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The Purple Press

Lake Elmo,
2009

Tech position sawed in half

Jessie Biedler
Staff Writer

Open school's vegetarian, boxer, women's study major, industrial tech teacher James Iliff will be returning next year...sort of. James, whose position was cut in half due to budget cuts, found a part time industrial tech position at Humbolt High school. This will allow him to fill the part time industrial tech position at the one and only St. Paul Open School.

James will be teaching a computer tech course and a digital course at both Open and Humbolt. James says although teaching woodshop class at Open has been challenging – due to the fact that he works with many different levels in a single class – he will miss seeing students complete amazing projects.

Open school has had a full time industrial tech position since it first established in 1971 and staff and students expressed relief that James will remain

as part of the Open school community. Not having that other half of the industrial tech position is a great loss. The teachers who have been here a long time see this loss clearly. Social Studies teacher Susanne Hollingsworth said, "James, and Greg before him, were critical to the success of DI and History Day projects. Kids have been able to make it to state and nationals because of their expertise and use of the facility." James has also been instrumental in helping the theater program build sets. It is still unknown what will happen to the wood shop room. Senior Serena Garcia said, "James always stays positive and is always very helpful. I am glad that younger kids will get a chance to also be in his classes."

James is disappointed about losing his full time status at Open, but relieved to still have a job. "I have been spoiled here," he said.

Domestic Abuse

Nikia Davis
Staff Columnist

I know that after those boy crazy SLCers read that I have a general dislike for Rihanna and Chris Brown, there will be an all out effort for my blood. Many of you will cry. Many will ask yourself how any human being could live with themselves going against the grain for disliking such pop-tarts, but, get over it. In fact, until their altercation, I never really paid attention to them, I just kindly grabbed the remote and changed the channel whenever I saw them on television, or turned the page of a magazine when I saw their endorsements. Yes, they suck.

I started to pay attention after Chris Brown haymade his own girlfriend. My first reaction was "Geez, this guy just committed career suicide. He hit a beloved pop tart diva." Then it dawned on me that after the pictures of her bruised face were leaked that he was ultimately being tried and

Davis continued on 6

Attention: Open School Spammer

A letter from the Editor
Daniel Mauleón

This is a message to The Open School Spammer, the unofficial underground nerd paper of Open School, and its leader Jack Despie. Depr... Jack Long-lastname. For those of you who ignored the one sign on the candy machine and went on with your life, the Open School Spammer, or OSS, is an online newspaper, created by Jack in order to satisfy the need of the nerd populous at Open. Originally called Open School Underground it has since changed its name to fit its nerdy-er focus.

At launch OSS' front page dissed the Purple Press stating that no one cares for our comics, we don't talk

about cool things (like upcoming holidays, new candy in the snack machine and cool websites that were not blocked), and that we are "simply put, boring." It has since removed said previous statements. Maybe Jack shouldn't be so quick to jump over a candlestick. Open alumna Chloe Taipale had written many articles on holidays during her highschool career, my favorite discussing thanksgiving foods. Then there was another multi-writer column in which four Open Schoolers discussed the new Take 5 candy bars. Just last year I wrote an article

Jack in the box continued on 5

THE EAR
D-UNIT
V.S.
HAT TRICK!

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* * *

THE FINAL
HEY REMEMBER
THAT SHOW!

PAGE 4

Editorial Goodbye

Well this is it. The final issue. Well one of them. Sorry about that. However I am rather proud of both of these issues. So I of course have a lot of things to talk about in this editorial. Lets start it off with Iterims, because its right there.

Did you know if it weren't for interim I wouldn't have been born? A long time ago, back when interim was three weeks long and my mom used to go Open School there was a trip to Mexico. My mother took part of this trip and soon fell in love with the country and decided to return for college where she met my father. So next time the administration tells you they are getting rid of interim tell them that you are killing the Dannys of the future.

On the next page John Knapp wrote an amazing story about the history of the rivalry between our two teams: D-Unit and Hat Trick. The article is well written and stays true to the rivalry without slandering either team. I am sad I am finished with fraquetball, I may have to open up a new league in michigan.

Emmett Ruff's final Hey Remember That Show can be found on page 4. That series of columns has been on of the most pleasing things to read this last year and it comes to a great close. On the same page David Hoh wrote something about quoting people. Sooner or later David, you will have to say your own words.

