

Purple Press

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March 31st, 2017

Get pumped for the *Grease* musical!

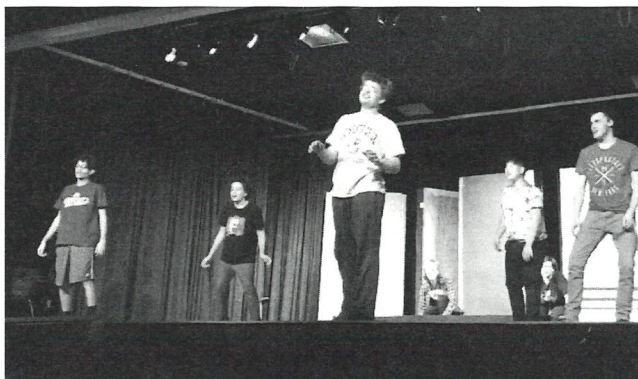
Grace Bellamy
Staff Writer

Music blares through the speakers, and about 14 students start to dance around a platform meant to be a car.

The dance has a lot of hand movements and hip thrusts. Although they can be heard over the music, their voices are hard to hear. This is not part of the monthly lip sync battle, it is a rehearsal of "Greased Lightning" as the cast and crew prepare for next month's performance of *Grease*.

For the third time in 22 years, OWL's theater department is putting on a

musical - *Grease* will be performed on April 26th, 27th, and 28th. The premise of the story is bad boy Danny and goody



Simon, as Kenickie, brags about his new car in "Greased Lightning".

two shoes Sandy had a summer romance, and both thought that Sandy would be leaving at the end of the summer. When she shows up on the first day of school, both have reputations to uphold. It follows their love story, with songs and humor mixed in. The musical will star 10th grader Pedro Bayon as Danny, and 11th grader Annette Fredell as Sandy.

Grease was chosen more by the students than theater teacher Rebekah Rentzel. Since her first day at OWL, Rebekah had been asked to

Grease continued on page 5

Robots are coming

Sam Dale-Gau
Staff Writer

Saturday morning. After three harrowing days of head to head robot competition, the qualification rounds are over. The top 8 teams at the 10,000 lakes regional stand on the stage to determine which teams will be chosen to join their alliances or the final rounds. Senior Franklin Bajenski stands fifth, representing the Owl Open Circuits. The Nightcrawlers and Swartdogs are one and two, sitting on top of their third regional of the year.

The First Robotics Competition is a very much pay-to-win contest. First there are a series of regionals across the country, then the top two alliances from each regional move on to nationals. But therein lies the rub: teams

Robots continued on page 2

H-day heating up

Helena Squires Mosher
Staff Writer

See that kid in the commons who's wearing an "I LOVE HISTORY" pin, and cowering before an annotated bibliography? They're probably working on their project for state History Day.

On March 18th, 17 Open World Learning projects advanced to the state History Day competition. On that Saturday, thirty-four OWL students roamed the halls of Johnson High School, anticipating their ultimate demise in front of a judge or glorious triumph when they give the "History Day Thumbs Up".

Because you are judged against a behemoth of other students, it takes skill to get that medal. The judges

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Open News

Ultimate Frisbee Preview

Sam Dale-Gau
Staff Writer

Yes, it is that time again. Time to cleat up, run a lap, and rush the field. Bring the spirit and bring the commitment! But always remember: DON'T JUMP!

That's right (although you probably have no idea what i'm talking about) it's time for the Ultimate Frisbee season! This spring the Manatees are returning in full swing. They've got brand new coaches and three different teams: High School Girls, High School Boys, and the mixed

middle school team. Practices have already begun and the first games will start around spring break. The team has hosted a fundraiser at Davanni's and is hoping for a possible future one at Chipotle.



Members of the girl's team.

The girls team will be coached by the previous boys team leader, and awarded "Coach of the Year" Liam, as well as Nathan, co-founders of the team during their time as high schoolers at Open. They've lost no players since last year and are hoping for a season for

Ultimate continued on page 5

Robots from page 1

can pay the entry fee of \$5,000 multiple times to go to multiple regionals. Thus, the rich teams from big schools can turn on the faucet and buy their way to nationals.

Robots are expensive too. The parts are by no means cheap, and along with the entry fee, a low funded team like us can barely scrape out a machine. Rich, well funded teams, on the other hand, can make two. Easy. This wouldn't matter right? Wrong. After the six week build season, teams have to bag up their robot and not use it until the competition. But there's no rule about practicing on an identical robot you also made. Then when competition comes along you ironed out all your problem and come in with an advantage. You can start to see how the odds are a bit stacked

Nonetheless, we will not give

up. With good plans, good strategies and well made robots, we still bring our a-game to the tournament. Last year at the "First Stronghold" competition we shined and qualified for 5th at our regionals. This year we're bringing some new mechanics (strafing drive) and more hype to the "First Steamworks" airship loading challenge.

There are multiple options for robot design this year, primarily, ball shooting and gear carrying/loading. Our robot is the latter of the two and specializes in climbing a rope at the end of each round. To fund our venture we're 3D printing fidgets for sale. Thanks to those of you who have already purchased one and if you haven't, just read our customer reviews! What's that? We don't have reviews? Then I guess you'll just have to take our word for it and buy a fidget!

Hamilton fandom

Nora Leifheit
Staff Writer

The Founding fathers are dropping a beat. How does a bastard, orphan, son of a whore and a Scotsman . . . so begins the now wildly famous musical Hamilton. Hamilton tells the story of a young immigrant with a whole lot of spunk and pride taking the thirteen colonies (and eventually America) by storm.



Fan art of revolutionary
Lafayette

History has never been more badass.

Hamilton (like most musicals can be) can take some maneuvering to access. Being a play, many people can't pay or travel to see it in real life, but have found other ways to consume it.

