



The Purple Press

Official Publication of the St. Paul Open School

Lenni Retires After 30 Years

Editorial Collaboration

The end of the school year usually evokes a bittersweet feeling. After a long year of classes, tests, talent shows and conferences, summer is finally here. However, the price of teachers' and students' summer freedom is saying goodbye to old friends, students and teachers. This year is no different; the first class to be graduating under the new graduation standards is ready to take flight, and budget cuts have eliminated many friendly faces. Except this year, Open School will lose one last piece of its core: Lenni Augustine.

For people who don't know Lenni personally, the loss of the group facilitator may not

seem to be so piercing. But after 30 years of dedication to Open School, Lenni has left an indelible mark. In 1972, Lenni, along with a group of other parents, created Open School. They wanted a place where all students and teachers would treat each other with respect. Lenni's own involvement began when her son started getting into trouble at school-- because he grew his hair long. Beginning that first year as a volunteer, Lenni has gone through four different buildings (including an old soap factory), __ principals, and 30 (?) graduating classes; she also facilitates student government (including all student government events), runs other student

LENNI Continued on 10



Word 4 Word

Emmanuel Mauleon

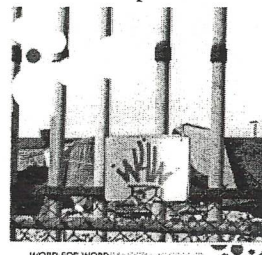
Staff Writer

"By all means" means I have to bring all everything/ Sick with the motion/ Stick and still with the stationary/ Worship penmanship/ To color galore/ Canned craftiness/ Train is fill/ Page is empty/ Turns from extensive to lamen's/ Relate urges of replaying nerves that lay in many men/ Slay with any pen/ I can come to grips with/ From brain thought/ To the saliva/ To mic/ To lip kick/ Back to electricity/ To speak an intensity..."

"By All Means" is the first song on the new Word 4 Word EP, "Random Access." And it truly describes what they've put into this album. It is one of the best CD's I have heard in the last year, pretty much because the verbal stylings of Rhyme Chyld and Content are the best you could ask for.

Now the group Word 4 Word consists of four members; Content (Adrian Gorder,) Rhyme Chyld (Donald Tho-

WORD 4 WORD Continued on 11



Open Places 14th at 'Globals'

Amanda Wold

Staff Writer

Knoxville, Tennessee

On Tuesday, May 21 the St. Paul Open School secondary Dual DI-lemma team met at the airport to begin their journey to Knoxville, Tennessee. They were headed off to compete with teams from Korea, Brazil and many other countries at the Destination Imagination Global Finals, the "final destination."

After a two-hour plane ride and a three- hour bus ride the team arrived at the University of Tennessee, where they stayed in dorms during the competition days. The Dual DI-lemma team consists of 11th grader Mark Dyson, 12th grader Emily Schultz, ninth graders Arthur Minnerly and Ananda Wold, and 10th grader Sierra

Blakely. They were coached by Greg Adams and Jennifer Schultz. This is Jennifer's last year as a co-coach.



The team competed on Friday and Saturday. They began with instant challenge on Friday. On Saturday they did their long term performance second to last, immediately following the team from Coon Rapids, MN. Overall the team placed 14th out of 41 teams. "We screamed and gave each other high fives," said Emily describing the team's reaction.

On the way back, when the team thought about what they most enjoyed, Arthur said "The dis-

TENNESSEE Continued on 11

••••• Bat Wait, There's More! •••••

••••• YOUR LAST CHANCE
••••• TO HEAR FROM: •••••

••••• Jon Thurn (page 5) •••••

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The Best Soccer Party Around

Mee Xiong
Staff Writer

Hmong people are starting to get excited. Why? Because Hmong Soccer Tournament is coming up! The Hmong Soccer Tournament is another event that Hmong people save money for besides the Hmong New Year at River Center.

The biggest Hmong Soccer Tournament this year, like every year, is being held at Como Park on Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6, 2002. There will be Hmong traditional foods and traditional shopping items. You can also watch the sports; there will be soccer, volleyball, kabtau (between soccer and volleyball) and many more. There will be a fee about \$3 to pay at the door so bring money to spend, spend, and spend! It will be worth the money and your time.

The main event is the soccer tournament. People come to compete from places as far away as California, Wisconsin and Laos.

There will also be many teams from Minnesota. They start the game by randomly drawing team's names to compete and if they win, they will go on to their next challenger. The first day, they will have two tries and if they lose two games, the team will be kicked out.

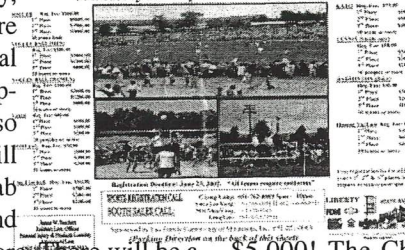
The second day, they will not have any chances once the teams lose a game. The last two teams remaining will be competing for the Championship 2002 Hmong Soccer Tournament. This year's prizes are 3rd place - \$2,000, 2nd place - \$3,500 and 1st place - \$5,000!

The Championship for the 2001 Hmong Soccer Tournament was the Black Cats and they will also be competing this year with their other team, the Wild Cats. The photographs of the Black Cats team is displayed at Lao Family.

Soccer Continued on 10

MN HONG 22ND ANNUAL SPORTS TOURNAMENT

Friday & Saturday, July 5 & 6, 2002
McMurray Field By Como Park, Saint Paul, MN



Computers

Shmuel Blyly-Strauss
Staff Writer

There have been several pressing questions regarding the computer lab situation at Open School next year. Probably the most important one is whether or not we will have a lab supervisor next year. The answer, in a word, is yes. According to Principal Ruth Pechmann, we will have a computer lab supervisor next year. Our current lab supervisor, Ralph Krantz said that he would be interested in staying on next year. It's only a 10-month job, so he doesn't get paid at all for two months.

Another important matter is what will be happening with our computers when they break down, when there's no district repair department next year. Basically, any computers that are less than three years old are under warranty, but any older computers will need take fixed by people at school or scrapped.

