

The Purple Press

Official Publication of the St. Paul Open School

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The Last of the Jennifers

Mai Thao and Jillian Yang
Staff Writers

Here we go again, another tragedy about another staff member leaving. This time it's Jennifer Diedrich, who is leaving for a new job.

Jennifer has been here for seven years. Jennifer Diedrich's main duty was monitoring attendance and truancy. She got this job because she saw it posted at another school and thought it seemed interesting, so she called Ruth for an interview. Ruth gave her the job on the spot.

"I thought the place was crazy. I loved it, that's why I stayed," she said. Over the years she has learned a lot from students. One thing she thinks is important is respecting teenagers. Adults need to respect teenagers no matter what they look like on the outside, she said.

One of her favorite events at Open School

is the spaghetti dinner, which she hosts every year in the spring.

Some of the things she's going to miss the most are the "wonderful kids" and the sausage biscuit breakfast.

The past year Jennifer has been teaching classes and working at the Bead Monkey on JENNIFER Continued on 9



New Year, Hmong Style

Mee Xiong
Staff Writer

Three, two, one, HAPPY NEW YEAR! Hmong New Year, that is. Hmong New Year is an exciting event for the Hmong community, a time to forget the past and look to the future.

The 2001 Hmong New Year celebrations will take place at The River Centre and the Metrodome. The River Centre celebration takes place November 24 - 26 from 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 P.M. Admission is \$4.00, \$5.00 at the door. The celebration at the Metrodome will take place on December 9 and 10. Admission is \$4.00, \$6.00 at the door.

That means there are a lot of decisions to make. What to wear: Hmong clothes, Chinese clothes, Thai, Laotian? It's hard to choose. Time is ticking and everyone needs to decide. "I might just go two days," said junior Kashia Thor. "Maybe the first day I might wear Hmong clothes and the other day American clothes."

Looking for Mr./Miss Right? Hmong New Year is the place to find that special someone. When you find him/her, you can play a game called "Ball Throwing." It's a flirting game that involves tossing a ball back and forth. If you drop the ball, then you either sing or you take something off. Ball Throwing has been a tradition in the Hmong Culture for a long time.

"I can't wait. It's going to be exciting. I am going to be dancing at the Hmong New Year," said Paj Lee.

"I thought that there would be lots of California people, but since they all moved down here they're all now Minnesota people," said Mai Xiong.

There are many other things to do at the celebration. You can go shopping, try out food and watch the dancing and singing. It's also a great place to learn about the Hmong culture. "It will be packed at the River Centre," Mai said. ♦

Wanted, Dead or Alive: PlayStation 2 Eludes Even The Most Skilled Hunters

Neil Henke-Haney
Staff Writer

On Thursday October 26 Sony released its long-awaited video game system, the Playstation Two (PS2). In an attempt to pick one up, I skipped school and made my way to the Inver Grove Heights Best Buy. Since Best Buy opened at 10:00 sharp, I figured if I got there at about 8:30 I would be fine. But as I turned off of South Robert St. towards the Best Buy parking lot, I gazed at a sight not fit for my early morning eyes. There was a line with some 80 people, and on this grassy landscape area I saw two tents pitched as if it were a junior high camping trip. At this point I knew the only thing that would salvage the morning was a couple of egg McMuffin' and a large orange juice.

One Open School student was more successful. Senior Brandt Hinterberg packed his sleeping bag and set out for Target in Eagan at 6:00 pm the day before the PS2 arrived. "I've always played Playstation, I PLAYSTATION Continued on 8

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Cheapo Was Hot, Now It's Not

Cameron Beitler

Staff Writer

A lot of Open Schoolers loved Cheapo Discs on Snelling Avenue for their great selection of used and new CDs. Now no one can get any more CDs from there. On the night of October 16 a fire destroyed Cheapo and three other businesses. The other businesses were Home Video, where the fire started, Applause music store, and Grand Tan tanning salon.

About 25 fire fighters came close to being killed before they were pulled from the fire, just before a giant piece of the roof fell on them. In total there was 2.5 million dollars in damage done to the four stores. It took city officials three days to find the cause of the fire, which was a spark inside a pho-

tocopier in the back room of Home Video.

Cheapo had a great store with a very good location, right on Snelling Avenue. It was one of the only places around where you could get a cool CD at a good price. When I went in there, there was a sound that could only be Cheapo, the click clack of people checking though all of the used CDs they had.

People liked the store for different reasons. Gus Olsen, a ninth grader at Open, liked it because it was never crowded and he wouldn't have to plow through people to get to the CD he wanted. He also liked how convenient it was. There were many other
CHEAPO Continued on 8

Opinions Vary On New iMACs

Manila Yang and Shoua Yang

Staff Writers

We have 10 new iMACs in school this year. This brings the total number of computers to over 80. There are an estimated 60 computers connected to the internet, including the iMACs, reported Susanne Hollingsworth.

In addition, the school district just installed T1s to make the internet run faster and the cables carry more data to the computer. "I'm hoping every computer will have internet connection sometime this year," said Susanne.

