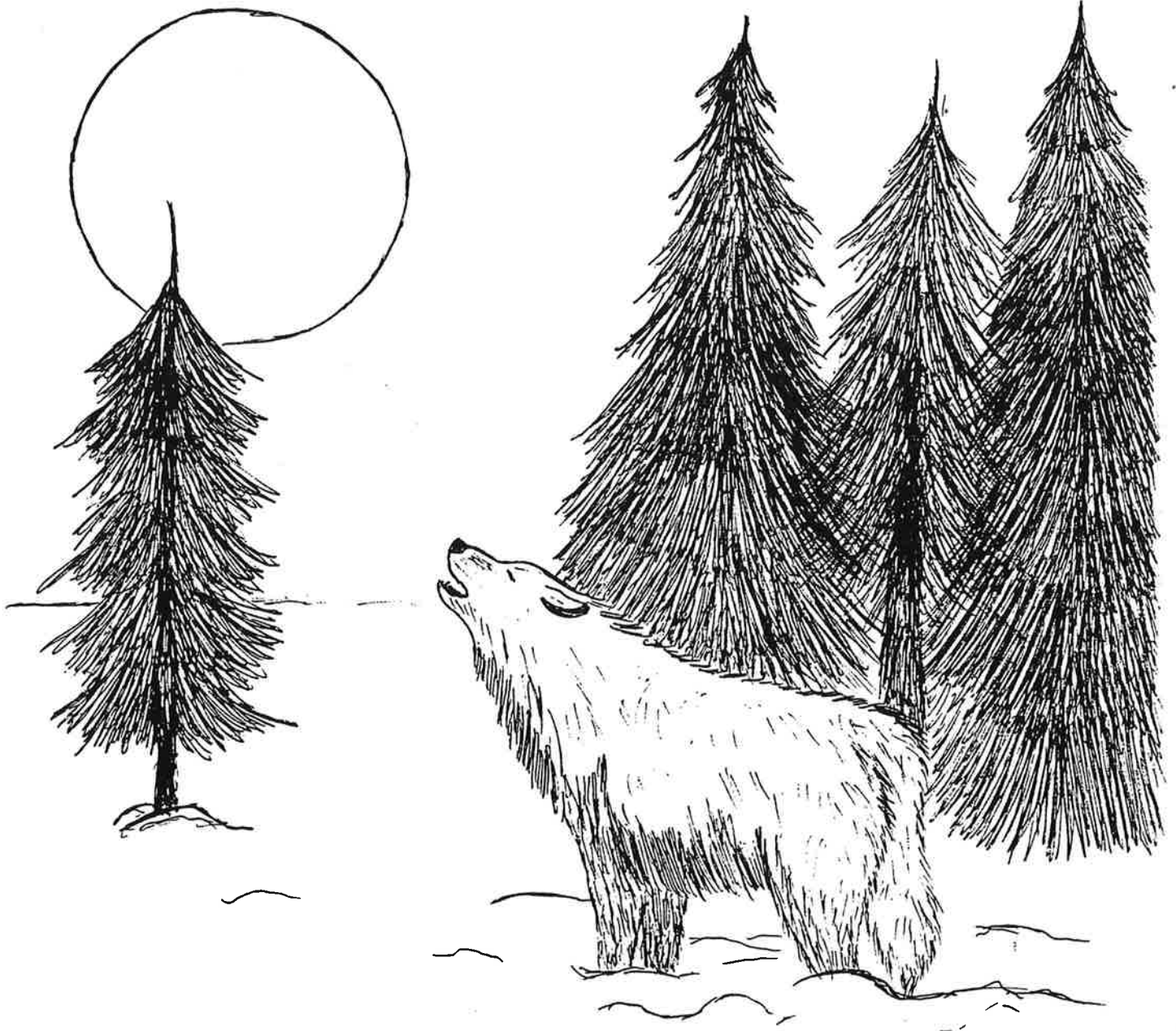


Com-Mini- Cations



March Issue 1993



Mini-School Overview

Mini-School is an alternative program located within Minnetonka High School where ninth, tenth, eleventh, and twelfth graders are working together with a group of teachers to change their attitudes and perspectives. The students come to Mini-School with a history of not succeeding very well in traditional school. Many of them are dangerously close to dropping out of school. Some have dropped out and are returning to give school one more try. They are tired of failing, tired of breaking rules, tired of being identified as negative people in the mainstream school culture.

