

Volume 14,
Issue 5

The Purple Press

May 28,
2010

Budget for 10-11 brings changes

John Knapp
Editor in Chief

The proposed budget for next year cuts \$20,000, but along with that money, Open World Learning Community is also losing staff. However, the budget allowed for several new ideas and program expansion. Attached to the budget are new priorities for the future.

Most of the money is coming out of the three staff positions cut. Starting next year Open will no longer have Assistant Principal Evelyn Nordquist, health teach Ashley Christianson, or Spanish teacher Raquel Villafañá. Many students began petitions to keep said teachers. While ultimately ineffective, the petitions are a testament to how much each teacher meant to the student body.

Despite the downside of the budget cuts, many new ideas and additions are also being made.



Technology teacher James Illif will once again be full time at Open. James will continue to exclusively teach computer classes. Even with the cut of the Spanish teacher, Open will continue language study through software programs being purchased for next year.

This addition will allow for students to learn a variety of languages. Also, for one day a week a technology specialist will be in the building to assist with tech support.

With this year coming to a close and a new year approaching, new priorities are in focus. The engagement of the Expeditionary Learning program is in the foreground as well as the necessary staff development to aid in the installment of EL. The concentration of the staff and administration in regards to the new priorities is one of many steps being taken to improve the productive school culture at Open World Learning Community.*

Important to have seen Earnest

Ben Rybisky
Staff Writer

The Importance of Being Earnest is a comedy by Oscar Wilde. The premiere of the play was on February fourteenth, 1895 in London, England at the Saint James Theatre. The comedic piece of entertainment takes place in London in the late Victorian period.

The play is about two men, one with two names, John and Earnest (Earnest being the city name, and John the country name), and the other with the name Algernon Moncrieffe that soon gets changed to Earnest. John Worthing, Alex Casebeer, has a bit of a crush on Gwendolen Fairfax, Sonja Youngquist, and acts on it. Algernon Moncrieffe, as played by John Knapp, is a close friend of John Worthing. The play is not only a laugh, but one that you need to pay attention to. The play was showing in the Open Theatre April twenty-ninth,

Importance continued on 5

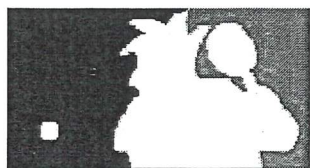
Cake Walk wins in Fraquetball Finals

Leo Bickelhaupt
Staff Not A Writer

Cake Walk closed out the Fraquetball season in dominant style, going undefeated to win the championship in a four-game sweep of Space Monkeys. This means that senior John Knapp – who replaced his graduated partner Griffin Larson with senior Cheng Vang – ends his career with a 50 game win streak.

The last time John felt the sting of defeat was his sophomore year, when Hat Trick lost to Sum of all Fears 8-6.

Space Monkeys (Vicente Zavala and DJ Sass), earned the right to face



Cake Walk by knocking of Funky Funky (Johnny Lor and Peter Moua), and then Alpha Numericals Re-Visited (Tom Totushek and Kyle Warner). The outcome of the final series was

never much in doubt, although game two came dangerously close to ending John's gaudy win streak, Cake Walk was able to eke out a 10-8 win. Asked if he thought at all about his streak teetering on the brink during that pivotal game, John seemed unconcerned. "We weren't going to lose," he said.

Cake Walk will officially go

Cake Walk continued on 2

THE EAR

ONE DEVIL PLUS TWO
DEVILS= ???
PAGE 2

FIND OUT THAT JACK
DIDN'T DO HIS HOMEWORK
PAGE 3

WHAT'S NEW
WITH OUTKAST?
PAGE 4

THE PURPLE PRESS STAFF

**EDITOR IN CHIEF
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**HELPFUL GUY
JORDAN GREENE**

**ADULT TO BLAME
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Interim Options

- 1) **Deep Portage**
- 2) **Tennis mini camp and Ultimate Frisbee**
- 3) **Landscaping and Gardening**
- 4) **Non-Athletic Triathlon**
- 5) **Cultural Twin Cities**
- 6) **Animal Antics**
- 7) **Crime Scene Investigation**

Cake Walk from 1

down in history as one of two teams to ever go undefeated all the way through the playoffs. The Gentle Giants in (04-05) and Hat Trick (07-08) have won back-to-back titles, although Fraquetball historians will note that Jose Garcia won back to back titles on 06-07 but with two different teams: Laffy Taffy and Chivas.

