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Gilliland brothers shine in *Much Ado*

Lizzy Shramko
Staff Writer

On December 10th, 11th, and 12th the Open School drama department gave a performance of "Much Ado About Nothing" that would make Billy Shakespeare stand up in his grave.

The play, a romantic comedy written by Shakespeare, centers around the blooming romance of the two main characters, Beatrice and Benedick. Sierra Blakely gave an outstanding performance as the often outspoken Beatrice. She dazzled the audience with her captivating wit, humor, and stage presence. Joe Levine played opposite Sierra as the cunning Benedick, his performance was nothing short of amazing.



Serena Anderson played Beatrice's soft-spoken cousin, Hero, and her brother Doug played the humorous Dogberry. Nathan Jesson stunned the audience with his performance as the prince, Don Pedro. His charis-

matic approach to the role added a depth to the play that would impress even Denzel Washington. Geoff Wessendorf brilliantly played Leonato, the father of Hero and uncle of Beatrice. His masterful performance was a surprise to no one who is familiar with his seasoned acting skills. Devlin Byrne had his acting debut as Don Pedro's evil brother's follower, Borachio, who wooed the lady Margaret, *MUCH ADO Continued on 2*

Return of LOTR: best movie ever

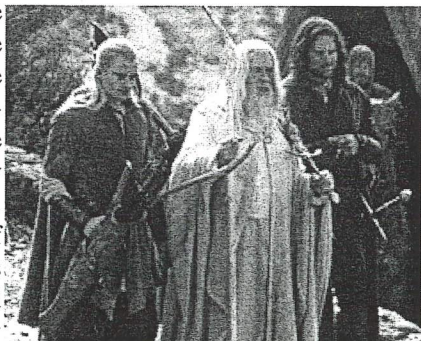
Cameron Beitler
Staff Writer

On December 16, sometime around 10 p.m., Open and Central students alike began flocking to the Mall of America with one goal in mind -- to see the greatest achievement in cinematic history. I am talking of course about The Lord of The Rings: The Return of The King. The movie is the third and final installment of the Lord of The Rings trilogy written by J.R.R Tolkien. Before 2001 The Lord of the Rings was known as the second most read book of the 20th century behind the Bible. Now the trilogy is known to fans around the world as the award winning blockbuster movie series.

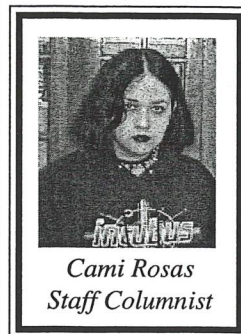
As 12 p.m. drew near the excitement in each of the 14 theaters approached a break-

ing point. Fans were ready to see what they had been waiting a year for, and as the lights went down and the 30 minutes of previews concluded the fans finally got what they wanted. The movie, which runs a daunting three and half hours, was high lighted by great special effects -- which the previous two movies are renowned for -- by Legolas, everyone's favorite elf, destroying creatures 50 feet tall, by teary, heartfelt moments, and thousands of men with swords fighting make believe creatures.

The third is easily the most action packed and epic-like of the three. Even those who haven't read the books and know nothing *LOTR Continued on 7*



Yu-Gi-Argh!



If there's one thing going through the minds of the Open School teenage male at all times, it's Yu-Gi-Oh. Or possibly TV, sleep, and food. But most of the time I bet it's Yu-Gi-Oh. If they could eat, sleep, and drink it, believe me, they would. But how do I know? I haven't taken a pizza cutter to their heads and looked inside... lately.

It doesn't take a super-observant person to realize that there's an epidemic of Yu-Gi-Oh-brainwashed people in this school. The most common place to find them is in Tom's room during lunch hour. You'll find, as soon as the door opens these people have created their own odor within the 30 minutes, and it takes at least half an hour to get rid of/used to. And as for moving them, fugetta 'bout it! It's like they have their own force field around them, secluding everything but Yu-YU-GI-OH *Continued on 7*

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The Purple Press Staff

Editors

Cameron Beitler
Rachel Dauner
Ananda Wold

Adult to Blame

Leo Bickelhaupt

MUCH ADO From 1

played wonderfully by Chelsea Jane.

As if talented students weren't enough, two of Open's most talented teachers helped make this one of the most memorable productions in Open's history. Joel Reiss, known to most students as a mere math teacher, displayed his musical talents when he vibrantly played the guitar like a young Bruce Springsteen, and left the audience wondering when he would be inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame. Leo Bickelhaupt, the infamous English teacher, played a somber judge that seemed to be bitter and resentful toward the rest of the characters, which is an excellent reflection of his teaching style, and left me wondering if he was even acting at all.

As you can see Bridget Martin, the director.
MUCH ADO Continued on 7

College Corner

- Lizzy Shramko is applying to Macalester, New York University, and Occidental.
- Aaron I-S is applying to Carleton, Macalester, the University of Minnesota Morris and the University of Wisconsin River Falls.
- Shmuel Blyly-Strauss is applying to Dickinson, and is waiting to see how that goes before he applies anywhere else.
- Sierra Blakely is applying to the University of Vermont, the University of Montana, the University of Minnesota Duluth, the University of Minnesota Morris, Evergreen, and Carleton.
- Clara Iwaszek is applying to Macalester, the University of Minnesota, Carleton, and possibly the University of Minnesota Morris.

Greg takes temporary leave

Mackenzie Byrne

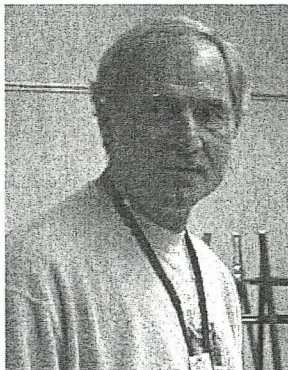
Staff Writer

Greg Adams has left the building, for a two month vacation. He left on the 17th of December and will not be back until the start of third trimester.

