

The Purple Press

Official Publication of the St. Paul Open School

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Vandals Cause More Damage

Ethan Williams
Staff Writer

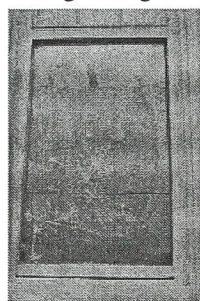
Vandals of unknown identity struck St. Paul Open School over M.E.A weekend, breaking windows, tearing through screens, and even egging the front and rear doors. It was reported early Monday morning that six windows have been shattered along with several screens which were severely damaged. So far no suspects have been linked to the vandalism.

"There has always been a certain amount of vandalism (in the past), but it has increased since we moved to this area," said Open School group facilitator Lenni Augustine. Lenni is just one of many people in the community who has been saddened by the incident. Lenni stated, "It's kind of sad to see our peace pole out there, and then have all these broken windows."

The damage from the six windows that were broken late Wednesday night is estimated to cost between \$500-550 per win-

dow, according to Open School custodian Dave Hovath. The total damage is expected to total over \$3000. The windows should be replaced by the second week of November.

Open School has requested that the local police strengthen security in the neighborhood by patrolling the area more frequently during the night, according to principal Ruth



One of many broken windows

Pechmann. Also, neighbors have been urged to contact police when they suspect vandalism is being done to the building. Having a security system in the building is also an option which is currently being explored, although a means of payment has not yet been confirmed.



Adam & Azeneth at the Helm

Mai Thao
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, September 20th, Student Government elected co-presidents, Adam Hurt and Azeneth Rodriguez. Two presidents were elected because Adam is going to be out of the building a lot.

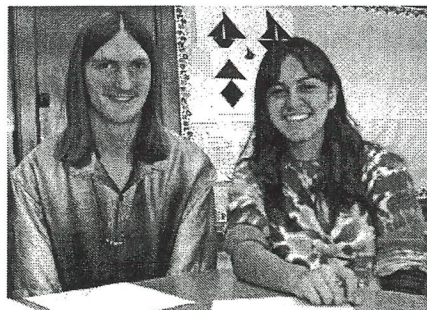
"Sometimes I feel like I know everyone," said Adam. Adam has been at Open School

for 12 years and he feels like he knows what's going on. One of Adam's goals is to have less discussion and more decision making at meetings.

Azeneth has been in Student Government for three years and likes to get involved in committees. She wants to make things clear so students will understand what's going on around school.

The other officers include: Mai Thao (Vice President), Jillian Yang (secretary) and Rae Valentines (treasurer). The vice president will be taking over the meeting when the president is gone and she has to make sure to put signs up when there are committee meetings. During each meeting, the secretary has to take notes and be responsible for reading the minutes at the next meeting.

ELECTION Continued on 10



Co-Presidents, Adam Hurt and Azeneth Rodriguez

Loose Toads

Sierra Blakely
Staff Writer

NEWS FLASH! Shortly before Thanksgiving, giant weasels, stoats (a different kind of weasel) and ferrets will be taking the school by storm. Don't be alarmed, it's just the the latest production of the drama department: "Toad Of Toad Hall", based on The Wind In The Willows.

Bridget Martin, drama teacher, will be directing the play, as usual. "It's going to be wonderful," she said. "What other prediction could I come up with?" She claimed that they will again be using the ELCers to fill in the cracks, so it will be a more family-oriented play. They will be the back-up roles, like the weasels, stoats, ferrets, rabbits, squirrels, ducks, and many more. "They're kind of the crowd," said Bridget. There will be about eight or ten kids.

The main characters are as follows: Emily Schultz as Toad, Anna Karl as Rat, Aaron Holland as Badger, and Per Olsen as Mole. Per is also assistant director of the production.

The play itself is about an outspoken and wealthy toad who is constantly changing fads. His latest craze becomes a disaster when he -- having a run-in with the law -- embarks on a wild plot. He schemes how to get his home back, which has been stolen

PLAY Continued on 10

The Purple Press Covers the Issues

"Is he creepier than Richard Gere? Quite possibly. This fish will bite you."

--Chris & Neil on video games

"I will attempt to enlighten you all by what is one of the last of my priceless, wordy, structured thingies or articles, if you want to be a snob."

--Salvador's back

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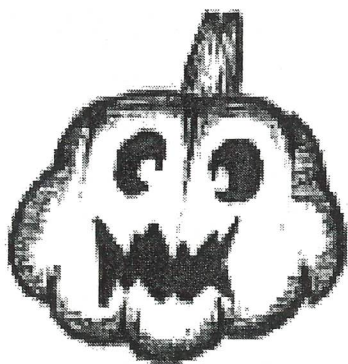
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SPOOKY!

Who's New at Open Skoo?

Susan Hawke

Mee Xiong

Staff Writer

Susan Frances Hawke is the new math teacher at St. Paul Open School. Her interest in teaching goes way back. In 9th grade she used to volunteer for a Catholic school called St. Patrick's on her days off from school.

Before coming to Open, Susan taught at the University of Minnesota and several other places for 14 years. At the U of M, Susan taught math, statistics, physics and measurement. In her physics classes she had as many as 250 students.

During Susan's time outside of school, she likes to bike, do beading, go walking and do crafts with her daughter, 14-year-old Brittany. Another thing she likes to do with her daughter is go horse back riding. "We just found out Paula has a horse. So this week we are heading out there," said Susan. They have been to Paula's place two times already and hope there's more to come.

