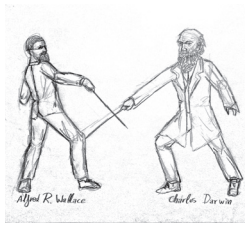




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Purple Press

Volume #26, Issue #6

April 1st, 2026

YouTube banned on school iPads

Students will have to search for a new way to be off task during their classes

Niko Stricklan
Staff Writer

In an effort to keep students on task, Bill Callahan, SPPS chief of operations officer, announced at the recent school board meeting on April 1st that YouTube will be permanently banned from school iPads starting April 30th.

YouTube, the most popular media hub, is being banned

mainly due to students' inability to effectively use the platform for school work, and not watch Minecraft videos or mukbangs. A district study shows that students doing work on their iPads spend around 60%-70% of their time on non-academic websites, like YouTube, during academic hours.

This is an issue that will

not only affect students, but teachers as well. Many teachers use Youtube for instructional purposes.

The Saint Paul School Board said in a formal statement, "YouTube is not an effective learning platform, and will be removed for the sake of teachers and students alike."

Reactions to this announcement have been

mixed.

"I won't be able to watch Minecr- er, science videos on my iPad. Class is going to be so much worse," said 8th grader Willa Brandvik.

"This is a marvel. This will force my students to actually listen to my lectures, and do their work!" said English teacher Leo Bickelhaupt.

Knowing the student body,

they're going to find a work around. They might take advantage of integrated links in Schoology, or using the GUEST WiFi Network, which were concerns expressed at the same board meeting, though no solution was proposed.

Many teachers rely on YouTube to show academic videos, or to use as substitute teaching when absent. "I use

YouTube to play examples or ideas for experiments we can't do in house," said science teacher Rebecca Palmer.

Many people have different opinions about this topic, but at the end of the day, we're just going to have to see how it plays out on April 30th.

"It's definitely the dawn of a new era," said Principal Dave Gundale.

Community meetings canceled until 2027



Purple Press Staff Photo

Paranormal activity captured on camera on the stage this week.

Persistent paranormal activity in auditorium leads to serious safety concerns

Kate Houle
Staff Writer

In a surprising announcement, OWL math teacher Damon Liberatore has cancelled all community meetings for the remainder of the year due to a spectral presence in the auditorium.

While preparing for

April's meeting, the assembly organizers repeatedly experienced the lights flashing, cords getting mysteriously unplugged, computer screens glitching out, and eerie feedback coming from the sound system.

"I'm not one to get easily scared, but it's obvious that something was very unhappy

with what we were doing, and I don't feel like dealing with that on top of everything else it takes to get the meetings together," said Damon.

"We're sad to have to lose our monthly tradition of bringing the OWL community together through news and celebration, but the safety and sanity of our students has



Purple Press Staff Photo

Cinderella cast members temporarily stuck in the elevator.

to be our first priority," said principal Dave Gundale in his official message to families.

OWL theater members have had many previous experiences with ghosts, to the point of affectionately considering some familiar spectres honorary members of design crew. This latest incident did not come as a surprise, but

the circumstances around it are stranger than usual.

"Daryl [the elevator room ghost] likes to flicker the lights and open the door of the elevator from time to time, but I can't imagine he'd ever purposely try to interfere with school affairs," said 11th

Haunted, 8

New cafeteria seating to elevate lunch

No more lines may be one of the most efficient decisions ever made and students are very excited

Jae Lind
Staff Writer

Due to uneven lunch lines, Principal Dave Gundale announced that the OWL cafeteria will be adopting a sit-down dining style similar to restaurants.

Instead of forming into two lines depending on a student's chosen food, students will proceed directly to sitting down at their lunch tables.

Each table will have QR codes for students to scan. They can enter their order on a Google form, including entree, milk option, and any salad bar items they like. There will even be a 'free response' section for students to make specific requests, and allergen boxes to ensure everyone's safety. Their completed tray will be delivered to their seat in 3-5 minutes, depending on the

business of the cafeteria.

"Our goal is to make lunch times more equal for everyone, and to bring an elevated dining experience to OWL," Principal Dave Gundale said when he announced the new program. It is also expected to decrease the amount of time students spend wandering around during lunches,

Sit down cafeteria, 8



Eleanor Foote

Lunch lines could become a thing of the past.

Kent to teach AI art

Melita Allen
Staff Writer

Art teacher Kent Miller needed a change, and his new art class has become a huge hit to most students.

After a photography student turned in a picture of his English homework, Kent decided he'd had enough. "I'm just sick of people turning in whatever's on their camera roll," Kent complained, "I've decided there's only one solution. The only way my students can get better at photography is if they don't even take the picture themselves."

Enter Kent's AI Art class. In this class, students will learn how to manipulate AI into making their art work, learn which key works to use to really get the feel they want for their piece, and add AI generated filters to give it the feeling they want for their art.

They've had multiple assignments already, including making artworks of cats in different famous painters styles, like Frida Kahlo, Pablo Picasso, and Vincent Van Gogh. They've made cartoon stop motion animation with AI, and remade scenes from movies with AI, enhancing them to make them look cooler.

"This class is much better than any other class. I mean, I can finally make something I can be proud of!" said 10th grade former photography student, Luis McCallahan. Most students have good reviews about the class, and Kent seems to be enjoying it more too, saying he'd

AI art class, 8



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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Spirit circles to be removed

Womanatees will breach from ‘dumb’ tradition

Beatrice Cosgrove
Staff Writer

In an unexpected breach from tradition, the Womanatees have announced that they will no longer be conducting spirit circles after games. In their statement to the Purple Press, the team claimed that spirit circles were “dumb” and “misleading.”

“The actual ‘spirit of the game’ lies in the competitive

combines the name and/or mascots of both teams. The circles are a way to build community with other teams and reinforce the spirit of the game, the responsibility of players to ensure fair, rule-abiding, play.

Although the statement made by the Womanatees did not specify why the team was breaking tradition, interviews with players

that Ultimate frisbee is a flawed sport, one that values sportsmanship over competition, and we’re trying to change that.”

When asked for comment, Maggie Jansen, a 10th grade player on the team, simply replied that the overarching goal of the game was to “conquer other teams, no matter what it takes.” As of press time, the team is fighting against the possibility of ejection from Minnesota Ultimate, the organization that all Manatee teams are affiliated with, for consistent aggressive behavior towards other teams.



Margaret Moe

Junior Rahnia Droogsma stretches to catch a throw.

and intense nature of our sport,” the statement continued, “therefore we have decided that it is in the best interest of our team to expunge spirit circles completely.”

Spirit circles, a staple in the aftermath of a frisbee game, give players the chance to resolve possible conflicts that arose in the game, acknowledge spirit shown by other players, and end with a cheer that

have made the team’s motives clear. According to Clara Plumstead, a 10th grader on the Womanatees, Athena Bolton-Steiner, the team’s coach, has reinforced a rigid training program with the goal of building animosity between players. When asked if this could be a problem, Clara was defiant, “Absolutely not, in fact, it has made our team better than ever. We’ve finally come to realize



Margaret Moe

Senior Maddie Linstad catches the frisbee.



Roman Rufi

Danny Hobday excelled on the field, but his professional status violated Minnesota High School League rules.

Manatee national results revoked

The team’s record is now 0-18 after discovering a pro on roster

Henry Helle-Morrissey
Staff Writer

Citing the fact that star OWL frisbee player Danny Hobday was secretly playing for two teams at once, the Manatees and Minnesota Windchill, Minnesota Ultimate has shockingly cancelled OWL’s frisbee results from last year, and have set the official record book to 0-18.

This decision was made due to the fact that Danny was technically a professional frisbee player, and having a professional on the team would be an unfair advantage at nationals. The team’s trophy will be returned soon, and the Manatees’ entire season will be stricken from the record. This includes their second place at state, and their placing of top four

at nationals, to the dismay of all of the Manatee fans around the world.

