burn them. Fill the disc drive on your computer with craft glue. When you watch this movie you may never need to see another again. Jalmari Helander’s *Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale* is a perfect movie not just during the upcoming months, but year-round. Released in 2010 out of Finland, *Rare Exports* has no recognizable names

or an English version but it is relentlessly gripping, dryly funny, sweet, and most importantly, creepy.

As it follows the confrontation between a small group of reindeer trappers and the folklore of the toe-numbing region they (barely) survive in, *Rare Exports* explores how modern people interact with ancient landscapes and myth, specifically the Finnish version of a goat-y Santa. Notably, there is never a woman on screen and only one is mentioned, nor is there a feminine presence in any other sense, emphasizing the transience of this community held together by the need

to survive in an incredibly harsh landscape.

When the group does truly come together it is only to manage crisis or facilitate a business venture, and even in the few moments of vulnerability between the main character and his father there is no real discussion of emotion or the events they’ve been going through. This combined with the rigor mortis humor and undercurrent of financial instability makes the entire movie very tense; even at the end when some parts of this are resolved there’s never a truly peaceful moment. This tension gives it similar vibes

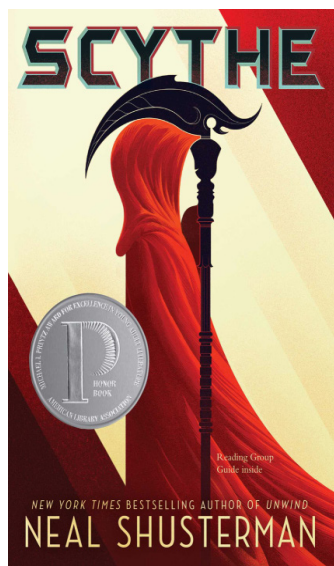
to John Carpenter’s *The Thing* and makes it a great holiday

Rare Exports, 8



An imperfect perfect world

Disease and poverty have been wiped out . . . but at what cost?



Guadalupe Dimayuga
Staff Writer

In a world without illness, disease, poverty, and natural death, a perfect leader must be present. But there are those above the law, those who lead themselves, those who teach each other, those who keep balance in our overpopulating world. It is not your choice, it’s theirs, the Scythes. The ones who glean, the ones with power, they choose who lives, they choose who dies, they choose the next ones in line.

“Scythe” is the first book in

a trilogy of books by bestselling author Neil Shusterman and is written with alternating chapters on the main characters, Citra and Rowan. It’s set on a utopian earth because all the other planets have failed. It has taken a long time, but all problems have been solved, even age is no longer a problem because everyone is entitled to reset their age to a happier time in their life. Although the world seems perfect, it’s not, without death, earth would quickly overpopulate. To save the world from overpopulation, scythes are made. Their job is to glean people daily and raise at least one apprentice. There are still

some scythes who bend the Scythedom’s rules, they glean inhumanely and based on personal opinion.

Citra is a girl in high school. She is not very different from her peers, but all is about to change. It’s an average night for Citra and her family, her mom is cooking dinner and Citra is doing homework, when suddenly a Scythe by the name of Faraday, (one of the most kind and respected Scythes,) arrives at their door. Citra and her family try not to show their fear, because a Scythe at your door will most likely end in a gleaning of one of your family members. Ci-

Scythe, 7

Corner. 1
the Stand On Every Corner Website, and from there, along with the help of Twitter, the movement began to spread to other neighborhoods and states. There are more than 250 corners like this around the United States that feature protests weekly and daily. “The whole idea was that it was intended to be grassroots,” said Bryce, “We’re not associated with any organization, or any campaign, it really is a whole bunch of regular folks concerned about the state of our democracy.”

