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Immigration debate rages

Norma Romero, Sonia Romero, Khaliya Dorry
Staff Writers

Si Se Puede! This is the phrase millions of immigrants have been saying for the past weeks throughout the country. On Sunday April 9 big rallies were held in Dallas, TX, Salt Lake City, UT and even here in Saint Paul. Millions of people came to march for themselves, their family members, and their friends.

The reason why these marches have been brought up is in response to a new bill that will make every immigrant a criminal and everyone who helps them a criminal as well. James Sensenbrenner, the person who proposed the bill, is a republican from Wisconsin. He proposed the bill because he feels as if illegal

immigrants are breaking the law by coming to the United States illegally.

There has been at least 150 marches in the U.S so far. The first big march took place in Chicago, Illinois, where thousands gathered to march.



Thousands took to the streets to protest recent immigration reform

Approximately 30,000 people showed up in Saint Paul on March 9th. There were signs, t-shirts, and flags to inform the people that "undocumented" people are not criminals, just hard working people who are trying to make a living.

Out of the 30,000 immigrants who attended the march there were Hmong and
IMMIGRATION Continued on 7

Kill the kids

Christina McGee
Staff Writer

Here's a question for all parents with kids between the ages of 3 and 19. Do you want to kill your children? Well, apparently, all you have to do is feed them. As long as you feed them and let them live in your house, you've pretty much succeeded in their demise. And all before supper time. Dandy!

Or so that's what the creators and producers of TLC's new reality show, Honey, We're Killing the Kids, would want you to believe. This new show, inspired by America's childhood obesity problem, shines a light on the supposed cause. This show sends nutritionist Lisa Hark, Ph.D., to different families homes to change the direction of their children's lives, thereby changing the entire family's daily life for good. Or for the three to four weeks that they're being followed around by cameras.

In comes the nutritionist with healthy food and cameramen in tow, and out go the sugars, salts, and fried food that America, and Diabetes, is built on. Don't get me wrong.
KILLING THE KIDS Continued on 7

Kevin prepares to move on

Norah Harper-Godderz
Staff Writer

Have you ever seen Kevin walking in the hallways leading his class to the computer lab? Or seen his class running laps outside? Well you're not going to be seeing that next year, because Kevin Cooper, the sixth grade teacher, is leaving Open School. Why? You may ask, well I have a few answers you will want.

Kevin Cooper has been at Open School for seven years and has made quite a contribution to our school in that time. He cares so much about his students, but through the years it has been getting increasingly harder. They are not bad kids, it's just that there are so many it gets

overwhelming "I have never had a class smaller than 30 kids," he said "On the web site it says that I have only 24-25 kids. It's not fair."



Kevin hard at work in his final months

There are multiple reasons as to why this wonderful teacher of the west, well if you're looking at the world upside down, is leaving. For one he now has a son. His name is Elliot and he would like to spend more time with him. He currently gets to school around 6:30 am and leaves around 5 pm, and does on average two hours of work a night. "It's very time

consuming to be a teacher, if you put the
GOODBYE KEVIN Continued on 7

The Ear

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- Oscar winning Tsotsi: page 4
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The Purple Press Staff

The Man Upstairs

Cameron Beitler

Bullpen Coach

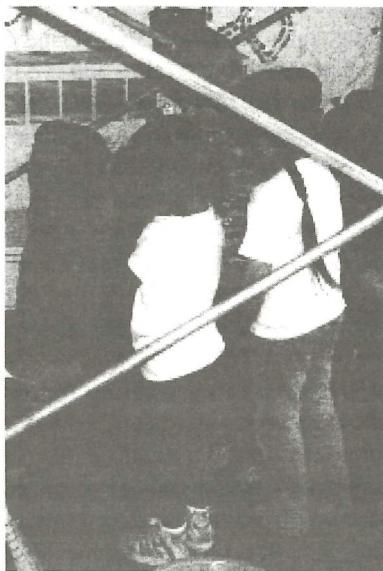
Nathan Jesson

Scoop Master

Liam Shramko

Salt of the Earth

Leo Bickelhaupt



ELC assist artist Angela Carlson with the entryway mosaic more in the next issue

Senior Corner

College applications have been received, and many Open School seniors are making big plans. Cameron Beitler plans to attend the University of North Dakota to study Commercial Aviation. Nathan Jesson plans to attend Hendricks College in Arkansas. Duane Buck plans to attend St. Paul College. Christina McGee, Devlin Byrne, and Doug Anderson are planning on enrolling at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. Emmanuel Mauleon has been accepted to New York University. Chelsea Jane will attend St. Kate's

Prom scandal... sort of

Jim Witt

Staff Writer

Are you a senior? Do you care about your school? How about the Prom? If you've answered yes to one or all of the above questions I have a shocking announcement that will blow your mind. Well, maybe not, but you might be kind of angry, as I was when I discovered this shocking secret, this... scandal. "I am both shocked and appalled," said senior, Doug Anderson, "or is it shock and awed? Either way, I'm very shocked and angry, this scandal has put me into a fit of rage!" Doug then proceeded to turn mustard yellow, and grow a couple inches.

