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Purple Press

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Joe Blegen says goodbye to OWL

Founder of the bike tech program moving to Duluth for his next chapter

Rahnia Droogsma
Staff Writer

Beloved bike tech teacher Joe Blegen is moving to Duluth this summer. Joe has made waves throughout OWL in the eight years he has worked here. Whether it was in his crew or his bike tech classroom, Joe has improved the lives of every student he has crossed paths

with.

Joe started the bike tech program in the Saint Paul Public School District. Before he became a teacher, he worked in the bike tech industry, helping to open and run bike shops. He has also worked with professional cycling teams as their mechanic.

Joe is moving to Duluth due to a new job opportunity his

wife has there. With this move, he is preparing to enter a new phase of his career. Joe will be working with an organization called Safe Routes to School. He is also hoping to get a bike tech program up and running in Duluth.

Joe was the mastermind behind the implementation of the bike tech program at OWL. Joe said, "It kind of happened

organically where I sent Tim an email about getting a Bike to School day started up at OWL, and he said, 'actually, we've got something else in mind,' and we met and talked about it and decided to get it going, and here we are today."

When asked what he will miss most about OWL, Joe said, "It's tough to say one thing, but I'm definitely going

to miss the students and the staff, the people here, the community, the excitement, the youthful energy, the home that it has been for me. Both of my kids went to OWL, so I kind of feel like I'm in some way now graduating from OWL. I'm just gonna miss the entire school, the people and the students and staff." Although Joe says he will

miss the OWL community, he says he is looking forward to spending a lot of time outdoors in a new environment. Joe will be dearly missed by everyone in the OWL community.

"He was, like, literally the chilliest. I will miss him a lot," said 11th grader Pat Toohey, a member of Joe's crew. "He is

Joe Blegen, 10

Maine, Colorado, and Deep Portage



Purple Press Staff Photo

Colorado students gather after finishing painting the dining hall and other buildings.

OWL students spent a week doing service at destinations across the United States

Lana Stevens
Staff Writer

Every year, while most OWL kids have fun in their interim classes, service students are on Outward Bound trips. But this year, with the intent to let all kids enjoy an interim, interim week was made to be a week

later than usual. Starting this year, the Outward Bound-ers were up and out throughout the country on what would have been a regular school week, having fun and working hard to earn their stay on a free all-expenses-paid trip. This year, there were three different locations: Deep Portage, Minnesota; Leadville,

Colorado; and Hurricane Island, Maine.

As fun as a free trip sounds, these students worked hard to get there and worked hard while they were on their trips too. Throughout the year, Outward Bound students do service around the school, such as setting up and working at events, planning school



Clara Crosby

Maine students build a path out of stones at the basecamp.

dances, and running the spring plant sale. All of this service work raises the money for the trips they take in late spring. Then, when they arrive at their location, they help out with chores and jobs around the camp, getting ready for other students to come during the summer. In Deep Portage, stacking wood is a huge job to

be had, as well as painting. In Colorado, there were many chores, like digging a ditch and building fences. In Maine, they built tent platforms and cleared paths.

But don't be discouraged by the workload. There's plenty of fun to be had

Outward Bound, 8

History Day nationals is upon us!

Three qualifiers share how they prepared and their thoughts and goals while they are at nationals

Beatrice Cosgrove
Staff Writer

History Day. For some, these words alone bring an indescribable feeling of nervous adrenaline and excitement. For 9th Graders Abby Horton, Charley Cheatham and Jae Lind, OWL's very own 2025 National History Day qualifiers, this feeling is certainly familiar.

For the past nine months, these three students have worked tirelessly on their respective projects. Abby and Charley will be competing at Nationals in the senior group performance division with a project on the Jane Collective, an underground abortion service operating in Chicago in the 1960s and 70s. "They offered an alternative to either getting expensive

abortions abroad or getting unsafe abortions by untrained men like those in the Chicago Mafia," Charley explained. This topic came about after a 2024 National-qualifying project inspired them to look more deeply into reproductive rights.

Jae is competing in the senior individual performance division with a project on



Katie Craven

The three qualifiers pose for a picture after awards at state.

The future of Xbox

James Hietala
Staff Writer

There is not a single game on the current Xbox generation that cannot be played on any other device.

Even those that are not available on a previous Xbox console or PlayStation (or even Switch in some cases), are available to play through the Xbox, Windows app, or Steam. PlayStation has followed a similar pattern in recent years as well, though not an extreme. There are only nine first party PlayStation exclusives currently, and Astro Bot is the only super notable one. Spider Man 2 was a PS5 exclusive that came out late 2023, and was Sony's big "system seller" game of 2023 and 2024, however it was ported to PC in January of 2025. This was an incredibly fast time frame for a big exclusive game like this.

As an industry (with the exception of Nintendo) there is a move away from first party releases only being available on that company's current gen console, and a trend of either quicker exclusivity cycles or no exclusivity at all. In Xbox's case, they are pushing more towards PC & other devices rather than other consoles (though they are still releasing plenty of games for PlayStation and Switch).

This is especially evident with Xbox's "This is an Xbox" campaign that started late last year, which was a series of ads that showed a series of non-Xbox devices, such as phones, laptops, VR headsets, and even smart TV's, with text saying "This is an Xbox" above them

Xbox, 9

HD nationals, 5



The Purple Press

OWL's longest-running student newspaper was founded in 1996. We publish monthly from November through June. All content for The Purple Press is created by OWL students. The Purple Press welcomes feedback and letters to the editor. Submissions can be emailed to leo.bickelhaupt@spps.org. The opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily represent those of OWL staff or administration.

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Manatee take 2nd place in state tournament

OWL boys varsity frisbee adds another accomplishment to their exciting season

Aria Kulseth
Staff Writer

The state tournament was this past weekend for OWL's frisbee teams. One in particular had an exceptional run, The Manatee went 5-1 in the tournament, losing the Championship game to their rival Edina.

En route to advancing to the state tournament final, the Manatee won five consecutive games. On the first day of the tournament, they won 15-2 against Edina JV1, 15-3 against Apple Valley, and defeated Great River 15-10. In the quarter finals on day two, they defeated Minneapolis South 14-9, then advanced to the final after beating Saint Louis Park 14-10 in the semi final.

Getting second in state gave the team some mixed emotions. "I think the initial thought during the game was pretty negative but towards the end when we kind of knew it was over, the negativity kind of left and was replaced with gratitude for the team we had. Obviously it wasn't the way we wanted it to end but it was such

a fun season and tournament and looking at the guys I was just super thankful for all they had put in this season to get to this point," said Senior Danny Hobday.

"It is bittersweet to place second, but I am nonetheless extremely proud of all the work we put in and the results that have shown it. We have gone further than any year in program history and I couldn't ask for a better team to do it with," said senior captain Joe Lodahl.

The Manatees have had a record season, only losing a grand total of two games, one to Washburn in the Neuqua knockout final, and to Edina at State. They won 18 games in total, and won the Matoska tournament. Due to their amazing season and beating the reigning State Champs Edina not once but twice, The Manatees earned themselves a spot at the National tournament taking place on June 13-14. Making Nationals was their main goal this year.

"I feel pretty good going into nationals! Our pool is a bit rough, with some pretty dang good teams, but I think there's

not a whole ton of pressure on us to go far and the overall experience of Nationals will be super fun. I've dreamed of going to HSNI since freshman year and our team made that dream into a reality. It'll be a great experience win or lose," said senior captain Danny Hobday.

The team has drawn a tough pool playing Rivers Edge Christian Academy (TN) Masterman (PA) and Albany (CA). Each pool is composed of four teams, with the winning team automatically advancing while also getting a bye. The second and third place teams advance, but have to win an extra game to advance to quarters and the fourth place team is done at the tournament. The Manatee will enter their tournament as the tenth ranked team in the nation.



Roman Rufi

Antonio Cervantes spikes the frisbee after a score.



Roman Rufi

Danny Hobday throws downfield.



Roman Rufi

Luke Hobday goes full stretch to make a catch.



Roman Rufi

Joe Lodahl goes up high to make the grab.



Roman Rufi

Danny Hobday receives the disk.

Womanatee feel the love

Young team struggles, but future looks bright

Connie Van Genderen
Staff Writer

While Womanatee just finished up their spring 2025 season, they've come a long way. Their season first began on March 17th, and wrapped up at the state tournament last weekend.

With more new players than returning players, the Womanatee had a hard rebuilding season, training in ten new players with only nine returning players. With their three seniors leading the team as captains, Mylie Peterson-Anton, Gwen Stender and Gabby Gorvik, the team attended two tournaments this season, six regular season games, two conference games, and one crazy potluck which resulted in the teams version of Lobars video from the open varsity team.

"The highlight of my season was the addition of so many new players. I'm glad numbers are going up and people are starting to get more involved in ultimate frisbee, especially girls," said Gabby. While the team only had three wins this season, players still enjoyed playing for the Womanatee.

The Womanatee attended their first tournament of the season at Matoska in White Bear Lake on April 19th. The team played Central, Eagan, Squall JV, and Blake, where they took home their first two wins on the year against Squall JV and Blake. The Womanatee had their first regular season win when they played away at Cretin Derham-Hall on April 25th.

Senior night was May 6th against Central, and while they lost the game, they never lost spirit. "A big highlight for me was our senior night game against Central Revolution. I personally think this was the best I played all season, and I loved seeing all the fans and Manatee boys showing up and supporting us," said Mylie.

The team was also planning on attending the Hopkins Hustle tournament on May 10th/11th, but due to registration errors, along with the JV boys team, they did not attend. Along with practice, the team did several team bonding outings together, like going to the home opener for the MN Strike, the Minnesota women's professional frisbee

team.

The Womanatee finished off the end of their season with the frisbee state tournament on May 31st and played through Sunday, June 2nd. They had a Friday night game against Eagan, and lost 5-15, yet played well. The state tournament lasted two more days, and the team played five more games against familiar teams like BSM and Central, and unfamiliar faces like White Bear and Cathedral. "I loved seeing the improvement from all the new players, as

Womanatee, 10



Margaret Moe

Junior Maddie Linstad reaches to catch a throw.