Greg has left for his health. After suffering a heart attack in August and more recently having a pacemaker replaced this fall, he felt it was starting to catch up with him. "I was running out of gas," said Greg. He is taking this vacation with the goodwill of his doctor who said that he would "check me out of here" according to Greg.

Greg's absence will be tough to deal with, and because of his unique teaching style he will be hard to replace. Greg's advisory will be handled by rookie teacher Arturo Cabello. Ruth is currently searching for a long-term substitute to replace him in the woodshop. Greg's DI team will be coached by Mark Pechmann, Ruth's hus-

band, and David Dyson, Susanne Hollingsworth's Husband. There is also a possibility that those two will take on a second team.



During his time off Greg plans to, first and foremost, rest. Other than that he has a couple of doctors appointments here in the Twin Cities. He also plans to spend some time house hunting in North Carolina with his wife, who moved there for a job.

Greg will be sorely missed by students but they understand why he's leaving. "It's

something he has to do," said 10th grader and Greg's advisee Tony Cavanaugh. "Greg is more than a teacher, you can talk to him about anything."

Farewell Greg until we meet again... ♦

What happened to ELC student government?

Antonio Rosario

Staff Writer

The ELC student government is gone, or has it BEEN gone? I'm not sure, because I'm a sophomore in the SLC, but when I was in the ELC back in the days of my 1994-1995 kindergarten class up to the sixth grade, I was in the ELC student government almost every year from first grade to sixth grade. But now to find out that they've taken away makes me angry for some reason.

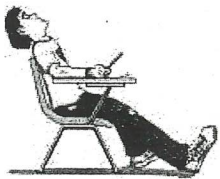
Now, I can't quite put my finger on it, it just makes me mad. Maybe because I remember what I got out of it, or maybe it was all the friends I made, or maybe it was the feeling of leadership and the fact that my voice counted, and now the ELCers don't have that, but maybe it's something else.

The ELC student government has been at Open since before I came here, and that's before '94, but it seems that it's been gone now for a while, because the newer ELC staff has never even heard of it. This actually was going to be a news story, but Nobody, and I mean NOBODY knew about it, therefore I couldn't collect information.

The ELC student government has pumped out a lot of good students and graduates, as I can remember there were numbers of students who graduated or still go here. The ELC student government would arrange things for their community like the SLC student government does, such as Snow Daze and dances. But it's gone now, all gone, the leadership, the feeling that your voice counts, all of that, is gone.

Like I said, no one knows when it stopped, or why it stopped, but the point is, that it stopped. And I strongly think that the students need that back. I strongly feel that they need to know that their opinion counts, and I strongly feel that they need their chance at leadership.

So before I graduate from this school in '06, I want to see the ELC student government back in full force, and I never want to hear of it being gone again. So whoever reads this, and you feel that the ELC student government should be back in force, contact me, you know where to find me.



Sue Moua

Years at Open: 3 years

Extracurricular activities: Destination Imagination

What are you planning to do next year?

I will probably go to a Technical College.

What will you miss most about Open?

I will miss the teachers.

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

My favorite TV show is The Simpsons.

What is your favorite class in high school?

My favorite class was Creative Writing.

If you could have a superpower, what would it be?

Super Speed.

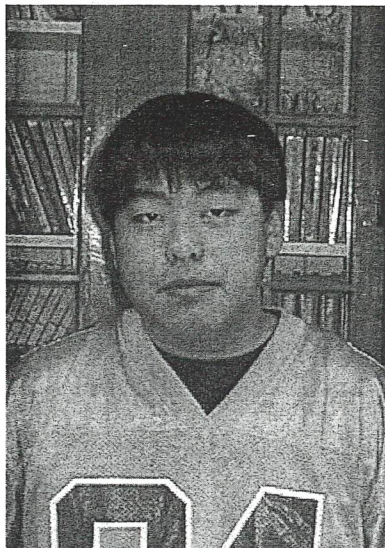
What is one job you would like to have as an adult?

I would like to be a doctor

If you could meet one person dead or alive, who would it be?

Jet Lee

Senior Profile



Long long advisory well supported

Sreyleak Khorn
Staff Writer

The first long long advisory was held December 19, 2003.

Most advisories went to the Mall of America. The bus cost \$3.00, and students brought extra money for anything they wanted to do there. Tim's, Leo's, Greg's, and Sheri's advisories went to Grand Slam, where they played mini golf and various arcade games. Julie's advisory went to her house, where they played games, exchanged gifts and ate.

Most of the staff thinks that long long advisory is worthwhile.

"I love the bonding time," said Julie.

"It is important that people interact socially in different settings," said Tom.

"It helps students and teachers to bond outside of regular class," said Luke.

"I think it is a good time for students to socialize in a different setting," said Elizabeth.

Students also think that long long advisory is a good idea.

"It's a fun break from the norm," said 12th grader Clara Iwaszek.

"As long as we don't go to the Mall of America," said 11th grader Jon Sherman.

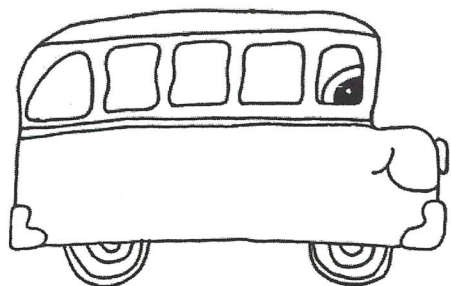
"You can hang with your friends and learn more about your advisor," said 7th grader Nikia Davis.

"We get time with our advisory," said 7th grader Mai Lor.

"We get a break from work," said 7th grader Alicia Martinez.

"We do whatever we want," said 7th grader Andrea Kidd.

The next long long advisory will probably be in March 2004.



Fraquetball

Regular season offers surprises, upsets

It was an exciting season for Fraquetball. The regular season brought, surprises, upsets, and dashed hopes.

