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District makes school colder Iraq Votes!

Owen Platt
Staff Writer

Inside or outside its cold this winter in St. Paul public schools. This winter students can expect to be a bit chillier when in school. And if you want to complain you better be prepared to take it to the district.

The St. Paul School District has instated a program called Schools for Energy Efficiency (SEE). SEE aims to cut energy costs in schools and other district buildings. The district is trying to save ten percent on their utilities bill, which includes gas, electricity, and fuel oil.

heat by one or two degrees, so not much of a difference will be felt. BUT, they are going to turning the heat down even lower after school, so in the morning it's going to be mucho frio mis amigos! Staff

and students are also encouraged to turn of lights in rooms when they aren't being used, so don't forget (that means you!).

The district chose this plan in an attempt to alleviate the burden of a 24 million dol-

lar deficit for next school year. They hope to save between 800 thousand and 1.5 million dollars through SEE. The custodians and each school's site leader are very important to the success of SEE, because the custodians deal with the heating and all that mumbo jumbo that keeps the school running.

Our site leader, Linda Bishop, the elementary science teacher, had to get trained for SEE by the district to help our school know

HEATING CUTS Continued on 7



Boys in jackets trying to stay warm

Thieves among us

Jon Sherman
Staff Writer

Junior Nathan Jesson recently left his CD player unsupervised for less than ten minutes when it was stolen along with 12 CD's including Jimi Hendrix: **Right Aisle, Best of David Bowie**, and The Beate's **Abbey Road**. This wasn't the first time. Nathan was also the victim of CD player theft in early 2003.

An ever-present plague of theft affects many of the students and staff at Open School. Stolen items range from money to VCR's to what is considered by far the hottest commodity of all, CD Players. Although the values and amounts may seem miniscule, some are just shocked at the fact; like 11th grader Ana Blyly-Strauss, whose six dollars turned up missing during the last night of a recent play performance. She left the money

in her wallet in the upstairs girls' bathroom while changing costumes for the production. She was surprised, "I didn't know that anyone at Open School would go around doing that."

Most of the thefts can be attributed to carelessness. Take it from 8th grader Trae Anderson; his 35mm camera sat vulnerable in his unlocked locker. The next time he checked, it was gone. Junior Chelsea Jane said her CD player disappeared in December leaving it in the computer lab. She admits forgetting it, but thought she left it during an hour when no one was there.

Money has been stolen from 11th grader Delia Horrgan on at least five different occasions. Two years ago, between twenty

THEFT Continued on 6



Paul Wilkening
Staff Columnist

Cheers and celebration greeted the end of a long expected election in Iraq last Sunday. Fifty-seven percent of the population attended, an amount comparable to your average US election turnout. Anxiety had

run high in the month prior, politicians and activists wondering if the upswing in violence leading up to the election, and constant threats by the insurgency would derail the whole process. In the end, the election went through, with forty-five people dead, but far less destruction than might've been expected.

As the elections drew closer, through December and January, attacks were stepped up. There was a seemingly new focus on high end officials in these attacks, perhaps aimed to deliver a critical blow to the government infrastructure. Iraq's police chief, a top judge and his son, and a number of other city officials were amongst the victims gunned down by terrorists intent on disrupting the continual

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The Entrails

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DADDY From 6

questions to ask. Like why. Seems like a good idea, right? WRONG. More flippin' tears!!! Woman stop crying you're, about to win 100 grand. To nobody's surprise the next 12 minutes went slowly. Final step, choose daddy. Who will she pick? Scott or Richard. Wait till the next paragraph.

We are standing on a proverbial cliff. Scott or Richard, Scott or, Richard. It's.....Richard. Yeah, she picked the least emotional one. But is he her daddy? the nation was on the edge of its seat. Yes!!! He was her dad. Oh beloved joy, the world is good again. I don't know how I could've gone on living.

Despite my better judgment, I was captivated and horrified by this show at the same time. The fact that the producers claim they were doing it for her, and were trying to do the right thing is crap. Sure, she walked away 100,000 grand happier, but what really burns my bakery fresh buns is the fact that I was left there confused and tired. Tired because I had just spent 90 minutes watching this show and it was now 10:30, which is way past my bed time. But I guess it's my own fault; I should've known better with a title like Who's Your Daddy. There were many questions left unanswered, like: is blood thicker than water? Can a woman who didn't know her father still love him? Who let the dogs out? AAAHHHHH!

Not many people know this but my mother is adopted. She called me a traitor for watching the show. Congrats guys, congrats. You have managed to put together one family and ruin mine. I recommend this show for nobody.

Controversy lurks in the A.F.A

Commissioner Jesson and Committee ban student from the AFA

John Knapp
Staff Writer

It has been a good year for Fraquetball. The sport is growing and becoming more and more professional, but behind this great sport a controversy is lurking.