Building for the future

Middle school ultimate program boasts 3 teams

Amalena Xiong
Staff Writer

The OWL middle school has three Ultimate frisbee teams. Team one is called Mana, team two is called Tee, and team three is Manathree. Team Mana and Tee are co-ed/mixed teams, but team Manathree is a boys only team.

The middle school frisbee coaches are Donald Post, Flannery Henke-Haney, and Chris Proczko. Donald has been coaching at OWL for five years, Flannery has coached for three years, and this is Chris's first year coaching at OWL. Both Donald and Flannery played ultimate at OWL.

In a typical middle school season there are eight games. Frisbee practices are held every Tuesday and Thursday with games on Fridays. The vibe of middle school ultimate frisbee is really competitive and fun. "Middle school frisbee is a really laid-back, relaxed approach to being really competitive and then playing a really fun sport. I think it really boils down to making sportsmanship because a lot of players have

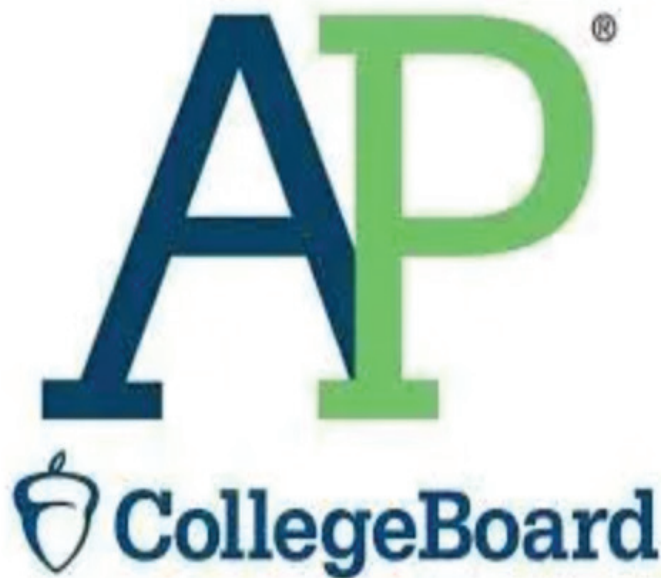
to talk out the rules and figure out how to play the game and how to work together," said Donald. Flannery said "sometimes it's a bunch of little middle schoolers squirreling around, sometimes it's chill and everyone wants to pay attention, but it depends on the day."

The ratio of players across all the middle school teams is 28 boys to 19 girls. Some people said they liked playing on the co-ed team. "I think the co-ed team is an interesting concept because it's controversial and some people like it and some people don't," said 8th grader Atom Pliner, "I kind of like the idea because it gives girls and boys an opportunity to co-exist together on one team." 8th grader Piper Wasmund agreed "I think the co-ed team is a good way to play with different people and include everyone."

The mixed team has a good reception to its values. It teaches many students how to work together among different perspectives, views and values. Parents like it because siblings are on similar teams and are able to practice at the same

field, play at the same field, and the same games. Coach Donald says "I enjoy mixed [frisbee] because I get to meet everyone that's around the community. I've been playing mix now for at least three years in my summer league. I think once you play mix, you don't really look back. It's a very fun and safe environment to play in. It introduced you to a lot of different new things."

The middle frisbee team played their first tournament against four other teams from Hopkins. The three teams play in the same division. In the last game of the tournament, Team Mana competed against Team Tee for seventh place. Team Mana won and Team Tee got eighth place and team Manathree got fourth place. On Saturday May 17th, the middle school frisbee team played their final tournament of the season against Edina.



AP: a different kind of challenge

Three-hour exams provide the potential to earn college credit

Kate Houle
Staff Writer

If you were locked in a room for three hours do you think you could produce two well written essays? What about solve 40 math problems in just as many minutes? If you're one of over 150 students at OWL, the answer to those questions is hopefully yes.

If you know anyone in an Advanced Placement (AP) class, you've probably been witness to the stress brought on by their three hour exams. AP courses allow high school students to take college-level classes and possibly get college credit through a program with CollegeBoard. OWL offers 12 of these AP courses, with eight of them having official classes in the 2024-2025 school year.

Starting with the newest and most unique AP class OWL offers, AP 2-D Art and Design saw its second year of students scrambling to submit their portfolios, which were due May 9th. "It's a portfolio of, technically, 15 art pieces that you create over the course of the school year... It displays your art skill and what you're good at as an artist," said 10th grader Neve Dawson. All of the art in the portfolio is centered around a guiding question or idea the student chooses at the beginning of the year. "It would benefit you to choose a topic that you know you're really interested in and you have a lot of thoughts about... ultimately, it's about the idea," explained Neve.

All the other exams were more standard, and consisted of a multiple choice section, which on average had about 50 questions to complete in an hour, and then a free response section, which differed in style.

The first chronologically was AP English Literature and Composition (Lit), on May 7th. Around 50 students took this exam, writing three essays analyzing prose, poetry, and a novel of their choice. Lit centers around literary techniques and interpretation, with a big focus of the class on reading many different types of fiction. "It's less about your ability to memorize things, and more about your ability to write essays and read things," explained 11th grader Halie

Karre.

The afternoon of May 7th saw AP Computer Science A (CSA) students testing. CSA focuses on the building blocks of programming, and how to apply them in different scenarios, like, say, coding four different programs in an hour and a half. "We were using this website called projectstem.org [in class], and basically every day we'd do lessons on there. There'd be a video that would talk about a programming concept, and then you'd have to do a few activities on it," said 11th grader Antimony Compton, "the exam was just a standardized test...but they gave us quite a few snacks. I got so much candy and pretzels."

Next came AP US History (APUSH) on May 9th. Students in the class looked at US history from pre-Columbian times to around 2008, and were tested on that knowledge with three short response paragraphs, and two essays. APUSH has one of the heaviest requirements for memorization, which students approach in a variety of ways. "Heimler's History gives a great overview of events. If you want specific documents, Crash Course US History is helpful, because then you have something to pull for the long essay question," said Halie.

AP Calculus AB (Calc) started off the next week bright and early on Monday May 12th. Calc looks at higher math skills like limits, derivatives, and integrals, with the exam requiring six hand solved math problems. This exam was hybrid, meaning a mix of digital and paper. "The questions themselves were given to you digitally, but you had like a piece of physical paper on which to write your answers," said 11th grader Anson Lind, "There was so much studying leading up to it that it was kind of all I thought about, but the exam itself went by surprisingly fast."

In a counter-intuitive order, AP Pre-Calculus (Precalc) came next on May 13th. This math exam only had four hand solved questions. "I actually got pretty close to the timer. On [the two calculator allowed free response questions], I

AP tests, 9

High hopes for the coming season OWL athletes earn high marks at end of season Section meet

Roman Rufi
Staff Writer

Several OWL track athletes turned in impressive performances at the Section meet at the end of the season, but none were able to make the next step of qualifying for the state meet.

10th grader Aria Kulseth placed fifth in the 400 meter dash, 8th grader Luisa Schmidt placed sixth in the same race, and 11th grader Za'im Dennis placed ninth in the 300 meter hurdles.

Only the top two runners in each event qualify for state, and no OWL athlete has ever qualified for state in track and field. Luisa also advanced to the section finals in the 100 and 200, and senior Bennett Vaughn-Fier placed eighth out of 29 runners in the 1600.

Although it was disappointing for Aria to not qualify for state, which was one of her goals, almost qualifying is impressive. "I'll use this as motivation to push harder

than I've ever had, I don't want to feel like that again," she said. Za'im was also disappointed with his results. "I could have done better If I didn't mess up my knee. I was planning to get a 41 range," he said.

Aria usually runs the 1600 and 800, but the 400 is the event that she really focuses on. Her PR for the 400 was 59.61 which placed her first at the Washington tech meet. This was a really big mark

for her because one of her goals this season was to reach under a minute for her 400 time. For 800 meters her PR was 2:37.58 at Sections. In the mile she got a PR time of 5:48.8, which scored her first at the Washington Tech Third annual combine. This season, Aria broke Humboldt track records for the 1600, the 800, and the 400.

Za'im's events are the 4x200, 4x100, 300m hurdles,

and 110m hurdles. He excels at the hurdles but the 4x2 and 4x1 teams are also good for the conference. This is his first year doing 110m hurdles, and his PR was 15.80 at the conference championship prelims. He dominantly won by almost one second above second place. Then in the conference finals he got first place with a time of 16.38 in very windy weather. Then again in windy weather

Track, 10



Aria and Luisa enter the homestretch in the 400m final.



Bennett in the 1600m final.

Softball team continues to grow Team members appreciate the fun, friendly atmosphere

Monica Locken
Staff Writer

The softball team has been up and running since their first practice on March 10th, with practice every day after school until 5:30pm. The team had a lot of new players, and spent the season focused on

improving their game.

For 11th grade outfielder Cam Sisson, joining the team was to experience something new. "I just thought it could be a new, fun thing to do," she said. The team had been vibing together, with Cam describing the culture as fun and playful,

"A lot of them goof off with each other because they know each other. It's really fun. Coach buys the snacks, which is nice."

Even though they have only won one game so far, the team never stopped competing. With only four returning

players from last season, the majority of the team are newcomers. Cam said the team's main objective was shared improvement. "This year our softball team has all new girls except four girls that were on the team last year. I don't really know a goal, but I think in general we want ourselves to get better."

Many people on the team have agreed that the vibe of the team is fun. 8th grader Isabella Cook said "It's really fun and engaging and everybody is always happy." Another teammate, 8th grade outfielder Lily Koering, said "The team has good energy and like most of the time, just happy and having fun."



Caroline Alexis in the outfield.



Cam Sisson up to bat.



Lily Koering in the outfield.

St. Paul transportation to change City aims to improve public transit to better fit the cities economy

Tait Vossen-Nelson
Staff Writer

The City of St. Paul is envisioning a move away from cars as the main mode of transportation in the future, aiming to "shift mode share towards walking, biking, public transit, carpooling, ridesharing and carsharing in order to reduce the need for car ownership" as stated in the Transportation chapter in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan.

The 2040 Comprehensive Plan is the framework for guiding St. Paul's development in the next 20 years, which was adopted by the city in 2020. The Transportation chapter focuses on how the city's transportation system should change and improve in the next 20 years in order to meet shifting demands.

