

Pandas
like spring,
too!

Volume 4, Issue 7 • May 4th, 2001

The Purple Press

Official Publication of the St. Paul Open School

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Open Triplicity Team Heading To Worlds

Cameron Beitler
Staff Writer

Open is going to worlds! The secondary level Triplicity team placed second at the State Destination Imagination (DI) competition at Armstrong High School April 21, sending them on their way to the Global competition in Knoxville, Tennessee on May 24. This is the first Open School team going to worlds since 1997.

The team members are Gus Olsen, Chris McLean, Miranda Byrne, Mark Dyson, Emily Schultz, and Arthur Minnerly.

How did they get this far? Their instant challenge and side trips portion of the competition, both of which they won, were probably the team's biggest strengths. Their skit also helped to get them second place. If they would have held more weight on the structure they probably would have gotten first.

The team got only a six ratio for their structure (the ratio of the amount of weight held per gram of the structure), which held

95 pounds. "The humidity warped the paper," said structure builder Mark Dyson. The structure normally holds around 200 pounds.

How does the team feel about winning? "I am psyched for worlds," said team member Emily Schultz. Coach Greg Adams is "overwhelmed" to go to worlds for the fourth time (his third time with Open).

The team will have to fund the trip themselves. Donations are needed! If you would like to help fund the trip, please talk with Greg Adams.

Three other teams competed at the state competition. The Triplicity level I got 5th place out of eight teams, the level E triplicity got 8th place. And the Anonymously Yours level S team got 5th out of 6 teams (there was a tie for first place). The Anonymously Yours team ran out of time by about 20 seconds. ♦

Prom Is A Vampire

Jon Thurn
Staff Writer

There are three sorts of things I adore spring for:

- 1) flowers, bees, playing children
- 2) energy, lustre, vigor
- 3) prom

Prom will suck you dry of your energy by the end of night but you'll be happy, just as if you had no blood left coursing through your veins. And much like a vampire you'll be scared of it, but luckily by the end of the night you'll also be sad, sad because there is no more of this feral creature called -- Prom.

Every year, usually in May, students 9 - 12th grade have the choice to attend Open School's own prom. Those who care about it talk about it, and nothing was talked about more than Leo and his date Stephanie, both teachers, both headed towards catastrophe. A buzz was about as Stephanie waited for Leo. However, that buzz died, and became a bee, a bee that painfully stung everyone when Leo appeared -- horridly late.

That's the regretful past, however, and since this article is being written before prom you'd naturally say, "Please, look back to *PROM Continued on 9*

Student Govt. Votes to Ban Hallway Hack

Lucy Stark
Staff Writer

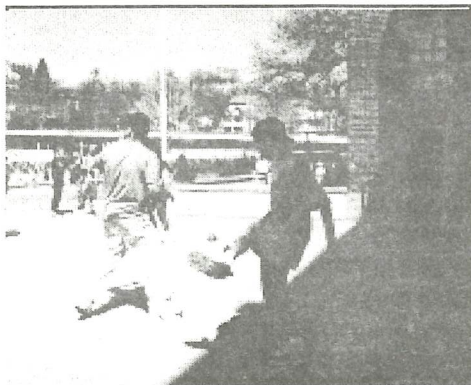
The great thing about Open School is the freedom that the students have. Students have more choice in what they wear, what they say, and how they learn. When you walk down the hallway in between classes or after lunch, you see people laughing and talking with their friends and pretty much goofing around openly. But some people feel that some of the goofing around - the

people playing hacky sack - is getting out of hand.

Often times people will gather in an empty room or someplace in the hallway and start to play wherever there is room. But a lot of teachers and students have a problem with that. A lot of students feel that the hacky sack players are inconsiderate of others around them. They don't leave room for people to walk by them and make a lot of noise and commotion. "I think that all the hacky sack playing has the opportunity to become very distracting because you often have to run by them and run the gigantic risk of getting kicked," said senior Nicholas Thurn.

"I don't really mind them playing," sophomore Adrian Gorder said. "But if I walk right in the middle of their game, they better not be too mad. We don't really have

HACKY SACK Continued on 10



• TRY READING THE PAGES
• THAT COME AFTER THIS
• ONE . . .

• --Contemplate Arthur and
• Brady's Tubular Views on
• Snowmobiles on page 4

• --Consider the possibilities
• with Duncan on page 5

• --Guess what Shmuel wrote
• about on page 6

• AND MANY MORE
• WONDERFUL WORKS OF
• JOURNALISTIC BLISS

The Purple Press Staff

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SPECIAL PERSON

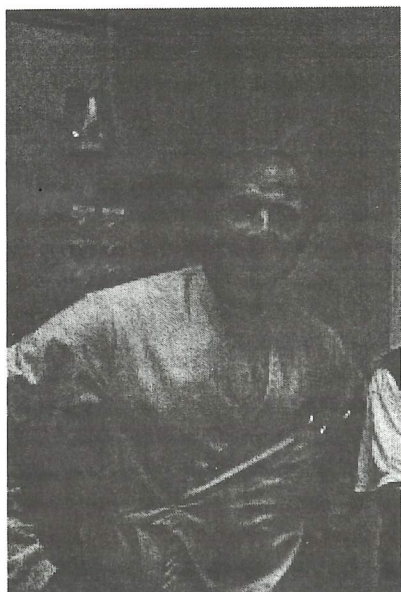
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ADULT TO BLAME

LEO KIRKALDY BICKELHAUPT



Can you help send this man to Tennessee?

Lauren Declines Harvard, Opts for University of Chicago

Libby Rasmussen

Staff Writer

For most people, getting accepted to one of the top colleges in the country is the hardest part of the application process. For Lauren Beitler, deciding where to go was the most difficult.

Lauren applied to seven colleges: Harvard, MIT, University of Chicago, Carleton, Princeton, Yale and Swarthmore. She was accepted into all but Swarthmore. She said all the schools were "Good schools with smart, fun students." After months of weighing the pros and cons, she has decided to attend the University of Chicago in the fall.