The Jew Live Crew seemed as if they were favorites to make the playoffs at the beginning of the year. With a victory over the Jesson 5 on the first day of the season, this only seemed to become more apparent. A victory over the Realists also gave the impression that the Crew would make the playoffs. But a 5-7 loss to Tons O' Fun sent them back to earth. They followed up with a loss to Los Geezers, then a victory over POW. They finished 3-2 in conference play, second in the conference. However, with losses across the board from Gentle Giants, Lovable Little People, and the Receding Hairlines kept them out of the playoffs.



Jesson 5 started the season as favorites to get into the playoffs as well. They lost to Jew Live Crew, but beat Tons O' Fun and the Realists. They finished 3-2 in conference play, third in the conference. In interleague play, they faced Sonic Team, Lovable Little People, and the Shamrocks. They beat the Lovable Little People 7-5, fighting off a last second comeback. They faced the Shamrocks and found themselves down 2-4, they stepped up though, and won 7-4. The game against Sonic Team was practically a shootout. Sonic Team won the shootout 7-5. But they finished 5-3, second in the conference.

Los Geezers came out as not only favorites to win the conference, but **SEASON RECAP Continued on 8**

Team of the month

Loveable Little People

8-7, game point, Lovable Little People lead the Receding Hairlines. Joel serves, blocked by Andrew, Andrew shoots, it bounces off of Joel's paddle and the Lovable Little People win!

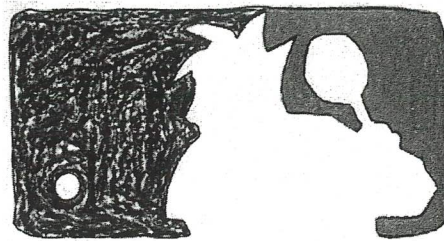
Andrew Hoaglund and Jaime Avila make up the shortest team in the league. Their statistics are nearly identical; Andrew has one more goal, Jaime three more aces and blocks. They started out the season 1-3, but went on to go 4-4. Their game against the Receding Hairlines is regarded by many as one of the most exciting games in the regular season. The Lovable Little People and Receding Hairlines are fierce division rivals. Both finished the season 4-4, but since the Lov-



able Little People held the tiebreaker, they advanced to the playoffs.

Andrew made a Fraquetball playbook last year. It features such plays as Tyrannosaurus Mex, DMZ line, or scud missile. Andrew has since had requests from other teams to make them such a playbook.

The Lovable Little People faced a challenge in the Playoffs. They played Sonic Team, who went 7-1 in the regular season, and beat the Lovable Little People 7-5 in their only confrontation. The first game was dominated by Sonic Team, and they won, 7-3. But the Lovable Little People are known for playing tough, and not giving up. The second game they jumped out **LITTLE Continued on 8**



Fraquetball top 5

1. Jesson 5. Doug Anderson and Nathan Jesson. The Jesson 5 are one of the teams left that use one offense, one defense. Nathan plays defense, Doug plays offense. Doug, the League MVP, finished with 45 goals, (second in the league) 30 blocks, (third in the league) and 6 aces, (first in the league). Nathan finished fifth in league with 29 blocks, and is regarded by himself, as the best defenseman in the A.F.A. (American Fraquetball Association). A



2. Gentle Giants. Sean Keith and Cameron Beitler compose this imposing duo. Now neither of these players will take your breath away, but they make a good team. Sean has a killer backhand, which he has just started using once again, and that has made him much more effective. Cameron plays defense well up front, and can hit the ball pretty hard. He scored 31 goals, and he finished fourth in League MVP voting. A

3. Los Geezers. Tim Leone-Getten and Leo Bickelhaupt. Tim and Leo are one of the few teams that still play positions. Tim plays offense, and rather well. He finished first in the league in goals with 53, tied for second

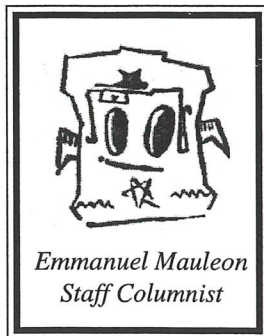


in aces with 5, and finished second in MVP voting. Leo plays defense fine, and some might say he's the best to have in the back in all of Fraquetball. He finished tied for fifth in blocks. Los Geezers got upset in an astounding five game series against the Jesson 5. They just could not stop Doug's serve. He had 10 aces in five games. B+.

FRAQUET 5 Continued on 10

Opinions 'n' Such

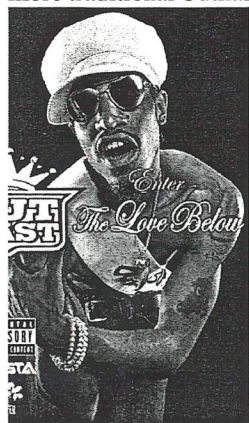
Outkast



For those who define themselves as a part in the hip-hop culture, you're missing a star if you don't know by now about ATL's shining hope for our revival. Straight out of the

dirty south, and with ten years under their belt, Outkast has been bringing the funk we all love and need a daily dose of, and they show no signs of stopping. Now with their sixth full length release, "Speaker Boxxx/The Love Below," they prove to us that they haven't lost "they magic mic touch."

The new album, which is actually a double, has separated the two members, Big Boi aka Antwan Patton, and Andre "Ice Cold" 3000 aka Andre Benjamin. Speakerboxxx is Big Boi's disc, which is more traditional Outkast flavor, with knowledgeable verses spit in the ghetto smooth way mister Patton has become known for, and followed by full harmonious verses.



Andre's disc, however, goes a bit off the beaten path, being one of the most experimental rap cd's, if you can even call it this anymore, of the last five years. You begin to get the feel for this new style after the first tracks, and with a cautious ear, you realize this is unlike anything you've heard before. Instead of his traditional, although always-flavor-induced rhymes, Dre shows us his singing, funky, more music-oriented side. You even get similarities to Hendrix work on "Happy Valentine's Day," on which he portrays Cupid Valentino, "The modern day Cupid," as he speaks over guitar in the back.

