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The Purple Press

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Cameras coming to Open

Daniel Mauleon
Staff Writer

Video surveillance is coming to Open School. On Tuesday January 22, 2007 during a staff development meeting principal Todd Bartholomay announced to the staff that Open School would be installing video surveillance cameras. There will be approximately 3-4 cameras per floor, one in the cafeteria, another outside overlooking the four square court and one out by the loading dock.

The videos will be viewable on multiple monitors around the school. It was the districts plan to install them and they will also be paying for them. The cameras are planned to be installed by the end of the year.

The main reasons for the cameras are security and safety according to Todd. Our school lacks a front desk at the main entrance, which could allow for a stranger to easily enter the school

without being seen. That is also why there was a change in the front stairwell as well. The cameras can also be used to as a silent witness in case of vandalism or conflicts with students, to truly see who threw the first punch, Todd explained.

While working at Johnson High School Todd observed as the school went through the change of installing cameras. Overall, he believes that the addition of cameras was for the better. For one the cameras would act as a "deterrent" to bad behavior. It also cut down on the amount of hours administrators would spend trying to find out who were culprits in school.

Around Open School students and staff are viewing this new installment with different opinions.

Big Brother
continued on 6

Frida Kahlo comes to town

Laura Cefalu
Staff Writer

I was in shock when I came face to face with the painting *Las Dos Fridas*. *Las Dos Fridas* (The Two Fridas), is a painting about how she felt after her divorce from painter Diego Rivera. On the right side is a portrait of the old Frida, the Frida who Diego no longer cared for or loved. In her hand she holds an amulet with a picture of Diego. On the left side of the painting is a portrait of the new Frida who no longer cared for or loved Diego. In her hand is a pair of scissors that is disconnecting the hearts between them. Seeing the real painting, you could almost feel her pain.



Frida Kahlo Painting

October 27th through January 20th there was a Frida Kahlo exhibit at the Walker Art Center. The original paintings came from around the world to Minneapolis. It cost \$6 for students and \$10 for adults (kids are free). Next you waited in line for about an hour, but there were ways to entertain yourself (for an example, around the line were TVs with digital art on them). After you waited for about an hour, you entered Frida's world.

Frida's paintings are mostly self-portraits. The reason behind this is that when Frida was in her teens she got in a bus crash. The crash left her in a body cast from the chest

Walker continued on 6

How to watch



Chloe Taipale
Staff Cockatoo

In a newspaper class not too long ago, Leo was tottering around at the front of the room, mumbling incoherently and roaring at inanimate objects. I decided to wander the halls and drool on myself, but as I

made my way to the door, Leo cornered me. He was babbling maniacally about one ridiculous thing or another, but I really knew he'd lost it when he told me that, back in his day, the only way to see a movie was to go to the theater.

While I waddled toward the vending machine with my finger up my nose, I tried to get my head around this latest finding. A movie theater? I barely remember what those look like. They're in the ancient history section of my brain, along with like, pennyfarthings and Stonehenge.

Legal continued on 10

THE EAR

JOHN KNAPP LOOKS
AT ONE OF THE
OLDEST TEAMS IN
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HISTORY
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Prom-blems

Abby Pierce
Staff Writer

As most of you have heard, this year's prom might be held in the Open school cafeteria. But student government is trying to change that.

The student government is raising money by selling cookie dough, Valentine's Day cards, beaded flowers. Also they are going to be selling cupcakes and cookies.

All of the money will be going to prom expenses. \$2,000 to \$3,000 is about how much that will be needed to hold prom at a better location.

Even though student government hasn't come to a final decision about where prom is going to take place. An option they are looking at is the Jonathon Paddleford paddle boat that rides up and down the Mississippi river, which is what we did for prom last year.



Another question that's crossing everybody's minds is why do we have this money problem? "We just haven't had a really good fundraiser," said Jody Holmstrom the student government advisor.

So if you want to help out and have a great prom buy a Valentines Day card or maybe some cookie dough. Because a little bit can go a long way and every cent counts. ❄

Long advisory take two

Khaliya Dorry
Staff Writer

Long advisory has been a loved tradition here at Open School for many years now. The day traditionally falls on the Friday before winter break every year. On that day, SLC students go out to do various fun activities with their advisors. Some activities include bowling, roller-skating, going to a teacher or student's house, going to the Mall of America, or going to Grand Slam. The students and staff leave the school in the morning, and return towards the end of the day. This year there was a change of plans.

In place of the old long advisory date, an all school retreat was organized. The Youth Frontiers held the retreat, and it included both students and staff of Open School. This year, staff members got together and decided to change the long advisory to February 15th. A requirement for the long advisory day is to have at least one hour of community or school service. Staff are also required to

send the advisory's long advisory plan to Todd.

Many students look forward to long advisory because they have a lot of fun going on a field trip of their choice, with their friends. So this year, when students were informed that they would not be attending long advisory on its normal date many were disappointed and angry. Many students had already planned where they wanted to go, and what they wanted to do.

When asked whether or not she thought long advisory was important to Open School, 10th grader Daja Napier answered by saying, "Yes because you get to spend time with people in your advisory, getting to know them and you have fun doing so." Daja also said, "I was kind of mad, because I was looking forward to it," about the long advisory date change.