Grant learned about what Bryce had been doing in early July via Twitter. Because it was summer, and he didn’t have many work obligations, Grant decided to establish his own corner. He started standing on the corner of Fairview and Marshall, by the Merriam Park Library, every day at 5:00pm. Grant reached out to people through the internet, and by talking to people walking or biking by. After a while, the corner had about 15 regulars. They stood on the corner every day until the midterm election. “Our signs changed from things like ‘REUNITE EVERY FAMILY’ to ‘PROTECT THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS,’” Grant says, “As we got closer and closer to the midterm, it became ‘VOTE.’”

During a typical day at the Fairview/Marshall corner, the group would hold signs and

engage with people who have their windows down, are walking by, or biking. Cars may honk, and they’d respond with a “WOO” or a “thank you.” Grant likes to call it a “micro-protest.” The protesters would ask people with their windows down if they were registered to vote. They bought stamps, and had voter registration forms that people could easily mail off.

Robin Pettypiece, a Stand On Every Corner participant from St. Louis, Missouri, stood on her corner from August 13th to November 6th. She went door to door canvassing, as well as protesting, during the two weeks leading up to the midterm elections.

“One of the reasons why it’s effective is because it’s consistent. It’s consistently showing people that there are folks out there angry enough at the way things are going that they’re taking their own time regularly to do something about it,” says Grant.

Because the Twin Cities is quite a progressive area, the response to Stand On Every Corner has been mostly positive. People on Grant’s corner only occasionally got yelled at or thumbs down. In more conservative areas, there is more opposition to the protests. Many people yelled at Robin’s corner in St. Louis. Once, some boys even tried to take away her signs.

“One of the reasons why it’s effective is because it’s consistent.”

The opposition wasn’t enough to stop them though, and the commitment to consistent protesting has made an impact. Stand On Every Corner has encouraged community members to share their voice. Recently, Grant talked with a friend who was election judging at his precinct. “She overheard someone saying ‘those people on Marshall and Fairview’ got them to come in and vote.” Robin talked about how the movement helped her find her voice, and help others. “A woman and her 5 girls just showed up one day. I made some signs for them and they kept coming back until school started. We now keep in contact and I was able to assist them in voting,” she says.

Now that the midterms have passed, many corners are taking a break. But most plan to organize more corner protests in the future. “We’re going to need to continue to take this kind of action,” says Grant. “It makes me feel good when I get out there, and when I’m not there, it makes me feel like I’m missing something.”

Clara, 3
sion of mine because women get told, or implied, from the time they are in middle school that they can’t do science or math, or that some people are math or science people and some people aren’t math or science people. It’s got a really negative affect, because then people set themselves up with “well I’m just not a math person, so therefore I can’t solve this problem.” And I think that’s crap! You can be a math person if you want to be a math person. You might have to work really hard at things, but you can still ultimately find success. Yet a lot of people will mentally set themselves up for being unsuccessful because they can’t be, they won’t be, they shouldn’t be. And that’s something I’m a big advocate of because there’s research that if women were reminded that they do as well on math tests as men, the women would statistically do better on those tests. All that was different was that they were told “hey, you’re just as good at this as the men in this classroom are,” and it seems minor, but it’s just the mindset. And so it is something I’m very passionate about, and I would like to continue to work toward more women in science. Though I do think we’ve done an okay job right now, AP Computer Science has a really large number of

women, which is awesome! So I want to see more of a shift in that direction, so we’ll work on it.

And in the recent years, do you feel like our community, state, or society in general has evolved technologically due to that?

Somewhat, I think the MeToo movement is really good for women to feel that they’re being listened to, and that their opinion matters. I think that has helped because, previously, I remember back in high school when it was implied—no one ever outright said it but it was implied—that that’s a male subject. And even when I was in college, my physics classes were generally all men. But I think we are seeing a change in society on how women are viewed. I think that’s awesome, there’s definitely more work to be done, but women are definitely changing how they view themselves, and men are changing how they view women, and I’m looking forward to watching this continue to grow and continue to see how it impacts my teaching.

Great. And finally, congratulations on your engagement. You’ve—

Gross! Ah go on, I’ll answer, whatever!

[Laughs] You decided to

have a costume wedding—
Heck yeah I did! How’d you find that out?