Ninth grade Fraquetball player Jesse Vallenzuela was banned from the sport. Jesse was accused of tampering with the Fraquetball forum (which is a web site for comments and criticism about Fraquetball and other miscellaneous things), changing peoples' passwords on the forum, and making inappropriate remarks on the chatterbox. Whoever tampered with the passwords did so after committee member Andrew Hoaglund left his password on the computer. Committee member Andrew Hoaglund said that what happened is not likely to repeat itself. "I don't think so, this just goes back to being careful. Nathan and I don't leave our passwords on at school where our passwords are readily accessible so it has not occurred again"

Jesse was told that he had been banned by his teammate, ninth grader Norman

Beaudry. Jesse seemed very surprised. When he was told what he was banned for, he seemed even more surprised. According to Jesse he did not tamper with the forum until after he was banned. He has not confessed to the other inappropriate behavior. Jesse also said, "I was there when someone did the inappropriate behavior." According to Jesse, the incident took place in the school computer lab some time in the morning.

Evidently Jesse proposed a new Fraquetball web site to Andrew early in the season. Andrew notified Nathan about the new web site. Nathan said he preferred the original Fraquetball web site. Later that day Nathan said Jesse instant messaged him saying horrible things about the Fraquetball web site. Then a short time after the Chatterbox was full of inappropriate messages put under Jesse's name.

Only one other person has ever been banned. It takes 80% of the committee to ban a player. That person being Aaron Izaksones-Smith, **FRAQUETBALL** Continued on 6

History Day cometh

Open Students prepare for the upcoming competition

Nicole Downey
Staff Writer

This year History Day students are working hard on getting their projects done for the regional competition in March. The theme for History Day this year is "Communication in History: The Key to Understanding." Many of us should expect a good outcome for history day students this year. Last year, History Day students did very well. "It went great. Lots made it to state and some students were finalists," said Susanne Hollingsworth, social studies teacher and History Day.

Christina McGee is a junior at Open School and will be presenting a project about how women were made to look by women's magazines throughout history and how it has changed. Christina has been working on writing a paper for her project for trimesters one and two. "The theme is communications, and the aspect of it (how women are communicated through magazines) interested me a lot," said Christina.

This year, Open School students in grades

6 through 10 will be working with the History Day theme and topics such as: Che Guavara, Ida B. Wells, The Presidential Campaign, UFO's, Louisa Alcott, and many others. Susanne's History Day class will be working on creative and original project ideas that include exhibits, performances, media presentations and papers. "The best thing about History Day is getting to choose your own project ideas and creating it to make it something that's you," said senior Angie Hausladen.

There are about 35 or so students participating in History Day this year. Last year went well for students, and many made it to state. Open School students worked on topics such as, The History of the Electric Guitar, The Conflicts between the Dakota and Chippewa before the Civil War, and the History of Hip Hop.

However, the key to a good history day project isn't always the easiest answer to **HISTORY DAY** Continued on 6

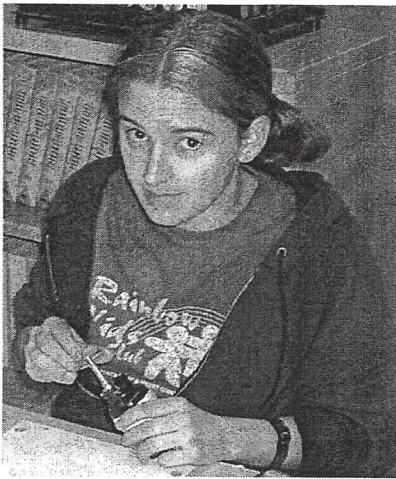


Mary Henke-Haney

How long have you been at Open School? 13 years

Extra Curricular Activities: Yearbook Editor, Site Council, Destination Imagination, Student Government, Danceline

Senior Profile



What are your plans for next year?

I'm going to Carleton College.

What will you miss most about Open?

I want to say the people, but everybody says the people.

What is your favorite book, movie, or T.V. show?

Our Band Could Be Your Life: Scenes from the American Indie Underground 1981-1991. (It's a book)

What was your favorite class at Open?

Mad Men in Literature

What is one superpower you wish you had?

I wish I could start fires using my eyes.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

A DJ at 89.3 The Current.

Who is one person you would like to meet?

Gonzo.

NODD causes barely an economic ripple

Anna Blyly-Strauss
Staff Writer

Left wingers around the US joined metaphorical wallets on January 20th. That was the fateful day when George Bush officially reclaimed office in the White House. In the past, inauguration day has been a happy occasion, when we receive a delicious new president to lead us to greatness. This year however, many folk saw things in a new light.

The left part of the political world has been delightfully unimpressed with Bush's way of doing things. The growing difficulties in the US, that are supposedly due to Bush being a not too great president, are depressing many citizens who think our country can do better. Because of both the supposed current economic troubles here, and the "un-just" war in Iraq, it was decided that something had to be done. And that's when "Not One Damn Dime Day," or NODD day, as the hippies say, came to being.