Susan loves Open School. "The students are open and the staff's so friendly, I feel welcome," Susan said. Her only complaint is that she wishes she had been hired sooner, because her room is not in the shape she would like it to be. ♦



Audrey Jeter

Manila Yang

Staff Writer

Audrey Jeter is from New Haven, Connecticut. She has been involved in education for 9 years. Last year she decided that she wanted a change and thought Open School would be a place where she could find that change, so she became our new program coordinator. "I like Open School's philosophy," she said. Jeter taught high school English at Como Senior High School. She has also worked with students at Highland Junior High School.

Several years ago she went to Washington DC for a fellowship with the Smithsonian and studied museum process, learning from objects. "It was a great learning opportunity," she said. Audrey has two sons, 19-year-old Kyle and 15-year-old Neal. She lives in Minneapolis. Outside of school she is interested in sign language and interprets for her church; she also enjoys puzzles and books. So far, Audrey has positive feelings about Open. "I like it here, everyday is different." ♦



Nancy Larson

Shoua Yang

Staff Writer

Nancy Larson traveled all over Asia in 1985. While there, she helped the non-communists in the refugee camps; she even had the opportunity to go to the mountains and Thailand, where Hmong people still live traditionally. Today Nancy uses her knowledge every day to help Hmong students in the ELL program at Open School. "I'm just happy to have a classroom with windows," Nancy said.

Nancy came here to St. Paul after transferring from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to the University of Minnesota to get her Masters Degree. She got her ESL license at Hamline University and is continuing to take classes there to become a better teacher. Before Open School she taught at Highwood Hills. Nancy came to Open because it has better hours for her and is closer to her home.

Nancy was born on a farm in Wisconsin with her sister and three brothers. She now lives here in St. Paul with her husband, John Lang. She has one daughter, Chantha Long, an orphan she adopted from Cambodia who now lives in Boston with her husband and their new born daughter. Larson spends most of her time gardening, dog-rescuing, or reading. She has three dogs and a cat. ♦



Senior Profile

Nick Thurn

How long have you been at Open School?

This is my second year.

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

A party animal! I'm sorry . . . Actually, probably some sort of bird, I imagine.

What are your plans for after graduation?

College, travel, etc.

What will you miss most about Open School?

I actually really enjoy the windows in stairwells. They have really nice views, I think, especially during fall and winter. It creates a lovely sort of soft atmosphere.



Snoopys No Longer On Parade

Arielle Weiler
Staff Writer

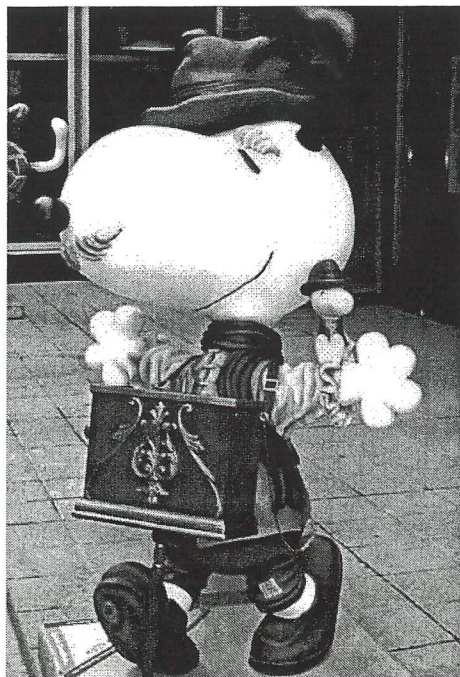
All summer long, you saw them around our city. Five feet tall, made of polyurethane, smiling, wearing funny outfits, or wearing nothing at all. What are they, you ask? The Snoopys, of course!

As part of a tribute to the late 'Peanuts' creator Charles Schulz, "Peanuts on Parade" was formed. 101 Snoopy figures were sponsored by local businesses and put up around St. Paul.

In late September, the Snoopys took up a one week residence at the Mall of America. Then on October 1, forty were put up for adoption at the Snoopy auction and all found good homes.

"If you're a dog, you can raise your paw, otherwise, I want to see your paddle," said auctioneer, Hugh Hildesby to his audience. Paddles were raised plenty of times, as winning bids ranged from \$11,000 to \$35,000.

"I was amazed at how much people were willing to spend to get a Snoopy," said Open School teacher, Amy Underhill. The event raised a total of \$823,000, which will fund a bronze sculpture of 10 of the Peanuts characters in downtown St. Paul. The money will also be used to set up scholarships for prospective cartoonists at two Minnesota art schools.



The Snoopy that was outside of Cossetta's

Summer In Africa

Jillian Yang
Staff Writer

Open School teacher Kiara Buchanan took a memorable trip to Africa this summer. She brought back three albums of memories, a lot of stories and a new appreciation for American schools.

Kiara and two of her friends left for Kenya in June to perform volunteer work for Dr. Harmon. Unfortunately, when they arrived Dr. Harmon didn't have anything for them to do. They ended up volunteering at a nursery school three times a week. During their free time they did some gardening and sight-seeing.

Kiara noticed a lot of differences between life in Kenya and life in the United States, including the roads. "The roads were so bad that you drive on grass," she said. She added that the roads were full of valleys and big boulders that were there for years, because the government didn't have the money to construct the area.

Kenya was also in its second year of drought, she said. There was barely any water. They only had electricity two hours per day. In order to have electricity, they had to turn a crank. It was also difficult to tell when the electricity was going to be available.

Every morning the sun rose exactly at 7 AM and every evening the sun set exactly 7 PM. After 7 PM she always stayed inside, because she was afraid of wild animals or being robbed by thugs.