Lauren worked hard all the way through school, and, according to Julie Doble, did "Spectacularly well" on the state wide testing. She also took classes at Macalester and the U of M. In the end, she narrowed her choice down to Harvard and the University of Chicago.

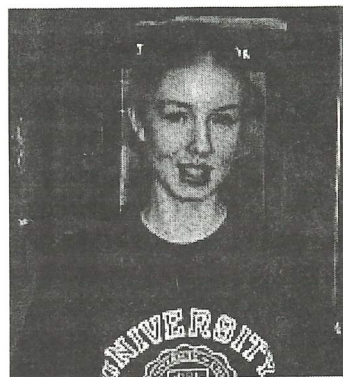
One difficult part of the decision-making process was trying to sift through all the advice she received. Many people told her to go where they give the most money, because that means they really want her at their

school.

The University of Chicago offered Lauren a full scholarship, which means she only has to pay for room and board.

Her parents wanted her to go to Carleton so she could stay close to home, but Lauren did not like the idea of attending college in a small town.

Lauren plans to major in physics and looks forward to the fall. "The students (at U of Chicago) are nerdy intellectuals like me," she said. ♦



Lauren sporting University of Chicago garb.

History Day Competition Tomorrow

Ananda Wold

Staff Writer

Eleven Open School students will embark on the historical journey of a life time, as they compete at the State History Day meet. Having been selected at the April regional competition, the competitors will present at the University of Minnesota on May 5.

The History Day theme this year was frontiers. Within this theme, students have come up with projects ranging from supercomputers to tanks.

There are four ways to present a History Day project, any of which can be done in a group or individually. An exhibit consists of a poster board decorated with visual images and explanatory text. Exhibits are limited to 500 words and can be no taller than six feet.

Another way is to present a performance limited to ten minutes. A performance is a dramatic portrayal of your topic's significance to the History Day theme.

Papers are a "traditional form of presenting historical information". Each paper must be no shorter than 1,500 words and no longer than 2,500 words. It also must be in no less than 10 point font.

Documentaries or media presentations can be shown in slide shows, Powerpoint pre-

sentations or video. Each may not exceed ten minutes in length and must be student operated.

This year Mee Xiong, Mai Thao, Jillian Yang, Sia Yang, and Kashia Thor did a group exhibit entitled *The University of Minnesota: Pioneer in Helping People Accept Different Identities*. *World War II Tanks: a New Frontier in Warfare* done by Will Benke-Eaves and Elliot Schjuter is the other group exhibit going on to state.

There are three individual group projects going to state one of which is *Kent State: Frontier in Protest*, by Caitlin Holmstrom. Emily Jacobson will present her project called *Jane Grey Swisshelm: Bring the Frontier of Feminism to a Frontier*. Adam Hurt will present *Frontiers in Modernism: Pioneering Minnesota Architects*. "I'm not that worried now that I have seen the regional competition" said Adam when asked if he was worried about the upcoming competition.

Mark Dyson will be exhibiting an individual media presentation called *The Creation of Supercomputers: People and Ideas*. **HISTORY DAY Continued on 10**

Jet-Grind: Skate & Paint

Justin Albrect
Staff Critic

You are evading the police and painting over your rival's graffiti to save your town. Once you successfully protect your town you are challenged by a rival. If you copy his run, he will join you. If not you must try, try again.

In Jet Grind Radio for Sega Dreamcast, you play as a member of the gang the GG's. The purpose of the game is to protect your town, Shibuya-Cho, while trying to overtake your rival's turf (Benten-Cho, Kogane-Cho, Grind City, and Grind Square). Once you pick your character and town you start the level. You have a set number of places you must tag with your graffiti in order to complete the level and defeat the rival gang. Once you complete certain levels it unlocks other levels in your Quest to take over the Jet Grind Radio world.

You must paint over the rival gang's graffiti in order to defeat them. Before you can paint, you must collect spray cans. Yellow equals one can, blue equals five, and red cans



are health. Once you collect spray cans you skate over to where you want to paint and press the left trigger to emit paint from the can. If you press it by a small area the game will emit the required amount of paint in

JET-GRIND Continued on 9

Drug Wars: Harmless Fun For Everyone

Neil Henke-Haney
Staff Critic

Imagine: buying some heroin, killing an officer, getting mugged on the subway and beat up by a loan shark, then selling your heroin and finally ending the first day. This vision can be a reality if you get a hold of the latest version of Drugwars, a popular video game.

It has long been an issue that certain video games have had a less than positive effect on today's youth. Only recently, however, has it come to my attention that the video game Drugwars has received negative comments. I think that there is nothing wrong with this game. It's just a modern day version of tic-tac-toe. It's just there to waste time during certain boring math and science classes.

Drugwars is a simple, text-based game on any TI-82 or higher graphing calculator. It can also be played on any PC, but it seems wasteful to use a powerhouse PC to run such a simple program.

The game starts out in the Bronx. You have a trench coat with 100 pockets and two thousand dollars, which you got from a knee-cap-breaking, angry loan shark. The object of the game is to make money, as much as you can, in thirty days without dying.

To do this, you jet around places like Central Park, Manhattan, Coney Island, Brooklyn, The Bronx and of course the Ghetto. Each time you jet somewhere, a day goes by towards your 30-day total. You try to find low prices on drugs such as: ludes, speed, weed, acid, heroin and cocaine. When the price is right, you buy, then you jet around some more until the price is high (no pun intended), then sell.

Each unit of drug has a price. You can't spend more money than you have, and each unit of drug takes up one pocket in your trench coat. Periodically throughout the game, you are offered merchandise, like more pockets for your trench coat, and guns. You are sometimes mugged on the subway, and occasionally, your mother uses your weed to make "brownies."

