

THE PURPLE PRESS

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Open to get a makeover

Norma and Sonia Romero
Staff Writer

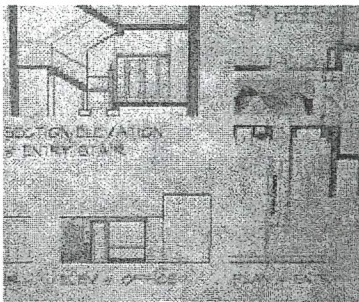
When you come back from summer vacation, would it be nice to see newly painted lockers, and a new media center where you can study in peace? How about a new cafeteria with bleachers around it? How about a mosaic on the wall when you enter the building? All these things could come true, because the school is due for some renovations.

About one million dollars in construction will begin at Open School in about six months. Afton Architects is in charge of the renovations.

The details are still being decided.

The main areas they are focusing on are a new media center, the cafeteria, the office, and the hallways. None of the money will go towards maintenance. Afton Archi-

itects is most interested in the media center. They want to make a celestial design, expand the media center, add new furniture, paint the walls, and they want to add a new reception desk. They also want to make a



door between the media center and the computer lab. They are deciding how much to spend in the new media center, because it will cost a lot and they might have to scale back on the other ideas, like the new lockers.

The cafeteria is another place that has been selected for improvement. They want to put a new floor in the cafeteria. They also want to build a storage room so the theater club can store their
RENOVATE Continued on 5

Neither rain nor snow...

Emmett Ruff
Staff Writer

In the early morning, cars inch down the streets of the Twin Cities. Out of this creeping, honking mess a new breed of commuter emerges. This breed is helmet clad and two-wheeled, it pedals toward victory. Two of these commuters teach at Open School. ELL teacher Tim Leone-Getten and English teacher Erik Peterson-Nafziger ride their bikes to work year round, rain, snow, or shine.

It sounds crazy, but there are many different reasons

bicycle is more environmentally friendly. Some also appreciate the joy of riding a bike.



A different way to get to work.

Of course bike commuting is not without its dangers. During dusk and night commuters are often times invisible to motorists. Some commuters share the road with MTC busses and are in danger of being accidentally run down by the drivers. Twin Cities bike commuters have to pedal through the

snow and ice of Minnesota winters. They ride through cars, trucks,

COMMUTE Continued on 6

Beauty and the Geek

Cristina McGee
Staff Critic

In this new season of *Beauty and the Geek*, we join again as new teams of socially-challenged geeks and academically-challenged beauties vie for the chance to win 250,000 dollars. The beauties and the geeks will partner up into teams of two. Then, they will compete in activities that challenge their weaker character points. First of all there are the beauties. Doesn't it always happen that way?

As you can guess, the beauties weren't picked to be on this show because of their profound knowledge. But, I discovered that many of them are in fact smarter than one may think, surprising as it may be. Take one of the younger beauties; Thais, 22. She is a student at Trevecca University majoring in Math Communications. There's also Cher, 23, who's a graduate of Southern Methodist University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in General Business. There's also Amanda, who's done everything from being a personal trainer to a dental assistant and everything else from hairstyling to bar
B&G Continued on 6

The Ear

The Questions that plague
Open School: page 2

Devlin's crazy about that
Munich movie: page 3

Sarah thinks we can learn
stuff from dogs: page 4

Open's Nagging Questions

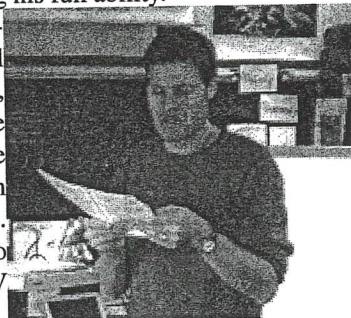
What's Erik teaching?

Jessie Biedler
Staff Writer

New English teacher Erik Peterson-Nafziger is currently teaching American Indian Literature, Holocaust Thematics and sixth-grade reading. These classes have been a great addition but given Erik's background, we are probably not tapping his full ability.

Erik has a lot of experience. He started with small production in high school, then some professional. He did television studies at the U of M, but majored in American Indian Studies. He previously taught video Production. He also did T.V. shows for Fox and NBC.