I sat near Megan on the bus—
[Laughs] Megan is very excited, that’s true.

Yeah, do you feel like keeping that imaginative side is important to life?

Heck yeah! If I have to get married, because marriage is dumb and I don’t need a man to define me and all this other crap, I want to do it my way. And so yeah, I am having a costume wedding. I’m not quite positive what I’ll be yet, but I’ve got ideas. I’ve got to finalize that costume. And if I have to go through with this, I’m going to do it my way and not the way everyone expects, because I’m nontraditional. So yeah, I’m very excited. It’s actually very great because I get to do a bunch of planning that, again, has nothing to do with school. I compartmentalize my life, so I’ve got my school brain, my orchestra brain, and my personal brain, and the personal one is going “Hey, you gotta plan a wedding.” There’s gonna be a lot of people at this wedding but it’s gonna be great. [chuckles] I’m so excited, even if it’s gross. Sometimes you have to do things that are gross, but it’s worth it.

American Horror Story is back on track

The show that brough classic horror to TV could be on the mend after some disastrous seasons

Samantha Peden
Staff Writer

American Horror Story is a classic horror anthology series. Each season has a different plot, characters, and time periods. The show features things such as witches, demons, ghosts, haunted buildings, cults and all that jazz. It also has some recurring cast members, in new roles or reprising their old ones, such as Jessica Lange, Evan Peters and Sarah Paulson.

This show puts different twists on historical moments, along its current events such as touching on the 2016 elections in season seven, and alluding climate change and natural disasters in season eight. I love this show. But sadly, it suffered a downfall in quality, and has been slowly rebuilding it since season four.

American Horror Story is still worth watching. Although its delivery doesn’t always match up to the hype, the show and its performers have earned multiple Emmy and Golden Globes awards over its duration. The show gained a dedicated cult following during its first season, raking in over 2 million, sometimes 3 million, viewers per episode. Coven, acquiring the highest amount of viewers in the shows history, getting about 4 million to 5 million viewers per episode. The fan base is dedicated and is very active online during the show. Most viewers are in the mid-teen teen-adult range. I would not recommended this show for

kids. (sorry 6th graders)
Seasons 1-3 was their golden age. Horror shows weren’t really on television in 2011, aside from Supernatural which was hardly scary by that point. The first seasons were so good because of the allure. The plots were intriguing, S1: Murder House, was about a family of three a mom, dad and daughter moving into an all to convenient low priced mansion, in attempts to save a broken marriage (due to cheating). They soon find out there’s much more sinister things in the house and its history. Everyone who lived there previously, was murdered in the house, trapping their souls there forever.

S3: Coven, centered around a small coven of witches possessing powers like telekinesis, raising the dead, going to hell and back, pyrokinesis etc. soon learn that they’re dying out. They start getting antagonized by their own supreme (queen of witches) in attempts to keep her power, by committing selfish, awful acts. Their supreme wasn’t the only thing they had to worry about, as their rivalry with voodoo witches who wanted them all dead posed its own issues. Everyone wanted them dead essentially. This season gets very gory so if you’re not into that, it’s not for you. Character development was stronger within these seasons as well, focusing on a few characters and fleshing them out instead of focusing on 10+. Interesting shots and cinematography

was also more evident in the shows past seasons.

S4: Freak Show is where you begin to see a downward slide in quality. S3: Coven was the highest rated season, so there was a lot to live up to. It sadly didn’t match expectations, especially when Jessica Lange, one of the recurring actresses, and essentially the heart of the show, announced her departure after S4. The show slowly went down it ratings, before hitting rock bottom in S5: Hotel and S6:

Roanoke, with only about 50% of reporting audience members enjoying each of those seasons on rotten tomatoes (I personally hate Roanoke with a passion.)

Cult was set with high hopes after Roanoke, hopes that it would turn AHS back around to what it once was. Although it wasn’t as bad, it was still disappointing, with plot holes and miscast roles, it was not what people were expecting from what was seen in teaser trailers.