She visited six other schools during her time there. The schools were single-story buildings with wood walls and open windows and doors. One school had students that asked a lot of questions. The most difficult question was: "What is the chief cash crop in Minnesota?" Surprised, Kiara was speechless.

Another thing that surprised her is that the teachers still use caning as a discipline. In other words, they still hit students with sticks. Learning about the way schools ran in Kenya, Kiara had a better appreciation for our schools. While she was there, she also learned that Kenya had internet access called Africa On-Line which she used to e-mail people out of the country. Her first e-mail back to the U.S. was printed in the Minneapolis/St. Paul local newspaper *Siren*.

One of the stories Kiara brought back to share about her trip was the time she spent her day with a rich Indian woman named

AFRICA Continued on 9

The Olympic Page

Note from the editors: Due to the overall terrific-ness of this year's summer Olympics, we thought that it was absolutely necessary to write as many stories as possible about them. So we did.

Techno Suits Help Break Records

Ananda Wold
Staff Writer

At the 2000 Olympics many swimmers broke and set world records. Could these outstanding times feature just amazing swimming or do some of the technological advances play a part in these brilliant swimmers' times?

Since the 1996 Olympics many swim wear brand name companies have been asking the question, is skimpier better? The answer they came up with is no. The results of this radical thinking are the Speedo Fastskin, TYR Aquapel, and the Nike Liftsuit.

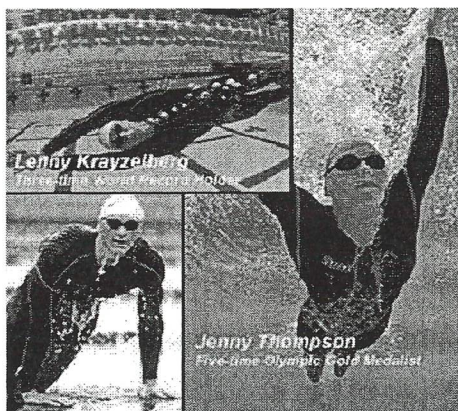
The Speedo Fastskin is made to model sharks' skin, with ridges representing shark dermodentrals. This suit, made of super-stretch lycra and spandex, is believed to be the fastest in the world. "The Speedo Fastskin really feels . . . tight and compact. It keeps your body in one, which is the idea when you race. You want to have full control of your body, which we never had before Speedo Fastskin," said world-record backstroker Lenny Krazleburg.

The TYR (pronounced tier) Aquapel is similar. Again, it's made of super-stretch lycra/spandex, but instead of shark-like ridges, it has stitched ridges on the upper

torso and thigh. These ridges help move the water around the body in a way that causes less drag. Unfortunately, due to the amount of time the suit takes to put on (about 30 minutes) and the unattractiveness, US swimming officials banned the Aquapel. The ban, however, might have a positive impact on the suit. "If the US swimming hadn't banned the suit (TYR Aquapel) there would never have been all this talk about it. So in a way, it's been great for the suit. Lots of free publicity," said TYR employee Matt Zimmer.

Nike's suit is also made of super-stretch lycra and spandex, although this suit has no

SWIM Continued on 9



Sidney Tracksters Sport Cool New Gear

Cameron Beidler
Staff Writer

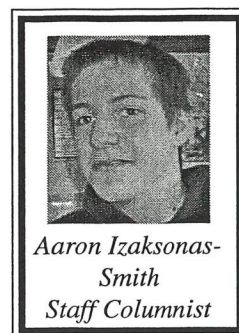
Track and field is one of the biggest attractions of the Olympics, maybe even the biggest. The Sydney Olympics introduced us not only to new track stars, but some new technology and a new event.

Making clothing headlines were the full body suits made by Nike. They are made out of Lycra, a special aerodynamic material. Runners such as Cathy Freeman from Australia, who got the gold in the 400-meter dash, used a full body suit.

Nike had another new piece of equipment for these summer Olympics: the new gold running shoes. They come in any size that you could want, for a price that is. They cost \$395 per shoe. The shoes are said to improve performance by 4%, according to the Calgary University Human Performance Laboratory. Michael Johnson, known for his funny up-right running stance, used the new shoes by Nike to race to a gold medal in the 400-meter dash.

In addition to new technology, the Sidney games also introduced a new event: women's pole vaulting. The first gold medals in women's pole was won by Stacy Dragila. She didn't break her world record, but it was enough to get the the gold. ♦

Spare Me the Drama



Aaron Izakson-Smith
Staff Columnist

Remember when the Olympics had real sports? Don't get me wrong, I have no dish with women's gymnastics, but where have all the sports gone? It seems to me that the Olympics consist of four events: swimming, gymnastics, track and field, and feature stories.

You may be wondering what I mean by 'feature stories.' What I mean is those stories that they show instead of actual sports which focus on athletes that the networks think may win.

In my opinion the feature story that got "gold" is about a totally inexperienced athlete. He was from Africa. He got in on a sympathy card for countries not yet proficient at swimming. The athlete didn't even know how far he had to swim, nor had he ever swam that far before. It was the biggest surprise in Olympic history when he failed miserably. The networks spent a lot of time covering this failure.

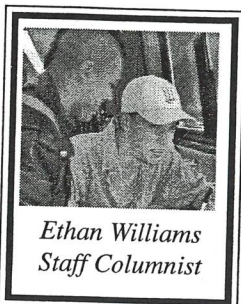
These pre-sports event stories seem to follow a pattern. First they tell you how the athlete did at the Barcelona Olympics. Then they explain why they failed miserably, or why they didn't show at the Atlanta games. Like their dog Fifi fell out of a twelve story apartment building, survived, started to limp off when he got hit by a SUV (dern SUV's) and died, so they had to go to the funeral. Then they flash a picture of their face saying this year is going to be different and that they're going to win. Then they show them in their hometown, running or something like that.