Now if you doubt Outkast's credentials, then don't fret; they bring the heat to put **OUTKAST Continued on 8**

Simple Life



Just when you thought there weren't enough quality, thought-provoking programs on television today, the masterminds at Fox bring you *The Simple Life*. Two Hollywood socialites,

Paris Hilton (great-granddaughter of the Hilton hotel guy) and Nicole Ritchie (daughter of Lionel Ritchie), spend five weeks on a farm in Arkansas, forcing them to leave behind those fancy P. Diddy parties, limos, and slave-- I mean servants named Ricardo. I don't actually have any proof that either of these two have servants named Ricardo, but I just know they do. Really.

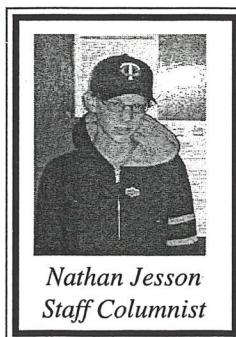
Anyway, the show takes place in Altus, Arkansas, on a farm maintained by the Leding family. Said family includes the man of the house, Albert, and his wife Janet. They

have 3 sons, 19-year-old Justin, 15-year-old Cayne, and 4-year-old Braxton. Then, there are the grandparents, Richard and, my favorite person, grandmamma Curly. They live in a quaint little house, and Paris and Nicole are forced to, God forbid, sleep in the porch.

Paris and Nicole are also forced to do horrible tasks such as milk cows, make bacon, and do dishes-- oh wait, little Braxton ended up doing those when they were out galavanting on the town. Doing dishes is a far too brutal task for most people to do, so I understand. Sure. Also, poor Paris and Nicole actually have to pay for their own food! I'm not sure how Fox is allowed to show this kind of torture to good, sweet girls.

They are also given a job at Sonic, a fast food place. After scarring my fragile little mind by writing strange things on the marquee on the restaurant sign, they dress up as the Sonic mascots (well, not really mascots but I don't know what you call them; like **SIMPLE LIFE Continued on 8**

Democratic Candidates



The 2004 presidential election is coming up in November, and right now nine Democrats are fighting for their party's endorsement. Many people think that President Bush is unbeatable. But I'm sure that with my endorsement one of these candidates will pull through. I'll rate all of the nine candidates on a one through ten rating, starting in alphabetical order.

Carol Mosley Braun. 7.5

She is one of the more liberal candidates, the only woman on this list, and one of only two African-American candidates. She is a good debater, who was against the war in Iraq before it became popular. And she has a good plan for the economy, as well as a good health care plan. She also voted no on maintaining bans against gay marriage. She previously was an Ambassador to New

Zealand, and before that a Senator from Illinois. A huge long shot, but if she can win the primaries she can win the general election.

Wesley Clark. 7

A general from Arkansas, he was a late entry to the race. Good on health care, and currently against the war in Iraq. Obviously, he has more credibility regarding wars than President Bush. One interesting thing about General Clark is that he used to be a republican. Not like 10 years ago, not 5 years ago, but about 2 years ago. In the summer of 2001 he spoke at a Republican Dinner in Arkansas praising President Bush. However, he says he voted for Clinton, and Al Gore. Wesley Clark has a great tax plan. His plan would pretty much eliminate taxes for those who are making less than 50,000 dollars a year. He would lower taxes for families making less than one hundred thousand dollars a year. How could this be afforded you ask? Simply by raising taxes for those who are making one million or more dollars. He **DEMOCRATS Continued on 9**

Lies and The Lying Liars Who Tell Them

Gus Olsen
Staff Writer

God chose me to write this book review about the book he/she/it told comedian/author Al Franken to write. God told me that, though he/she/it was satisfied with Al Franken's work on Lies and The Lying Liars Who Tell Them, books by authors like Ann Coulter, Sean Hannity and Bill O'Reilly were still dominating the market with their deceitful books. Then God told me I was an angel and I could fly, but on my way to the window I noticed the display on the carbon monoxide detector. "Oh," I said, "that's why I had a vision of God!" So it's not a holy mission, but I'm writing the review anyway.

This is just a mild example of the style of writing used in Lies. Mr. Franken uses this unconventional, irreverent style to kiddingly poke fun at Fox News and other right wing liars, but he is "kidding on the square" (this term frequently appears in Lies, it means joking but also really meaning it). So, when Franken says that Limbaugh is an idiot, he is using irony to point out that Rush insults people, but he also means Limbaugh is an



idiot.

Let he who is without lies cast the first stone could be the mantra for this book. Because Franken sources all his facts, he has the go-ahead to stone all of the Bush administration to death. How does a book with so many accusations of lies back all this up, you ask? Well let me tell you. Al Franken had a team of Harvard students helping with the research. This means every fact he states is sourced in the bibliography, or so he claims. I'm not going to check!

Franken always finds a humorous way to expose the lies he points out in this book. Possibly the most outrageous, is when he calls a bluff on the editor of the National Review, Rich Lowry. Lowry said that democrats had "sissified" politics by making it okay for politicians to cry. Al called his bluff by challenging Lowry to a fight. Of course, Al didn't really want to fight Mr. Lowry, he just wanted to prove that Lowry would back down (which he did). In this way, Al proved democrats weren't sissies.

Lies and The Lying Liars Who Tell Them
FRANKEN Continued on 10

Old school hoops

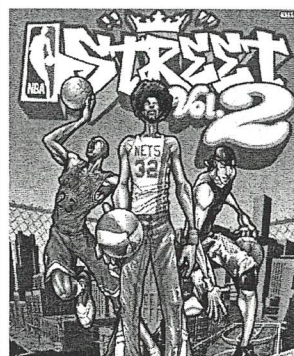


Kwame Churcher
Staff Writer

Even if you don't like basketball titles, check this one out. If you did your history you would know that Wilt "The Stilt" Chamberlain was the first person to score a 100 points in one game. That's what makes "NBA legends".

