

Open Ships Off to Knoxville Shy

Cameron Beitler
Staff Writer

At the DI state competition held at Armstrong High School on April 13, both Open School teams competing did very well against the best teams in the state.

The Dual DI-Lemma Level S placed second in State and will be going on to Global Finals in Knoxville, Tennessee for the second year in a row. They placed second to the same team from Coon Rapids as last year. The team members are Mark Dyson, Ananda Wold, Arthur Minnerly, Emily Schultz, and Sierra Blakely.

The tournament featured teams that placed first at one of nine regional tournaments. The competition was strong in all problems, with the Dual DI-Lemma team going against six other teams and the StranDId teams competing against eight.

Coch Greg Adams was thrilled with the team's performance at state: "It was excellent, couldn't have been better," said Greg. "I am excited to be going back to Knoxville, this time money is not as much of

an issue."

The team moving on is very excited to have
DI Continued on 7



Syndrome

Sia: All those eyes looking at me. My fear starts to rise I start to blush, and feel hot. As a Hmong student, this is how I feel when I get called on to

answer a question. I get scared and I get nervous, nervous that the students will laugh if I answer the question wrong, scared that someone might correct me if I'm wrong. As I grew older and got used to all my peers around me, I have started to feel more comfortable, although at times I still feel nervous and scared.

Jillian: Back in elementary school, I always used to think about how much I wanted to be adopted by a high class, smart white family, because I felt that my vocabulary wasn't good enough. I just want to be smart.

SHY Continued on 7



Jillian Yang and
Sia Yang
Staff Columnists

Outward Bound Grounded

Mee Xiong
Staff Writer

Where is Outward Bound going this year? Nowhere! Outward Bound is staying here in the Twin Cities.

Julie Doble, the science teacher and Queen of Outward Bound at Open School, called several places, like Oregon, Colorado and Ely, Minnesota to see if Open School could go there and help them but they didn't have any openings. "I'm not worried," said Julie. Why should Julie worry when she has "The Plan."

"The Plan" that Julie has will take place for three days during Open School interim. They might camp at Baker's Park and do service work for the first two days. The third day they will be having fun Rock Climbing at Taylor's Falls.

Outward Bound has been up and running for 12 years. It all began when Open School Social Worker Jeanne Hall was in Outward Bound and introduced Julie to the program.

Since then, Julie has been taking students on Outward Bound trips to places like California, Oregon, Colorado, Ely, Minnesota and many more. This year is the third time that Outward Bound hasn't gone to a base camp and the second time they are staying here in Minnesota.

Outward Bound is a combination of service and adventure. The idea is to create students who are leaders. It's also about team building and it helps build relationships. "It's a really good experience and you get close to people you don't usually see and hang out with," said Miranda Byrne, a senior who did Outward Bound the last three years.

"I think it's AWESOME and I get to LEARN!" Geoff Freeman said, who's a sophomore at Open School and been in Outward Bound for two years. Mai Thao, a Junior, who has been in Outward Bound for four years, think it's a lot of hard work but it's FUN!◊

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The End is Near

Nicole Downey
Staff Writer

What do you plan on doing at the end of the year? On the second to the last day of school, June 10, you have a choice to go to either Valley Fair or Como Park. On June 11th everybody, except Julie's advisory, goes to Lake Elmo. These events are part of Open School's end of the year plans.

On June 10, everybody leaves to go to Valley Fair or Como at the same time, which is around 9:50 a.m. At Como most people spend their time having water fights, going to the zoo, going on rides, eating food, having fun with friends, and other fun stuff. You leave from Como at 2:00 p.m.. You leave Valley Fair a little later at about 6:00 p.m., so this way you can have a little more time to on rides and do other things. This year Valley Fair costs twenty-two big ones (\$22).

On June 11, the last day of school, everybody goes to Lake Elmo, you leave the school at 9:00 a.m., and you're back before 2:30 p.m. At Lake Elmo there's lots of fun things to do, like have water fights (which are bigger and better than at Como), eat food, go swimming, take a walk, play frisbee, hang with friends, and lots of other fun stuff. Instead of going to Elmo, Julie's advisory usually goes somewhere else. This year they're

thinking about going to Highland Park, which has a lake, canoes, paddle boats, there's going to be a barbecue, and lots more..

I took a poll out of twenty students, to see what the most popular pick: Como or Valley Fair. Most people say they are going to Valley Fair, which is eleven. Those people would rather go to Valley Fair, because it's more fun and has better rides. "I'm going to Valley Fair this year," says eighth grader, Maritza Richardson. "It's better than Como, and there's more of a variety of things to do there." The nine people that chose Como over Valley Fair are going, because it's cheaper, some people don't like to go on very many rides, some think it's better than Valley Fair, and some people don't know why they are going. "I'm going to Como, because it's cheaper and I'm broke," says eighth grader, Maggie Karl. I also asked if they were going to Lake Elmo, five people answered no, ten answered yes, and five people don't know if they're going or not. ♦

Meet Ralph

For the third time this year, we have a new computer guy. Thirty three-year old Ralph Krantz will fill the vacancy left by Ken for the rest of the year.

Before Ralph came to Open, he was a Technical Writer for five years. He has lived in Minnesota since 1987. He went to High School at Devine Word, in East Troy Wisconsin. It's a boarding school that only had about 100 students, so he had a very big house during high school. Ralph also went to a 5-year program at St. Thomas University.

Ralph has a lot of hobbies! He likes science fiction, fantasy, reads Star Wars and Star Trek, and even plays Magic the Gathering with some of the students here! He has been interested in computers since he was in high school.

Some of the challenges of his job here are working with both PC's and Macs in the same environment. "Working with all ages is fun and challenging," said Ralph.

Open School to Lose Staff

Tony Cavanaugh and Aaron Schutjer
Staff Writers

After the 2001-2002 school year, our school will have nine fewer members, according to recent reports.