10th grader Norma Romero, who was planning to

Advisory continued on 6

Tragic times

Jaime Avila
Staff Writer

Saturday, January 6, 2007 was a very sad day, and then it became dangerous in my household. The Dallas Cowboys had lost after messing up a short field goal. I saw a golf club, and then I saw my coffee table. With the anger that I was feeling that day I decided to take the table apart, and I messed it up good.

There is nothing worse in life then when your team loses a game, especially if they are expected to win it and then lose. Every sport has its own way of losing a game. In basketball you can miss the game winning shot, or the other team can make it. In baseball you can hit a homerun, or allow one. And in football you can mess up a field goal from the one-yard line. No matter what, they are

all bad when the loss comes in the playoffs. So how do people take it, and then go about moving on with their lives?

I asked some people what they felt after their team lost, and many answered with sadness or anger, and most of the time both. Many people are okay with losses in the regular season, because they don't mean as much. When I asked people about games their teams lost, most remembered the games lost in the playoffs, because then you're done and you have to wait until next year.

In the 2006 the Minnesota Twins had come off a great run to get into the playoffs, and this made 11th grader Griffin Larson very hopeful about winning a championship. They met up with the Oakland A's in the ALDS, and

with Cy Young winner Johan Santana they were expected to win. As it turns out they couldn't hang with the A's, and ended up getting swept.

One series that 10th grader John Knapp will never forget

Rage continued on 7



The Avila Household on January 6, 2007

Ester Lewis

SENIOR PROFILE

How many years have you been at Open?

Almost three

What are your plans for next year?

Going to Minneapolis business college

What will you miss most about Open?

The unique style of teaching

What is your favorite book, movie, or TV show?

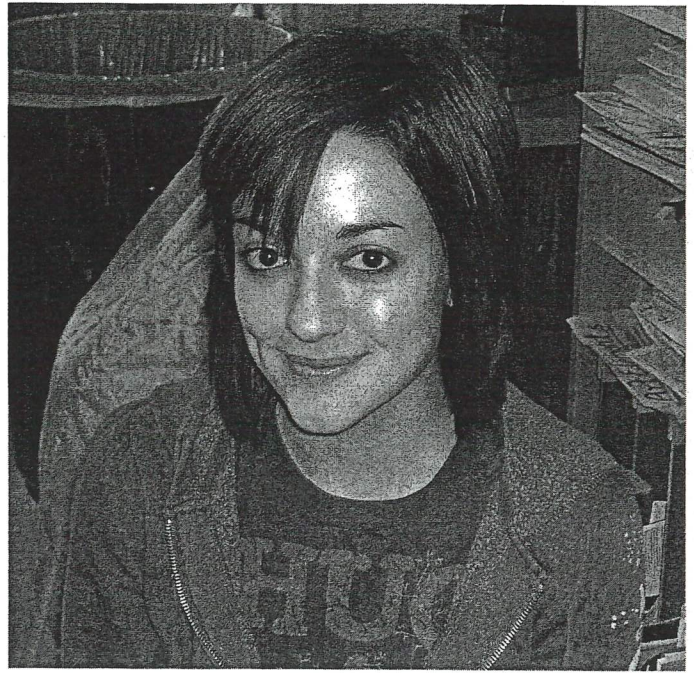
Heroes

What was your favorite class in high school?

Leo's Third hour

Do you have any last advice for Open School?

Get your opinion out there



Los Geezers showing their age

John Knapp
Staff Writer

Los Geezers had high hopes going in to the 2008 fraquetball season. Leo Bickelhaupt had this to say: "I thought we would make the playoffs, I sure didn't think we would be 2-5 at any point." With the Geezers struggling in a year in which some predicted them to go 10-1, the Geezers have disappointed everyone in the fraquetball community. "It's hard to watch the Geezers play after seeing how well they have done in the past, but hope isn't lost yet," said 11th grader Danny Mauleon. Danny continued to say how well both members of the Geezers played during this year's All-Star game. With the playoffs just around the corner the Geezers will need to win the rest of their games if they hope to compete. The Geezers have an easy schedule left to finish out the season, but with the way they've been playing anything could happen. Even if the Geezers do make the playoffs they will have a very difficult first round match against HAT

TRICK! "The Geezers have always been the measurement of how good the league is. It's sad to see them struggle so much," said former fraquetball commissioner Nathan Jesson.

Los Geezers are the most experienced fraquetball team in history. They've been playing since the sport was invented in 2002, and they have put up a fight every year. "They have lost their touch, they aren't what they used to be," said 12th grader Jaime Avila. While many agree that they are over the hill, the way they play on the court would prove otherwise. With more heart than any team out there, the Geezers can play with anyone.