Of course in the comic section we have the second to last installment of The Editor & Lavender Lad. The final two-part installment can be found in the Senior Issue. This may be the most epic three pages of comics in your life. I can't believe it turned out the way it did. Cause as we did the first one we never assumed it would be such a big hit.

The Senior Issue was a lot of fun to put together. There are so many fun things to learn. With all the information the seniors gave it is more there issues then the Newspaper's.

Before I sign off I have some thanks as well to say. First I want to thank all the teachers for

Bye continued on 6

What did you do for interim?

Newspaper Class

Edited by John Knapp and Emmett Ruff

Following are descriptions of different interims the Open School offered last May. Maybe it will help you decide what interim to take part of next year.

Video Production

One interim offered was video production with English teacher, Erik Peterson-Nafziger. On the first day students in the interim went to SPNN to work with staff members. They used the studio for interviews and generated creative ideas for the following days. Students used cameras and sound equipment.

On the second day, students shot their videos at Open School. They finished and edited their videos and presented them on the third day.

Criminal Justice Interim

In the criminal justice interim students learned about laws and the criminal justice system. This interim was lead by Stacey Casper. On the first day students learned about the three branches of law and received a tour of the state capital. On the second day the group learned about the degrees of crimes. They rode in a police car and received a tour of the Saint Paul police station and it's holding cells. They toured the Ramsey County courthouse on the third day.

Kids Against Hunger Interim

Three days of interim. Three days of new adventures, and three days to make a difference in someone's life. On the first day students participating in this interim led by Tim Leone-Getten went to Adams Magnet Elementary and Groveland Park Elementary. At both schools, KAH students explained Kids against hunger and demonstrated the process of packing foods. On the second and third days stu-

dents packed and loaded food with the students of Groveland and Adams.

Several parents and volunteers participated in the packing process at the elementary schools. Students at Adams packed over 400 thousand dollars worth of food and were allowed to try samples.

Pigs Eye

One interim offered was Pig's Eye. The participants traveled around and learned about their hometown, St. Paul. One stop on their journey was at a graveyard. After many pictures of the variety of tombstones the group headed back for school. All involved were intrigued by the history that lay around them in St. Paul.

Outward Bound Service

The Outward-Bound interim went to Ely, Minnesota, which is five and a half hours away from the twin cities. The first three days of their trip they all went canoeing. While on this trip they did all the regular camping activities such as: sleeping in a tent, and making their own food. All the campers carried 20-pound bags of equipment required for the trip.

The activities the group participated in were very tiring. The group as a whole portaged 995 16.5 ft long rods over two miles. On the last day of portaging they ported 270 rods. After these days of canoeing they headed back to the main camp. At the camp the group helped the local community by painting new houses for interns. They also stained and varnished those houses.

The group of 10 students and two chaperones had a great time on the trip and benefited the local community greatly.

Outward Bound Agriculture

On of the many options for students during interim was Outward

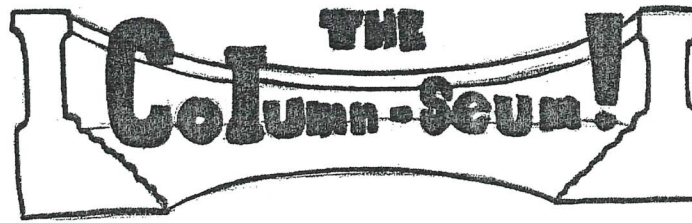
Interim continued on 6

**THE PURPLE
PRESS
STAFF**

**EDITOR IN CHIEF
DANIEL MAULEON**

**EDITOR
EMMETT RUFF**

**ADULT TO BLAME
LEO BICKELHAUPT**



D-Unit v.s. Hat Trick!:

The last great rivalry of fraquetball

John Knapp
Staff Writer

The history of rivalry in fraquetball is a long and interesting one. It spans from the Gentle Giants to their hated rivals the Jesson Five. It includes that bitter defeat and sweet success of Liam Shramko vs. Jaime Avila. And now that history will depict the stories of D-Unit and Hat Trick!