At Mini-School they begin to put their lives together—in school and out of school. They become part of a school family where they can be themselves without fear of recrimination. In Mini-School they set goals, share responsibilities, solve problems, learn academic skills, learn basic living skills, and have fun.


This supportive family atmosphere encourages students to develop responsibility, accountability, and positive self-esteem. Students are encouraged to view themselves as learners in the holistic sense of the term—intellectual, emotional, physical, and spiritual.

Mini-School began in the 1970-71 school year and is still meeting the needs of students who need a different approach. Mini-School now serves not only the

Minnetonka School district but neighboring districts as well, due to its affiliation with the larger Area Learning Center.

If you know of a student in need of Mini-School, please contact us at 470-3574 or 470-3586.



Minnetonka
Public Schools 

Meandering Through Mini-School

by Randy Nelson

Happy 1993! We hope all the time people have worked on income taxes in class has paid off because they are capable of doing the returns instead of paying someone else to do them. Or everyone is doing so well financially a tax accountant is necessary.

The staff is preparing for the second semester after feeling first semester has gone well.

Doug is a walking testament to a healthy lifestyle as he continues to recover from his late summer bout with babesiosis and is entering cross-country ski races in Minnesota and Wisconsin and working his way back to training condition.

Lester's 40th has passed and she doesn't look any older. She is working hard to make sure there are students around who are capable of producing Com-Mini on the computer.

Dawn is in graduate school evenings completing coursework in biology and trying to juggle Mini-School classes and mainstream during the day. She has gone on some showshoe excursions with students first hour. She, Lester, and Joanne took a group of students on an overnight which included the Nutcracker that evening and the Plains Indians exhibit at the Institute of Art the next day.

Our sympathy is extended to our newest staff member, Ramona, and her family on the death of her father-in-law just prior to the holidays. Ramona is also pursuing an additional degree at night in Special Education to add to the challenge of providing math for the students during the day.

Joanne is truly the nerve center of the program and has moved back into the program comfortably after 10 years away. She's gradually getting us systematized in between the constant flow of interruptions. Parents and students have discovered how competent this woman is and her importance to the program.

We try to keep updated on the doings of former students and appreciate the time they take to stop by. **Chris Zenner** came by to proudly announce his "A" grades in social studies and English at Huron State in South Dakota. **Darnelle Dallman LaBoda** was quoted in the Strib during the John Beargrease Sled Dog Race last month. She and her husband raise sled dogs near Hovland, Minnesota. **Jamie Brisley** was married in August in Jordan, Minnesota, with **Mark Meldahl** as one of the groomsmen. Jamie, as head coach of Mound-Westonka's boys soccer team, led them to a 8-4-2 record, one of their best ever.

Val Raihl, Nate Miller, Rich Benavides and **Karlene Knacke** have qualified as former students by graduating during the first semester. Congratulations!

Other former students: **Mike Snyder** is the Supervisor of Great Scott Township near Chisholm. This is similar to being mayor. **Sandy Lambrecht Eiden** has taken up photography and has already had a one-person show in her home town of Mandeville, Louisiana. **Andy Hambor** is the head of maintenance at the Marsh, a health and fitness and balance facility in Minnetonka. **Joey Reifenberger** will be finishing up at Dunwoody in air conditioning/refrigeration soon and later this spring will be getting married. **Suzanne Ward** has passed the GED and plans on taking classes at Normandale this spring and is set on attending Macalester College in St. Paul next fall. **Autumn Murphy** is working at the new Pet Food Warehouse and finishing up her high school career at R.A.P. (only 2 more elective credits needed!). She has also been accepted at the University of Minnesota. **Jon Oelke** is attending Minneapolis Community College and doing well, especially in science. He plans to get an "A" in the course. We are proud of these former students and congratulate them on their successes.

Finally, a special thank you to long-time program supporters, **Bob & Nadine Conklin** for a most generous contribution. We are happy to hear about

the success of a recent kidney transplant that Bob had. Another special thank you for a generous contribution from **Tom & Diane Heuerman**. The Mini-School staff would like to recognize the contributions made by **CUB Foods** and **Burger King** at Vinehill and Hwy 7 to the annual bowling competition. Thanks, everybody!

Now for the present students. **Jesse Walker** strolled off with the highest total pins at the annual Mini-School bowling outing, edging Randy by two pins 288-286.