The Manatees had an amazing season last year due to their huge lineup of very talented seniors such as Danny, Joe Lodahl, and Arthur Madsen. Danny told his team that he was just practicing with the Windchill, when in reality he had signed a \$50,000 contract with the team. He had played multiple games for them, including weekend road trips to New York and California. Apparently, the Windchill hadn’t known about this either. Why did Danny do it? In an exclusive interview with the Purple Press he said, “I didn’t want to lie to my team, but it was just too much money to pass up.”

Open Circuits using robot for crime

Robotics team has turned to a life of villainy and have demands

Kaden McNamara
Staff Writer

Claiming that they are “tired of their robot being compared to AI,” the OWL robotics team, the Open Circuits, have started using their robot for a life of crime and supervillainy. The team announced their turn to evil by hacking into the community meeting slides and hijacking Dave Time to present a list of their demands.

Their demands as of press time include; banning ChatGPT and other AI services on school wifi, \$500 in Icy Cup gift cards, a laser pointer for every team member, and three-foot tall light up RGB spider legs for the robot.

According to sources, principal Dave Gundale refused to meet these demands and is instead considering reducing the robotics teams funding due to these antics.

After the rejection, sources say that the team has instead turned to crime.

As of press time their rap sheet includes using their robot to break into teacher’s classrooms and stealing their laptops so that they are unable to grade assignments, unlocking bathrooms during lunch hours, flipping tables upside-down, writing “robotics wuz here” on

whiteboards, turning every book in the library spine-in, and rickrolling the school over the intercom every Wednesday.

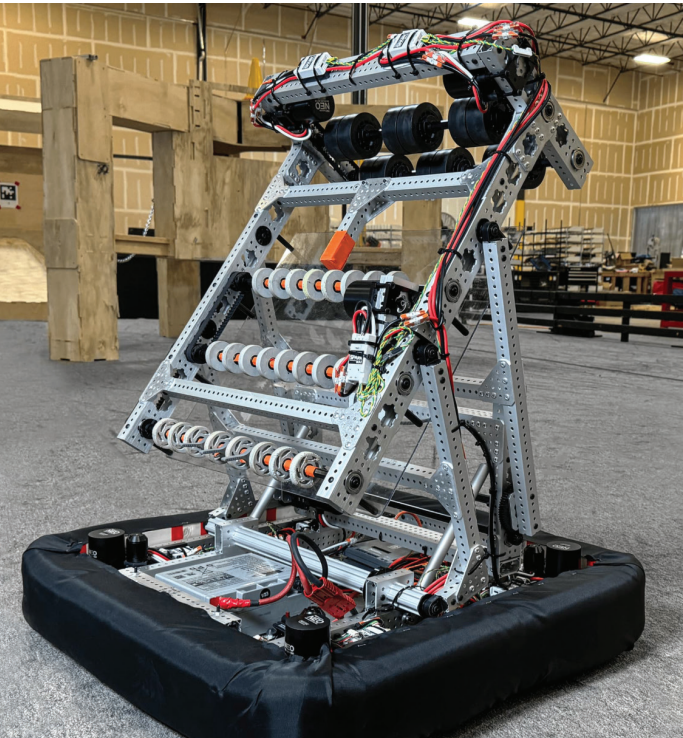
“We will not be stopping until our demands are met,” said 11th grader Johnny Gorton, “either we get our gift cards and laser pointers, or we give the robot a

paintball gun and glitter bombs.”

It has not yet been verified if this threat is a bluff or not, but many students have reportedly been preparing for the worst. “Their shenanigans have been pretty funny, but they are overreacting a little bit. I’m going to have to bring a shield to school now to avoid the glitter,” said 10th grader Jae Lind.

Social studies teacher Luke ‘Reflection’ Turvold and special education teacher Jeff ‘Solitude’ Steiner, have so far been out of reach for an interview on what they are planning to do about this predicament, but many students have placed their hopes on their intervention.

At press time, the Open Circuits robot has been seen following Dave around during the school day and beeping in an annoying fashion.



FRC

The robot prepares for its acts of evil.

Teacher competes in History Day

Katie Craven submitted a performance to the competition

Rocio Hernandez, Bahati Stalheim, and Frances Healy
Staff Writer

On Saturday March 28th, history teacher Katie Craven was caught competing in History Day, after winning first place at regionals. After an amazing performance, judges were suspicious and decided to take a closer look at her project, eventually uncovering her fraud.

History Day is a competition across the country, accepting entries from students 6th-12th grade. Teachers are not allowed to write sections for their students, or compete in National History Day.

After her individual

performance on the women’s rights movement and interview, many judges were suspicious of how well composed her project was and decided to take a closer look at it. After consulting other history day experts they had come up with two prominent theories to how she wrote her project. The first one was that she used AI to generate her script and performance, and the second was that she had teachers or history day judges to write her project.

After some investigation, judges decided to look past their suspicions because they had no proof or evidence of plagiarism. So

History day, 8



Purple Press Staff Photo
Tom keeps it real by performing the 6-7 gesture during a math lesson.

6-7 trend makes a surprising return

The slang term isn’t over and is making a swift comeback

Melita Allen
Staff Writer

Although there have been many accounts of students being “done with 6-7,” and thinking it “overrated,” teachers’ clever use of the number recently has quickly changed their minds.

After math teacher Tom Totushek repeatedly used 6-7 in many of his math review problems, (ex. $6x+7$, $6/7$) 8th graders start to use it more as well. “I mean, 6-7 was kind of dying, but Tom is just such a cool teacher, so anything he does is cool!” said 8th grader Bob Carter.

Tom isn’t the only teacher who uses 6-7 repeatedly. Multiple witnesses say they’ve heard teachers work it into natural conversations. “I heard they even use it at staff meetings,” said 7th grader Jess Johnson. Kent’s

glue ruler joke with his 7th graders is another example of how 6-7 continues to thrive, talking about the labels on his drawers, with drawer 6 being called glue, and 7 being called ruler. Other teachers just write the number on their board and do the hand gesture to be cool.

Reportedly, 6th graders call Clara the 6-7 teacher because of her repeated use of the word, and, allegedly, all the 6th graders now know what $6x7$ is.

Many crew leaders have influenced their crew to the point of putting 6-7 into lip-sync battles in the community meetings as well.

The 6th and 7th graders, being who they are, are experts on the current slang. “It’s so skibity rizz Ohio 6-7

6-7, 6

Smart pass will return to OWL

The controversial technology has been improved by AI

Erik Imholte
Staff Writer

In a shocking turn of events, the district has announced the upcoming return of the controversial SmartPass system, which was discontinued after the 2023-2024 school year.

“We understand the issues that this system has caused in the past,” said Dr. Stacie Stanley, superintendent of Saint Paul Public Schools. “However, SmartPass has evolved alongside recent advancements in AI technology, and we believe that the reimplementation of the system will benefit our community in numerous ways.”

The AI enhanced SmartPass system will reportedly require a student’s full name and a facial scan upon requesting a pass. Then, it will utilize its unadulterated access to the school’s security camera networks to track students entering and exiting the bathroom, match their faces to the names and faces in its database, and time each student’s visit individually. If it detects a student’s time away from class exceeds five minutes, the AI will make an announcement over the school’s PA alerting the student that their time is up.

“It’s a smart idea, to be honest,” said history

Smart passes, 6

Origami dragons taking over school

Staff have called in medieval origami knights as reinforcements

Azriella Barrett and
Hannah Loomis
Staff Writer

Due to origami dragons invading the school, some OWL staff members have decided to take action by driving them out with force provided by origami medieval knights.

“Logically, this could totally work, knight vs dragon, origami vs origami. A perfect battle,” said math teacher Clara Raineri.

In recent days, some OWL students and staff have noticed and reported origami dragons across the school, notably in the library and on teachers desks. In the library the dragons seem to be flying over the books, while in classrooms the dragons appear to be positioned on,

or near, teachers desks.

At first, it seemed as though these dragons were just simply decorative, however their intent seems to have turned insidious. Especially since students and teachers alike have reported that the dragons seem to be watching the surrounding space and people. “It’s on the ledge, it’s like it’s observing us,” Spanish teacher Tim Leone-Getten commented jokingly while looking at said dragon positioned near his desk. He, and several others in the community, seem blissfully unaware of the dragon’s true intentions.