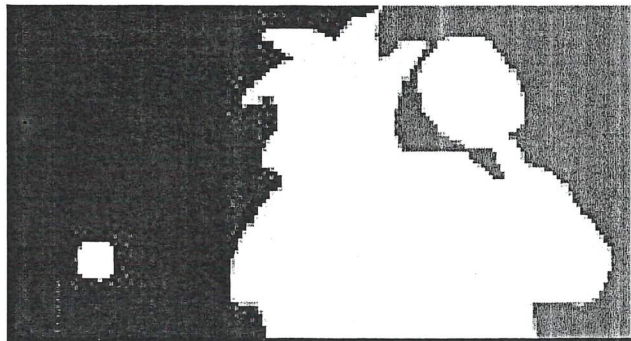
On Thursday, June 04, 2009 D-Unit (Danny Mauleon and Damien Bullis) and Hat Trick! (John Knapp and Griffin Larson) had their final bout. These teams battled for the Conference Championship. While Hat Trick! were the heavy favorites going in, D-Unit once again planned on giving them a run for their money.

The story of these two teams stretches back to the 2005 fraquetball season. These four players, these four classmates, were set against each other in a regular season game. John Knapp and Griffin had had much more success than Damien and Danny to start their rookie seasons. Starting hot most thought that Hat Trick! would come away with an easy win. This game is tied for the longest game in fraquetball history finishing with a score of 16-14. The game is known for its amazing offense and lightning fast pace. While Hat Trick! did win, this game represented the start of a rivalry that would follow these teams for the rest of their careers. Critics of this rivalry would complain that it was one sided and pointless because Hat Trick! never lost to D-Unit, but the players on those teams, and the fans that watched them play knew the intensity that surrounded the games between the two teams.

The rivalry spread beyond the third floor hallway where it all began, and infested itself in their everyday lives. More than once one could spot these players yelling at each other. "Hat Trick!" John and Griffin would yell at

one member of the other team, only to have it be rebutted by an immediate "D-Unit!" Often the group would then hear a distant "D-Unit!" by the other member of the team. These screams of passion for their team would be heard throughout the school.

While Hat Trick! flourished in the league, D-Unit hit hard times. While playing with each other, Damien and Danny would often get into verbal arguments resulting from the poor play of one player. This intensity crossed from their team into their friendship. Those



close to Damien and Danny would often see anger between the two of them because of their fraquetball team and the failure it experienced. After playing two seasons together D-Unit split apart.

Damien joined Alex Johnson the following year to create Anger Management. This team would continue to thwart Hat Trick! by being the only loss that Hat Trick! suffered in the 2007 season. This team would make it to the playoffs and lose in the first round to the future champions, Chivas. That was the first playoff appearance for Damien in his career. The next year Damien teamed up with Jaime Avila to make a team all assumed would meet the rival Hat Trick in the finals. However, in the most disappointing loss of all time, Damien and Jaime failed to reach the

playoffs leaving Hat Trick! with an easy road to victory.

Danny joined forces with Jesse Valenzuela to form 1 1/2 Mexicans. Finishing the regular season with a record that barely put them in the playoffs, Danny too had finally reached the playoff goal that he was unable to reach with Damien. 11/2 Mexicans won their first round match-up against Greece Lightning and moved on to face Fetal Attraction. This, however, would be the final straw for Danny's success in the playoffs. The next year Danny played with the rookie Lang on the team Curtain Call. Curtain Call would shock the fraquetball world by making into the playoffs, only to be defeated by Space Monkey's in the first round.

After both Damien and Danny had short lived success apart they came back together for this year, their senior years. D-United was predicted to make it to the Conference Finals, and then fold while playing their great rivals, Hat Trick! Both teams lived up to the expectations and they met in the semis with memories of the beginning of their time as rivals. Both teams had improved since they first played, and both teams had grown to hate the other more.

D-United got out to an early lead in the first of a five game series. Leading 2-0 Danny and Damien were once again on their way to their first victory against Hat Trick! This was not to be though, at least not this game, as Hat Trick! fired back with seven straight points to win 7-2. In the second game D-United again got an early lead, this time they lead 4-1. More confident than ever, D-United once again let the game slip away, losing 7-4. Now, Hat Trick! could see the end of their bitter rivals, but D-United as before jumped out ahead, 3-0. Hat Trick! seemed beat. This was not to last, however, coming back quickly to make the game an even 4-4. At this point Damien and Danny were very conscious of what lay only three short points away. As though on cue, those points were quick, and they ended what was one of the best rivalries in fraquetball history, with victory for Hat Trick!