Some of the star employees for second quarter are **Jessica Ryan**, **Stacey Vetvick**, **Matt "Meatball" Richard** (Wendy's), **Justin Weitnauer** (Sasha's), **Chris Bagdons** and **Jesse Carlson** (Excelstor Amoco), **Sharon Korzendorfer** and **Jenny Case** (KMart), and **David Zytkoskee** (Minnetonka McDonalds). I'll try and recognize the other hard-working students in the next issue.

Another class, Beyond Mini, is a 6/7 hour strength training class. It's providing some impressive results and growth—literally. **Chris Glowaski**, **Josh Stinson**, **Elliot Tan**, **Chris Bagdons**, & **Justin Weitnauer** are among those working hard.

Elliot Tan's "A" grade led the way of several students who performed well at Vo-Tech.

Well, have to get to my taxes. .

Rest in Peace

We're sorry to report the death of Mallory Smith, 8 years old, on February 6, 1993.

Mallory is the daughter of Terry Smith, Mini-School student of the late 1970's, and his wife, Kim.

All of Mini-School extend our sympathy to Terry and Kim, Terry's sister Brenda (also a former Mini-Schooler), and Terry and Brenda's mom, Joan, at this time of great loss.

We're very, very sorry.

Apology

by Chris Bagdons

Well, I guess you could say that I messed up big time. I abused "Com-Mini-Cations" to seek revenge on a person. With the style of my writing I install a lot of double meanings, and I stepped over the line from humor to cruelty, and thus I tampered with someone's feelings.

I am dearly sorry to the person I sought revenge with, and I must apologize to the staff for using "Com-Mini-Cations" in this manner.

Ramona's Math Class

by Jessica Boerboom and Melissa Stahl

As you may already know, Ramona is Mini-School's new math teacher. Jessica and I take her second hour class which is a full-year class. Ramona lets each student work at a level in math that is comfortable for them. We can also basically work at our own pace, which makes it less stressful for the students. We do the work in class and Ramona is there to help us if we don't understand something.

Math isn't so horrible after all. At least when you can do it the right way.

Reading with Doug

by Chris Glowaski

One of the class options for Mini-Schoolers last month was a block called Reading, supervised by Doug Berg. This class turned out to be pretty successful, with everyone reading at least one book. Some of the books people read included titles such as Milton's Paradise Lost, Bram Stoker's Dracula, and Brave New World by Aldous Huxley. The last story was read by Doug himself and it was enjoyed by all.

Computer Class

By Ronilyn Rasmussen

This year Dawn and Lester decided to offer a computer class first hour for the Mini-School students. The first week was a little crazy with setting up the computers and getting everyone a disk and a computer to work on, but soon they got into the swing of things. Our class started out working on a program called "Typing Tutorial," which has practice runs of letters and sentences. Next Dawn and Lester taught us how to use the Macs.

How will the computers benefit Mini-School? The computers benefit Mini-School very much. Most of us use them everyday for a variety of things. If we didn't have the computers for Com-Mini-Cations, a lot of people wouldn't have received the newspaper. It makes it a little easier on everyone and more organized. Mini-School uses the computers also for making the Student of the Week banners. If we didn't have them, we'd have to go through all the trouble of writing them out. They wouldn't be as nice as they are on the computers and to most people it means a lot to get to be Student of the Week.

The computers are also used in the process of the parent letters. There is always something sent out to the parents about the happenings of Mini-School—things like parent meetings, student progress reports and upcoming trips Mini-School is taking. Joanne, up in our office, types up all the trip forms that are given to the mainstream and Vo-tech teachers, the big school administration when we go on trips. So you can see we use the computers all the time for a variety of things.

What we are learning on the computers in Mini-School will help us out in the future with jobs for anything we need to do. Computers are soon going to be running everything we use. So you should take advantage of the computer classes while you are in school.

Dawn and Lester have done a lot to improve the computers in Mini-School this year. In an effort to continue to build our computer education, they have requested five new computers for Mini-School next year.

Insights

by Tom McKinney

Insights is a very close group of people. We have two facilitators, Joanne Storlie and Eileen O'Connell. There are 11 people in Insights. The members are Chris Bagdons, Jesse Carlson, Josh Hendrickson, Brandon Petron, Matt Richard, Josh Stinson, Terry Vincent, Justin Weitnauer, Al Wright, Chad Zaback, and myself.