The St. Paul Public School System has recently had millions of dollars cut from its budget. This has affected our entire district. Around \$100,000 to \$200,000 is being cut from Open School's budget.

Some of the areas that are being affected are the substitute costs for teachers that wish to go to workshops to learn new skills. Other areas that are being affected include classroom budgets that are used to buy school supplies. Many ELC part time positions are being cut, as well as the librarian. Vicky, Diana, Audrey, Loree, and Sandy are

the scheduled cuts.

After Lenni leaves, she will not be replaced due to the cuts. Many teachers think they will have to change their style of teaching because of the lack of funding and staff.

"There will be straight rows of desks and switches," joked English teacher Bridget Martin.

A lot of teachers are very upset by the cuts "It will be terrible, we will have too much work," said art teacher Elizabeth Lehman

Of course, if we didn't have a tax rebate, the budget may still be there, but Governor

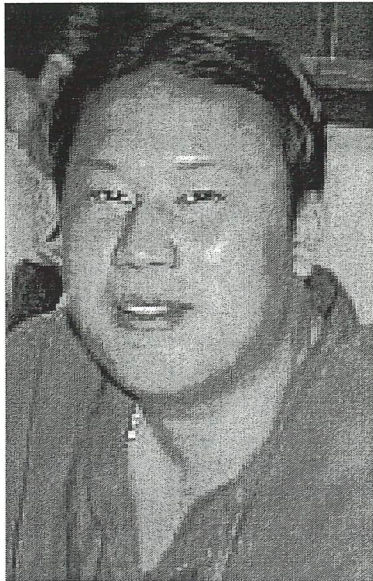
Jesse Ventura was voted for because he said he'd give money back to the people, which coincidentally came from the school budget. ♦





Senior Profile

Ker Her



How long have you been at Open?

7 years.

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

A cobra

What is your favorite color?

Orange

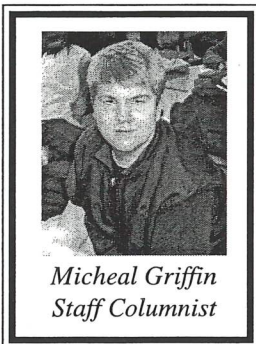
What will you miss most about Open School?

My friends and all the fun.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

I'm going to be an auto mechanic.

eBay Peddles the Obscure



Micheal Griffin
Staff Columnist

There's an interesting little shop on the internet. You may have heard about it; just a few short key-strokes away from your browser's home page. The shop's called eBay. Ring any

bells?

Think of an international garage sale where you can trade virtually anything in the world, ranging from trivial collections to archaic works. Founded ages ago (in the mid '90s), eBay has become the world's leading on-line marketplace. Anyone in the world can use eBay. They've got country-specific sites in countries such as France, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and the UK. Sound like a broad audience? There are over 42.4 million registered users on eBay.

The company's mission is to "help practically anyone trade practically anything on earth." It has accomplished just that, and in spades. Something you want at a retailer too expensive? Check out eBay. My friend

found a War Hammer starter set for \$45; half of the \$90 its sold for in stores throughout the country. Some of the stranger things for sale include some interesting fish baubles. There's a feedback system, so you can see whether the buyer/seller is good at keeping their end of the bargain or not.

There are innumerable odd things to be found. I ran a search and came up with "8 OZ CANDLE SCENTED BLUEBERRY WAFFLES.". This sounds like an 8 oz. stack of blueberry waffles that smell like candles. In reality, they're candles that smell like blueberry waffles. Like I said, ANYONE can use eBay. Still others sell books such as "Fungal Diseases of Fishes."

Donuts, anyone? "DUTCH -12 Fresh Krispy Kreme Glazed Donuts" were listed for sale. The description actually says "THIS IS A DUTCH AUCTION. Items will only be shipped Mon - Fri. Bought that afternoon (Mon - Fri) and shipped FedEx overnight for fresh glazed donuts. Coffee Bag option is sold but will cost more for weight purposes. E-mail me for cost. Buyer pays for shipping thru PAYPAL ONLY FOR FAST DELIVERY." and yet the payment is clearly in U.S. dollars and the time of the auction is PDT. And for our last wacky item,

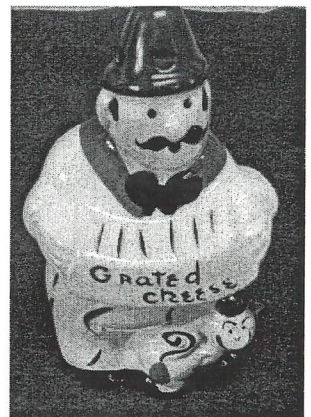
we have "Concertina Player with Monkey Cheese Shaker."

Yes, I actually typed "monkey cheese" into the site's search engine and it came up with something. The damn thing looks like it's gonna kill me in my sleep! Granted, most of the denizens of Open would find that quite a boon, I'm not exactly keen on the idea of being slain by a psychotic monkey.

ELL teacher Kiara Buchanan bought a Sensa pen (ergonomic design) on eBay. Asked about

her experience with eBay, she said "It was very easy to use." Overall, she recommends eBay, but she said "People should do their homework and make sure they're getting a deal (and something they really want. I think some people get sucked in by the thrill of bidding and make stupid

EBAY Continued on 7



The Urban Page

Hip-Hop History in St. Paul



Alex Smith
Staff Columnist

While the walls, trains, micro-phones, and street corners of New York City were being brought to life with a new form of art called hip-hop, the quiet streets of our humble city were still stuck in the dark ages of disco. But as hip-hop spread across the nation, St. Paul was not spared.