Linens + Things

David Hoh Quotes Things

David Hoh
Staff Quoter

I don't really have a newspaper story idea, so I'll just write down some quotes I've heard over the year, as well as, jokes, ideas, and other stuff. Hope you're entertained. Sorry, but this is all I got left after cleaning out my brain like the locker I have yet to empty.

"Lower expectations to avoid disappointment." that one makes sense, because if you go into a movie expecting a whole lot of awesome, you might be let down. But if you go in thinking it'll be sub-par, and you'll enjoy it. When I was a kid being dragged places I didn't want to go, it always turned out to being not so bad. So that's some good knowledge to have.

What's with school scissors? They're so dull. I understand that hyper little kids could accidentally cut themselves and that sad teenagers might purposely cut themselves, but we all need to cut paper! (I know we have those good ones in the art room, though) They're so dull, you try to cut paper and they involuntarily turn sideways. It's so idiotic! Are they afraid that somebody will get mad and try to stab somebody? The fact that something that's supposed to be sharp is duller than high school football players, now that's what makes me wanna hall off and stab someone.

I never did any work in homework help for the 2 weeks I was there. I did it all at home.

How are Valley Fair and the Mall Of America not "educational"? They're not supposed to be, they're rewards for hard work, but they kind of are, in a sense, because you are put into the real world and you use math....and stuff, mainly math, to buy things. It's not very complicated math, just adding and subtracting. Even when you're buying a car you don't need none of that square roots multiplied by a negative fraction made of imaginary numbers and Pi with X to the 5th and Y to the 18th. The hardest part is figuring the cost of the tax

(which in Japan is just added to the labeled price, another reason they rule) and even with tax, if something is like 5 bucks without tax, give the guy 7 bucks and you'll be fine, it's their job to do the math for your change. Just saying.

A black man was elected president and pigs flu. Get it? Got it? Good.

This next one is mostly for college-bound seniors: What's so much fun about getting wasted at parties?? When I think of a "fun night" I don't imagine throwing up at somebody else's house and not remembering anything prior as something "fun" Thinking (not "knowing") that you had a fun night without remembering is like saying we won the Vietnam war and you were born in like 1990. You have to comfort and convince yourself that you had a fun night, when if you stay sober, you'll actually remember having fun. "But David, what if you had a bad night?" So what? At least you remember it. I often freak myself out by thinking about doing something in the future and not remembering it, because it's like, it could've happened already and I have no idea, or it's like, I do it and don't remember, what's the point? And I'll be aware that I'm doing it when I'm doing it but to forget that later....Freaky stuff. Wrap your mind around that, because mostly I can't describe it in words. Don't don't drink at parties to "stay above the influence with FOX" or to "make a statement," don't drink to remember a fun party. That's my PSA on keg parties. Keep that in mind for college.

"Why is teen-pregnancy such a big issue? Condoms are easier to get than drugs, yet teens seem to have more of the latter."

The toilet paper here is the same stuff as the napkins. Why do the napkins come on rolls?

They introduced Homework Help wrong. "They're marketing in a terrible way." Said 11th grader John Knapp. And he's right, most of this paragraph is stuff said by him or me, quoting what I know is his. Anyway, "... continued on 7

Hey, remember that show?

The Final Column

Emmett Ruff
Staff Writer

I'm sorry to say it, but this is the last *Hey Remember That Show*. I'm bored with it now. I'm sure you are too. Plus I can't really think of too many more shows. So let's just do one more for old times' sake. C'mon.

But first, before I describe it, I would like all of you out there to know that this particular show is especially near and dear to me. I want to tell you a story, a story of a little boy who didn't have cable growing up and was only able to watch the endless hours of cartoons cable offered at his grandpa's house. His grandpa lived far away. Oh so far.