Thankfully, the show has been on the rise again due to the new season, S8: Apocalypse. This season is a

crossover between Coven and Murder House, which are two of the most beloved seasons. It tied up loose ends left in the finale of Murder House, like the antichrist baby, and in Coven, certain witches getting trapped in hell, or elsewhere. With many of the original cast members reprising their roles from both seasons, along with playing new ones, this show managed to handle the story and timeline well.

It had a few weaker episodes, which were thankfully outweighed by their stronger ones. This season focused on the end of the world due to the rise of the antichrist,

the first 3 episodes following characters sent to a creepy underground bunker to repopulate the planet, which doesn’t turn out well. It then, goes into the past for the rest of the season giving insight on how the antichrist grew up, how and why the apocalypse started, and why we should care about the main characters.

This season however, is going to be a little confusing if you haven’t seen S1 or S3, but this was a great change of pace for the current fan base. The twist was wrapped up perfectly at the end, leaving no loose ends.



Season 8: Apocalypse is a crossover between Coven and Murder House. Although it had some weaker episodes, those were outweighed by its stronger ones.

Pancakes, 5

see it in her eyes. This is the part of the article where we get technical. Now, I've been doing some research and found some important info over this Internet you kids like. Turns out, pancakes are not what I previously expected; they're one thousand times better.

“Exposing our true emotions opens up new possibilities, a new world for future generations.”

Pancakes reach out a lot farther than just our good(?) ol' America, in fact pretty much everywhere in the world has their own version. Japan, Germany, Belgium, Vietnam, India, China, France, they all have some version of fried batter in weird shapes. Some places toss a bunch of weird stuff in them, like how Japan throws in meat and cheeses and vegetables because they're got dang crazy over there. Or you could be like India, and make em kinda thin but wrap them around basically anything you want, make it a pancake sandwich. You could even make em Dutch, which is just a pancake shaped into a bowl and filled with powdered sugar. There's tons of different things you could do, so many possibilities! But no matter what it decides to be, it will always be a pancake, and we'll love them

Film scores, 5



&%@\$ the Malo Mart theme is supposed to be, you name it, there's a good chance that it's been done and mastered at least once before in the series' lifetime.

Second of all, the variety and range of emotions that it covers, sometimes switching drastically on a yellow rupee (for those of you who are unfamiliar with the series, that is a very clever joke), is staggering. Some excellent examples of this kind of tonal one-eighty come from *The Wind Waker*, with the somber “Farewell Hyrule King” being followed almost immediately by the happy and upbeat “Ending”, and from *Twilight Princess*, with “Blizzeta Fight First Half” starting off with a very pleasant and relaxing glockenspiel tune quickly transitioning into a furious rush of a myriad of instruments, and the “Armogohma Fight Second Half” theme starting off victorious and uplifting, before going into just the most ridiculous thing ever as the game partakes in one of the greatest fake-outs of all time.

However, as great as those pieces all are, where the emotional writing really shines is when the composer(s) decide to focus on just one feeling and basically douse the end result in it. One of my favorite

no matter what.

Back to my thesis, waffles are good, they're crispy and they have the holes for syrup and all that fancy stuff. And I understand their appeal! But pancakes have a lot more to offer than people realize. You can make em crispy, you can make them as big as an extra

large pizza, you can fill them with powdered sugar or cheese or whatever. You could even just make them into a cake, it doesn't matter what you do. But it'll always be a delicious battery, buttery flapjack.

As I expected, these interviews were tough. There was a lot of name calling, a lot of unnecessary sass, and surprisingly only a little bit of crying (of which I am proud). But I think it was worth it to dig into these feelings, and to better understand each side of the spectrum. Exposing our true emotions opens up new possibilities, a new world for future generations. A world with more perspective, and with more contributing ideas on how we can improve as a species. From the ashes of my self esteem we can build a new society.

instances of this is the Flight Range theme from *Breath of the Wild*. Sure, it's a bit sparse, with quite a few long rests in between short bursts of sound, but that only helps to amplify the potent sense of melancholy and loneliness that the piano and glockenspiel do masterfully well on their own.