In 2002 the Geezers went into the tournament as a four seed. "They played so well in the first few rounds of the tournament. They had an amazing series against Seamen. Then to see them lose to the Gentle Giants, it was a great upset," said Nathan Jesson. After an amazing upset over Seamen, Liam

Shramko and Gus Olsen, everyone thought that the Geezers were a sure win in the championship. They came out of the championship with disappointment surrounding them. With a heart breaking and unexpected loss to the Gentle Giants, a little known team consisting of Sean Keith and Cameron Bietler. The Geezers' hearts were set on coming back strong, and they went into the 2003 regular season with fury in their eyes and passion in their hearts. "I wish I remembered it better," said Leo, fondly. They finished the season with the best record in the A.F.A. They had breezed through the regular season, but the one question remained in the viewer's minds: could the Geezers step it up in the playoffs? However, Tim and Leo would come away without anything to show for their amazing regular season. Tim was a top candidate in the M.V.P talks but he failed in that too, losing

t o

Old Folks continued on 7

That's What She Said!

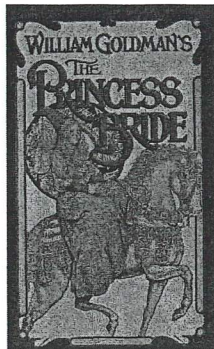
Vox populi of Open School

The Princess Bride

Sarah Plonski
Staff Writer

We've had the movie *The Princess Bride* in our house since before I was born, but I had no idea it was based on a book. It doesn't really seem like the sort of movie that would be based on a book. Anyway, I found it in a book store by my grandparents' house, and decided to do a review on it. Okay, maybe not right when I saw it, but when I was done reading it I thought it would be a good book to review.

The original book was by S. Morgenstern, and though he did write a good book, he wasn't very good at figuring out what people would want to read. The reason I got the abridged version is because the unabridged version is really long and boring and has like 200 pages that are about nothing but flowers and people packing all their clothes into suitcases, and nobody would want to read something like that. However, he did have SOME good parts, and it was enough to make a whole book.



Faerietale continued on 7

Molly won't stop reading

Molly Salzberger
Staff Writer

I found that it's surprisingly easy to read a book with an unnamed main character. When I read *Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow*, by Jessica Day George, I soon forgot that "the lass" wasn't a name unless the book pointed it out. When her name is revealed, I only distantly noticed was that it was sort of pretty, and went on to finish reading the lass's story. (Although, my forgetfulness may have been aided by my disinterest in the main character.)



Why doesn't the main character have a name? you might wonder. Well, that would be because her mother didn't give her one. She was tired of having girls (she'd already had about four, but the precise number isn't important to the story, and anyway, I don't remember now) and she refused to name the lass out of spite. How dare she be born a girl! her mother must have thought, and she continues to dislike the lass for no good reason throughout the book.

If this seems a little far-fetched to you, that's because you

S,M,I,S continued on 8

American Gladiators

Zong Xiong
Staff Writer

There is an arena called Power ball. You have to run pass the gladiators to put your ball into a bin to get points. There are three gladiators that are trying to stop you and there is one other person trying to do the same thing. Alex Rai is one of the guys who got the second spot in the final eight and he just ran through the eliminator like nothing. First you see a wall about ten feet high and you have to climb over it. Then you jump into the water and you see some fire on top of the water. You have to go under the fire to see a cargo net and climb it until you reach a rolling thing. Then you see the hand bike and you have to go across or you can drop down. You then run across a beam to the pyramid to climb on that and then you go on a giant zip line. The zip line drop

you by a reverse escalator and you have to run up to grab a rope to pull you up. Then you run through the big block of box and

you pass the finish line.

The above scene is from the new show American Gladiators. The original American Gladiators started September 16, 1989 to May 11, 1996 and the show was

air seven days a week. The guy gladiators are Justice, Mayhem, Militia, Titan, Toa, and Wolf. Titan is a very big guy with a lot of muscle and he is six foot three, weight at 251 pounds. Wolf is a guy who has mess up hair and he is six foot four, weight at 225 pounds. The



The Gladiators All Angry Like

girls are Crush, Fury, Hellga, Siren, Stealth, and Venom. The TV show is on Monday at seven o'clock with the hosts Hulk Hogan and Laila Ali.

In a typical episode of American Gladiators there are four people trying to win to be the top eight people to battle the gladiators. But only two people will be in the final eight and they have to have the fastest time in the Eliminator. The Eliminator is the last arena to battle each other and it has a lot of different arena together.

There are ten arenas that the contestants can battle each other to see who gets points and then use the points to kind of help them in the Eliminator. It is usually five arenas that the four people battle and two guys are on a different place from the girls.

Blast from the Past continued on 6

You are viewer

Aqunette Kennedy
Staff Writer

Neville, a survivor of a lethal virus that is destroying the population, and Sam, his dog, are chasing after a male deer which runs into a pitch black vacant building. Sam chases in after the deer even though she's trained not to, so Neville goes in after her. He enters slowly with a flashlight that's attached to his gun. He goes up many stairs and through many hallways and he runs into a room full of mutated humans. He calls it a nest. He turns around to find Sam and the next thing you know one of the mutated has crept up on him and is in his face. Then the others begin chasing after him. Neville and Sam make it far trying to get out of the building before one of the mutated catch Neville and they both go crashing out one of the windows of the building. The mutated human's skin burns in the sun light,



Will Smith as Robert Neville

turning gray, brown, and then black.