A common dilemma is Officer Hardass and his deputies. They periodically show up and try to spoil your fun. When this happens, you have two options: run, or fight, assuming you purchased a gun. If you decide to run, you will usually take a couple hits and then lose him in a sewer. If you

DRUGWARS Continued on 10

Online Gaming Is Addictive Fun

Joe Levine
Staff Writer

The Internet has brought people close together over long distances, made information a click away, and made shopping so much easier. But the biggest accomplishment is the online network game.

The online network game is a massive chat room/gaming facility. It allows people to test their skills against people in a different time zone, or a best friend two blocks down the road. Some people play for hours on end and require a constant connection to the Internet.

Many games, and even game companies, have their own gaming network like Blizzer Electronics' Battle.net.

Nowadays, almost all computer games have an online gaming function. Some games MUST be played online, like Ever Quest and Ultima Online. Other games like Star Craft and Diablo, have the online function for the added kick of being able to team up with other human players.

Battle.net is one of the world's largest online gaming facilities, and has several



games that can be played. Most Blizzer games are programmed to be used on Battle.net so they can be played online easily. Star Craft/Brood War is Battle.net's largest game.

"I like the strange variations of Star Craft on Battle.net," said Dan Skelly, 10th grade Star Craft gamer. He has had Star Craft for 4 years and only plays an average of one hour a week.

Quake III Arena has a large online gaming network, and is the sequel to a loved game at Open.

"I play Quake III because it's fun," said John Finley, 7th grade Quaker. "I play about 10 hours a week."

Ever Quest is the world's largest online RPG, with over 20 servers, each with over 2000 online gamers. But this awesomeness comes at a price; it costs 10 dollars a month plus the cost for the Internet connection.

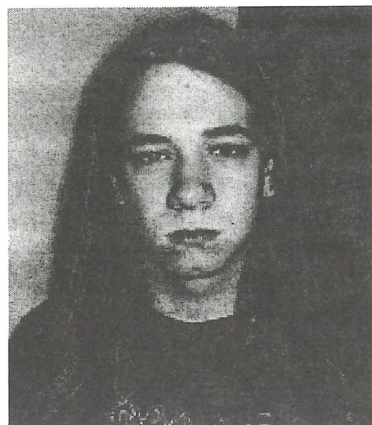
"I play Ever Quest about 15 hours a week, and I've had it for a year and a half," said Jim Witt, 7th grade Ever Quest addict. "It's very addictive."

The benefit of online games is gaming with others and teaming up. It's a social thing too. You can type a message to others and communicate.

What is in store for the Internet and games? The world may never know. ◇

Senior Profile

Matt Pajunen



How long have you been at Open School?

4 years

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

Jimmy Carter

What is your Favorite color?

Black

What are you going to do when you grow up?

A fireman or perhaps the captain of the starship Enterprise E.

What will you miss most about Open School?

The sarcasm of one J. T. and co. And of course the jokes. ◇

The Quaint Diary Of Two Weeks In Britain

Cara Fazio
Staff Writer

Day 1-- Everyone meets at the airport at 11:00 AM. Connye is waving an orange flag to gather everyone. Once everyone is together, we check in and head for the gate. When we arrive at the gate, we realize that we are a half an hour early and that there is a moving walk way right next to the gate. A couple of us get on and ride from one end to the other. We then go back to the gate and play a couple rounds of Egyptian rat race.

Day 2-- We arrive in England at about 6:00 AM and find that the Tube, or underground, is on strike. We take a bus to the train station and wait for one of the trains again. We then board a train at noon and are on our way to Hastings.

Day 3-- Today we went to Battle and Rye.



The whole group

Battle is the place where William the Conqueror fought and where an abbey was built to remember him. I think we walked on a "do not walk," area but escaped the 25,000 pound fine. We then trucked on to Rye. On our way back, we lost Connye for a couple of minutes. She was looking at hats. It seemed that would be her goal the whole time in Hastings, to find a hat.

Day 4-- Today is our last full day in Hastings. we walked around town, bought our last few things, and wandered around the coast going into few fishing museums. We also found this hippy place where they sold hash pipes openly. It was kind of odd considering that the people who owned the store looked old enough to have grand kids.

Day 5-- We leave for London and are on the train for most of the day. Then we got to London, where we checked in to the hotel and met up with the tour guide. About 15 minutes later we left to see Whitehall. Whitehall is the area in town where the queen lives and where people of office live. Then we walked over to the pub. We ate some very interesting traditional English food (maybe mine was bad because I don't eat meat).

Day 6-- Today we had a different tour guide. She knew everything. Anyway, the first thing we did after riding in the bus was go to St. Paul's Cathedral, which was, I'm sorry to say, more stunning than our St. Paul Cathedral. Then we went to Windsor Castle and walked around. Later we went back to Whitehall, where we saw the changing of the guards -- fun. Later in the day, right before we saw Queen Ann's Doll House, one of the Michigan girls drank paint thinner thinking it was bottled water. She said, "It smelt funny but I drank it anyway."

Day 7-- Today we went to the British museum, then we walked over to Covent garden and ate lunch. At about 1:00 PM, we were supposed to meet at an Indian cafe. Some people went to the Dali exhibit, some went to British Museum of Art and others just stayed outside.

Day 8-- Today we went to Bath and saw Stonehenge on the way. Stuart was our guide. At bath, we took an hour to go get food. A group of us tried to get something to eat at a pub, but we weren't served. Somehow everyone there is snobbish. I'm kind of with Jane Austen on that. Even the punks



were mean. Anyway, we found a restaurant called the Retro Cafe and they have the best sandwiches. If you go to Bath, eat there. They are the only nice people! Then we went to the actual Roman Baths and we saw the spring and everything.

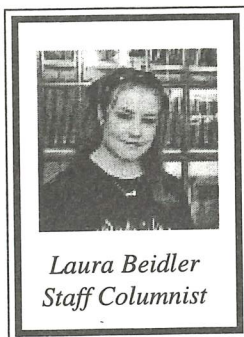
Day 9-- Today we saw the Globe Theater and looked around at all the costumes. It was really cool. Then we walked to the Tower of London and saw the bloody tower. Jenny and I weren't really all that impressed, so we went to and listened to a Beefeater talk about the people who died in the tower. Somehow, the tower has this way of making you feel uncomfortable, and right when you get a little scared, you see one of the ravens tearing the feathers off a pigeon.