With a history like that, what kind of classes can we expect Erik to offer? Art teacher and Senior SP teacher Elizabeth Lehman would like to see Erik teach Career Investigation classes about film and television. She thinks that with his help we could have a school TV news or soap opera. ELL teacher Jeff Caulum would like to see media studies class. ELL teacher Tim Leone/Getten has other ideas, "Pokemon lit. Advanced of course, and gender and race issues in Fraquetball should be a must. I don't see how we went this long without it." His-



tory teacher Susanne Hollingsworth would like to see him teach a video class. She feels he will help her documentary making class and the students in History Day doing documentaries.

But most importantly: What does Erik want to teach? He would like to teach video as a narrative and a dramatic video production with Bridget. Since he is an English teacher he also would like to teach environmental literature.

With all that to offer and other job opportunities: Why Open? Well, English teacher Erik enjoys the flexible teaching plan, but said, "Maybe we should have some over view planning so we are more balanced." By balanced "is it enough to leave it up to the teachers, but I haven't been here long enough to know." He also likes Open because of the size. Erik said, "Kids don't slip through the cracks here." Erik has high expectations for Open School. But Open has high expectations for him as well. I don't think that either party will be let down. I can't wait to see what Erik has in store. ♦

Free college?

Jeffrey Bies
Staff Writer

Selected Minneapolis and St. Paul High School graduates will be able to go to Minneapolis Community and Technical College, St. Paul College, or Metropolitan State University for free, starting fall of 2006.

The "Power of You" is a new scholarship program allowing people at or below poverty level to go to college for two years. This will allow more high school graduates to go to college and get advanced education. The "Power of You" begins fall semester of 2006. Those who complete those two years of college will be able to take the "bridge" scholarship program to allow them to get a bachelor's degree at one of the three colleges.

This program is open to all Minneapolis and St. Paul High School graduates. They must apply for financial aid, attend the new Student Orientation, enroll in 12 college credits per term and try to get a degree, diploma, or a certificate. They also must meet Satisfactory Academic Progress requirements each term. This program is funded indefinitely.

This affects Open School because the "Power of You" scholarship program is in effect throughout the Minneapolis and St. Paul area starting this fall semester. This will allow all eligible seniors, who meet the-

COLLEGE Continued on 5

The Purple Press Staff

The Man Upstairs

Cameron Beitler

Bullpen Coach

Nathan Jesson

Scoop Master

Liam Shramko

Salt of the Earth

Leo Bickelhaupt

Bridget to retire?

Diana Cherveney
Staff Writer

As we all know Bridget is retiring. It came as a shock to some of her students, but after speaking with Bridget, it is clear that it is the right thing for her to do.

Bridget first stepped into a classroom 41 years ago, eight of those 41 have been spent here at Open School. A big reason Bridget is retiring is because she wants to spend more time with her husband who has been retired for two years. "My husband and I hope to travel and would like



to go back to some of the places that we have lived, and would like to see new places." She also said that she likes change. Perhaps if she likes change she should stay, considering all the changes her students go through every year.

Bridget said she will miss Open School. "As I recall, when I first came to this school the students were not so willing to warm up to me but after time they were happy that I was here." It is safe to say that Bridget will be missed and that whoever we get to replace her won't have as funny of an accent. ♦

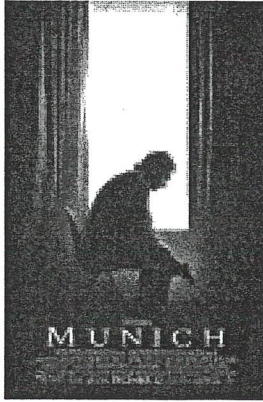
Reviews 'n' Stuff

Munich: gripping, tense

Devlin Byrne
Staff Writer

When I went to see *Munich* I knew it would be good. I was expecting that. I was ready for that. I was prepared for that. What I didn't know, what I wasn't expecting, what I wasn't ready for, what I wasn't prepared for, was that it would be... phantasmagoria. *Munich* is the best movie I've seen all year. If *Munich* isn't nominated for an Oscar, I'll eat my hat. Truly, this is Steven Spielberg's crowning achievement.

Whenever I describe the plot of *Munich*, it doesn't sound phantasmagoria. Because the plot isn't what makes this movie, it's everything else. Don't get me wrong, the plot is interesting. In the 1972 Olympic games at Munich, 11 Israeli athletes were taken hostage and then killed by a terrorist group called Black September. The movie is about Israel's response. The Israeli government finds 11 Palestinian names connected to Black September and makes plans for them to be assassinated.