According to the National Household Travel Survey conducted by the Federal

Housing Administration in 2018, in the St. Paul-Minneapolis metro area 83.9% of all transit was conducted by personal vehicles, 8.0% by walking, and all other forms of transit equal to or less than 2.5%.

The plan is for a general shift away from cars as a main mode of transportation and to reduce vehicle miles traveled by 40% by enhancing other multi-passenger mode shares like public transit and carpooling, along with non-motor vehicle transit like walking or biking.

One of the main goals of the plan is to establish the right of way, which prioritizes the safety of pedestrians and cyclists. This is detailed in the plan, where it says they will implement the Pedestrian Plan and Bicycle Plan, which is aimed at augmenting and improving the two transit

systems. The city is trying to provide "true transportation choice throughout the city" by improving the transit system and making all transit safer throughout the city.

The plan details how they will improve safety on roads, which includes: lowering speed limits in reasonable places, reducing pedestrian exposure through longer curbs and islands, converting undivided four lane roads into two-to-three lane segments, and promoting the education of drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians.

It also aims to create a transportation system that better supports St. Paul's economy through improved access to jobs— focusing on improving river commerce, and connecting truck, train, and river modes of transit to create a more connected economy.

Overall the plan seems to show how St. Paul aims to shift away from car ownership as the main mode of transportation to "respond to [new] technology" and ideas that are becoming more prevalent in the world. Colombia for example, has a very diverse transportation system which reduces and counters the need for cars, however, America has a strong sense of individualism. That sense may be a challenge to overcome when shifting away from individual car ownership.

Some of the things in this plan have already been done, including the "20 is Plenty, Slower is Safer" signs in residential areas, the Gold Line, and most of the other transportation projects being worked on or completed recently in the Metro area.



Margaret Moe

The seniors who transfered from UMA pose for a photo.

UMA cohort finds OWL

School closing forces students to find a new school for senior year

Annabelle Wilson
Staff Writer

On average, 380 students in Minnesota are affected by the closing of charter schools every year. At least one charter school is closed down each year due to financial troubles. Where do these students go after their school closes, and how did more than ten charter school students end up going to Open World Learning?

Upper Mississippi Academy (UMA) was a charter school opened in 2013. Originally UMA was located in Fort Snelling before moving a couple of times, and eventually landing downtown to accommodate another 150 students. However the school officials’ projections were off, and the space could not accommodate that many students. The new location also had increased rent, which affected the finances of the school.

As student enrollment lowered and spending increased, the school struggled a lot. In the 23-24 school year the school ran out of money and they were forced to close, leaving their students to find new schools. “We first heard about it when we came out of the merger meeting with Northern Lights, and it kinda sank in and blew chunks... in other words it kind of sucked. I remember I got home and even though the Timberwolves were playing, and I should have been in a good mood, I spent like, two hours in my hot tub and low-key just cried,” said senior Jaydin Marshall, former UMA student and current OWL student.

Out of all the UMA students, around ten decided to go to OWL for their next school year, a large number of them being seniors. Jaydin said, “I had friends that had been considering it for a few years, and basically a friend’s

mom who is more educated on the subject than I am recommended [OWL].”

The new students have been adjusting well to the different environment of OWL, but coming to a new school during senior year comes with its struggles. For the first couple of weeks, the new students didn’t have iPads. “We were basically, I mean, without iPads and not really in the school, just sort of here wandering for the first couple of weeks. And I wish that maybe I would have gotten taken care of sooner,” said senior Miles Anderson. Senior Ali Simone testified “there’s more emphasis on the formatives and summatives compared to UMA, where I feel like I didn’t even think about whether or not something was formative or a summative. It was easier for me to get better grades at UMA, because I feel like the class size was a lot smaller, and I could just, like, have so much more time directly with the teacher.”

For a lot of the new students, changes to the grading, class sizes, and social environment make it harder to adjust. But even with all of that, the new students have been adjusting and working hard for their final year at school, even if it can’t be UMA. “It’s hard to not wonder what my last year at UMA would be like and I still hate that we can’t finish it up there, but I have come to see that UMA was a very flawed school, even though I loved it. There are a lot of things that I have been able to do [at OWL] that I wouldn’t have been able to do at UMA,” said Jaydin.

Senior Grae Pederson-Kieck talked about how difficult it was to leave UMA, because it was “such a unique community,” but also noted that OWL is “very similar to UMA in a variety of ways.”

Boys volleyball growing quickly

In its second year as a varsity sport, Humboldt seeing success

Oscar Mons
Staff Writer

When most people hear Humboldt volleyball, they often think about the girls team which has been a success story for many years. Boys volleyball has become a varsity sport in Minnesota, and Humboldt has begun to compete.

Boys volleyball wasn’t sanctioned as an official sport by the MSHSL (Minnesota State High School League) until last year, making this season the first sanctioned boys volleyball season. Before that boys volleyball was played through the MN Boys High School Volleyball Association as a club which was founded in 2018.

However, due to an increase in participation the MSHSL voted to establish it as a sport. Last year, the team had barely enough players

to make a full Varsity squad. However, in the ‘25 season, the boy’s team had enough for three teams, Varsity, JV and a B-Squad. A bigger turnout for the team also comes with increased talent and skill from both returning players who improved since the last season and new potential prodigies.

“We have a younger team, I know we’re going to be very

successful in the future,” said Head Coach and math teacher Damon Liberatore. The key players of the team were returning players like OWL 11th grader Sincere McConnell, who was the team’s biggest talent this season and is constantly relied on to close out games. One of the two 8th graders who started on the varsity team is Kola Olatunde.



Purple Press Staff Photo

The boys volleyball team poses for a promotional photo.

Hockey phased out at Johnson HS

Like many city hockey teams, Governors saw numbers decline

Liam Tuma
Staff Writer

The Johnson Governors hockey team has proudly served our community for nearly 112 years. Despite recent challenges with declining player numbers, I was determined to make our 2024-25 season memorable. With a record of 9-11-2, Coach Steve “Moose” Younghans told Kare 11 News that we had given our all. A highlight for me was our last game on senior night against SPA, where we won 5-4, leading to an unforgettable celebration with a dog pile in the corner. We dedicated that victory to Sawyer, a brave little girl who was battling cancer. As we headed into the playoffs, we were committed to making that final season truly special.

In my final game for the Johnson Governors, we faced Eastridge, and it felt like an unfair matchup. We

really shouldn’t have been in double AA, but we lost 2-11. After the game, everyone was heartbroken, yet we still had high hopes for the next season.

A few days later, during a meeting with the coaches, we learned there would be no team next year. The shocking news brought tears to my eyes. Soon after, we were told we would need to co-op with Highland. In a previous year, we had been rejected by them, but now they needed players. They went from having 36 players to co-oping both a varsity and JV team with us, now totaling about 41-43 players.

Some pros of co-oping with Highland include having both a JV and a varsity team, but there are also significant cons. Playing with Highland feels wrong because their organization has shown lots of disrespect toward our Johnson team. The last time we tried to co-op, they flat-out told us

no. We attempted to overturn the co-op decision, but there was really nothing we could do about it.

Another team that had to co-op due to the lack of players was Bloomington Kennedy, and next year they will be forming a team with Bloomington Jefferson. We played Bloomington Kennedy on their senior night, and after the game, we prayed with them. It was something I had never done after a hockey game, but I’m thankful for the experience. It showed me that everyone who plays hockey is part of a family. I believe we are losing teams and players because of the high costs associated with playing the sport. With high expenses for equipment, such as sticks being around \$300, many families do not sign their kids up due to the financial burden. As the years go by, people are also getting less and less

interested in hockey, making it increasingly difficult to form a team.

According to Luke Turvold, this is all part of a larger pattern, “I think it’s a demographic shift that happens in metro areas. But I think there’s a larger movement away from local association-based hockey programs who are now competing with club teams and club programs and kids feel the pressure to join these club programs that are advertised as being more competitive and having developmental advantages for kids.”

New iPads coming out next year

New machines feature increased storage, enhanced cameras

Sam Osequera
Staff Writer

Many students believe that we are getting new tech next year, and they are right. In an interview held with Phong Truong, our IT department employee at OWL, he confirmed the release of new technology to students next year. In the interview, Phong stated that we will be receiving 11th generation iPads, chargers, headphones and new cases, although it is not confirmed that they will have keyboards. All of these items will have USB-C plug-ins, so all of the old chargers will have to be returned.

Old iPads will be wiped and sent back to the SPSS IT department to be sold or recycled if broken. Many of these iPads kids have had since elementary school and are either gen 7, 8, or 9.

The iPad 11 generation has an 11 inch Liquid Retina display, an A16 chip same as the one in the iPhone 14 Pro, 128gb of base storage, 12MP front and back cameras Touch ID for security, and Apple intelligence is restricted due to its A16 chip, which the district is probably grateful for. The new iPads also have a six to eight hour battery life with mixed workloads which means you can do a ton of work and other things and have a long lasting battery. The gen 8 has ten hours but only for surfing the web, and not doing multiple things.

The iPads will come with chargers from Apple and cases from another company since they would cost too much from Apple and they do not act as a case and keyboard. I don’t have confirmation from where the keyboards will come from but my suspicions

are the company Logitech that supplied the keyboards that we currently have.

When interviewing Phong, he said that the new iPads will have all of the same restrictions and still be managed by SPSS. I shared this information with teachers that I interviewed and they had similar responses, specifically about improving and/or lowering productivity.

“I would like to hope that the extended battery life of new iPads would lead to fewer kids complaining that their iPads aren’t charged. It will also be nice to have all charging devices for all school devices be the same plugin that will be convenient, but expensive to replace all the things I’ve already bought. But probably better for productivity,” said English teacher Preston West.

“I think it’ll probably keep it about the same. The bigger issue is cell phones, so, you

know, iPads are not gonna change a whole lot of stuff, but we’ll just have to see what happens,” said history teacher Katie Craven.

Either way, this new technology will benefit many across the school, and certainly bring joy to students and frustration to teachers.



Teachers hope the extended battery life of the iPad 11 will result in fewer dead iPads brought to school.