Each of the iMACs cost \$1000. That's \$600-\$800 less than the Macintosh G3s Open purchased the year before last. The G3s are more substantial and easier to fix,

but the iMACs have a faster processor and have more hard drive space. The school also saved \$1000 by not ordering floppy drives for the iMACs.

What do students think of the new iMACs? There are a range of opinions. "They're not good, do not last, and the internet is slow," said Mai Lee Sr. "I don't like them, they brake down," said Khadeja Stringer. "I think they're um... good," said Sam Gleeson.

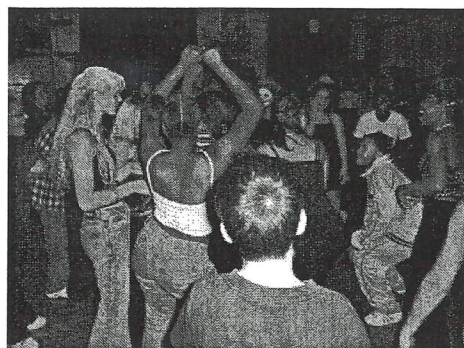
There are other problems with the new iMACs. Broken down CD drives and defective mice have been problems. The iMACs also have fewer holes, so they heat up faster than the G3s which have more holes so they let heat out quicker. Students are getting used to the new iMACs. ♦

Halloween Fun For Everyone!!

Right, Michelle and Emily pose; below right, Marcos as something; below Sierra Blakely, the first place SLC winner as a jellyfish.



Left, Stephanie Drow won first place teacher prize; below left, Sienna, Tim's daughter, stole the show as a "lambie;" below, Aaron Schujteras as moo-cow.



People having fun at the Halloween Dance in the afternoon.



Senior Profile

Travers

Amy



How many years have you been at Open School?

6

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

A serpent

What do you plan on doing after high school?

Finding a home. I'm going to go to MCTC, and hopefully move in with my sister.

Where do you picture yourself in 30 years?

A lady on a porch with a shotgun and a million cats. I don't know. 30 years is a really long time.

What will you miss most about Open School?

The gossip.

Basta Trial In Progress

Sierra Blakely

Staff Writer

Everyone probably remembers the night in April, when Tony Basta was shot while riding his bicycle. Heck, you had to be either in a coma or cryogenically frozen to miss it.

Now Dale Stewart has been the first of the three culprits to have been tried and sentenced. During the trial, defense attorneys claimed that Stewart had not intended to kill Basta, and only meant to scare him, because they believed he was staying out too late.

All the same, prosecutors had it on the mark by saying that they had meant to kill Basta, randomly choosing him to be their 'first blood' in a premeditated crime spree consisting of robbing and killing their victims.

It had all been planned out, except who to kill.

The trio of murderers had spent days 'training' by practicing handling loaded 9mm handguns. Stewart even went as far as to bite off the casing of the fatal bullet, to commemorate the beginning of the end.

After the murder, the three returned to the crime scene and joked about the killing, even signing a memorial petition and later bragging about it at a party.

After the jury determined that they had meant to kill him, it took them only three hours to sentence him to life in prison, with a chance of parole in at least 30 years.

Stewart, during the trial, broke down sobbing, and said that he was sorry.

"If there's anything I could do, I'd do it to give them their son back," he said. "I wish this had never happened." When on his knees, judge Greg Johnson ordered him to stand up.

"This single, cowardly act has tragically impacted the lives of many people, and now it's time you paid your debt to society," he said.

Jonathan McNeil pleaded guilty on Friday, November 3, being charged with second-degree murder. He can be released from prison in as few as 17 years. Daniel Angus, the last of the trio, is scheduled to go on trial next month, and will be charged with two counts of first-degree murder. ♦

New Channel Causes Up roar

Chris McLean

Staff Writer

Tune into channel 45 a few months ago, and you might have seen some grizzled guy selling knives or lighters. Nowadays, if you tune in, you might see something quite different. KSTC-45, which came to existence only 2 months ago, was bought by Hubbard Broadcasting, owner of local ABC affiliate KSTP as well as other stations nationwide. They completely replaced its previous lineup of religious programming and shopping shows, with talk shows, classic sitcoms, nightly movies, and more.

Apparently, this is significantly more successful than anything the network's done before. According to the website, ratings at any given point of the day have doubled, or even tripled from before, and it only seems to be going up. Although the larger stations obviously have higher ratings, the programming on channel 45 could be a welcome alternative to those who are tired of what the other networks have to offer.

"I like that it shows old, unpopular shows," said 9th grader Gus Olsen. "That's cool."

Around the school, the most popular shows seem to be "Saved by the Bell" and "Dracula's Saturday Night Horror Movies". But opinions about the station seem to be mixed among students. Some really like channel 45, some are indifferent towards it, and some down right hate it.

"I don't really like it, except for the commercials with Count Dracula," said popularity king, Jon Thurn.

Lucy Stark, on the other hand, has a different opinion. "I think it's pretty cool, because not that many people watch it, and they can do whatever they want."