Now this is an interesting plot, and you may be thinking, hey, you said the plot didn't make the movie sound great. Well what I said was that the plot didn't make the movie sound phantasmagoria. But let's not get into semantics. The plot is interesting, but it doesn't prepare you for how emotionally gripping and tense the movie is.

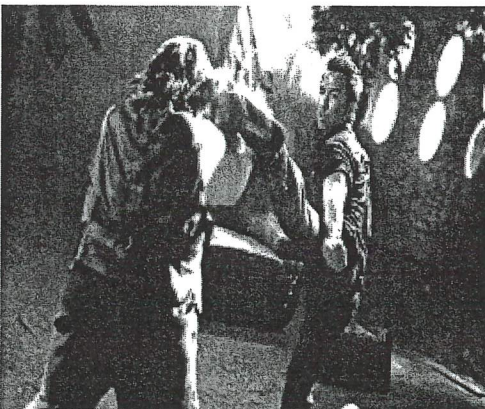
What *Munich* really deals with is the moral ramifications of revenge. With each successful assassination, the group becomes more and more bitter and callous. When they first start out, they take extreme measures to make sure that only their targets were killed, and no one else. After a while they rationalize that anyone connected to their mark must be evil in some way too, and the civilian casualties seem not to matter so much. Towards the end of the film, Avner (Eric Banna) becomes concerned that what they are doing is meaningless, because *MUNICH Continued on 5*

Another good smack down

Chang Vang and Tong Lor
Staff Critics

Ma (Donnie Yen) is fighting Po's assistant. Ma has a stick around a yard long, and Po's assistant has his dagger. Ma beats him with his his stick because it is longer than the dagger. Ma then steals the dagger and stabs him to death. While Po's assistant is falling, Ma cuts his head off before he reaches the ground.

The scene above is from *Sha Po Lang*, a really good fighting movie. The action is very violent, with people dying every second. It was directed by Wilson Yip, and it came out last year. The actors are Donnie Yen, Sammo Hung, Simon Yam, and Wu



Jing. This movie was cast and shot in Hong Kong.

It all starts when Po's (Sammo Hung) wife has a car crash with Chan (Simon Yam), the leader of the police squad (SPL). During their investigation, one the squad members finds a duffel bag full of Po's money in his wife's trunk. Po is a gang leader of the Dragon Squad. The Dragon Squad is the biggest gang in Hong Kong. They own one whole block, and have a secret lair hidden underground. Po wants the money back, but Chan *SHA Continued on 5*

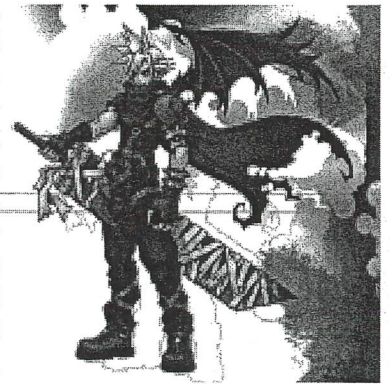
Kingdom Hearts

Keyera Ronning
Staff Writer

Anyone who has played the original Kingdom Hearts knows the basics of the game. The storyline includes the usual Disney feel. You know, girl gets lost or kidnapped or something, boy saves girl. It's classic.

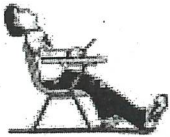
The hero and only playable character, Sora, grew up as a normal island boy, sharing his best friend's dream to get off of their island home. In fact, at the beginning, the only real action is the pretend swordfights between the island children. However, when the islands are destroyed and Sora arrives in Traverse Town, things start to get interesting. Donald, the royal magician from Disney Castle, and Goofy, the clumsy Captain of the Royal Knights, are also in Traverse Town. They are searching for a man named Leon, as instructed by their King.

Leon, by the way, happens to be Squall Leonhart from Final Fantasy 8. There are a lot of Final Fantasy characters in the game, from 7, 8, and 10. Any way, when Sora finally meets Donald and Goofy,



they all agree to help each other search for King Mickey and Sora's friends. They go through many Disney movie-based worlds, fighting Heartless and sealing Keyholes with Sora's Keyblade. If you are one of those people who have no clue what a Heartless is (meaning that you are probably only reading this because you are bored and have nothing better to do), they are creatures born of pure darkness that feed on the darkness in people's hearts.