Day 10-- Today we went to Oxford and Stratford. We saw one of the colleges, walked through one of the squares, and then walked around the town and saw the place where the church burned people for their be-

ENGLAND Continued on 8

'Ophelia' Examines Changing Expectations

In society today, women's roles have become more and more complicated. In the midst of these expectations, some how women and teen age girls must find a way to stay true to themselves, but how?



Laura Beidler
Staff Columnist

I am about to give you a great place to find a way: read a book called *Reviving Ophelia*. Written by Dr. Mary Pipher, an adolescent psychologist that deals with girls with problems ranging from, rape, Anorexia, Bulimia, depression and social and academic disorders.

I read this book after my good friend read me a few pages of a girl's life, her mother had died and her dad had slipped into a deep depression. I couldn't put it down. I knew how most of these girls had felt. I could feel

for them. I highly recommend this book to any teen age girl or woman.

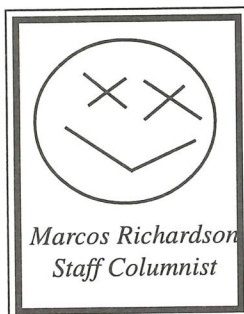
Dr.Pipher gave great advice that probably saved their lives. And the way she interacted with them made them feel important. She made them realize that it didn't matter how they looked or what people thought of them. No matter what, they needed to take pride in who they were.

In this book you realize how much women's expectations have changed. It is really disappointing to learn that back in the 50's an average women's figure was 5'3 at 140 pounds and back then that looked good! In todays glam society it is 5' 10" and 110 pounds. Images are projected all over the media and everywhere we look. Women are literally killing themselves to fit the "in" description.

This book help adolescent girls and some women deal with this kind of pressure. it helps them realize that they are not alone in the battle they fight. And it helps us realize what is important. ◇

Dragon Ball Z: Watch It

If you haven't heard of the Dragon Ball phenomenon you must be deaf, blind or even stupid. *Dragon Ball*, *Dragon Ball Z*, and *Dragon Ball GT* are all part of creator Akira Toriyama's genius.



Marcos Richardson
Staff Columnist

The Dragon Ball Three series is an animated show about a man named Goku from the planet Vegeta. In *Dragon Ball* the first series Goku is a little monkey boy who is trained by Kami-sennin, a.k.a Turtle Master a.k.a Muten Roshi a.k.a Master Roshi a.k.a Jackie Chun. Goku fights in various tournaments and destroys the evil red ribbon army.

In the second series, *Dragon Ball Z*, Goku is now an adult and has a son named Gohan. The Z series is a lot more violent and very long. In this series Goku fights many evil monsters. He even kills his own brother. Goku isn't the only character, and in the middle of the *Dragon Ball Z* he is overshadowed by his fellow saiya-jin Vegeta, the prince of all saiya-jins.

Vegita starts off as a bad guy, but he eventually gets a soft spot for a woman named

Bulma, a long time friend of Goku. In this series it seems like there always is a bad guy trying to destroy the Earth, but of course Goku saves the day. Even if he doesn't he still gets the credit for it. Goku dies about two times in this series.

Dragon Ball GT is the final series. This is the shortest of all series. In this series, Vegeta is once again the big bad scary monster that he once was in *Dragon Ball Z*. Goku is now in Hell because the villains Drag him into it. Goku fights the ultimate android, Super 17, but Goku is turned back into a little kid. Of course he defeats him just like he does Vegeta in the end.

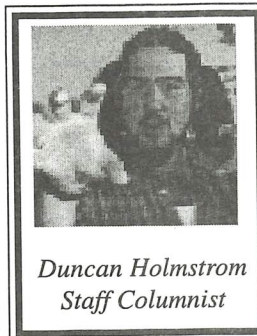
This show is probably the best action/drama cartoon ever made. New ones aren't made any more. The cartoon started in 84' and ended in 95'. Every body should watch this cartoon. It's on at 4 o'clock on Cartoon Network.



Goku

If you don't have cable, buy it because it's worth it. ◇

The Philosophical Side of Duncan



Duncan Holmstrom
Staff Columnist

I sit here and type in the dark, the dark where nothing questions me. A fluorescent sheen covers my face as the screen of my computer stares at me angrily. I stare back. As

the letters scroll across its visage, one after another, I think to myself. Why do we exist? I wonder. Where are we to go? My mind churns with ever deepening questions. What about society?

My mind races through the status of our world, the most basic ideology that shows its self from nation to nation without bias. In the beginning nations fought for freedom against oppressors. We were a strong people, their lands, our lands a place based in liberty. Yet over time we strayed, we became beasts of primal nature taking the lives of those who turned our very soil. People were tools.

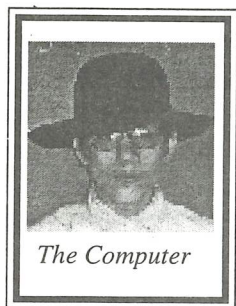
This is how it has been for every nation since the beginning of time, displacing and replacing, and degrading. It is most evident with religion. The Romans displaced the Druidic Order, the Christians displaced everyone else in the world. Every faith had to replace the faith before it, usually through force, since the beginning of our time. Replace, degrade. It follows up into this millennia, with ethnic cleansing, and the constant intolerance of faith, which feeds the underbelly (and the majority) of most nations.

We are the human race. We are hypocrisy. We tell people one thing, and then do something else. In almost every aspect of life; government, business, faith. It is the world evil. An evil that runs more deeply embedded in our veins than the most primal emotions of our first ancestors. To tell one thing and to do otherwise. Hypocrisy. It fuels the world more than gasoline, and kills more than any war that has been fought in the name of peace and righteousness.