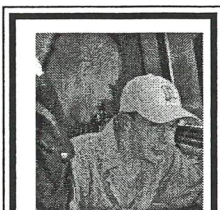
Other popular shows on KSTC-45 are "Street Smarts," a show similar to the Jay-walking sketch on the Tonight Show, the "National Enquirer," the TV version of the popular tabloid newspaper, and a nightly 9:00 news program featuring many newscasters from channel 5's 10:00 broadcast. Don't always be sure you'll actually see these shows when you tune in to 45 though. They're only starting out, and they may be off the air at random parts of the day while they're getting their feet off the ground.

Regardless of what people think, Channel 45 will be around for quite a while. Whether it will gain popularity or fade into obscurity, it will always be a place to turn for those tired of the norm. ♦

Opinions 'n' Staff

It's In Your Head

Many months ago I noticed that I was having a hard time simply being myself and liking who I am. My mood proceeded into a lengthy and discouraging feeling of depression.



Ethan Williams
Staff Columnist

After a few weeks I became sick and tired of feeling the way I did. I hoped, like my father, to be prescribed some type of anti-depression drug by my doctor that would solve my problem so I could be of a normal mind state once again.

Before sharing my problems with my therapist, I first shared them with my sister, Sarah. I told her that I was tired and discouraged with the way I was feeling, that I was sure it was depression. I was sure that there were chemical imbalances in my brain causing me to feel the way I did, I felt the problem was out of my control and that I needed some type of medical treatment.

My sister did something that made me furious. She contradicted me. It made no sense to me that she would be able to make such a judgment, for she was not feeling what I felt. She was merely looking into my head from an outside perspective and had no right to tell me how I felt and how my brain worked. She stipulated that the ability to control my well being actually was in my control. I flared up and left the room with a mind full of tangled thoughts ready to be sorted through.

I accepted what my sister said, I didn't accept it as the truth, but I accepted it as a possibility. I spent many days searching and dissecting myself, dissecting my psyche, and dissecting modern ideology of mental illness. I thought about how it was not ok for me to be of abnormal mind state because I could not perform routine daily tasks which are needed to live in society. I realized that I have been born into a society that has ideals for the way a person thinks and how a person's mind functions, and people who do not fit this ideal are labeled "men-

ETHAN Continued on 7

Rocky Horror Picture Show Is Back!

Rocky Horror picture show, is it back with a bang . . . or a big belly flop? When I heard last year that Rocky was leaving our state for good, my heart was broken. My childhood dreams of going to Rocky, being put on stage and spanked by hundreds of strangers was crushed. So needless to say, once I heard it had returned to the Riverview Theater in Minneapolis, I jumped at the chance to go. Although I didn't get spanked, I did get to see two girls stick bananas in their mouths and yell out appropriately lewd remarks. If that's not entertainment I just don't know what is.

As we all know, Rocky left last year after a loss in funding. Because it only costs four bucks a ticket, you can see how it would run out of money and fast without a major donor. Well, they got their donor this year and they bowed before her several times before



Heather Raiter
Staff Columnist

the show. They did not mention her name, they simply called her the Mother of Rocky.

When the doors were opened we went in and sat down in the lobby while listening to some loud-mouthed guys yelling something about prop bags, vampire repellents, and attractors for one dollar a piece. Sierra Blakley, Cara, and I felt a very strong urgent need to purchase one of these prop bags, so we made Caitlin Rude go get them. They turned out to be one of the highlights of the evening.

After the ritualistic torturing of the rocky virgins (someone who has never attended a rocky show, two men and two women picked from the hundreds of virgins that showed up for the opening night) the show began. They started off the evening with a polka rendition of all the songs bunched together in a 15 to 20 minute show. I should also add the fact that the polka words were not actual rocky songs, they were cleverly picked Weird Al polka parodies.

Once the real show started my co-mates
ROCKY Continued on 7

Halloween Ain't The Same



Caiti Holmstrom
Staff Columnist

Halloween. Ah, what a beautiful holiday. Blistered feet after a night of gathering poisoned or pin-and-razor filled candy, crappy costumes that are supposed to look scary and the disappointing realization that they're not when your mom and dad look at you and say "oh, how cute!" Not to mention the bill after the dentist fills all those sugar-filled cavities. One question I have to ask all of you: why do we even bother?

Every year it's the same thing. Crappy store-bought costumes if you're little, or crappy homemade costumes if your parents say that you're too old to trick-or-treat. I find that it is ever so creative to paint your face white and say that you're a dead person. Or how about sticking a mask on? What a great

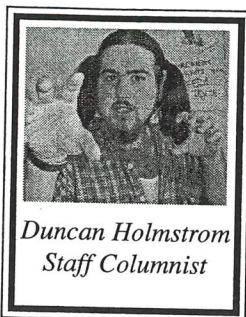
costume! Every year you get the warning about people tampering with the candy. Like this year there was that guy giving out candy with pins in them at a bus stop. Then your parents do the "inspection" which leaves you with a third of the candy you started with because they had to test it for you to make sure it was safe.

Could it be that we are blinded by all of the free candy, or a night on the town with friends? It must be something if we keep doing it year after year and we know exactly what's coming. Maybe, if you're my age, it's being able to act like a kid again with your friends, and no one can stop you.