At the very end of the game, after Sora saves Kairi and defeats Ansem, the big boss, you see him, Donald, Goofy, Riku, and King Mickey shutting the doors to Kingdom Hearts. The problem: King Mickey and Riku are inside. After promising to see each *KINGDOM Continued on 5*



A moment with Doug Anderson

How long have you been at Open School? 5 years

Extra Curricular Activities: DI, Theater, History Day, Dog Sledding Team (Captain)

Senior Profile



What are your plans for next year?

I would like to train a guerilla army in the jungles of Bolivia.

What are you going to miss most about Open?

The teachers, for lack of something better to say.

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

My favorite book is Slaughter House 5, by Kurt Vonnegut.

What was your favorite class at Open?

Probably, Creative Writing.

What is one super power you wish you had?

Irresistible sexual magnetism

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

Military strong man.

Who is one person you would like to meet?

Fidel Castro...

Things you can learn from your doggie

*Sarah Plonski
Staff Writer*

Lots of people have seen the poster that says "Everything I needed to know in life I've learned in kindergarten." Well, my kindergarten really sucked and we had to memorize dates and the state capitals in alphabetical order. Needless to say, the only thing I learned in kindergarten was that school was really bad, and that if you have to go to the bathroom more than twice you had to sit at your desk instead of going out for recess. It was a bad year. What I have learned through the course of my young life, I learned from my dog, Jimmy.

- 1.Be nice. When you pet my dog, he'll rub against you and purr like a cat.
2. Stay away from mean people. My dog stays away from Sally the three-legged boxer.
- 3.Greet people when they come home. Jimmy does that all too well.
- 4.Stick with your buddies. My dog follows me everywhere, even to Sally the Boxer's house.

5.Cats can chase back. My dog is very aware of Raymond, the cat.

6.Don't make a big deal about stuff. My dog really didn't care that his cousin Sammy stole his toy and ripped the squeaker out of it.

7.Be cautious about strangers. It was really funny when Leo came over to our house to get the Butler video, and Jimmy didn't let him get past the gate.

8.Keep your special stuff in a safe place. I'm not exactly sure where all the tennis balls have gone, but every once in a while I see Jimmy chewing on one.

9.Have a special place to go. Jimmy dug a hole in our old tree house, and that's where he goes all the time.

10.Don't demand attention. If you don't want to pet Jimmy, just ignore him and he'll fall asleep.

So, that's what I've learned from Jimmy. He's not a very smart dog. Maybe my kindergarten, plus the fact that I learned every-

thing I know from a dog, really screwed me up. Don't blame me.

I was in Maine when we got my dog. My mom called me and said that she just read about a dog in the newspaper. She said that his name was Josh, and that he had been found with no tags by the street and was in a foster home. He was a black lab, two years old. We had a dog at that time, Herbie. He was a fourteen-year-old Newfoundland Mix with a tumor on his right eye and heart problems. I told my mom to hurry up and get Josh before I got home. We renamed him Jimmy because my three-year-old sister Julia had a friend named Josh and didn't want to get them confused.

Herbie died a year afterward, it was late summer and he lived at my grandma's farm, or the "Dog Retirement Home," as we liked to call it. Herbie was standing in the middle of the road, and a tractor drove up. The driver didn't stop because he thought Herbie saw
WISDOM Continued on 6

SHA From 3

has an adopted daughter who needs the money for her health. So they hide the money in Chan's trunk, and only the squad knows where the money is hidden.

This is where Ma (Donnie Yen) comes in. Ma's father was a police officer and his father wanted him to follow in his footsteps. A member of the squad had been killed by one of Po's gang members. The killing was filmed on a video tape. The squad then knows who the killer is, so they go and kill the him. The rest of the squad then gets killed by Po's assistant. Po's assistant only comes when the squads are alone. He uses a dagger. The dagger is about three feet long. Ma then brings Po's money to Po and have a fight to the death.

The fighting in this movie is a really good. It is better than other movies, like Jackie Chan's. They don't have ropes helping them do flips or jump up or down. This movie is as better than Kung-Fu Hustle, because Kung-Fu Hustle uses computer and ropes to make matrix moves. All the characters are really good at fighting. Some movies have ropes to help them fight. This movie does not use ropes. This plot is very slow, this movie is about 2 hours long. There is two different movies of Sha Po Lang. One lasts 2 hours and the other is 1 hour and 50 minutes. The longer movie has lots of fighting scenes than the other one.