Due to the accessibility boom in the music industry currently, musical fans are finding it much easier to get to the songs and performances they love. Any musical worth

it's salt nowadays has a wide range of social media platforms that allow them to reach a larger audience. I myself have never seen Hamilton perform live, but because of the creator's efforts to expand viewership and exposure, I and many others have been able to see documentaries, download songs from iTunes and interact with the actors and writer themselves.

What is remarkable about Hamilton is the vibrant online fan community that it has inspired. When talking about any online phenomenon, it's essential to talk about the amazing creators in the community. Fandoms seem to be breeding grounds for amazing artists, voice actors, writers and a general slew of people with incredible talent and passion about the subject; And Hamilton is no different. Search Hamilton on any website like Tumblr or deviantART and you're sure to find incredible creations by people who genuinely love the musical and everything associated with it.

Through fan creations, a fandom is constantly being enriched, creating fresh content for viewers long after the original idea has grown old. Think of a fandom as a self sustaining county, thriving off of its own food and suffering.

When it comes to fan art, (art created by fans) each piece can vary widely. Some artists draw for fun, while others supply a service called 'commissions' where a viewer or fan of the artist's work can make a request for a specific art

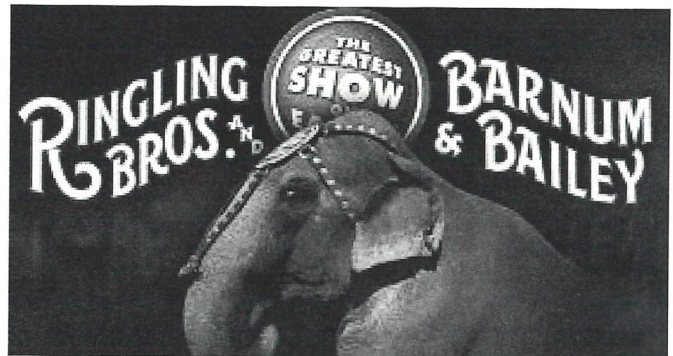
Hamilton continued on page 9

Ringling Bros circus

Sam Kellar-Long
Staff Writer

After 146 straight years, "The Greatest Show on Earth" is closing. The Ringling Brothers Circus will be releasing the animals to zoos and sanctuaries, the acrobats to the county fair and the clowns to the unemployment office. I'm kidding, but it's not that far of a stretch. People who make a living off of the circus are having trouble finding jobs. After the closing of Ringling and other circuses like the Big Apple Circus, there is an abundance of sword swallowers, fire breathers and other odd people that don't have many job opportunities. Of course, there are smaller, low paying opportunities for circus performers, but nothing will ever compare to "The Greatest Show on Earth".

You may be asking yourself, "Why is the Circus closing?". Funny you should ask, because I have an answer. After removing their elephant act in May of 2016, ticket sales immediately started to fall. This makes me really sad because there is so much more to see and do at the circus, but when you take away the elephants it's all ruined. Apparently the public relies on animal abuse to enjoy the circus. You could watch the sword swallowers! You could watch



the clowns! You could watch acrobats and contortionists do amazing things that you will never achieve in your tiny insignificant life, but instead the only thing keeping you from falling asleep in your chair is watching a large funny looking animal run around in a circle and jump over things. If I really wanted to watch that I would just go to a track meet.

As I mentioned, the Ringling Brothers circus was kept alive with animal abuse, so it's closing is a success for animal rights activist groups like PETA. PETA has been pushing for this for years, calling it "The Saddest Show on Earth" and holding protests at their performances. While they are happy with this victory, they are not satisfied. "We're really excited to hear this, we're applauding this decision and we're really, really encouraging all circuses... that use animals to follow suit," says Daniel Carron, PETA senior outreach coordinator. While I hope that this animal

Ringling Bros continued on page 5

Row, row, row with Grace and Sovigne!

Grace Gardner
Staff Writer

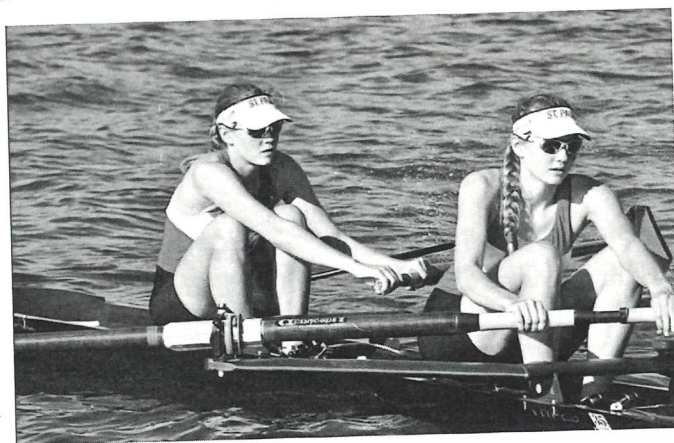
The water sparkles, sunlight bouncing into my face. I pull my hat down over my eyes and prepare for the upcoming piece. "Sit ready," I tell my partner, waiting for my coach's call to start. My body tenses up, and as I anticipate the workout I feel a surge of adrenaline. "Row!" shouts Coach Miriam, and we're off, oars flashing in and out of the water in a steady rhythm.

Rowing is a unique activity that offers social and recreational enjoyment alongside scenic venues in lakes, rivers and canals. Although rowing looks graceful, elegant, and sometimes effortless when it is done well, don't be fooled. It is a total body workout and rowers are considered among the world's best conditioned athletes. The sport demands endurance, strength, balance, mental discipline, and an ability to continue on when your body is demanding that you stop.

Rowers train to compete in multiple day races called regattas (that's the name for a boat race). The team usually travels to races in team vans and stay together. "The regattas are great, not just because it's an opportunity to compete, but also because you get to hang out with the team," says senior Sovigne Gardner, the girls' team captain at the Minnesota Boat Club. MBC is a junior rowing team that is located on Raspberry Island. Students from schools all over the metro area from grades 7-12 train on the Mississippi River and work as a



An eight, rowed by members of the Minnesota Boat Club



OWL Seniors Grace and Sovigne Gardner rowing a pair.

team in regattas across the Midwest and Canada. "I love rowing, it's fun to have a competitive sport where you get to spend time on the river," says Michael Schmidt, a home-schooled 11th grader who is the boys' team captain at MBC.