Senior Spotlight

Kathryn Totushek



What pronouns do you use?
She/Her

How long have you been at OWL?
Since 6th grade. So 7 years

What are your plans for next year?
I am going to Macalester College

What’s been your favorite class in high school?
AP Calculus AB

What extracurriculars are you involved in?
Archery, Robotics, Yearbook, Outward Bound, Tutoring, and History Day

Favorite field work experience or school trip and why?
Outward Bound trip to California

If you had a walk up song, what would it be?
The Man by Taylor Swift

That One Little Kid

Arcadio Harty-Agbo

How tall are you?
5’

What pronouns do you use?
He/him.

What’s your favorite book, movie, or TV show?
Mid 90’s.

Who’s your favorite senior?
Owen Belmares.

What is your favorite thing about OWL so far?
The Friends.

What extra curriculars do you plan on getting involved in at OWL?
E sports.



From France to St. Paul: Zoe adapts

French exchange student enjoys school sports, not sold on the food

Alva Healy
Staff Writer

This year, Zoe LaFont, an exchange student from France, attended OWL. She has made new friends, had new experiences, and, around mid-June, will return back to France after a blip year in America. A few weeks ago, I sat down with Zoe to commemorate her year here at OWL, and learn about the highlights and lowlights that she’s experienced.

Zoe was inspired to take a year abroad because of her mother, saying, “she wanted me to study abroad, to learn English, and I wanted to discover a new culture and a new language, new people.” Zoe also had some friends who had been abroad a year prior to her, and had told her about their experiences. All of these things made her decide to take a year abroad.

During the process of getting ready to go abroad, Zoe wasn’t able to choose the exact state she ended up in. She narrowed down to ten states, and researched each. “I put Minnesota in because it looked interesting. I had never heard about Minnesota before coming here, and so I ended up in Minnesota,” she said. She also shared that she did not choose her host family. Instead, her host family chose her. She created a profile for host families to browse, as

well as a video and an essay. The process was long, but Zoe ended up living with the Sisson family, and in turn, coming to OWL.

Over the course of the year here at OWL, Zoe has grown a lot in many areas, specifically with her English. Zoe’s English has been a slight roadblock for her. However, as we are nearing June, Zoe’s English skills have become near perfect. “I think that my English is way better. I understand almost everything, even if sometimes I have to ask the person to repeat what they say and to speak,” she said.



Zoe experiences American culture by sampling Cane’s.

Zoe has also met a lot of new friends and people just generally interested in how her American abroad experiences have been this year. The thing most people are interested in when they talk to Zoe is the difference between American and French life, and specifically, high school life. I learned that, in France, sports are less integral to student life than in American schools. “It’s a big part of America. I feel like it is. That’s something that I really enjoy. Back in France, I was not really doing anything,” she explained.

Food was also a big conversation while Zoe has been attending OWL. If you know anything about Zoe, you know that American food vs. French food has a clear winner every time. “I prefer French food. Back in France, I just love my mom’s, sorry,” Zoe said when asked about her favorite American food. “I don’t hate American food, but I don’t have, I think, a favorite American food.” She did admit to sampling and enjoying a cheese curd.

With this school year coming to a close, Zoe will only be here for a just a little while longer. A few weeks after school gets out, Zoe will be returning to France, having new friends and stories she can take with her wherever she goes.

“I’m going to visit the people that I meet here that’s in my host family. That’s the biggest one, the sports, too. Yeah, and the school. I’m going to miss a lot of things.”

Though it’s gone too fast, everyone who’s become closer with Zoe this year is going to miss her, especially her host sister, Cam.

“It’s for sure gonna be a little weird without seeing her everyday, cause I do see her everyday. She’s definitely grown to be like a sister to me.”

Fraquetball

gets creative

Schedule logjam means playoffs will have to finish this summer

Matteo Alejandro-Provenzano
Staff Writer

Here we go again folks, round two! In the past few weeks, so much has happened in the Fraquetball world, there have been upsets, creative game scheduling, and so much more.

The Fraquetball Cross-Lunch Tournament is now underway, and already there has been some chaos! First, Los Geezers beat the D1 Crashouts 2-1 in a close three-game series, losing the first match, but then scraping by in the next two,.

Second, in a huge upset, Balls to the Wall beat Threepeat, dashing Senior Arthur Madsen’s hope for a historic third championship in a row, something that has not been done before. For reference, some teams, such as Los Geezers (Teachers Tim and Leo,) Hat Trick (Former students John Knapp and Griffin Larson), The Flying Pickles (Former students Daniel Le-Tran and Chua Moua) and the Gentle Giants (Former students Sean Kieth and Cameron Beitler), have won two years in a row, but never three. Unfortunately, this year, Arthur and his teammate Bennet Vaughan-Fier couldn’t pull it off.

Speaking of the Cross-Lunch Tournament, the scheduling has been nothing less than... interesting. This year some teams have been pulled out of class, teachers have played during prep, and so much more. For instance, the D1 Crashouts vs Los Geezers series was played during period two (and was interrupted by a fire drill. Thanks, admin.), causing students to miss class, and Tim and Leo had to skip their prep. Oddly enough, this is

not even close to the weirdest scheduling arrangment. Tim and Leo once had to play the championship series after the end of the school year!

“Yeah, the rest of the teachers were all cleaning their classrooms and doing final grading and stuff, meanwhile Tim and I were playing Fraquetball,” said Leo.

Even now, there are scheduling issues. Many of the Fraquetball players in the tournament were seniors, who already are done with school. Also, the Frisbee team, which contains many of the players, will be competing in the National Frisbee Tournament.

As of press time, there are four teams left in the tournament, being the Ball Busters, (Seniors Danny Hobday and Noah Johnson), Los Geezers (Tim and Leo), Balls to the Wall (Arlo and Junior Titus Galbreath), and Floppy Salmon (Seniors Charlie Acosta and Antonio Cervantes). The Commissioners have decided to put the finals after the end of the school year, but they may also have to wait for the Frisbee Tournament to finish, so this might go deep into June.

Anyway, that’s all that’s happened recently in the world of Fraquetball, but why not throw down a recap? Los Geezers cooked some eighth graders, Threepeat is no longer a threepeat, and the commissioners are pulling out all the stops to get the tournament over, but it’s still not enough. Did I miss anything? Well, by the time y’all read this, someone will have pulled off an upset, or a game got cancelled, or they have to play on the ceiling, or something along those lines, but until then, happy Fraquetballing!

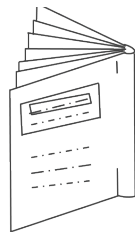
cover travel expenses. “I’m so tired...as soon as I’m on the plane, I’m not working on it anymore,” Jae said. Currently, they are working on refining their script and improving the technical aspects of the performance, speaking to me about the excitement and exhaustion that comes with competing at the national level.

National History Day, held in Washington, D.C., sees students from all over the United States and multiple other countries come together through a shared love of history and passion for the NHD program. Washington, D.C. is a fitting place for the competition, as it houses notable historical sites and museums, allowing students to be immersed in the culture and history of the United States capital.

National History Day is sure to be exciting for OWL’s three qualifying students, who leave Saturday, June 7th. Good luck to Abby, Charley and Jae!



Reviews ‘n’ stuff



Tal Weston

The price for forgiveness

Sopranos characters have pretty skewed views of Catholicism

Diego Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The Sopranos is known for its depiction of violence, but what you might not know is that The Sopranos intertwines religion and spirituality into the lives of people in the mob. Religion in this show is not represented as a guide or a moral compass, but more of a mix of obligation, guilt, fear and tradition. Religion in the sopranos isn't so much about faith, it's about appearances, superstition and even supernatural events.

Paulie Walnuts is a made guy in the mafia who is known for being superstitious and a germaphobe. Paulie is also a close friend to Tony Soprano, the main character. Paulie Walnuts is by far the clearest example of spiritual conflict and confusion. Paulie at some point in the show visits a person who can see the dead, and interacts through the physic with all the people he has killed prior to this interaction. He believes that he can “buy” forgiveness and even spiritual protection from the church and confronts the pastor claiming he should be exempt from these types of interactions. Paulie also has an interaction with the virgin Mary, and it was most likely a real interaction and not simply a vision. This of course really scares Paulie, but it doesn't necessarily change him as a person, nor his actions,. instead of turning to God and being loyal to the church: he, in anger, cuts off the priest and the church in donations. Paulie sees the church and God as someone you pay off and cut deals with, which to him means immunity.

Christopher Moltisanti is the nephew of Tony Soprano, Chris struggles with drug addiction throughout the show and later in the show becomes a made guy in the mafia. Chris is someone who also had a supernatural event happen to him. Chris’ supernatural

experience was more drastic which occurred after a near death experience from a shooting, Chris ends up in a coma because of the shooting and wakes up claiming he had a vision of hell, or as Paulie thinks “purgatory”. In the vision, he claimed to be in an Irish pub where no one could leave, it involved his loved ones losing every game of cards and getting beat at night. Depictions of gambling, violence and restlessness are portrayed. “Was it hot? The heat would’ve been the first thing you noticed, you weren’t in hell, it was purgatory!” said Paulie. Paulie talks to Chris and seemingly tries to justify their lifestyle by claiming it is purgatory, saying it’s no big deal and that if you simply pay off x amount of years, then you go to heaven.

Carmela Soprano is Tony Soprano’s wife, someone who is prominent throughout the show and whose relationship with religion is also complicated. She is the closest person to being a devout catholic and “rule follower”. As a wife and a mother whose husband is a mob boss, she constantly seeks validation from people in her surrounding life, and in the earlier seasons, especially from people in the church. She rarely ever finds the validation that she seeks, which has led to make or break moments with Tony. She really wanted to change but couldn't fully give up the materialistic aspects of her life. Carmela also had a weird flirtatious relationship with her pastor. Carmela even prayed for Chris when he was in a coma, Tony lies and tells Carmela that Christopher actually saw Jesus and the gates of heaven and not the truth, which was hell. Ultimately, Carmela would bring up religion when it was convenient, she would practice a lot less than preach. This hypocrisy forces the watchers to question even the most

The Sopranos, 8

Fairy tales turned upside down

The Wolf Among Us presents a dark choose your own adventure

Areus Futrell
Staff Writer

You’ve just been called in by Snow White. Walking in silence, the two of you make your way out of the apartment building, to be greeted by a tarp. You hesitantly uncover the tarp, to be revealed with the severed head of...