This movie was cool because the fighting was excellent. The best part of the movie was at the end, where they fight in Po's secret lair. While they are fighting, Po's wife calls and tells him she is outside. Po tells them to stay outside until he comes out, but he doesn't come out. Ma swings Po over his head to a glass wall. We rate this movie a 3 out of 4 stars.◊

COLLEGE From 2

quirements here at Open School, to go to either Minneapolis Community and Technical College, Saint Paul College, or Metropolitan State University. Julie Doble said, "It seems great. Is it too good to be true?"

James Illif agreed "I don't know for sure but we can, at least, say that it will assist the percent of students who graduate & attend community/technical colleges. Hopefully it will spur more students to attend college."◊

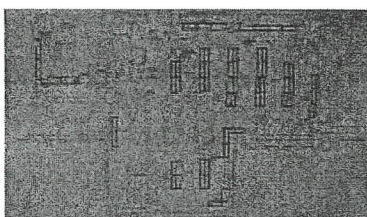
RENOVATIONS From 1

sets, and so the lunch tables can be stored. They are also thinking of putting in a stage curtain. They want to put a mural around the stage of a sun. They may put some bleachers up around the cafeteria also. They to want to have new equipment for the stage, too.

Afton Architects wants to make some big changes to the office, like maybe have some glass walls. They also want to make a 90 degree angle view from the office to the stairway, so the secretary can see who is coming in and out. There are also plans for a mosaic design in the entry to attract people to come in and discover Open School.

One of the other things being considered is new lockers. This would include lockers

f o r
teach-
ers .
T h e
d o o r
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Preliminary blueprints for the renovations are being reviewed. the media center and computer lab are also alternatives if there should be more available funding. The bleachers, all the furniture, and the new floors on the cafeteria are options too.

Tim Leone-Getten, one of Open school's ELL teacher, says he'd rather have a media center than some brand new lockers because



The entryway is one area being considered for a facelift. he is sure we will get new lockers over time. Tim says that what he does like about the school right now is the look that it looks like an old building and has features of the 1920s.

Bridget Martin, the drama teacher, wants the cafeteria and the theater to change. Tom Totushek, a math teacher at Open School, says he prefers a media center than some lockers because "Many kids already carry backpacks around." Jeff Caulum, one of Open Schools ELL teachers, thinks we already have a decent computer lab and library. Therefore it would be best to get the new lockers."◊

MUNICH from 3

with every terrorist leader they kill, a new and more ruthless terrorist takes over. He asks (Geoffrey Rush) why they should even bother, if new terrorists are going to take over any ways. He responds, "Why should I cut my fingernails? They will only grow back."

Munich changed what I expect from movies. I now demand quality, when before I only appreciated it.◊

KINGDOM From 3

other again, the doors are shut and all the worlds begin to reform. Kairi gets left on Destiny Islands and Sora promises to return home after finding Riku.

Now, I have had the good fortune to see the secret at the end, which many people (including myself), think is a hidden trailer. I suppose anyone who has played the game probably wants to find it themselves, so good luck. The best part of this game is the entire adventure itself. The first time you play it, it's hard to even guess what might happen next. You can find that this game costs from \$17.00 - \$21.00. Trust me, it's worth it. According to NexTag (www.nextag.com), this game has a five star user rating.

Now, for the preview of KH2! First of all, I have to point out that the game is supposed to be released in March. From my research, I have learned that there should be two playable characters, though Sora remains the hero and main character.

Transportation from KH1 was the gummi ship that Donald and Goofy brought from Disney Castle. In the sequel, however, the mode of transportation is a train. There will also be a new battle technique called Drive Mode, which will allow Sora to fuse with other members of his party. There will be a lot of new Heartless, and a few new worlds and characters. The worlds will include Port Royal, from "Pirates of the Caribbean". Yes, you read right, everyone who plays this game gets to see animated Jack Sparrow, Will Turner, and Elizabeth Swann.

To all the Riku fans (like me), David Gallagher (voice of Riku) has said he will be in this game.◊

B&G From 1

tending. Most of the beauties spend their free time doing nothing too suprising. They like to shop, hang out with their friends, nothing out of the ordinary.