With graduation looming (pending a Great Gatsby paper) John, who is the current Fraquetball commissioner, is in the process of implementing a structure that will ensure the sport's survival next year. Instead of a lone commissioner, John is appointing a three-person task force comprised of Jennifer Lor, DJ, and Peter. The game has been in existence since 2003.

Sign up for Fraquetball for the 2010-2011 school year will begin in the fall. At this point Space Monkeys would have to be considered the favorite, although it looks to be one of the most wide-open fields in years. *

Math done by the devil adds up

*Ying Yang
Staff Reader*

The Devil's Arithmetic was a really interesting book. There are many scenes that will make your jaw drop. What I like most is that the girl learns how important history is.

Jane Yolen, the author, has written over 300 books for young adults and kids. Her books have won many awards. She is also an American Jew. This book was written by, and based on, her. She always hated going to her family's Passover Seder and studying the books.

The book begins in America, but most of it is in set in Europe during 1942. As the story begins, Hannah is complaining about going to her family's Passover Seder. The same old stories about the past are told, but when she opens the door to welcome the prophet Elijah, she finds herself in a little village in Poland in the year 1942.



Hannah is confused about how she got there and believes it is all a dream. Everyone there calls her Chaya and they tell her that she lost her parents due to illness, but she doesn't remember. She lives with a woman named Gitl, who claims to be her aunt. She also lives with her brother, Shmuel, who is getting married soon.

The wedding begins and it is all fun and joy until they see Nazis in front of their house. The village gathers their belongings and they are taken away, under the watchful eyes of the Nazis. Everyone is confused and scared about what is happening, but not Hannah. She knows where they're going. She warns the people, but no one listens to her.

When they arrive at the camp, the men and women are separated. Everything is taken away from them along with their names. They are given numbers in return.

Book Review continued on 6

Brave story: New traveler

*Erik Youngquist
Staff Writer*

Brave Story: New Traveler is a game you'll want to like. A role-playing game in the mold of Final Fantasy, it has all the ingredients of its Final forebear and even some helpful touches of its own. The problem is that New Traveler takes its cues from ancient entries in the genre and suffers from maladies long ago cured.

You'll wander through labyrinthine dungeons tangled with dead ends and random encounters in the name of thwarting evil, as well as coming of age. If only this game took its own advice and grew up. At least the story writers are abreast of recent trends.

Like so many RPGs these days, New Traveler's tale begins in modern-day Japan, with your hero sitting on a

park bench next to his girlfriend playing on his PSP. Your dog, Kratos, chases a frog, perhaps under a log, and your girlfriend follows. You, too busy playing your game, fail to notice anything is amiss until she's been afflicted with an incurable curse of the darkest magic.



Whoops? Meet Yuno, your catty sidekick. So, you go on a quest into the realm of Vision (that's a place, by the way) seeking the Goddess of Destiny so she'll grant you a wish. To gain an audience, you must capture several gems and attach them to your sword. This tells the Goddess of Destiny

that you're serious and aren't going to wish for a Coca-Cola or a million heads of lettuce.

Once you get your wish, your girlfriend will wake up and probably dump you, but that's OK because

Brave Story continued on 5

TONG LOR

How many years have you been at Open?

11 years

What are your plans for next year?

College at St. Olaf

Where is your favorite Open School hangout spot?

Elizabeth's room

If you could meet anyone who would it be?

Justin Bieber!



Jack does his homework.....NOT! Got you.

Jack Jepsen-DeSpiegelaere

Staff Procrastinator

Dear Teacher:

I do not have my homework because the Quiznos Beast stole it to make a new kind of toasted sub out of.

He showed up at my house and terrified me with his blobby misshapen eyes and bowler hat filled with pure evil, then took my homework while I was hiding under the bed.

I tried calling on the power of Chuck Norris's beard; but the Quiznos Beast was so disturbing that Chuck Norris threw up, wet his pants, kasploded, then died. I tried to trade one of my world-famous excuses for my homework, but the Quiznos Beast told me that my excuses sucked and I sucked because I hate Twilight.

...For those of you who have never seen an angry Castlevania fan

attack a mutant gerbil-rat-demon-bowler hat thing, it's something to behold.

For those of you who have never seen an angry Castlevania fan get his ass kicked by a mutant gerbil-rat-demon-bowler hat thing, it's also something to behold.