The last really important issue I investigated was what the deal would be with getting new computers and/or upgrades. According to Ruth, we won't be getting any new computers next year, due to budget constraints. Ralph said that, if he still works here

SHMUEL Continued on 11

Farewell to Midge

Michelle Ekdahl
Staff Writer

Midge is retiring from Open School. She thinks she's ready to move on since she has plans.

Midge has been at Open School for 17 years, and she thinks it is time to do what she's always wanted to do. When she retires, she's planning to travel with her husband, work on crafts and read books.

What she really liked at Open School was she always felt comfortable here with the staff and the students.

Midge thinks Open School will not be the same. She thinks there will be less running around and more kids in the classrooms learning. Her favorite lunch to prepare is meatloaf, and her favorite ordering was pizza. Midge believes our school lunches are good, but

she thinks the SLC needs a bigger portion.

Midge's favorite things at Open School were the kids and the staff. She will miss being here, preparing our lunches, and seeing Open School students. What she won't miss is the kids that have attitudes

so they really bother her. She also won't miss the kids that don't have lunch money.

Many students will miss Midge: "She's a great part of the school, she's so sweet and nice," said senior Derek Swertal.

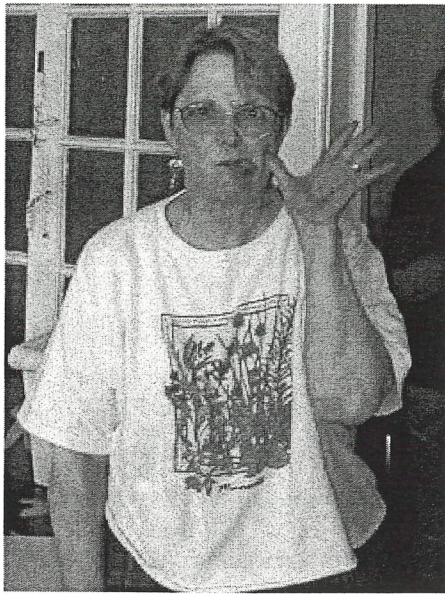
"She's not really mean when people forget their lunch money," said senior Lucy Stark.

The staff will miss her: "She's a crazy woman hahaha," said hall monitor Christina. "She guarantees a friendly face," said math teacher Susan Hawk.



Senior Profile

Lenni Augustine



How long have you been at Open?
30 years.

If you could be an animal, what kind of animal would you be?

Three toed sloth or a lemur.

What is your favorite color?

Blue

What will you miss most about Open School?

The kids.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Retired.

History Day State Competition

Sia Yang
Staff Writer

The State History Day competition, right after prom on May 4, was held at the University of Minnesota. While none of the Open School teams advanced to the National competition, many got excellent reviews from the judges. It was a very competitive meet.

At State there is one round of judging before the projects are chosen to advance into Nationals. Only three out of the thousands of projects were chosen to go onto Nationals. Four out of sixteen Open School groups got into the final round.

Students had to answer questions about their projects again, but this time the questions weren't as complicated as at the Regional.

"The questions that the judges asked were not as hard as we thought," said junior Chai Her. "They were pretty easy."

"Our video didn't turn out well, so it was hard for the judges to judge us. It wasn't our fault their television wasn't working well," junior Mai Thao said with a laugh.

The students who did projects learned a lot about their subject. Chai Her learned about the history of the Vietnam War. Ker learned about what his parents were like

back when they were still in Laos and Thailand.

"I used to live in one of the camps we studied about," said Ker.

Some groups that were heading on to State made a lot of changes to their projects. Some of the groups even changed the whole board and the pictures, but others didn't bother touching it. For example, the group "Reaction to the Pearl Harbor" changed their whole project because the images on the boards were starting to fall apart. This time though, not many students got out of their classes to work on their History Day projects.

At State this year, there were more neatly completed projects than at the Regional competition. Everyone had at least one competitor to compete with according to Susanne.

"There were many beautiful projects and the competition was very tough," said Susanne.

Students are getting more and more creative with projects so this year's competition was very tough on the students. All the projects were excellent and the judges gave students some very good comments when

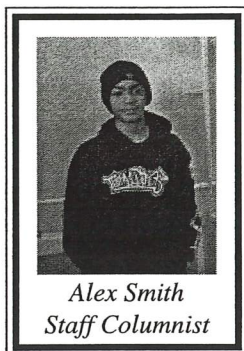
the results came.

During the Awards Ceremony, not many students stayed either because they had somewhere else to go or because they knew that they might not have a chance at winning.

"I hope that everybody will come back and do it again next year. Every year I learn something new and hopefully I can give better advice next year for students who are thinking about doing it again," said Susanne.

Maybe, next year somebody will go on to represent Open School at National. ♦

Let's play with M80s



Alex Smith
Staff Columnist

For myself and for so many other kids, the recipe for summertime fun always called for a heaping portion of pyrotechnics. From sparklers to amateur terrorism, from celebrating national independence to

neighborhood warfare, summertime was just another word for three months of carelessly playing with fire.

Fireworks have become something like an obsession for so many Minnesotans, such as myself, who flock over the border in hordes every June and July to grab up as many bottle rockets, Roman candles, and aerial display shells as possible. As soon as you cross into Wisconsin you are barraged by countless signs for "Fireworks City" and "Explosives Paradise," and it is no coincidence that these places are so close to the border. "The governor of Wisconsin is no idiot," says Jesse Ventura, "He knows what

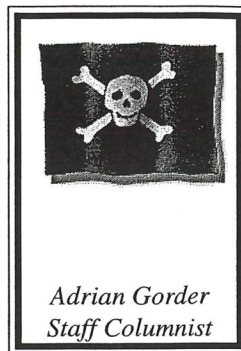
he's doing," referring to the obvious marketing of fireworks to Minnesotans. Minnesota's wholesome, do-gooder status is making it lose millions of dollars every July that could very well be funding our struggling public schools.

This is no different than prohibition; it's only fueling the want for something that we can't have. The excuses people have for banning fireworks are stupid. Fireworks injuries in states that have banned fireworks are almost the same as in states in which they are legal and Minnesotans polled have voted in favor of legalizing fireworks.

Now the Minnesota legislature has taken a small step towards legalizing the most controversial thing since alcohol. A bill has recently been passed making small fireworks such as sparklers and small fountains legal on the 4th of July. So we are slowly crawling towards what could be a huge boost in revenues for this state.