Next, they show their family jumping up and down. Usually the rest of the family is ridiculously out of shape, leading me to believe that they are just actors. They might show the tears of pride streaming down their face, or some other obvious emotional reaction. Obviously the NBC feature-maker

OLYMPICS Continued on 10

Opinions 'N' Staff

Quit Yer Whining



Ethan Williams
Staff Columnist

It was early morning on a Friday in September. The air was cool and comfortable in newspaper that day; however, the atmosphere was not. As Leo assigned homework for us to do

over the weekend, complaints were shouted out so intensely that it was as if Leo had just assigned the whole class to do manual labor. As I sat listening to the geeky little whines of my peers, I stumbled upon the bitter realization that Open School students complain to an extent which is, in my perspective, pitiful and pathetic.

Many Open School students see complaining as a characteristic more common within the walls of our school than in other

schools. Brian Blakley, 12th year Open School veteran thinks we complain because, "We think we're entitled to more than we are." He thinks Open students have less pressure on them to conform to their school, that we have the freedom to let our school conform to fit our needs and therefore we complain a lot.

11th grader Ted Howard, like Brian, sees too much complaining going on within Open School. However, Ted disagrees with Brian about why. Ted thinks that people complain because they "want to be doers but are just too lazy." Ted also said, "People are lazy due to a lack of motivation."

Stephanie, one of Open's newest teachers, believes that the motivation for Open students to complain spurs from one or many of the following sources: a longing for attention, low self-esteem, boredom, or even

ETHAN Continued on 9

Almost Famous is Almost Perfect

Sean Keith
Staff Critic

Almost Famous is a great pick for anyone who has always wondered about the 70's rock band or for anyone who just wants to see a good movie.

Almost Famous is about an aspiring young journalist named William Miller (Patrick Fugit). William is 15 and three grades ahead of his grade so he's always picked on and has never been considered cool by anyone except his mom (played by Frances McDormand). One day William is noticed by Rolling Stone Magazine for his music columns. Rolling Stone asks William to write a story about an up and coming band. While William is at a Black Sabbath concert, he finds a rock band that he likes called Stillwater.

Despite what his mother says, he goes on tour with Stillwater. While on tour William misses his graduation and discovers that jealousy causes much instability within the group; he also finds out that most of the time when the band isn't arguing, they're partying. He starts to get to know many different people like the lovely groupie Penny Lane (Kate Hudson), the lead guitarist Russell Hammond (Billy Crudup), and Jeff Bebe (Jason Lee) the lead singer. For the first time in his life William starts to feel cool.

The movie was based on the director Cameron Crowe's experience when he was 15, like William, he went on tour with a band and wrote a story for Rolling Stone. I don't what band he went on tour with though.

I thought the movie was great: it had comedy, drama, and a little action. The two most entertaining parts of the movie for me were William's mother who was constantly nagging him about not doing drugs, and the scenes of the band playing in concert. The soundtrack was okay. I really liked it so I'd give it 3.5 out of 5 stars.

Rated R: for language, drug use, and brief nudity.

Games That Make You Wince

Neil Henke-Haney and Chris Mclean
Staff Writers

Michael Jackson's Moonwalker:

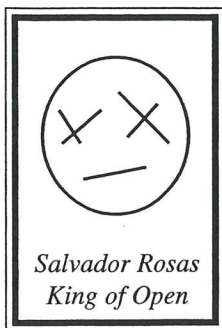
One day, I was at a garage sale looking for a thrifty coat. Instead, I came across this game. Tears of pure joy sprung from my eyes as I ran to the check out table. The kid working there said it was only 50 cents, but I said "Nay, friend shop keep! I will pay you no less than \$100 and this CD of ABBA's greatest hits!" He took the money, punched me in the face and kicked me to the ground, but when I felt this game hit the back of my head at about 40 mph, I knew that he was a good person.

Okay, none of this ever happened, but the point I'm trying to make is that I have Michael Jackson's Moonwalker for the Sega Genesis, the game that calls itself "The baddest video game ever." And you know what? I'd have to agree. (Please note that they meant "bad" in a good way.) And that's not all!

In Michael Jackson's Moonwalker, you play the role of the King of Pop himself. Mr. Big has kidnapped a large number of children, and it's up to Michael to save them. You use star magic to throw your deadly hat, or even make the bad guys dance! You do all this to the beat of Smooth Criminal, Beat It, Billy Jean, and Bad ! After each stage of rescuing children, and moonwalking on muggers, leaning on meanies, and popping the punks, Michael's pet monkey, Bubbles, rides in on a tricycle of light to guide Michael to Mr. Big and his goons! Every once in a while, Michael will turn into a car to get where he needs to, and at the end, he becomes a destructive robot that looks kinda like a Transformer. This game is the coolest thing I've ever seen. On a scale from 1 to 10, I give it an eleven! The only thing that would've made this game better is if it had farming in it, but I think my next one may have that covered...

VIDEO GAMES Continued on 8

The End All Be All Not Smart Enough to Run the Country



Man, how time flies. I wrote this in September but by the time anybody reads it, it will be almost Halloween. And speaking of the subject of time flying, senior year has arrived for me. This is my last year in this hamster-wheel institution known as school, suckers, so I will try to go out with a bang, or something like that. It seems like only yesterday it was my first awkward year at Open School, and now that it's my last year, I find myself asking, "Where has the time gone?" Honestly I don't know. Now, I know . . . The King of Open School will be missed, especially among the monkeys with writing skills we so lovingly refer to as The Purple Press.