Now for the Geeks. Their activities are a little less suprising. One of the youngest geeks, Tyson, 21, is graduating from the California Institute of Technology this May with a degree in Astrophysics. He is also internationally recognized as the Rubiks cube champion. He can solve it behind his back! Josh, the oldest geek at age 27, has a Fine Arts degree in screenwriting from the American Film Institute. He currently suffers from Generalized Anxiety Disorder and panic attacks, brought on by uncomfortable situations. That should make for an interesting season. Chris, 22, by far the most arrogant of the geeks, graduated as a Regents Scholar from the University of California, L.A. with a double major in psychology. The geeks have predictable pastimes. Wes, 23, for instance likes to track monkeys with lasers.

The season premiere of Beauty and the Geek 2 was filled with everything from "shoegasisms" to tweezing unibrows. It starting by the choosing of teams. Individually, each geek walked outside to the pool area and told eight bikini-clad beauties a few things about himself. Then, he went back inside and waited while the beauties chose amongst themselves who would become that geek's partner. After choosing partners, each team found a bedroom in the house. The night was theirs, and they decided to spend it in the hot tub. Although, there were some geeks that decided not to join in on the fun. The first challenge was a question and answer game, consisting of pop culture and academically geared questions. But, the teams were required to choose who would answer before they heard the question.

Who knows the presidential candidates for the 2000 and 2004 elections, and the name of Britney Spears' new baby? Nobody, that's who. Only if you put together two great minds could you find out this kind of information. What you need is a government and celebrity information guru. . . . or, Beauty



and the Geek 2.

This went fairly well for the first few minutes. The important part is that they agreed on who would answer the question without any conflict. That was until it came to Chris and Amanda's last turn. Every other geek was nice and went along with the beauties' decisions to answer the question herself when she choose to. Not Chris. As you can imagine, this caused some friction. But, they did win the challenge, thanks to Chris' correct answer. Hmmm. There was also another twist to the game. The team that won had the choice of breaking up the team they thought was the biggest competition. But the question was, would they? They did. But in another twist just as the show was ending, they decided they were definitely going to break up one of the teams. Their own. It wasn't very hard to see that one coming.

In the end, I wouldn't say this is a bad show. I'm not sure it's good either. But it's definitely above Britney Spears' foray into reality TV with her show; Britney and Kevin: Chaotic. The idea for this show works well. Pairing beauties with geeks and seeing what happens will make for plenty of interesting moments. One of the funniest examples of the first episode is when two of the girls are chasing one of the geeks, Ankur, trying to tweeze his unibrow. The casting isn't too bad either. They seemed to pick people who were fairly normal, with interesting little quirks, but who were also open minded to this kind of situation.

It should be fresh every week with new challenges. It also might be interesting to see



how the beauties and geeks change their lives while in cohabitation with each other. The only issue that this show might have is that after a while, this concept might get a little stale. At least it has some ounce of hope, however small. To find out whether this show is watching, I think someone would have to watch a little further into the season. It's a little hard to tell at this point. I'd probably give it something like a 2 1/2 or 3 out of 5.◇

COMMUTE From 1

and sport utility vehicles with beeping horns and reckless drivers. Despite these hazards, two percent of St. Paul residents commute by bicycle and Minnesotans own more bikes per capita than any other state in the U.S.

"I think some people need a little more down time," Erik said about the trucks and SUV's that blare past him on a regular basis. Erik started bike commuting in 1982, while in the fourth grade. He started with a "Breaker One Nine," a cruiser with a banana seat and curved handle bars. Erik now rides a mountain bike. Erik pedals two and a half miles each way from his home to school and back. It takes him about 15 minutes to reach the school.

ELL teacher, Tim Leone-Getten started bike commuting in 1988. He started commuting with an old mountain bike, but now uses a Bianchi Milano commuter bike. The Bianchi has an 8-speed maintenance-free sealed hub, fenders, and a steel chain guard. Tim bikes three miles each way from his home to school and back. It takes him ten to fifteen minutes to reach Open School. "It's faster than walking - and more fun," commented Tim.◇

WISDOM From 4

him and would move out of the way. Besides the tumor on his eye, Herbie also was deaf and had hardly any sense of smell. He went down as soon as the tractor hit him.

So there's my brief dog story. Lots of people probably don't think it's sad because it's dogs and not people. Even I don't think it's very sad. Sure, I am a little sad that Herbie is dead, but the last few years of his life were probably painful for him, and we were going to put him to sleep before winter anyway. But I believe that dogs are a lot more trustworthy than people. Plus, you can learn more from a dog than you can from people.◇