We, are a people? People, communities, races, a species. The only united bond between people and their neighbors is the deepening gap of distrust and hatred. Humanity, the embodiment of intolerance.

My computer screen frowns its colored
HYPOCRISY Continued on 9

PC's: Where To Buy



The Computer

Computer Renaissance, General Nanosystems, Best Buy, Comp USA... Where should you go for the best deal for your PC needs? That is the question that I will be answering in this article. Each one

is good for some things and bad for others. I will also be rating each place on a scale from 1 to 10.

Computer Renaissance is good for older systems, such as Pentium Is. You can also get parts for a build-it-yourself system or a pre-assembled system. Also, at Computer Renaissance, you can get Macs or PCs (Computer Renaissance is where I got my Mac).

The drawback is that Computer Renaissance was bought out by a larger company which is shutting them down, so it's getting rather hard to find an open Computer Renaissance store. The overall rating I give Computer Renaissance is a 5 because, although they have nice older stuff, they have almost no open stores, which makes it significantly harder to buy stuff from them.

General Nanosystems is my personal favorite for high-tech PC parts. They typically sell things a little bit older than the newest tech (right now they have lots of 700+megahertz processors). General Nanosystems has good prices for new, reliable, hardware, but you can't get monitors or anything slower than 450 megahertz, and they only have one location. The overall rating I give General Nanosystems is a 9, because although they have new parts at a low price, they don't sell monitors, so you have to make a separate stop to get your monitor.

Best Buy has several locations, making it easier to find. It mainly sells pre-assembled computers, not parts for making your own, which raises the price. An advantage is that you can also get a monitor and software for the computer at the same time without making extra stops. The overall rating I give Best Buy is a 7, because they don't have the best of prices.

Comp USA sells the same type of things as Best Buy, but there are fewer locations and I've had some problems with rebates and such from Comp USA. The overall rating I give Comp USA is a 5, because mail-in re-

COMPUTER Continued on 9

The Bouncer Is Not As Good As It Could Be

Mackenzie Orin Byrne
Staff Writer

The Bouncer is a game that I have been anticipating for a long time. I have to say it was a big disappointment. From the previews, I read and the screen shots saw seen this game looked really cool. But after playing it, it's not nearly as good as it could be. This game was supposed to mold next generation graphics with classic beat-em'-up game play mixed with RPG elements.

The Bouncer is about the bouncers --Sion, Volt and Kuo-- that work at a bar called Fate. The game starts when the evil, world-wide corporation called Mikado kidnaps the bars mascot and their friend, a young girl named Dominique. The rest of the game you spend fighting your way to Mikado to get her back.

The Bouncer has several flaws. I'll start with the combat. While it is easy to control, it lacks depth. What I mean by that is there's not enough strategy when you fight different enemies. Even though each of the game's three characters has a large and different move set, you still end up using the same move over and over again. Combat, which is most of the game, usually deteriorates to mindless button pushing. Another problem, and I think it's a big one, is the

game's length. It takes an hour and a half to beat the story mode. The length of this game is just plain inexcusable considering it was supposed to be half RPG. Most good RPGs are 40 to 50 hours long, and a decent action game should be about six to seven hours long.

There are, however, some redeeming qualities to this game. One of them is the graphics. They are just incredible, some of the best stuff on PS2. Even if it's not that fun to play, it sure is fun to watch, whether you're fighting through a train station, forest, or on a flying hover craft, it all looks amazing. Another good thing is the story. It is pretty interesting and has a lot of unexpected twists, even though it is really short.

So here is the final scoop. The Bouncer should have been much better, but it's not. But even with its flaws, it is still pretty fun to play, and the multi-player mode is pretty good. Here is the final score 5 out of ten. It's only OK. If you were thinking of buying this game you may want to just borrow it from me. After a weekend you'd be pretty much done with it. ◇

Along Came An Okay Movie

Geoff Freeman
Staff Critic

Along Came a Spider is another addition to the list of suspense thrillers. Sequel of kiss the Girls it's pumped full of twists and turns and kept me on the edge of my seat. An elaborate plot that was reminiscent of Silence of The Lambs and a relatively original story line made for a pretty good movie.

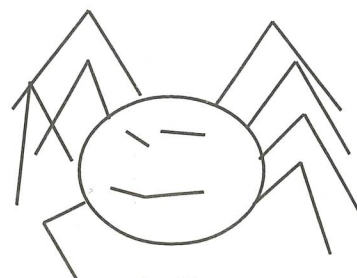
Starring Morgan Freeman as Dr. Alex Cross, a detective traumatized and depressed by the death of his partner. He is out of work until he's dragged into an investigation of the senator's daughter, who was kidnapped from an elite private school. The senator makes a very big deal of the kidnapping and there is a lot of hubbub like press coverage and nation crisis going on. The kidnapper is a criminal genius who is always moving and doesn't leave much of a trail behind. However, Cross's personality profiling allows him to keep pretty close tabs on him.

Although the acting in the movie is very strong (especially from Freeman, who seems to be great in anything he plays) the story is

a let down. Behind the curtain of lies and deceit that is the interesting and twisty plot, is a shallow over-told story that might have been interesting had I been say, asleep or maybe drunk. The movie was worth seeing if you consider some of the junk they call movies that are out there. However, I've heard good things about the book.

So if you do go to see it, don't expect to much even though it is better than any other movie out there right now.

Along Came a Spider ***/*****



A SPIDER

The Good, The Bad And The Scrumptuous

Sierra Blakely

Staff Critic

This spring break we had a friend come and visit, and we ended up eating out a lot. One day, while munching on Pad Thai noodles, I had the idea to do this. I like experimenting with different ethnic foods, so I have pieced together this collage of interesting restaurants. This is my food journal, and I hope that it will influence your dining preferences.

Taste Of India: If you want a really delicious Indian meal, then this is the place to go. The food is 'finger-lickin' good... especially the lamb vindaloo. It's a fancy place to go, and the meals range from 10 to 20 dollars. The portions aren't that big, but the taste of the dishes totally compensates! Service is very good, and the atmosphere is very calming.