The 2007 science fiction horror movie I Am Legend was directed by Francis Lawrence and produced by Arnold Schwarzenegger and he became the producer in March of 2002. There are not many main actors, but the three that are named are Will Smith, Alice Braga and Charlie Tahan. Its release date was on December 14, 2007. The development of the movie actually started in 1995 by Warner Bros. because they had owned the rights to Richard Matheson's 1954 novel of I Am Legend since 1970. In March 1998 the movie was cancelled due to financial problems and then in August 1998 director Rob Bowman took the job, but then he later started a n-

other

Fresh Prince continued on 9

The Eye 10

Pheng Lor
Staff Writer

The Eye 10 is a good and funny movie to see. Five teenagers play the Ouija board. Glass cup start moving and the ghost appears. Chongkwai's grandma pop out of nowhere and they all scream. The movie wasn't scary at all and it was more of a comedy and horror movie.

The above scene is from the movie The Eye 10. The Eye 10 was directed and written by Danny Pang Fat and Oxide Pang Shun, also known as the Pang Brothers. The actors are Wilson Chen Bo-Lin, Kris Gu, Bongkoj Khongmalai, Isabelle Leong, Ray MacDonald, and Kate Yeung. These actors are usually in Chinese movies only. The Eye 10 is a 2005 Thai-Hong Kong horror movie and took place after the events of The Eye and The Eye 2. This movie is about approximately 84 minutes long.

This movie is about four teenagers who go to visit their Thai friend. When they get there, they talk about a ghost story.

Their Thai

Sequel continued on 9

Videogame offers wrestling fix

Josh Nash
Staff Writer

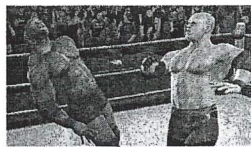
Do you know who Shawn Michaels and The Undertaker are? Do you know the differences between a suplex and an inverted suplex? Then Smack Down Vs. Raw is the game for you. Break into the great graphics, all new wrestlers, submission locks, and all new story modes.

Smack Down Vs. Raw 2008 sold out almost everywhere: pawnshops, Target, Walmart and K-mart. The company that created Smack Down Vs. Raw is THQ, which is well known for all types of sports games. The game is a little price cxy; its cost runs up to about \$50.00 for the PS2 and Nintendo Wii and about \$60.00 for the PS3 and Xbox 360.

The object of Smack Down Vs. Raw is to go through story play as any WWE superstar, defeat the best in the

game, and take on the WWE champion. Rise up from rookie to legend by defeating the WWE hall of fame challenges, unlock and play as any legend you want from The Rock, the Ravishing Rick Rude, Stone Cold Steve Austin and many more.

If your tired of playing as the WWE superstars in another option of the game you can play as a general manager, create matches, defeat other brands for the top spot at wrestle mania, and be the best brand in sports internet. The best part about this game is you can play as ECW superstars, as the ECW roster will allow you to play matches like ECW extreme rules. In this type of match you can set tables on fire along with barbwire bats.



In Smack Down vs. Raw 2008 they have all up to date music from Puddle Of Mudd, Seven Dust, Breaking Benjamin and much more

As a game player and a big wrestling fan, I would rate this game as great. The game has all the right stuff. The graphics are good and the controlling is easy. It's better then any other wrestling game from my point of view. It's a game that I can play for hours and not get bored. The only thing that would be bad about the game is the glitches every once in a while the announcers will say your superstar's name or move wrong but that kind of stuff happens in every game. If you don't have it or just don't like wrestling you can't judge it until you try it.

I recommend buying Smack Down vs. Raw 2008 because it's fun exciting it has nonstop action up to date superstars all new fighting styles this game is a all new wrestling experience.





Walker from 1 down. She had many surgeries that left her in bed all the time. From this came some good though; she started painting. She had a mirror over her bed that she looked at to help her with her self-portraits. A lot of her paintings are self-portraits; one of her most famous painting is *Las Dos Fridas*. Frida liked to paint animals in her portraits. She especially liked to paint her monkey, parrot and Chihuahua. So another one of her most famous paintings is *Self-Portrait With Monkey*. Although Frida had some happier paintings, Frida never had a smiling self-portrait.

Most of her paintings are about suffering; painting was the way she expressed her struggle. She painted about how Diego hurt her, she painted about losing her baby because of a miscarriage, and she painted about how she felt her body had given up on her. She was born July 6th 1907 and died July 13th 1954. Frida had a hard life, and she doesn't have a problem expressing it.

Frida Kahlo's exhibit was amazing, just plain amazing. If you want to see some really touching artwork, I would recommend this exhibit. Next it will be at the Philadelphia museum of art February 20th through May 18th. Then next it will go to San Francisco's museum of modern art June 14th through September 28th. ✨

Blast from the Past from 4

American Gladiators is an OK show and what I like about the show is some of the arenas like Wall, Pyramid, and Joust. The gladiators look hard to beat and the hosts are two good people to be hosting. The things I don't like are that they don't have a lot of different arenas like the first American Gladiators and the show is only one hour long. Also, they don't make the arenas look hard to battle other people. The audiences they are targeting are people who like competition TV shows and people who want to see other people get beat up. ✨

Big Brother from 1 Tenth grader John Knapp views the idea with a positive look: "There is no negative side to it. We can see things we didn't before." Luke Leba, SLC social studies teacher, agrees, "I believe that it will force students to be more accountable for their actions." Senior Jaime Avila thinks it's not that big of a deal: "I don't really mind it as much. Other people have them."