Okay, that last part didn't happen, but I can guarantee the quotes are real. When asked about it, another senior had this to say, "Huh-wha?" Obviously this was such a shock to his system he could no longer comprehend what was going on around him.

What could cause such unrest? That's what I'd be asking myself if I was you, the patient reader. Well wait no more, the reason the entire senior class is in such an uproar is simply because of ballots, ballots that were never distributed. I first became aware of this when I read aloud the theme for prom

in Leo's room second hour one day. "The prom's theme is Stairway to Heaven?" "Really?" Replied senior Nathan Jesson. I came back with "Well as we all know **Led Zeppelin 4** side 2 is the best makeup album of all time."

Several minutes passed. The next statement to come from my mouth was, "Ah, and the prom colors are blue and white." Nathan's sarcastic reply was, "Oh, how creative!" At this point Jesse Biedler said, "Well you guys voted on it." This, my friends, is how it all got started. "I have no idea what you're talking about," Quoth the Nathan. Jesse was once again quick on the draw, "All seniors were given ballots to vote on the theme of prom and the colors."

I couldn't believe it. Did mine ears deceive me? Was this really happening? "I've never heard of any such ballots," I replied, a completely true statement. This is basically how the exchange ended. Several days later, I asked Jesse to please tell me what ballots exactly were put out, and why they never reached the seniors. "The ballots were on *SCANDALGATE Continued on 7*

The glory days of frisbee

John Knapp

Staff Writer

In the spring of 1998 Frisbee hit Open school with a smack. They had enough people for multiple games during lunch. According to the Monday extra Frisbee coordinator, Leo Bickelhaupt, they played two or three games simultaneously during Monday extras. At Lake Elmo the Frisbee was very competitive; almost every advisory entered a team into the tournament. The Open school team even traveled to play Roseville's team, a game Open school is rumored to have won handily, although score was not officially kept.

Fast forward to the fall of 2004. Frisbee seemed to have disappeared with the green of the leaves. A few people stood outside thinking that tomorrow it would start again. No, Frisbee was forgotten about. No one signed up for the Interim or even the Monday Extras. Frisbee was dead.

Why this downfall of Frisbee happened no one can say for sure. Some say it was Frisbee while others say it was the stu-

dent lounge. In my opinion it was four square. Four square took interest away from Frisbee. Some of the core Frisbee players wasted their lunch time waiting in line for a what frisbee advocates see as a simplistic activity for small children. Yet before Frisbee had its time in the eye of god, four square was the big thing at Open. So it would seem that when four square is at its best, Frisbee is reduced to near nothingness, but when Frisbee is at its best, four square seems to be the game that's eating the dirt.

While frisbee's hayday might have passed, the future of Frisbee is bright. There are emerging younger players that are now helping support the game. Many seventh and eighth graders play Frisbee at lunch, and there have even been some sixth graders also play during their lunch, "There are a lot more talented kids in the SLC than in the ELC," said sixth grader Isaac Ruff. It will be much more of a challenge (to play in the SLC), I look forward to it though."

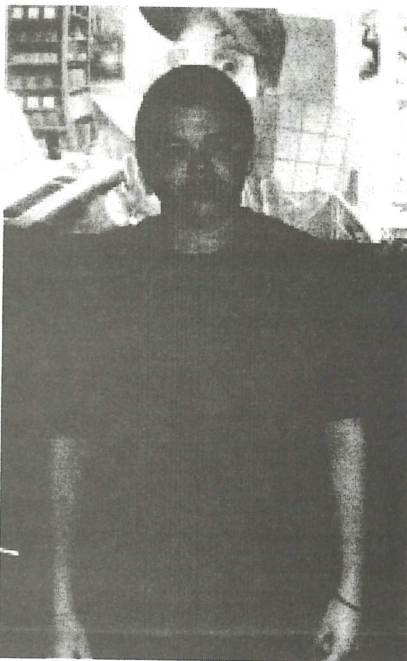


Tim Fiero

How long have you been at Open School? Two years.

Extra Curricular Activities: Newspaper, Fraquetball, German Club.

Senior Profile



What are your plans for next year?

I'm thinking about joining the Air Force.

What was your favorite class at Open?

Art (Drawing and Painting).

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

My favorite movie is *Diehard*.

What is one super power you wish you had?

Flight.

What is one job you would like to have as an adult?

A professional football player, a construction worker, or working on computers

What are you going to miss most about Open?

My friends and Fraquetball.

Who is one person you would like to meet?

Jackie Chan.

The Magic: will it ever be reborn?

Alex Plonski
Staff Writer

Well, Michael Griffin is gone, and so the task of discussing the virtues of this wonderful game (and bashing Yu-Gi-Mon) falls to me, one of the last surviving players. But, alas, I must also cover Magic's decline among the Open School population. The five games at a time during lunch and two at a time in any other period have fallen to a single game a day. Although there is much pain and loss, I write this not out of despair, but out of hope that someday, out of the ashes of a forgotten era, Magic will be reborn.

Yup, I also think I am more eloquent than Mike.

Magic the Gathering was the original trading card game. It came before Duel Masters. It came before Yu-Gi-Oh. It even came before Pokemon. But it greatly surpasses all of the others combined in quality and longevity.