On the opposite end of the emotional spectrum, we have the Faron Woods theme from *Skyward Sword*. Everything in this piece, from the moving tempo to the peppy pizzicato that forms sort of a platform for the other instruments to the tambourine to the cheeky bassoon to the upbeat melodies given to the flute and oboe, seems engineered specifically to bring a smile to the listener's face and improve their day. The same thing goes for the vast majority of *Wind Waker's* soundtrack, exemplified especially well in “Outset Island” and “Dragon Roost Island”. The strings that open up the former instantly convey exactly what kind of tone the rest of the piece will have, something that is then given to the bassoon as the main melody begins. Since the player has at this point just witnessed the intense and epic opening story sequence, accompanied by the equally dramatic “The Legendary Hero”, it lifts the mood

Scythe, 5

tra can't stand the way Scythe Faraday is so calm with glean-ing someone in her family. She confronts Scythe Faraday many times while they eat but after dinner, Scythe Faraday leaves without even mentioning glean-ing. A person rarely ever disrespects a scythe, this was a sign of steadfastness and courage.

Rowan has a huge family and he never gets time with his parents, he is ignored in his massive family and often overseen. One day, a Scythe walks into school next to him and like any reasonable person, Rowan avoids eye contact with the Scythe. This avoiding goes on for a while until the Scythe breaks the silence and asks to direct him to the office, to WALK with him, all the way to the office. Once they arrive, a boy is called down, Khol Whitlock had been chosen to be gleaned. Rowan was never friends with Khol, and yet, despite the scythe's best efforts, Rowan stayed by his side. Rowan held Khol's hand and took the shock with him,

sending them both into cardiac arrest. A painless death, but Rowan would be revived, whereas Khol was gleaned, gone forever. It was a truly fearless act, right in front of the honorable Scythe Faraday.

Scythe Faraday went on to take on two apprentices, a boy and a girl. For them, the story had just begun....

If someone is selected as an apprentice, their job is to train like a scythe for at least one year. They must master all styles glean-ing and learn never to show their emotions, never kill out of rage and never be bias. If you are ordained as a Scythe, you have permission to do anything besides violating the Scythedom's commandments. A Scythe's job is to randomly choose people to glean, or in other words, kill.

“I got lost in this beautiful world many times...”

Certain ways of glean-ing are banned, but otherwise the way they glean is entirely up to the them.

Reading “Scythe” was a really thrilling experience, Neil Shusterman did an amazing job of giving you just enough information to allow you to make your predictions on what would happen next, but not enough to discourage you from reading the book. This book has many different political viewpoints, and really gave me the feeling that this Utopia would be livable. I got lost in this beautiful world many times, only to be woken up by the thought of brutal mass murders and a realization that their their Utopia was slowly chipping away. The way certain Scythes glean could be considered to be inappropriate to anyone who doesn't feel comfortable with murder and that's that is the only reason I give this book a 4.5/5 stars instead of full stars. To anyone above the age of 12, and looking for an exhilarating reading experience, this is the book for you.

Rare Exports, 5

movie for the era of 24/7 engagement with your employer, your school, your social circle, the starving masses, etc.

Despite the apparent seriousness, Rare Exports is still super fun. If the subtitles aren't too much of a distraction, you get to see (for example) a naked old man in a pit of spikes, and a warehouse full of loose potatoes, and a child with a euro mullet. You also get a generous serving of sensational lines, all delivered completely deadpan.

Additionally, the folklore aspect is present and spooky from the beginning. The myth that inspired the film is old, but the figures are visualized in a very creepy and visceral way, especially the elves in the film. The setting is so isolated by nature that you feel really trapped with these characters, making the drama feel immediate and gripping.