All I really know is that next year I'll be decked out in some ridiculous costume going around with my friends and getting my blistered feet and poisoned candy. But don't worry, someday I'll have kids of my own and I'll let them go trick-or-treating, then I'll be able to do the "inspection." ♦

Strange Tales from the Desk of Duncan the Pirate

The Internet And Why People We Know Are On It...



Duncan Holmstrom
Staff Columnist

We all know the internet. It is a place of fiery decadence mixed with joy, oh such sweet joy. But, have we ever really thought about who is on the internet? I don't mean people who are accessing the internet for their own amusement, I mean people who are actually ON the internet. I doubt you've thought of that, and I'm about "Shed my ever-loving Socialist love light all over it" (and that involves keeping my pants on).

Lets start with our insatiable, and quite insane English teacher, Leo. I was curious one lazy Newspaper morning, so I took it upon myself to type in Leo's oddly Scandinavian name. When the results for "Leo Bickelhaupt," returned, I was oddly surprised when I got links to things Leo actually did. The weirdo was part of some silly ski race, something to do with his writing ability, and some other stuff about his teach-

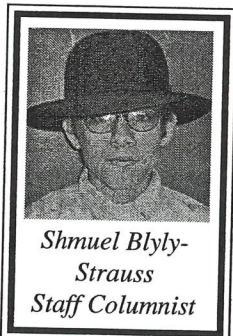
ing. I had to admit, I was intrigued.

So, in being intrigued, I journeyed on with the "People I know experiment," as I entitled it after my stumbling upon Leo on the internet. The next name I looked up was that of a familiar midget to all of us... Geoff Freeman. For those of you who don't know who Geoff is, he is the short kid with close cropped hair, huge pants, and kind of girl-ish eyelashes. He also has a familiar demeanor, that of a lemur on methamphetamines. It turns out that according to our friend Yahoo! Geoff Freeman is a Certified Public Accountant. Way to go lemur!

My next entry into this experiment was also a friend of mine, based on total and utter curiosity. I typed in the name, "SHMUEL." Again, for those of you who don't know who Shmuel is, he is rather short, always wears the same blue work shirt, black slacks and fedora (which is always beaten out of shape, and dusty.) He is also very accident prone. Breaking himself is his one of his favorite pastimes. When I got the search results back, I have to admit, my eye-

INTERNET Continued on 9

New: D&D Rulz! Uh, Rules



Shmuel Blyly-Strauss
Staff Columnist

Well, I'll start off by saying that the only reason I'm writing this is because Leo wants me to (probably because he wants to know what's going on in the D&D world, but was too embarrassed to ask).

For those of you who don't know, I'm going to destroy your blissful ignorance by telling you that Leo used to play more than his share of D&D. (He always played the thief. Could this be a reflection of his character?) Anyway, back to the marginally more important stuff. If you care about the new edition of the D&D RPG, read further. Otherwise, you may as well stop here.

Now I will go through the rules changes. First and foremost is the dismantling of the entire combat system: THACO is replaced with an attack bonus, initiative is rolled per battle on a D20 rather than on a D10 per round, a higher AC makes you harder to hit, and there is no more separate damage for

small or large creatures.

Next are the attribute changes. There is no longer any long list of things that are dependent on any one attribute, but instead there is just one modifier applicable to anything that involves that attribute.

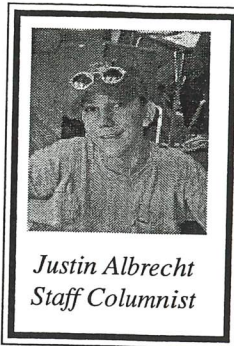
Another thing that was changed was the entire proficiencies system. There are now two separate things: Feats and Skills. Feats are used for skills such as weapon and armor proficiencies, ambidexterity, and blind fighting. Skills are things that can get better over time, such as pocket-picking and climbing. They also get the applicable attribute modifier added to the roll.

On to classes. The main difference is that there are new character classes: the barbarian, the monk, and the sorcerer. Also, rangers now get an additional favored enemy every five levels, and wizards can wear armor, although they do get penalties. Other than these, classes remain pretty much unchanged.

The majority of people I've spoken to have said that they like Third Edition D&D more than AD&D because of the rules sim-

D&D Continued on 8

Skateboard = Wrong?



Justin Albrecht
Staff Columnist

The setting is the local St. Paul Open School, where children frolick cheerfully, students are hard at work, and skaters are sitting lonely in a corner. This is what it's like everyday here ever since the no skateboarding rule made its appearance.

"The skate boarders use playground and sidewalk areas, which are used by others, making it unsafe," said principal, Ruth Pechmann. The skate boarders know to and do stop and move out of the way for pedestrians. The safety of playground and sidewalk areas should not be an issue in this topic.

Another reasons we can't skateboard is because of the lack of protective gear, according to Ruth. I have heard a pro skate boarder on television comment it is harder to maneuver in protective gear causing more accidents. Now, why should this be an issue. I have actually tried to skate board with protective gear and it made me fall more then without the gear.

Why don't you pick on ultimate frisbee? I've seen more injuries in ultimate frisbee in one week than I've seen injuries in skate boarding in my life. Last year I broke my thumb and finger and tore up my knees and elbows playing frisbee all in one month.