To start the meeting we rate our week based on a 1 to 10 scale and then the group goes into conversation about it. When a member of the group has something to talk about, everyone is focused on him and is always listening. Then the group talks about it, and we tell him what we think he could do or help him figure it out for himself.

Insights meets for two hours, and most of the time it needs to be longer, but it was a unanimous decision for the meeting to be only two hours.

In order to be involved in Insights you are chosen by the Mini-School staff. You may also join on your own if it's OK with Joanne.

Test Preparation

by: Ronilyn Rasmussen

In Mini-School Science class before holiday vacation, we prepared for the SAT and ACT tests. We had the opportunity to work on one of three areas: 1) an Apple program to practice problems like those on the tests; 2) to work out of science books for a general review of Science; 3) to take practice SAT and ACT tests to see how we would do and where we needed to improve. The students in the class had to do two or three different activities each day for credit in the class.

I asked 10 Mini-School students (not in the class) if they were thinking of taking the SAT and ACT tests. Three planned to and seven didn't. Elliot Tan and Terry Vincent were two who actually took the ACT test. They took it in the Learning Center. I asked them the following questions about the tests: 1)

Was taking a 3-week test-prep block useful? 2) What was it like taking the test in the Learning Center? 3) What would your recommendations be for students who are taking the test in the future?

Here are their answers to the questions I asked. They said that they would have been better prepared if they had more classes offered that prepared them for the SAT and ACT tests. Both of them felt that they did not have enough time in this block alone to become adequately prepared. They felt okay about English, but they felt they needed more preparation in the areas of math and science. They said it helped a lot taking the test in the Learning Center. It was a lot more relaxed and less stress was involved. They said if you are planning on taking the tests, to relax. If you don't pass it the first time, you can always take it again. Don't let it bother you. Study the areas of math and science. That will help you a lot.

I think if the block didn't last for three weeks it would have been fine. It got a little long. Some of the things from the class helped a lot, but we need more

Trips, Trips, and More Trips

by Melissa Stahl

Lately not many trips have been going out, but starting in February that will all turn around. This is one of the busiest times of the season for Mini-School to send out trips based on winter type activities.

Coming up first—February 2-5 Doug will be taking a group of Mini-Schoolers on the Winter Activities trip. On this trip they will be staying at Doug's cabin near Grantsburg, Wisconsin. During the trip students will be involved in a variety of outdoor activities, including snowshoeing, cross country skiing, and, if you choose, building a quinzee.

The next trip leaving (and I hear it's a favorite) is the Michigan Ski trip. Randy will be taking some students out to Ironwood, Michigan to ski or snowboard.

The trip is from February 7-12. This group will be staying in a condo! This sounds like a great trip to me!

Then, early in March, one of Mini-School's toughest trips will be leaving. This is the winter camping trip. Doug will be taking the students up to the Boundary Waters. When they arrive they will immediately get geared up, then begin hiking to the base camp, where they will spend their nights. They will build quinzees, which are shelters made from mounds of snow. Quinzees are used to sleep in, and they keep a person warmer because snow is a better insulator than a tent.

Doug will be leading the students on hikes and will keep them busy with activities like snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and other outdoor activities.

Just like all the trips, students will be learning things you can't learn by reading a book. They will be learning many outdoor survival skills and they will learn how important knowing them really is.

After the trips I talked about are done, we will have a layoff on trips during March, but no worries, there will many more in April, May, and June. You can find out about them in the next issue of Com-Mini-Cations!

Women's Issues Cultural Experience

by Jenny Case

Our sluggish women's issues group found it necessary earlier in the second quarter (December 10th and 11th, to be precise) to part ways with the routine Mini-School life and check out the happening cultural scene in the Twin Cities.

Gathering in Dawn Norton's cramped science office that particular Thursday were Kristie Ennis, Sharon Korzendorfer, alumni Val Raihl (congrats!!!), Jenny Case, Katie Steger, Ronilyn Rasmussen, Karen Kenefick, Simone Wintheiser, Rochelle

McCabe, Amanda Fish, Dawn, Lester, and Theresa. And as soon as we had eaten up all of Dawn's watermelon Jolly Ranchers, we decided to take off for Minneapolis.