When I woke up, I grabbed my gunblade and my sop sign, then tracked the Quiznos Beast back to his lair. It wasn't very hard, since there's only like one Quiznos in my neighborhood. When I got in, I used my nerd-sense to find my homework. We were about to leave when Doctor Octa-

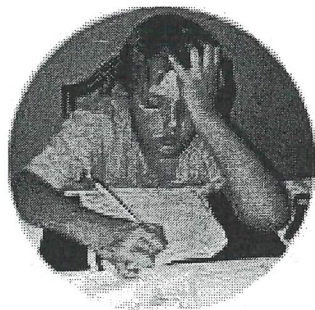
gonopus came in, screamed his name, and lazared my homework. Then the Quiznos Beast found me. He tied me to a Brain-Drain-Suck-O-Matic Thingy 2000 XP Vista 7 and tried to use my brains to create a Quiznos Geniuswich.

As you may have noticed, I am a very odd child. This is because repeated exposure to the internet humor

site Something Awful and daily doses of Cyanide and Happiness have turned my brain into a corrupted puddle of semi-lawful chaotic-evil-ness. The Brain-Drain-Suck-O-Matic Thingy 2000 XP Vista 7 exploded because it couldn't take such a ghastly thing. Then I stood up, pointed my gunblade at the Quiznos Beast, and told him: "Hello. My name is Jack Jepsen-DeSpiegelaere. You stole my homework. Prepare to die."

I then summoned Tricky the Clown from Madness Combat, because he's twice as disturbing as the Quiznos Beast and over nine thousand times as badass. For those of you who have never seen Madness Combat, it's sort of like The Matrix meets Punisher meets Saw. Basically, Tricky pwned the Quiznos Beast then went back to Nevada. And then I ate a sammich.

I think that for slaying the Quiznos Beast and restoring peace to the Galaxy, I deserve an A on my assignment. If you don't give me one, I'll have to hack into your computer; and then I'll be in your interwebz, stealin all ur filez. Don't say I didn't warn you.*



Opinions and Things

Houa Her has gotz to knows: wat up wit dat dawg?

Houa Her
Staff Writer

Hello people of Open, nice of you to read another one of my stories. This issue of 'what up with that dog', I'm going to talk about conversations on the phone. I was sitting around the house one day, doing nothing important, when this question popped into my mind: what's up with people and the phone? You know if you talk for hours and hours, you're going to upset your parents. More important, wouldn't they rather be with the person they're talking to, I mean if they have the time to talk, shouldn't they have time to get together with the person they're talking to and talk in person? Plus I think it'll cost a lot less.

I'd rather be with the person I'm talking to then talk to them over the phone. Think about it, isn't it better to

talk in person. I would prefer seeing them than hearing them through the phone. The voice is just not enough for me; I need a face to look at. I'd like to see my friends outside of school once in a while, too. Mostly if it's a girl, I'm a dude so, not a surprise. Friends should want to hang out with friends, you know, go see a movie, do anything fun.

People these days are looking for new ways to not interact. Even though they don't know it, they are slowly losing themselves to the phone, the Internet, and other forms of disconnections from the people around them. This is a serious case, people these days just don't get together. People of the world, drop what you are doing and go have a night out on the town with a close friend. Do it or I'll drop you!!!

Now, because I wanted to and not because I needed to, a few words from my friends. I interviewed my good

friend Emily Falksen about this case and she was willing to give me some time out of her busy, busy life and answer some of my questions. I asked her if it would be better to talk in person or on the phone and she told me that she would like to talk to her friends in person, but for her, sometimes it's just not possible to get together. The worst part about talking to her friends on the phone is doing the actual calling. For her, if they weren't willing to call her, it just wouldn't happen. She said that on the phone, it's easy to talk because then she wouldn't feel badly about just ending the call. She thinks that if you're on the phone your not rude if you just end the conversation right there and then. She told me she's outgoing, but still an introvert.

Candice Fuller doesn't really talk on the phone that much, she prefers
Dawg continued on 6

New and old endeavors of the hip-hop duo Outkast

Matt Shay
Staff Writer

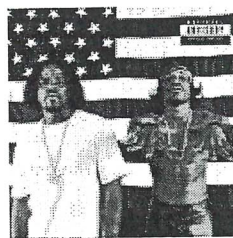
OutKast many of you know them for their most recent singles, like Hey Ya! and Roses off their newest album, The Speakerboxx and The Love Below which came out in September of 2003. The album is great and is possibly one of their best, at least music chart wise. But I'm here to show you that OutKast is a great Hip-Hop duo and possibly one of the best to grace our radio stations in awhile. OutKast has two primary members, Andre "3000" Benjamin and Antwan "Big Boi" Patton. They originally started out as the OKB (The OutKast Brothers) OutKast has had 8 albums

released, some more popular than others.