If you take away skate boarding because it's dangerous you should take everything away and change the school into a building full of padded rooms. That would make the school the least dangerous thing.

Take the two most essential things, for example, pencil and paper. With those two things you could go on a killing spree slitting people's throats and wrists with paper and jamming pencils who knows where.

I went on the Internet and looked up the skate boarding rule in public schools and none of the schools let students skateboard. They did not state reasons for why students can't skateboard.

Open School should set an example for other schools by letting our students skateboard. If students could skateboard here more people would come and maybe people would donate more.

10th grader, Morgan Willenbring, who is at this time trying to get people to let kids

SKATEBOARDING Continued on 8

Cool TV Reviews

Sheena

Mackenzie Byrne
Staff Critic

I'm going to be reviewing the new TV show *Sheena*. Now I've heard some people say that The Purple Press never gives anything a good review, and I think that this is partly true. That is why I went in to this *Sheena* review with a positive attitude, thinking 'hey I'll give this show a good review.' But that would not only be untrue to myself, but untrue to all the world, because this show is really truly not good.

So what is *Sheena* all about? *Sheena* is a very white, very blonde woman who lives in the African jungle and can fight pretty good. Odd indeed. How did she get there? She was orphaned at an early age (big surprise) and raised by an African woman named Kali, who is the last of a tribe called the Kaya, who possessed the ability to shape shift. Oh and guess what, *Sheena* can shape shift too. Why does she fight? And how, oh how does her shiny blonde hair stay so shiny after rolling on the ground? I have no answer other than: BECAUSE SHE'S SHEENA!

There is also a white man with a tiger-striped pick-up truck in the heart of Africa. His name is Matt Cutter. Matt is kind of slow (in the membrain), has a gun, and tells really bad jokes. He's only around because he wants to get into *Sheena*'s leopard skin bikini. But *Sheena* is not a new idea that just popped into the slow minds of the show's creators. No, *Sheena* has been a comic book since 1938. *Sheena* has also been a TV show before this one, and been on the big screen in the 1984 *Sheena* movie. This leopard-skinned bikini babe really gets around.

The cast of this show is a cast of nobodies. Never heard of any of them. One thing I should note is that the lead actress, Gena Lee Nolen, has been an extra on *Bay Watch* and the like. But she isn't really an actress, she's just pretty so I didn't expect much from her. She met my expectations.

I have seen one episode of this show and I don't want to see another. In the one I saw, it started out with a gorilla attacking the village where *Sheena* and the gang live. The gorilla went right for Kali (the Kaya woman who took care of *Sheena*) but before it seriously hurt her *Sheena* fought it, injured it, and it ran off. Naturally *Sheena*

SHEENA Continued on 7

Dark Angel

Arielle Weiler
Staff Critic

There is only one difference between Fox's new *Dark Angel* and shows like *Xena* and *Buffy*: the budget. The premise of these shows are the same: warrior woman trying to keep a low profile always finds time to kick some serious bad-guy ass. *Dark Angel* creator James Cameron just has a lot more money to spend on special effects.

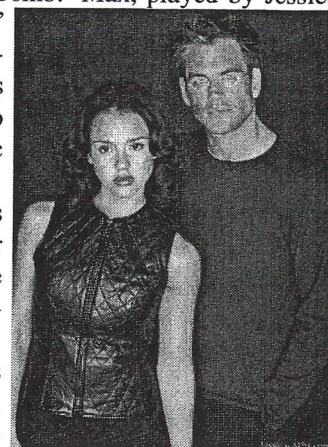
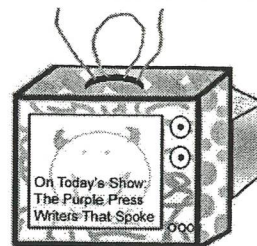
It's 2019 and the U.S. has become a third world country because of "the Pulse", a terrorist-deployed electromagnetic bomb. Max, played by Jessica Alba, is a genetically engineered "superior" being running from the top secret organization that created her. Along the way, she teams up with Logan (Michael Weatherly), also known as "Eyes Only," an optimistic cyberjournalist.

To explain her mysterious past, the show is riddled with flashbacks of mini-Max and her genetically altered "siblings" trying to escape from a heavily guarded dark-and-scary facility.

Dark Angel will most likely appeal to fans of *Buffy* the Vampire Slayer and *The X-Files*, it's a cult classic wannabe, and it may eventually have it's own devoted following. With

expensive special effects and the sex appeal of a smart-mouthed real life computer babe, the show will also grab the attention of gamers.

If you're not into sci-fi, this show's not for you. Otherwise, give it a try, you just might have found another show to put into your weekly rotation. ♦



History Bites

Ananda Wold
Staff Critic

Nobody likes a history lesson, but here's a history lesson nobody could miss. It's called *History Bites* and here's the catchy line: "when humans explore strange new things there's only one place to be . . . watching on the boob tube. So as we go back in time pretend that television was there."

This show is set anywhere from the ice age to the middle ages, from Columbus to George Washington, from Genghis Kahn to . . . well, you get the idea. *History bites* focuses on the big people and how they affected the little people.