But legalizing wussy fireworks will not stop the flood of partial explosives that flow into the city every summer, making my **BLOWING THINGS UP** *Continued on 11*

Your dumb life



Adrian Gorder
Staff Columnist

I'm going to college, watch me succeed. Watch me mold my future with perfection. Follow your heart follow your dreams. YOU WILL MAKE MONEY, YOU WILL GET THE JOB and YOU

WILL BE HAPPY. My outlook is bitter but I've been told all these things since birth (17 long years ago). I've also seen people take the advice to heart only to end up at the same job they left 4 years earlier.

Hey it's our ol' buddy Josh H., that dude is successful. Yeah he is, 1500 on his S.A.T.'s he wants to get a math degree at some Ivy league. Do it to it Josh. The Gord supports you all the way on this venture. Apply for a scholarship and ride that sweet train of intelligence right to the future bank. When you get a million up front, WOW! You have earned all that you have, just remember me when you have a billion dollar video game biz.

Here comes Tally W., that girl is just like me. Average grades, average income and undecided future. Mommy says college is where she can shape her future, it's where dreams become a reality. Just apply for a couple student loans and after 5 years of major jumping she comes out of the storm with a history degree. GREAT, that was her dream. Alright what now fate? Which way to profession? Well, you could be a teacher "I hate kidz Gord!" Yangah that's a doosey, well um, go to and get a Masters "Wait Gord, I'm out \$20,000, I can't go back to school!" Once again Yangah!

So Tally is headed back to Pizza Hut, she is going to pay off her loans then go to school. Hey, Tally did it. She graduated, and she got a job at the local high school. She makes a whopping \$32,000 a year and she's only 27. She is trying to pay off her loans, and raise her brand new baby. "Damn Gord this was a good chunk of my life, and I'm still not happy. Kids are nice I guess but the school keeps making budget cuts so my job is completely unstable.

Paul is a dude who knows his fate. He wore his blue collar as choker. He graduated from high school, went down to the plumbers' union and got himself a high pay- **DUMB LIFE** *Continued on 12*

Is your sibling someone famous?

Chris McLean
Staff Writer

Fans of Open School's Adrian Gorder may be shocked to learn that his sister Genevieve Gorder is a star on the show Trading Spaces, perhaps THE star depending on who you ask. I, however, was more shocked at Adrian's general disdain towards her, something the "prestigious" Star Tribune didn't care to cover in their recent feature story on her. I say here and now without any ridiculous hyperbole that Adrian Gorder is the worst brother the world ever has, and ever will see.

"I don't know how to spell her name. I just call her Gen."

Wow, Adrian. Nicknames aren't a sign of affection. They're a sign that you don't care! Hey Adrian, what do you think about your sister's newfound fame?

"It's weird and awkward. I just plain can't handle it!"

Disgusting! You should be proud of your sister instead of behaving like a two year old. But I guess that's impossible for a mon-

ster like you. Adrian, I just plain can't handle YOU.

Adrian had no problem dishing out some premium dirt on his sister. As a matter of fact, she's landed a small role in Spider-Man 2 and will be a supporting character in the upcoming Hurricane: The Movie! He also didn't have any problem dishing out about her addiction to Corona.

"One time she had four six packs of Corona, I didn't see her till three months later."

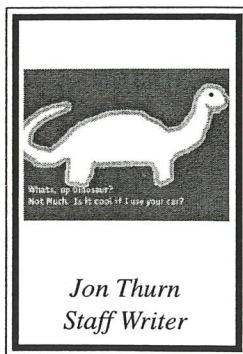
Man, some things should be kept private. But I wouldn't expect Adrian to respect that, as I didn't even have to bribe him to get her phone number!

"Yeah, sell it on the internet and split the profits with me."

No deal. Some of us have respect for the members of our family, and we know when to quit. Why is it Adrian treats someone who was like a second mother to him like a dis- **SISTER** *Continued on 11*



01-02 Review



"Tick, tock!" screams the clock on the wall, as the school year winds to a close, the clock will wind anyway, and we feel it's time wind brushing across our faces. The teachers take things off of their

walls, the pulsing crystal in the core of the school cools down for summer, the dog stops chasing the cat but it's too late for the rat, the rat is actually ok. However, some seniors aren't as they will never see the school again -- sailing away on a magic carpet into a silver cloud called the future. The magic carpet howls and sparks as it reaches top speed, but I still can look back at Open School's year, my and many staff members last year, and remember the good, the bad, and the powerful.

Perhaps the most powerful event of this year will be Lenni retiring from three decades of Open School and three great games of Jenga, but don't think the tower didn't topple! I don't know if three games of monopoly were ever played but they were probably intense. I sat down for an interview with Lenni even though in the hallway they were fighting a wolf made out of lightning!

Anyway I asked the lightning hound if I could get by and it shocked me. So when I was talking to Lenni I asked her how her last few weeks at school were treating her and she told me, that is was busy, as it always is at the end of the year, with seniors, candy, and card games. "You start to notice how you'll be doing something for the last time." She went on, saying how this was good and bad, for example She had recently went to the store to buy bulk candy for the last time, which is cause for celebration, while things like her last groups will be more on the missed side of the moon. I understand the groups, but I think buying candy in bulk would be fun because the candy factory is hilarious, there was a guy there with a trumpet that blew out candy! J/K, going to Walgreens or something to buy boxes of candy is only fun with the lightning wolf and he escaped in a thunderstorm during the interview.

A tiny ant was quietly listening to us and cleaning it's antennae as I interviewed Lenni

MARBLES Continued on 12

T-Wolves Come up Empty

Cameron Beitler
Staff Writer

The crowd is cheering. The Timberwolves are making a come back. They are two points down with a minute to go...and they turn it over and lose by 10. This is the way the playoffs went for Timberwolves yet again this year.