One of the other major benefits of rowing is the opportunity for college scholarships. As a balancer for men's college football, women's college rowing is only getting bigger. Thousands of openings exist on college rowing teams, ranging in places from small liberal art colleges to big state universities, including a division one program at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. This means that if you are a rower, you can get benefits if you commit to rowing in college, from automatic admission to a school to scholarships. Anna Petersen, a senior at Minnetonka High School is a rower who will be rowing in college. "I got a rowing scholarship to go to Fordham University in New York. Rowing made it possible for me to go there."

So why should you try rowing out? Well first of all, it is a competitive, team-oriented, low-impact sport, which means that you can make new friends while having a blast and working out. Rowing can also help you get into college, and make college less expensive. But most of all, it is fun to be involved

with a team that spends their time traveling, exploring the river,

and hanging out with friends.

Does rowing sound like something you would like

Rowing continued on page 5

Chances of a high school athlete competing in College Rowing *

	Men	Women
Number of High School Rowers	2,544	4,242
Number of College Rowers	3,091	7,800

Grease from page 1

put on Grease. "Grease started off because so many students have been coming and asking me for it," she said. Her first year she was wary of putting on such a large production, but by her second year, she started to say maybe when people requested the musical. At the end of last year, the theater department announced that they were going to put on Grease in the 2016-17 school year.

One of the challenges in the past with plays have been available time. Rebekah, art teacher Brie Medin, and choir teacher Alex Ferderer teamed up to address the challenge of time with a musical theater class. The musical



Annette, as Sandy, talks to the girls in "Summer Nights".

theater class consists of between 80 and 90 students, and the class time is mostly used for rehearsals. Before the musical had gotten into full swing, students in the class rotated through art, choir, and theater before auditioning for either the play, or set/costume design. Rebekah said "A musical is four times harder than an average production." The elements of a play are coupled with singing and dancing.

Another challenge with musicals is that it goes beyond what is needed for a play. They use singing and dance, and not just acting, to tell the story. Most schools, when putting on a musical, have the budget to hire a choreographer for dance scenes. OWL didn't have this, and the choreography consisted of "Me trying and learning I'm not a choreographer," Rebekah said, as well as 11th grader Fua Vang and Alex. They taught the cast how to do the dances for each song. "You don't realize how fast it is until you do it to the music," said 9th grader Maggie Windingstad on learning the dances for Grease.

What are people looking forward to about grease? I'm looking forward to doing our first big musical in the new building. -Simon ds

Grease is a really famous musical, and that means a lot of people are looking forward to it. Rebekah has predicted that they will sell out each night. "I love it when the pieces of a show come together," she said about what will be the final product. Both Pedro and Annette are excited to perform, as this is their first performance with OWL. Before he came here, Pedro "didn't know Grease was a thing." They both said that the school should be excited for the energy and charisma that OWL's performance will have.

Ultimate from page 2

the books, which they are likely to score.

Middle schoolers are going into their second organized season this year as the tournament was established only last year. They've got some budding stars and with the coaching of Jenn and Cathy prepare for their double-header sunday games.

The boys lost some all star seniors, Daniel LeTran and Julius Wil-

liamson, but still have a optimistic outlook and are going to put their best foot forward. And then their other foot. And then start sprinting for the disc.

With the man-



The boy's team, huddled at a practice

tra of their new coaches Brett and Joe: "Spirit and Commitment" they, and the rest of the Manatees, will bring their A-game to the upcoming season.

Ringling Bros from page 3

abuse ends, I hope that they do not do away with circus all together in doing so.

"The circus is the only timeless pleasure that you could purchase for money," said Ernest Hemingway. The circus has been around for a while, however it has changed a great deal. You would probably describe an old Roman circus as people killing other people with funny comedic interludes, because that's what it is. That concept has evolved into more contemporary circuses like Cirque du Soleil and Cirque Eloize. These contemporary circuses use no animals and tell a more detailed storyline. Hopefully the closing of Ringling Brothers will open the door for more contemporary circuses.

Rowing from page 4

to try? Talk to seniors Grace and Sovigne, or check out the Minnesota Boat Club website at www.minnesotaboatclub.org

critique you based on the strength of your writing, bibliography, presentation, and connection to the theme. To put it simply, "You have to be better than the others," says History Day mentor David Dyson.

History Day. The nationwide competition that's loved and feared by middle and high schoolers alike. Near the end of quarter two, Open World Learning students shifted into gear, flipping through books, scrolling through online databases, and becoming experts on one topic that relates to this year's theme: Taking a Stand in History.

About 250 people participated in school History Day, and 34 participants made it to regionals. Eightenn participants got an honorable mention. "I was pleased with the results from both contests," says social studies teacher and History Day fanatic, Katie Craven.

While OWL students know History Day as the stressful project that gets you an E in social studies class, some know it to be the never ending jump into a volcano,

where the magma is primary sources and the lava, interviews. 8th grader Leo Dungan-Seaver, currently doing a group website on the Willmar Eight, says, "It takes a chunk out of your soul."

Balancing History Day and class work can be challenging, but these students that spend hours looking at newspaper articles get a fulfillment from completing a His-

tory Day entry. "It's really stressful, but at the same time it gives me something to focus on instead of schoolwork," says 8th grader Lily Hennessee, doing an individual website on Betty Friedan. "Which sounds bad," she adds.

The state competition is on April 29th, at the University of Minnesota. The projects representing OWL will spend up to 10 hours there, where some will go to second-round judging, and even advance to nationals, in Wash-

ington DC. In the next few weeks, OWL students will be scrambling to perfect their performance, win with their website, and exceed standards with an exhibit board. Good luck at State, History Day-ers!



Students scrapping up an exhibit board.

Senior Profile

Sovigne Gardner

How many years have you been at OWL?