Laura Carmen and Jesse Gordon, democratic activists in Cambridge, Massachusetts, started the web site notonedamndime.com to let the word out. Their site has a forum, background information, and even printable boycott flyers. "During 'Not One Damn

Dime Day' please don't spend any money, and don't use your credit card," they plead. "Not one damn dime for gasoline. Not one damn dime for necessities or impulse purchases. Nor toll/cab/bus or train ride money exchanges. Not one damn dime for anything for 24 hours."

Turns out, Pete Smith, a communications professional from our very own Minnesota started the whole NODD day thing. He claims not to be affiliated with anyone, he says that there were no organizations backing him at all. It all started out with him giving a couple flyers to friends, and sending out a couple e-mails.

Why did Smith do it? Is he just a madman off to ruin our beloved US? "I resent the way the electorate, the politicians, and the press were manipulated in the run up to the war in Iraq. I especially resent the Democrat's acquiescence and the media's failures. More than 1300 Americans and tens of thousands of Iraqis are dead because the Democrats and the media would not stand up and say 'bullshit.'" Woah, getting a little serious there Pete. I mean really, using big words! What the shizzle is that?

The results of the day aren't as easy to calculate. "If you just buy from a co-op, then not buying from your co-op for one day isn't going to affect anything. They need to involve people who aren't hippies," political mastermind Veronica Beatty says about the whole situation. On the other hand, all these freaks online claim that just getting anyone involved was a massive victory.

The jury is definitely out as to whether NODD day affected the economy in any way. There must have been thousands who participated, but it isn't known exactly how many because of how unofficial the planning was. That'll teach people to not be backed by official organizations. Way to go Pete, way to go.

Well, maybe no one knows whether NODD day did one damn thing. What is known is that with the help of the internet, and a few handy dandy friends (you know, those things Leo doesn't have) it's easy to get word out. Masses of people were willing to leave their money alone for a full 24 hours to join the president disliking fun. That's what this country is all about. ♦

Opinions 'n' Stuff

Iraqi election shuffle

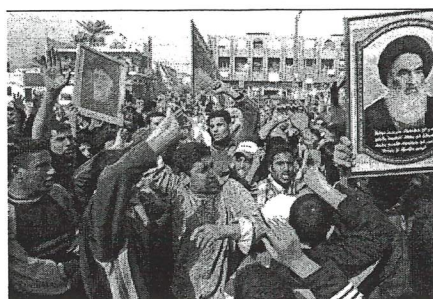
Doug Anderson
Staff Writer

"According to Saigon, 83 percent of 5.85 million registered voters cast their ballots yesterday. Many of them risked reprisals threatened by the Vietcong. The size of the popular vote and the inability of the to destroy the election machinery were the two salient facts in a preliminary assessment of

the national election based on the incomplete returns reaching here... A successful election has long been seen as the keystone in {resident Johnson's policy of encouraging the growth of constitutional processes in South Vietnam." This is an excerpt from a New York Times special report written by Peter Grose and run in the New York Times on September 4th, 1967. By 1974, seven years later, all military personnel (except the POWs) had withdrawn from Vietnam, and it had fallen under the evil voodoo spell of Communist gov-

ernment. But I don't mean to make any comparison between Vietnam and Iraq. None at all.

Because on January 30th, Iraq staged elections for a 275-seat assembly that will be responsible for both framing the constitution and finding a good place to hang it up.



Mobs of Iraqs crowd the streets of Baghdad during Election Day

Just kidding. They will frame the constitution, and then they will vote to elect a president at the end of fiscal year 2005. The Kurdish region of Iraq has been protected by the U.S. military for years, and also voted to elect a 105-seat parliament. In addition, the 18 prov-

inces of Iraq voted for a local council.

The election is being touted as a huge step toward democracy by everyone involved. I won't deny that it was headed in the direction of democracy, but it was more like a *IRAQ Continued on 7*

Speaker for the Dead

Ender Wiggin's quest continues

Natalie Iwaszek
Staff Critic

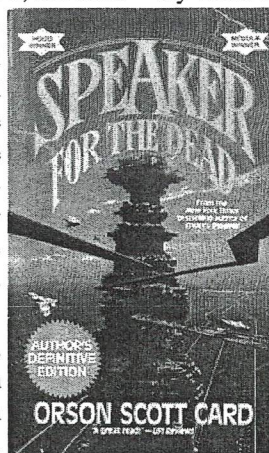
Nobody had ever won the Hugo and Nebula awards two years in a row, not until Orson Scott Card wrote his novels *Ender's Game* and its sequel *Speaker for the Dead*. *Xenocied* (1991) and *Children of the Mind*, are third and fourth in the series. Card also wrote a parallel series with *Ender's Shadow* (1999), *Shadow of the Hegemon* (2001) and *Shadow Puppets* (2002).