Well, since I'm not off to college yet (or whatever it is I was put on this earth to do) I will attempt to enlighten you all by writing what is one of the last of my priceless, wordy, structured, thingies, or article if you want to be a snob. Yes my friends, I will show you the light and wave hello to you through your rusty cage.

So, does rap (or hype-hop, as I refer to it) still suck? 'Fraid so. Does teen pop still suck? Yup. Is everything that MTV says still wrong? That's right. Since I first began my crusade against the evils of the music biz, I've been shocked to see that pop music has continued to sink further down the toilet, like the slimy, greasy, green product of an overdulgent night at Taco Bell. (Pretty gross huh? I know.) It's gotten so bad, lately I find it harder and harder to resist making fires in all those wonderful Target stores, made up of "people's" music that dominate KDWB and 96.3's repetitive air waves, and whose videos get round the clock rotation of MTV.

I know I'm not as mad as I used to be on this matter, just because I know that these are just trends and fads. One big era of stupidity. But hey, I still have to live through it, ya know? That doesn't make it any easier. I hope that someday people will look back and actually say, "What were we thinking? Let's never do that again!" Unfortunately, when I look at society it seems that people are de-evolving. So, unless I step up to the challenge, people might not ever get to that

SALVADOR Continued on 10

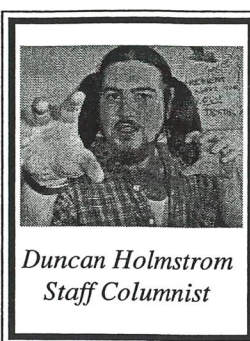
Some of you believe that George W. Bush is a wise man, a strong man even. Perhaps some would even go so far as to say that this man is smart. Well, unfortunately, those people are wrong. Dead wrong. I'm even tempted to call an institution on those people and have them locked up and ridiculed as our nations lowest, craziest scum.

Think about it for a second. This man might not have survived if he were left on his own. His parents have somehow defied Darwin's theory of Natural Selection. Do you think he got into Yale on his good looks and smarts? Do you think it is odd at all that he got astoundingly horrible grades? I highly, highly doubt it. He can barely form sentences and think for himself at the same time, let alone succeed in a high-class college like that.

Let's also state the fact that he has failed miserably at any business endeavor he has ever attempted. Take for example his Midland Texas Oil Exploration company, where he lost millions of his father's friend's money . . . But I guess it was a fun time for him. "It was an inebriating time, what Midland was all about then," he said in an interview. He didn't stop failing until his parents purchased a professional baseball team for him.

Then there are his public speaking fiascos. Lets start with the fact that he used the word "subliminable" in a sentence. I have to sadly report the fact that the word "subliminable" is not really a word, and is in fact a spawn of George W. Bush's retarded psyche. Or how about what he said about struggling workers, "I know it's hard to put food on your family." It boggles the mind to realize how incredibly stupid you have to be to do that, unless you are either a brand new immigrant or a small child . . . or a monkey. It would be okay if a monkey said that. In fact, through it all, I believe that Salvador Rosas could run our country better.

This is Duncan Holmstrom saying, "Salvador Rosas for President!" ♦



Brutal Murder at Hormel Factory



Yesterday at 7:30 am Frank Lipman, one of the inventors of Hormel's miracle meat, was found dead face-down in a bowl of miracle meat with a spoon protruding from his skull. Mick Newbright, a janitor at the Hormel factory, called the police immediately after he discovered Lipman's body. "Some one really must have been really mad at him to jam a spoon in his head," Newbright said.

When the police arrived, the lab was packed with people. It took the police thirty minutes to get the room cleared and the evidence labeled.

"The only thing we are truly concerned with at the moment is the evidence, with all the people that were in the lab. Who knows what evidence was taken or moved," said Constable Bradley Nipit, after the room was cleared.

The police only have one likely suspect at the moment: William Vanwho, a former co-

worker of Lipman's. Vanwho became enraged with Lipman during a conference discussing the mass production and distribution of Hormel's miracle meat, according to Firdenand Pacston, Lipman's boss.

"Vanwho did not believe he was receiving as much credit as he deserved," stated Packston.

Another suspect is Lipman's wife Gwen Lipman.

"Frank and his wife Gwen were going through a very rough divorce. Many times he would come to work with cuts and bruises," said Carron Mittsy, a co-worker of Lipmans. "He stayed over some nights to stay away from her. One day when I asked him about his cuts, he told me his wife broke a china vase over his arm and took a large piece of it and attacked him."

Police agreed that they had been called to his house a couple of times by neighbors and broken up their fights. At the time neither of the two had cuts, only slight bruises.

"We did go help them out once or twice, but at those times it was only a small family scuffle and the woman didn't have any

SPAM Continued on 9

Nader is a Man of Dubious Distinction

Many Open School students seem to support Green Party presidential candidate and long time consumer advocate Ralph Nader.

I am one of the few in the school who realizes he is a nut and should not be elected.

Nader's history as a consumer advocate has accomplished nothing but how to protect us from what we might or could do if we leave our common sense at the door.

Nader is singlehandedly responsible for the death of American sports cars after his 1965 book, Unsafe at Any speed, in which he declared that the Chevy Corvair is too dangerous to be on the road. He made a similar attack against the Volkswagen Beetle.