We turned to our resident dragon expert and ELA teacher Preston West, for answers. He stated during a quick interview that, after

further inspection, he can confirm that, “The dragons do appear to be quietly gathering information in the background. They seem to be most interested in drama, gossip, rates of assignment completion, and books.”

He also stated, after being asked about the dragon’s origins, that there are at least two separate species of dragon. “You can tell the difference between these two groups through one specific detail, the shape of their back-ridge.” He then went on to say that the different species of dragon can be attributed to two different creators, working in tandem to collect information.

During one of their gossip sessions, Clara,

librarian Laura Orris and art teacher Kent Miller could be heard plotting the dragon’s demise. Kent even went so far as to say, “Even though I admire their craftsmanship, these dragons are interrupting my ‘important meeting.’” This statement was immediately followed by an unintelligible joke.

We later found out that they consulted Preston, and Laura informed us that he told them that “To control the new origami dragon population in the school we need to bring back medieval knights in origami form.”

The teachers reportedly intend to spend part of their prep period every day defending the school by making origami medieval

Dragons, 6

Patti changes her college allegiance

The Gophers have replaced the Trojans as Patti’s favorite team

Cooper Small
Staff Writer

Shocking staff and students alike, OWL math teacher Patti Hosfield reportedly changed her favorite college team last month from the University of Southern California’s Trojans to the University of Minnesota’s Golden Gophers.

“My life is Gophers,” Patti allegedly said to her math class last week. Attempts to indoctrinate students into the Gophers camp have also been carried out. “She made me and my class, like, pray to the Gophers before we started class for the day,” 7th grader Nikki Chrz said. Sources in classes on the third floor report that in the morning, they can faintly

hear sounds of adolescents chanting “Ski-U-Mah” for five minutes on end.

It is unclear where Patti’s change in preference has come from-- some teachers speculate that the color scheme of the Golden Gophers appealed more to the math teacher than that of the Trojans. “Patti’s definitely clear about her stance on colors. She certainly has preferred maroon to cardinal for most of her adult life,” said fellow math teacher Clara Raineri, “I guess there is a difference, but I don’t know why it matters to her so much.”

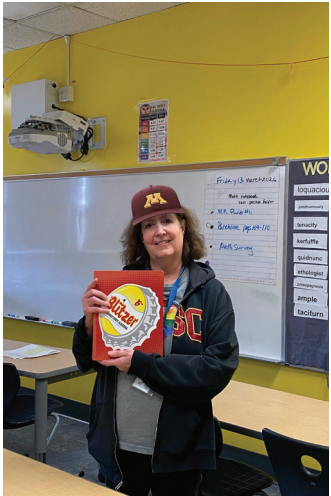
Whether Patti’s allegiance will hold strong is still up in the air. “She could go either way, I guess. She’s even said that she’s considering

leaving OWL to attend the U of M,” science teacher Rebecca Palmer reported.

Students first noticed the change in Patti’s behavior when the teacher was watching the Gophers play the Trojans. “She was just watching it like a zombie, like normal, when all of a sudden, she started muttering under her breath like Frankenstein... she was saying ‘Gophers... Gophers... Gophers...’ all slow and creepy,” 7th grader Felicia Higgleston II confirmed.

“I kinda liked praying and chanting, but I saw some of my friends looking uncomfortable. Those guys like the Badgers though, and Patti said we’re not supposed to talk about

them. But for me, I don’t really see the problem with Wisconsin. Wait, this isn’t going in the paper, is it?” 7th grader Georgie Pinkman



Purple Press staff photo
Patti shows off her new Gopher gear in class.
Patti, 6

A cure for senioritis is here

Procrastination will no longer be a problem

Amya Wright
Staff Writer

In an effort to combat late work and procrastination, the FDA has released a new senioritis vaccine.

This vaccine will be available nationwide in clinics near you starting on April 1st. The vaccine will cost around 45 dollars per dose. Once you get the vaccine, you will immediately feel the side effects. Side effects include higher energy levels, less irritation, and some quickness in your step. It helps in fighting against procrastination, tardiness, and over sleeping.

Many seniors are happy about the new development. “I love the idea of this! It’s so fun!” said senior Fiona Curran. Senior Alex Perez

said, “Now I won’t be late to school anymore! I’ll have more time with my friends.” Even some teachers are speaking out about their excitement.

While this vaccine may help many seniors, some are afraid to get the shot due to word being spread that principal Dave Gundale can track students through said vaccine. Dave has refused to comment on the issue.

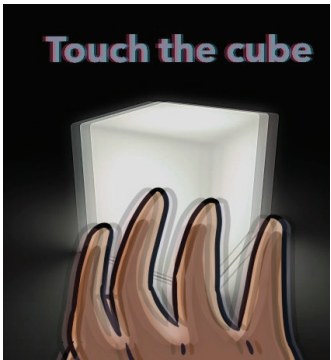
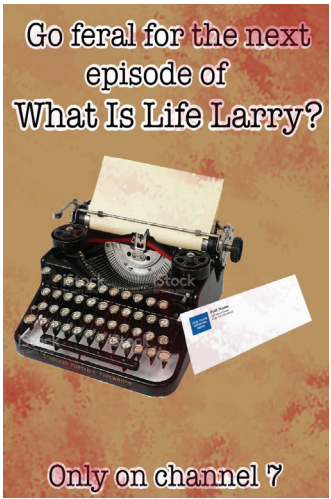
We’ve also had multiple complaints from seniors and teachers. Senior Arlo Northrop-Kiel said “why can’t they just let us be free and live our lives? I mean why can’t I just go pro in frisbee right now instead of having to come to school?”

Seniors have spoken their minds at PTO meetings saying things like “How

do we know this is safe?!” “They’re tracking us!” and “I like being lazy.” We have heard and understood these worries and have begun looking into them.

The FDA has encouraged OWL seniors to get the vaccine saying that they would probably not make it to graduation if the shot was not given. Not getting the vaccine would allegedly lead to procrastination, over tiredness, irritability, and extra hunger.

Data has shown that less than half of OWL’s seniors have gotten this shot and teachers say this has been noticeable. Senior seminar teacher Katie Craven said, “I just can’t get those seniors to stay in my classroom, they just wanna go go go!”



Senior Spotlight

Rebekah Rentzel



What pronouns do you use?
She/her.

How long have you been at OWL?
Seven years.

What are your plans for next year?
I plan to attend UC Santa Barbara to study theater.

What’s been your favorite class in high school?
AP Lit.

What extracurriculars are you involved in?
Theater.

Favorite field work experience or school trip and why?
Going to see the Phantom of the Opera in 6th grade.

If you had a walk up song, what would it be?
What I Got by Sublime.

That One Little Kid

Kent Miller

How tall are you?
4’ 6”

What pronouns do you use?
He/him.

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

Who’s your favorite senior?
Rebekah.

What is your favorite thing about OWL so far?
The cool art classes.

What extracurriculars do you plan on getting involved in at OWL?
Odyssey of the Mind.



Floods concern Saint Paul residents

Emergency actions are now ofishally underway to control flooding

Anson Lind
Staff Writer

Large-scale floods of the Mississippi River are endangering riverside life in Saint Paul. Purple Press reporters have been herring reports that rising waters are forcing people to abandon their homes in search of higher, drier, and betta ground. Roeboat teams have been deployed at the earliest opportunity to aid in evacuation efforts, and several other escapees have been pickereled up by helicodter. Residential plants and gardens have been turtley krilled, and offishes in the area have announced a return to a COVID style work from home format until the flooding subsidies.

We’ve haddock season of extreme rainfall and snowfall, the likely cause of the flooding disaster. Warmer temperatures are now causing a lox of this snow to melt, the runoff flowing into the Mississippi, where (along with the rain) it causes exstream flooding. Krillions of gallons of water have entered the river this way, spurring the rising water level. The Minnesota Sturgeon General has warned that these waters are highly polluted, and should be avoided.