Card has written many a book, play and essay. He owns his own theater company that has been successful for a number of years. That might be because he went to Brigham Young University, where he studied drama.

He speaks Portuguese because of missionary work that he did for years in Brazil. At this moment in his life lives with his children and wife, Kristine, in Greensboro, North Carolina.

The book I would like to tell you about is *Speaker for the Dead*, the sequel that did not start out as one. Card originally wanted to write *Speaker for the Dead* as a solo book, but he did not have a good character to bring it to life. So he came up with *Ender's Game*, and realized the main character, Ender, could be the person he needed

for *Speaker*. He was right. The whole idea for *Speaker* came from Card's experiences *SPEAKER Continued on 7*



Distraction

Danny Mauleon
Staff Critic

On *American Idol*, contestants scream at the top of their lungs to impress the judges. On Comedy Central's new show, *Distraction*, contestants scream at the top of their lungs while being chased by naked people. That's right, game shows have taken it up a notch and Americans are just getting stupider.

Distraction is about distracting players (who would've guessed?) while they try to answer extremely easy questions, such as what letter comes after O. The questions are easy to answer, but not when you have thirty clothing pins on your face or a person shooting paintballs at your groin. As the game goes on, the player with the least points gets eliminated and the distractions get crazier. The last person standing wins something, or so they believe.

Hosted by stand-up comedian, Jimmy Carr, *Distraction* is possibly the craziest thing to come out of England since the Spice Girls (shudder). Jimmy started his career in England working for well-known shows such as *Your Face or Mine* (a game show where friends make digital pictures of each other and then see how other people see themselves) which was just bought by MTV, or the first season of *Distraction* (which only aired in England). So now this hit show *Distraction* is here in the U.S. YAY. More pain and suffering on T.V.

So I sat down and decided to watch an episode. After slapping his teammate on the butt and having wine bottles broken over his head, a player called Matt finally won a brand new car. Being the cruel English, however, they didn't just hand it over. To make his car survive, he had to answer four questions about his choice of science or lunch meat (he chose science). Too bad he missed two questions, allowing his teammates to break his windshield and pour paint over the roof, while Carr laughed the whole time (that cruel, cruel man).

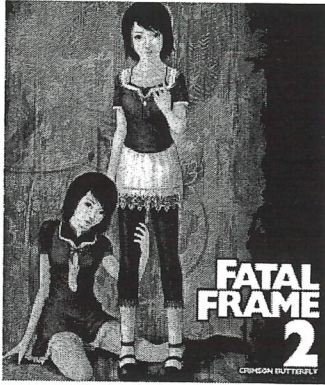
I give *Distraction* a four out of five stars for its jokes and its "haha you just got a chair broken over your back" moments. It's a thinking man's Fear Factor. So if you like watching English people making crude, hilarious sex jokes about others, or guard dogs biting peoples' legs, go to England or watch this show. ♦

The Nerd Page

Japanese murder Mystery

Meng Yang
Staff Critic

Imagine yourself walking up an old set of stairs in the dark. Your flashlight just has to die on you and at the same time, out of the dark, you hear and see a woman dressed in a red kimono screaming and falling from the top of the stairs. Once she hits the floor, she starts coming your way on her back and the only thing you have is a camera and your dead flashlight. What do you do?



Be Sure to check out *Fatal Frame 2*.

Fatal Frame 2 is a game about two young girls who have entered All God's Village. In this village people believed that in order to keep evil spirits away they must perform a ritual. A sacrifice to the gods, Twin sisters were

sacrificed. On the night of the ceremony something went terribly wrong. All God's Village, a village deep in the forest covered in a thick fog. The team that created the game "Fatal Frame 2" are: Kanematsu, Keisuke Kikuchi, and Makoto Shibata. According to Kanematsu, this game is based on a true story about a haunted mansion and the killing that took place in All God's Village. *Fatal Frame 2* was made for Xbox and the Playstation 2, and costs about \$49.99. It's been out since 2003.

The object of the game is to find a way out of the lost village alive. Mio Amakura, the main character, and her sister, Mayu Amakura, have somehow walked into the village. After walking past a stone engraved with a picture of twins at the entrance of the village, it is said that you can never leave.

Playing *Fatal Frame 2* is like watching a horror movie. When the scary parts come up people want to get scared and cover their faces but in the game you can't cover your face, because if you do you'll end up dead. *FF 2 Continued on 7*

Need For speed

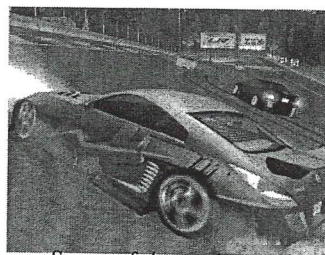
Beau Fritz
Staff Critic

Reviewers on the Internet have made the impression that 2004 was a big year for the sequels to popular video games. They mention such games as Halo 2 and Half Life 2. Even though these games are pretty well known, nothing had as many good reviews as *Need For Speed Underground 2*. In fact it had so many, I was quick to buy it.