Their debut album Southernplayalisticadillacmuzik, was released on April 26, 1994. This album is said to be a hip-hop classic, by hip hop aficionados and it is said that this laid the foundation for southern hip hop as we know. On this early material

Andre and Big Boi contrast lyrical material reflecting on the lifestyles of gangsters and pimps, with politically conscious material reflecting the lifestyles of Africans-Americans in the south. OutKast won the best new rap group in 1995 for this album.

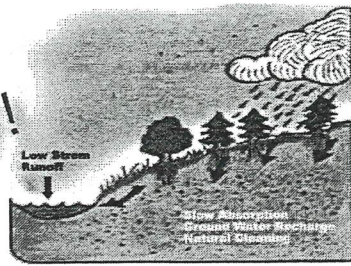


The next album in their musical career is my personal favorite, ATLiens. ATLiens was released on August 27, 1996. This album solidified OutKast as a flagship representative in the southern hip-hop movement. This also got them more recognition with east coast and west coast rap fans. Some key songs off of this album would be Ova Da Wudz, Wheelz of Steel, and one of my personal favorite OutKast songs to date, Decatur Psalm.

Outkast's third album, Aquemini happens to be one of their most controversial albums yet. The song that made this album so controversial was their hit single Rosa Parks, with a chorus of,

Outkast continued on 6

THE RUNOFF!



Importance from 1

thirtieth, and May fifth, sixth, and seventh at seven o'clock PM each evening.

The general Open Theatre theater crowd acted, and some new people to the Open Theatre crowd. Alex Casebeer, John Knapp, David Hoh, Peter Moua, Houa Her, Emily Falksen, Sonja Youngquist, Julia Iwaszek, Jennifer Lor, and Leo Veach. "This could be their chance, I really do have the cast to do it," says Pam Larson, the teacher of Open Theatre.

The Importance of Being Earnest is a difficult play to produce, Pam has said what makes this play difficult. "One, British plays are all about words, two, period costumes, three, dialect, four, three different sets, five, lots of props, six, food props." Yes, the play did indeed have actual food in it. She says, "I happen to love The Importance of Being Earnest. It's always been on my radar." The Importance of Being Earnest is "one of the best and most produced plays in the English language," says Pam.

Open Theatre has done a magnificent job with The Importance of Being Earnest. The set was professionally built, and very large. The acting was phenomenal from everyone involved, and the comedy was hilarious! I do have to say I had one issue with this play, the actors and actresses were difficult to hear, as I was seated in the rear of the theater. However that's a small price to pay for the quality of this play. "It was amazing! Having a full British attire was fun to be in character with! It felt good to hear John Knapp's father laugh all across the room!" says Jennifer Lor. Apparently, it was a fun but difficult play to produce. *

See that blank space at the bottom over there -->?
You could be filling it!!!
Write for *The Purple Press*

Brave Story from 2

minutes after arriving in Vision, you run into a sexy kitty girl. You know the type: the scantily dressed, sassy girls you always wish the heroes in these Japanese RPGs would go for, but never do. You and kitten girl eventually find a big lizard guy to team up with to hunt down the gems while killing monsters, capturing bandits, as well as generally saving the day.

This is almost always achieved through typical turn-based RPG violence. Your characters can attack, special attack, and perform team moves. The latter two use BP (read: mana), which, in a cool twist, normal attacks replenish. This basically means you'll be able to completely whip your foes with special attacks two or three fights in a row before cooling down and killing them the old-fashioned way to build up some more mana.

The Team Moves, as you might imagine, are special attacks that include two or three players. They cost BP for everyone involved, but tend to damage every enemy or apply a powerful, party wide status boost. Most importantly, they're a great way to quickly get out of random battles without running away--you just kill everything in one fell swoop.

Unfortunately, like every other aspect of the combat, team moves don't require any timing or input.

There are no button presses for extra damage, you just set it and forget it. At least there is a modicum of strategy involved. Finishing foes off will usually grant the attacking hero another strike, so if you plan carefully, you can frequently land two shots for the price of one. The enemies strategically up the ante a bit by going berserk, canceling your attacks, paralyzing your party members, and calling for help. You've seen it all before, but at least the

enemies try to keep the fights interesting.

Still, you can only fight so many large, carrot-wielding bunny rabbits before you start asking serious, soul-searching questions about life, the nature of time, and refunds. The game tries to propel you past this interminable grinding toward the conclusion in three ways: with the story, with new weapons, and with Goalfinches.