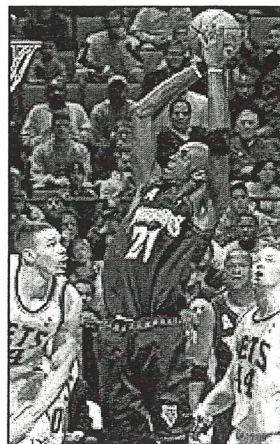
Hopes were high for the Timberwolves to break their daunting six year streak of losses in the first round of the playoffs. Why wouldn't our hopes be high? They were seeded fifth, the highest they had ever been, and going against a team which they had beaten twice in the regular season. But we were disappointed when the Wolves were swept by the high-powered offense of the Dallas Mavericks.

So we're here sitting back and watching the playoffs wind down and the second round continue with out the Wolves. The questions is why. Why can't this team that

can win 50 games in a season and is filled with talent get past the first round of the playoffs?

I think the answer is consistency and the lack of defensive power on the team. We can't keep leads in games and we have a lot of trouble staying in close games, which hurts in the playoffs. There is also the fact that a fly could score on us, we just don't have any good defense. They, on average, allowed 96 points a game, which isn't on the bottom, it's 16th, but for a team that makes the playoffs it's pretty bad. So if we could fix our defense and win the close games we would have no problem getting past the first round or even the second.

Our offense is the really the main reason that we won 50 games. We have Kevin Garnett scoring 21 points and Wally
WOLVES Continued on 10



Take me out to the Ballgame

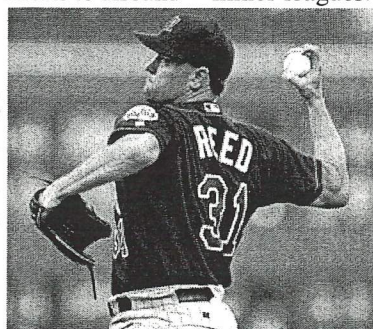
Will Beneke-Eaves
Staff Writer

This season the Minnesota Twins are enjoying one of their best starts in a decade. they are currently in first place in their division with a 25-20 record. They are managing to do this despite Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig's best efforts to disband the team.

One of the big reasons the Twins are doing so well is their defense. two out of their eight non-pitching positions, Tori Hunter in center field and first baseman Doug Mientkiewicz, were Golden-Glove award winners. The Golden-Glove is the top defensive award in baseball given to the top defensive player at each position.

A second reason for the Twins success thus far is their pitching, especially their relief pitching, which has exceeded expectations. Eddie Guardado has been one of their best pitchers. As of May 20, he leads the league in saves with 14. The middle relief

pitchers have done much better than people thought they would. Middle relievers J.C. Romero, Mike Jackson and latroy Hawkins have done particularly well, as has Tom Fiore, who was recently called up from the minor leagues.



The Twins have been devastated by injuries such as Doug Mientkiewicz's injured wrist, Corey Koskie's hamstring injury, Luis Rivas's Injured forearm, and starting pitcher Joe Mays's injured elbow. However their substitutes have been able to step up and take the place of the starters without losing to much. Players like Dusty Mohr, Matthew LeCroy, Bobbie Kielty and pitcher Matt Kinney have been Very effective.

For the Twins to continue to their success, their defense must remain strong and they must get better starting pitchers. This

TWINS Continued on 12

Scooby Dooby Doo

Tony Cavanaugh
Staff Writer

On June 14, what looks to be the greatest movie in the history of man will be released in theaters everywhere. For the first time ever, we will be able to see the one thing we

all really want: Scooby Doo, live action style. Now know all of you are just as excited as I am, so I'll give you a little background info.

For those of you who have not had the pleasure of watching the original "Scooby Doo" TV show, you have missed out on a lot. Although there are so many awesome things in the original series, the plot of each episode is the same. The four teens hear about a criminal of some sort, and go on a quest to find that criminal. It usually ends

in them unmasking the criminal. If you can't see the movie, you should definitely watch the show on Cartoon Network.

The movie has been in talks since 1996, but just now it has finally been made. It stars Matthew Lillard as Shaggy, Sarah Michelle Gellar as Daphne, Freddie Prinze Jr. as Fred, and Linda Cardellini as Velma. The movie is directed by Raja Gosnell ("Home Alone 3," "Never Been Kissed") and the script written by James Gunn.

There have been quite a few rumors about the plot of this movie. But this much about *SCOOPY SNACKS* Continued on 12



BIFF! BANG! Batman!

Aaron Schutjer
Staff Writer

Robin is trapped and is being lowered into a pit of flesh eating crocodiles. Will he be eaten by the hungry crocs or will Batman save the day? This is a typical episode of Batman. Usually someone's in trouble or a bomb's going to go off and the heroes have to stop it. Usually this trouble is caused by one of the principal villains, the Riddler, Catwoman, the Penguin or the Joker.

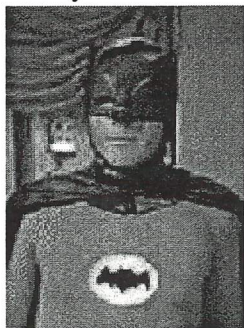
"Batman" hit television in 1966 starring Adam West as the wealthy Bruce Wayne and also Batman (for those of you who don't know that Batman is Bruce Wayne). Burt Ward played Robin, Batman's sidekick.

Our story starts in Walla Walla Washington, where West was born and grew up. He was a fan of the Batman comic books. He entered show business in the late 50's and took roles in such westerns as Maverick and Gunsmoke. He was also the co-star of The Detectives.

Adam West caught ABC's eye when he did a Nestle Quik commercial and portrayed a secret agent, and since ABC was looking for fresh talent, they asked him to be the "Caped Crusader" in their upcoming television show "Batman." Thus he became

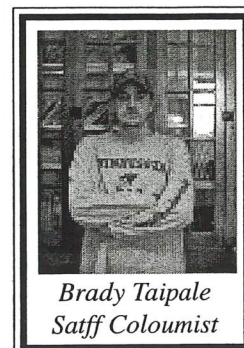
Batman.

Batman was started up in 1966 and is a really great show even now on TV Land because of its fun plots and hilarious scenes which are comic-book-like because when Batman punches a thug, a bubble comes to the screen and says "POW" or "BIFF" or other strange fighting sound effects. Each episode contains a villain like I stated earlier, Frank Gorstin as the Riddler, Julie Newmar as one of the three Catwomen that were played through the series (and also the best,) Burgess Meredith as the Penguin and finally Cesar Romero as the Joker.