By the early 1980's the seeds were planted and slowly growing, and by 1983 hip-hop had taken a hold of St. Paul. Kids walked down the street with fat-laced, shell-toed Adidas, breakdance battles raged on every corner in the Rondo neighborhood and graffiti was beginning to slowly seep onto the city's many untouched walls.

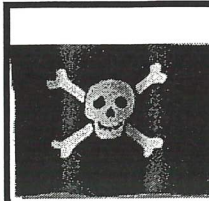
Breakdance crews such as The Wildstyle Crew and Capitol City Breakers put St. Paul

on the map with their unbeatable breakdance moves, rappers such as Freddie Fresh, IRM, and Mixed Breed, Dj's like Jamestown Sound, Whopmaster, and Mark Young, and graffiti artists like Bit and O.Z. kept the city on lock with their unique and innovative styles.

The same scene was taking off in Minneapolis and rivalries began to grow among the Twin Cities many exquisite breakdance crews. There were regular battles between the two cities. St. Paul's crews were always at war with the International Breakers of north side Minneapolis "It was like nothing you've ever seen before, better than anything you see nowadays," says Roger Cummings, a Minneapolis artist who hung out in St. Paul in the 80's.

These battles were usually held at the Coffman Center at the University of Minnesota, because it was in between the two cities and was viewed as a neutral zone. Of
HIP-HOP Continued on 8

Small Steps to Awesomeness



Adrian Gorder
Staff Columnist

"Life is blurry / at four a.m. my wheels begin to scurry / with the sun a risen' and the moon a fallin' as my jury / the early riser's charter and offer plenty of insight it's this type of morning that can keep my hair curly / cause no city sleeps like St. Paul through the streets / like the blood in your veins you can always hear the heart beat."

So you feel the need for groove-based bass and rhythmic rhyming with no break for breath? You feel the need for a live local band with the musical talent that goes unmatched in the world hip-hop? You feel the need for lyrics that rip roar through the floor and smash their steel toe boots of intelligence through your Stereotypes roof? Then shuffle those queries to the tune of Heiruspecs, and their new album **Small Steps**.

We have the privilege to call Heiruspecs St. Paul's very own, both emcees hail from the J.J. Hill area and the rest of the band mates are scattered across the rest of the city. It all began in the hallowed hallways of Central High School in 1997, when Felix, a student attending at the time, hooked up with a live band (a band with real instruments, no sampler, no turn tables), headed up by Sean McPherson, a.k.a. Twinkle Jiggles. They put out a live tape called Case Studies Heiruspecs seemed to have had an ever-changing line up of musicians, the only thing that stayed steady was Felix and Twinkle Jiggles's. Then they put out a diabolical C.D. called "Antidisestablishmentarianism." It was a great album but it felt disorganized, due to so many live free styles and not as many studio songs.

The constant change in the band's sound (because members that played certain instruments would leave and others would pop up) and not enough songs to memorize made it so many couldn't sing along at shows

SMALL STEPS Continued on 8

St. Paul Empty After Five



Emmanuel
Mauleon
Staff Columnist

**It's dumb.
It's got nothing
there after 5:00.
It's only there to
serve large corpo-
rations.**

If you read these three clues you would probably say either the Fox Kids Network or our lovely waste of money, an effort called downtown Saint Paul.

Downtown Saint Paul, in my opinion (actually, most people's opinion,) could not get any worse. It sucks... it sucks a lot. I only say this because last year I lived in downtown, and I gotta' tell you it's the most boring place in the world.

In most other cities, the downtown is bustling with activity (I can't believe I just said bustling.) Even our close neighbor Minneapolis has a downtown area thriving with

activity at all times of day. Downtown St. Paul, however, pretty much dies at 4:00. The reason being that all the stores (which is only like three or four,) close at this time. Then it becomes deserted as soon as the office workers get out.

I can specifically state one time where I walked around downtown on a Saturday and within the period of an hour I was able to see two cars pass. Pretty much the only thing downtown's got going for it are the convenient locations of the four Subways located all within twelve blocks of each other (seriously not a bad idea, Subway is good.)

I think that downtown has been getting worse and worse over the last couple of years. I remember back a couple of years ago when it was cool to go and hang out in downtown. Kids would be walking down the street, skating at the old Science Museum, and hanging out in Glatier Plaza. Now the Plaza is empty, the Science Museum has moved, and the streets are dark and empty.◊

Opinions 'n' Stuff

World Court a Bad Idea



Brady Taipale
Staff Columnist

According to all of the wuss, commie, one-worlders out there, we should all be citizens of the world. No borders, no freedom, and no responsibilities. In their vision, a huge world government would tell everyone what is best for us since we can't be trusted.

The U.N. world court brings us one step closer to the establishment of a one-world government and the elimination of America. The U.N. is full of crappy countries that blame us for all of their problems since they can't do anything right. They hate us because we're better and more successful than them and we won't adopt their failed excuse for a system. Yet, they still demand to get more and more of our money. We already pay

more money to the U.N. than any other country but I guess it is not enough. I want to know how much funding these puke hole countries like Germany, France, and Libya pay. Do they offer anything besides what they don't like about us? Even though we are the largest funder to the U.N., we don't have much of a say to what goes on. America was kicked off the human rights council but for some reason Syria and China were voted in. Come on, people don't have any rights in these countries. If you do something the government doesn't like in China they throw you into a re-education camp. Someone tell me how they got on a human rights council, but we, the most free country in the world were kicked off.

They say this world court would be used to bring people like Saddam Hussein to justice. It might have been used for that if it wasn't run by every country that sucks. But since it is, I can't help but see that this would
COMMIES Continued on 8

Spiderman Swings into Our Hearts

Chris McLean
Staff Writer

Like many other people this past weekend, I saw *Spider Man*. I actually left prom early to see it. I'm sorry, but it was so hot in there. But hey, this isn't a review of prom. Anyway, at the theater, the atmosphere was exploding with electricity. Hundreds of people had shown up, all hungry for web slinging action, or perhaps they had woken up on the floor of the theater, wondering where they were. Either way they were in for two hours of intense fun.