This game is probably the best street racing game I have played in a while. Produced by Electronic Arts(EA), it hit the streets with some decent impact. In my opinion, it is definitely worth the \$50.00 you pay to get your hands on the game.

The object is obvious: to be the fastest racer on the streets. It will not be easy but, it is doable. One of the cool things about this game is that it simulates real-life. For example, if it is raining in the game, its harder to control your car. The graphics of

the game are good. WHY? What might be even better is if, when you get into accidents, there was visible damage to your car. It has a pretty good selection of music as well.



Some of the action from *need for speed*

drawback is that it gets hard to see the road at times do to all the lights. My suggestion is to stay focused as much as you can. After playing the game, I would give it 5 of 5 stars because I really like street racing and I plan to do it as a hobby some day.◊

Metal Gear Solid 3

Jesse Valenzuela
Staff Critic

Don't let a silly name like Metal Gear Solid 3 Snake Eater fool you, this new Konami product could be one of the best games available on the Playstation 2 console. This game is not like any of the Grand Theft Auto's its completely opposite you cannot run around killing random people so if you have no patience just put this article down. This game is intense and action packed enough to keep you on the end of your seat wanting more.

The story is set in the early 1960's during the rising of the Cold War. Your mission is to rescue a scientist that has been kidnaped and forced to create nuclear weapons for the Russians.

The game mechanics haven't changed much since "MGS2," although there is still some new "moves" that are hidden in the game for you to find out. There are alot of main enemies you got to fight that are named bosses. The boss fights are amazing and require some problem solving skills. For example when fighting Revolver Ocelot (a boss), he remains hidden behind the rocks and only comes out to shoot you. The only problem is that he is too fast for you to aim and shoot at, so you need to solve the problem by shooting a bee hive that is right above and anger the bees that soon start attacking him. At that moment you are able to aim get off a couple of shots before he goes and hides once again.

MGS3 is a stealth game. You have to remain hidden in the darkness. The brand new camouflage menu helps. You can choose from different suits and face paints to help you blend into the surroundings, making you almost invisible. You have to keep your stamina up, so you got to eat. Yes I said eat, you got to catch food such as rats, birds, and snakes (witch is why the game is named Snake Eater). There is also a menu where you can heal your self from bullet wounds, or just a snake bite. Better yet, turn your ps2 off, go do something else for a while, come back, and find that snake (you) is well rested and healed up.

The Graphics, rag doll affect, and the sound track are nice. It seems that the songs

MGS 3 Continued on 6

Who's Your Daddy?

Kamieka Livingston
Staff Writer

It's great to know that in a world of crappy Reality TV one show out craps all the rest. That show is Fox's "hit" *Who's Your Daddy?* This show brings new meaning to "I'd rather have a needle shoved through my eye."

Our story begins with one lovely young lass, named T.J. T.J. was given up for adoption at eight weeks. She has been searching for her birth parents ever since. In this ultimate guessing game, T.J. must pick out her birth father from a group of eight men. If she guesses right, she gets to meet daddy and win \$100,000. If she guesses wrong, the man who tricked her gets the \$100,000.

First T.J. must actually meet her delectable daddies. They are: Carl from California, Scott from Washington, Charlie from Arizona, Ray from California, Richard from California, Jerry from California (anybody seeing a pattern?) and Sam from Arizona. This of course ends up one giant tear party. Tears galore, hell even I got all wound up inside (ha not really), well maybe for all the valuable time I was wasting. At first glance T.J. thinks everyone is daddy, but lo, here comes a twist.

Cocktail party!! What better way to figure out who your pops is than to see how drunk they were when they slept with your

MGS 3 From 5

kick in right when they seem right. A lot of people complain about the movie clips (it's a game after all), but they also help move the twisted story forward. This game comes out at \$50 at Best Buy, worth every penny, Ninth Grader Jaime Avila gives this game 9.5 out of 10 for graphics and story. Eleventh Grader Tim Fierro gives this game 10 out of 10 for the great game play and originality. If you pick up this game and you are not familiar with the Metal Gear Solid series you will probably be completely lost in the story. I recommend you go borrow or rent this series.◊

FRAQUETBALL From 2

who graduated last year. Nathan said Aaron was banned "for my own amusement." Evidently, Nathan is trying to get Aaron re-instated into Fraquetball which would take 100% of the vote from the committee.

The Fraquetball committee has not considered that it might not have been Jesse who, Andrew said, "I really needed some-

ma. Right away T.J. thinks she has the right daddy. Richard seems loving enough to be dear sweet dad, but Jesus, Scott just won't stop crying. So we move on. Elimination is next.