We arrived at the oh-so-luxurious downtown Marriot at the twinkling hour of 5:00 and within 45 of the most selfish, hairspray lighting & lipstick smashing minutes, this group of oddly dressed gals transformed into a beautiful array of slick looking fems with dresses on!!! Unbelievable as it may sound, we were completely decked out in elegant attire. Highlights of this fashionable occasion were Katie's pretty DRESS (!?!) along with the big poofy thing on her head, that is, and Sharon, who was clad in black lace and make-up! Definitely a Kodak moment.

We left our cluttered rooms and headed for the groovy mirrored elevators where we descended 24 floors. We then strolled down Hennepin Ave. attracting quite a number of whistles and stares from the street bums.

We met Joanne at the Cafe di Napoli at 6:00 to have a grandiose dinner, Italian style. In fact, they gave us so much bread that we vomited all over the floor (only the waitress did not notice) and when our meals came, Katie and I finished our spaghetti in a record two minutes. All of us were in a hurry to get out of there, except for the four unscrupulous teachers who stayed another hour discussing politics over their capuccino and dessert.

Meanwhile, the well-mannered young ladies who had wandered across the street to the State Theater for the opening of the Nutcracker Fantasy were getting extremely restless. So to vent our fuming frustrations, we made a big scene over the lady with the bloody ankle and frightened the innocent "passer-byers" by making blowfish on the windows. But at last the teachers rescued us and we went into the theater, ready to witness one of the most extravagant events our eyes would ever set their pupils upon.

Our emotions ranged from pure bliss to great despair and sorrow. Laughter took some by storm while sleep embraced the minds of others. But as a few emerged from the experience feeling inspired, the ballet had taken a most dramatic effect on

others of us- noticeable as we jumped, twirled, & prouetted back to the hotel later that evening. These girls are ready to face an opera next!

We returned to our funky rooms at about 11:00, stripped back into our duds and decided to throw a party in the hotel lobby. It was so noisy and obnoxious that the cops soon heard about it, so they rushed over to join in the festivities. Kristie got hit on by a lewd old man early on and instantly decided to carry my mace around with her the rest of the evening. And when we finally retired for the night in our cozy beds it seemed only seconds before the phone rang (5:00 A.M.) for Ronilyn's darn wake-up call! She and Amanda went down the the sauna for an early morning sweat.

Later that morning, after Ramona ultimately chose to grace us with her presence, we went shopping in the City Center. Sharon had forgotten her wallet in Lester's car, so as Lester went to rescue it, a strange old man approached her and asked if he could hold her hand. He wanted to prove to his friend that beautiful women were still attracted to him. Talk about culture!

Next, we checked out the Dayton's exhibit "Puss & Boots." Words cannot describe the way it made us feel. So we headed to the Institute of Art to visit the Indian exhibit. It was so fantastic, exciting, and exhilarating that while I was fast asleep on the comfy wooden bench, Rochelle started her Christmas card writing! Lester once again became the prime target of another dirty old man's desires. With his hand resting upon her shoulder, the two discussed Indian culture. Lester's just such a stud woman, eh guys? But after like 14 years of impatient waiting, Dawn and the rest of the "authority figures" finally decided to blow the joint. So we said goodbye, hasta la vista, bon voyage to this marvelous city of purple glow-in-the-dark flowers, ventured back to school, and reminisced about the good 'ol days.

Da Barge Report

by Doug Berg

In the 2 1/2 years since I bought da Barge for Mini-School, he has performed superbly. He has hauled Mini-School students to Florida, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and the BWCA. Da Barge has joyfully taken kids to the cities, enabling them to experience such wonderful experiences as Dudley Riggs and the Science Museum.

There was one time when da Barge failed, however. We don't talk about it much, but on the 1991 Grantsburg Hike, he failed to start. Many believe it was because the students mistreated him (they broke his door and littered him with pop cans and candy bar wrappers). Others believe he wouldn't start because the students did not complete the trip (they bailed out midway due to excessive snow and cold weather—something that is not done in Mini-School). Whatever the reason, da Barge caused us no end of trouble and inconvenience back in November, '91.

For a whole year, da Barge has made every possible attempt to redeem himself. He's taken kids to the BWCA in the dead of winter; he's pulled big trailer loads of canoes and gear to the BWCA and northern Wisconsin; he's even taken Meatball to the Grand Canyon. All this and more without a complaint, without so much as a flat tire.

Still, however, as Thanksgiving week and the '92 Grantsburg trip approached this past fall, I could feel da ol' Barge tensing up. He'd cough and sputter when I'd start him up. For no reason his windshield wipers would take a swipe. When I'd tell him that more than a dozen kids had signed up and were counting on him to get them up to the St. Croix and home again, his windshield would steam up with anxiety.