Then there's people like Jackie Jackson, who shows off his leaping ability by grabbing quarters off the top of Rucker Park back boards. That's the kind stuff that makes "Streets legends".

Now what game can you get Earl "The Pearl" Monroe, "Pistol" Pete Maravich, and the greatest, "The doctor" Julius Erving? NBA Street Vol. 2, the second version of the game created by EA. That's only some of the un-lockable old-schoolers, not to men-



tion the new street legends from all around the globe. The graphics in this game are much more smooth from the last game but they look tinted and not

very accurate. But other than that you will be amazed by what you can do in this game, Like "Street School" which shows you the basics. "NBA challenge" allows you to play against NBA super stars. Last but not least, there's "be a legend" where you create your own player and build a reputation for yourself. Don't let me forget the new tick moves and dunks, like the ability to bounce the ball off your opponents head or "back to papa," which rockets the ball to the back board and back to the shooter.

In my opinion you gotta go buy this game, it's great. I give it a 5 out of 5 stars. Stay up!◊



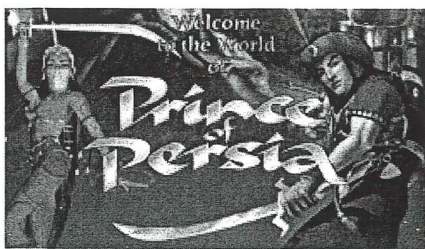
Prince of Persia priceless



Aaron Schutjer
Staff Writer

You're standing in a lush Persian courtyard when all of a sudden four undead soldiers are swinging their large spears and axes in your direction. Scimitar out and dagger ready, you start the battle.

That's a normal event in Ubisoft's new action/puzzle game, Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time. This game is simply fantastic. You play as a young prince who gets his first taste of battle when fighting the Maharajah with his father. When the battle is over, you recover the dagger of time, a small blue crystal knife that gives you the power to control time. The hourglass con-



taining the sands of time is also recovered by your father's men and the prince is instructed by the "Vizier" to place the dagger in a slot in the hour glass. The "Vizier" is the king's right hand man until he betrays him by telling the prince to unleash the sands of time.

The sands of time devastate the ginormous palace in which the game takes place, turning all of the people into hostile zombies that are able to teleport and try to tear you apart with their huge swords and hammers. Feeling like he caused it, the prince sets out to
PRINCE Continued on 9

LOTR From 1

about them will find the movie very entertaining. Just a bit advice though, see the first two movies before you see the third, otherwise you may no idea what is going on.

The Movie left very little to be desired, and while some wanted more and more, others thought the ending dragged on. Well how else are you going to end this three billion dollar achievement? The movies themselves were relatively speaking, inexpensive to produce, at about 67 million dollars a film. Director Peter Jackson is the master mind behind this project. With a huge cast of actors, many of whom had never done a project nearly this big, and a set of books that dwell deep the world of fantasy, this task was not easy. But several years, hundreds of miniatures, hundreds of extras,



and a fellowship later they had three of the most popular and highest-grossing movies of all time.

The first two movies, *The Fellowship of the Ring* and *The Two Towers*, both got great reviews, though there are some people who complain that the movies don't hold true to the books. The first two grossed an astonishing two billion dollars world wide, and the third one alone looks like it will make it to that mark. With fan clubs, action figures, and everything, Lord of the Rings-related companies are laughing all the way to the bank.

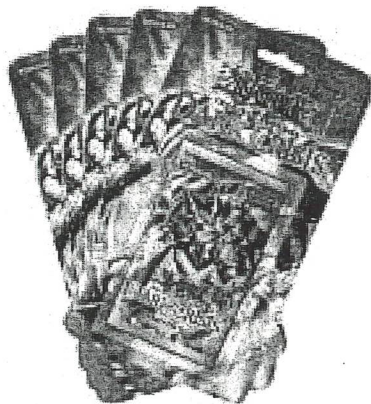
Out of four stars I of course give *The Return of the King* four, and recommend that you go see it, and if you already have, see it again.◊

YU-GI-OH From 1

Gi-Oh.

Don't bother trying to drive them out of your seat because it just won't work. These people are like ROCKS, I tell you!!! Rocks that... play Yu-Gi-Oh. Now, I've tried, lord knows I have ta-riiiiiid, and I just can't figure out what is so darn appealing. I've watched the show, I've seen the cards, and I've tried to understand the game. BUT I STILL DON'T GET IT.

First things first, oh by the way this IS a rant about your precious Yu-Gi-Oh. The show is bad. It's just bad. There's not much else to describe it. The animation is poor and has anyone heard of that little thing called MOVING YOUR MOUTH WHEN YOU SPEAK?! Obviously Yu-



so "rare"? Well the only reason they're so "rare" is because the slaves that produced them have a pain in their wrists. They only make these cards seem rare by making them shinier and it gets them more money. You buy them thinking "these will be worth a lot of money someday" when in actuality you go to Shinders after a year, when they aren't "cool" anymore, feeling embarrassed because you fell for it too, only to find that that \$20 card you bought is now only worth 3, 4, maybe even 5 bucks, tops. And your entire collection is only worth \$6.

And those packs, well... I'll get to them later. Now I'm just going to say that if you had saved up all the money you spent on Yu-Gi-Oh cards, you could have bought a guitar or something. Something that might affect your future in a good way. Let's put it this way, which pickup line do you think would work? A. "Hey there, I'm in a band." or B. "Hi, I play Yu-Gi-Oh." If you chose B, I'm wondering why you're still reading this.

Now onto those packs, you get like, what, 5 cards per pack and pay about \$6. I remember when I was into Pokemon I got those packs many times in hopes of getting some

YU-GI-OH Continued on 10

MUCH ADO from 2

tor, was privileged to work with this all-star ensemble. But even with the massive amount of talent that was present at the shows, two stars emerged amid the cast. The dynamic duo that stole the show was none other than the two Gilliland brothers, Zach and Justin.