She must split the eight men into two groups of four. One group is of men she thinks might be her dad, and the other is of the losers who aren't daddy. If she gets it wrong, the \$100,000 is up for grabs. How do we decide? Obviously spy cameras (creepy). More crying. She ends up sending Sam, Ray, Jerry, and Carl. T.J. sends home the right people, thus keeping the 100 grand.

Next up, Disco dancing. T.J. was told by the host that her father was an amazing disco dancer. So T.J. decides it's a good idea to have her daddy dance for her. Scott and Richard have the best moves. Peter dances like a retard, a highly-functioning retard. And might I point out that none of these men can dress themselves properly.

After the whole dancing fiasco, it is time to talk to daddy. The producers thought it was a good idea to invoke the crying gods by having T.J. IM with her father. He missed her, she looked for him, it was the same thing we've heard before.

Time to eliminate daddy!! T.J. had a few
DADDY Continued on 2

HISTORY DAY From 2

find. "The key is understanding the theme and doing lots of research," suggests Susanne. For the most part, students should definitely be interested in their project, which will make it exciting for them to research and discover more about it.

This year the History Day regional competition will be held at the St. Paul Technical College on Tuesday, March 15th. The state competition is at the University of Minnesota on Sunday, May 1st. The national competition will be held at the University of Maryland from June 12th to the 16th.◊

one to point my finger on" obviously no one is taking this seriously. Getting banned from Fraquetball is not that big of a deal, but being accused of making highly inappropriate comments on the Fraquetball forum s something that is way above the Fraquetball committee.◊

THEFT From 1

to forty dollars was taken from her wallet and just this October, another \$45.00.

"I just stopped caring about getting \$#!+ stolen," She said.

In addition, there was one instance in which a thief took advantage of Delia's unlocked car doors. Among other valuables in the car was \$130.00 from her recently cashed paycheck.

"Keep your \$#!+ in your pockets and if you go to sleep, sleep with your hands in your pockets," urged Delia.

Senior Aaron Schutjer said his CD player was taken out of his backpack. He set it in Science Teacher Julie Doble's room during 4/5 period. Aaron stated in retort, "I was ready to kill."

Like Aaron, Devlin Byrne, a junior, left his book bag, CD Player and all, in Julie's room while he attended community service. The whole bag was stolen. Friend Tony Cavanaugh later found the bag, however without the CD player and TI-83 calculator. This is Devlin's third CD player lost to theft. He said, "I pretty much decided that if there's something I don't want to get stolen, I just don't bring it to school."

Besides no longer having a CD player to listen to on the school bus ride home, he has also lost his two-wheel mode of transportation, "taken for a ride" when someone rode off with his bicycles. Devlin lost a bicycle outside the school last year and whether he closed the lock tight enough is anybody's guess. The bike, equipped with a shock system rumored to be worth \$200.00, was purchased from a police auction for \$65.00. This year, after routinely locking the bike in the school's elevator shaft, Devlin one day locked the bike outside in the same spot he once had. Unfortunately, that one day his key broke and he was therefore not able to unlock the bike. And so the bike sat for three days until Devlin decided to try a hacksaw. It was too late. Ganked of considerable sentimental value after putting in x amount of hours of work on the bike, somebody had beaten him to it.

There have also been numerous VCR's stolen. English Teacher Leo Bickelhaupt, is head of the audio/visual department. He had drilled the new DVD player to a cart before the 2004 Summer Session. This prevented its theft. Conversely, the television monitor was stolen. He estimates that on average, at least one VCR is stolen from the building every school year. Yearbook money was also taken from his file cabinet.

THEFT Continued on 8

HEATING CUTS from 1

what to do.

"It's better than cutting a staff member when we could all endure an extra sweater or something," said principal Ruth Pechmann.

The district has even created a mascot teaching aid for the young-uns called "Energy Hog." He hogs energy and you have to do your part in SEE to stop him. Another teaching aid concocted by the school district is "the Energy Bike." The bike lets kids see how their mechanical energy is turned into electrical energy. Hopefully, it's not some evil plot of the district to drain kids of their energy, which they'll put into energy drinks that students will drink and then juice them of their energy again to solve their budget problems. Ahh, the circle of life.

Of course, not every room is nice and warm like the art room. so there are some places where you'll want to bundle up. According to tenth grader Anna Blyly-Strauss, "It's really cold in the back of Bridget's here, and I think it's really cold in Susanne's room also." She also hangs out in the corner in Bridget's room. While there is a dispute about the temperature in Julie's room, most people think its cold, but Julie denies it. The first floor is also cold because of the doors being opened a lot and that whole cold air sinks thing.

"Don't come to school in summer dresses and complain that it's cold, IT'S MINNESOTA FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!" said Theater/English teacher Bridget Martin. So be prepared to be chillified and if you are a summer person, then tough cookies. But remember to turn off the the freakin' lights!◇

SPEAKER From 4

with death and funerals. He never liked the way people who spoke at funerals would only tell the good parts of a person. As he says

"To give the dead a story so different from their actual life that, in effect, we kill them all over again." He wanted to write a story about a new way to tell the story for the dead. That's were Ender comes in.