Ah yes. Fairy tales. We’ve presumably all heard them, we’ve told some once or twice (allegedly), we all love them (ostensibly).

So imagine a city full of fairy tales, right? Okay, now you’ve got this rosy image of happily ever afters and happy fairy tale creatures and all that. I now ask you to get rid of that image, because if the scene I presented to you at the beginning hasn’t made the genre clear, what I’m about to tell you certainly will.

I introduce you to Fables, or as Telltale Games calls it: “The Wolf Among Us.”

This is not to be confused with the well known game “Among Us,” (and believe me, people often do). Rated M, “The Wolf Among Us”

follows a more choose your own adventure path rather than online social deduction. While the genre is still murder mystery, instead of suspecting your friends, you have to choose between an array of well known fairy tale

and folklore creatures from tales such as Beauty and the Beast, The Little Mermaid, Red Riding Hood, and Bloody Mary herself.

The story follows the perspective of Fabletown sheriff Bigby Wolf (the Big Bad Wolf). Taking place in the late 1980s, the story has themes of deception, depression, and a subtle bit of romance, as the sheriff finds himself in numerous different locations to track down the murderer of several Fables, all while avoiding the mundies (humans).

For a game that had over two million copies sold worldwide, it has not retained its original popularity since its first release in 2014, due to the bankruptcy of Telltale games and the numerous year long



Tal Weston

The Wolf Among Us, 9

Being pro-Palestine is dangerous

Arrests and detentions overstep first ammendment protections

David Griffith
Staff Writer

On March 25th , Rumeysa Ozturk, a student at Tufts University was approached by masked and unmarked Department of Homeland Security (DHS) agents. Her crime: co-authoring an op-ed critical of the Israeli government. She was initially held without bail at an immigrations detention center in Louisiana, but was eventually released in early May. This arrest is only one of many since DHS arrested Columbia University student activist Mahmoud Khalil in march of this year.

These arrests and subsequent detentions are seen by many political opponents as overstepping first amendment protections granted in the constitution. There were many arrests last spring for petty

offenses such as trespassing or disorderly conduct, although the students currently being detained are not being charged with any criminal offence. The reason the State Department is putting forward for these arrests is citing a rarely used 1952 statute that allows the Secretary of State to personally deport someone if they deem that that person residing in the U.S might have “adverse foreign policy consequences.” This reasoning has specificaly been used against Khalil, citing his pro-Palestinian activism as a threat to the United State’s goal of “combating antisemitism globally.”

His reasoning raises many questions for what speech is and isn’t allowed for the over 1 million international students residing in the USA. At this point the statute has only been used against students who participated in the

pro-Palestinian movement, although based on the wording of the statute it could be used against any non-citizen for any reason that the Secretary of State would deem valid.

The specific targeting of the pro-Palestinian movement, however, cannot be ignored when discussing why these deportations are happening. While we don’t know exactly how Secretary of State Marco Rubio obtained the names and information of the targeted students, there are Zionist organizations that have consistently harassed students and floated the ideas of deporting them months before the arrests began. One of these groups, Betar, has publicly flaunted their goals of finding student protesters’ information in an attempt to harass and intimidate them, and in the case of international students, deport them.

These public tauntings of pro-Palestinian demonstrators were often ignored or even supported by lawmakers on both sides in the lead up to the 2024 election. Democratic Presidential candidate Kamala Harris consistently mentioned the supposed violence and “despicable acts” of pro-Palestine protesters, whilst democratic lawmakers in New York and California sent in police to shut down protests and arrest students. The subsequent violence from these police interactions and the hostile attitude of counter protesters would serve as justification by the Trump Administration for these arrests.

These actions by the federal government whilst not surprising, have reversed decades of precedent concerning deportations and free speech.

Finding gems among indie games

A cat named Dandelion, Stella taking over as a “spiritfrarer”

Kaden McNamara
Staff Writer

Something that you could probably expect of me, as a teenager, is that I like to play video games. Very unexpected, I know. I’ll play video games from all sorts of publishers, from Nintendo to SquareEnix— they all have some extraordinary games that I’ve played. But none of those companies could ever make games as dear to my heart as indie games are.

An indie game being a game made by a very small group of people without any professional backing. (As a side note, I will be avoiding some of the already super popular indie games, like Undertale or Hades as they don't really need the extra advertising from

me). So here are a few of my favorite indie games that I’ve played, and hopefully you too will play.

Spiritfarer is a management sim and platformer by Canadian studio Thunder Lotus Games. Within the game you play as a young woman named Stella and her

cat Dandelion, who takes over as a “Spiritfarer” from the recently retired Charon, ferrying spirits of the deceased to the afterlife. Rather than just bringing the dead to the afterlife, you also act similar to a hospice nurse for the terminally ill, feeding them their favorite foods, and doing



quests for them until they are ready to move on. The game remains one of my favorites due to its very engaging and loveable characters and its incredibly moving story for each of the characters. No matter how much I may have disliked the characters when I first met them, I definitely was not ready when it was time for them to leave the boat and was at the verge of tears when they did pass on.

Potionomics is a business sim and life sim by Voracious Games. You play as Sylvia, a fresh out of college potion seller who recently inherited a potion shop and a great amount of debt from her deceased uncle. The main gameplay has you befriending

Indie games, 9



Jae Lind

New Switch is a mixed bag

New system seems overpriced, but that won't stop many people

Fintan Glasco
Staff Writer

The Switch 2 looks like a heaping pile of trash, but I'm still going to buy it because it's the Switch 2, which is a similar opinion to many people. However, every game that has been announced for the Switch looks amazing. The Switch 2 itself as a console also looks great, but could still be garbage.

This is due to the fact that the Switch 2 is so expensive, and doesn't add up to its qualities. This is the opinion of almost every journalist and person in the world, but everyone is still going to buy it. Why is that?

Recently at the Nintendo Switch 2 Expo, where Youtubers and people came in and tested the Switch 2, everybody loved it. It received great reviews, and people thought the new Mario Kart was super fun and really enjoyable. But, if this was the consensus, why are people still mad at the Switch 2? Well, it's not that simple. Everyone seems to have differing opinions about the best and worst parts of the Switch 2. Some people are mad at the console, others think the pricing is fair (if you find one of these people, please show them to me. I've only ever seen one in my life), and some think the console is amazing but not worth the price. With many contradicting opinions, the main consensus is still floating around.

So, you would think that people won't be buying the console. Well, that's not true. Nintendo put out pre-orders for the Switch 2, and of course they immediately sold out of everything. So, if everybody was saying they weren't going to buy it or it wasn't worth it, why did it sell out so quickly? It's the new Nintendo console. Gamers are going to buy it because they want to play the new Mario and Zelda, despite how many times people said "This is bull crap I'm not buying this!"

When I saw Nintendo Direct on the Switch 2, I thought all the games looked amazing. I wet my pants when

they announced Tomodachi Life 2 and Rhythm Heaven, but at the time, I didn't think I was going to buy the Switch 2. Now, I've come to the realization that no matter what, I'm probably going to own one, because it's the new Nintendo console and I want it.

The first Switch holds grounds as one of the most successful consoles to ever grace the Earth, putting Nintendo back on top of the console market after the failure of the Wii U. Nintendo is a company with so many exclusive properties, and so many amazing wacky ideas that it's hard not to love. However, the Switch 2 is a great example of why to hate them.

Even though Nintendo is an amazing company that I hold dear in my heart, I still think the switch is stupid. The console itself looks cool, but the pricing is stupid. The original switch sold for around \$300, and the Switch 2 is a \$150 markup for a graphical quality that's not that much improved to the last console, and an LCD screen instead of an OLED. Additionally, the console isn't the only thing that's too much money, it's everything. The games are \$80, which is more money than most of the games that Microsoft and Sony are putting out on their highly developed consoles. The most expensive game by Nintendo ever sold on the Switch was \$70, which was the Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom, and that alone made people mad. This is why although the new Mario kart game looks amazing, I am not going to pay that much for it. Once again, I could go on and on about all of the things that are way too expensive: the pro controllers, the dock, and the joy cons. It's not a problem with the games. It's not a problem with the console. It's a problem with the pricing and the company behind it.

Nintendo is one of the goofiest, quirkiest companies to ever pop up out of seemingly thin air. Back in

Nintendo Switch 2, 9

The five most iconic national flags

Considering design and color, which flags will make the cut?

Norman Simon
Staff Writer

Flags are very important to the identity of the community or region they symbolize. For me, some flags are very iconic and are easy to pick out. This will be a list of the top five most iconic national flags.

5. Sweden:
Sweden has a very iconic flag due to it having a Nordic cross, which is a cross with the vertical line shifted towards the left. The Nordic cross is on every major Nordic flag and is on many smaller ones like Faroe Islands, Åland and Shetland. The origin of the Nordic cross was in Denmark in the early 13th century, and it was adopted by many others. The Swedish flag originated sometime between the early 13th century and 1569 but is iconic because as of now, Sweden is the largest Nordic country, so it is seen a lot.
4. France:
France is iconic because of

- its tricolor flag and it having the most used flag colors: red, white and blue. The tricolor is the most used flag format with 68 countries using it. The first appearance of the tricolor was in the Netherlands in 1575 and was popularized with the French tricolor during the French Revolution. The flag symbolizes the main principles of the French Revolution, mainly liberty, fraternity, and equality. The flag was originally designed by Jacques-Louis David in 1794 and was a modified version of the flag that was used in the storming of the Bastille. The colors red and blue are the traditional colors of Paris, and the white which was featured in a lot of French flags. The flag has become a very important symbol of France along with the fleur-de-lis and the Gallic rooster.
3. Australia:
Australia's flag might be a surprise to some but it

- symbolizes a design that is prevalent in a lot of flags. The Union Jack in the top-left corner of the flag means that its a blue ensign, which usually represents that the country was a colony or a protectorate of the UK. Many countries either have this flag or used to have it, like Canada, Fiji, New Zealand, and even the US. The Australian flag is on here because it is the most recognizable to most people and it also signifies a design that is seen all over the world. There are also multiple seven pointed stars on the flag. This star is called the Commonwealth Star and is used as a national symbol of Australia. The current flag was designed for a referendum on the flag in 1903 and was officially adopted as the national flag in 1954 and has been ever since.
2. Soviet Union (USSR):
Even though this flag is not

- used anymore, it is still a very iconic flag with the hammer, sickle, and star symbolizing communism. The design has been used in many flags, including almost every country that was a part of the USSR. The red or yellow star can be seen on many countries' flags like Vietnam and China. The reason that I chose this flag is because of how its symbols are used a lot and are recognized as a communist symbols.
1. UK:
This is the most iconic flag because the design is very unique. The design comprises the flag of England which is the Red Cross or the flag of St. George, then the blue and the diagonal white cross, or a saltire, is the flag of Scotland and St. Andrew's flag, and the red saltire is St. Patrick's flag, symbolizing Ireland. This flag is the most iconic because it has so much in it and found a way to incorporate most of the

Flags, 9

Deafhaven's latest is good, kind of

Instrumental and vocals are strong, but sometimes repetitive

Grayden Smith
Staff Writer

Lonely People With Power by Deafheaven is an album I wished I loved but I'm somewhat conflicted on it. It's long and the songs sound similar so it's kinda drawn out. But on the other hand, that's not too big of a problem because all the songs sound so good, the instrumental and vocals are just amazing.