Zach played Don John, the prince's evil brother. His menacing laugh combined with his mastery of the Shakespearean language left the audience speechless every time he was onstage. His stage presence was captivating, and his portrayal of Don John was nothing short of wicked. Zach truly became a villain when he stole the show from the rest of the cast.

But let's not forget our other shining star, Justin, who gave an awe-inspiring performance as Count Claudio, opposite the young Hero. Justin, who is a senior this year, proved to audiences that he is an actor that is here to stay, his performance cemented his status as one of Open's most talented actors. Jus-



tin has been participating in Open School's productions since 7th grade, and his performances over the years have included a broad spectrum of characters. His progression as an actor was apparent on opening night, when he stunned the audience with his matured acting skills. But everyone was in for a surprise when during the second act Justin revealed a second hidden talent, and sang a song so soulful that even those wretched judges from American Idol would give their seal of approval. His voice was so powerful that some audience members were moved to tears. After seeing Justin onstage those three nights it is obvious that he is a star with staying power and graduation will not be the last that we see of him.

It is obvious that Open's drama department is propelled by the talent of its actors. Much of the talent is the result of years of experience, and sadly this is the last year for many of our senior stars. The seniors that participated in the production of "Much Ado" are as follows; Sierra Blakely, Joe Levine, Geoff Wessendorf, and of course Justin Gilliland. These talented actors gave the performances of their lifetime, and deserve nothing less than a standing ovation.◊

And the cards are way too overpriced. You know all those \$20 cards you buy that are

SEASON RECAP From 4

championship as well. They finished 5-0 in the conference, leading the conference at the beginning of interleague play. They defeated their fellow teacher team Receding Hairlines 7-5, though it seemed as if there was a chink in their armor. The supposed game of the year came up, against the Gentle Giants. They lost, 5-7. But they finished 7-1, and won the conference.

Tons O Fun came into the season as underdogs. Experts thought that to have an all offense, no defense team, you need an absolute star. Some say that the reason they made the playoffs was because of their weak schedule. However, the fact that they beat division rival Jew Live Crew, seems to show that they were deserving. Nevertheless, they did lose to Jesson 5, and the Realists. But they finished 4-4, placing third in the conference.

The Realists looked like they might not contend for the playoffs, but they did. At times the Realists looked terrific, beating Tons O' Fun, or playing the Jew Live Crew as tough as possible. But at other times they looked soft, like in a 2-7 loss to the Jesson 5. A loss to the Lovable Little People at the end of the season crushed any playoff hopes.

The defending Champs, the Gentle Giants started the season a bit slow. They were caught sleeping in a close 7-5 victory over the Lovable Little People. But there were only two more games where they would be challenged. They were down 2-5 against the Receding Hairlines when the game was delayed on account of time. When the game continued, something had changed, but I don't know what. The Gentle Giants won 7-5. They faced Los Geezers, and won a close matchup 7-5. They won the conference finishing 8-0.

Sonic Team planned on challenging the Gentle Giants for conference

champ, but after a 4-7 loss it didn't seem like it would turn out that way. Outside of that loss, there were only two other close games across the course of the season. The first day of the season they barely pulled out a victory over the Lovable Little People, 7-5. They won a very quick game over the Jesson 5, 7-5. They finished the season 7-1, second in the conference.

The Lovable Little People started out stumbling. Although their first two losses were against Sonic Team and the Gentle Giants, they lost to the lowly Shamrocks 5-7. It looked as if their season was over. They had a tough schedule, but they didn't go down without a fight. In a breathtaking game they defeated the Receding Hairlines 9-7. They defeated the Jew Live Crew 8-6. They went on to clinch a playoff spot, finishing third in the conference at 4-4.

The Receding Hairlines were a question mark heading into the season. Everyone knew Joel was okay from his time with the Alpha Numericals, but everyone knew that Alex Ford carried that team. Plus, what about Arturo? Would he be any good at all? Arturo proved to be quite valuable, he is one person who hits the ball as soon as he can, which throws off teams that rotate between offense and defense. Joel showed that he could play defense, and score. However, it was no certainty that they would get into the playoffs. With their first two wins coming against Shamrocks, and Emma and Natalie, which proved nothing. Combined, those two teams finished 2-14. However, they always played best when challenged. They barely lost to Gentle Giants, and played well against Los Geezers. They finished 4-4, out of the playoffs. But the bottom line is that this team is still a question mark. I wouldn't be that surprised if they won the

SEASON RECAP Continued on 10

SIMPLE LIFE From 5

the people who dress up as hot dogs outside Wally's Pretty Good Food Place), and sit on the street to try and attract people to its fast foody goodness. They end up giving the finger to passing cars and yelling "SONIC!" They decide to go towards the grocery store, still wearing the big cups-of-pop costumes. They end kind of in a heap on the flo', and the manager of Sonic has to come over and drag them back. Then, Paris has to

make bacon, and Nicole has to make onion rings. And that too goes horribly awry.

This show is all right. When I first heard about it I thought it'd be mucho bad-o, but it does offer a few laughs, especially if you find others' pain as amusing as I do. Paris and Nicole aren't really the sharpest knives in the drawer (of course, not a lot of people know how to cash a check, or what a bank is anyway), but I

SIMPLE LIFE Continued on 10



OUTKAST From 5

you back in yo' seat. Their first single, released when they were 19, entitled "Player's Ball," went straight to number one, and then was followed up by their critically acclaimed "Southernplayalisticadillacmuzik," which went platinum, then followed by ATLiens, which got five mics by the source, as well as "Aquemeni."

Eighth grader Glen Devour says, "If the Source gives it five MICS, it HAZ to be Good, Speakerboxxx makes me feel like busting my glock at a Slovak!"

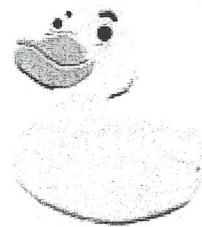
Tenth grader Tony Cavanagh says, "This new cd proves that Big Boi is in fact cooler than a polar bear's toe nail!"