There was a time when car companies stopped making convertibles for about seven or eight years because they didn't pass Nader's safety rollover tests. Some cars haven't been available in a convertible since.

Those of you that drive a newer car will notice that there are no knobs on the dash. that is because Nader claims they will injure you in a crash, so the car companies



Brady Taipale
Staff Columnist

have to use those flat buttons instead. You will also notice that cars don't have real bumpers anymore. They all have the plastic ones that are supposed to be safer, but shatter in an accident.

That whole emission control scam, which was pretty much what killed the muscle car, was Nader's fault too. What did that accomplish? It didn't make the air cleaner, it didn't make the roads safer, but it did regulate and ruin a lot of cars. And he is still not done. On his web site he says he wants to raise the CAFE standard to make all cars get at least 45 miles to the gallon. How much more regulated can cars get? They would have to put lawn mower engines in them to get that mileage. Cars have no speed and power anymore since Nader came along.

In addition to his damage to automobiles, Nader is responsible for child proof caps on medicine bottles. It is common sense not to let small children play in the medicine cabinet. The majority people who can't open them are old people with arthritis who actually need the medication.

If elected, Nader will have more power. I don't want to think about what he might try to do. It bothered me when I found out he was running for president. Why people support this nut is a mystery to me. ♦

Boarders Delight

Justin Albrecht
Staff Critic

In Tony Hawk's Pro-Skater, you play as one of nine top skaters. Basically, you skate around six major cities collecting videos that unlock new levels, decks and characters.

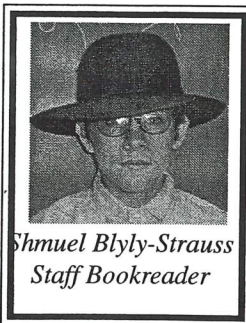
There are also three skating events which you will compete at, within the game. If you collect gold in all three of the competitions, you will unlock secrets in the game, depending on the version you own. In the Playstation version collecting all three gold will unlock videos of the skaters. On



Nintendo 64 it unlocks signature move tutorials.

The overall game play is great. That's why it was deemed one of the best skateboarding games ever made, because at the time it was. At its debut it raked in millions of dollars. In spite of how great it seems at first, after completing the game, there is a slim chance that you will still like it as much as when you first purchased it; you'll probably get kind of sick of it. My overall rating from one to ten is an eight. If you like challenging games, you should look into purchasing this game. ♦

Pawn of Prophecy: A Life Unraveled



Shmuel Blyly-Strauss
Staff Bookreader

You're 14, on a quest to who-knows-where, to find who-knows-what. You're basically a piece of luggage being taken around by several others, most of whom you hardly

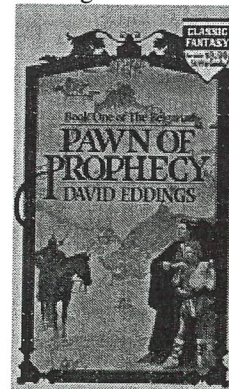
know, let alone trust. You've just found out that your Aunt Pol, the person who raised you, isn't your aunt at all and your entire life as you've known it is unraveling. What would you do?

Pawn of Prophecy is a book about how the main character, a boy named Garion, responds to this dilemma. It starts with him

growing up on a farm in a country called Sendaria. He was raised by his Aunt Pol, who was a healer and the head cook on the farm. One of Garion's best friends on the farm is Durnik the blacksmith, who sometimes teaches Garion about his occupation. Eventually, someone known as The Storyteller starts coming to the farm and spending time with Garion, thereby earning the nickname Mister Wolf. After a while, Aunt Pol, Mister Wolf, and Durnik set out on a quest with Garion, for what Garion doesn't know. I won't spoil any more of the plot, so if you want to know more, you'll have to read it.

Pawn of Prophecy is the first book in a series, so don't expect to get the entire story from one book. It's okay until about page

70, and then it gets progressively better, as more new and interesting characters get introduced. You will probably enjoy it if you like fantasy (books with wizards and swords and magic and other fun stuff like that) or if



you just want an interesting book to curl up with. I really enjoyed it and will probably be writing reviews on other books in the series (which gives me an excuse to read a good book I'd enjoy, but don't tell anyone that). ♦

VIDEO GAMES From 5

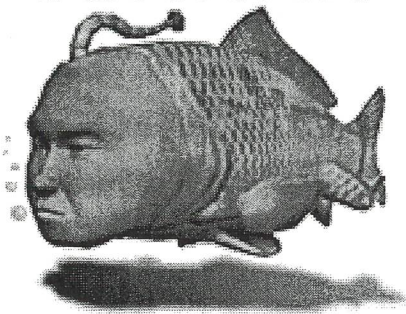
Harvest Moon 64:

Harvest Moon brings us what Moonwalker left us all hungry for: All star, hard core farming action, only without the "All Star," "Hardcore" and "Action."

Anyway, in Harvest Moon, you can do pretty much anything real farmers do, like mine for rare stones with forest elves. Another fun thing you can do in this game is raise animals, like cows, sheep, and chicken! It's cool because you can give them very vulgar names. Then, if you neglect them, they'll run away, and you can buy new cows and give them all new vulgar names, and thus the circle of life continues. One time my mom found out what I was naming my animals, and she was all like, "I'm very disappointed in you." Then she cut off the power to the shed I'm forced to live in. After that it was kinda like Survivor, except instead of eating rats I had to eat my copy of Harvest Moon which really sucked because it had a battery in it. Other than the mouth full of battery acid, it tasted pretty good. So on a scale from 1 to 10, I give this game a 12, because it's the only reason I'm alive today!