In my opinion, this was one of the best old television shows besides the "Twilight Zone" and it deserves recognition because of its delightful content. Batman wasn't just a show back in the 60's but since then it has spawned many theatrical pictures and cartoons such as Batman, Batman Forever, Batman and Robin, The New Adventures of Batman and Superman, and the latest cartoon from the WB, Batman Beyond, which is cool. There have also been rumors of Batgirl and Batman: Year one.◇

Minimum Wage Laws Could Hurt Business



Brady Taipale
Satff Coloumist

There are times when, it seems to me, like the American traditions of hard work, success, and freedom are slowly becoming forgotten and replaced by socialist government programs. It seems like

every day more weenie senators like Paul Wellstone want to eliminate any competition and have the government make our decisions for us.

To make it clear what I'm pissed about, I read in the paper recently that Senator Wellstone is pushing Congress to pass another minimum wage increase. Now, before everyone starts complaining about what I have to say, let me explain where I'm coming from. Raising the minimum wage too much will screw over small businesses. If you ran a small business and the minimum wage kept increasing, you would soon be paying people more money than they generate. You would eventually go broke. Not every business can afford to pay so much. But these liberal senators want everyone to be able to live off of any salary. Even if it means bankruptcy for the employer. The socialist word for it is a "living wage."

The majority of workers that make minimum wage are under age 18. Senator Wellstone saying that people support families on minimum wage is a load of crap. This is just another way to punish successful people and redistribute wealth.

What you are supposed to do if you are not getting paid enough is find a better job. Don't sit there and cry because you have been told by some wuss senator that you are a victim and deserve a government hand-out. But finding a better paying job takes your own decision making. The very thing that Senator Wellstone is trying to do away with.

If you want to work at McDonalds your whole life, fine by me. Just don't expect to get by doing it. For the rest of us, we will work for our money and take some risks doing so. The people who do take a few risks and end up successful should not be punished by these greedy little commie crybabies who think they should be paid as much as someone who really earned their money.◇

Senior Pages

How Will The Class Of 2002 Change The World?

Will Beneke-Eaves

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

6 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

I'm going to go to Concordia University

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Being responsible for my own work.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

My friends.



.....

Monica Downey

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

4 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

Going to college at the U of M.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Nothing.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The atmosphere, the friendliness and the teachers.



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Jillian Yang

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

6 and a half years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

Going straight to college.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Not much except trying to complete the standards.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The teachers because they're friendly, many of the students because we usually get along fine and the x-tra curricular activities-- student government rocks!



Lucy Stark

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

12 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

I'm going to the U of M.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Staying in class while all of your friends are having fun in the hallway.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The wonderful family-like atmosphere, making lots of close friends and growing with peers.



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Miranda Byrne

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

13 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

I am going to the UM- Twin Cities.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Um, organizing your time appropriately so you have enough classes and use your time wisely.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The relationships you have with teachers and students.



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The Purple Press Says:

"Good Bye and Good Luck, Class of 2002!"

.....

Derick Swertel

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

4 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

Go to I.P.R. or Music Tech.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Wanting to come.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Freinds and some teachers.



.....

Chris Schimdt

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

12 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

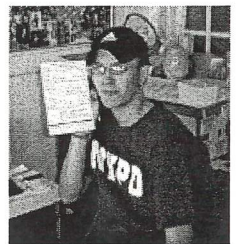
School

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Math

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The girls and science.



.....

Elliot Schutjer

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

6 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

College at Bemidji State.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

The freedom, I got used to it.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The teachers were great!



Heather Raiter

1) How many years have you been at Open School?
3 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

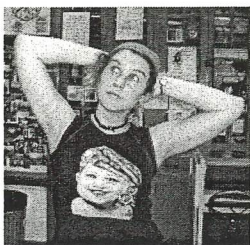
Work; research fields I may want to pursue in college; take various classes; learning how to drive (ha, ha!); and work/volunteer/audition at the Mixed Blood Theater.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

I think the packet-- writing all the letters and getting everything together on time . . .

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

I loved just about everything in this school! Never once in the past three years did I pretend to be sick to get out of school! But mainly, the teachers and atmosphere. The students were nice, too.



Duncan Holmstrom

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

13 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

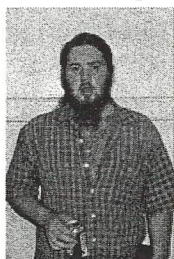
... Uhh...Yeah...

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Its lack of structure.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Its lack of structure..



Sam Gleeson

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

About 2 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

Farms

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Watching Jon pull the red carpet from under my feet.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Cussing, cleavage.

Ker Her

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

7 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

I plan to go to Century for two years then transfer to a four-year college.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

The higher classes.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Making new friends, the teachers and long advisory.



Houa Xiong

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

4 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

Go to Century College to major in Health Coordinator Unit.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

The shedule of classes. For me it was hard because all the classes that I needed to take to graduate are shuduled at different times, and it was hard to get in to all the classes I needed.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Teachers are soo nice here.



Sia Yang

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

4 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

Planning to go to college full-time and work a bit.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

The graduation portfolio and the graduation standards.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The best thing is the freedom that Open School gives to students and the friendships that develop between students and their teachers.



Chris McLean

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

7 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

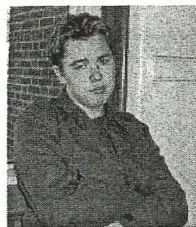
I am taking a fun and adventurous year off.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

I disliked that sometimes students were disrespectful.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

I liked that many of my classes were challenging.



Adam Hurt

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

13 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

I plan on attending Gilford College in North Carolina. I plan on pursuing music on the side.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

The hardest thing was understanding the "black book," and getting accurate information about it.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The best thing about Open was, having the opprotunity to work with such fine teachers, with whom I considered an equal, not an underling as I would have been at a traditional school.



Seng Thor

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

6 Years

2) What are your plans for next year?

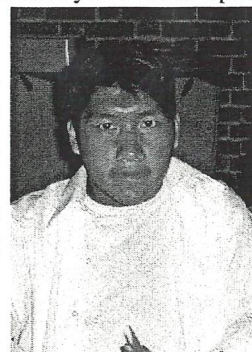
Maybe go to college, or work.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

I guess nothing, maybe the readings.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The nice people we have and the teachers.