The movie started off with previews, as they usually do. I don't remember what they all were, but I bet Steve Kmetko of E! news daily does. So I talked to him.

"Hey Steve, what previews were at *Spider Man*?"

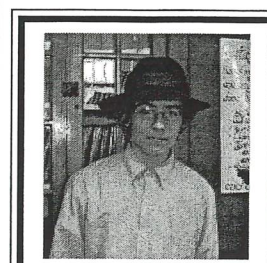


"I DONT REMEMBER HAHHAHA!"

Okay, I'll admit it, that wasn't actually Steve Kmetko but Simpletext. The preview I do remember was for the *Incredible Hulk*. I don't really want to see that one. The Hulk always scared me and that hasn't changed. The movie had finally started and the whole theater cheered. Well, I cheered. There were a lot of scary Spider Webs, so I held on close to the Deuces, Adrian and Marcos, who I call the Deuces because we saw *Deuces*

Wild earlier in the day and it was also great. The movie started off well enough with Tobey Macguire playing Peter Parker like a pro, timid, geeky, and AMAZING. A lot of people were like "Tobey Macguire in an
RADIOACTIVE Continued on 9

Media Bias Effects Israel Conflicts



Shmuel Blyly-Strauss
Staff Columnist

The media in this country, overall, has shown a considerable anti-Israel bias regarding the current situation in the Middle East. In this article I will attempt to put forth the other side of the story, although I will probably be fairly pro-Israel, being an Orthodox Jew. Therefore, I encourage the reader to not take everything I say in this article for granted, but, rather, to find a "middle ground" between what I say in this article and the type of information presented by the media in this country. In this way, you, as the reader, may be able to come fairly close to the truth.

With regard to the fighting in the refugee camp called Jenin, that some have termed a "massacre", here are the basic facts. There were about two dozen Palestinian gunmen who opened fire on Israeli troops. The fighting lasted several days and claimed the lives of over a dozen Israeli soldiers. The death counts on the Palestinian side are less clear. The Palestinian authorities claimed that there were hundreds killed and called the battle a "massacre", whereas Israeli authorities said the death toll was in the dozens. As of the writing of this article, approximately 30 bodies were recovered from the fighting. A little detail that the U.S. media fails to tell you is that the Palestinian gunmen were using women, children, and elderly people as human shields, in addition to booby-trapping other peoples' houses to blow up.

Another thing about that "massacre": if the Israeli Army wasn't trying to avoid casualties, they could have used significantly heavier weapons than rifles. "If we wanted to perform a massacre, we could have taken over the camp in one day. The IDF (Israeli Defense Force) did not use artillery or aircraft," said Brigadier-General Eyal Shlein, commander of the fighting in the Jenin re-
ISRAEL Continued on 9

Blast Off With Bodacious BMX Action

Justin Albrecht
Staff Writer

Picture this, you are riding your prized bicycle along through the London underground tunnels. When all of a sudden you have the urge to jump off a ramp onto a pipe dangling twenty feet above the ground and grind your way to the end.

Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX, was it the number one selling BMX game? I think not, this hot little number only made number two on the list. MHPB takes the Tony Hawk's Pro Skater engine, takes out the skaters and skateboards, and adds in the bicycles and some of the top riders in the business today.

Game modes include career, single session, free skate, and two player. There are eight characters to choose from. There are eight levels to tear up with your metal and

rubber concoction. Complete unlisted tasks will earn you hidden characters, videos of the skaters, and a couple familiar levels. That's right, THPS1's warehouse and Burnside are playable levels.

In career mode you choose a character and proceed through the levels completing various tasks to earn magazine covers. The more covers the more levels and bikes you unlock.

Single Session

Choose a character and ride through all the levels you unlocked for a whole two minute session.

Free Ride

Pick a character and go through the level getting familiar with it and practicing your moves without a time limit.

BMX Continued on 8



Vanda Fight Makes for a Night of Adventure

Jon Hendrickson
Staff Writer

It was a beautiful day on April 12th, the sun was shining and boxing fans all around the Twin Cities were anticipating a fun filled night of violence, beer, and most of all Matt Vanda.

Matt is a fighter from the East Side of St. Paul. He's a tough looking guy with a crew cut and tattoos up and down his arms and "Vanda" across his stomach. He boxes for Brunette Boxing, weighing in at 159 with 23 wins, 17 by knock out and 0 losses. Matt is without a doubt the most popular boxer in St. Paul right now.

It was about 7:30 PM when the amateur fights started at the armory located near downtown and Regions Hospital. It cost between 20 and 25 dollars for general admission, depending on where the fight is, and up to 100 dollars for V.I.P. The difference between them is folding chairs and about 75 dollars. So if you don't mind standing or sitting in the back on bleachers, I would recommend general admission.

You could feel the excitement in the air. For the first few bouts no one really pays that much attention; they'll yell and shout if they feel like it but other wise people are more

interested in drinking and being obnoxious.

Vanda was fighting a guy from Chicago named Leonard Townson who also has a good record. When it came time for them to fight, Vanda came out waving the Irish and American flags and the crowd went wild. Throughout the fight the crowd would start chanting "Vanda, Vanda," or "East Side, East Side." However, some jerks are the type who would prefer to quietly stay seated and not enjoy themselves and take great offense to you're standing in front of them. Then, before you know it one thing leads to another and the next thing you know your friends are pulling you from a cloud of mace and you don't find out who won until you're in the car and

you can see again it was Vanda he won by decision.

It may be your opinion that this is a violent display of what's wrong with America today and if you it is than your opinion is wrong because boxing rules.◊



"The Rock" Rocks in Scorpion King

Cha Vang
Staff Writer

Five thousand years ago in the city of Gomorrah, the land that is one day would be known as Egypt, a mass destruction force of evil attacks a peaceful village. Only one man will survive the slaughter and rise up to be the first hero of Egypt, known as the Scorpion King.