Some, however, question priorities. Twelfth grader Molly Salzberger says, "I wonder who's going to monitor them. I guess I'm ambivalent." Sarah Plonksi, a ninth grader, wonders why we have cameras when there are some other

things to do. "It would be ok if we had enough money to get cameras and fix the bathrooms," she says. 10th grader Josh Nash finds himself on the middle line: "Little bit of good, little bit of bad."

Of course not everyone likes the idea. Junior Mee Thao came to Open from a school that had recently got cameras, "I don't really like it. I actually came here because I felt I had some privacy," she says.

Not much more is known at this time and we are sure to find out more as the year goes on. Will the cameras really help lower the rates of delinquency? Or will they be invasive and make students feel uncomfortable? What is sure though, is that they are coming, so be prepared. ✨

Advisory from 2 go to the Mall of America for long advisory this year, said, "I think it's important because it's a tradition. When I found out that the long advisory date was being changed, I was really disappointed because I had already made plans with my friends." Norma also said she thinks long advisory should happen on the same day every year, because it is more organized that way.

9th grader Ruby Uribe, who went to the Mall of America with her advisory last year, said, "I like long advisory because you get to go out somewhere and hang out with your advisory." Ruby also thinks long advisory is important to Open School because it's a tradition she doesn't want to see broken. When she heard the news about the postponement of long advisory, Ruby said, "I was mad because that never happened before."

Art teacher Elizabeth Lehman, who's been working at Open School for numerous years, knows the long advisory tradition very well. "The idea behind long advisory is to have students organize in a group to decide what they want to do," said Elizabeth. "It's a way of staff trusting students to choose something that they'll involve everyone in." Elizabeth also said that in the past there have been more long advisories such as

one before Thanksgiving break, and other major holidays that involve missing school days. Elizabeth believes that long advisory gives students the opportunity to gain leadership skills, work together, and take on a teacher role.

Many students were frustrated and angry by the decision to change long advisory, and this ultimately made them angry with the person behind it; Open School principal, Todd Bartholomay. Well in explanation for his decision, Todd said, "Not everyone had good plans for it." He felt as if the long advisory should be postponed to give more time, to make things clearer about what students are going to do for long advisory this year. According to Todd, he doesn't think long advisory will change every year. He had some concerns about the long advisory tradition, but there is no doubt he believes long advisory is important to Open School. "I think it could be super important," he said, "It's a chance to get out into the community and if we plan it, it can be great." Referring to how long advisory was run in the past, Todd said, "I don't think it was helping us move forward in the community in some cases, but not in all of them." So the future of long advisory is still unknown, but the thought behind the planning process for it will definitely be different. ✨

Old Folks from 3 Doug Anderson.

In 2004 Tim and Leo had a below average regular season finishing 6-4, their worst year yet. This would be the first year that the Geezers hadn't made the playoffs. "I think everyone was sad to see such a good team fail so miserably," said former committee member Andrew Hoaglund. That off-season Tim was appointed to the A.F.A. committee and became the first teacher to ever reach such rank in fraquetball history. "I felt we needed a teacher on the committee, Tim was the obvious choice, he's so good with people," said Jesson.

When 2005 rolled around the Geezers were confident. However, that year would be the most depressing for Tim and Leo yet. Going 11-7, the Gee-

zers failed to make the playoffs, for the second year in a row. "It was bad, the Geezers were so good, I thought they were a lock for the playoffs," said former commissioner Liam Shramko. With their record tied with Alpha Numericals Revisited the Geezers were regretting losing the season series, 1-2. That year Tim had some of the most impressive numbers seen in fraquetball, with nine steals (fifth in the league), 65 blocks (first in the league), and 74 goals (second in the league). Many wondered why the Geezers had failed to succeed on the court. "Many place the blame solely on Leo. I would tend to agree," said Jesson.

As the Geezers started to stumble through all their games much of the blame was placed on Leo. "I was playing my best, I just looked shaky

compared to Tim," said Leo. With Tim performing the best he ever had, talks of Tim leaving Leo started to swirl around the league. As time went on Tim stayed with Leo, against advice, and offers, from some very talented and respected players. Tim has continued to be one of the top players in fraquetball, and while Leo hasn't improved over the last few years he has been very consistent. Leo has shown many flashes of brilliance, most notably his game against Hat Trick! in the 2008 season. "I just happened to find the ball. My eyes found the ball for some unknown reason, and everything was working," said Leo about the Hat Trick! game. The Geezers' careers have no end in sight, so almost all assume that they'll find that elusive championship eventually. "Sooner or later it's gonna happen for them," said Jaime. ✨

Rage from 2 was the 2002 ALCS. His team was on the brink of going to the championship, but instead they blew it. They ended up losing 4 games to 1.

There are many things you can do about those losses. Some, like Griffin, go into a weeklong depression, in which he sits in his room eating ice cream all day long. Others like John are hurt so much that they get tears, and feels like there is nothing to live for. There are some that take it to the extreme, like me, and end up taking chunks out of their coffee tables with golf clubs.