Emily Schultz

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

12 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

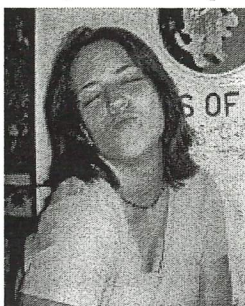
I will be attending the Arts Institute International Minnesota, where I intend to major in Interior Design.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

I don't really have any regrets from or about Open School, but I was always curious as to know what it's like at a traditional school.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Open School has done a lot for me as a person. Since it's such a small school, the "homey" atmosphere was always there, so I was able to express myself freely and not be embarrassed about what I had to say.



Anna Karl

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

13 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

I will be at Drake University.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Probably it was developing good study and work habits.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The community. At Open School, it is possible to know every student, and every teacher. Here, people are more than numbers. I always felt that my teachers knew and cared about all their students personally.

.....

Ethan Williams

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

3 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

Going to Central America, producing a documentary with my sister and a friend, and going to college.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Getting there on time.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

All the teacher support/individual relationships and all the weird friends.

.....

Lisa Grotenhuis

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

6 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

Finishing my associates degree at MCTC.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Completing the packet.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The community atmosphere.



Jon Thurn

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

4 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

To work at a bar called Dr. Talk. J/K I'm gonna probably be sailing.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

I wasn't into the change that split 4/5 into 4th and 5th hour. I also didn't like the fact that they didn't let me on the roof.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

That this teacher taught me to hanglide, but I fell into some sharp rocks! It was cool though.

.....

Maura Shramko

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

13 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

I'm going to Macalester College in the fall.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Finding a way to challenge myself academically by leaving the building and still maintain my social ties to Open.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The supportive environment that allowed me to become who I am today.

.....

Brian Blakely

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

13 years

2) What are your plans for next year?

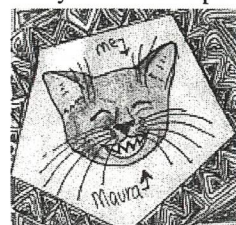
I am going to the University of Minnesota, Duluth.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

The hardest thing about Open School was to learn to manage my freedom responsibly.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

Coming back here after a day in the piranha tanks of Central or Highland and having teachers and students who actually care about me.



Daniele Finley

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

5, sort of.

2) What are your plans for next year?

Second semester at U of M.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Coming back after college.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

My entire 8th grade year. How welcoming and accepting everyone was. The great teachers.



Ted Howard

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

4 years.

2) What are your plans for next year?

The carpenter's union.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Seeing the other people every day.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The friends I made.

Kashia Thor

1) How many years have you been at Open School?

5 years.

2) What are you plans for next year?

To go to a cosmetology school.

3) What was the hardest thing about Open School?

Learning integrated math.

4) What was the best thing about Open School?

The students and staff.

Late Breaking News

USA Stuns Portugal 3-2 in World Cup

Leo gets up at 3:30 to watch it...Does he have a life?

SOCCER From 2

tion on Hmong Soccer Tournament or would like to go. Please contact me at Saint Paul Open School, (651) 293-8670 or ask for Leo Bickelhaupt. You could also call Lao Family at (651) 221-0069, Fax: (651) 221-0276 or visit Lao Family at 320 West University Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55103. Their Website is www.laofamily.org. Come have fun at the celebration!

Jon Sherman pretends to be a single, 30-year old home owner to talk to Genivieve Gorder on the KS 95 morning show. She said "Open School Rules."

"I have never been on the radio before," said Jon.

WOLVES From 5

Szczerbiak scoring 19 points a game, offense in the regular season wasn't a problem. In the playoffs though, it just wasn't consistent enough to win games. Also, we just can't hold on to the ball and make the clutch shots near the end of the game. Our team just doesn't act well under the pressure the playoffs cause.

There is a problem with trying to improve our team. We don't get any first round draft picks for the next four years because of Joe Smith's illegal contract. We are spending 126 million dollars over the next six years to keep super star Kevin Garnett happy. That makes it hard to make the team better. If we are going to improve, we have to do it with the players we have now. It is possible if we work hard and use our team as we should. But now as the playoffs come to an end, they must wonder if we will ever make it past the first round. I think the answer is yes, but not for a couple more years.◊

LENNI From 1

groups and is the Senior advisor. In short, she's come a long way.

All of Lenni's roles have been important during her time at Open School. Her groups have been a vital part of student well being for years. The groups, which usually consist of about five-to-ten people, give students a chance to discuss problems and share ideas. Many students cite their group time with Lenni as a very important part of their experience here at Open School. "She's good at listening, and she gives you thought-out answers. She's also good at drawing people out," said 10th grader Sierra Blakely.

"She is always sure to hear everyone's opinions and she has a lot of respect for everyone's point of view," said senior Emily Schultz.

As the senior class advisor, Lenni brought experience to the job that can't be duplicated, ever. In addition to overseeing graduation, Lenni has written countless Group Process validations over the years, and provided crucial one-on-one validation help for generations of students. When the school began to overhaul the graduation process in response to the state's mandated Graduation Standards, Lenni served on the committee to help the transition. This year she was again instrumental in helping several students graduate under the new graduation portfolio system.

Lenni's third and final official job in the school was advisor to student government.

According to students, she is good at letting students take most of the ownership and control, and stepping in when she knows her presence is necessary. "She likes to give kids most of the power," said 9th grader Sean Keith, a member of student government. "She can relate to students really well," added Sean.

After so many years and so much effort, Lenni had planned to retire last year, along with the old validation system. However, last year's juniors, with persistence, convinced Lenni to stick around one more year for the transition from validation to graduation standards. When she finally does retire, Lenni plans to enjoy life: hang out more with her husband, Dick; spend more time with her grandchildren; travel a bit. Lenni will still be coming back to visit, of course, and she is even considering being a HOST reading buddy. Next year, Renee will take over the groups (at least her name rhymes with Lenni), Elizabeth will take over as senior class advisor, and Jeff will take over as the student government advisor.

In all of her years with Open School, Lenni has affected so many people, from ELC students to seniors to teachers. When she says goodbye this year, staff and students alike will miss Lenni for her role in starting Open School, for her patience and effort with student groups and student government and for simply being who she is.