The Scorpion King stars Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson as The Scorpion King, Michael Clarke Duncan, Peter Facinelli, Kelly Hu (Cassandra, the sorcerer), Grant Heslov, Rolf Moeller, and Bernerd Smith. The producers of *The Scorpion King* are Jim Jacks, Sean Daniel and Stephen Sommers. This movie is also produced by WWF owners Vince and Linda McMahon.

The production of *The Scorpion King* started last year in March in Los Angeles with some filming also done in Yuma, Arizona. It was released in theaters on April 19.

The rest of the plot works like this. The Akkadians, a group of warriors, are hired by king Pheron, the ruler of the land of Ur, to stop the increasing violence of Memnon, a warlord who is invading and destroying the citizens of Pheron's territory. Memnon

is feared throughout the land not only because of his deadly army, known as the Red Turban, but also because of his "sorcerer" with the ability to determine the future and the outcomes of battles before they are fought. The sorcerer gives Memnon the needs to defeat all of his foes.

Surprisingly, the night before Pheron's hired group of Akkadians engage battle against Memnon. they are betrayed by one of their own, who leads the Red Turban to a sneak attack on the Akkadians. The only one to survive is the one called the Scorpion King, named Kane.

SCORPION Continued on 9



Making the Team

Will Beneke-Eaves

Staff Writer

The 2002 NFL draft was both similar to other years and yet unique. In the first round, the Vikings drafted a player named Bryant McKinnie, an offensive tackle from Miami University. In my opinion, he is the best player in the draft. He has never given up a sack ever in his playing career. He is 6'8" and weighs 343 pounds. He is both a First Team All-American and the Outland Trophy winner [the top award for lineman in Division I schools], and was eighth in the Heisman trophy race, which is very unusual because lineman almost never get votes for this trophy. "Now we have another cornerstone left tackle," said Vikings head coach Mike Tice.

As expected, the Houston Texans, the expansion team of the league, took arguably the best quarterback in the draft, David Carr from Fresno State University, as their first pick. Carr signed a seven year contract that by the time it is completed will pay him \$60 million dollars. The other top quarterback, Joey Harrington, was taken by the Detroit Lions. He is known for being a very good leader, something that Lions really need.

The University of Miami set a record by having 11 players drafted from their team. The previous record was a tie at 10 by Notre Dame, Florida State, and Penn State. This draft involved a lot more trades between teams than usual. Kansas City traded up with Dallas to get a good defensive tackle named Ryan Sims by giving up both their first and third round choices. They wanted to beat the Vikings to Sims. Oakland traded with Atlanta to get Philip Buchanan, who is a defensive back from Miami. There was a real gang trade involving Washington, Oakland, Tampa Bay and New England which New England used to get an All American tight end named Daniel Graham from University of Colorado. The Saints gave Miami their top running back, Ricky Williams, to get Miami's first round pick, and they used their pick to take Charles Graham, a defensive end from Georgia. Washington, using New England's pick, took Patrick Ramsey, a quarterback from Tulane University.

FOOTBALL Continued on 9



O-Zone: Old News?

Jon Sherman

Staff Writer

Whatever happened to the good ol' days, when the environmental concern was focused on that hole in the Ozone layer? Now, it's all about ice caps breaking off into the ocean. What is THAT about? Anyhow, the Ozone Hole is often confused with such issues as global warming, while in fact, it is a separate issue.

Well, let me tell you a little bit about the Ozone Hole. This hole has grown so large, so fast, that by 1994, the level of Ozone was less than half its value during the 1970's. At least I care about this hole in the Ozone, because I'm the best.

But, let me tell you this, there are chemicals, specific chemicals, called CFC's. These chemicals are found in certain hair sprays and what have you, and are quite common in iceboxes. These are to blame for the depletion of the Ozone. In 1987, some people passed some kind of agreement to limit production of CFC's, but still use it for medical sprays and such.

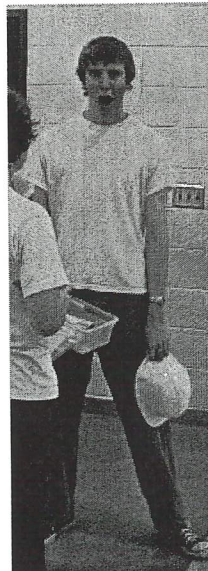
Julie Doble, Open School science teacher, recommends, "You either need to get some long sleeves, or a real good sunscreen; because it's the ultra-violet rays that are giving people skin cancer." She is worried about the Ozone depletion in the upper atmosphere and expects it to never fully recover. You see, we need the Ozone layer to protect us from the sun's harmful rays.

"It was anticipated that these limitations would lead to a recovery of the ozone layer within 50 years of 2000; the World Meteorological Organization estimated 2045, but recent investigations suggest the problem is perhaps on a much larger scale than anticipated," reads the Cambridge University UK's web site, "Centre" for Atmospheric Science. "Centre"? Those British people think they're so cool with their big fancy words, spelling them wrong and all. So, my advice to you is, don't lose sight on what REALLY matters.◊

DI From 1

this opportunity, "I am head over heels excited to be going back," said senior Emily Schultz, who went to worlds last year. "I am just there to have fun. But if we beat just one other team I would be bright as day," Schultz said.