Now time to pick out a few grand gems out of this pile of diamonds. On Andre's CD, I can't lie, I love it all, but there is this thing called self incrimination, where R. Kelly Joins him on "Pretty Pink, Baby Blue..." once again, mister Kelly decides to say "Age ain't nothing but a number." The rest of the song is nice, but, it made me shudder.

The new cd is grand-fantastic super funky cool. The exemplary numbers would of course be the radio hit "Hey Ya!" with groovy synth and guitar, and "A Life in the Day of Andre Benjamin (Incomplete)," which chronicles Andre's rap career through a certain woman, a very personal experience through a spoken word type flow, very nice, very nice. Don't even bother skipping to these tracks though, because it would be a waste of the other fantastic listening opportunities on the CD. One of the few CD's since Busta Rhymes "Genesis," that you can listen to all the way through.

On Antwan's side you've got gems all around, but my two favorite tracks would have to be "Ghetto Musick," which is real fast and real tight. Then there is "Unhappy," a sad yet upbeat song. You know what, I'm just going through all the damn tracks. Buy the cd, no disappointment, no joke.

On a rating of "The Free Bin" at the Goodwill full of "Trucker Favorites" and the like, to a full crisp twenty (all right, the album costs like \$23 with tax), this album is worthy of \$18.5, whooooo! PEACE MY LADY FRIEND!◇



DEMOCRATS From 5

is endorsed by St. Paul U.S. Representative, Betty McCollum. I honestly think he could beat President Bush in 2004.

Howard Dean. 5

Former Governor of Vermont, Howard Dean is regarded as the front runner, with Clark not far behind. He has legalized gay marriage in the state of Vermont, and has also been against the War in Iraq from the start. But he's practically a Republican when it comes to Gun Control. He has said in his defense, that his position has to do with the fact that Vermont is a rural state. He has flip flopped on the 87 billion dollars that was used to continue in Iraq. There's just something about him that I don't like, but I don't know what it is. The main concern about

Dean outside of his ability to win, is that he might hurt the Democrats nationwide, in the House and Senate.



And for any of you that are holding any beliefs that Howard Dean is polite, he doesn't thank those who hold doors for him. Trust me, I would know. Endorsed by Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, Al Gore, and my favorite President, Martin Sheen. I don't see him getting any southern states, unless he has a Vice President from the south.

John Edwards. 4

A Senator from North Carolina. Edwards's main idea his whole campaign has been that he was the son of a mill worker. Good for him. It's too bad he's running, he had a bright future. He just isn't very inspiring, or different; he's the ultimate mediocre candidate. But he would make a good Vice President. He would capture a handful of electoral votes, but no more.

Dick Gephardt. 5

A Long time congressman from Missouri, and former House Majority leader, Gephardt voted for the war. However, he is now saying we should get the U.N. involved as soon as possible. He does have a Universal Health Care Plan, so that's good. Before he ran for President in 1988 he was Pro Life, but for some reason about that time his mind changed on the issue. But a member of the house hasn't won the presidency since James Garfield did in 1880.

John Kerry. 4

A Senator from Massachusetts. John Kerry

is a good Senator, I like him as a Senator, thus I have concluded, he should've stayed a Senator. John Kerry voted for the war in Iraq, but now is trying to make it look like he didn't. He voted against the 87 billion.

Kerry's favorite thing to do is bash Howard Dean. He can't help himself, he just loves it. And that's why he has fallen out of Nathan Jesson's favor. The Democrat's need to be positive. They need to realize that any one of them is still better than the current President. Endorsed by fellow Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy, he'd do okay, but he'd lose to President Bush.

Dennis Kucinich. 3

A Congressman from Ohio, and former Mayor of Cleveland, a good congressman, and like many people on this list, he should have stayed in Congress. Kucinich tries to come off as the crazy liberal, but he isn't fooling me! Before this election, he was pro-life! He wants to repeal NAFTA! Plus he wants to withdraw troops from Iraq immediately. Now that may seem okay to you, but it isn't. We've gotten ourselves into this mess, and now we need to get ourselves out. And we can do that by pleading with the U.N. and pretty much giving them everything they want within reason. Endorsed by Minnesota State Senate Majority Leader John Hottinger, as well as Winona Laduke, Danny Glover, and Willie Nelson, he might win Ohio, maybe, probably not though.

Joe Lieberman. 2

A Senator from Connecticut, Vice-Presidential Candidate in 2000, on Al Gore's ticket, and the only good thing about him is that Skip Humphrey endorses him. Supported the war, still does, also is fond of bashing Howard Dean, in addition to Wesley Clark. Most conservative Democrat on this list. After Columbine he went on some rant claiming it was Marilyn Manson's fault. I would probably support the Anti-Hypocrisy candidate or The Turtle Political Party candidate if Lieberman wins the primaries.

Al Sharpton. 5

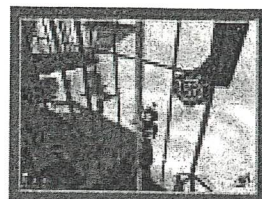
A Reverend from New York, and a political activist there as well. By far the best debater, and is quite liberal. And he was against the war from the start. I might vote for him if he had ever held any political office. And he says smart things, but he doesn't back them up with any plans. If he wins the primaries, there is no reason he couldn't win the general election. If he were to debate Bush, I would laugh uncontrollably. He would make

DEMOCRATS Continued on 10

PRINCE From 6

conquer the sands of time with his trusty anorexic, dressed-like-a-ho tramp partner, Farah. Farah is a skilled archer that accompanies you on your journey. Her best skill is the ability to fit through cracks on the walls, and if she gets killed, you lose and have to start over from the latest save point.