SEAMAN



Caution: Seaman

I first saw this game locked up behind glass at Target's electronics department. I had never heard of this game and when I heard it's name was "Seaman," I had to buy it right on the spot. However, the more I found out, the less I liked the game. It's really just a giga pet with better graphics and no the key ring. Plus Seaman is freaking creepy. It's this fish with a really ugly human head who cusses more than a guest on a "My Teen Girl is Ruining My Family" episode of "Maury." Who are the Ad-Wizards that came up with that one?

Well, now to the game. What you do is raise your Seaman from the time he is born to the end of his life trying to get the highest score possible. You do this by talking to it via the supplied microphone that plugs into the second controller slot. It is programed with some ten thousand voice activated responses. If you say nice things to it gets happy, if you don't it gets mad. I personally couldn't play this game because Seaman is really creepy. When I saw his face, I couldn't sleep for weeks. Is he creepier than Richard Gere? Quite possibly. This fish will bite you.

Space Channel 5

Space Channel #5 is about an ace reporter named Ulala, who wears an orange outfit and has pink hair. She is reporting a story on the Morolians aliens that zap citizens into a hypnotic dance trance. Normally this wouldn't be to bad, but they've got Micheal Jackson too! Yes, Micheal Jackson himself makes an appearance in Space Channel 5! The goal of this game is to save the King of Pop from these evil space aliens.

The game is so fast, that it's sometimes hard to keep up. The graphics in this game are very well done but this is about the only highlight, besides Michael Jackson of course. Actually, I suppose that isn't that cool. I mean, Moonwalker was acceptable, because that was 1989, but you're in a video game now, Mike? That's pretty pathetic. What happened, man, what happened?



Bubble Bobble:

Bubble Bobble is the next game I'll be reviewing. You play the role of Bub and Bob, whose FLY HONEYS have been kidnapped by some drunken wizard who hurls whiskey bottles at you. To make matters even worse, he's turned Bub and Bob into two bubble blowing dinosaurs! You'll face scary monsters in over 100 FUN-Tastic levels, but it's okay, because if you trap them in bubbles and pop them, they'll turn into delicious food products, like grapes, tomatoes, and hamburgers! At the end, you face the wizard, Hyper-Drunk, but you need two people to beat the game successfully! I guess you're out of luck, you friendless losers! HAHAHAHA! Sorry about that friendless losers comment. I didn't mean it.

But, as fun as this game is, I hate it. Why? You see, it was the summer of 1997, and I was in trouble with Loan Shark/ Street-Wise Pimp/ St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman. Fresh from a Bubble Bobble playing spree, I headed for his office in swanky downtown St. Paul with a bottle of bubble fluid. I walked in, and he was all :

"Hey, what the hell are you doing in here!?"

I didn't say anything, I just blew a vicious stream of bubbles at him, hoping to trap him inside, so I could turn him into a delicious water melon. Needless to say, the only thing the bubbles did was ruin the suede jacket he was wearing at the time, and he soon had out his trademark lead pipe and was going medieval on my legs. Even after years of painful physical therapy and countless tears, the emotional scars live on forever . . . Thanks a lot, Bubble Bobble! ♦

ETHAN From 5

the counter-action of an unfair situation. She noticed that younger students tend to complain more, as they have not developed the skill of clearly asking for what they want. Stephanie stated, "They haven't developed the ability to ask for their needs, so they complain instead."

Open School rookie, eleventh grader Sam Gleeson, also thinks that Open Schoolers have a complaining problem and has a solution that is, well, very Samish. Sam confidently said, "The next person that complains should get a bucket of goo dropped on them." Then Sam volunteered to help enforce his strategy, eagerly stating, "I can be the guy with the bucket of goo!" Sam's so-

SPAM From 6

lution, which is comical, will probably, like its creator, not work very efficiently. Personally, I feel that Open School students tend to complain more so than students of other schools, and to be honest, I don't mind a little complaining every now and then. I understand that complaining helps people to vent their problems and relieve stress, however, I can't stand when people complain about their situation but then take no action whatsoever to improve it. So, next time you get assigned homework that you don't want to do, don't get frustrated and complain about it, just get it done, because you never know when the next time you will bump into Sam.

bruises. Lipman said he had the bruise from work. After the two incidents we hadn't heard a word from the couple or the neighbors, so naturally we assumed that every thing was okay," said Deputy Brian Welbrush.

"Although Gwen is a likely suspect," said Constable Nipit, "it is very unlikely that a women of her build could be strong enough to hold down a full grown man and jab a spoon in his skull."

Police believe that this may be the most violent killing the state of Minnesota has ever seen. ♦

AFRICA From 3

Mrs. Shah. Mrs. Shah is a cook. Kiara had asked her to teach her how to cook. Mrs. Shah scheduled Kiara a time for a cooking lesson. Unexpectedly, when Kiara got there she was stuck with the servants in one room for a while. Mrs. Shah's son walked in surprised. He asked Kiara what she was doing there and Kiara explained to him that she was there for a cooking lesson from his mom. He told her that the food was already cooked and everything else was ready. Then he left.

A while later, Mrs. Shah came into the room with loads of food. She started feeding samples to Kiara asking her which was better. Kiara, surprised, sat there eating and asking for recipe after recipe, but the woman ignored her and kept feeding her food. Then finally the subject of bread came up and Mrs. Shah rushed Kiara into the kitchen to bake bread. She also taught Kiara how to make some kind of Indian food called "chapati."

"That was hilarious," said Kiara.

The best thing about Kiara's trip was traveling in the wild. She loved taking photos

of the wild animals. They are much different than the animals locked up in the zoo, she said.