For the other Open team, the StranDID Level S team, the road ends here, 6th place out of nine teams will have to be good enough for now. Now the task for the global-bound team is tweaking their costumes and some other small things, and setting off on the 21 of May to face the best teams from around the world.◊



EBAY From 3

So whether you want a sinister monkey to do your bidding *shudders inwardly*, a really cool pen, or just a discount from retail price, eBay is something you might try checking out. Sources consulted for this article were Kiara and eBay company overview.◊

SHY From 1

Sia: When I first arrived at Open School, I felt as though I would never have the courage to speak up in front of class, but as I got used to the teachers and students and developed a closer relationship with my teachers, I began to feel more comfortable speaking in front of class. Some students may feel uncomfortable for the rest of their lives, and it's a natural thing.

Hmong students have less confidence in themselves, mainly because Hmong parents came from Laos with no schooling and very limited English. In Laos, most of the parents didn't have much education, because Laos didn't have very many supplies that people needed so they had to work hard to keep people fed. Farming was and still is a big part of the Hmong culture. Farming is one of the main reasons why Hmong parents don't speak and know English well.

Jillian: Anyway, I've had experiences where I'm in a classroom by myself -- myself meaning I'm the only Hmong person in the class. I don't mind that, but it's hard because you're usually ignored by the other students. I feel like an outsider when I walk into a class without other Hmong students. It's like walking into a foreign country. If you don't know their language, you're just a shadow fearing for your life. I was once a

SHY Continued on 10

SMALL STEPS From 4

with. We are a drama based culture, we want know every member of the band. We want love to sing along with the catchy hook and we want that one song bring us back to the 1998 summer when you and your boy's went to Minneapolis and found an jammin' party. Not to say anything against Hieruspecs, they introduced me to local Hip-Hop, they throw the best show in the Twin Cities, hands down.

Then this summer Hieruspecs got a solid group of musicians and rappers, they started recording and playing more all ages shows. The group stands as follows:

Felix: rapper

Twinkle Jiggles: Bass

Muad'dib: Rapper and noise maker

Tasha Baron: Keyboard and Flute

Josh Peterson: Guitar

Peter Leggit: Drums

Hieruspecs (just the band) was asked to back one of Twin Cities most infamous names in music. Slug, lyricist of the best group in the world, Atmosphere, was without his DeeJay Abilities for the big free show at the State Fair in August, so he requested Heiruspecs to back him up on stage and play all of his instrumentals. Well it turned out 3000 people showed up for the gig, this giving more then a little exposure to Hieruspecs, they continue

to back Slug at almost all of his shows (including the one at First Ave. on April 12th, be there). So on March 12th an angel descended from the 7th sect of Hip-Hop's heaven. Her name is Small Steps and she is 14 tracks of pure kinkiness. Every track is organized and well recorded. Small Steps is riddled with star studded guest appearances, the best featured song would be "In Regret" featuring Slug. "You're only as blessed-as what you put up your nose nice dress," screamed Slug.

I arrive at the Dinkytowner around 7:30, a group called P.O.S. was already playing. The feel of the show was relaxed every drunk high schooler knew the other since their days at Ramsey. After Kanser played, Heiruspecs ascended to the stage with a roar from the crowd. The place was packed, even though about only ten people had bought the new C.D. The first song on the album is the same on the set, "And" is a sporadic circus of lyrical ability backed by fast descending melody. This caused the crowd to go crazy, they ripped through set flawlessly. The energy peaked one the member from P.O.S. got on stage and preformed a song he was featured on. It dwindled down with 10 minute long freestyle. ♦

COMMIES From 5

only be another big way to screw over America and Israel. What a perfect way for these third world thieves to weaken their two most hated countries by constantly making them appear in front of a world court.

I'm sick of these sack of crap countries telling me that I should live like them. I'm sick of our money going to fund an emerging one-world government that wants to disarm us so we can be pushed around. I don't want to see our history rewritten.

These freedom-hating jerks don't respect the American way of life at all. They would love to see everything I and the majority of Americans care about destroyed and replaced with their socialist garbage. Am I the only one who is sick of this one-world commie crap? Doesn't anyone else care? Or is the average moron too stoned to realize what is going on? Those of us who do care about the future of America can't remain silent any longer or else we will wake up one morning and figure out that we lost everything that we have taken for granted because we were too lazy to put up a fight for it. ♦

BMX From 6

Two Player

Both players compete against each other in great games like Horse, Graffiti, and Trick Attack. Horse, the all American basketball game, Graffiti, tag areas by tricking off of them, Trick Attack, try to beat your opponents score.

The controls for the game are pretty easy to learn, although learning to jump at the right time is near impossible. What I mean is that sometimes when you are going up a quarter pipe and try to jump, your character will just crash into the lip of the ramp.

MHPB is pretty much a decent game. If it was more like THPS, it would have been the top selling BMX game. I would recommend this game to BMX fanatics or anyone who likes sports. I would not recommend this game to perfectionists, because they are likely to so frustrated they will destroy things, unlike those frat boys in Dinkytown who destroy things because their team won.

Look for Mat Hoffman's Pro BMX 2 to hit stores in June for Playstation 2, Xbox, and Game Boy Advance. ♦

HIP HOP From 4

course there were rivalries between St. Paul crews too, such as between the Capitol City Breakers and the Wildstyle Crew. To Minneapolis breakdancers, graffiti writers, and MC's, walking into St. Paul was asking for a beatdown. When North High School from Minneapolis played basketball games with Central, there would always be confrontations. At Central, when North came to play, the kids with lockers near the gym would put baseball bats in their lockers and when things got hectic, they were ready.

Back then St. Paul was immersed in hip-hop culture. Selby Avenue from downtown to Lexington, and University Avenue were the hot spots. There were lots of places in St. Paul that hosted hip-hop events, some of the main ones were the Pop Shop, the Mackintyre, and Jimmy Lee rec center, but the spot that held the crown as the place to be for St. Paul hip-hop was the Prom Center on University avenue. The Prom Center was were Bally's is now, on University near Lexington.