Boca Chica: A fairly fancy restaurant, but with good prices. Another plus is that it is authentic Mexican, which means there's none of your Taco Bell crap here! Prices range from eight to ten dollars, and they have good portions. A great deal there is the lunch buffet, served on weekdays, which is only about six to eight bucks, not including a tip. The platter sizes are gigantic, and are really delicious and filling. My favorite here is the

enchiladas in red sauce, which comes with beans and rice. They also give you chips and salsa at the beginning of the meal.

El Burrito Mercado: Also authentic; this restaurant doubles as a supermarket, hence the name. Great for a quick meal, the prices are about five to seven bucks, and everything is delicious! It's served up buffet style, and (if it's possible) it's better than Boca Chica. Another plus is the fact that you don't need to give them a tip, unless of course you want to.

Hoa Bien: For a delicious meal for a low price, go to Hoa Bien. Main dishes cost about four to seven dollars, and what dish you get really determines the size. It wouldn't be a good place to eat dinner before prom, but the food is delicious; especially the hot and sour shrimp soup! The service is normally good, but the last time I ate there the waiters ignored us for about half an hour.

Citti Cafe: In my opinion, Citti Cafe is one of the best sandwich places in St. Paul. It's the same price as Subway, and their bread is a million times better. Sandwiches are \$4.50 there, and really filling! Situated in the St. Paul Hotel by the skyway, it's hard

to find, but really worth it! Mostly tucked away from everything else, it gives out a friendly feeling, which really lightens your mood.

Landmark Cafe: A gorgeous place, it has the atmosphere of one of those small-town cafes, with a view of Landmark Center. The breakfast platters are great, with meals ranging from five to eight bucks. Service is good, and you get enough food to make you explode! Personally, I recommend the Tex Mex breakfast burrito, which you can get without meat, so it's great for vegetarians. Really this place projects the vibe that you can just kick up your heels and watch the world go by.

I hope that you enjoyed this review, and that maybe you'll go out and try some of these restaurants sometime. These are just a few good restaurants; you can always find others. One way of discovering good restaurants is to take advice, and eat someplace that you've never gone before. If you try things that are outside of your comfort-food box, you just may discover something you like. ♦

ENGLAND From 3

liefs. Then we all got back on to the bus and trucked over to Stratford, where we walked around and saw Shakespeare's graveyard and the place where his house used to be (It was torn down because the mayor didn't want people visiting his town -- that really didn't stop people). Then we bought our last few things and went to Shakespeare's birth

house. That was fun, except when you looked down you could see through the floor boards. Then we took a ride over to his wife's house and looked around. We found out where the phrase "square meal" came from and where Will courted his wife. Then, back to London where we ate at a gourmet cafe in a hotel. It was fun. Then we went back to the hotel

to pack for our last day.

Day 11-- We left at 9:00 in the morning for the airport. We got our tickets and left for the terminal. We had to wait to go to our terminal in a mall-like area. The plane ride seemed shorter than the flight over. When we got back in to the USA, we had our shoes washed. It was hard to comeback. ♦



GOOD From 4

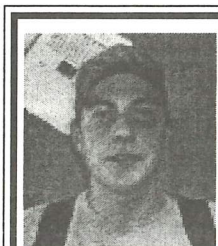
can emit the same amount of pollutants as 60 cars. On one day at Yellowstone National Park, more than 1,100 snowmobiles entered the park. That basically makes for about 66,000 cars at one time. Icky!

Here's another one: one third of fuel that goes into a two-stroke engine leaves through the exhaust unburned. See? Hopefully now you see what the Park Service was getting at. Plus, snowmobiles are smelly, noisy, and can often ruin the peacefulness of an area.

Damn I'm conflicted. On one hand, I can attest to the fact that ATV's are extremely fun, but, on the other hand, I think of the damage to the environment. While environmentalists sometimes exaggerate, the facts in this case seem convincing. It seems like the snowmobiles could do a lot of damage if we don't restrict usage. If you let ATV's run around on the nice parks for a long time, they might not be so nice any more. What people really need to do is get a big piece of land for ATV's, and let the reserves and parks have their space, and the snowmobiles and have theirs.

Opinions 'n' Stuff

ATV Ban is Silly



Brady Taipale
Staff Columnist

Here we go again, the tree-hugging nuts are trying to take one more step toward the complete elimination of anyone else's fun. This nonsense that they are trying to pull in Yellowstone doesn't

surprise me since I have already figured out that they won't be happy until the day we all have to ride yellow bicycles and eat nothing but tofu, granola, and other organic crap from the co-op. I also know that they don't want to stop at anything until it gets to that point.

One reason that the environmentalists want snowmobiles banned in Yellowstone is that they claim that the park is crowded, noisy, and animals are being harassed. Now, I have talked to a lot of people who have been out there and they all told me that you never see another person in the park. Besides, there are regulations that you are supposed to follow, such as, you must stay on the trails, you can't drive recklessly, you can't disturb the wildlife, and so on. All but a few boneheads obey them. Don't you think that it would be a better idea to slap a huge fine on those few boneheads who don't follow the regulations and give everyone else a bad name, instead of banning all snowmobiles? Also, Yellowstone is not used nearly as heavily as some other parks. I have a hard time believing that the number of snowmobilers that visit Yellowstone are destroying that big of a park.

Of course their main anti-snowmobile argument is (surprise, surprise) the use of the good ol' two-cycle engine. The environmentalists really don't have the foggiest idea how they work, so their argument is crap. Now, I admit that the two cycle engine isn't the most efficient thing around, but these tree-huggers make them sound much worse than they really are. Example: when someone

BAD Continued 9

ATV Ban Is Too Bad, But It makes Sense

Every summer I visit my dad in Washington state. Some days when I'm out in my property a friend of mine comes over with his dirt bike and four-wheeler and we go riding around in the woods and cow fields. Now I've only done it a few times, cause I usually like to walk more and keep from using them, but I got to go fast, and it was fun. You get the feeling that unless it's a tree, nothing's really an obstacle. You just go over it.