2 years

What extra curricular activities are you're a part of?

Rowing, HistoryDay, Outward Bound

What is your favorite book or movie?

The Color Purple by Alice Walker... its a book.

What was your favorite fieldwork?

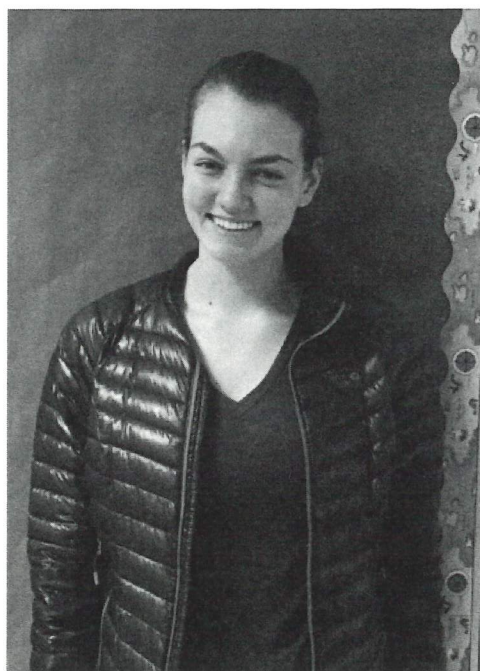
The Crosby Farms trip with AP environmental science.

What is one place in the world you like to visit?

Spain, hopefully I would be able to practice my spanish.

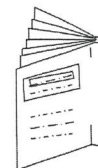
Crew History:

Tom's Crew.

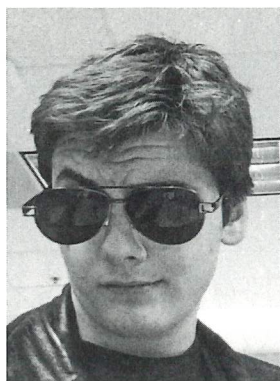




Reviews 'n' stuff



Antonio's Relationship: in Review



Antonio Carvale
Staff Columnist

Alright you pint sized punks. Start this garbage off with a little ad from our sponsors. Shout out to Thomas Nagal from second grade. You stole my transformer toy 10 and ½ years ago. And if I don't get it back by 4/20 this year, I'm comin' after you. Report me if you a snitch.

Back to the review. Your pea sized brain is wondering "what kind of moron reviews a relationship?" This kind of moron. Here we go losers.

Relationships. Kinda dope, but hella wack. Sorta like me. But unlike my relationship and these segways, I can make it work.

Right off the bat, like Glenn and Abraham's heads in walking dead -- spoiler alert -- I was the best boyfriend in the world. We watched Army of Darkness, Die Hard, Alien Resurrection, Robocop, and I let her sit there on the other side of the couch the whole time. What more could you ask for? So What'cha want?? Apparently a lot more.

This isn't Russia. Love isn't illegal (yet). I can't believe it's not butter and I can't believe that anyone dated me. Am I complaining? No. Am I about to? HELL YEAH.

Little relationship advice with dr love-onio on the 4 main parts of any relationship.

Dates, mac n cheese, movies, breaking up.

Dates. 0/10. Worse than Wisconsin, worse than New Jersey? I don't know if I'd go that far. The only thing I ever got out of any of our dates was my techno shirt and in case you haven't seen it, I will wear it the remainder of this week. So if you wanna see someone lookin' rad and feeling sad, looks like I am the answers to all of your prayers. Sike. Your prayers are useless. A certain guy upstains is dead.

Mac n cheese. 0/10. I love mac n cheese. And the second some Cochise tries to sabotage this with any "anything is better with someone you love" lie Is getting a kick to the face with my fist. Two people means less mac n cheese for me. 0/10.

**Relationship continued on page 10*

Dab Zone Est. 2017

Ian Nixdorf
Staff Writer

We now have graciously provided all of you a place to dab without disturbing class. On the glorious day of January 11th, 2016, it is hereby put into action that outside Dan's room, there is a protected corner so you can bust out all your sick dabs. This area was created by the students of the GSA's Chill Squad, in order to help all of us conserve class time while preserving an ancient and soul-less meme. If you feel the need to dab, simply get a pass from your teacher and make your way to the zone, and holey moley that's a nice daberoni. Think of it as a national park, but for a meme. It was only cool when those guys from Atlanta were doing it. I take that back, dabbing was never cool.

Students and staff alike have a lot to say about this critical issue. "I am fine with it, as long as it is in a demilitarized zone, where I can't see it. Also, there needs to be a high tax on students who enter. They must be executed (publicly) upon leaving the dabbing zone.", says a concerned eleventh-grader. Our security guard Jon, says "No," and a whole bunch of other stuff and a Harry Potter reference or two but that isn't important right now. An appalled senior says "I'm not putting my tax dollars towards that." Evidently, this is a divisive issue that we should all spend our time debating.

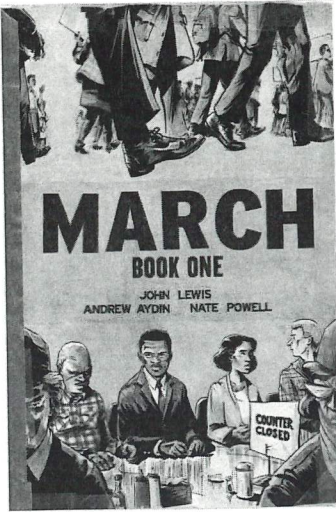
But some voices say otherwise! Take Leo Bickelhaupt, resident newspaper tyrant and English teacher. He said, eloquently, "You have to uh, dab when the, uhh, uh, moment strikes you, You just gotta do it." This had been repeated multiple times, notably with Antonio saying "If anyone's gonna dab, they're probably just gonna do it". Some students have even advocated for our school to even be a free-dab zone, but there are complaints about disturbing the peace, riots, the Great Italian Dunker Shortage of 2016, and dabbing in general being pretty hecking dumb. They didn't use that word, but that isn't important right now. Busting a sick dab may be an act of passion, but it's gotten many passionately disgusted.