That little boy watched them all. *Ed, Edd n' Eddy*, *Samurai Jack*, *Mike, Lu and Ogg*, *Cow and Chicken*, *Dexter's Lab*, *Courage the Cowardly Dog*, and even classics like *Thundercats*, *Space Ghost*, and *The Acme Hour*. But there was one show the little boy loved over all others, even though he had only seen a few episodes. As he grew older, the boy struggled to remember it. He asked his brother, who had watched the show with him. His brother had completely forgotten and denied the show existed, calling the boy a liar. The boy searched endlessly on the Internet for the show, but his agonizing days of searching were fruitless.

Then he had an idea. He would create a column in the *Purple Press* and bring the names of nearly forgotten shows to light. Perhaps through this he would be reunited with his long lost favorite show. That little boy was I, and this is that column.

Hey, re- **HRTS continued on 4**



Jack in the box from 1 about non-blocked websites. Jack's first article was on facebook, a site requiring proxies to access. Maybe little Jack Horner should go sit in a corner before he starts pointing fingers.

His website also features a comics tab, so I decided to see if his comics matched up to our Strip Club. However, while he writes articles for his site he isn't a Jack of all trades, and instead he features comics from two other sites. Hell, he doesn't even have the comics, just links to the sites.

There is also a page dedicated to the staff of the OSS. According to his profile his most prized possession is a videogame save file. Not a dog, or family heirloom, but a videogame save file. However, he is not alone in the staff, there is a second member. However this isn't the Jill that Jack has been looking for. How do I know? Because it's me.

After a few emails I quickly joined the staff, in order to break it down from the inside.

The plan is simple. I already passed step one, now as part of the OSS family I can write all the poor stories I

want slowly gaining trust for step two. The second step involves me acquiring the site password in order to upload and "improve" the site. The final step is sabotage. I will change the site password, rewrite the front page and claim victory for the Purple Press. Jack will jump in a flash when he sees it.



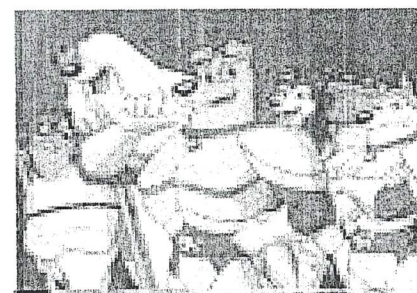
Jack as he appears on his OSS profile.

Why would I do this? Jack, it's because you insulted the Purple Press, with false accusations and snide remarks. You write pretty well, and you definitely have the heart, but in the world of journalism you can't make it by yourself. Why not climb the beanstalk and join the giant. Together you can reap the rewards of the golden chicken. We aren't so different. In fact you remind me of

a younger version of myself, quick to start up projects, enamored by webcomics and fond of listening to orchestra recordings of video game music. So Jack Frost why don't you warm up a bit, and write for the Purple Press. We have lacked a decent nerd column these last few years, and you could do well, but if you dare cross the Purple Press again I will rip you apart like the Dilophosaurs ripped Nedry. You know what I mean.

Okay, I found the show online. And since this is the last issue, I'll tell you all about it. It was called *Road Rovers*. It was about dogs from around the world that were mutated into superheroes. They all had super powers and roles in the group. The white one was actually a golden retriever. He had yellow fur too. I just remembered him wrong. And the girl was a collie, not a German Shepherd.

But there was a husky. He was the Donatello of the group though. The badass was a Doberman. And then there was also a sheepdog, and a crazy rabid Rottweiler.



The Road Rovers

While reading over the plot and character profiles I became a little upset. The Rottweiler used to be a good dog but became evil and mutated and is kept in a straight-jacket. And he's only let out when they need him and he's up for a bit of ultra violence and isn't fully accepted by the other rovers. The dogs were also in the pound. And they used to belong to someone and now they're all deformed. So it's a little sad.

There, that's the end. I'm not going to do it anymore, and I don't need to. I've found out about all of the shows that I couldn't remember, even the ones that eluded me for so long. I feel as though a piece of myself that was once missing has returned. And I hope this column has allowed me to share these feelings with you. Or at least entertained you a little.

HRTS from 4

member that show where they were superheroes. Like, they had superhero bodies and stuff, but they had dog heads. So their bodies might have had fur and they might have had tails or something. This was American; I'm not a furry. Don't get it twisted.