Many businesses located alongside the river have been floundering with the

flooded streets driving away potential customers, a reel threat to their continued survival. Local restaurant Cap’n Nemo’s Vegan Burgers has reported that floodwaters have driven away 95% of potential customers. “At this rate, the sole things coming in our doors will be aquatic life,” said owner Codney Nemo, “which is shrimplly no help. We’re a vegan restaurant, we don’t serve fish.” What’s moray, businesses known for shelling non-water-resistant goods like books have been encouraged to relocate their stock until water levels lower. Pride and Prejudive books has postponed their national bookstore day shellebrations, and True Roemance Wedding



MPR

Grouper has put their upcoming ceremonies on hold, saying they are terribly sardine to anyone hoping to get calamarrried in the upcoming week.

The city government is putting together emergency actions to control flooding damages. Officials have gone on record stating that they have a “gilliant plan” to contain floodwaters. “There is a retaining wall eye’ve made plans for,” said Carpson Reefell, the ofishal director of Ramsey County Emergency Management. “These floods are searious business, and I’m not squidding around.” When asked where funding for this wall would be coming from, Reefell clammed up and would not respond. Anemone of the project has gone on record stating that “I’ve haddock with that atroutcious wall plan,” and “I wouldn’t be cod dead supporting it.” When asked about Reefell, the crabby opposition threatened violence, claiming, “that manta makes me want to lose my tempura and give him a fishous smackerel.”

School administration has begun putting policies in plaice just in case school has to be canshelled. “Bassically, if the flooding closes the school, all students with midquarter grades of As, Bs, or seas will automatically pass their third quarter classes,” OWL Principal Dave Gunneldale said in a statement last Friday. “We trout that floodwaters will reach OWLs high-up location, but the danger of this situation scampi underestimated.” Barramundi that this only applies to students with suffishiently high midquarter grades, so if you’re not doing whale, you’d better make shore to get that work tunad in.

Wall eye’ve been doing my best to stay updated, information on the expected end date to this flooding crisis is scarce, so if salmon cod let minnow by texting my shell phone if any new developments arise, that’d be fintastic, tank you!



Purple Press Staff Photo

OWL to combine with Humboldt

The change brought mixed responses from students and staff

Clara Plumstead
Staff Writer

Prompting mixed responses from students and teachers alike, the Saint Paul Public School District has decided that Humboldt High School and Open World Learning will be merging starting fall of 2026.

According to sources, in addition to the already-existent passage on the first floor of OWL, two new tunnels will be built on the first floor, to ensure efficient movement between buildings. Both schools currently have all the specialized rooms they need, like a gym, cafeteria and auditorium, so there will be double the amount of those rooms needed, but the school district doesn’t seem all that concerned.

“Think of the space! It’ll be like a college, and students will have so many more class options,” said 10th grader Maggie Jansen.

OWL gym and health

teacher Joe Bradner was overheard telling his students last week, “Since we’ll have so many more students enrolled at HumbOWLt, we’ll need a lot more space. Besides, who hasn’t dreamed of OWL getting a second gym for as long as they can remember?”

Not everyone is so enamored with the idea though. Spanish teacher Tim Leone-Getten disagreed with the decision, stating “OWL is so successful and unique because of its smaller size. Combining it with Humboldt will invalidate the community we’ve created here.”

But the matter has been settled, and changes are set to be implemented regardless. For one, both schools already plan to extend passing time to ten minutes to accommodate the longer time it will take to move between the two buildings. Despite conflicting opinions, at press time, the integration is still set to happen.

Archery team under investigation

High scores at a recent tournament prove to be suspicious

Rajan Agarwal
Staff Writer

Due to suspiciously high scores at the Becker tournament last month, a thorough investigation of the archery team revealed that they have been using voodoo magic to make their arrows shoot straighter.

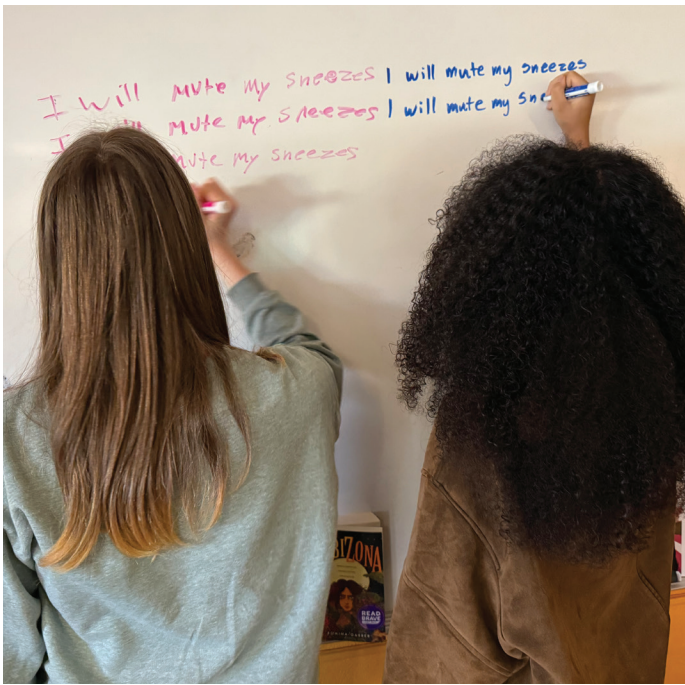
“It just didn’t make sense why everyone shot above 200 points,” said the head of the investigation, who chose to remain anonymous. “And when we heard that they never shot an arrow worth less than seven points, we knew something was wrong.”

A renowned magicologist

from the University of Minnesota detected trace hints of magic at the tournament, and detained Donald Post Jr., one of the archery coaches, for further questioning. After a brief analysis, the archery team chant was revealed to have high amounts of Athlete’s Vigor, a banned magic type, and the cores of the arrows they used were also highly magical.

“The team swore that the magic was accidental, but it just didn’t add up. How could they unknowingly use a banned form of magic?” said Jim Jacobson, head of

Archery, 8



Purple Press Staff Photo

Students enduring detention in Joe’s room.

Detention has arrived at OWL

Students spend their afternoons making up for misbehaving

Eleanor Foote
Staff Writer

As of April 1st 2026, OWL is bringing back detention for misbehaving students. Detention will be held from directly after school to 6pm. It will be instructed by gym and health teacher Joe’s Brander, and held in his health room.

Many things can get you a couple hours in detention, included but not limited to, talking during class, distracting behavior, distracting clothes, having your phone out, foot-tapping, pencil tapping, sneezing, speaking in the halls, phone pings, and a lack of eye contact when talking to a superior. Depending

on the crime, students in detention will receive different punishments.

While in detention, you may see whiteboards with up to ten detainees writing, “I will mute my sneezes” over and over again with the crook of their elbows against their noses. In the corner you will see the pencil tappers, forced to bite on piles of pencils, though not allowed to choke on them, since that will get them another week for breaking the silence rule. You will also see Joe in the doorway yelling, “D FOR DEVELOPING” as some detainees are forced to do burpees.

Detention, 8

OWL will offer Future Day class

The graduation requirement is based on student predictions

Declan Proczko
Staff Writer

Earlier this week, SPPS declared that the elective ‘Future Day’ will be coming to Open World Learning, starting September of next year. SPPS posted on X this Monday that the class “builds important skills for determining who we may be at war with in the near and far future.”

The ‘Future Day’ class was first devised by Luke Turvold, a social studies teacher at OWL, in 2024. He will also be teaching the course at OWL. The district has decreed that all high school students are required to take it in order to graduate. The student’s grade is determined by the accuracy and/or support for their predictions.

Reactions to this decree have been mixed. The choice is being challenged by OWL social studies teacher Katie

Craven, claiming that the course is nothing but a way for Luke to induct unwitting students into his “Witchcraft and Eldritch studies of dark forces, which are better left well alone.”

Luke said that Katie simply lacks vision and should stay focused on History Day. He claims that research for History Day will be much easier as students attending his course can inform History Day participants where and when certain events will take place, making acquiring the facts of what happened much easier.

Luke has also said that there may be special guest appearances by those gifted in the art of prediction such as Professor Sybil Treleany and/or Tiresias the prophet, both of these professionals are very accomplished in their fields and Luke has understandably high hopes.

Kent passes Etsy pieces off as his own

OWL’s art teacher was part of a high-stakes fundraising scandal

Andres E Moreno Abrego
Staff Writer

Early this Tuesday, adored local art teacher Kent Miller was reportedly caught up in an art show scam involving stealing art and passing it off as his own.