There have even been concerns about the area being moved. Sam, local 9th grader says "Put it in the gym. It's not like it can get any more broken. Also we should just get a really loud bass line in there so no one can even hear them." "Well, it should be about a hundred feet away from the school, isn't that the minimum distance you have to

Dabbing continued on page 10

This March, Read *March*!

Helena Squires Mosher
Staff Writer



takes place centrally in the 1960s, in the heart of the civil rights movement, from the point of view of John Lewis. John Lewis is a current US congressman and civil rights organizer. *March* is the coming of age story of Lewis, and how the civil rights movement grew with him.

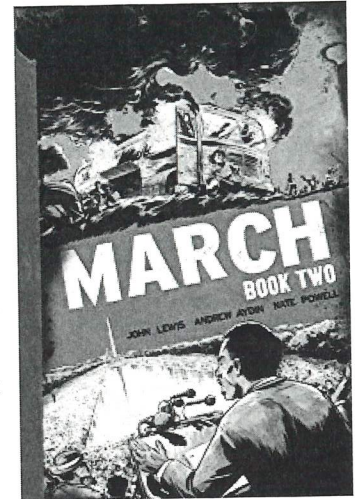
Lewis grew up in Alabama, and this trilogy shows his journey organizing peaceful protests, like freedom-rides,

You've heard about lunch counter sit-ins, and the term "freedom-rides" has come up in social studies class, but what if you could watch these events play out on paper? In the graphic novel trilogy, *March*, the 1960s civil rights movement roars on the page in front of you, teaching you about the people and the thought behind taking a stand for equal rights. *March* is a three-part graphic novel series, which

the bus rides rough segregated states, or sit-ins at lunch counters. Andrew Aydin, co-writer of *March*, was inspired by 1950 comics about Martin Luther King Jr, and how they could get young people involved in his movement. The illustrator, Nate Powell, used images and video from that era to make his ink drawings look as realistic and historically accurate as possible.

Reading this series wasn't like reading a history textbook, they were like experiencing the life of a hero, who meets more heroes, who face opposition together. But without the super-powers and capes.

I think *March* being a trilogy makes for good pacing. Book 1 shows Lewis' childhood, and how he grew up when the civil rights movement had started to get underway. In Book 2, you learn more about why John Lewis, and other people, are



March continued on page 9

Free speech issue

Aurora Cordes
Staff Writer

I'm here today to advocate in favor of people saying what they want to. Or, rather, in favor of freedom of speech, which you might think a highly liberal school such as Open World Learning Community would be in favor of. As it turns out, not entirely.

Now, before any of my colleagues get on my case for writing the article about transphobic lip sync battles, I will say that I never advocated for a ban on transphobic lip sync battles. My goal was to advocate for trans people, myself included, and educate people, but still allow them to form their own opinions about the issue.

I support free speech in all cases but those that cause traceable, immediate harm (yelling "Fire!" in a crowded theater, for instance). I've heard about the protests at UC - Berkeley shutting down a speaker whom the students disagreed with, which, to me, sounds like attempted censorship. No, it's not against the first amendment, because the government didn't censor it, but it's still not letting someone speak because they have different views from you. I find that disturbing, because everything begins at the individual level.

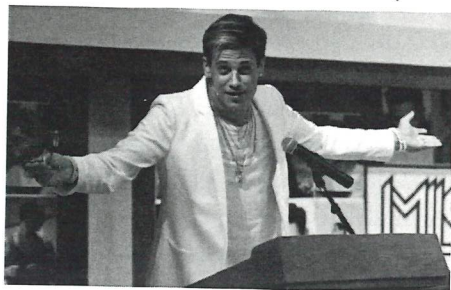
If UC - Berkeley students feel that it's ok for them to censor speech that they disagree with, what happens when they and those like them elect a president and a Congress who bans all speech that's classified as "discriminatory", "offensive", "Fascist", or any other adjective you'd like to substitute for Milo Yiannopoulos's speech. I find it terrible, myself. I think Mr. Yiannopoulos is an offensive, irrational demagogue that's trying to Make America Great Again™, but I also think he has the right to say what he wants as long as he doesn't yell "Fire!" in a crowded theater or some such thing.

Freedom of speech is what lets Mr. Yiannopoulos say these things on his website and wherever he is, but it's also what lets people who disagree with him say what they think about it too. The reason I can sit here and blast President *gag* Trump without fear of persecution by the government (yet) is because of freedom of speech.

And here's what's really going to make people hate me: I don't think words should be responded to with violence, unless violence is imminent because of those words. Don't hate me yet? Just wait, here's the kicker: I don't think punching someone in the face is ok because of what they say, even if they are a disgusting, terrible, racist, Fascist

Free Speech continued on page 9

Neo-Nazi. This happened recently on live television. Now you hate me. And no, that wasn't against the First Amendment, but assault is still a crime. If you believe in everyone having equal protection under the law, anyone who punches a neo-Nazi without first being physically attacked should be prosecuted for assault. If you're starting to make an exception in your head that sounds like "but he's a Nazi...", you don't believe in equal protection under the law for everyone - you only believe in it for some people.



Milo Yiannopoulos speaking at UC Berkley

I believe that everyone has the right to say anything that doesn't result in immediate, traceable harm to anyone. Call me whatever you like, that's your right, as long as you remember that school has rules that restrict freedom of speech, which have been upheld by the Supreme Court. If you censor one person's speech, you open everyone's speech up to censorship. Just because I think people should be able to talk doesn't mean that I agree with what they're saying - and just because I don't agree with you doesn't mean you should stop me from talking.

March from page 8

significant to the movement, and in Book 3, the trilogy is wrapped up with the famous Selma march. Throughout the books I felt very immersed in the story, because this is historical I could relate the events to current events, and think about how the civil rights movement has impacted today. The illustrations are eye catching and the fast-paced action is compelling.