Rare Exports isn't without some minor issues. Obviously the aforementioned subtitles are a deal breaker for some, and the score isn't anything to start a family blowout on Thanksgiving about. However, overall this is a fun, weird little movie baby that deserves a spot in a triple feature alongside Gremlins and Die Hard, and that you can pry from my frostbitten hands.

player roams around, either en route to the next dungeon/objective or just doing whatever they want. Because of the frequency with which these pieces are heard, it's clear that they need to do two things at once: stand out, and be interesting and nice enough to listen to for long periods of time without growing stale.

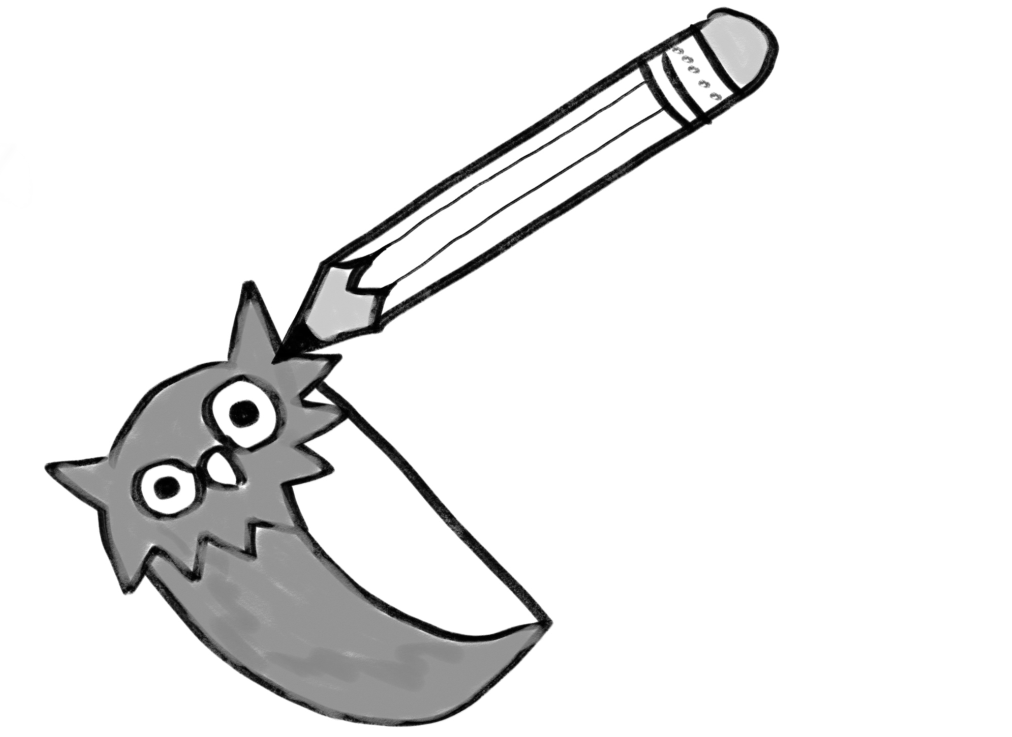
One of my personal favorites is *Twilight Princess's* “Hyrule Field”. Not only does it have one of the best drumlines ever written, but it also took an instrument I was never too fond of (the English Horn), and made it one of the lead melodic sounds, doing it so well that I can't get enough of it.

Another outstanding instance is the Great Sea theme from *Wind Waker*. I don't know if I've ever heard anything that captures the spirit of adventure quite so well. The majestic brass working in tandem with the rising and falling strings perfectly emulates the wind and waves of the ocean, lending credibility to the maritime world. Even though the sea can feel rather empty, very rarely can it be considered boring, simply because of the existence of this song. Even when I received/learned the Ballad of Gales later in the game, which enables immediate travel between certain islands, I was always reluctant to use it, because it would mean having to lose time that I could be spending relaxing as I sail to Hyliaknowswhere to do Hyliaknowswhat and just letting this piece envelope me.

Overall, I believe that not enough people give soundtracks the credit they deserve for giving what they belong to the impact it would otherwise lack. Next time you're engrossed in a game, don't forget to tune in. Some of the best music lives there.