There are different thing that go into to handling these losses after they happen. In Griffin's case he was off baseball for a while, and didn't really want to talk about it so I let him be. John makes the best of it after letting all the

tears out, and tries to enjoy what he can out of the last games of the year. I of course just go on a rampage, sometimes climbing buildings, and destroying helicopters.

One thing that I have found to be useful in helping me cope with the loss is finding another sport I like, and picking a new team to root for. After my mom yelled at me for breaking a lot of stuff I decided to focus on the Spurs basketball team, and I lucked out, since they won the championship last year.

Just so you know it only helps so much. I was lucky enough to see my team in the other sport win it all, but I still have nightmares of that famed botched snap. So all you can do is hope that you get over it, and hopefully your team wins it all next season. ✨

stuff happens, and then Buttercup realizes that she is in love with the farm boy, Westley, who never says anything but "As you wish." So she walks over to his little house at the edge of the farm, and when he opens the door she goes into this huge speech about how much she loves him. He doesn't say anything, but slams the door in her face.

Buttercup is depressed all night, but in the morning Westley comes over to her room and confesses that he loves her too. So then they are a happy couple for one day before Westley goes to America to seek his fortune. However, the ship he is on is attacked by the Dread Pirate Roberts, who never leaves anyone alive. Buttercup becomes very depressed, but when she comes out of her room she is the most beautiful woman on Earth.

So, a while later, Prince Humperdink (what kind of a name is that??) decides to marry Buttercup, because he heard that she was the most beautiful woman in the world. So he gets engaged to her, against her will. However, they don't really have much in common, and because Humperdink spends so much time in his Zoo of Death, they hardly spend any time together.

One day, Buttercup is riding Horse when she gets stopped by a

Faerietale from 4 The book has an interesting tone which makes it feel a lot like a spoof (It isn't, though; this was before spoofs. That is, they had them, but they had a different name). I like it that the tone of the book changes depending on who is experiencing the most interesting event. For example, when they go to Miracle Max's, Inigo suddenly becomes "The skinny guy," Fezzik becomes "The giant guy," and Wesley becomes "The big guy (who is dead)."

The book begins on a farm, where a girl named Buttercup lives. She

is not the most beautiful woman in the world, but she is in the top ten, and this is only because of the way she naturally looks. If she actually brushed her hair, she may become number one. Naturally, all the boys in the town are constantly following her around (I know what that's like... okay, not really), but she isn't interested in any of them and only cares about riding her horse, who is creatively named Horse.

So then suddenly, Buttercup's father's cows' milk becomes really famous and a whole bunch of royal people come to their farm, and then some

Never-ending continued on 8

Never-ending from 7 hunchback with mismatched legs, a really skinny Spanish guy, and a giant. They kidnap her and are planning to kill her and start a war. So they're riding away on a boat, and the Spaniard notices that there is a boat following them. The hunchback (named Vizzini) exclaims that that is inconceivable (several times, actually). When they reach the Cliffs of Insanity and the giant starts carrying them up, a man in black gets out of the boat that he was following them in and starts climbing the rope that they are also climbing. Vizzini says, "Inconceivable!" again.

This was overall a good book, but occasionally the author spent a little too much time on something that wasn't very interesting. For example, it's talking about when Inigo (the Spaniard) and Fezzik (the giant) are walking through Humpdink's zoo of death and there are like a million levels and I'm thinking, come on, do I look like I'm interested in the fact that Inigo is afraid of spiders and Fezzik is afraid of bats? However, the many good parts cancel out the few boring parts, and I literally laughed out loud when Inigo yelled "Inconceivable!" (and I was reading in my room when nobody else was home.)

The very last line was my favorite, when they're riding away happily on four stolen white horses. "... They were on the fastest horses in the kingdom, and the lead was theirs." Yay, everything's good. "However, this was before Inigo's wound reopened; and Westley relapsed again; and Fezzik took a wrong turn; and Buttercup's horse threw a shoe. And the night behind them was filled with the crescendoing sound of pursuit..."

And that was the last line. It even ended with a dot dot dot. ❖

**Super Sweet News-
Based Plonski Comic
Page 10**

S,M,I,S from 4 don't live in a medieval, mythic version of Norway. It comes complete with magical reindeer, enchanted ice castles, evil trolls, and a host of other fantastic creatures. The book flap says it's based on "the Nordic fairytale East of the Sun, West of the Moon" which I am unfamiliar with and so I can't say how true it is, but it is right about the hints of Beauty and the Beast. (There are enchanted ice bears, as well.)

The ice bears are kind of like the Beast. Kind of. The specific differences would spoil the plot, so I suppose I'll leave those out. Basically, the lass does housework, encounters a magical reindeer, acquires a pet wolf, becomes a willing hostage, and goes on a quest to save her lost love. While all these things are happening, there is plenty of scenery to mull over. Yes, there is a reason for the haphazardness of the summary. I'm getting to that.

This is the George's third book. she seems to be going strong, so I expect she'll have another out in the next few years. This one is a reasonable length--I think--to read in a week, even if you have homework. It's about three hundred pages, hardcover, but it has a large font. (Not quite large print, but close.) I did read it in a day, but then, this was my homework! Sort of.