A complaint I have with this series is they introduce a lot of figures and concepts from the civil rights movement, but they do it very briefly and you don't get time much time with them. On the topic of brief, while a historical graphic novel is a good thing to get kids into history, these books are very jam packed with information. At some parts I had to flip back a few pages and re-read to wrap my head around what was going on. March is also not shy to complex sentences, and bringing in vocab that you may not know. It's not a book you would hand to your 3rd grader, but middle and high schoolers would be able to get through it.

This trilogy are definitely important books to not just entertain but educate. While March is full with facts a bit daunting at times, it gets you to see the 1960s in a new, eye-catching and eye-opening way. It's not your typical history textbook or generic comic.

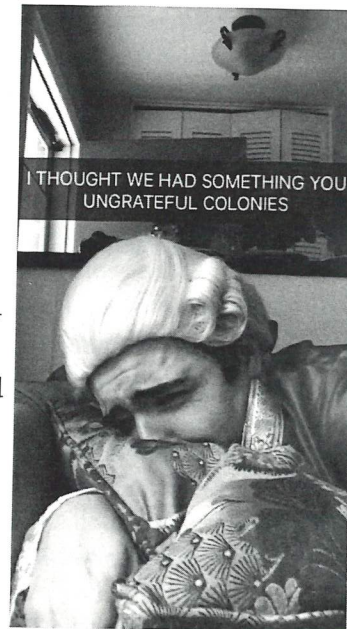
Hamilton from page 3

piece to be created. Commissions can range from sketches for \$5 or less to elaborate paintings and costumes with prices that would make your grandmother faint. Most requesters use commissions as a way to see their fantasies realized in a visual form; such as non-canon ships that they want to see validated or alternate timelines playing out. Take this commission for example; created by Tumblr user lauwurens when a follower requested a drawing of Laurens as a vampire.

Artists can also use commissions to gain income, by setting clear rules for the prices on different levels of artwork, ranging all the way from quick sketches to full colors on canvas.

Another important branch of fan creation is cosplay. Cosplay is slang for costumed play; to cosplay, a fan buys or makes something inspired or directly taken from the thing they like and essentially plays a super impressive game of dress-up with it. The most popular cosplayed characters in Hamilton are; of course, the angry immigrant himself, or his merry band of enabling frat-guys he calls his friends. Other people (like tumblr user scopesandskullties) opt for a more British option and cosplay as king George III.

How the actors of Hamilton interact with fans on social media is also incredibly important, and can strengthen the bond between fans and creators. Thanks to social media, the gap between celebrities and everyday people has grown smaller, leading to easily made connections between fans and creators. Followers will send in questions to Lin-Manuel-Miranda on Twitter, with the probability of him answering being surprisingly high, because he wants to talk to them. Of course, good guy Lin is ecstatic about the overwhelming fan base, and loves that twitter lets him interact with groupies on a personal level. With social media, overall fan mindset is changed from "Ohmygod



they are an untouchable deity. I will never tread the ground they walk upon" To more of a "I can reach out and talk to them, and I can tell they genuinely care" Mentality..

Although many people have never and probably will never see Hamilton, something about it has garnered the love and affection of millions regardless of accessibility. In my opinion, this is all thanks to the actions and attitudes taken by the cast to make it not just a Broadway musical, but everyone's Broadway musical.

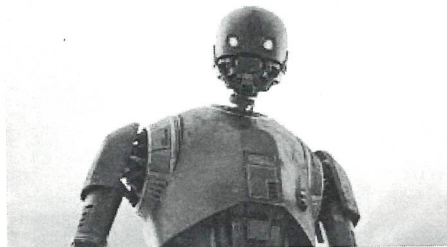
Rogue One is #1

Nik Logue
Staff Writer

"Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" sets the stage to the original Star Wars and follows Jyn Erso (Felicity Jones), a self-reliant out-cast, who is recruited by the rebellion to capture the plans to the empire's most deadly weapon: the Death Star. Along the way, she befriends a group of other rebels throughout the Galaxy and they soon become a part of something bigger than themselves.



Right out the gate, "Rogue One" does not have the same aesthetics as the Star Wars movies we have seen, watching it, it has a tone that is very similar to that of a war film, it's a lot more gritty and dark, and the movie is really down in the mud. And like several war films that I have seen, it isn't just black and white between the rebellion and the empire, there are some shades of grey and I love the fact that the rebels aren't that squeaky clean, they



make some bad calls. One thing that took my breath away was the sheer scope that this movie has, with the cinematography and almost entirely practical visuals, we

get a visual on how dangerous and powerful the empire is.

The characterization in this movie may not be as strong in the movie as the other films in the franchise, but as the movie goes on we develop a more personal relationship between them, the first act of the movie is where I've heard the most complaints which are well justified, but really the flaws are just in that first act. It starts out as a good movie, and quickly evolved into a great one. With a darker approach, the film also holds a very emotional ground, but that doesn't say it's not funny, because it really is, and that is thanks to Alan Tudyk's K2SO and a whole cast of people who grew up on Star Wars.

To be honest, this is one of my favorite Star Wars movies since 1980s "The Empire Strikes Back." The cast is great, the visuals are beautiful, and it is directed with so much passion and humor that I really want to see it again. I believe this is also a great first entry for the franchise's branching out beyond the original saga for an upcoming Han Solo standalone film and more to come.

Dabbing from page 7

be away from the school in order to even smoke a cigarette?", says a worried student. Several people have advocated for it to be put on the moon.

Opinions do vary, but one thing's for certain. The act of dabbing will unfortunately be sticking around.

I suppose this is where lesser writers shamelessly promo themselves but whatever.

Postscript added 1/24/17: Some thoughtless ruffian has defaced the dab zone. If you have any question, complaints, concerns, or feel the need to air your grievances at some hapless call center worker, Dabbers Across America has graciously provided all of you a number to call. That's 1-605-475-6971. Again, that's 1-605-475-6971. Call your local representative today!