In 1993, Peter Adkison, the CEO of the then almost unheard of Wizards of the Coast, met Richard Garfield, who was working on a Ph.D. in math. Richard was originally trying to sell the board game RoboRally, but Peter didn't want the hassle of marketing and producing a board game. However, Peter did want a portable game that could be played in the downtime of gaming conventions. So Richard returned with a game that met his specifications, and Magic the Gathering was born.

I arrived to SLC during the decline of Pokemon in 2002, and most of the many unathletic nerds played Magic in Julie's room during lunch, and while classes were going during the day. I watched for the first few months that year to pick up the rules, and then bought the red-green One Two Punch flashback deck for seven bucks from

the computer lab guy. I lost a few games, but then started winning.

Sam Lucas had a red-green deck that relied on the illegal use of Channel and Fireball to automatically win. Ian had a poor red-green deck and a good elf deck. Mike kept getting deck ideas off the internet, and he liked blue counter decks. David Stewart had a really good green-black zombie life-gain deck. Demetrius always had a new black creature deck. Duane had a sliver deck. And I had my trusty red-green creature-burn deck.

But all the following years there was less Magic. People kept graduating, and those remaining must have lost interest. And Tom recruited all eligible sebies to the dark side of Pokemon's successor Yu-Gi-Oh. "I just think Yu-Gi-Oh is a better game, and more

THE MAGIC Continued on 8

Reviews 'n' Stuff

Oprah's Book Club

Chloe Taipale
Staff Writer

Hey kids, you want to know the latest buzz on the streets? This time, the hottest new trend is a special little club. A club for those seeking knowledge, enlightenment, laughter... It's also brought to us by the catalyst for a stylish, caring, intelligent revolution.

If you've been living under a rock for 30 years, I must first congratulate you for picking up a copy of the Purple Press immediately, then let you know that I'm talking about Oprah Winfrey's Book Club. I know, I know, you're saying, "Chloe, you must be a fool or something! Reading is totally lame and Oprah is really smelly!" I say that you should totally give this book list a chance. Oprah's Book Club debuted in 1996, featuring a new book every month. Recently, Oprah announced that she's stopped just putting any book that comes along in the club; they now have to get her personal approval beforehand. A



book has to touch the innermost crevices of Oprah's soul and lead her on a path to inspiration and enlightenment to make it on this list. It's tough. I like to imagine Oprah sitting in the sunroom of her

house that cost 18 billion dollars, seven head of cattle, and 27 baby jaws, enjoying a good book with a cup of tea while Stedman mows the lawn or scours the tub or something. Heh.

I'll tell you, Oprah, your book club sure has my approval. I've read a few literary works on the list and have been extremely satisfied with the titles. Not just satisfied, extremely satisfied. I sat

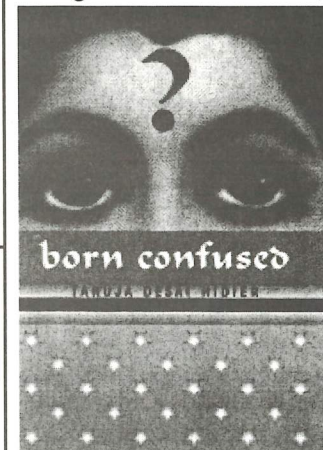
down with ninth grader Kamioka Livingston, the only other OBC fan I could find, to discuss our torrid desire for Oprah's literary selections. "When I read the titles Oprah suggests, I feel like she's giving ad-
OPRAH Continued on 8

Confused?

Molly Salzberger
Staff Writer

Born Confused, by Tanuja Desai Hidier, is a surprisingly engrossing book about a girl named Dimple Lala--and no, not because she actually has a dimple--whose parents decide one day to find her a 'suitable boy.' She rebels against the idea, naturally, and resolves to dislike the boy at once. However, she later has reason to reconsider... But though that's what it talks about on the back of the book, the suitable boy isn't really the point.

The book starts with Dimple's seventeenth birthday, at the beginning of summer break. She goes with her parents to the mall to pick out clothes, most of them her choice with one 'appropriate' outfit chosen by her parents. Her next birthday activity--a secret outing with her best friend, Gwyn--is not



nearly so tame. She arrives home from Gwyn's house on the morning of her birthday with her very first hang-over. Her parents are horrified. Her cousin from India, who is going to school in New York,

comes to visit and distracts them. Dimple is surprised by how different Kavita is than how she remembers.

Throughout the book, Dimple gets into trouble--and argues--with Gwyn, and is surprised by her Indian relations. She discovers many things about her culture and herself while deciding where she fits in between India and New Jersey, aided and abetted by her trusty camera, Chica Tikka. Her confusion about her cultural identity leads her all around New York with Gwyn and Kavita--and Karsh, the suitable boy--in search of answers and explanations.

Tanuja Desai Hidier's descriptions of her
BORN CONFUSED Continued on 10

Tsotsi deserves the awards

Emmett Ruff
Staff Writer

Tsotsi (Presley Chweneyagae) reaches under his bed frame and pulls out a large shopping bag. He opens the bag up and among its various items is a baby. He lies the baby on a solid surface. Crawling all over the baby's face is a colony of ants. The baby starts crying.