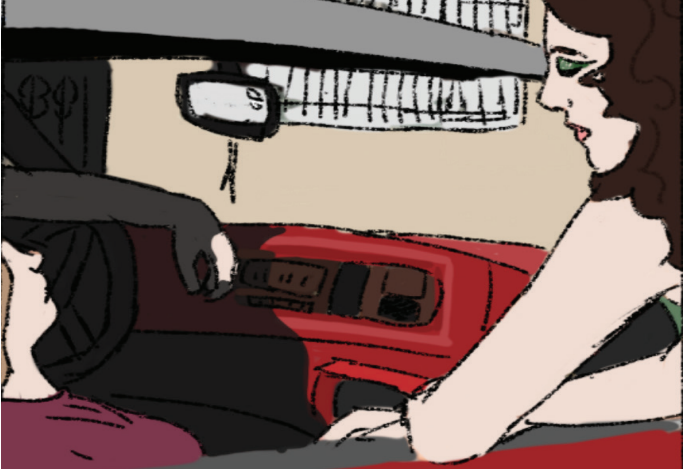
Deafheaven released Lonely People With Power on March 28th of this year. The band consists of five members, vocalist George Clarke, guitarists Kerry McCoy and Shiv Mehra, drummer Daniel Tracy, and bassist Chris Johnson. It's a "blackgaze" album meaning that it's a combination of shoegaze and black metal. I don't like black metal at all and shoegaze is okay to me, so I was somewhat skeptical when I saw the genre, but when I heard the album it pleasantly surprised me in that aspect.

The vocals are typical

black metal vocals, meaning that they're loud, growly and you could describe them as goblin-like. And because it's part shoegaze, there's also a kind of echoey/ethereal effect to them, which sounds great. The instrumental is super loud and pounding. It's not exactly bad, but it gets kinda old because most non-interlude songs are around six minutes and it's just constantly loud. Another gripe I have with the album is the songs all sound pretty much the same. If you blindfolded me and played

a random song I probably couldn't guess it. Maybe I need to listen to the album more, but I think it would still be hard to distinguish.

Despite the songs sounding the same, and at the same time also getting very repetitive, that's okay to me, because they sound really good. The instrumental and vocals are just so good that it barely bothers me how most of the songs are the same. And another great thing about the album is the eerie atmosphere added by ambient sounds.



Jay Schluender

Nintendo switch 2: another take

New accessories are cool, but not worth buying on their own

Vaughn Nash
Staff Writer

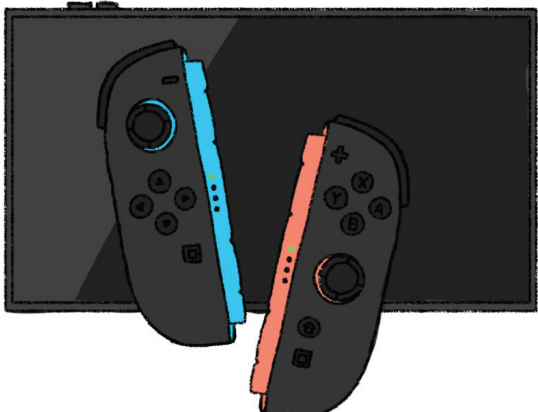
The Nintendo Switch 2 will be released on June 5th, 2025 on sale for \$450. According to Nintendo it will be a great improvement from the first Switch. It will have a better processor, larger screen, and better graphics. The new Switch will also use a Nvidia chip and will have 256 GB of internal storage. It will be around ten and a half inches wide, four and a half inches tall, and half an inch thick.

The Switch 2 is still compatible with the old Switch's accessories, but it will come with new accessories like reworked joy-cons which will have magnetic joysticks. There will also be a new feature for the joy-cons allowing you to

flip them on their side, and slide them on a solid surface like computer mice. There are new stabilizers you can put on the joy-cons, making them easier to control and use in mouse mode. Another new feature is the C button on the joy-cons, which you can press

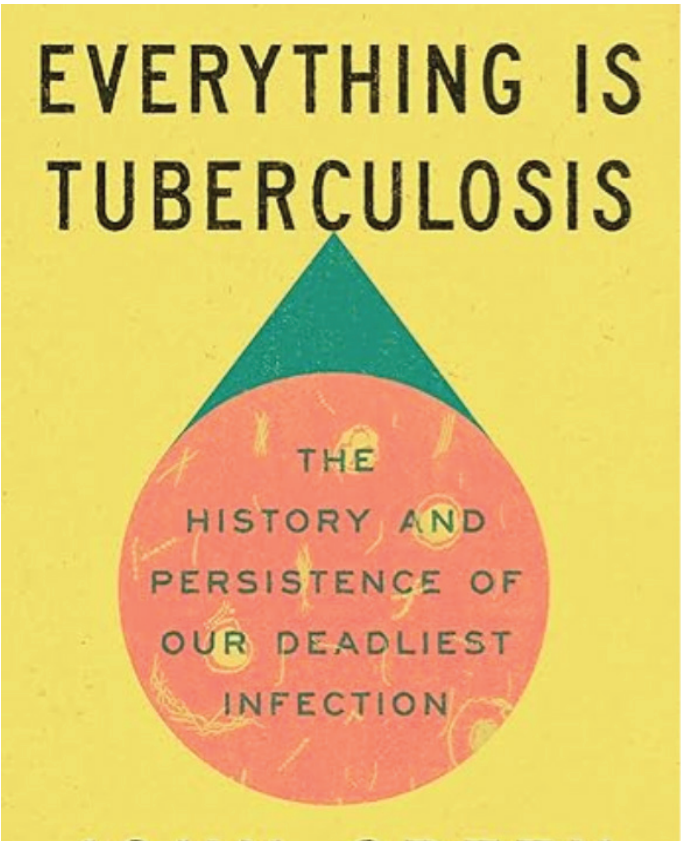
to open the chat for whatever game you're playing. There is also a gaming controller which can be connected to the Switch costing \$85.

I think the Switch 2 is a good upgrade from the first Switch and I am glad they improved on many different things. The



most exciting feature in my opinion is the new joy-cons. I like all of the new features that have been added to them as well as a new way to use them, being the mouse mode. While I think the Switch 2 is quite pricey, I think it would still be worth buying by itself if you already have the old Switch's accessories.

However, I wouldn't say the new accessories are worth buying on their own, because of how expensive they are. I think the main point of getting a new Switch is an improvement on graphics, processing, and overall gameplay experience compared to the old one, which the Switch 2 seems to do pretty well.



Everything is Tuberculosis

A compassionate look at a how a disease can affect people’s lives

Joseph T. Schwartz
Staff Writer

My purchasing of Everything is Tuberculosis, written by several times award winning author and online content creator John Green, is a perfect example of how influential social media personalities can be. I’ve become very fond of the content both John Green and his brother Hank Green post to YouTube, which culminated into the moment when I saw the book was out to pre-order, and my mad scramble (I will neither confirm nor deny whether my phone was flung into a wall) to place said pre-order. Despite the little attention I paid to the subject of the book when I ordered it, I have found it to be equal parts interesting and terrifying. The book contains the quick, interesting facts you’d expect from one of the Green brothers while also detailing the struggle of a young Sierra Leonean boy struggling through tuberculosis (TB) in the modern day and giving you a deep-dive into the history of TB on a global scale on top of that.

Everything is Tuberculosis, was published March 18th, 2025. The book is a comprehensive view of the impacts of TB on the global, national, and personal levels. The book is dedicated to one of the main focuses of the book, Henry Reider, as well as Shreya Tripathi and all other victims of TB around the world. The book’s main story is that of Henry, a young boy who lives in Sierra Leone, and has had TB since he was a middle schooler. Green doesn’t shy away from the painful aspects of TB, and goes especially into detail with the first hand experience he and Henry spoke about while he was in Sierra Leone. The novel talks about everything which could possibly come of TB, whether it be the socioeconomic reasons why certain people may be more likely to contract the disease, or how quickly

people were able to produce drugs to cure the disease, and even the social ramifications of contracting TB across time and location. Everything is Tuberculosis is written in a way that I find distinctly different from other non-fiction books, which made it easier for me to read. I have one non-fiction novel which I received for Christmas almost three years ago now, and I have started it maybe four times without finishing it. The difference between that novel and Green’s is that he writes in a much more personal manner than other non-fiction novels I’ve read. In most non-fiction novels, there’s a very clear informative angle to the writing, which certainly has its place, but Green adds in a more human aspect which I appreciate. His writing is not just a retelling, but truly a story of its own and is distinctly his novel which shows his own opinions and feelings. Building on that, I very much appreciate the compassion Green shows in this book, and how he makes his feelings towards the systemic issues preventing those from care abundantly clear. The difference between the novel I’ve been unable to finish and Everything is Tuberculosis is that the first novel feels like a report, and Green’s writing feels like activism. You can tell how much he wants things to change from his writing and how much he cares for the people affected. Green’s background as a fiction writer also shines through in his writing. The story is structured much more like a fiction novel in how it builds up to a point before wrapping up with a clear ending and message towards the end. I think that’s also a big point in this book’s favor: it’s sincerely engaging in ways I don’t see often with non-fiction books. Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed his novel and

Tuberculosis, 9

Adolescence is worth the watch

Netflix series provides realistic look at youth accused of a crime

Misk Sewidan
Staff Writer

This article contains heavy spoilers.