For many people in the United States, all terrain vehicles (snowmobiles, four-wheelers, etc.) are extremely popular. But a new ban on ATV's is being issued for Yellowstone National Park, the first and largest in the country. The ban has the poten-



Arthur Minnerly
Staff Columnist

tial to bite a big chunk of money out of the snowmobile industry, not to mention make life less fun for a lot of people.

The ban went into effect in January of this year. The National Park Service issued the ban after a four-year period of research on how ATV's affect the environment. The ban is temporary for now, and a permanent ban will not be set until somewhere around 2003.

Now I can bet that for the users of ATV's, this is pretty bad news, and I've ridden four-wheelers for fun, so I guess I understand. Winter visitors in Yellowstone number around 60,000, many of whom are snowmobilers and four-wheelers. Yellowstone is one park out of 45+ National Parks, so you can imagine that a ban is going to affect quite a few people.

But the Park Service study does provide some good facts to back the ban. One example is this: One two-stroke snowmobile

GOOD Continued on 8

X-Files Is A Classic, But Will It Ever End?



Arielle Weiller
Staff Columnist

For the X-Files' past three seasons, there has been talk of its demise - but each year Fox, creator Chris Carter and the rest of the cast come to an agreement that keeps the show running smoothly until

the same time next year. Will this year break the cycle? Probably not.

This year issues include David Duchovny's continuing reluctance to sign on for another season, Chris Carter's demands that Fox support his new spinoff show, the Lone Gunmen, and the ever present threat on all long-running series' that the writers and producers will be unable to come up with more original and creative script ideas.

I'm sure Fox and the show's executives can come up with a solution to all of these

problems that will postpone the inevitable for another season. However, I think the question that must be asked is: Should there be another season?

No. The X-Files is far past its peak. The show's highest ratings came during its fifth season and its been going downhill ever since.

The X-writers seem to be having troubles as well. Last season, Agents Mulder and Scully teamed up with Cops for a crossover that made me laugh so hard I cried... no wait - that was the other way around.

The level of blood and gore has gone up significantly during the past couple years in a shameless attempt to grab more viewers. During the earlier episodes, when a person was murdered, the viewers were spared the sight of the victim's mutilated corpse. But now, they've decided to go all out on special effects and show us every gruesome detail.

X-FILES Continued on 10

HYPOCRISY From 5

frown. Words, staring, stinging, searing into my skull. May these truths be held self evident, for interpretation is the key to understanding. Yet I still wonder, perhaps because I don't understand. All the violence, all the hate, all the wars against our neighbors, Chechnya, Russia, Serbia, Palestine, America, Native America. They are all brothers and sisters, yet they are only out for each others blood. We have a thousand different words, from a thousand different times, said by a thousand different people that we all have the potential to be a united species, united in hope and goodwill. I see nothing of the sort happening.

Shining stars, shining out, screaming out, "I am kind, are we redeemed?" I say to you, no. You were kind and gave your life so others could succeed and have a chance, you

are redeemed. Sadly, your species rots in its self-created cess pit of its own decadence. Your admirable attempts at righteousness are cast off by your fellow man, cast off into a sea of evil that we as a species are swimming in. In this sea, we drink its waters; we eat its denizens. There is no redemption.

Faith, faith that runs deep in the soul of every modern human, regardless of creed. What is faith? Does it make us good? No. Faith was created to mask ill deeds. Ask for God's forgiveness, and everything, even murder and rape is forgiven. Faith was created to hide the fact that we are a waste of earthly time. Faith was created for us to feel better. Yes. Faith, in some instances, has evolved over time into something to put your time into to keep away from the heinous evils. It still does not redeem the basic fact that we are evil just for being.

We are destruction incarnate. We destroy to live. It is what we do. We milk our planet of its resources for our own existence, while she wastes away slowly. A pox on her face, the disease of humanity.

Is there a solution? Yes. It is not one that you, the reader, want to hear. The solution is simple and drastic. It is the total extinction of humanity. When we are dead, the Earth will breathe her deep earthly sigh, and the disease that was humanity will be lifted, the pox that scarred her face will slowly begin the healing process.

Am I considering exterminating the whole human race? I say to you, no. I, like all humans, value my meaningless, self-absorbed life for whatever trivial reason. And I, like the rest of humanity, wish to go on with the evil that is my being. ♦

PROM From 1

the past -- it's all we've ever had." No thanks, instead I'd rather look through the future's glassy stares, to what might happen at Open School Prom 2001. . .

There will be dancing, there will be laughing, and there will also be not one, not two, but three of them -- but only one of you. Jeff Lutz, the old hall monitor, will show up -- and so will his boisterously yelled nicknames, "Big Time," "Big Money," and a new addition "Pinstripes." There will be controversy, as the casino theme for the prom is well received -- until it is found

that the human-sized decorative dice aren't dice at all. Principal Ruth Pechmann will be angry, as more people pay attention to an ant battle over a popsicle on the sidewalk than prom itself, repeating a terrible memory from summer school.

Did you know there is going to be a tiny robot at prom? I did, but you won't be able to find this curious fellow -- 'Rex' is curious. Leo will arrive early, this time unhindered by a date -- hindered still, however, by a centuries old curse.

Police will arrive at 5:30, knowing the potential for rioting, as this year nobody is

planning to come to prom dressed in medieval costume. A shooting star will be seen, romantic walks will be taken, and a jewel of unimaginable powers *will* be found.

There will be a fireworks display-- but it will be the resounding crackles and sparkling colours of glamour. Some people will stay home because they are bitter. Why are you bitter? The only thing I'm bitter about is arts communication ace and the voracity of the jubilant eve. In any case, you will enjoy prom unconditionally. ♦

BAD Continued from 9

tells you that a two cycle engine only burns about two-thirds of the gas, what they don't know is that there are return lines on the engine that bring the unburnt gas back to the fuel pump so it is used after all. That's right, the unburnt gas doesn't even leave the engine.