Every year Kent participates in Open World Learning’s annual Celebration of Learning, in which he sells his own art in order to raise money for the ceramics program. But I have reason to believe, after gathering evidence and interviews from several suspects, that Kent Miller has been selling a mix of student art and art from Etsy as means to make a profit. He says 100% of proceeds go to his classes, but I believe only 10% of proceeds actually end up in

the class.

“See I remember a few years ago when I bought one of his pots from the Celebration of Learning and I found a different signature. I just assumed it was by accident, but that makes sense,” said music teacher Greta Cina.

I’m sure you’re wondering by now how this was found out, well here is what an anonymous student told our reporters.

“So I was walking into the back room after class to finish cleaning and putting my project away. And I saw huge packages hidden in the back so I went to go check them out. Well to my surprise, I found several Etsy packages all with different ceramics pieces in them.”

This anonymous source went on to give us the information of the sellers. Turns out Kent buys from a seller that specializes in selling fake art, who will etch your name into it as well.

This student was left wondering how Kent got away with it, and the Purple Press decided to investigate the matter. Turns out Kent got away with it because beloved student teacher Megan Neishman has been covering for him for a while.

“I knew he’s been stealing his art for a while now. I just let it go because he promised to sign my letter of recommendation,” said Megan.

And I know that probably leaves you wondering who helped him before Megan,

since she has only been helping him this year. So I went digging and here is what I found.

Kent has been observed by security cameras to get to school around 6am before anyone else, giving him time to hide the Etsy packages. But that still doesn’t explain how he hasn’t been caught yet. Well that’s all due to two people: math teacher Jeff Steiner and history teacher Luke Turvold.

In fact Jeff even stated this to the Purple Press when asked if he helped Kent: “What? Nooo but like off the record.... Yeah I did. Honestly Kent scares me...”

After Jeff’s confession I decided to confront Luke on the matter and he said, “I’ve always wanted to be

Kent steals, 6

Scrollathon will replace Readathon

Students will instead track scrolling hours to up school morale

Charlotte Scheffing
Staff Writer

In an attempt to increase student morale, the Better Crew Bureau (BCB) and SLAC have announced they are switching OWL’s spring readathon to a scrollathon.

While they had originally planned to cancel the competition entirely, organizers eventually came up with a better idea. Whoever’s crew scrolls the most on TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube over the month of April gets the ice cream party that was promised with the readathon.

Students will keep track of the hours that they scroll on a sticker that they can temporarily stick to their phone, and fill out a form

every week similar to the readathon one.

English teacher Leo Bickelhaupt said, “the eighth graders will be scrolling instead of reading for the first 25 minutes of

class.” The hours students spend scrolling in class will still count even if it is not a designated scrolling time. Students can scroll at home any time of the day.

Librarian Laura Orris



Purple Press Staff Photo

Student engrossed in a scroll to earn minutes for their crew.

Canes to be served in OWL cafeteria

The new menu option is an attempt to popularize school lunch

Jordan Ellison
Staff Writer

ST. PAUL- After years of students asking for better lunch options, administrators at Open World Learning are reportedly considering bringing Raising Cane’s Chicken Fingers to the school cafeteria sometime next year. According to school staff, the popular chicken restaurant could replace part of the current lunch line and offer items such as chicken tenders, Texas toast, crinkle-cut fries, and the restaurant’s famous Cane’s sauce.

The idea came after students said they wanted more recognizable food options at school. “I honestly thought it was a joke when someone first

mentioned Cane’s,” said junior Makayla Eckhart, “But if they actually bring it here, I’d probably eat lunch at school every day.” School leaders say the change could help increase participation in school lunches. Many students currently bring

food from home, or don’t eat at all. Administrators believe adding a popular restaurant brand might encourage more students to actually eat school lunch.

Principal Dave Gandale said the school has been exploring ways to make the

cafeteria more appealing to students. “We want lunch to be something students look forward to,” Dave said, “If partnering with a well-known restaurant helps students enjoy their time at school even more, it’s something worth considering.”

Some students are already planning what they would order if Cane’s arrives. “The box combo with extra Cane’s sauce would go crazy at lunch,” said senior Nara Lucas, “If they add sweet tea too, it’s over.”

There is currently no official start date for the possible Cane’s partnership, and administrators say the idea is still being discussed. However, many students say they hope the plan becomes a reality soon.



Moss Windingstad

A rendering of the new Canes in the cafeteria.



Noa Calzada Villanueva

Thoughts from a former general

J. Caesar speaks up for all on unfair and very late grading

Evan C. Simon
Staff Writer

In an open letter from General Julius Caesar to his former teacher Leo Bickelius Hauptus, Gen. Caesar berates him on his failure to grade his book report on Bellum et Pax by Leo Tolstioius from 10th grade Latin Language Arts class or LLA. On Tuesday the General's open letter was sent to the Acta Durna and it was published in the Roma Newspaper.

"It hasn't been that long," said Hauptis, after responding to questions from the press. The opinions are mixed from the public. "I stand by my decision to send that letter, because I

had to read that book, and it took me forever, and it was really boring, it's annoying, and it's offensive to everyone else who read that stupid book to not get a grade," said Gen. Caesar at a press conference in Gaul yesterday.

After more investigation it was found that Hauptis is notorious for being unpunctual on grading assignments, or not grading them at all, which has peeved a lot of his students, both former and current. "My parents punish me severely because of [late grading] and think I don't do my work!" said Kaden McNamara, an 11th grader

Julius Caesar, 8

New law bans words in schools

The decision by the Department of Education is concerning

Zelda James
Staff Writer

In order to protect children in schools, the US Department of Education is completely banning reading, writing, and the written word on school grounds. Anything with words on it will no longer be allowed in any school, education building, or any public building that uses state or federal funding in all 50 states.

"The Department of Education and I believe that children should not be exposed to inappropriate content found in literature," said Secretary of Education Linda McMahon, "No child should ever have to be shown a hungry caterpillar that is a metaphor for capitalism. Reading is unsafe for children."

The law is coming into effect on April 1st,

2026. What this means for OWL is that the library will be closed, all ELA classes will not be discontinued, students will have to memorize all information and instruction because they can't write anything down, iPads will be taken back by the district because of the words on them that can be written and read, and phones will be put into bags and left at the office for the same reason. The Trump administration, after receiving criticism over this decision, started praising the President and refusing to answer any questions following the announcement.

"I am very worried about the consequences of the law on kids and the possibility that a black market might emerge," said principal Dave Gundale, "There are

Word ban, 8

Uniforms will be required at OWL

Starting in the 2026-2027 school year, everyone will dress the same

Greta Crouser
Staff Writer

Principal Dave Gundale announced in the March 9th school-wide weekly email that starting in the 2026-2027 school year, Open World Learning is implementing a mandatory uniform policy. Many students have voiced their opinions and concerns over this decision, and Activism Club is currently organizing a protest in response.

"Several teachers have complained to me about not being able to keep their classrooms under control for years. In an effort to enforce a more professional environment, and improve our already strong sense of community at OWL, we will be enforcing a strict uniform policy starting next school

year. More details will come in the summer," said Dave in the weekly email, attached with pictures of what the uniforms will look like, black or khaki pants or skirt, and polos with the OWL logo on the breast pocket.

He mentioned in a brief paragraph that middle schoolers' polos will be blue and high schoolers' will be black. His reasoning for the separation is to establish to new high schoolers that they are held to different standards than they were in middle school.

Some students and teachers have displayed neutrality towards uniforms. "I mean, they don't look that bad," said sixth grader Trixie James. "If that's what it takes for me

to be able to teach, so be it," said Spanish teacher Abbie Currie.

But the majority of students and teachers have expressed displeasure with the announcement. "This is not OWL! OWL is all about how everyone can be themselves while still functioning as a community," said science teacher Megan Hall. Many students share Megan's sentiment. "If I wanted to be in a place where people told me what to wear, I would've moved to Russia!" said eighth grader Zelda James. "What next? Calling teachers Mr and Mrs? What about the they/thems!" said ninth grader Sam Sanchez.