Relationship from page 7

Movies. 0/10 The second she said she loved me and I replied by quoting empire strikes back and said "I know." And she gave me a look like she didn't know what I just quoted, I knew we were destined for not making out with each other anymore. And my soul was cold like a sprite soda.

Here's the fun part. The breakup. 10/10. 100/100. Game of the year 2017.

The breakup was like a worse version of the 2012 remake of Red Dawn. Awesome, but not enough Russians. I'd be Russian outta there if I knew what was about to go down. Or at least I'd be Stalin it for a while. I wish I was Putin as much effort into these Russia puns as I did in my relationship. But the Czars aren't aligned yet. She dumped me on Valentine's Day. But you can't play the blues until you get your heart broke, your house burned down, or face the struggle of being a black man in the Deep South during the 1920s. One down, 3.6 to go. Better watch your back BB king, el whitto is catchin up.

In conclusion,

Breakup. 10/10. Her loss on this hot bod. And now I can eat all the mac and cheese I want. Overall the entire idea of a relationship gets a star studded 0/10, and the breakup gets a 10/10. Just like my instagrams @the_thunderbird_. And 10/10 your dumb pea size brain must be thinking "this guys crazy? This is mad." But you know what's really mad? My ex when she finds out I reviewed our relationship in the school paper. So everyone follow my instagrams and look at my techno shirt while I'm still up and strutting my stuff and will continue to do so until someone snitches and tells her about this. Spartacus out.

Life advice: Snitches get stitches. I coulda told the teacher 'bout my transformer. But 2nd grade me ain't no snitch. I'm comin for you Thomas Nagel.

Debate: Free Trade vs. Protectionism

Robots will be taking your jobs, and already are

Aurora Cordes

Staff Writer

Definitions from Google Search:

Protectionism: The theory or practice of shielding a country's domestic industries from foreign competition by taxing imports.

Free Trade: International trade left to its natural course without tariffs, quotas, or other restrictions.

Automation: The use of largely automatic equipment in a system of manufacturing or other production process.

Before you read this, please familiarize yourselves with the above definitions. Now, I'm going to take a somewhat unpopular position: free trade is better than protectionism, even good. I believe that good jobs in manufacturing are not coming back, no matter how much you shield the domestic market from foreign competition. This is because there's something called automation that is dangerous to jobs everywhere, and unless you build a big firewall around California to keep all the automation software out, you can't stop that.

Automation is getting more prevalent all the time, no matter what you want to believe. The only reason it hasn't become super-prevalent yet is that companies outsource to nations where they can pay very little to their workers, which means there isn't a huge demand for total automation. But what if we taxed all manufactured goods? What if we made it so expensive to bring goods in from those countries that no companies did it anymore?

Well, I have a hypothesis: if it becomes too expensive to produce goods with humans, then companies will invest in automation technologies research. Automation, of course, costs much, much less and works much more efficiently than humans, once the technology is there. Once that research is complete, there won't be any - or will be very, very few - manufacturing jobs for humans in any country - and that's going to mess up the global economy a

Aurora continued on page 12

Free trade punishes the poor

Matteo Vera

Staff Writer

Right off the bat I have to admit that global free trade is a faster way to grow the economy. The argument goes that countries are very good at specific things, so countries like China can benefit from being really good at making things cheaply. Free trade doesn't work on the global level because trading partners have large power difference and can fight dirty. According to a study from the Journal of Labor Economics, the US States lost at least two million jobs because of chinese imports between 1999 and 2011.

Free trade incentivises sweatshops in other countries. Even though Tim Cook says that, "No one in our industry is doing more to improve the lives of employees", these are Jobs where people make 1.50 an hour, and work 11 hours a day. Some of these places even have to put up suicide netting to stop their employees from killing themselves.

Global free trade policies also oppress the lower classes in America. These policies lead to companies moving labor outside of America and Americans losing their jobs. The unemployment

creates competition in the labor market which creates stagnant wages. When Americans lose manufacturing jobs you get them moving to low paying jobs in the service industry leading to more income inequality. People are not even benefiting very much from cheaper goods because they make less.

The arguments behind Global Free trade assumes that people who lose their jobs because of it can learn another trade and be as effective at it. This takes time and a lot of money. For free trade to work it takes generations, and people who are heavily disadvantaged by too much global free trade vote for politicians like Trump who are very anti free trade. Even Bernie Sanders said that Hillary Clinton was not qualified to be the president.

Matteo continued on page 12



How to replace Antonio

Ingrid Ebbesen
Staff Writer

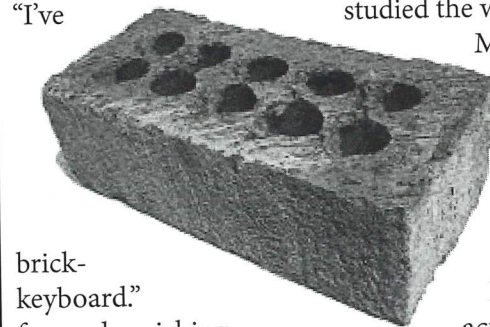
Next year, the newspaper will be losing one of its most popular columns, "Complaints" by Antonio Carvale... Or will it? The experts at the purple press headquarters (including me, Leo Bicklehaupt, and some gum underneath a desk) have devised several foolproof plans of how to replicate Antonio's unique style of writing. So without further ado, the top 5 ways to replace Antonio Carvale.

A robot: now that the robotics team is raking in all that extra cash from the fidgets they are selling, it shouldn't be too hard to create an artificial intelligence to upload into a lifelike robot. Right? When I asked Rebecca Palmer, the teacher in charge of the robotics team about this possibility she said, "no".

Use Cheryl: as we know here at OWL, Cheryl is great. She is the face of the office and would do pretty much anything to help the school. So give her a guitar and access to urban dictionary and she would do her best to be indistinguishable from Antonio.

A sixth grader: our school is practically overflowing with little impressionable gremlins. Oops, sorry, sixth graders. We just bribe one in music.ly followers, and sprinkles or something and... Bam! They will be writing edgy, Instagram-promoting newspaper stories in no time.