They were a team and they were all different kinds of dogs. One of them, the girl, was a German Shepherd. And they told the story of how

she was transformed into a dog with a superhero body. She was at like a nuclear plant or something and then she got all



radiated and then became an awesome mutant superhero dog.

The leader had white fur. But he wasn't a husky or anything (I think there was a cool badass husky one though). He looked like *Krypto, the Super Dog*. And he was a good leader, not one of the lame ones like Leonardo. (John edit: Not lame! You Smell!)

The show was on Cartoon Network for a little while. And it was on in the late afternoon. I remember that because I'd watch it before dinner. It wasn't on for very long though.

Interim from 2 Bound: Agriculture. Each day these students, accompanied by science teacher Megan Hall, went on a different field trip. The first day they traveled to Open Hands Farm and helped by doing service for the farm. One example of their work their was weeding the lettuce.

The second day they went to the Farmers Market. The third day the group went to a local greenhouse where they planted tomatoes. The students also were able to pick one plant that they wished to take home. After they said farewell to the greenhouse the group continued on to Vertical Indevors to do some rock climbing. The group stayed there for two and a half hours before being brought back to school.

Digital Yearbook

One of the most interesting interims offered was Digital Yearbook. In this interim students took pictures of other students and put them together to form a digital yearbook. The final product of the students work was a DVD that will be available to see on the school website. These pictures captured students participating in some of their favorite activities. While the students didn't leave school, they were still able to have a fun time working on their own project.

Non-Athletic Triathlon

The very popular non-athletic triathlon returned for its fourth year. On day one teams were randomly selected and then went to downtown Saint Paul. There they took part in a scavenger hunt. Clues led them through the streets and skyways, and even into an elevator shaft. When they returned to school they played Paper Football.

On day two they went to a nearby field to play a variety of lawn games including: Bocce Ball, Croquet and a bean bag toss and this year a new event the virtual maze. Using G.P.S.s teams wandered through a invisible maze displayed on the G.P.S. display. After returning to school they had a Rock, Paper, Scissors tournament and Black Jack.

On the final day the teams took the bus and lightrail to downtown Minneapolis for the final event, the Amazing Race. Using cleverly written clues the teams raced around downtown Minneapolis finding the different locations. Again teams had to be aware of their surroundings as to not miss a location.

The Non-Athletic Triathlon once again challenged students minds and strategic abilities. This will surely be a popular interim again next year.

Out and about with the Arts

Out and About was run by Elizabeth and Pam. The students did a lot of activities. They played art related games; made poems that they could turn into a song or a rap. A man came in and showed them some of his raps and things that he did. Students really enjoyed the interim.

The man was named Tou Saiko Lee. He was a spoken word artist. He showed the interim some of his raps and poems. He played a lot of games with them such as one called Back in the Day where they made a rap about what they did when they were younger. They also listened to him rap about disasters that were happening in the world. Students had fun listening and making poems.

Archery

The archery interim was a combination of teaching and practicing new techniques. On the first day the experienced archers introduced the new archers to the basics, such as holding the bow properly, nocking the arrow, and assuming the proper stance. Afterwards, they ran an informal archery tournament for the remainder of the day.

On day two they took a field trip to a shooting range to practice some longer range archery. The range came complete with artificial animals to shoot, including moose, deer, mountain goats and birds. The archers got a chance to shoot from a variety of distances to expand their skills.

On the third day they brought their skills back to Open to serve as teachers. They trained the kindergartners, first and second graders how to shoot at targets in the gym.

Who knows what interims we will have next year. They are sure to be as fun as those this year.

Bye from 2 letting spend class time on the paper when it was vital. I also extend my thanks once again to John Knapp. He is always willing and ready to write amazing stories. Even though scheduling is not in his favor. Of course I want to thank my protégé Emmett Ruff. The poor chap had to deal with me working over his should more often then he should have. He has also created some of the funniest comics all year. I wish him the best of luck next year as the Editor. If it weren't for these people, this paper would have been delayed ten times over.

I am very glad I had the opportunity to be the editor these last two years. I hope you have enjoyed reading it as much as I enjoy making it.