The Gender and Sexuality Alliance also has concerns about the inclusivity

the uniforms will offer transgender and non-binary students. "School is one of the few places I can wear whatever I want without people interrogating me. I definitely think someone's clothing is an extension of their gender-expression," said eighth grader and GSA member Chester Treziok.

Activism Club is in the process of organizing a peaceful sit-in protest. Their plan is to only wear halloween costumes to school until Dave rescinds the uniform policy. Theater teacher Rebekah Rentzel has agreed to let protesters use any costumes not being used in the spring musical. Dave has refused to comment on the protest or his willingness to revoke the policy.

Smart passes, 3

teacher Dan Sullivan. "No kid wants an AI calling them out over the intercom because they've spent too long in the restroom. It's a great motivator to get them to finish up whatever they're doing in there quicker and get back to class."

However, the PA announcement is only the first of a three-strike system imposed by the new SmartPass. The second strike, which initiates upon a student exceeding six minutes out of class, attempts to 'wash out' the truant student through activating the sprinkler system of the restroom that they are in. Finally, the third strike, which activates at

seven or more minutes out of class, detracts the truant student's percentage grade for the course they left by approximately 5.25% for every extra ten minutes they remain in the bathroom.

The system's reintroduction has caused quite the hubbub around the school. We asked some students for their thoughts on the matter.

"Walking around the school after the announcement, the atmosphere, it's just electric," said sophomore Olli Liimatta regarding the return. "This must've been how it felt in Cleveland when LeBron came back to the Cavs."

"I'm personally ecstatic,"

said junior Collin Larson, choking back tears of joy. "I loved SmartPass. There was something so fulfilling, so rewarding, about requesting a pass and getting it accepted... that 'good to go' feeling... it was just something special."

"This AI stuff is so cool," said freshman Cooper Small while sipping from his water bottle. "It really rubs me the wrong way when people use the bathroom pass to skip class... I'm getting upset just thinking about it," he added, his face turning bright red with rage, "I'm so glad that this blatant abuse of the pass system is no longer thanks to SmartPass."

Despite most reception

being positive, some students have brought up concerns regarding the security of their biometric data collected via facial scan, which is required by the new system. "What are we gonna do with the biometric data we collect? Well, we're gonna sell it, obviously," said Peter Luba, CEO of SmartPass Inc. "I want my bag. Google's already hit me up about it. I'm thinking a brand-new extended-wheelbase Rolls-Royce Phantom by the end of the school year."

The new SmartPass system will be implemented April 13th, the first day of Quarter 4.

Patti, 3

said.

Once Patti found out some students held their allegiance to the rival team, she instantly gave them an N in her class. When approached for comment on the matter, Patti stated, "No Badgers, PERIOD."

Patti has even forced her son to transfer schools, making him move from sunny Los Angeles to dreary Minneapolis. "It's a matter of principle-- if you believe in something, you have to fully subscribe to it. No compromises," Patti said. "Sure, my son was thriving in California, but he can

always make a change. Also, I guess USC just got kind of old to me, just a big meh, you know? What even is a Trojan anyway? I guess I just wanted to move on."

Those close to Patti say that her allegiance has grown so strong that she will soon begin to wear a full-body Goldie Gopher mascot suit on every Friday, starting on April 3rd. "She seems really excited about her new team. Like, an unhealthy level of excitement. More than she has for algebra," said an anonymous source that is friends with Patti.

Dragons, 3

knights. In order to battle these mythical and mysterious creatures they intend to send the medieval knights out in waves, taking out a couple dragons at a time before the school is safe once again.

At press time most dragons are sitting quietly on teachers desks.

Dragons may no longer be a threat to your secrets, but the unidentified masterminds behind this dragon invasion are still at large, and you never know what these nefarious individuals might do next.

6-7, 3

sigma!!" said an anonymous 6th grader, referring to the newest meme, so naturally they know everything about the status of 6-7. When asked how much longer they thought 6-7 would last, they said, "until the teachers want it to stop." Another 7th grader said, "OMG, our teachers are like so sigma 'cuz they use 6-7, and like, for a while it was un-cool, but the teachers have brought it back."

Not everyone has the same opinion, though. "If teachers can bring 6-7 back, what's next, 'radical'?!" said 11th grader Billy Martinez.

Kent steals, 5

part of a heist, so when I found Kent's Etsy bags I gladly helped."

Next I decided to talk to the master mind himself on the subject.

When asked which student art would make the most profit if sold, Kent said, "I don't know, probably Halie. Her art would sell very well," referring to

senior Halie Karre. Does this mean Halie's art sells well? Is Kent speaking from experience?

After learning the name of a possible victim of Kent's pottery crimes I decided to ask the victim on the matter.

"He probably did it to benefit the ceramics program. After all, Kent knows best," said Halie when asked what Kent's motive to steal and sell

students' art would be.

Now this leaves the Purple Press wondering the biggest question of all: who else is faking the ability to teach? Are other teachers profiting from student work? And how many others are involved in this ponzi scheme?





Reviews ‘n’ stuff



Cecilia Mason

Thrifting is kind of, like, not cool

Why buy dumb old stuff when there are nice stores at the mall?

Zania Hierlmaier
Staff Writer

There’s a reason why fashion overpowers the need for sustainability. Just like there’s a reason why dressing up is chic, while picking up trash is not.

Sustainability is a foolish attempt to redeem mistakes in the hands of the human population. It forces despicable actions such as composting, eco-friendly travel options, and worst of all, buying secondhand.

For this article, I cultivated enough bravery to step inside a thrift store for investigation. For those worried, I wore a hazardous mask and full coverage body suit to avoid coming into contact with dangerous germs. I was appalled with what I found.

Sustainability is attempting to ruin the fashion industry.

When I tell you I hate thrift stores, I mean it. Over the past few years, I’ve watched as thrifting has risen in popularity, taking precious revenue away from struggling corporations such as Amazon and Shein. Buying used items under the excuse of “sustainability” is the definition of pathetic, because when did we, as a collective society, decide it was cool to dawn a used t-shirt? The answer is never.

Thrift stores are not for the weak.

As soon as I arrived at Goodwill, I began inspecting the items for sale. Everywhere I looked, I saw clothes that were so last year. More accurately, so last decade. Apparently thrifting is a great way to find vintage finds. I guess this was some sort of internet trend I wasn’t a part of? Either way, why would you purposely want to buy old clothing that was popular in like the 20th century? Are you that stuck in the past?

Once I had taken note of the strange fashion being

sold at thrift stores, I talked with several employees, and learned that my worst fear was true. The clothes sold in corporate thrift stores such as Goodwill and Savers are not washed before being put out on the rack. Even after being collected in what appears to resemble a dumpster.

But that’s not even the worst part. Corporate thrift stores do not have dressing rooms. After realizing this, my heart shattered a bit for everyone forced to shop here. Trying on new clothes is a distinct part of the shopping experience, and has provided me with many fond memories. Imagine if you couldn’t try on your prom dress before buying it. Or even worse, your wedding dress. Even thinking about that puts me in a seasonal depressive state.

Environmentally friendly? Who’s she?

One thing that bothers me even more than the godawful clothing and overall shopping experience is thrift stores’ dedication to the planet. I think if we all took a deep breath, stepped outside, and drove to the mall, all of this negativity about global warming this and melting ice caps that would disappear. Who cares if buying new jeans uses up gallons of water. It’s almost like you do the same everyday for hydration to STAY ALIVE.

Since my expedition to my local Goodwill, I’ve had a lot of time to reflect on my traumatic experience. I’ve come to realize that my stance of sustainable fashion was nowhere near as harsh as it needed to be. While thrifting may be cheap and apparently environmentally friendly, it will never replace true fashion. So the next time you even think about going thrifting, remember that you are more than a used pair of shorts someone grew out of. Turn around, and get in losers, cause we’re going shopping. For real this time.