It's not a particularly difficult read, either. It's not subtly illustrating the human condition, or the flaws of today's society, or whatever. It's a solid fairytale, with a wide variety of well-fleshed-out minor characters, set in an interesting world. If that is enough to recommend the book to you, you should go ahead and read it. There is nothing wrong with those parts.

If you choose your books based on the execution of the plot and how well you like the main character, however, this book may not be for you. That's how I choose *my* books, which leaves me wishing I hadn't bought this one. It's not badly written--it may even be a decent book--but it was so frustrating to read. The lass's name is never that important to the plot. It's more like a security blanket.

In fact, most of the things that

seemed to be building to the final-confrontation-of-the-enemy part of the story didn't go anywhere. Sure, there were plot twists. But the resolution came almost out of nowhere--one haphazard scene does NOT count as foreshadowing--and everything else was just dropped. The lass, who is definitely the hero of the story, didn't really come up with the solution to her problems herself.

One of her problems was saving her One True Love. Yes, in faerytales, there is frequently some sort of romance. But in this book, I just wasn't convinced. It felt tacked-on. It is possible that the romantic plot was just too subtle for me. It's also possible that my biggest objection to the book blinded me to it.

I would be able to get past all of the other things I disliked the plot if I'd been able to like the main character. It's not that the lass is unlikely. It's just that she seems to suffer from a split personality. Her mother treats her horribly throughout the book, ignoring her and treating her like a parasite instead of her own child, but the lass never stands up to her. Not really. She saves all her defiance and stubbornness for someone who would never hurt her--who promises explicitly not to, in fact. When the lass does stand up for herself, she does it clumsily and misses fairly

"It's not that the lass is unlikely. It's just that she seems to suffer from a split personality."

obvious clues to the mystery she's trying to solve. Her brother, Hans Peter, was a much more interesting character, even if most of his part in the book was being traumatized and needlessly secretive.

Sun and Moon, Ice and Snow isn't a bad book, really. It's just not as good as it could have been, and that was very disappointing. People with little spare time should save it for something better. I'm sure it's out there. ❖

Fresh Prince from 5 directing job. So that's when Schwarzenegger took over as director in March 2002.

The plot of this movie may be confusing to some. The virus doesn't kill the humans it just turns them into cannibals with their adrenal glands open all the time, which makes them seem hyper, and always on the move. The movie flashes back to 2009 when a doctor finds the cure to cancer. She tested it on

a b o u t
10,000
people, but
this virus
mutates
and in
2009 it
becomes
lethal. So
the army
begins
evacuating
the army
families
and those
who are
not mu-

tated already off the island. In another flashback they show Neville's wife and child getting in a helicopter, but another helicopter crashes into it so they die. U.S Army virologist Lieutenant Colonel Robert Neville is left as the last healthy human in NYC and possibly the whole world. The movie's official opening is in the year of 2012 and the news casts and flashbacks reveal that it was a measles virus that the doctor had mutated that they were using to try and cure cancer.

But over the years the mutated started feeding on the humans that weren't mutated. Then some of the humans would commit suicide from having to be isolated for so long. Neville begins doing his testing in his downstairs lab. He starts with rats. He then uses his blood to capture one of the mutated so he can do test on them also. He treats the woman without success of her changing in any way. The mutated use the same trap Neville used on the female to capture him and it works. Neville becomes unconscious and when he awakes it's dusk so the mutated come after him and Sam. There are also mutated dogs, the dogs are immune to the airborne strain but not the contact strain of the virus. One of

the mutated dogs bites Sam and Neville gets her home to try a cure on her. The cure fails and Neville is forced to kill Sam, his only companion at the time. Later that night Neville goes out and tries to kill the mutated by running them over, suicide!

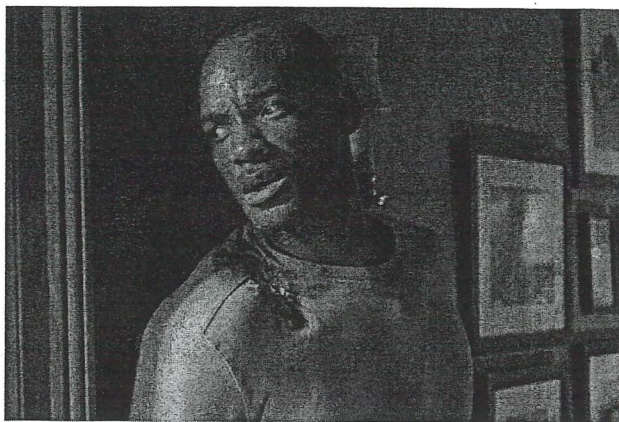
His car flips over and this is where Anna and Ethan come in, they save his life. They get back to Neville's home and that night a group of the infected invade the home, which causes

them to run to his lab. They run to the room where he has "stored" the woman he's been testing on, they realize that the 2nd serum he gave her took affect and it was curing her. The mutated ones that had invaded the home are try-

ing to break the glass door to get to Neville and his guest, now Neville has a big decision to make!