Tsotsi (pronounced sot-see) is directed by Gavin Hood and stars Chweneyagae as the protagonist. This movie also stars Zola who is apparently a South African musician and actor, as a gang leader. *Tsotsi* was released in theaters on February 24th 2006.

Tsotsi is the winner of numerous, and I mean numerous, awards. Including the 2005

Thessaloniki Film Festival's Greek Parliament's Human Values Award, the 2005 Los Angeles AFI Film Festival's Audience Award, the 2005 Toronto Film Festival's People's Choice Award, the 2005 Edinburgh Film Festival's Standard Life Audience Award, and the Michael Powell Award For Best British Feature Film Award. So why haven't we all heard of it? It's because it's a foreign film from South Africa. It also won an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film of the



Presley Chweneyagae stars in the Oscar winning *Tsotsi*

Year.

In South African slang, *Tsotsi* translates to thug or hoodlum. An orphaned 19 year-
TSOTSI Continued on 8

All Video Games all the Time

Oblivion: amazing graphics Whats Next?

Damien Bullis
Staff Writer

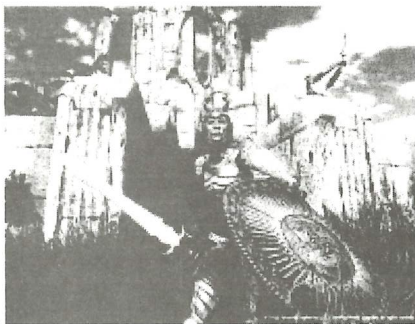
You walk into a cave just off the road. You encounter a wooden door, and just on the other side of that old wooden door is a group of money-hungry bandits, waiting for someone just like you to come in looking for their treasure. You can either take the stealthy approach, or the full on bearing arms, in-your-face "say hello to my little friend" approach.

Bethesda Softworks released their newest edition in the Elder's Scrolls series, Elder Scrolls IV: Oblivion, a game four years in the making. Oblivion runs on the Havok game engine that allows almost everything

in the game to be dynamic, be it from arrows to ragdoll physics. A program used in Oblivion, (it is also in a couple other games) is SpeedTree. What SpeedTree does is makes trees grow randomly, so the game developers don't have to create every single tree individually. The developer just types in how big they want the tree and SpeedTree cre-

ates it.

You start off in the Imperial City prison jail cell, and it just so happens to be the cell with the secret way out of the prison that the emperor Uriel Septem IV is using to make his way out of the Imperial City. You



Some of the gameplay from the new game Oblivion

can speak with him and learn that he has seen you in his dreams, so you are allowed to follow. This leads to the first level that is like the tutorial level, teaching you the basics like moving, using actions, jumping, casting spells, attacking. Once you get out the Imperial Prison tunnels, you can go wherever you want in

Tamriel. There are little villages all across Tamriel, not including the actual cities. You can get quests from different people and guilds, such as; The Dark Brotherhood, The Mages Guild, or The Fighters Guild, to name a few.

You advance in rank and gain more power
OBLIVION Continued on 9

Griffin Larson
Staff Writer

Fifty Four years ago a man named A.S. Douglas created a simple graphical tic-tac-toe game on the computer. It was the first computer game ever created. This was not only a game, this was a revolution. A revolution in science (or more specifically computers), a revolution in entertainment, and a revolution in the way computers would be thought of and used. This revolution ignited a change in trends, and entertainment. This revolution was...The Video Game...

Fifty Four years later the video game industry is bigger than ever. In fact the industry is said to make more than 7 billion dollars a year (and that doesn't include the people that buy computers for gaming!). Not only are there companies solely devoted to designing video games, there are also companies devoted to only rating the games, advertising the games, and selling the games.

Yes, the "virtual era" is definitely upon us and it seems that designers are turning almost everything into video games these days. Just how long will this last? Well the answer to that is probably forever. At the pace we are going in a few years we will be watching news cast by 3d models created in just a few clicks in Maya modeling software (movies are doing this, why not TV?), have DJ's DJ-ing from there laptops 1,000 miles away from their radio station headquarters (remote access software has already grown sophisticated enough to accomplish this task), and see software on the shelves designed to create scripts for you, just type in the plot and VOILA! There's your script.

So what do all these things have to do with video games, you ask? Well let's start from the top. Three dimensional models are the basis for all games these days, as almost all games are done in 3D. Mobile computers (i.e. laptops/notebooks) are becoming incredibly popular and are advancing in sophistication by the minute. Last but not least, the scripts. Many new games these days aren't known for having wonderful scripts. In fact most games these days are based on either events (Medal of Honor, based on WWII), movies (Enter the Matrix, based on The Matrix), or...
FUTURE Continued on 9

Metal Gear Solid 3

Tim Fiero
Staff Writer

For all of you Metal Gear Solid (MGS) players out there, Kojima Hideo has made MGS3: Subsistence a Remake of MGS 3. It's all the same, except for a few changes.

One of the Most Noticeable changes is the lower camera angle, which provides players with an even deeper stealth-action experience. Kojima has made a new camera content, he calls it the "third Person view Camera."

In addition to the new camera angle, there is also new snake eater content which will likely appeal to many who have already played Snake Eater. It will feature



Metal Gear Solid 3 is the third in a popular line

online multiplayer action, with Kojima saying his team was aiming for a maximum of eight players. The online portion will support two modes: Snake vs. Enemies, where

multiple players hunt down one opponents and try to eliminate him, and Team Battle, with multiple players "fighting Cooperatively."