In the first episode of Adolescence, Jamie, the main character, and his dad are at the police station. Jamie is being questioned about a murder. They sit in the interview room with the two police officers and the solicitor in the corner of the room. The room is dark and has only one dim light in the middle of the ceiling. Eddie asks the police officers lots of questions and is very upset. Jamie sits quietly and doesn’t say anything. The solicitor, who serves as a lawyer for Jamie, tells him to reply “no comment” to any questions asked. The Netflix TV mini series focuses on 13-year-old Jamie Miller (Owen Cooper), who is arrested for the murder of his classmate Katie Leonard. As the investigation unfolds, they

find the public backlash and personal grief coming from the arrest is very strong. Much of the backlash goes towards Jamie’s father, Eddie Miller (Stephen Graham). What I liked about the show was how I got to see the process for arresting someone for a serious crime. I also liked how it didn’t feel fake. It felt like I was in the room with them and got to see everything.



Episode one focuses on the arrest and the process they had to go through. They had to search Jamie to make sure he didn’t have anything dangerous, and they had to make sure he had a trusted adult in the room with him. They talked about how school was and why he was following Katie that night. As the viewer, I think you tend to sympathize with the family and Jamie. You might wonder why you would sympathize with Jamie, but he was so upset and it makes you wonder whether or not he did it, even though there is a lot of evidence that he did. Episode two was about the interviewing process and how they had to talk to all their friends. It personally wasn’t my favorite episode but it was still very interesting to see how the kids reacted and how they had to go class to class. There was one part that I found very amusing, when the kid they wanted to question jumped out the window and ran away. The police officer chased him for five blocks or so. When they were talking to Katie’s best friend she got really upset and started yelling then stormed away. The episode also explores why people didn’t like Jamie and how he got bullied. Episode three was a few

Adolescence, 9

Indie bookstores are worth a visit

These gems offer all the local charm that the big chains lack

Anson Lind
Staff Writer

Independent bookstores often don’t get enough credit. Even if it may be easier to find a specific book at a larger bookstore chain, independent bookstores have all the charm that big chains lack. This past April 26th was the last Saturday in April, making it National Independent Bookstore Day. Every year, indie bookstores across the Twin Cities collaborate for a five-day event, awarding prizes to people who visit enough independent bookstores over the course of the week. My friends and I have been doing bookstore runs for years, and in that time, we’ve come across a fair few notable bookstores, so if you’ve been wanting to visit some local bookstores, give these a try! This year, there was an abundance of bookstores focusing on used books, and of all of them, none were more enigmatic than Midway Books. I’d tried on multiple occasions to visit this store, only to arrive just a few minutes after closing time. Finally seeing the interior of the store was incredible, and it did not disappoint. Midway was packed with a wide selection of used books, laid out through a maze of shelves, filled with nooks and crannies and fun discoveries.

Of all the bookshops on this list, Paperback Exchange deserves a special mention. Usually a delightful little shop full of maze-like passages and a wide selection, a recent water main break flooded the store, destroying countless books and leaving the store closed indefinitely. If you’re hoping to support the restoration of the shop, you can donate at their website, paperbackexchange.com. Uncle Hugo’s and Uncle Edgar’s (one store, despite the two names) serves two very specific genres, but does so extraordinarily well. Uncle Hugo’s sells a massive selection of science fiction, whereas Uncle Edgar’s is an incredible choice for mystery fans. Full of personality and a wide selection within their specific focuses, the Uncles have become a must-stop for both Indie Bookstore Days and for bookstore trips in general. In the middle of downtown Saint Paul, Subtext Books is a deceptively small-seeming bookstore that more than makes up for it with great selection and a cozy atmosphere. As is to be expected from independent bookstores, the staff is exceptionally friendly and helpful, and I’ve found several of my favorite books here. Overall, I’ve never had a bad

experience at Subtext, and would highly recommend a visit. Birchbark Books & Native Arts in Minneapolis is always one of my favorite stops. A bookstore with an emphasis on indigenous authors and stories, Birchbark has a gorgeous building with birch decorations, tall, winding shelves, and “hobbit holes” for small children to read in. The staff at Birchbark is helpful and friendly, and the selection of indigenous books incredible— Birchbark is another longtime favorite store that I’d consider a must-stop. Once Upon A Crime is an unexpected highlight of the Minneapolis bookstores. To enter, one must climb down a set of stairs into what appears to be a basement, with a perfect atmosphere for a store specializing in mysteries. And mysteries it has! I’ve never failed to find a wide selection here, and I’ve even discovered one of my absolute favorite books in this store. The atmosphere of Once Upon A Crime makes it an absolute delight for fans of the mystery genre. Wild Rumpus is, fittingly enough, one of the wildest bookstores I’ve had the pleasure of visiting. On top of the great book selection, the store is chock-full of fun

surprises— be it the cats wandering the isles, the upside-down boat on the ceiling, the bat house in the middle of the store, the wide variety of birds along the back... the list truly goes on and on, making Wild Rumpus one of the most unique bookstores I’ve ever seen. And of course, I have to close off this list with my childhood bookstore, Red Balloon Bookstore. OWL’s Student Library Advisory Council participates in Red Balloon events frequently, and for good reason! The staff are immensely friendly, and the bookstore’s vibes are just about perfect (even if I must admit that my own nostalgia may be a part of it). It’s a great pick for younger children, but their YA and adult selection is easily good enough to justify returning time and time again. Bonus points for their blind book dates (in which you can purchase a book based purely on a few descriptive sentences rather than judging it by the cover or title), which have never failed to introduce me to new, fantastic reads. So next time you’re looking for a new read, don’t just wander around Barnes & Noble. Find an independent bookstore near you, and pay them a visit— you won’t regret it.

The Sopranos, 6

“religious” person in the show and makes the watchers ask how much of a devout catholic Carmela really is. Tony Soprano himself doesn’t show much care for religion; he sees it as a scam and a waste of time. He attends funerals, weddings and confirms his own son, yet he never showed commitment towards God. At some point Tony justifies all of his actions when talking to his therapist, claiming he won’t go to hell because he is a soldier, “Soldiers don’t go to hell,” Tony says. This helps Tony in having no guilt or having to worry

about his moral compass. Religion is not a well of peace in the Sopranos, instead it dives into a realm of superstition and reflects the characters’ deeper contradictions and fears. Faith is depicted as a social obligation, guilt and denial. Religion and faith in The Sopranos is an empty tradition that can and does offer slight comfort to the characters, but usually serves as a mask to cover people up and their wrongdoings. Ultimately religion is a reflection of the show’s inner tension, and the characters therein who actively try to justify their actions and validate their own twisted

Outward Bound, 1

in all three locations every year. In Deep Portage, students went on a day-long canoe trip, went rock climbing, and had a s’more night around a campfire. Colorado students went through a tree-top ropes course, went on walks with a beautiful mountain view, and had a talent show at the end of the week. In Maine, they went swimming in the ocean and in a quarry, watched the Timberwolves play, and played hot seat activities. All of the trips enjoyed games and team-building activities in their free-time, and had plenty of time to enjoy the nature around them.



Liam Nowatzki

Deep Portage offered quiet and beautiful scenery.

Indie games, 6

and potentially dating some of the people in this new city, working with the hero's guild to get ingredients for potions, and working in what is basically a magic customer service job, balancing your stress levels, your money spent, and your money gained. In my opinion, Potionomics is solidly a fantastic game, due to its incredibly charming artstyle, and very interesting characters that draw you in from the moment you meet them.

Of the Devil is a murder mystery visual novel by Nth Circle. The game takes place in a cyberpunk dystopian future where you play as Morgan, a

defense lawyer working in a world where “the house always wins.” Currently there are only two episodes of the game out, with a third supposed to come out sometime this year. Episode zero, a sort of prologue to the game, and episode one, which really starts the game with the death of one of your closest friends, and the meeting of the game's deuteragonist, Serra. If you ask me, Of the Devil is a remarkable game filled with some of the some of the greatest writing I've seen this year, in terms of characters, narrative, and the mystery itself, with some fantastic narrative twists, character dynamics that put Death Note to shame, and a truly fascinating protagonist and unreliable narrator with a

think that these will basically kill both physical media for Xbox devices, and kill any possibility of Xbox exclusives. Physical media is already slowly becoming less used by companies in favor of digital purchases, and physical media for the handheld can't really use a disk drive (not super practically at least), so they would either have to move to cartridges, or drop physical entirely. Even if the 2027 console has a disk drive, if the handhelds don't it establishes the president that physical media is not necessarily in a Xbox console.

Overall, Xbox as a whole feels to me like they are trying to compete with Steam and their grip on the PC market, and are seeing their console platform as just one aspect of their business instead of its core. Their focus on releasing games for PC supports this, but the handhelds, and especially the Asus one, are what really confirms this for me.

The first party one could have just been their answer to the Switch, but the collaboration with Asus to create what will presumably be considered a “PC Handheld”, a genre started by the Steam Deck, really makes me think it's targeting Steam. I don't think it's a coincidence either that their handhelds are coming out around the time of rumors of a desktop version of SteamOS, and the first release of SteamOS on a non-Steam device.

If SteamOS is successful, it could reduce Windows' grip on the gaming market, especially for handhelds, where windows is not really designed to run and SteamOS provides a smoother overall experience. It could also take away many of the “hardcore” gamers on desktop, who don't use a PC for more than gaming and a web browser. SteamOS's only huge hurdle at the moment is game support, which gets better as time goes on, to the point where almost every game runs on SteamOS unless they have a anti-cheat that either goes out of its way to block linux (and thus SteamOS as well) or an anti-cheat that is simply incompatible. This currently blocks many major games like Roblox, Fortnite, League of Legends, and Valorant.

deuteragonist that contrasts to her perfectly. Honestly I could go for days about Of the Devil, but sadly, most of that would be spoilers for pretty much everything.

