

Purple Press

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Teacher sues SPPS

Grace Bellamy
Staff Writer

The St. Paul Federation of Teachers (SPFT) is currently in mediation with the St. Paul school district, after Central High School science teacher John Ekblad was admitted to the hospital for a traumatic brain injury from a student assault while attempting to break up a fight.

The fight injured two staff members, and took place at Central High School, during first lunch. After trash talk about football statistics involving his younger brother, (whose name was not released to the public) became violent, 11th grader Fon'Tae O'Bannon joined the fight. Fon'Tae's mother, Venus Hall, said Ekblad tried to restrain Fon'Tae by putting him in a "bear hug from behind." Fon'Tae has been charged with third degree assault, and sentenced to highly supervised probation, 150 hours of community service, as well

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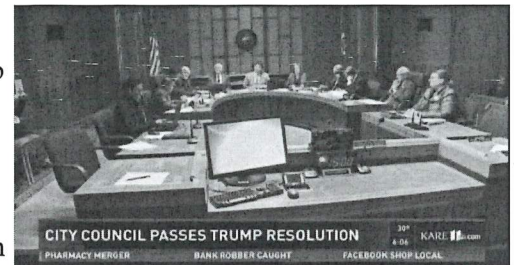
Council condemns Trump

Fiona Shyne
Staff Writer

On December 16th, the Saint Paul City Council voted 6 to 1 to condemn Donald Trump's anti-muslim, anti-refugee, anti-immigrant speech. Trump, however can still visit St. Paul. The original resolution was to ban Donald Trump from St. Paul altogether. That part was taken out from the final resolution, because even though they don't like what he has to say they can't legally ban him.

The condemnation is in response to Trump's call for a "total and complete shutdown" on all Muslims entering the United States. He claims there is such hatred among Muslims towards Americans, that we need to remove them until the problem is better understood. This statement was in the wake of a mass shooting in San Bernardino, California by suspected ISIS sympathizers. Although this is not the first controversial statement

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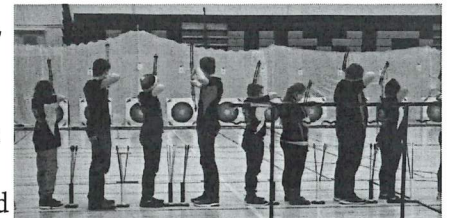


OWL hosts tournament

Grace Gardner
Staff Writer

They shoot, they score, they're as cool as Katniss Everdeen! Who is it? The OWL archery team!

On Saturday, January 9th, OWL hosted its first ever archery tournament, with the OWL archery team competing in their first competition of the season. Over 37 different teams from Elementary, Middle, and High School participated, with 340 archers competing total. The OWL tournament was a hit, and according to Mark Scioli, the OWL archery coach, there were "a lot of compliments from archers and families, all positive feedback."



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OPEN NEWS

Friday clubs

Aiko Mattie
Staff Writer

On December fourth, students at OWL started their Friday clubs. Students go to their assigned club every Friday instead of going to crew.

Every quarter students get a new one. Some examples of some of the clubs are sewing, cooking, Dare 2 be Real, basketball, magic, and book club. At the November community meeting, Fiona and Bridget announced how students can pick clubs they would like to have. They organized the clubs and got students into all the different clubs. The clubs help people to meet more people. "The Friday groups are amazing to meet new people," says Avery Koll,



7th grader. They also let the school have more community, be more social and do something a little different thing at the end of the week.

Students say they are fun to have so they can meet new people of different grades, learn about something new and get to know people better. They also say it's confusing to have a different thing than crew but it's still fun anyway.

Haakon attends nail-biting game

Haakon Neske
Staff Writer

As me and my soon-to-be stepdad drove to the green line stop, we discussed fantasy football, and who we should choose. At the stop, we quickly switched from one car to another, worrying about space. Didn't help. After 2 stops I was crushed against a train window, and was forced to look out the window at downtown Minneapolis on the way to TCF Bank Stadium.