Also included are several new levels for the Snake vs. Monkey mini-game. Subsistence will also feature a bonus content MSX Versions of Metal Gear and Metal Gear 2: Solid Snake.
MGS Continued on 9

Arby's offers a cornucopia of delights

Rhys Handing
Kamieka Livingston
 Staff Writer

You might have seen the recent Arby's commercials, I know I have. It is that lame guy trying out the combinations then that stupid lady talks, any ways we have all seen it. I remember the first time I did vividly. It was a fine Tuesday I believe, the first time I saw it. I thought what a great deal!

This was particularly exciting to me because I had been drawn in by their other fantastic deals, such as the five Arby's melts for five dollars. They are offering a selection of their classic favorites for you to choose from. Five delicacies for the low price of only \$5.95!

I was fascinated immediately after seeing this advertisement, so I made my way to my local Arby's, which is somewhere on Snelling. I walked in to be greeted with a gift basket of delicious smells, not to mention the array of neutral prison colors. The window looking in to the kitchen only in-

creased the anticipation. Apart from the stupid Cretin girls making dumb noises in the corner, it was a pretty enjoyable setting for a food purchase. I made my way up to the counter of this fine establishment and I was immediately overwhelmed with choices, in-



Arby's Market Fresh sandwiches. . . this story isn't about those

cluding Arby's melt, turnover, small shake, small soft drink, curly fries, regular fries or mozzarella sticks.

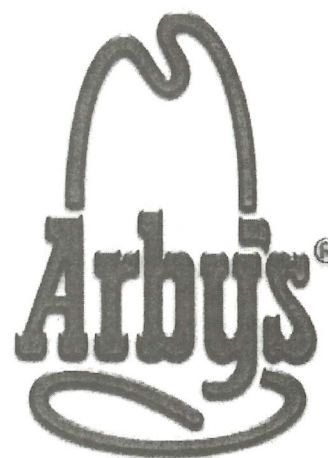
I went with two Arby's melts, mozzarella sticks, curly fries and a Jamocha shake personally. But there are a cornucopia of options for a savory feast to be had. Unfortunately the person

who served me was at least half retarded and took lots of minutes. Fortunately the food smelled so good it did not matter.

"My life was a black abyss before I was enlightened by the Arby's 5 for \$5.95 deal. The sights! The sounds! The aromas! This is amazing!" said 7th grader Emmett Ruff. I agree, Emmett! Think of all the combina-

tions! It is almost endless, but not quite. Most people enjoy it but there are exceptions, 9th grader Miles Alteri said concerning the issue: "It was pretty good, but eating it with Kieran made it hard to finish."

Sophomore Chloe Taipale also noted that the deal had a few shortcomings. "There are plenty of good options and all, but the deal doesn't include my favorite snack, the Chicken Cordon Bleu sandwich. It's a bit of an inconvenience."



The Arby's melts (which is a roast beef sandwich with melted cheese on top) were damn delicious one was not a melt, that was okay

with me because it is usually sick; this time
5 FOR 5.95 Continued on 10

Anti Flag: punkers who research

Katie Hurley
 Staff Writer

When I got the new Anti-Flag CD, **For Blood and Empire**, I was surprised by all the research the band did on all the subjects for the song. And although this band is considered "political punk," they talk about more than just how much they hate the government. They also touch on subjects such as, poor body image in females. "Seems every station on the TV is selling something no one can be." "This is the End(For You my Friend)" is clearly about how people on TV are airbrushed and fake. By the 5th song, I loved the CD.

The CD booklet has the lyrics and an essay about the subject of the song and web sites that you can go to for more information, such as site about the dangers of Depleted Uranium and how much money was spent on guns. It was clear that this band

did their research and wasn't making it all up. And while listening to this CD and reading the booklet I found that there was nothing I didn't agree with.



Going to the sites is also a good idea. The subjects are really interesting and kind of sad. Like, the last song, "Depleted Uranium is a War Crime", is about how depleted uranium causes deformities in babies. They tend to use Depleted Uranium on the ends of bullets and shells because it's so hard that almost any armor is vulnerable to it. But it's been known to infect people that have been shot with it and cause deformities if they decide to have children. It can also enter the body through inhalation or ingestion.

But the song that I really need to mention is "1 Trillion Dollars". It's the first song I

heard because it was on the Anti-Flag site. This is another song with research behind it. In 2004 the world spent over one-trillion US dollars on weapons. The world would be different if they spent more money on schools and less on death.

"For Blood and Empire" is also a pretty loud, and if people are really annoying you, all you have to do is put this CD in your stereo and turn it up as loud as you can. After a while they will quiet down. It really works. I tried it yesterday.

It's just a great CD. But it is a punk CD so think about it before you buy it. Over all it's worth about 13.56 dollars. And if you really like how the country is being run then you might want to avoid buying this. I don't want any hate mail because you were offended. It's not my problem.◊

IMMIGRATION From 1

African immigrants, but the majority were Latin American. There were buses transporting people from Rochester, Worthington and Minnetonka.