First let me tell you what a speaker for the dead is. A speaker is a person who is called upon by a person who has had someone die. They come and live with the people who knew the person who died the best. After a while the speaker holds a meeting for who ever might like to come and listen to the speaker tell the whole story of the dead. Meaning they don't just tell the nice stuff like, "He had a nice smile and was

IRAQ From 4

shuffling motion. A very small shuffle. Yes, the Iraqi citizen participated in a democratic election for the first time since Hussein was in power, but to me it was both a moot point and a little bit discordant. It just made further emphasized the fact that they are being occupied.

Another thorn in the side of the election came in the from of the Sunni. As an ethnic group, they are the minority. Furthermore, they were once Saddam Hussein's primary supporters. To make things even more fragile, the religious leaders of the Sunni urged all Sunni to boycott the election. 80% of voters in the election were Shiites or Kurds, meaning that only 20% of voters were Sunni. Although I personally find this unlikely, there are talking heads all over who say that this could mean that the Sunni will be left in the cold. Consider it the first test of Iraq's democracy. Right off the gun, no discrimination. They'd have us beat in that respect.

The day of election itself went rather smoothly, with very few hitches. The United States Army prepared for a day steeped in blood, and although here were 44 casualties, this was far fewer than expected. This

does not necessarily mean that the insurgents are done, though. Just because they didn't kill hundreds of the White Satan does not mean that they are finished. Depending upon who you believe, the minimum number of insurgents remaining is around 17,000. But the maximum number of insurgents still fighting has been estimated at up to 200,000. Even with a fresh batch of Iraqi security forces, the United States Army could have its hands full for years to come.

The most troubling thing about this election is that it could be a moot point. The U.S. Army is an occupying force. To me, these elections are nothing more than a what I called them at the beginning of the article-staged. They were certainly fair elections, but that also will amount to no more than a fake government a la Vichy France under German rule. They will stand by us, but only because they must. We own them, and we will continue to do so even after we have withdrawn. How "free" a government this will be remains to be seen. But unless they are toppled by a civil war, there will be no real freedom, because they will be under us. ◇

FF 2 From 5

The ghosts can attack you, too. Also when you're near a ghost, the controller starts to vibrate and you can hear your heart pound.

The graphics in this game are pretty much as real as they can get. You can move your flashlight around as if you were holding the flashlight yourself. Also this game is based on a true story, so that means that the map of the mansion are real and all the hidden rooms in the mansion is real too.

Fatal Frame 2 is great. However there are some parts of the game that aren't perfect. For example some ghosts can kill you with one touch, then it's game over. The thing that I like so much about this game is that

the only weapon that you can use to kill the monsters is a camera and some film unlike games like Resident Evil, where you have guns and bombs. This is what makes Fatal Frame 2 unique. If you want to get really scared, play it alone, pump up the volume, and turn off the lights.

Fatal Frame 2 is a great game. If you decide to get this game, make sure that you play it in all the different levels, from normal to hardest. If you want to see what happens, then you have to buy it. This game is great for people who believe that ghosts are real, or if you just like horror.◇

kind to everyone." But also "He beat his children and was usually drunk." So by telling that sort of stuff he has to unleash other secrets from their past. When this is done, it is most likely not only the dead will be affected, but everyone.

Now to tell you about the book. On a planet called Lusitania two races live. This is the only planet in the Hundred Worlds that has another race, other than humans. Seeing this they (the humans on Lusitania and the government of the Hundred Worlds) are trying to keep the "Piggies" (the other race) from learning too much. They keep them

behind a fence that hurts you very badly if you even lay a finger on it.

The only people who can cross that fence are the Zenadors and the Xenologers. The Zenadors and Xenologers study the Piggies and find out how they do everything, with out letting on to their technologies. In the beginning there are only Pipo, Libo, and Novinha. One day while studying some sort of plant Novinha comes across something interesting. She does not know what it is and shows it to Pipo. Pipo looks at it and sees something that excites him very much.

SPEAKER *Continued on 8*

THE ELECTION From 1

addition of democratic practices to Iraq. Additional attacks have been aimed at the offices of political parties planning to participate in the election; as well as ethnically Shiite targets, a majority group expected to take control of the government after Saddam's Sunni dominated regime was overthrown by the US invasion.

This violence and continued targeted destruction has led many to doubt that the Iraqi nation is ready for any elections. They have pushed for a postponement of the elections, which the US and Iraqi administrations resisted all the way to the polls, holding the elections as they had planned on January 30th. Some of these fears still linger. In the 'Sunni Triangle', the heart of the insurgency, threats and violence have been so intense that Sunni political parties called for a boycott. This boycott and numerous security issues have caused severe doubts about the legitimacy of any vote, due to a lack of Sunni representation through no fault of their own. Stemming from this voice of unrest, are rumors of all out civil war if a Shiite government takes majority power in the two-hundred and seventy-five seat Iraqi parliament.