Hollywood will take on Charles Darwin

Spielberg to direct a remake of classic “On the Origin of Species”

Anson Lind
Staff Writer

Between del Toro’s Frankenstein, the new Wuthering Heights, and the upcoming Christopher Nolan adaptation of Homer’s The Odyssey, Hollywood is learning that remaking classics into blockbuster movies seems to be the way to go, and they’ve just released their latest classic adaptation: Steven Spielberg’s take on Charles Darwin’s classic *On the Origin of Species*.

On the Origin of Species (2026) is an “action-packed adventure through the Galápagos Islands,” starring Jacob Elordi as Darwin himself on a quest to save the Galápagos Finches from a bird-poaching secret society known as the Shadowed

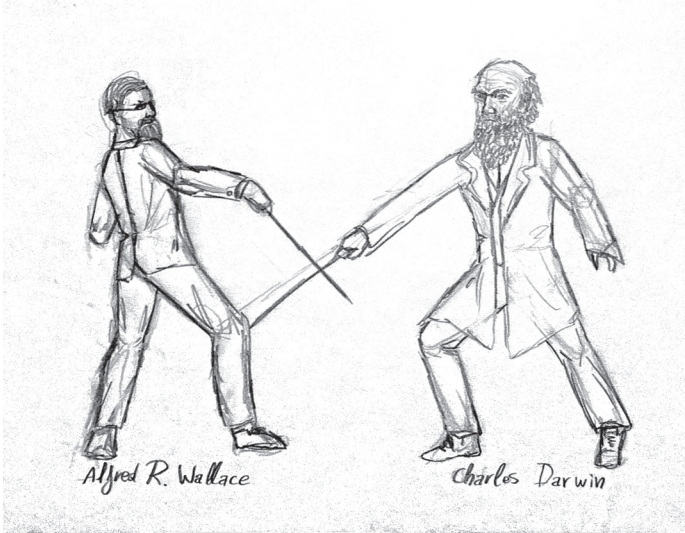
Feathers. Aboard the H.M.S. Beagle, a sailing ship captained by Robert FitzRoy (Johnny Depp), Darwin will partner with sailor Emma Wedgwood (Emma Stone) to take on pirates and poachers alike, all while attempting to pen his

theory of evolution before his academic rival, Alfred Russel Wallace (Robert Downey Jr.), can publish his similar theory.

There’s a lot going on in this movie, so let’s discuss characters and casting. Elordi’s Darwin will fill the role of a

swashbuckling scientist, as likely to swing on a rope while stabbing a sword-wielding foe as he is to pen a treatise on evolution. Personally, I feel that this casting was a great choice. Though Jacob Elordi may be better known for dramas, the high-stakes adventure of *On the Origin of Species* shows off his range. Plus, that romantic-drama experience comes in handy for the romantic subplot. Historically speaking, Emma Wedgwood was of course the cousin Darwin married, but here she’s been reworked into a sailor aboard the Beagle “to make the romance more palatable,” according to director Spielberg. In any case, Emma Stone’s acting was phenomenal in both the high-

Origin of Species, 8



Noa Calzada Villanueva

New battle video game excites many

Already popular ones aren’t violent enough for pro OWL gamer

Kate Houle
Staff Writer

For years, I have avoided playing video games for fear that the bloodthirsty nature of hardcore gaming that’s been promised to provoke rage and hate in my heart would actually just bore me. But recently, I was surprised to find that there was one game that truly spoke to my vicious sensibilities, and I can’t wait for it to break into the gaming sphere.

The lack of intense violence in popular first person shooter games like Call of Duty and Rainbow Six Siege has always disappointed me. The combat is just not graphic enough for my taste, and I get no satisfaction from a well executed kill. Watching an enemy just fall to the ground after getting attacked is simply

too practical, and there’s no true mental simulation in dominating battle after battle.

Even games like Five Nights at Freddy’s and Clash Royale that require a bit more brain power don’t get me going. Sure it’s invigorating to ragequit after you make a mistake when carefully working the map, but there’s no true enemy that you can hold a grudge on for the rest of your life. If I’m going to spend hours of my life with my eyes going bloodshot from staring at the screen—I want gore, I want to rage, and I want revenge.

That’s not to even mention the unfair mechanics of video games. For too long the gaming world has been dominated by cringe tryhards who just grind XP and never leave any room for the rest of us. Leaderboards

are impossible to get onto, even in stupid games like Geometry Dash, and who even decided win conditions anyway? Like seriously, most kills? If you give any average high schooler some good motivation, a couple of hours, and a Redbull they could get that so easy. But we can’t do that because we’re supposed to be focused on academics, and no one takes esports seriously.

Well I’ve found the solution to all these problems. What if I told you that there was a game where when you defeat a combatant they get fully wiped off the map, never to be seen again? Or that you can literally outmaneuver the best players by making a single smart play early in the game? And best of all it’s based on ancient war techniques so teachers can’t

even argue that it’s taking away from school. It’s also completely free, and you can even play it on school iPads.

This miraculous battle game can be found on chess.com. My one critique with it is that it hasn’t been updated in a while, and could really use some more customization and ways to unlock higher levels, but the graphics are flawless and the PvP format means that I’m constantly able to get irrationally angry at complete strangers. So all you gamers out there really need to check out this niche game, and get yourselves familiar with the controls. I truly think chess is going to be the next big thing, and the gaming world needs to start getting hyped about getting to checkmate!

Lots of strategies and impossible rules

Shoots and Ladders is the hardest and greatest possible board game

Louden Buetow
Staff Writer

Are you bored of playing games with easy and uncomplicated rules?

Well now you can play the newly discovered hardest and greatest possible game: Shoots and Ladders. Not too many people are playing it because it is so hard with its difficult strategies and the impossible to understand rules.

This game was created by Milton Bradley in 1950, but it got really popular on March 4th 2026. The way this game works is one of the many reasons why people aren’t trying it. First off you need to make it to the end of the board by rolling a dice. But if you land on a space that has a shoot or slide you get moved back several spaces. Plus if you land on the spaces that have a ladder you can get moved up several spaces, even close to

the end of the board.

Each roll of the dice does something new. For example if you roll a four you will move up four spaces but if you roll a six you move up six spaces also rolling a five will move you five spaces instead.

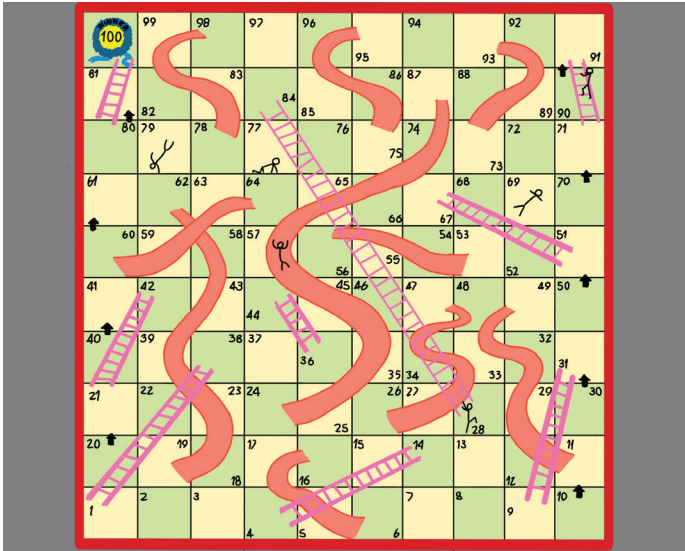
Even with all of these difficult things the game can

be so fun. The board game rating committee (BGRC) has named this the hardest board game to play in the past century. “When I first played I was dumbfounded because I didn’t know what to do or how to play, but once I finished my first game I realized how fun the game truly is,” said 9th

grader Fredrick Douglas.

Shoots and Ladders is also known for its really good strategies. For example, if you use your left hand to roll the dice you will commonly get lower rolls. And using your right hand will most of the time give higher rolls. Also if you wanted to have a high chance of winning you might wanna time your roll and use certain power to get the win. The faster you roll the higher you will most likely get. But timing your role will also help you. For example, my personal time to release the dice is after rolling it for 5.25 seconds which most of the time gets me a four or a five.