For starters, this game's graphics are simply stunning, little or no graphic glitches, but most of all, it's very smooth and silky, which adds great atmosphere to the palace and surroundings. What surprised me most was that the game didn't slow up in a huge battle scene like most others would (when there are too many things happening simultaneously, it consumes memory and the computer slows down to



compensate). That brings me to the combat portion, simply mind blowing: jumping over an enemy's back and then slashing them in half, back flip over to another and kill him before the last one even hits the ground. The combat may seem a little repetitive, but it requires a lot of strategy towards the end when it gets super difficult. The selection of moves you can do is quite good. My favorite is jumping off a wall and pushing a guy



over and stabbing him. Another element in combat is that you have to stab the downed zombies with your dagger so you drain the sand out of them, otherwise they'll get up. That has also been seen in Shinobi and Onimusha 2.

My favorite part of the game has to be the acrobatics and wall running; there is something about swinging on poles and climbing up walls to get to your objective that is so satisfying. The acrobatics you can do include wall running, running up a wall and grabbing on to the ledge, swinging from poles, jumping across closed quartered walls back and forth to get higher and many more.

In conclusion, this is the best game I have played in a long while. Sometimes the camera views can get to be annoying, but this game does not miss in any key areas. The developer, Ubi Montreal, did a great job making this game. It's well presented and well put together, and it is definitely worthy of the Prince of Persia name.◊

YU-GI-OH From 7

new cards and, guess what. I got the same cards practically every time. Always Meowth, Eevee, Oddish, Potion, aaaaand Potion. Every single time, there was that hateful Potion card. Another dollar down the drain.

But hey, if there weren't chumps like me in the world these people wouldn't have been successful. And what do we get for helping them on their corrupted way? A load of useless cards, debt, and a wasted year. Not to mention the years of regret to follow.

Here's an actual useful tip: Every time you want to buy Yu-Gi-Oh cards or games, take the money you would buy it with and put it in a jar or even a savings bond. I know this is starting to turn from a "how they take da moneys" piece into a "how to make mo'

money" deal, but all I'm trying to do is make a point. Yu-Gi-Oh is evil. I know it brings the children together, but they'll look at it much differently the minute their collection is stolen. And if that ever happens people, don't try and bounce back. If your happiness is that easy to take away, then is it really worth it to spend so much money on something so... lame? I think not, but hey that's just me.

I wouldn't be caught dead with a Yu-Gi-Oh card (unless someone killed me and put one in my hand). The only reason I would play it would be to make it so trendy that all the "cool" and "popular" people would get into it and once they're hooked I'd say something like "You play Yu-Gi-Oh!? what a loser!"

FRAQUET 5 From 4

4. Sonic Team. Liam Shramko and Gus Olsen. Sonic Team is sometimes regarded as the most successful all offense, no defense team. They were one of only three teams to finish with more goals than blocks. They made it as far as the second round in the playoffs, before falling to the Gentle Giants. They were the first team to beat the Gentle Giants all year, but went on to lose the series 1-3. While Gus plays defense well enough up front, and Liam is okay in the back, they're definitely known for their offense, not defense. Some think that Liam has more talent than any other Fraquetball player. He finished with 27 goals, and was third in MVP voting. Gus is a good offense player; he finished with 4 aces, tied for fourth in the league. B.

5. Lovable Little People. Jaime Avila and Andrew Hoaglund, make up this undersized double act. Jaime is remarkable at defense up front, he jumps about his height. Andrew is pretty much the same kind of player as Jaime. Both finished with about twenty goals, and twenty blocks. They're always the dark horse in the games they play. This is the most well balanced team in Fraquetball. C+.



SEASON RECAP From 8

championship, and I wouldn't be that surprised if they finished last in their division. The best team they beat was Jew Live Crew, who finished 3-5. Their other victory came against POW, who finished 1-7. They finished 4-4, out of the playoffs because they lost the head to head game against the Lovable Little People.

LITTLE From 4

to a 6-1 lead, and won 7-4. The next game was not so easy, the Lovable Little People were down 3-2, and never really got back up after that, they lost, 4-7.

The Lovable Little People are one of the few teams that have remained a team as long as they have. Since last year Jaime and Andrew have been underestimated time and again. "I can't imagine either of them playing on different teams," says Fraquetball Commissioner Nathan Jesson. Andrew and Jaime figure to stick around, though they may not dazzle you, the Lovable Little People are the class of the league. "They're everything that's right with Fraquetball, the fact that two people of their stature could be a great team in Fraquetball, it's amazing." ◇



SIMPLE LIFE From 8

guess that too adds to the humor. I don't know if I'll actually watch it every week, but if there's nothing else on that melts the most brain cells a minute, I'll consider. It doesn't really stand out from the crowd of reality shows; especially since those "Your-life-really-sucks-compared-to-the-lives-of-rich-people" are on the rise. It does a good job of showing just how spoiled famous people are, and gives more reason to hate them. I give "The Simple Life" 1 & 3/8 of a star (out of four), not because of amazing plot development, but because Curly is just so awesome. If anyone else is interested in starting a Curly fan club, talk to me. We can make T-shirts.

So; if you want TV your mother would be proud to see you watch, don't watch this show. But if you want to see a really cool old lady, less talkin', more watchin'.

FRANKEN From 6

is doing very well for itself. It has been #1 on the New York Times best seller list. Now it is has been nominated for a Grammy. Strangely enough, it's running against Hillary Clinton's Living History, which has been audio recorded with Mikhail Gorbachev. It really would have been more fitting if Lies was up against a conservative's book, but what can you do when the media is so obviously has a liberal bias?

Though I am not a very frequent reader, I consistently enjoyed Al Franken's writing. I would recommend it to anyone who is suspicious that the right has been lying to them and wants conformation, or anyone who wants a laugh at a politician's expense. If you want to see more by Franken, look for the following titles: Oh The Things I Know, Why Not Me? and Rush Limbaugh Is A Big Fat Idiot.

DEMOCRATS From 9

D.C. the 51st state.

Well, if you've been keeping track of scores you'll find that Carol Mosley Braun gets Nathan Jesson's endorsement. As for who can beat President Bush, the only ones are Wesley Clark, Carol Mosley Braun, and Al Sharpton. And even then it would be close. ◇