Here's an example: Columbus discovered the "Americas" and took the natives as slaves. Many died on the way to Spain. So, for the natives history bites, hence the name of the show.

The typical show starts with an introduction by the narrator then goes to a press conference with the main big person. After that the narrator gives you more of the story and it goes to a talk show or a game show. It continues alternating between narrator and parody for the rest of the show until the end. And in the end, the narrator say "For the (fill in your little person here) history bites." One episode was about Columbus and the natives, and another episode was about the Vikings and the women that they used.

"History Bites" is an adult historical parody. It pokes fun at Lenno, Letterman, Barbara Walters, Alex Trebeck and many other game show hosts. If you can follow it you'll die laughing. I give *History Bites* five out of five stars. ♦

ROCKY From 4

and I were in for a very big surprise. The show consisted of a small cast on stage acting out all the scenes and that was okay. In fact they did a great job, and the costumes were most accurate. The problems started with the audience participation. This was due to the fact that the auditorium was filled with virgins that had no idea or a totally different idea about what they were supposed to be yelling at what time.

"All I wanted was for the human race to just shut up," said Caitlin. At times I wish the audience would have just shut their mouths too, but they didn't, and the show went on as the sound was lost to the thundering shouts, hoots, and hollers of the crowd. There were times when I could comprehend what was being said and that was when the wonderful people walking the aisles, trying to keep the audience in line on key and saying the right words, although it didn't exactly work, it was nice having them there.

"It could have been better just because it was kind of negative, just with the bashing of the characters. I know it's what they did before but now it's kind of extensive, more crude. I really didn't like how they made fun of Frankin Furter and gays, but otherwise it was great and I think every one should go," said Cara

I am being a bit critical. The show was great and I had loads of fun. One of the best parts was throwing all the stuff around that we got in the prop bags, including: toast, rice, newspaper, and a really cool toy or noise



Tim Curry in as
Dr. Frankenfurter

maker, which you threw or covered yourself with (news paper) during specific times in the movie. After the movie I left with the feeling of complete satisfaction and the knowledge that I would definitely return, but that I would never go back to an opening show. I was informed about the mistake of going to an opening show the day after by Aaron Izaksonas-Smith, whose brother works there. He did not go opening night because he knew that it would be loaded with virgins. But even though it was not the best of shows, I look forward to the next.

Until the next time, all hail the Mother of Rocky, and if you ever see her thank her, and kiss her butt. Because of her, we have the greatest show playing at the Riverview Theater in Minneapolis every Saturday!! See ya there, Rocky fans and curious virgins. ♦

ETHAN From 4

tally ill "and are deemed unfit to sufficiently function within society.

As I began realizing the dynamics of labeling people as mentally ill, I quickly grew into myself again. My mood began changing from something of alien and abnormal sorts that required termination as soon as possible so I could get on with my life, to a feeling that I recognize and will learn to manage. I learned that struggle with mental health does not have to be fought with any quick-fix treatments with the objection only of enabling a person to fit society's norms, but that the struggle can be fought through a type of affinity and consciousness of oneself.

So why, you may be wondering, did I write this article? I wrote this article in response to a presentation given to Jack Mills' elective class, which I serve most of my school service hours helping out. The presentation was given by a woman who does mental health education for a living. I wrote this article in response to the answer that she gave to a question of mine. During her presentation I asked if medication is the only treatment for depression. Her answer, stated in front of the whole class, was yes. Her words embedded in students' minds the notion that depression can only be treated through the use of medication. It was an outrage to witness her teachings, to realize that medication may be the only treatment those kids will know to turn to when facing future mental health obstacles.

ETHAN Continued Again on 10

SHEENA From Previous Page

wanted to go hunt this "Rogue" gorilla down and kill it, but Kali said, "No, don't kill the gorilla that hurt me." Sheena decided she knew better and went out hunting the gorilla anyway. During the hunt, Sheena and Cutter (who decided to tag along) saw Kali turn into a gorilla herself and go to the hurt Rogue and they both changed into humans again. Yes, that's right, he was a human all along just, in permanent animal form until Kali changed him back.

Now I must stop because I'm boring myself to insanity with this step by step story telling. The main thing is that the gorilla was Kali's husband and he turned into an animal with the rest of the Kaya because he didn't like the changes in Africa and bla bla bla yady yady yada. In the end he dies, boo hoo!

This show blew. For one thing, it was not environmentally correct. I mean they had al-

most any kind of African animal you can think of in one square mile of jungle. They had lions, leopards, gorillas, chimps, hyenas,



Sheena the African Princess

zebras, giraffes, gazelles and probably more, that's just all I can remember. There is no possible way that could be a real habitat. But anyway, let me just say one thing about the acting: it was bad, plain and simple. When they got to the crying scene in the end and Sheena had to cry, I almost cried. It was so hokey. There's more, I don't like this Cutter guy. I think he's supposed to be from the U.S.. His jokes, they just don't fit. The people he tells them to have lived in a little African village all their lives, they don't know what rush hour gridlock is, or any thing about American culture. If they aren't funny here, there is no way they are funny there.