On Monday March 10 there was a national day of action, where millions of immigrants went to march throughout the streets of the country.

Twelve year old Star Rivera, who attended the Saint Paul march, said "We are not criminals. We don't come here to steal anything, we come here to work hard." On the other hand, there are people who agree with Sensenbrenner, such as Minnesotan Ruthie Hendrycks. Hendrycks said "We are just for legal process so we can stop the flooding of the borders."

On May 1st a boycott of schools and business is planned. Immigrant students and their parents are boycotting to show congress how much our country depends on immigrants.

Some Open School students will not attend school that day. Eighth grader Lilly Garcia, who participated in the march, plans to participate in the May first Boycott. She says "I think it is a perfect idea, because the Americans will see how much they need us." SLC social studies teacher Luke Leba says, "A lot of it's about respect," when it comes to the immigration issue.

The immigrant issue is a big issue that involves a lot of hard working people. In many people's opinion they didn't do anything wrong, unless making America better is wrong.◊

KEVIN LEAVING From 1

effort into it."

His decision was just made this year "If you would have asked me at the beginning of the year if I were leaving, I would have said no," said Kevin in a very sad tone, then he added, "but that was when Elliot wasn't born yet." Kevin still does not know what his next job will be, all he knows is that he won't be teaching.

Many of the former students of Kevin Cooper the super duper pooper scooper think he is one of the best ELC teachers this school will ever have, snuffle, and many of the parents of former students are sad, such as Samantha Ecker's mom. "It's not going to effect me as much as it will affect my mother, which is sad," says Samantha.

Kevin's former students have a lot of good memories of being in his classroom. They mentioned running laps in the morning, the daily cartoons, and, of course, the homework, among other things. Several of those students spoke about what they will remember most.

"He did weird voices when he was reading out loud," said seventh grader Sarah Plonski.

"He was tight," said eighth grader Diana Cherveney.

"You didn't want to disappoint him," said seventh grader Tanisha Parker.

"How he motivates his students and his kindness," said ninth grader Nou Thao.◊

KILLIN THE KIDS From 1

They don't just go into any average person's home and hijack all their baked goods. The families that are chosen for this show have a diet that consists of mainly sugar, snacks, and processed food, and "hearty" proportions of those foods. They also do little to no exercise and have no change in sight.

Hark, who is the director of the Nutrition Education and Prevention Program at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, starts off by getting the parents attention. To do this, she takes into factor what the children eat and how much exercise they get to determine what they will look like when they're 40. It's supposed to be shocking, and is to the parents, but I find that I see normal people that age who look somewhat similar to these computer predictions. It's more of a shock in the sense that the children won't look as best as they possibly can when they're that age. After this initial trial, Hark sets her plan into motion. Beginning with the biggest problem, the food.

Dur-
ing
week
one,
all the
junk
food
is put



The kids at age 40

in away and replaced with healthy food, like fruits and vegetables. The family then has to eat the recommended servings and amounts of fruits and vegetables to change their future. They also have to restructure their schedule and set regular mealtimes. Added to that is controlling and improving their children's behavior, which do to the current circumstances, seems to be in direct conflict with that task. Week two has to deal with the children's exercise. The kid's main source of exercise, the TV is taken out of their rooms, and they get set amounts of TV watching time. Limiting them to only two hours a day. The children also get set chores and their new methods of exercise and start their new lives.

During the first couple of episodes, we see why this show was approved for television. Everyone can usually handle the idea of a healthier life in theory, but in actual reality, its a different story. After the junk/good food goes, the kids generally kind of lose it a little bit. They lie, cheat, and steal. Like any red and blue-blooded American citizens. In one episode, one of the children actually

KILLIN THE KIDS Continued on 10

SCANDALGATE From 2

prom theme and colors, and individual pages. I was only in charge of making them. If you want to know what happened with distribution, ask Jeff." So your eye in the sky super sleuth (AKA me) was off to find and speak to Jeff on the controversy.

I burst into Jeff's room and demanded an answer, but he refused to comment saying, "I'm in the middle of a class right now." In the middle of a class Jeff, or a cover up that has the potential to blow this school apart? I thought about investigating further, I really did, but Jeff seemed pretty firm, so I decided to go home and take a nap instead.

Even though I can't give you kids the reason you never saw these ballots, I can give you reactions from around the school. "You know actually, it doesn't really matter to me," Said senior Chelsea Jane. How she could show such disregard for what's going on at her own prom is beyond me.

"Stuff happens when you party naked," said senior Doug Anderson, "I mean, I may be going to prom, but I can't say I really care about the theme. Besides, I'm never here anyhow." Well Doug, what if F.D.R. didn't care, or wasn't around when the attack on Pearl Harbor happened? You wouldn't have to worry about your silly prom then, you'd be too busy trying to learn the several hundred characters of the Japanese alphabet.