"Lenni has laid the groundwork and her

work here will hold us together," said art teacher Elizabeth Lehman.

"I think it's sad that Lenni's leaving," said senior Miranda Byrne. "She's been here so long, she knows exactly what Open School is supposed to be."

"She's the heart of Open School. It will not be the same," said graduate Salvador Rosas.

"She really listens. She takes the time to ask and knows about each person (staff and students) as individuals. She cares about us," said Julie Doble, science teacher.

Lenni actually listened to what I had to say. That's very rare," said Aaron Holland, junior.

Senior Heather Raiter agrees. "She is one of the easiest adults to talk to and it is definitely one of the things I will miss the most, but there is so much more I will miss . . . Yes, I will miss you, Lenni."◊

TENNESSEE From 1

covery of the word Cittipank." All in all they had a good time, and are going to try to return next year. They plan to improve on Instant Challenge, by practicing a larger variety of problems. This year they will loose Emily Schultz, who participated in a DI graduation ceremony in Tennessee. "I think we need to get the right people, that work well together and put out the effort," said Greg when asked how he thinks the team needs to improve.◊

WORD 4 WORD *From 1*

mas,) DJ Asei (Asei,) and their loyal producer Nic Hubble.

The group was formed back in 1999 when Content met Rhyme Chyld at an audio tech class at Central High School. "I started writing rap in the eighth grade, back in '97, but I was too embarrassed to show anybody. Then I hooked up with Donald, and things kinda took off from there."

Since that day, Word 4 Word has slowly been spreading through the underground hip-hop scene in the Twin Cities, joining other groups to form "The Coalition," a bunch of different hip-hop groups pursuing a positive message. "The Coalition" consists of five groups; Word 4 Word, The Sandbox Boys, Fy-Nights Philosophy, Death By Kow abunga (DBK,) and the Low-Fi All-Stars.

The group has a vocabulary and stringing of words that rivals almost all mainstream rappers. And you won't find any "fake tracks" about owning cars, jewelry, and huge ass houses. These guys talk about a girl they saw on the 21A, it's something you can relate to.

Also, they are versatile, as proven in the difference between their anthem, "Bust," a hard hitting song with a strong bass line, great verses and chorus, including my favorite line of the CD: "My minds like a sick plantation for the alphabet/ Where else you think I get these cotton pickin' words from/ Dag nabbit," to the classical sound of "21 Angels," or the love ballad, "Gabriella," with a great vocal done by close friend Aaron Rile. Each verse leaves an imprint in your mind, waiting for the next to fill is, and you just keep wanting more.

Word 4 Word has done various tracks with members of "The Coalition," but "Random Access" is their first solo project. They recorded it at Hubble Studios, a private studio owned by their producer Nic, and it took a fairly short four months to record. "It was fun to put it together, I got to contribute a large part to put it together because it was all done by either Donald, me, or other friends. Even my sister added the design for the CD cover. It's taken a lot of hard work, but it all was worth it," added Content.

Every track is beautifully put together, usually adorned with piano and guitar, mixed with the usually joyous rhymes of Rhyme Chyld and Content. There is also a very conciencious spoken-word track entitled "Time Machine."

The EP costs five dollars!!! That's almost one third of all other new CD's out there. I personally am buying another one just to support them, as everyone should. This is one of the best, if not the best local hip-hop albums I have ever heard. So support local artists, Word 4 Word. You can buy a copy of the album (if it's not sold out yet,) from Adrian (for only five dollars,) or you can pick it up at one of their shows. These things are crazy. You can just feel the energy circulating through the room, the lyrics blast into your ears, and the crowd recites the music they happen to know back. It's an extremely fun and positive enviroment.

The next show is at the Fireball Cafe on the 26th of July. Even if you don't like hip-hop, buy this album, you won't be disappointed.

BLOWING THINGS UP *From 4*

neighborhood look like a multicolored war zone, with rockets being launched from malt liquor bottles at passing vehicles. Roman candles are used as close range weapons, firecrackers are thrown like snowballs, and stop drop and roll is the exercise of choice.

This may not sound like the best thing to talk about when trying to make an argument for legalization of something that has been proven deadly on more than one occasion. But my point is that, just like we have the right to burn flags, rail against the government, and form armed militias, we should also have the right to make things explode and hurt ourselves in the process. America is supposedly all about freedoms, and the freedom to have a little fun with fire while the government makes a lot of money to fund its controversial programs seems like a win-win situation to me. So just remember, next time you're lighting firecrackers in the palm of your hand or strapping small animals to rockets, that you're supporting freedom, and if you don't, the terrorists have won!

SHMUEL *From 2*

next year, he'd like to get eight new computers for the lab and upgrade some of the teachers' computers, if there is sufficient money in the budget.◊

SISTER *From 4*

tant third cousin he doesn't want to see?

Well, luckily for both of them they'll soon appear on the Van & Cheryl in the morning show on KS95 in June, so hopefully they'll be able to patch up their rocky relationship, but only time can say for sure. "Gen" had this to say about Adrian.

"There's been so much hurt, I hope I can forgive him but I don't know.... I just don't know."

I also got a hold of fellow Trading Spaces designer, Vern.

"Sometimes when we see Genevieve in a bad mood, we know it's because of that bastard Adrian. She might forgive him, but I NEVER will."

Well, with all the negativity out of the way, it's time to talk about what we all came here for: Tornadoes! While their relationship is like a sinking ship, Genevieve and Adrian can agree on one thing: Tornadoes are the most powerful and terrifying force on the face of the earth.

"I bet she'd do a tornado-themed room. It's so stupid."

Whoa Adrian, I might have to take cover from your tornado of sibling rivalry. Or, if it was a real tornado, I might want to take cover under my basement stairs, or, if I lacked a basement, in my bathtub with some sort of protective cover such as a blanket, or a mat-

tress.

"In tornado season, Minnesota will see an average of thirty tornadoes, and many more severe thunderstorms," said Paul Douglas in a 1991 special.

According to tornado experts, a tornado once destroyed the largest indoor pool in Shoreview MN. To avoid such a disaster you might not want to build an indoor pool in the middle of tornado alley! Seriously though, stay away from pools if a tornado's around.