So there you have it, Don't watch *Sheena* at 9:00 PM Saturday on Fox 29. Well, I guess you could watch it, just don't make me watch it with you. ♦

World Series: Yankee Dominance Is Getting Old

Nathan Jesson

Staff Columnist

The October Ticker Tape Parade happens every year the Yankees win the World Series. It has happened four times in the last five years! Isn't anyone in New York bored of it yet?

This year the Yankees won an over-hyped subway series! Who Cares! The only thing that was exciting about it was when Roger Clemens, a Yankee pitcher, continued a grudge against Mets catcher, Mike Piazza. Earlier in the season Clemens threw a ball going over ninety miles per hour at Piazza's head, many thought it was intentional. The grudge continued when Piazza and Clemens met next, the second game of the World Series. Clemens threw the ball Piazza hit it, half of the bat shattered and the other half came right towards Clemens, Clemens threw the bat back at Piazza. Piazza was not injured. Clemens was fined for fifty thousand dollars, but later appealed.

The other most exciting thing that happened in the World Series was that there was loose dirt in the batters box Oh No! That means that if there were a foul tip it would turn into a ground ball! Also according to the Mets this dirt was special for Clemens! Sadly this was the second most exciting thing that happened in the World Series.

This season seemed like it might be a new beginning for baseball when teams like the Giants, A's, Mariners, Cardinals, and the White Sox made it to the playoffs. It continued to look like a new beginning when the Cardinals swept the Braves, and the Yankees and A's were going into their fifth and final game. But the A's lost that fifth game and the Cardinals lost the next round of the playoffs.

(Besides the people in New York) This World Series was really quite dull and boring.

After all this World Series got the Worst ratings for a World Series ever!!

And it's not that hard to win the World Series when you have the highest payroll in baseball. After you add all the salaries on the Yankees team together you get 113.8 million dollars!!! And the Yankees are paying bench players over two million dollars a year!!

I predicted a subway series at midseason that would go into five games which it did. This does not show that I can tell the future it shows that baseball is getting too predictable.

Even Yankee fans are getting tired of this I asked him if baseball needed a change and he said yes.

So if I had to pick two teams that were over five hundred this year for next years World Series I would pick the Rockies and Red Sox!! ♦

SKATEBOARDING From 5

skateboard stated, "Skate boarding is a sport, not a crime. People have hated and harassed skaters since skate boarding started in the 60's."

Students think that if they set up meetings with the people in charge of the St. Paul parks and recreation, they can persuade them to allow people to skateboard in the parks.

If you were smart you would realize that skate boarding is NOT a crime. ♦

PLAYSTATION From 1

didn't want to miss it," said Hinterberg, who was fifth in a line of thirty hardcore gamers. "I didn't really sleep, but some guy had a tent." Hinterberg is one of only five hundred thousand people in the country that own a PS2.

Sony's original plan was to ship one million units to the United States by the October deadline. But due to a shortage of parts, they were only able to ship 500,000 with an additional 100,000 coming each week until Christmas.

The Playstation 2 is an electronic work of art, costing a mere \$299. Games go for about \$50 and extra controllers and memory cards cost \$34. Many people complain about the cost. If you don't want to buy a PS2, then don't, nobody is twisting your arm. But don't get all bitter and complain when other people do, just go home and play your parents Atari.

Straight out of the box, the PS2 can play Playstation One games. Previously when a new gaming system came out you might as well throw away your old software. It can



also play audio CDs. This is nothing new with video game systems, but a nice feature to have. It obviously can run PS2 games. Perhaps the best feature of all is its ability to play DVD movies. DVD players generally cost about the same, so for those of us who don't have a DVD player at home, this is a chance to get one with the ability to play the most cutting edge video games currently on the market today.

Although I was not fortunate enough to buy a PS2, I was able to play one at the Roseville Best Buy. The game was EA Sports newest title, "John Madden Football 2001". As I got closer to the television screen, the graphics were so impressive that I thought I was watching Monday night football. On the first play that I called, I watched in shock as the players moved around with extreme detail, right down to blinking their eyes. I then called an audible and as the quarterback yelled out the new play, his lips moved. The PS2 is a must on everybody's holiday list. ♦

CHEAPO From 2

good things about Cheapo like the fact that they let you listen to what ever you want.

Some people tried to take advantage of what ever was left in the store. Several teenagers snuck into Cheapo after the fire and stole some CDs. They were caught by the police while fleeing the store. Some other people were nicer and returned what ever they had from the stores. Arthur Minnerly, eighth grader, had rented Dogma from Home Video just days before it burned down. He could have kept the video, but he was a nice boy and returned it across the street where they had set up a new place. There is nothing to fear though, there is another Cheapo store in Minneapolis, on Lake Street. ♦



D&D From 5

plications, and I wholeheartedly agree with them. "The Dungeon Master's Guide is actually a guide to dungeon-mastering, not just an extension of the Player's Handbook", says 11th grade D&D player Elliot Schutjer. It is now way easier for new players to learn, although some "veterans" may have a hard time switching. That's about all I have to say about Third Edition, so goodbye for now.