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up straight into the stratosphere and feels determined to hold it there. Then, there's “Dragon Roost Island,” which might very well be my favorite piece of music ever written. Every single thing about it, the whimsical guitar, the soft but invigorating pan flute, the driving bassline, the fast and active percussion, *everything*,

makes me want to scream with delight like a Tyrannosaurus Rex in *Jurassic Park* who just killed a pack of Velociraptors.

But, at the end of the day, there is going to be one piece that will be heard more often than most, as long as you don't get stuck on that freaking block-sliding puzzle for four hours (hypothetically, of

course): the overworld theme. If you aren't exactly up-to-date on your gaming vocabulary, an overworld is the area between parts of the game. In a game like *Super Mario Bros.*, it will usually take the form of a map with linear paths leading to each level, and in a *Zelda* game, it takes the form of a large open space where the

MNUFC season review

The Loons’ “dissapointing” 2018 season

Oliver Brazel
Staff Writer

Minnesota United finished tenth in the Western Conference of Major League Soccer this season, one place below where they finished in their inaugural season one year before. Despite signing the first designated player in club history and setting an attendance record for soccer in Minnesota, this season was in some ways worse for United than the season before.

In The 2018 MLS Super-Draft, Minnesota selected Mason Toye (Forward from Indiana), Wyatt Omsberg (Defender from Dartmouth), and Carter Manley (Defender from Duke) in the first round. None of these picks got much game time this season, leading many to believe that manag-

er Adrian Heath was afraid of playing young players. In 2017, the Loons set the record for most goals conceded in an MLS season with 70; they actually beat that again this season by one goal at 71, although Orlando set the new record in defensive awfulness by conceding 74.

In 2017, Manager Adrian Heath’s preffered backline was a back four with Francisco Calvo and Michael Boxall at center back, Jerome Thiesson and Marc Burch at fullback. In 2018, Heath just decided “to heck with it” and started playing a back three with Calvo, Boxall, and Kallman. It turned out not to be of much consequence, since nothing really changed for the team defensively.

Signing Darwin Quinte-

ro was the best part of the season for the Loons. The signing occurred and it was kinda downhill from there. Quintero was great for United throughout the season, but he kinda made the team look like a sports car with bad MPG. Yeah we could score, but the team conceded a lot more goals as well.

The first part of the season was overall uneventful for the Loons, winning a game here or there, but overall leaving much to be desired, leading many to start wanting manager Adrian Heath out. The best performance from United was a 5-1 win at TCF Bank Stadium against Los Angeles FC (the second best team in the West), however, this happiness quickly went away for fans when a few days after the win,

Forward Christian Ramirez was sold to Los Angeles FC of all teams, returning him to his native Southern California. Ramirez was a fan favorite in Minnesota, and our all time top-scorer in both MLS and NASL, earning him the nickname “Superman” from fans in Minnesota’s second division days. This lead to more fans wanting Heath out as manager than before.

Even though this might have been a disappointing season for Loons fans, they have a lot to be excited for. The team is set to start playing in Allianz Field next season, arguably one of the best stadiums in the league; it’s designed completely for soccer without compromise.



Leo Bickelhaupt
MNUFC game at the Gopher stadium (above), MNUFC fans walking to the staduim (below).

OWL on stage: Macbeth

Performances on December 12, 13 and 14 at 7pm! Students \$6 & Adults \$8!

Seniors Athena Bolton-Steiner and Jaime Upton rehearsing for their roles as Lady Macbeth and Macbeth (right), 10th graders Avery Koll and Carter Peterson-Antin with Jaime at rehearsal (below), Carter and Athena with 8th grader Hazel Carroll and 10th grader Maxwell Juvland (lower right), Maxwell, Avery and Carter (lower left), Hazel and Will Nixdorf (below center) and Jaime and Avery with 8th grader Cy Christensen (lower right).



Photos by Sawyer Neske and OWL staff