Kiara made a lot of friends in Kenya that would love to have pen pals. If you would like to have a pen pal in Africa, talk to Kiara about it. ♦



SWIM From 4

added features. None of the Olympic swimmers are wearing it.

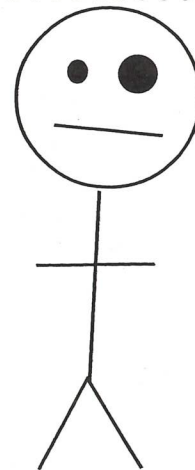
Another breakthrough for swimmers is the pool. With many built-in features to optimize swimmers' performances, the pool at the Sydney Aquatic Center is believed to be the fastest in the world. Anti-wave lane ropes prevent waves from bouncing back onto the swimmers, which usually results in more difficulty going through the water, and a slower time. The lane ropes were once made of decorative wire, but are now thick plastic beads that prevent sloshing water into adjacent lanes.

The wet deck is level with the pool edge so water that splashes over is sucked up right away by the drains. The start blocks are angled to hasten takeoffs. They also have super-grip backstroke start bars. The pool water is Ozone-treated to help visibility and reduce taste, smell and eye-soreness that comes from chlorine.

The bright colors of the deck, further more, help to add atmosphere. As an added bonus, music is pumped into the pool through underwater speakers during warm-ups. "It's an exciting venue to swim at, especially when the crowd gets going," said Aussie swimmer Ian Thorpe.

Records broken at the Sydney Aquatic Center, perhaps thanks to these technological advances, include: Lenni Krazleburg broke the 100-meter backstroke record he had held since 1992. Jenny Thompson broke the 18-year-old 100-meter butterfly record. South African Penny Heyns broke her fifth record in five races. "It's probably just the atmosphere I think, everyone just wants to swim well at this pool," said Australian swimmer Susie O'Neill. ♦

If you have comments or suggestions for how to better The Purple Press, talk to Leo Bickelhaupt in room 311. Also, contributions are welcome, even if you're not in the newspaper class!!



Leo

SALVADOR From 6

point. I know some of you are probably scratching your heads and asking yourself, "What the hell is he talking about?" You'll know soon enough, don't worry.

In conclusion, I still encourage some of you to wake up. Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera are not your friends. Backstreet Boys and 'N Sync don't love you. Eminem is in fact NOT the real slim shady. They are all just liars, pawns and puppets for the man. And after all, who wants to be a puppet for a puppet? Not me. Deep down none of you want to either. Don't believe their lies, or you will spend your life in a spiritual prison-cell of the evil-commie-nazi corporation, MTV.

Believe me, listen to me. I'm your friend, I'm your pal. I am a fragile human being, just like you. I think and feel like you, but that all goes away the second you get on your knees for MTV. Why not listen to me? Why listen to these tin-gods who don't even know or care about you? They can't even be classified as humans anymore. They are soulless products. Products don't think for themselves. Products are not capable of human emotions. How many real people do you know have their faces on almost every ma-

terial item you can name? If they make you happy, you got to ask yourself whose smile is bigger? You, with your crappy CD's that you pretend to like, or these rappers, pop stars and record companies with their millions of dollars? These people are the ones who have separated music from being a valid art form, now it's just a way to make money really easily. Listen to rap and you give in to the fact that there's nothing else to do, nothing else to create.

OLYMPICS From 4

people are trying to get more human interest. But I suspect that the real reason that they are crying is because the producer kicked them in the shins for not crying.

What is most annoying about these fea-

ture stories is that they show them constantly, so that they don't have to show much live or semi-live coverage of sports. You know the only reason people watch the Olympics

is because they don't want to see sports, ha, ha, ha. Another reason they don't want to show sports is because it's often a socialist or former socialist country who wins the games. When they do a feature on a socialist country, they slant the view of Americans about that country so it looks like they

Underneath the Tommy Gear or mohawks and spikes, we are all just frightened children. Still confused? Don't worry, you'll know when you're free. I have the key to your rusty cages. Until then, I bid you all farewell.

Sincerely,

Salvador Rosas

The King of Open School ♦

You know the only reason people watch the Olympics is because they don't want to see sports.

try does the same thing and China's gymnasts love what they're doing like all the athletes do.

I think NBC needs to get out

of the 1950s and realize we are not at war with anybody, and enough people who watch the Olympics are patriotic enough not to defect to the nonexistent enemy. NBC, we don't need capitalist propaganda!!! Get rid of the propaganda, and give us more sports.♦

ELECTION From 1

The treasurer has to keep track of the balance. All of the officers have to attend the all-city meetings. The first meeting was October 18 at 360 Colborne.

The upcoming events are the SLC/ELC Fall Extravaganza and the SLC dance on Tuesday October 31. On Wednesday there will be a hat day. Thursday is twin day and Friday is create your own hero day. ♦

PLAY From 1

by the creatures of the Wild Wood.

"Everything is wonderful about this play," Emily stated. Even so, this play does present some challenges.

The set will be very hard to construct, and the cast is still

short one costume mistress, who has left the thespians to find their own costumes. Also, due to the scheduling of Integrated Math 3, about half of the kids are there half of the time.

All the same, the rehearsals are going very well, and it is a really fun play to do.

Who: Open's drama department

What: Toad Of Toad Hall

When: November 16, 17, & 18th, starting at 7:00pm.

Where: St. Paul Open School, 90 Western Ave South ♦

"Everything is wonderful about this play."

**Death Awaits You At
The Back of The
Purple Press!!**