For the most part, the story is well written but completely predictable. Your sword, the main weapon in the game, drastically changes appearance every time you gain a gem, but never feels different. Goalfinches are Pokémon-inspired birds you catch and then make fight. Collecting these critters involves a simple game of scooping them up in a net, while battling them involves pitting your strongest five against another bird collector's five. If you win, you get an item. So yeah, you can cock fight, but you can't fool around with the cat girl. This fantasy has its priorities backward. They get younger every year. At least it looks good.

New Traveler doesn't push any aesthetic envelopes: Everyone has big eyes and silly hair. The environments are all various shades of dungeon, but the visual fidelity is there, and it sounds alright too. The production values in general are high-quality, which includes everything from the normal graphics and the voice acting to the localized dialogue. Brave Story: New Traveler does several little things right, but it doesn't do enough for \$40. Although it

"Still, you can only fight so many large, carrot-wielding bunny rabbits before you start asking serious, soul-searching questions about life, the nature of time, and refunds."

isn't by any means a bad game, it is kind of a boring one. The enemies are homogenous and never-ending, the dungeons are exhausting, and the game is long. You

could definitely do worse, but remember: It's always better to lift a game like New Traveler out of the bargain bin than to put it in there. *

Dawg from 4

to text or "talk" on the computers. She told me that on the computers you are allowed to stop and think before you say anything stupid. On the phone, she told me, if you do say something you can't take back, it would lead to an awkward quietness and nobody likes awkward quietness. When it comes to talking in person or on the phone, she would prefer it in person. Like me she likes a face to talk to.

Now that you've reader my column, what do you think about conversation on the phone? If you don't think this is a serious case then I have five words to say to you: "What's up with you Dog?" *

Book Review from 2

Life is hard and Hannah is starting to forget her family in America and the stories told by her grandfather, which are the only thing that might save her.

Hannah explains to her friends that they have to survive and remember for her because she is constantly losing her memory. A guard comes up to them and chooses three of them to kill because they are not working. Hannah's life is spared, but that means no one will remember for her. Hannah must then figure out what to do in order to save her memory and return to her life.

I like how the main character changes as a result of her experience. It was cool that Hannah traveled back in time to learn her family's history. Young adults might like this book if they want to learn a little about what happened in The Holocaust. *

Outkast from 4

"Ah ha, hush the fuss. Everyone move to the back of the bus!" Laface records was sued by Rosa Parks for their biggest radio hit, because the name bore Parks last name, said that they misappropriated her name, also she objected to the obscene language. The song was supposed to be homage, and they were using her as a metaphor. They are implying that they are overturning hip-hops old order and people should make way for a new style. The initial lawsuit was dismissed and OutKast and Laface records didn't have to admit to any wrong doing, on grounds of the first amendment. They are supposed to pay a tribute to Rosa but as of August 2006 the nature of this tribute isn't decided yet. OutKast has yet to complete this task.

OutKast's fourth installment of their art was Stankonia. This album was released October 2000 to excellent reviews. Stankonia debuted at number 2 on the Billboards Hot 200 and later went quadruple-platinum. The first single off of Stankonia was B.O.B (Bombs over Baghdad), with a high tempo jungle influenced record. The second single off his album is Ms. Jackson. Ms. Jackson combines a pop hook with lyrics about divorce and relationship break-ups. Preferably Andre's break up with girlfriend Erykah Badu. It was at this time that Andre changed his stage name to Andre 3000. OutKast won two Grammy's in 2001, one for best rap performance by a duo or group, also they won the best rap album for Stankonia.

The next album from Outkast's discography, is Big Boi and Dre Present: The Greatest Hits. This was a collection of songs from previous albums and three unreleased song came out with it. One of the unreleased songs on the CD was The Whole World. Which won a 2002 Grammy for best rap performance by a duo or group. The other songs were Funkin Around and Movin Cool(The After Party).

Last but not least is their most recent album to date and that is The Speakerboxx/ The Love Below. This is predominantly their most known album by radio listeners for hits like Hey Ya! and Roses. This CD is essentially two solo albums underneath the OutKast label. With The Speakerboxx being Big Boi's and The Love Below being Andre's. The first hit off of The Speakerboxx was The Way You Move. This was scene as a breakthrough in the hip-hop industry, because this was the first song to be played on adult contemporary radio stations. Andre's first hit off his CD The Love Below is Hey Ya! which spent nineteen weeks at number one on the Billboards Hot 100. While these are the most known and got the most play on MTV and Billboards Hot 100, they aren't their best work. I just wish people would look into OutKast because they use to be on top of their game. Now with solo projects and movies, OutKast hasn't delivered the same explosive southern style hip-hop like they used to. *