It seems through my several talks with seniors that prom theme doesn't really matter, as long as they have a good time. I guess I can agree, who really cares what the theme is? The colors, on the other hand, really do matter. I was hoping for fire truck red and chartreuse, as that's the color of my suit, but I guess I'll just have to wait for some other event to bust that baby out. My wedding maybe, or the next funeral I have to go to.◊

THE MAGIC From 3

fun," he said. But just when I thought Magic was dead, there was a revolution. Ben came to Open with his white deck, and suddenly everybody remembered how great Magic was. We reclaimed Tom's room from the Yu-Gi-Oh-ers. Darn nerd wannabes. Someone who Leo says must remain unnamed (*grumbles*) took advantage of its high popularity by stealing my burn deck, and then it's replacement goblin deck, but then I rose yet again with yet another replacement goblin deck that I just dissolved recently and added some of its cards to my current red/green deck.



One of the thousands of magic cards available

The next year Ben left, and more players graduated, and we had few new recruits. It has all been downhill from there. And this year Ruth decided to not let anybody stay in the rooms during lunch, which stuck yet another poisoned dagger into the torso of Open School Magic. But it still endures, staggering on despite it's many debilitating injuries. I have a game almost every day with Kevin during lunch, and sometimes Tommy plays during lunch and during Thursday nerd time with Tom. "I'm glad my friends don't know I did that," said Ian after defeating me soundly with an elf deck.

We are just a shadow of what we once were, and now we are depised by the semi-popular.

What allows Magic to continue, and hopefully flare up once more in popularity, is its flawless design. Since it is a card game, there is a lot of chance involved, but a good deck design can minimize the randomness. You need lands to play most things, but if you have too many lands then you won't have anything to play. A single color deck can perform at maximum efficiency more often, but it can't handle as many types of decks as a multicolor deck, so it is riskier to use. While sometimes the cards aren't, every element of the game itself is perfectly balanced to make the game great.

Magic is actually a game of strategy. Building a deck is a complicated balancing act that requires using probability to maximize the percentage of getting the cards you need to win. And playing the game is all about using the not-quite-optimal cards in your hand to defeat your opponent anyway. Whereas in Yu-Gi-Mon, building a deck is



Kids playing magic, a familiar sight, but for how long?

pensive cards, preferably that have combos with each other. And playing the game is just playing whatever card in you hand happens. **THE MAGIC Continued on 10**

OPRAH From 7

vice to me personally. She's sharing the tools that helped change the way she looks at life with each and every one of us. It's a phenomenal experience."

I just finished She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb, which could also be called A Series of Really Unfortunate Events and Eventual Inspiration Involving a Sad, Sad, Woman and Whales, a book with a serene cover and anything but serene plot. This book was bien excelente. Me gusta mucho. The book is written from the perspective of a chronically depressed woman as she travels down the dusty trails of life, and it's really difficult to believe it was written by a man. You go, Mr. Lamb, you go on with your bad self.

The featured book this time around is Night by Elie Wiesel. This Holocaust memoir is like The Diary of Anne Frank but shorter, not that it takes away from the striking content. It's a bit sad that Ms. Frank can use more big words than Mr. Wiesel. You know what's also a bit sad? The horrifying events he survived whilst in a concentration camp. I read it a few years ago, and now that it has the Oprah emblem on the cover, the book is bound (Heh... get it?) to achieve stardom beyond its wildest dreams. I can tell everyone that I knew it when.

On Oprah.com, there's a section devoted especially to Oprah's favorite books, some of which she lists: "The Grapes of Wrath, Steinbeck. Anything Steinbeck. Toni Morrison. The Bluest Eye and Sula are all-time favorites. The Power of Now. Of course, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya." That's Angelou, if you're dumb or something. That's another one I've read, and another that's fulfilling, riveting, funny; all that good stuff. In the first chapter she writes about peeing herself in church. How funny is that?

Another of Oprah's favorite reads is The Color Purple by Alice Walker. I'm in the process of reading this one, and it follows the grand tradition of books being better than movies. I'm totally surprised, because I didn't know that there was anything better than the movie out there. If you haven't seen the movie or read the book, I should smack you upside the head and then sit down to enjoy them with you. In the movie, Whoopi Goldberg is the star, but Oprah is a very honorable mention. It also features musical numbers, lemonade, and Danny Glover being scary. A true winner. If you're down for a story about strength in the face of adver-

OPRAH Continued on 10

TSOTSI From 4

old leader of a tiny street gang has been bestowed this nickname. This movie takes place in the township of Someto in Johannesburg, South Africa during modern time. After car-jacking a wealthy suburban woman, Tsotsi discovers a baby in the back seat of her car. He decides to take care of the baby and relies on the help of a mother in his township to feed and take care of it. Tsotsi eventually begins to let his guard down to the world around him.

The plot in this movie is relatively simple but still delivers a strong and thought provoking message. It also has terrific character development. In this movie we see a character at the edge of social and psychological deprivation change from a blunt, brutal

and impulsive human being into into someone with empathy and compassion.

So yeah, there are subtitles. But this isn't one of those lame Indian musicals or a weird French films. This is simply an enjoyable movie. In fact, it was one of the best movies I've seen in the past six months, and the best foreign film I've ever seen.

It has what makes a movie great; compelling plot, wonderful acting, terrific cinematography. What's not to like. It was definitely worth the trip out to Edina to see it. If you don't get a chance to watch it in theaters, then I strongly suggest you rent it when it comes out on video.◊

OBLIVION From 5

by completing quests for your superiors. Or you can follow the main quest, and go on to close an Oblivion gate at Kvatch (one of the cities), then go off and find the last heir to the throne.