Daniel Mauleón
Editor-In-Chief

Davis from 1 convicted by the public. Chris Brown has made it hard for the public to sympathize with him for several reasons: one, he made it public on Oprah that his mother was a victim of domestic violence by his step-father, his female fan base would not understand the incident, and in America, guys just don't hit girls. Chris should understand that when he went on Oprah, he went into a largely, predominantly female fan base. Oprah made more than one example out of the domestic violence issue with him as the poster child. It's sad that after all of their denials about a relationship, the confirmation came when he ethered her (yes, I accidentally read that somewhere!). I agree that he should have been way more cautious at how he approached whatever confrontation he and Rihanna had, but I'm not upset at the same things everyone else is.

I had to re-evaluate my stance. I wanted to give him the benefit of the doubt because everyone was coming down on him, and realized there is a major double standard that I don't take too well. What if she hit him first, and he just defended himself? Will the

Nikia continued on 7

Nikia from 1 media ride Rihanna as hard as they are Chris Brown if his defense is "She hit me first"? What if she posed a threat, and he truly felt endangered? No one considers these scenarios. Guys have it hard. It's justified when a woman buys a gun for protection against a man she feels is threatening her well-being, but if a guy buys a gun because some chick like Glen Close in Fatal Attraction is stalking him, then he's just a wuss. Women hit men because there seems to be this belief that he will not hit her back because she is a female. If he can practice self control, then he won't hit her back, he would just walk away and never subject himself to someone who totally disrespected his feelings and physical well-being ever again. Why can't a man defend himself? Yes, there are sized and strength disparities between some men and women, and some you can't really tell, but if a man hits a woman, then he is a womanizer. The underlying tone of the Chris/Rihanna situation is that guys can't hit a female- ever. Men in relationships are victimized all the time, but who addresses it? We all know that when there is a younger, more attractive female involved women can be especially vicious, but who cares, right?

Domestic violence against women is certainly a big deal and our society has done a lot to address it. Most major cities really only offer shelters, counseling programs, and legal protection to women who are victims of men who can't control their brutal impulses. In fact, many domestic violence programs go out of their way to protect women. They are highly publicized and well funded. What do shelters do for men who are abused by there counterparts? Go on the internet, and look up "battered men" then "battered women" and see the huge help and law disparities. The craziest things were yet to come. I found articles that disputed whether or not men could be battered by women. One Web site even went so far as to call the term "battered men" a myth, claiming that men who are battered are rare, but just because the men rarely report abuse does not mean it rarely happens. Not only are females preconditioned to believe from media that they are weaker than men, everything and everyone perpetuates it. They think *"That tiny woman can't hurt anyone. She's so sweet."* We are adamantly

aware of sexism and are told that it is bad. Staff are trained to address it, workshops are formed to identify it, but we are all guilty of bias.

Women have had it tough in the professional world, and anywhere else. I personally haven't felt like I was inferior or being challenged by guys except for when I want to play Madden, which is considered a man's game. We were taught that we should not use sexist language because there are two genders and they are of equal importance. Teachers have spelled it out for us that it was unacceptable to use masculine words (mankind, for example) to describe a group that included women. We were also taught that we should try not to buy into stereotypes and generalizations but the underlying agenda was to try to impress upon us the need to recognize the importance of women in society. We should, but also not at the expense of men as well.

The underlying tone should bring Domestic Violence to light. People who claim they love each other should be able to communicate their feelings in a non- violent way. Never should a solution to a problem be to back hand your girlfriend, or pour hot grits on your boyfriend.

The bottom line is that there is absolutely no excuse for domestic violence, no matter who the perpetrator is. Right now, men who have been abused have too few places to go for help. The time has come to end the double standard when it comes to domestic violence. Domestic Violence as an issue, and not violence against women, needs to be addressed. And when men are abused, they should have access to the same resources.

"..." from 4 most kids think of Homework Help as a punishment, (to be honest, I thought intervention was a punishment at first, but it's actually a very good thing,) when it's meant to be helpful, it's not a *punishment*, it's a *consequence* of not doing your work. "They [students] need to learn the difference between punishment and consequence." said Knapp, "Students hate the people who run it on a personal level and think 'oh, they hate me, I can't change that.'" Which is correct, students hate the people who they think hate them, when they wouldn't hate them if

they'd do their work, but they don't hate the students in the first place. Just because you don't like the people running it doesn't mean that it's a bad thing. As John said, they marketed homework help wrong, and so the anti-homework help thing is partly their fault. But students, it's not a punishment, it's a good thing. Not a fun thing, but giving birth isn't all that fun either.