After we arrived at our destination, we asked multiple ushers where to go to find our seats. After circling around gate A and gate B, we gave up and just walked in gate A. I guess you could say there was a lot of tension between Seattle fans and Minnesota fans. We entered the suite elevator, and came out a couple floors too high, and eventually found our seats on the 3rd floor. As we walked outside to see the kickoff, we grabbed some hand

warmers, (due to the weather, they were free). Cordarrelle Patterson had a pretty sloppy kick return. The Vikings had the ball most of the 1st quarter, but Blair Walsh kicked a field goal and made the game 3-0. Vikings fans were yelling, screaming even, one person yelled, "Hey Seahawks fans! I'm flipping you off but you can't see because I'm wearing mittens!"

Right after the 2nd quarter had started, Russell Wilson was out on the field making plays. Most Vikings fans were nervous, but after 4 downs had passed, most fans were fine. Teddy Bridgewater was handing the ball to Adrian Peterson, a couple of the most dangerous players in the NFL.

The 3rd quarter started with a bang. The ball was snapped way over Wilson's head, who chased after the fumble, picked it up, and hurled it to

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The age-old-technique: “Go out in the hall!”

Milo Zimmerman-Bence

Staff Writer

It's a scenario most, if not all, of us are familiar with. A student is just a little too loud for the teacher, and before long is sent out of class. But is this the right way to go?

If a student is sent out of class, one problem keeping others back from learning is dealt with. However, it does present more problems. Foremost, that student can't learn anything if they're not in the classroom. Understandably, this would hold several teachers back, but the disruption problem isn't going away if the student refuses to leave. Another problem with sending kids out is that it's not completely dealing with the problem. The class may quiet down after one especially loud kid is sent out, but not entirely.



So is sending kids out of class the best option?

“Yes,” says seventh grader Sam Kellar-Long. “If a kid is sent out of class for being loud, then they can be loud elsewhere and everyone else can learn.”

Fellow seventh grader Haakon Neske agrees, saying that if a student is disruptive, sending them out is a good way to deal with the issue.

While the kids seem confident in their opinions, the teachers aren't as sure.

“It's never the ideal solution,” says English teacher Leo Bickelhaupt. “It should only happen once the teacher has gone through several warnings and finds the student just can't comply. Then, sending them out is the best option, but it

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from Trump it seemed to be the last straw from St. Paul and other cities.

Portland's city council also passed a similar resolution censuring Trump's position on Muslims. The resolution says Portland doesn't tolerate hate speech and welcomes all immigrants. The resolution itself references Trump's speech but doesn't name Trump specifically.

England also signed a petition to try to ban Trump from entering England. They have gotten over a quarter of a million signatures from people wanting to ban Trump. Like the City Council, this petition was in response to Trump's Anti-Muslim speech. England has already banned many individuals from England for hate speech. Even though the petition got over 300,000 signatures, the British Home Office rejected the proposal.

In St. Paul many people are upset with the Council's decision to condemn Trump, saying it's a violation of the first Amendment. Dan Bostrom was the only person to vote against this resolution. Bostrom said that even though he doesn't like what Trump says, he wouldn't limit his right to say it.

City Council Member Dai Thao sponsored the resolution. He said that he has gotten many threats and racist letters after proposing the resolution. He said that he didn't mean to limit Trump's rights, but to stand up to hate speech. “This is not the St. Paul we want to live in,” he said.

LGBT backlash

Zoe Gale

Staff Writer

You may wonder, why protest an ordinance that protects people against discrimination? Protecting people's safety is an important thing, right?

Prop 1, also known as the Houston Equal Rights Ordinance (HERO) was intended to prevent discriminatory actions towards 15 specified groups. The bill included gender identity, race, age, religion, military status, marital status, sexual orientation, and more. The bill was initially approved in May of 2015, but protestors of the ordinance called a lawsuit that made it to the Texas Supreme Court in July. It was voted on on November 3. The ordinance didn't pass.

The main portion of anti-HERO protesters, organized under the group “Campaign for Houston,” were exceedingly religious and conservative. They took offense to the idea that things such as sexual orientation and gender identity would be protected under HERO, so what do they do to sway people to their side? Scare tactics.

They coined the phrase “no men in women's bathrooms,” to try and twist the ordinance as something that protected supposed “dangerous trans women predators.” The scare tactics “are actively intended to attack trans women, who they see as the primary threat to womanhood. Indecent exposure, harassment, and assault is already illegal,” said trans writer

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