"Tornadoes are pretty scary, definitely not fashionable. Did Adrian tell you I'd do a tornado room? I'd do it to deak him."

It'd take a tornado to fix their relationship! But if you see an unwanted tornado heading towards you, and you're on the road, pull over and look for a ditch, or if you're near a highway overpass, take cover under that! Don't try to out run it though, or you'll find a shortcut to death.... right through Tornado Alley!

"If I ever see Adrian again, I'll blow up his car!"

Good point, Vern. But do you have any advice for our Tornado weary public?

"Stay away from windows!"

That's true, if you're monkeying around with windows when a tornado's heading *SISTER Continued on 12*

SISTER From 11

your way, you'll be getting a face full of glass. Anything you heard about leaving windows half open is a myth! Be safe and don't get cut! That's fine advice for any life situation.

Everyone loves tornadoes, and with this advice your tornado season will be the best and safest ever! As for Gen and Adrian, I don't really care what happens with them, but I have a feeling a mutual love for tornadoes can bring together even the deepest rift.◊

SCOOBY SNACKS From 6

the plot is for sure: the four teens go on a vacation in the Mystery Machine (their van) to a place called Spooky Island (a hot resort for teens and college kids on spring break) and find themselves solving the latest mystery.

Fans will reportedly find out why there is a flower painted on the side of the Mystery Machine (which reportedly comes equipped with a barbecue grill and a beanbag chair in the movie) and why Fred wears that orange thing around his neck.

I don't know about you, but that definitely sounds like the greatest movie ever made. Not only does it have Scooby Doo in it as a computer-animated character, but we get to see Freddie Prinze Jr. as a blonde! What more could a person want? Matthew Lillard as Shaggy? Sarah Michelle Gellar as Daphne? In my opinion, they could not have picked a better cast. This movie is definitely a must-see, from young kids to old adults. Don't miss it!◊

TWINS From 5

is especially true with the Twins schedule getting harder by playing excellent offensive teams like the Yankees and the Mariners. For example, in the six recent games they played against the Yankees, they lost all of them and they still have six against the Mariners. Their starting pitching against the Yankees was sporadic with their reliable starters Eric Milton and Brad Radke having Earned Run Averages of 5.63 and 5.08 respectively.

A third thing they must do to keep on winning is to try and stay healthy. Then they must get pitcher Joe May and third baseman Corey Koskie back from the disabled list. If the Twins are able to keep up their present pace for the rest of the season, they could very well be a championship team. their biggest rivals for the division pennant are the Chicago White Sox and the Cleveland.◊

DUMB LIFE From 4

ing and self satisfying job. Hey Paul, you figured out. How'd to make life work for you without a college degree, how you do it? "Man, do what is right for you, lose all else that acts as your ambition's obstacle."

Now these are three very different cases. Josh has a clear cut idea on what he wants and the money to produce that dream. Tally is the average college goer: unsure, poorly financed and struggling with fate. Paul is a lot like Josh but hasn't been brainwashed with, "college equals success". Now here is where my problem comes in. Josh and Tally have been told by many elders that what Paul does is necessary but he is inferior due to his occupation, that his choice in life means he isn't as intelligent as them. He didn't weather the four year storm, probably doesn't read; he must not think beyond his manual labor existence.

MARBLES From 5

about the candy store, to which Lenni said, "I feel kind of bad about it because candy isn't exactly healthy." The ant seemed to want it pretty bad, but she went on to explain that the candy money is needed more than ever for more affordable field trips, yo-yo fights, and to keep the crystal core cool. The last two are made up, but don't worry because yo-yo fights are non-violent and they just involve tricks. And so finally I asked her what the best part of Open School was, and Lenni gave the shining trophy filled with gems to, "The students," and the overall atmosphere of Open School, which has been filled with energy, the ant army, and something creepy that crawls! Well, not creepy or crawling, but fun and sprawling, crazy and dazing!

And so as Lenni leaves with the Senior class, let's remember the events we have left behind, here is my list:

*The Bathroom Doors -- I remember Gambit from the X-Men was particularly mad about this when I told him so I quickly hid all the card decks I could find, but he can hurl anything on fire. These will probably never be back, just like the Discovery Zone Kids, who are all grown up and one of them works at Wendy's.

*The Budget Cuts -- Perhaps more affecting next year, we must many staff members to leave, and it will make it so that more lightning wolves will appear and we won't know how to control them. The ant army just isn't strong enough, sorry.

*Prom -- So what if prom wasn't on beautiful Lake Como, the Safari Fantasy theme

These are just my thoughts on future. Yours may be different but keep an open mind, punk. Many seniors, not necessarily from this school but in general are going on to college. There is nothing wrong with continuing your education, but a lot of these peers are not sure what they're doing. They don't have much money but plenty of party. They believe that without college they end up living a sad pace of life and that nothing will be as sweet with out that slip of paper. I'm just here to remind the hypnotized that with college your smile grins with the same grind. You can even be just as smart-and it's called reading, many college graduates don't at all. So turn deaf ears to the ones that tell you how your future is going to turn out. Do what satisfies you, do what puts food on the table and fulfillment in your outlook.◊

was amazing, a toucan and a macaw got into a scuffle but they came out friends just like the giraffe came in -- Arnold the giraffe couldn't fit into prom so he barked to me, "Tell Harold the Zebra that I need a ride home." The was pretty sad, but otherwise prom wasn't sad, so I say "CONGRAD!"
*The Lake in the Field -- The lake that forms on the field sometimes gets so large I hear a coiled up eel lives in the bottom, it's eyes squinting and straining for victims -- WATCH OUT.

*Also -- The Talent Show and the Halloween Show. Interim almost didn't happen? It did and the magic carpet starts its flapping.

And so these events changed our lives a little with a snicker and a snap and as we all leave, some do not come back, I remember yesterday, today and yesterday I turned a Lego man into a real person, his plastic limbs stretched and strained until he grew real and he built a house for me, and a speedboat, and I said to him, "How am I going to use this?" He laughed and so did I as we walked off and got on the Lego mini-bikes he had just made. And so, as the time wind started to shudder and scream and I knew I had to go to the roof in a hot air-balloon to sail away.◊