What was that when they served those weird asian noodles with LEFT OVER TATER TOTS MASHED IN!?!?!? WHAT WERE THEY THINKING!? THAT'S SO NASTY!!

Look, when the temprature is -35 degrees, CLOSE THE SCHOOLS. SO WHAT IF IT'S MINNESOTA!? THIS IS MADNESS!! How can you not let us outside when it's like -15, but we can stand for the bus for 20 minutes in the dark when it's -40? That's unacceptable.

Back in February, Miami had EVERYTHING shut down due to cold weather. My god it was PANIC! People all over losing limbs to frostbite due to CHILLING 50 degree weather.

GOOD GOD MIAMI SHUT UP.

We had to go to school on a day that was -38 or -39. Stop whining Miami, you'd never survive in the north. Here the weather needs to be colder than the School Administrators hearts before they cancel a day.

I miss Snow Days. Remember those? The last one I remember was in the 3 ft snow of '97. I know the principal has nothing to do with closing school, but I just wanted to write this anyway.

Why does Firefox have a pop-up that says "Firefox blocked a pop-up"? Fail.

The new green and blue headphones suck. The curly wire doesn't allow enough stretch to comfort the teenage slouch. Maybe it's alright for little kids with their eyes glued to flashcards or something, but it's not for us. I like the tan ones, they have volume control on the side, and a long, sraight cord.

I know Jeff writes about how 4-square is unfair and stuff, but seriously, what I have a complaint with is how long the line is. Sure, it's short now, but it used to be crammed with people who could not and/or would not play. They'd get in and the ball would come near them and they'd squeal and go "oh no! a ball? what do I

Say What? continued on 3

The Strip Club

The Editor and Lavender Lad By Emmett Ruff and Daniel Mauleón



Say What? from 7 do?" But now the line is all short and filled with people who know how to play and do as such. This is real, and if you can't handle it, don't play. Stop wasting our time and line space.

When I saw the bathroom doors come back I said to my chums; "Oi, what's all this then? Is the health inspector passing through for the day?" I guess they decided to keep the doors up after he left just because they look nice. But that wont cover up the ROT-TEN SESPOOL that the bathrooms have become! Clean them all you want, paint them too, it doesn't do a thing! Do the toilets need to COMPLETELY break down before they consider thinking about mulling over maybe replacing them?

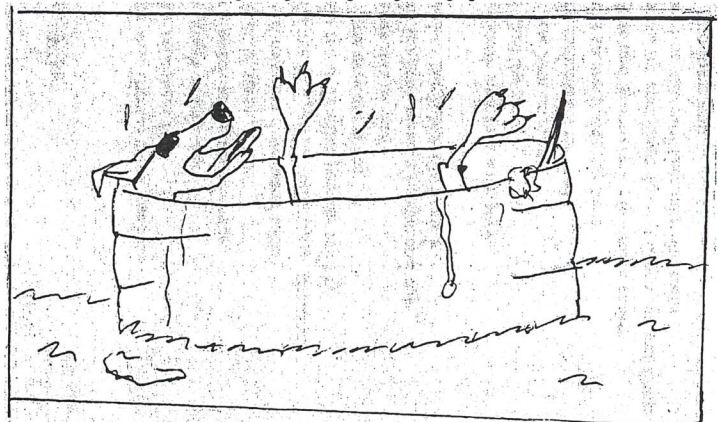
And what's with the sinks having TWO faucets!? One hot and one cold? You discover the logic there, I'm too tired. All I'm going to say is; where is the "Warm"?

That's about all I have got. Thanks for reading, and if you want to hear my opinion on anything else, just find me in the hall and I'll yell some more.

Congratulations to the Class of '09! You guys are an awesome generation.

I should end this off on a joke. This is a pick-up line I invented, it's very bad. Do NOT try to use this! Seriously! here it is; "Dang girl, you so hot, you flew into the sun and it MELTED!" I'm out, peace! Have a kick-ass summer!

Marmoduke by Emmett Ruff



Soaking up the sun Marm?

Pimples By Daniel Mauleón