If you have any more questions, the official D&D web site is <http://www.wizards.com/dnd>. ♦

Jesinoski Aims to Beef up Dare Program

Gunner Bakke
Staff Columnist

A new chapter was started in Open School history this school year, we had a liaison officer added to our staff. Many students, including my self, were apprehensive about this addition because of a fear that the officer might be intrusive and over ride school policies.

Because of my concerns I went to interview her and came away from the interview knowing she was only going to better our school's atmosphere. Although I disagree with the D.A.R.E. programs effectiveness and her anti-smoking message, her job is only to teach those things. So you do not have to worry about her policing our school.

Officer Jesinoski was placed here because of a concern about safety, mainly in response to events like the shooting at Columbine. The School district and the Police department hopes to stop events like that by having an officer in school who can spot troubled kids and give them the help they need, also they are putting officers in schools as a last line

of defense. The only problem with that is Columbine had a police officer on duty in the school during the shooting and the officer helped no one.

A major aim of Officer Jesinoski is to stop teen smoking. She says she would like to deal with teen smokers at our school in accordance of the law, but is willing to follow our school's policy of issuing smoking tickets. And let's be honest our schools policy doesn't even discourage anything. In an effort to stop teen smoking here, officer Jesinoski may occasionally go to Julie's classes and talk to them about the effects of smoking. My only problem with anti smoking campaigns is that they put cigarettes on pedestals like the apple tree in the Garden of Eden, making it more attractive to smoke.

She also hopes to help kids out by being a connection between themselves and the police department, in order to help kids deal with problems like domestic abuse, drug use, student conflicts and issues like vandalism.

One really cool activity she would like to sponsor here is invite a live band to play for all the students at D.A.R.E. graduation. That would be a huge step up from my D.A.R.E. graduation, where it was only for the 5th graders and all we got was pop and cookies. I just hope it is not a band singing songs with anti drug messages, but then what else would they play?

Officer Jesinoski also has great character. She took a \$6,000 pay cut to take a position working with children, through the D.A.R.E. and the liaison programs. The \$6,000 pay cut seems like a huge sacrifice, but what is even worse is she has to work with snotty kids.

My message to any one who takes issue with Officer Jesinoski is if you're not doing anything, what are you scared of? ◇

JENNIFER From 1

Sundays. The owner offered her a full time job last month.

"Because I really want to make my hobby a job," was what Jennifer Diedrich said when asked about why she was leaving. She left on November 2nd. "I am happy to start a new job and try something new but sad to leave a place where you've spent time so long," she said.

One of the school staff said, "Yes, her jokes and sense of humor," when asked if she'll miss Jennifer Diedrich and why.

After interviewing many students about how they felt about Jennifer leaving, one student said she's going to miss Jennifer because Jennifer always motivates her to come to school and another student said she didn't want Jennifer to leave because Jennifer is nice and caring.

Well, I guess the student body is proud of Jennifer Diedrich and wishes her the best at the "Bead Monkey," but we'll miss her a lot. ◇

INTERNET From 5

raised. Shmuel is a singles bar in Jerusalem. How appropriate. Shmuel and single go together like two peas in a pod.

Forever forward. The next person I typed in was our beloved principal, Ruth Pechmann. According to Yahoo!, Ruth is on a mission. Because I don't actually go into the sites to protect my virgin eyes from offensive materials, I'm not exactly sure what kind of mission she is on. My over-worked imagination assumed that she was on a mission fighting for drunken Pokémon while George W. Bush's disembodied quotes attacking her . . .

Deciding that was totally strange and off topic, I ventured onward. Next on my hit list was the one and only Greg Adams. I

discovered that our little Gregory was a regular renaissance man. He is a professional hockey player, a jazz musician specializing in the trumpet, a PhD in Methodology, and a pro walleye fisherman. Criminy, is what I say my friends, criminy.

And onward I moved to the next person, who was, of course, Salvador Rosas, who needs no clarification. It was amazing, when I got the search results back I was like, "Internet traffic bureau . . . oh . . . my . . . god." Salvador, behind our backs, is the Honorable Salvador Rosas, Judge from the Second Judicial District. Only one word for that one folks . . . Damn!

Ok, next! Heather Raiter (pink and black

hair). She is the victim of Socio-Sciences today. Heather Raiter is a Dominatrix in New Jersey as well as a prostitute from the red light district in Amsterdam (at the same time!). Strangely, I was not surprised.

After that, I started to make up names, curiously. Poop Monkey is a record store. Salvador Sucks is (according to the site description) a massive database of hardcore pornography.

My brain exploded right about then. And God damn, was that gross. Oh well, until next time.

This is Duncan Holmstrom, signing off. ◇

Brady Taipale
Staff Columnist

The truth is that gun control doesn't do a thing to criminals. no matter how many laws there are restricting firearms, criminals will not obey them. The only people that will are law abiding gun owners who use their guns for sporting or self defense.

Al Gore said if elected president he would try to make it mandatory for all hand guns to be licensed. Again, I will bring up the fact that most guns recovered after a crime were

Besides, we have a constitutional right to own a gun, nobody thinks we should regulate free speech. I think we should keep guns out of the hands of criminals, but do it in a way that it would not affect decent people.◇

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