A throwable object: our leading analyst at the purple press, that piece of gum under a desk says studied the writing patterns of



Mr. Carvale, and they could be most effectively replicated by throwing a heavy object--like a--at a computer I this would be a activity for some of And heck, we could even tape some sunglasses to the brick and it would be just like having Antonio in the room.

brick-keyboard." fun and enriching the Purple Press interns. One of the many "Antonio-clones": there are like 83 people in this school who copy the Antonio style, you've probably seen one or two today. But now instead of just ignoring them, you can send them down to Leo's room (234). To identify them, look for someone who think it's cool to wear a leather jacket and say the a-word in school. Well, that's all we could think of, so if you can get any of these done, contact us by yelling about it somewhere on the second floor. We'll probably hear you.

(P.S. Good luck in college Antonio)

Aurora from page 11

whole bunch, but that's another article.

My point is that automation is the real threat to jobs based on producing goods or extracting natural resources. You can't stop that, no matter how hard you try. So if you do end up putting up tariffs and taxes on imported goods, you're just going to accelerate the near-total automation of manufacturing by incentivizing research of said automation technologies. You can't bring back manufacturing jobs like you can't bring back the analog camera, and you won't be able to bring back truck driving jobs like you can't bring back the jobs for washing your clothes by hand. The global conversation needs to turn to automation and how to effectively use it to better the lives of everyone and make the world stable, instead of the lazy, incorrect argument like "immigrants are taking our jobs" and how to stop that.

I, for one, will welcome our new automated manufacturers when they come. But not everyone will be prepared for that, and that's the problem.

Matteo from page 11

The US should not have policies like this that help the 1% so much. To compensate in a fair way the government would have to redistribute wealth. Even if we tax the 1% more and more to pay for social programs we would be just constantly trying to get the water out of a sinking boat instead of just plugging the growing hole. Very wealthy people would also go to other countries for less taxes and the U.S. would lose even more money. Socialist policies also disincentivize working, interest in education, and entrepreneurship.

Yes Americans will pay more for iPhones made by Americans but the standard of living for the lower class will go up. The economy will still grow slower but it will still grow and the gap between the lower and upper class. However the U.S. will still have to invest heavily in education because a portion of manufacturing jobs will still be lost to automation, but protectionism is still important to protect manufacturing until then. Protectionism is in the best interests of America and is not unreasonable for Americans to be supportive of it.

Grace's spectacular senior project play

Grace Bellamy
Staff Writer

Last week on March 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, senior Grace Kellar-Long put on Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon in the music room to a packed house.

Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon is a play that is a mashup of all the Brothers Grimm stories. Some of the stories included "Cinderella," "Hansel and Gretel," as well as some less well-known ones, like "The Girl Without Hands."

The cast was made up of all middle schoolers. The two narrators were played by 8th graders Sam Keller-Long and Helena Squires-Mosher. One of the



Middle schoolers in the Brother's Grimm

highlights of the play was 7th grader Conner Carlson, who played about seven parts at the same time, towards the end of the play.

The play was for Grace's senior project. She wanted to put on a play and she thought that this one was perfect for OWL. Also, with Grease being just a high school production, she wanted to include the middle schoolers. "[They] deserved time in the spotlight," said

Grace. Many people who saw the play reported that it was really funny. "The kids were great," said junior Kim Perez-Salazar.

Rural child wins archery tournament

Thomas Verner
Staff Writer

Suburban 8th grader Bodean McGun, who has yet to learn that books exist, shot three perfect rounds in Saturday's archery tournament, and continued to score 293 out of 300.

Earlier this month, during OWL's archery tournament, a thirteen year old from Country Bumpkin Junior High, was heard saying "Sheee, this be easier than shootin' flies of the corn, now that's a peck a trouble right there. This easier than startin' a new John Deere I reckon." He then proceeded to outscore every competitor at the tournament, shooting three perfect rounds.

We talked to his coach, once our reporters had located him between the mustache and the mullet, to see how he felt about this athlete's performance. "Golly that was the rootinest-tootinest shootin' I seen all year, why that's the best archerin' I ain't never seen! That's the darndest thing I've seen since my cousin Daryl got swallowed up by that mud pit." He later added that he "ain't never even coached the boy, I just tol' him if he win I'm gon let him ride my prize sow round the mud pit when ever he want. Is he gon win money for this? If I'm his coach and he wins does I get money?" He then yelled at the archers "Hey if y'all win this for me I'm boutta get me some beer money!"

His parents, Allis & Chalmers, appeared proud upon being informed of their son's performance. They missed his actual shooting, because they were distracted by a 7-point buck shoulder mount on the wall of the archery

shop where the competition was held. Once told that Bodean had won, Allis asked "who dat?" To which Chalmers replied "oh y'all mean junior?" They must have been distracted by a camouflage truck nearby because the next question they asked was "What he do? How much bail is?" Once all had been clarified, they seemed happy that they would no longer have to forcibly remove Bodean from his coach's county fair purple ribbon winning pig, saying "if I got one more holler saying junior was tryin' to rodeo yonder sow I'd have made the boy eat whole plate of my sister-in-law Luanne's grits."

OWL senior Franklin Bajenske said he wasn't very bothered by losing to him, mostly just because Bodean wouldn't tell him where he got his camouflage pants from. We asked him how he felt about it following the end of the tournament. "Obviously bad, I mean he's got me beat by a good amount. It's really a shame, because he has a lot of natural talent at that sort of thing, I don't even know how he got that. I mean, I wear camo, but camo pants, that's really something. Oh, the archery? Yeah he shot good."

OWL senior Eli Mangan had similar comments about OWL's performance at the tournament. "Where were his legs? Are you allowed to compete with us without legs? It's really impressive he was able to shoot with no legs, man."

Bodean said he never intended to take up archery, but accidentally mastered it when someone left a bow between him and his chewing tobacco.

Comics



The Walking Bread