So where did St. Paul hip-hop go? As soon as crack hit the streets in the late 80's, all the kids that were once breakin' on the corners were swept up in the rush to make money. Gangs like the Vice Lords, the Bloods and the Crips began expanding to St. Paul. Soon the same corners that had previously been a place to rap or breakdance were gang territories. With the quest for cash there is always violence and soon bullets began to fly and the city that had once been one of the best for hip-hop went the way of the rest of the country, the way of crack-cocaine. The same kids that used be some of the best breakdancers the world had ever seen were now serving life sentences for drug charges or dead. And soon everyone wanted nothing but cars, gold-chains, and money.

So now all the kids listen to commercialized, nothing-but-swearing and-sexism, internally-racist, degrading-to-ourselves, bling-bling, money-chasing and SUV-buying-when-you-can't-even-pay-the-rent raps, and real hip-hop is slowly becoming like a resistance movement in an occupied country. But there is still hope for this small capital city. We have many up and coming talents such as Word for Word, DBK, many new St. Paul breakdancing crews, MC's, Dj's and talented graffiti artists. I doubt St. Paul will ever be what it was in the mid-eighties, but with so many people with talent making an effort, we might just see a St. Paul hip-hop comeback. ♦

ISRAEL From 5

gion.

There was also a rumor that Israeli patrolmen weren't letting ambulances through to Jenin and other areas where there had been fighting. With regard to that rumor, the only ambulances they didn't let through were ones that were found to be carrying plastic explosives, bombs, and ammunition. Bet that's a little tidbit that our country's media didn't fill you in on.

Among other things, some Palestinian terrorists don't even care about avoiding Palestinian casualties, as evidenced by the fact that two Palestinians posing as workers seeking employment in Israel opened fire at a checkpoint, killing one Israeli soldier and an Arab worker, as well as wounding three other soldiers before a Border Guard shot and killed both Palestinian gunmen. Also, according to an editorial published in an Italian newspaper, a bishop living in the Vatican publicly thanked in the name of God the suicide bombers who blow themselves up in the streets and restaurants of Jerusalem. In addition to that, according to Italian journalist and author Oriana Fallaci, about the Italian state-run TV, "In their debates they host with much deference the scoundrels with urban or kaffiah who yesterday sang hymns to the slaughter at New York and today sing hymns to the slaughters at Jerusalem, at Haifa, at Netanya, at Tel Aviv."

Add to that the fact that anti-semitism is on a rise in Europe, to the point of people in France defiling Jewish graveyards and burning synagogues, and you get some bad news. At this point, I'm thankful that the anti-semitism in this country has, at this point, remained in the media, rather than escalating into physical violence against Jews in the U.S. I pray that the violence in Europe won't spread to the U.S., but at this point there are no guarantees.◊

SCORPION From 6

After fleeing from the slaughter and into the lonesome desert, Kane meets a gorgeous thief named Aprid. The two become companions. Kane also discovers a secret about the identity of Memnon's sorcerer. The two travel to the city of Gomorrah, where the headquarters of Memnon's base lies.

They sneak into Memnon's castle and Kane is about to eliminate the sorcerer with a razor sharp arrow aimed at her, but as the sorcerer turns around it turns out that she is a woman with heart-touching beauty. Kane doesn't have the heart to do it so instead he aims for the guard. After everything is re-

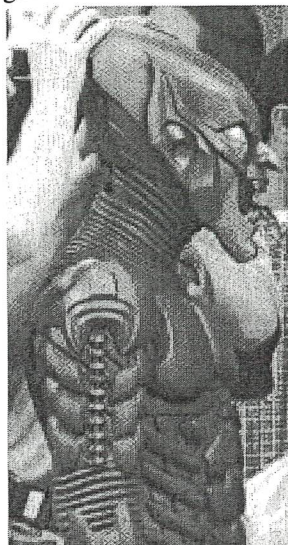
RADIOACTIVE From 5

action movie? No way!" Well, these people are fools because Peter Parker wasn't supposed to be cool like Zack Morris and the Zack Attack. He's more like Screech except he isn't a bungling fool.

Anyway, he gets bitten by this Spider and was totally tripping out, and I look over to Marcos and say "Dude, is he gonna die?" and it turned out it wasn't Marcos but a skeleton! What kind of theater was this? But it turned out he didn't die and turned into Spider-Man and Marcos only looked like a skeleton because he was wearing a scary mask. It liked how they did Spider-Man's origin story. It showed pretty much all the key moments in good detail, and it didn't just give you a minute or two and throw you into it like other super hero movies like Batman. By the time he actually becomes Spider-Man, you know where he's coming from and can relate to him. And in a world like this, you need someone to relate to.

As for the villain, the Green Goblin was totally awesome. He was like the Joker times two, and Willem Dafoe was, as always, right on the ball. He's a creep, but at the same time he's the kind of guy you want to hang out with. When I got home, I was hoping he would be in my room playing Super Mario Bros. 2, but alas, he wasn't.

There were a lot of other fun characters, like J. Jonah Jameson, played by J.K. Simmons to perfection. He was my favorite character in the comic book and I would have felt cheated if he didn't make an appearance. I think they should make a movie just about him. Kirsten Dunst was good as



Mary Jane, but I didn't think her character was developed as well as it was it could've been. Of course, there's plenty of room for that in future movies. It's also worth mentioning that both Bruce Campbell and Stan Lee make cameo appearances, making the movie truly golden.

Since this is a summer action movie, it would be somewhat lacking without some quality action scenes, and it didn't disappoint. I asked Adrian what he thought about them when we left the theater and he said.

They were arach-tastic!"

I said "Yeah. Can we go to Wendy's?" and he said "No." I don't think we're friends any more.

But the point is, they were arach-tastic. My favorite was Green Goblin's deadly assault on the city parade, because there were some cool explosions and a bunch of people getting dissolved into skeletons! GREEN skeletons! Of course, Spider-Man foils him with a bunch of fantastic spider-capering. The final action scene was also pretty cool, but I don't want to spoil it (It's pretty predictable, though, I'll tell you that..)