Contrary to this though, are polls indicating at least half of the Sunni population wished to cast a ballot. In addition, there has been a lack of hard line speech from the Shiite political parties, and even some hints

at providing the Sunnis specialized privileges in the drafting of the constitution, to make up for their underrepresented status. The Shiites have been active in seeking out to assure the Sunnis and foreigners more publicly that the situation will not erupt into flames. Ridha Taqi, speaking to a foreign journalist, stated that "The Shia of Iraq, from Ayatollah Sistani down, want to participate in government with other groups. They don't want an Islamic government like in Iran, or a purely Shiite government. If the Sunnis don't take part in the new parliament, then the Shiites will fight for the Sunnis' rights in Parliament."

All stated, I believe this election to be a good step forward. It isn't perfect, but the first moments of easing out of a rut never are, and while the government and people may stumble along the way, those stumbles will lead to a smoother, more involved and equitable future for Iraqis. In a rare occurrence, I have found myself in agreement with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who voiced much the same opinion, alongside the chief US commander in the Middle East. The government will take a while to come together, and when it does, a permanent constitution will be drafted to be sent to an Iraqi referendum for confirmation. The situation is on its way to being resolved, one way, or another. ◇

THEFT From 6

There are simple steps to take to prevent theft. "If a student leaves a CD player unattended, that's as good as giving it away," said Leo.

Jeni Snyder, Read 180 Instructor, said that about a month and a half ago, a student came into her downstairs office, opened her briefcase, and took money out of it. Students helped Jenni find the culprit by asking around. In this case, a method was used called, "loco in parentis," which allowed Principal Ruth Pechmann to perform a search to find the cash amount in a student's waistband. A police arrest was made. According to Jenni, it is the third theft in two years that has been attributed to this student.

Math Teacher Carl Olson has 2-3 graphing calculators less than in the beginning of the year, one of which was his own with a retail value of \$120.00. 40 AA batteries were also stolen during his one-week leave of absence. He uses the batteries for the calculators. The batteries, which come out of the school budget, have been taken out of calculators on a number of occasions. "It

makes me really mad and they are only hurting themselves," Said Carl.

That's not all. Last year, Chemistry student Nicole Downey had \$75.00 taken from her purse during class. According to Nicole, "Everyone knows who did it," and the person no longer attends Open School. Then you have 12th grader Angie Hausladen's CD player, locked in her locker, turned missing along with the lock.

Although a culprit cannot be determined, an Apple Ibook laptop computer was stolen from Social Studies teacher Susanne Hollingsworth's room, just a few feet away from where she was sitting. While it is very difficult to find a student that HAS NOT had a CD player stolen, the value of the Ibook easily surpasses that of any CD Player.

Jeni stated, "We are grateful for students and staff who watch out for each other and our belongings. It makes for a safe and secure community." Ruth added that being able to trust is "part of our (Open School) climate" and the key to a safe and secure environment. ◇

SPEAKER From 7

It has to do with the Piggies. Running off to talk to the Piggies, Pipa does not say what he found, only to go looking for him if he is not back in an hour. Pipa never comes back. Libo and Novinha (who are very close) go looking for him. They find him on a hill, with his guts around him. They come to the conclusion that the Piggies have killed him. They only have one clue to as why the Piggies would have killed him, the notes Novinha has been working on. Sadly they do not know what Pipa has seen in them. Novinha locks her notes up so no one by law can read them. No one but a husband. Novinha does not want to lose another person she loves, so she does not marry Libo, although they love each other very much. She marries another man and has six children. Her husband and Libo both die, and a speaker for the dead is called by two of her children. When the speaker arrives (the speaker being Ender, from Ender's Game now Andrew, since everyone hates Ender) many things take place, many mysteries are revealed.

It is quite an exciting book, and I loved to see the characters reactions to the things around them. It does have Portuguese in it, but if you read the whole book, including the all the parts that are not the story in the front of the book, you will understand the words better.

This book was an excellent one, but to compare it to it's prequel would be hard. They are different with different characters. They are pretty much the same style of writing, but Card adds and takes away so many characters and although the plot has some similarities (war, aliens and fear of things that are different) the plot as a whole is very different. In Ender's Game, there is a lot more action, and fighting. In Speaker it's more like a mystery. Although Speaker for the Dead is about Ender, the book is more about Novinha's family , the Piggies, and what is happening to both of them. I have heard from people who like Ender's Game more and people who have liked Speaker for the Dead more, but I have not yet made up my mind. I think in fact, although you do not have to read Ender's Game to get Speaker for the Dead, that you should read both books, and decide for yourself.