I would say the movie was great all together. The acting of all the actors and actresses was great. They played their parts to the "T". Will Smith (Neville) knew how to use just the right emotions in all his parts to make you feel like you were in the movie. Alice Braga (Anna) knew how to act fast without overdoing it and Charlie Tahan (Ethan) did great for a young actress. They all pulled it off together as a whole.

The suspense of the movie was phenomenal! The suspense you could say is what made the movie "scary". The movie wasn't scary like Freddy or Jason because there really wasn't any belief in it or bloody parts or anything like that. It was just like the things jumped out of no where when you weren't expecting them to or you would see something and wonder what it was. My reaction to this movie I would say was surprised. I was expecting it to be very scary, but it was more suspenseful, not all that scary. ❄



Will Smith keeping his cool during a tense situation.

Sequel from 5 friend, Chongkwai asks if they ever encountered any ghosts before. They tell him no. Chongkwai take out a book called the "The Ten Encounters" which tells how to see ghost in ten different ways. Some of them are: a corneal transplant from a donor that is a psychic (as seen in The Eye), attempting to commit suicide while pregnant (as seen in The Eye 2), playing the glass spirit game (similar to the Western Ouija board) and others.

Chongkwai tell them that once they start playing the game, they can't quit until the game is finished. They start the game by playing the Ouija board. The glass cup start moving and one of them see the ghost. They all start to get scared then suddenly Chongkwai's grandma come in and they got scared and start yelling.



The characters of Eye 10 reading about ghosts

The next thing that they play is the tapping chopsticks on an empty bowl at an intersection to attract hungry spirits. The five teenagers start tapping on the empty bowl and a minute later four of them saw the hungry spirits coming toward them. The four get scared and ran away. On the third game they played hide-and-seek while holding a black cat. The four run and hide then the lady that didn't see anything was the seeker. She finds three of her friends and didn't find the last one. He get block by one of the ghost and were trapped in the limbo world. They all go home and came back next morning with the police to help find their friend.

This movie was both scary and funny. The scary part to me was at the beginning when the Buddha's tries to take the ghost out of the girl. The funny part was when Ted gets possessed and starts to hip hop. I would give this movie a three star. This movie is good for people who like to watch horror and comedy movies. ❄

Legal from 1

As we civilized beings know, there are many ways to watch movies in this day and age. As a young girl with access to her parents' cash cards and no social life whatsoever, I have probably dabbled in every option. I fear for every adult, feeble and disoriented like Leo, so that's why I'm taking it upon myself to educate them on these advancing technologies-- the good, the bad, the illegal.

My favorite way to enjoy cinema is renting. Now, after my negligence caused around \$9,846 in late fees, my parents understandably cut me off. Until, that is, the invention of the online rental system. My personal choice is Blockbuster Online, because for only \$19.99 a month, I get to rent as many movies as I want, but every month you get a

free in-store rental coupon. Match that, Netflix! Renting is better than just downloading movies or watching them online because

you can see all the sweet special features. I'm a sucker for commentary.

Although behind-the-scenes-featurette free, online movie watching is next in line of preference. You all know me: I hate paying for things, I hate leaving the house, and I hate it



when unknown substances glue my shoes to the floor. My personal pirated movie site keeps up with all the new releases, and then I can sit pantsless, covered in macaroni and cheese, and bask in the comfort of knowing exactly what that sticky film is on the carpet.

The downside, however, is that the quality of the movies, as usual in pirated media, is kinda sketchy. Some of them are great, ripped right off of a DVD or uploaded onto some Japanese Youtube thingy, but sometimes, especially with new ones, the movie was recorded in the back row of the theater, half-covered by some thief's jacket. Usually there are different versions of the movie to watch, so one of them ends up working.

In the same vein as online viewing, downloading movies provides all of the entertainment of the theater, with none of the human contact. Based on the uTorrent popularity bar thing, you can download the version everyone else did and it turns out fine. It takes kind of a long time to download them though, so by the time they're finished I've really lost interest in seeing the movie (don't worry, the thrill of breaking the law keeps me coming back).

Now, I'm not sure if this one fits in exactly, but next in line is the in-class movie. There's either the there's-a-sub-

today-and-they-have-no-idea-what's-going-on, or the more educational viewing, also known as the I'm-behind-in-grading-and-I-have-no-idea-what's-going-on. Both are equally pleasurable. The sub day movies are usually heart-warming family tales from the 80's, 90's, and today, like Spy Kids or Osmosis Jones; while the teacher-chosen movies are somehow loosely related to the class, like that movie about all those

toad things in like Australia. Either way, scoping boys and drawing Transformers in your notebook is what ultimately gets your full attention.

Sure, some people think movie theaters are adequate. Maybe they don't know better. Maybe they're afraid of breaking the law, and henceforth only getting Jessica Alba \$9.7 million instead of a solid 10. Maybe they're old, and we all know how old people hate everything, especially new-fangled things. I encourage you all to explore these other options, because while movie theaters are always deafeningly loud, ice-cold, and providers of the best snacks, you also have to put up with paying, teenagers, and the occasional screaming baby. It's not worth it. ☼



A Picture Perfect Plonski comic

By Sarah Plonski