So in conclusion, Spider Man was a good movie, all around. It was a lot of fun, had a lot of interesting characters, especially for a summer action movie, and was packed with a lot of delicious action scenes. If you haven't seen Spider Man yet, you could do much worse.

FOOTBALL From 7

The biggest controversy was that Dallas appeared to take more than their allotted time to choose their draft pick. Under League rules, if the team uses more time than allotted, the team immediately following them gets to pick and then it reverts to the "tardy" team. The Vikings claim that Dallas took almost one minute over their time. But the League ruled no and this meant the Vikings did not get Ryan Sims. But getting Bryant McKinnie is probably better for the Vikings than getting Sims, because the Vikings desperately need a left tackle. The Vikings need someone to protect Culpepper's back and McKinnie will do just that.

Because of the confusion of all the trades, the first round of the 2002 draft was the longest in NFL history. It took over five hours to complete.◊

very shy girl. I used to be so shy that the teachers didn't even recognize me. When I walk into a class with no other Hmong students, the first thing on my mind is, "Please do not call on me! Please do not call on me!" because I feel like I don't have a good enough opinion to share with the class, even when there are no wrong or right opinions. I guess this is one of the reasons why I don't participate in class discussions. It's not that I want a round of applause every time I share something, it's just that I feel I'm not good enough.

Many Hmong students feel uncomfortable in classes without other Hmong students.

"I feel lonely and I feel like I don't belong with them or the class," said senior Houa Xiong.

Jillian: When I was younger, in junior high, I'd pick classes that I knew my friends were taking and I'd take the classes that had "class clowns," because I knew that the teacher would be too busy dealing with that person and not even know that I existed.

Teachers at Open School make an effort to help Hmong students.

Teachers, when arranging seats for their students, tend to put at least two to three Hmong students at a table, just so they can talk when there are little group discussions. They usually try to arrange the seats so that two Hmong students can sit next to each other and get acquainted with the other students.

Teachers worry about Hmong students not participating in class discussions and about the vocabulary in the more advanced courses.

"Hmong students are usually good about finishing assignments, but I worry about them not participating," said Leo. "They are often less confident."

In some classes, like Leo's classes, it is harder for Hmong students to participate in discussions. Students may have read the assignment, but might not have understood it completely because there may have been some vocabulary problems.

Sia: My opinion about the Hmong students having the courage to speak up in front of class is that many Hmong students feel uncomfortable presenting a project or answering a question because they'll get embarrassed if they have the wrong answer. This applies not only to all the Hmong students, but for every culture and ethnic background.

During a group discussion I look away from the teacher, and try not to get their at-

tention, unless I have a friend sitting next to me who would answer the question for me if I didn't know or would answer for me.

"I turn red and blow up," said senior, Ker Her asked about participating in class.

"Oh...no!" said freshman, Youa Yang.

Other students, like sophomore Sue Moua, junior Bee Xiong, and seventh grader Teng Xiong, replied that it either depended on the question or the class they were taking. If they weren't comfortable answering something, they wouldn't say anything.

Jillian: I hate it when the teacher tells us that we can choose our own groups for a group project because I know I won't be picked. I'd rather the teacher assign us to people that we don't usually work with, so it seems fair or should I say, so I won't be ignored by a group of people who don't know me. Maybe I just need to be snobby and stuck up and interrupt people if they don't include me in on the conversation. I don't know.

Hmong students work better if they're in groups with their friends or if they have another Hmong student in the class with them. If the majority of students in a class are Hmong, like ELL, then the class will be very loud and every one will participate in group discussions or class activities.

The Hmong students who were born in a different country have a tendency to use "smaller" words because of the family's lack of English.

"Vocabulary is hard. After two or three days, students will drop out of my classes because they're scared of the vocabulary," said science teacher, Julie Doble.

Learning English from Hmong is difficult because Hmong has no tenses. For example, if we were to say, "I'm going home now," in Hmong, it would sound like this, "I go home already." This is why not very many Hmong students dare to raise their hands, because they want to save the embarrassment. When Hmong students speak or write English, they will sometimes use the wrong tense in a sentence.

Some of the issues that cause problems for Hmong students are teachers using a lesser known vocabulary word and not giving the definition of it because no one asked. This may sometimes cause the Hmong students to be afraid and not ask questions. Some Hmong students don't complete their work for this matter or others matters.

According to our survey, teachers are very helpful and they are very considerate of the diverse background at this school. Many of

the teachers try to make students get involved with group discussions by picking students at random to answer question.

Teachers play a big role in how students feel in class, especially with students of varying racial backgrounds. Mostly those that listen to their teachers will learn a lot. Teachers not only play a big role in teaching, they also play a major role in students' success.

"I hit them over the head with sharp sticks," said ELL teacher, Kiara laughing. "I use a lot of humor actually."

Last but not least, one of the most important questions was about how Hmong students "get through" a class with few or no other Hmong students.

"Participate, and get the work done with understanding," said senior Kashia Thor.

"I go to that class every day to do my work," said Sue.

"Just hang on, and do enough to pass the class," said Bee.

"I bring a snack, but not everyday," said Mai.

Problems are still common among many Hmong students. We know that we were lucky to come to this school. If we went to a bigger school, we probably wouldn't have changed as much as we have now.◊

Top 10 things Jon Thurn would do, instead of interim:

10. Play with a cat
9. Hangout with a guy named Pathfinder
8. Catch a butterfly in a soft net
7. Make his own orange juice with fresh oranges
6. Ride a whale
5. Play with a laser frisbee.
4. Visit Elvis
3. Teach a spider how to catch pizzas, without letting it drain them.
2. Take a trip to Venus
1. Play tennis... in the virtual world