What did they do well? First off the graphics. Oh my god, the graphics are great! The 360's draw distance is insane. You can literally see for miles. I love that everyone is voiced over so you don't have to read the subtitles if you don't want. I like the dynamic objects you can pick up and throw anything you find, even dead enemies. Patrick Stewart is the Emperor, how sweet is that. Open environment, lots of places to explore.

What could have been better? I think the

plot could have been a little more interesting. I found



The first person action that Oblivion has to offer

myself not wanting to complete the main quest. More quests would also be nice, I have already completed the Dark Brotherhood quests and almost the Thieves Guild quests in around 70. Lacking items, there are quite a few weapons and such in the game but I think that there should be a bigger array of weapon makes (iron, steel, mithral, ect.). I would also like improved interacting with NPCs.

Overall, I love this game, I would definitely recommend this game to anybody who isn't a hack-n-slash, button-mashing, impatient gamer. If you aren't any of those, or are and then some, this game is definitely worth buying. There are some things I didn't like and compared to Elder Scrolls III: Morrowind are significantly smaller, but still a hell of a lot of fun. In my book it was worth it and a well over 100 hours of gameplay.◇

MGS3 From 5

Neither of them has been available in the US before, and both of them will be fully playable. Think about it you can finally play the original Metal Gear, So go out there and pick up that games, it's only \$29.99.

There are two things about this game that I like and one is the new camera view, you can control it with the R3, when you click on it. The other is multiplayer online with up to eight players online and see if can sneak up on real opponents.◇

FUTURE From 5

Matrix), or books (The Godfather, based on, you guessed it, The Godfather). This does not, however, take away from the game play. Unlike in movies, because of restrictions in total time, games can contain absolutely EVERYTHING that happens in a book or event. Yes there are quite a few benefits to playing video games.

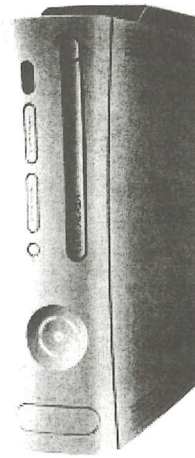
About five months ago Microsoft released the second of its highly successful Xbox line, the Xbox 360. Hundreds camped outside of stores to get a hold of the new system, featuring a new more sophisticated version of Xbox live (Xbox's popular online multiplayer service), and the most powerful hardware (by far) of any game console we have seen on the shelves so far.

The new Xbox has at least 4 times the power of the original Xbox. In less than Five years the Xbox made a mind-boggling transformation in aesthetics and power. Not only has this transformation affected the games released, it has affected the sales as well: xbox365.com says that the Xbox 360

is on track to be the fastest-selling game system ever.

What are they using all that power for? It starts with the new and improved Firmware/GUI (New menus, buttons, and other interactive graphics). The entire user interface is just so much more extensive than the previous Xbox's, and yet it is not over-complicated. It still has the user-friendly feel of the original Linux-based Xbox firmware. The next thing the power is nice for is all the new little add-ins Microsoft has put in. You can now listen to music while playing a game very easily (without screwing with all the "custom tracks" stuff like in the original Xbox). Also, the graphics in these games are simply mind blowing! Last but not least, Xbox live has gotten significantly more sophisticated. Users now not only have ranks for each game, but they also have an overall rank that can be changed by getting "achievements" in games (the games don't even have to be Live enabled).

This system does so much more than just play video games. It's a full entertainment center, equipped with a DVD player, and



The future of video games, the Xbox 360

connectivity enabled between Windows Media Center computers.

We use computers everyday, whether it's for work, for study, or just for fun. PCs are a big part of our world. A well built computer can do almost anything from simply surfing the net or typing up a paper to 3D rendering and playing advanced 3d games.

In fact the most hardcore gamers almost completely rely on their PC to keep them entertained. There are numerous reasons for this: 1.) Many gamers prefer the mouse and keyboard over the game console controllers, 2.) Computers are completely customizable, you can change everything from the case to

the CPU. Consoles, on the other hand, allow almost no room for hardware customization.

3.) Aside from being complete nerds that live in their mom's basement when they are 30, playing BF2 (Battlefront 2, a highly successful multiplayer war game), gamers might actually have a job (most likely part time, haha) that requires them to use their computer for something besides gaming. So there ya have it, that's why the "true" gamers out there use PCs. Now let's review the benefits of the console: 1.) Games don't outperform the console (no need to upgrade your system) 2.) Cheap! The best of gaming computers could cost you over \$3,000. The best console (the 360 at the moment) is only \$300 for the basic system 3.) Simple, more stable, no need to worry about viruses and such.

Before about a year ago I would have said that consoles blow PCs out of the water in many respects, but that was before I truly appreciated the greatness of the PC. I mean sometimes I will be surfing the web with Firefox, chattin' it up on AIM, have Atmosphere playing in iTunes, and modeling with Maya all at once. This may sound incredibly annoying or confusing, but with a quick move of the mouse and a click you can switch between the various applications with ease, and with sounds to notify you of changes in the applications (the beeps of sending of messages in AIM). Now try that

FUTURE Continued on 10