While all of these rules and strategies may look complicated and sound too hard and not fun, our sources have told us that playing Shoots



Noa Calzada Villanueva

Board games, 8

Haunted, 1
grade props designer Kaden McNamara.
The last recorded paranormal event in the theater was when OWL alumni Anna Nowatzki was locked in the elevator during one of her quick changes in Anastasia. While she did miss her entrance for her next scene, the event was written off as a cry for attention from Daryl, and theater kids performed a ritual to cleanse the space of any remaining bad vibes after the production ended.
Theaters around the globe are often haunted by spirits, as the glamour and mystique of drama tends to draw spectral energy. Professionals are well versed in how to maintain positive relationships with their resident phantoms, knowing to keep ghost

lights out and take lucky superstitions seriously. OWL is no exception to this, so this recent uptick in haunting is puzzling to many.
At press time, the leading theory for what incited the disturbance is that the ghosts were angered by the recent repainting and maintenance done in the auditorium. Other theories include the ghosts unionizing against being subjected to hearing ‘Don’t Stop Believin’ every month, and stressed upperclassmen performing a seance in the hopes of improving their AP scores.
Many students have reported seeing faint apparitions around the auditorium from the corners of their eyes in the past few days, but no further hostile encounters have occurred.

History day, 2
with no conviction it was no surprise Katie got first place at the regional competition. While she walked up to collect her award, fellow social studies teachers Dan Sullivan and Luke Turvold followed her to the mic and made an announcement. They said “we have to come clean. At our school history day competition, we helped this ‘student’ or should we say history teacher Katie Craven, cheat, and pass as a student so that she could compete in the competition.” At the same time as they were finishing their speech, Luke snatched her wig revealing she really was a teacher, hidden within baggy clothes and blonde wig.
The judges acted quickly, immediately escorting Katie out of the building, alongside her son Jamie.

We wanted to know more, so we went to Katie to find out the truth. The first question we asked her was, why did you want to do this in the first place?
“Well, this summer I was watching Mrs. Doubtfire and after finishing it I had an idea. After all these years of helping others, I realised that this could be my chance to do History Day and see if I can win. So I started to come up with a plan, I chose my category, topic and figured out how I was going to disguise myself,” said Katie.
We then asked her what consequences she was facing.
“I am banned from running History Day next year. I can’t help students or plan anything. After the U of M heard about what happened they told us that they weren’t willing to host OWL again because they think the adults are un-trustworthy, so OWL will not be able to

Theater director Rebekah Rentzel has pledged to investigate the malicious phantom presence, and theater kids have been working to rebuild trust with the theater spirits by leaving offerings of student of the month certificates and choreographing a lip sync battle to the Ghostbusters theme song.
As for community meetings, there has been talk of moving the assemblies to a virtual format that students would be able to watch through a series of Instagram reels, or possibly replacing the events with monthly student vs staff competitions. There have also been rumors that this is all an elaborate set-up for a Team Crisp video, and meetings will return as normal next month.

Word ban, 6
already rumors, and if you know anything about OWL students, they will find a way to bring a black market to OWL.”
On March 12th the SPSS district met to discuss what to do with the students that have ELA and other such classes, but no decision has been reached at the time. Though no layoffs or replacement classes have been confirmed, teachers and students have shared their concerns and fears over what the law means for their school. The law will be enforced by police officers in all schools from 8AM until the last person leaves the school building. Any further questions should be directed to social worker Katerina Youngberg.

Archery, 4
the state archery division. Tom Totushek, the other captain of the OWL archery team, has refused to comment on the matter.
A further investigation will be conducted in about a week, and the archery team is likely to be banned from tournaments for the rest of the year, and possibly disbanded next year.
Detention, 5
Detention was supported by staff members, saying quote “Ey, that’s what these punks get. They deserve it if they cross us,” in the punishment board section of the weekly email.

Board games, 7
and Ladders is worthwhile. When you’re playing and get on a ladder space you will feel so happy and good since you’re moving far ahead, or catching back up with your friend or opponent. Also when you’re playing you get to find a bunch of new strategies and try them out. Plus, when you win you feel amazing because that means you successfully used all of your strategies and skill to win the game.
Shoots and Ladders is a very complicated and difficult game, but it is also very fun and rewarding, and you should give it a try.

make our annual field trip to Wilson library again.”
Finally we asked her the most important question: was it all worth it?
“I am very happy with how far I got, and how well I did, but I don’t think losing my ability to help with History Day in the end was worth it. At least I got to keep the medal. It will stay on my storm trooper forever.”



Sit down cafeteria, 1
increase allergen awareness, and promote healthier eating for students with extra fruits and vegetables being added to student’s trays whether or not they are ordered.
While the typical lunch staff remains the same, in order for the sit-down dining style to function smoothly there is a need for wait staff. This role will be filled by high school volunteers, who will be preparing the trays with hired lunch staff as well as delivering them to tables. Details are still being decided, however it is likely students will sign up to volunteer by the week and work during their lunch. They will receive school service hours for this. It is unknown if the program will operate with Outward Bound or independently.
Overall, student feedback

has been very positive. “I’m really excited for this to start,” said senior Antimony Compton, “I’m always the last in line, and barely have any time to eat.” Even students who don’t eat the school lunch are eagerly anticipating the program launch. According to Ara Stender, a 10th grade student, “I always bring home lunch, so the change won’t really affect me, but I am excited for more time with my friends.”
Changes are still likely to happen before the sit-down style is fully adopted. Concerns about involving cell phones in daily life at OWL have been raised, and the staff team is looking into ways to remove cell phones from the operation. Current ideas are installing ordering kiosks at each table, although this does bring up budget concerns, and

getting extra volunteer wait staff to take orders directly at tables. Other features that may be implemented are lunch delivery options for teachers, and more drink choices.
It is currently unknown when the program will launch, however it is estimated to be released between spring break and the start of the next school year.
Julius Caesar, 6
at Academia Noctuarum, the school where Hauptis currently teaches.
At the time of writing, Hauptis, still a senior teacher, is not planning to retire anytime soon. Gen. Caesar is marching to Roma for an undisclosed and peaceful purpose with his army and should arrive on Tuesday morning.

Origin of Species, 7
stakes adventure sequences and the gripping dramatic ones.
Robert FitzRoy, captain of the Beagle, also plays a major part in the story. His initial dislike for Darwin, which grows into a begrudging respect as the two work together to fight the poachers and save the finches, was well-written. There were a few times it felt like Johnny Depp had forgotten what movie he was in, but all of Depp’s characters are pretty much the same anyway, so it didn’t matter much. Finally, Robert Downey Jr’s portrayal of rival scientific adventurer Alfred Russel Wallace was well-thought out and serious, which

made certain reveals near the end of the story regarding the Shadowed Feathers much more impactful.
Marketing for this movie is intense— we’ve all seen the billboards depicting Darwin and Wallace dueling with cutlasses, the background filled with finches, and the looming face of Johnny Depp. Several fast food chains, including Burger King and McDonalds, are collaborating with the film by releasing miniature toy depictions of the movie’s main cast in their kids meals. Finally, multiple social media influencers are promoting On the Origin of Species on their various accounts and channels, with a specific clip of Darwin and FitzRoy’s comedy-

filled first meeting going viral on YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok.
Overall, On the Origin of Species does the original book justice with its daring adventure, gripping drama, and all-too-real commentary on the natural course of evolution and the ways humanity interacts with it. This is a movie theater must-see, and I highly recommend it for fans of adventure movies and foundational scientific texts alike.

AI art class, 1
much rather look at these submissions instead of reading someone’s math homework.
Kent claims that this is only the beginning, and that he plans to make an AP AI art class, because of the high demand from all the students wanting to take this class. “The class is already stuffed to the brim, some students have to sit on the floor. I would totally love another class,” Luis said, “and I have to take an AP class anyway.”
This class takes place on 3B, replacing the digital photography class, and will count for the same amount of credits as a normal art class. It also looks great on a college application.

Upcoming Events

April 2nd: 2nd to last day of Q3

April 3rd: Yes, we do have school

April 4th-April 12th: Spring Break

April 9th: National Unicorn Day

April 22nd: Junior Skip Day

May 1st: Bring Your Pet to School Day

May 8th: Fintastic Friday

May 23rd: Lucky Penny Day