In Stars and Time is a turn based RPG by insertdisc5 in which you play as Siffrin, the fifth and last party member on a quest to defeat an enemy known as the King who is trying to freeze in time the entire country of Vaugarde. The game actually starts on the last day before you go to defeat the King, and then in the first room you die. You are back to the beginning of the day, and now in a time loop. In Stars and Time is amazing, the main character Siffrin is a very fun character, and it is incredibly

Adolescence, 8

months after he got arrested and focuses on his therapy session. The therapist was asking him about girls and why he followed so many models on Instagram. This episode was my favorite because you got to see how he really acted and how he could lose his temper quickly. This episode was very interesting in the sense that you got to learn new things about the characters and the therapist.

In episode four, the final episode, focuses on Jamie's dad's birthday. You got to see how the family was treated since the arrest. Kids vandalized Eddie's van and the store workers kept asking them questions about Jamie. The dad got really mad and started yelling. Then he got a call from Jamie and he told his dad something really important. This is the last episode and once you finish it you will be really mad it's over.

The show has gotten highly

AP tests, 3

was cutting it close. The other ones, you had an exorbitant amount of time to check your answers, really,” said 10th grader Joseph Schwartz. Precalc covers polynomials, logarithms, trigonometry, and introductory limits, preparing students for the more advanced math skills required for Calc. “Usually you think of Calculus as being really hard... but once you've done Precalc, Calculus seems like a very logical jump of reasoning,” said Joseph.

Another double exam day on the 13th brought in AP

The Wolf Among Us, 6

delays of an alleged sequel.

Truthfully, a story following a not so happily ever after to all these fairy tale and folklore stories, is one of the best ideas out there. To remix an original idea and make it your own is honestly genius in my opinion. With numerous different outcomes to the ending, and numerous choices to make beforehand, the game still stands to be playable more than once. I have played it 14 times and am currently on my 15th, because it's truly that immersive.

Other Telltale games have had limited dialogue options (looking at you, Minecraft Story Mode). But one of the most fun features in The Wolf Among Us is how direct you can be with the options

interesting to watch them go through this time loop, especially their mental state throughout the game, which is very compelling even in the worst of it, and admittedly quite relatable at times.

And finally, Stray Gods: A Role Playing Musical is, as the name suggests, a roleplaying musical by Summerfall Studios. The game follows Grace, a college dropout and member in a band who feels very directionless in life, until she meets a woman named Calliope. A day later Calliope barges into Grace's apartment, dead. You then learn that Calliope was a Greek god, and since Grace was the closest person to her when she died, now Grace is

praised for its direction, writing, and camera work, Adolescence has reached a massive audience, reaching 96.7 million views within its first three weeks on Netflix. The series has been praised for its authentic view of youth violence and the emotional parts causing such disasters.

The series has starred conversations on the impact of online sexism on young boys' minds, with references to figures like Andrew Tate and the “red pill” community, which is an online group of men who believe they've discovered the “truth” about gender, often criticizing modern gender equality and traditional masculinity. The term comes from The Matrix, symbolizing an awakening to a reality. The community is made for men's rights and pickup artist culture but has been criticized for promoting misogyny and harmful stereotypes. This has led to calls for the series to be screened for educational

Environmental Science (APES) students that afternoon. APES looks at ecosystems, biodiversity, and natural resources. The exam presents students with three real-world environmental scenarios to analyze and propose solutions to. “One thing that helped a lot was taking notes on all of the things I thought might have been important on the multiple choice sections, because those kind of gave you some answers that could possibly be used on later questions,” said 11th grader Olivia Fiebich. The APES class itself also had an interesting format. “It was a lot

this game offers; finding the different character responses, whether genuine, angered, or absolutely hilarious. There's a nearly unlimited amount of dialogue options compared to other games, with responses to Fables ranging from somewhat kind, to sarcastic, to bordering on violent.

Murder mystery on its own is hard to pull off, especially considering the wide story you'd have to pull off in order to do it correctly, but this prequel game to a DC comic series did the genre right, correctly, and perfectly. And that's why I'm giving it a solid 9.5/10.

that god. Unfortunately the other Greek gods think that she killed her, and if she can't prove otherwise in a week, Grace will die. In terms of the gameplay, most of the game is played out in songs that you can change the direction of at will. Similar to a Telltale game, at specific intervals in the song you are given three choices to lead the music. Red makes you take things in a “self confident” way of thinking with rock music, green has a more ‘charming’ approach with orchestral music and blue is usually a ‘clever’ choice with jazzy music. I really enjoyed Stray Gods, its unique gameplay that I've never seen anyone else even try to imitate, with such differences in what

settings to talk about and try to stop such harmful ideas. I think the show shows these types of things to make people aware of the things going on in the real world and to tell people that their family might be going through something like that and to make people aware of the things they don't know about.

Adolescence is available for streaming on Netflix, offering viewers a well written and an emotional experience that challenges perceptions and makes conversations about the challenges facing today's youth.

I gave this show a 10/10 because I got to see what other kids go through and I loved how it didn't feel fake. It felt like I was there and like it was happening right in front of my eyes. If you decide to watch it, I think you will fall in love with the storyline and it will absolutely change your perspective on how you treat people.

of reading the textbook. But then we also went out and did like field trips, and then wrote labs based on our findings,” explained Olivia.

Last but not least was AP Spanish Language and Culture on May 15th. Its free response section was the most unique, with students writing both an intrapersonal piece and an argumentative essay. It also required a speaking segment, with a simulated conversation. “There's a conversation piece where there's a recording and you get prompts like “at this point you greet the person and ask how they're doing,

Flags, 7

parts of the UK (except Wales).

At the end of the day, many flags are iconic or unique for different reasons. When a flag is chosen it should symbolize something about the place, like how Australia's flag has the Southern Cross constellations and the Commonwealth Star to symbolize it, or the Union Jack incorporating the major kingdoms that formed the UK.



is in theory the same song, but what sounds like something entirely different each playthrough. Combined with a very subversive take on the Greek pantheon, with takes on the gods that are certainly different, but in a way that I can definitely see how this happened.

While there are plenty more indie games that could talk your ear off about (Unpacking, Slay the Princess, and Unbeatable just to name a few) I think I've been talking for a while already, and I hope that just maybe one of these caught your interest for your next game to play.

Tuberculosis, 8

everything he put into it. It's a deeply emotional story alongside being an intellectual dive into the history and socioeconomic effects of the world's deadliest disease. Despite the information dense nature of the book, everything is still wrapped together cohesively and in a manner which is easy to understand, even if you have no prior knowledge of what he's talking about. I think anyone who enjoys learning will get something out of this book and it will help you become more informed on this massive issue in our modern world. I have yet to read other books by John Green, but after reading this book I very much expect to be reading them soon.

and what they're doing this weekend” or whatever,” said senior Ruby Kate Nolen, “it's interesting.”

So for all you future AP exam takers out there, don't be daunted by the long test times or abundance of content to learn. AP classes are designed to prepare students for these higher level experiences, so as difficult as it is not to, don't stress too much about the exam itself. “Get all your food and water and sleep as necessary,” recommended Antimony, “It's not the end of the world. If it goes bad, it's just another test.”

Nintendo Switch 2, 7

the day, with all their wacky, fun ideas, and awesome new characters that could bring the whole family together, as well as be played alone in the dark, Nintendo was a breakthrough. Almost every single console they've ever produced have sold massively in numbers, and have become extremely popular, except for the Virtual Boy, GameCube, and Wii U. Because of this, I'm curious to see what happens with the Switch 2, because it could either sell horribly or be right up there with the Switch in the best selling consoles of all time. Who knows?

Track, 3

he got a PR of 42.26 for the 300m hurdles which is really impressive because once again he beat second place by one second. The 4x2 team went to section finals, and got a PR in this race with a time of 1:35.84, landing them fourth place. The 4x1 team had a PR of 46.63 in the section finals, earning seventh place.

At the section meet, Aria's 400m time dropped down to 1:02.83 in the prelims, but she did qualified for the finals. In the finals, she got 1:01.20, good enough for fifth place. Za'im's disappointment came from the 110m hurdles, where he had a time of 19.13. He was placed at 14th place which was

not the outcome he wanted. He did improve his section championship by getting 42.28 in the 300m hurdle prelims, which awarded him fifth place. Then, he moved onto the finals where he placed ninth with a time of 44.27, after clipping some of the hurdles.

The Humboldt track team has shown significant growth since the start of the season. It is also a team where many different athletes thrive. "It's a fun environment. It's very welcoming to people who haven't run or don't do a lot of sports. The coaches make it very fun because of their uplifting nature," said 11th grader Clara Crosby, who runs the 4x800 and the 1600.

Joe Blegen, 1

very happy and supportive. He makes crew feel like a family. It is clear that he wants the best for us," said 9th grader Louisa McAlpine, another member of Joe's crew.

9th grader Garrett Weyandt counts bike tech as one of his favorite classes, "It was a fun class. Very very helpful."

Spanish teacher and program coordinator Tim Leone-Getten sees bike tech as a crucial part of OWL's larger program. "The bike tech program has given us a great hands-on classroom experience for students to learn not just about bicycles, but about engineering."



Purple Press staff photo

Joe poses in the bike tech classroom he founded.

Womanatee, 2

nearly half of our team were newcomers," said Mylie.

The team ended the year with the annual Manatee picnic at Harriet Island, which did not go as initially planned. The picnic was cut short by encroaching extreme weather and wind, and the annual alumni game was canceled, but teammates still had fun for the 40 minutes that the picnic lasted.

"The season had many ups and downs but overall I'm happy with how many players joined and were able to learn and improve as players," said Gabby.



Rebecca Palmer

Basha Douglas walks across the stage.



Rebecca Palmer

OWL graduates pose for a photo with friends.



Rebecca Palmer

Graduates getting ready for the big night.



Rebecca Palmer

Joe Lodahl walks across stage.



Rebecca Palmer

Gwen Stender introduces her parents as speakers.



Rebecca Palmer

Nick Christopherson delivers a speech.



Rebecca Palmer

Mylie Peterson Antin gives a speech.



Rebecca Palmer

OWL's class of 2025 celebrates by tossing their caps on the front steps of the O'Shaughnessy Auditorium at St. Catherine University.