I want to know when these people will be satisfied. Even they can't answer that. After this, it will be snowmobiles everywhere else, then lawn mowers. They already got out-board motors. Whats next?

Until we are driving electric cars and eating rice cakes, I think they might be okay with the use of dumb, Ralph Nader style, nerf snowmobiles with pedals in Yellowstone instead. I don't understand why some people can't see through this anti-freedom, global warming B.S. so it can be exposed for the cornball crap that it really is. ♦

COMPUTERS From 6

bate problems are bad and, like Best Buy, they don't have the best of prices.

Then, there's that generic computer place around the corner from my house. They have pretty good prices (though not as good as General Nanosystems), but don't let the owner of the store anywhere near your computer, because he doesn't believe that you need to have your pin ones lined up properly. The overall rating the generic place gets is a 3, because of the fact that the owner doesn't know what he's talking about, which can cause you to get a painful electric shock.

In closing, I'd like to say that, although everyone is entitled to his or her own opinion, stay away from the generic place unless you're going to get your parts and run. You're safer staying with Best Buy or General Nanosystems. ♦

JET-GRIND Continued from 7

order to cover the area. If the area is larger you must follow the on-screen instructions. Small areas use one can, large use three, and x-large use seven.

After you complete certain levels you are challenged by a rival. After getting a Jet rating (the highest rating) on all levels you unlock hidden characters (the rival gangs and Potts the dog).

I think Jet Grind Radio is a fun and challenging game. This game is fun because you get to skate around spray-painting. The best aspect of the game is the graffiti generator, which lets you customize your own graffiti. The challenging part is getting the Jet rating on all levels.

This game can also make you frustrated because the police attack you while you are trying to paint on the larger areas. I would recommend this game to everyone because it is fun, challenging, and intriguing in style. ♦

We Saved The Best For Last . . .

HACKY SACK From 1

very roomy hallways in this school."

Teachers are also upset, feeling that the constant hacky sack playing is keeping people (both the hacky sack players and non-players alike) from coming to class on time, and disrupting the flow of everyone trying to walk by. "Well, I really don't think it's all that distracting," said science teacher Julie Doble. "But it can be really dangerous. Someone almost got kicked right outside of the office. I don't think people need to be playing hacky sack in between classes, there's lots of time to play outside after lunch."

Student Government discussed the issue at a meeting in March. Junior Adam Hurt, student body president, proposed a ban on playing hacky sack during school hours in-

side of the building. The proposal stated that anyone who wanted to play hacky sack could play outside after lunch, but it would be banned from the hallways and classrooms. The motion was seconded and taken to a vote which was almost unanimous - only two people voted against the ban. The vote passed and with the agreement that there would be more discussion at a later date.

Some students question whether or not it is fair for the student government to decide something like this without consulting the rest of the student body. There are only two people from each advisory in the student government, and sometimes even fewer people show up. Also, not many people in student government are hacky sack players. "I think they should have given other students, particularly the hacky sack players,

some say in the matter before they decided anything," said Nicholas Thurn.

Even if the ban goes into action, it has not been decided how teachers will enforce it. There are lots of times when teachers and students aren't around and then what's the harm in playing hacky sack? If there is no one around to bother, then why can't people play? With all of these questions and no one to answer them, everyone will just have to wait around to find out what happens. Until then, people will keep playing hacky sack.

"What is this?" questioned Adrian Gorder. "A dictatorship or a love circle? Circle up gentleman because the voice has spoken. Hacky sack shall remain." ◇

Top Ten . . .

The Top Ten list has been cancelled due to philosophical disagreements between the management and the elves.

HAVE A GREAT PROM!



PROM 2000 AT COMO LAKESIDE PAVILION

X-FILES Continued from 4

This season's addition of Robert Patrick as Scully's new partner, John Doggett, has brought up many more storyline possibilities. However, writers have chosen not to focus so much on the new cast member's character, but to stick to the disappearance (and reappearance) of Agent Mulder. Ever since his debut, Doggett has played second fiddle to Mulder - even though Mulder has been missing or dead most of the season.

Not until after Mulder's miraculous resurrection was Agent Doggett's character explored in depth. It seems the writers may not be comfortable enough to write for another main character, so they've opted instead to hide behind the ones they know.

Despite all these things, I believe that if the X-Files ended now, it would be going out on a high note. It's at a good point in its television-life to tie up loose ends and say goodbye while still retaining its dignity - even though I know I'd continue to watch it if it went on for ten more years. ◇



This season's cast

DRUGWARS From 7

decide to fight, a shoot out begins. If you can manage to kill all of his deputies and then him with out suffering too much damage, you can take his money and continue with your quest.

Another thing that you have to do in the game is pay back your loan shark. Each day you owe him more money if you don't repay him. If you don't pay him back soon, he will send his goons after you and they will steal any drugs that you are carrying in your trench coat.

Since the game is not made by a big software company, simply a free lance kid much like Shmuel who wrote the code in his par-

ents basement, nobody can really be blamed or boycotted for the somewhat unethical video game.

I have played this game a fair amount and have found it quite entertaining. I find it no different that any other controversial game that has taken abuse from critics that have probably never played the game. Is what happens in the game wrong? Yes, but is it not a game after all? The purpose of it is to be entertaining, which it is. Never once, after playing a round of Drugwars, have I felt the need to hit the streets and start slinging rocks. Nor have I felt like killing cops. I think its just a case of angry parents who like to complain and watch Dr. Laura. ◇

HISTORY DAY Continued from 2

on the Frontier of Extraordinary Technology.

"I would be really thrilled if three out of six projects were finalists, and I'd be even more thrilled if some one went to nationals," said Susanne Hollingsworth who oversees History Day at Open School.

This is Open's second year at History Day. Last year Erin Boyd went to state with an individual