The morning of the trip broke clear and cold. Da Barge started tentatively but warmed up strongly. I heard him misfire when Pugsley tried to open his door which was broken on last year's Grantsburg trip (Ronilyn, Raeann, and Stella are prime suspects in this offense, even more so since they didn't

go on the hike this year). Other than that, however, he did very well. He delivered the students to the trailhead, waited patiently for them at trail's end, and delivered them all safely back to the school.

The highlight of the trip for da Barge was the three days he spent waiting for the group. He was parked, out in the middle of the woods, right next to Ramona's cute little Trooper. When I reached da Barge and turned the key, he roared to life, strutting his stuff for the Trooper and leading her back to the cabin and home.

From time to time, all of us have a low point in our lives, an experience which shakes our self-confidence, a hurdle we can't get over. The Grantsburg Hike was this kind of obstacle for da Barge. He's over it now. With help, counsel, and understanding from the Mini-School kids, he passed this test with flying colors and is ready to take on Mini-School's spring trips.

Bowling

by David Zytoskee

On December 18th, the last day of school before holiday vacation, we loaded up the cars for the farthest reaches of the galaxy, farther than the Enterprise, farther than Star Wars, we went to Aqua Bowl! OK, so we only went a couple of miles but at any rate we got there.

Some of us received shoes for bowling, others played Street Fighter and the rest of the people watched and ate food.

I bowled 110, which I thought was pretty good until I saw Jesse Walker destroy the pins! But the one thing I did accomplish is I can now score! (But I'm sure he can beat me in that too.)

Among the prize winners were: Jessie Walker for the top total score and best game, Bubba Lindner for the worst two-game score, and Josh Hendrickson for the worst three-game score!

Even if some of us didn't win anything, I'm sure we all had fun. I know I did.

Grantsburg Review (The Rear View)

By Elliot Tan and Keith "Pugsley" Bartram

As in any trip, there are always a couple of lonely and brave souls who volunteer to take the "sweep" position, that is, the rear, (notice the stale stench of sarcasm?) On this wilderness venture, we were the sweepers for most part.

When we arrived at the trail head, gear was unloaded and the barge and Ramona's trooper, including Doug and Ramona, were shuttled via Terry's truck. Given that it was hunting season in Grantsburg, Wisconsin, we spent an hour decorating ourselves with blaze orange strips of cloth.

When all was taken care of we began our long haul through Governor Knowle's State Forest. Keith and I noticed that the blaze orange posteriors were becoming harder and harder to see. Recognizing this fact, we began to depend more and more on each other for support.

Along the way we entertained ourselves with the art of conversation, picking up trash left by beer hunters and admiring the late fall scenery.

The first night we settled near a creek. Here we assembled tents, and made ourselves at home. After such a hike it is often difficult to rouse people once they have begun to relax. On this night that was most definitely the case. A goodly amount of wood was needed to maintain the fire, our main source of entertainment for the time. So after much grumbling and groaning, a couple of our merry band set out to bring in whatever dead wood we could salvage.

The night grew on, slowly. Dinner was prepared, a healthy serving of Lipton Chicken dinner distributed to each. Stories were told, personalities probed by an Outward Bound questionnaire and food digested. Eyelids grew heavy and sleep became enticing. And so, as Ed Abbey would describe it, "they slept the sleep of the just-the just plain tired."

In the wee hours of the morning (or so it seemed) most of us attempted to get up, while others simply

said forget it. As Doug prepared the water for breakfast, the adventurers stowed away the tents and packed their backpacks, making sure to keep out any needed eating apparatus. We all had oatmeal, with possible choices of apricots, raisins, and sugar to eat with or without the oatmeal. After cleaning up the area of garbage, we left the camp, anxious to arrive at Doug's cabin for some real food, a roof over our heads and a warm stove.

As Elliot and I left the camp, we almost instantly resumed our position at the rear. The group seemed to disappear faster than they did yesterday and so Elliot and I went back to our previous day. I learned so much about the way Elliot felt about his heritage, and how deeply involved he was with his culture, that I almost wished I had some culture. Elliot had mentioned something to me, that in my opinion is so true. He said that (something to this effect) our forefathers came over to the U.S. to get away from their culture, because the U.S. at the time was "the place to be."

Weather Guide Calendars

by Doug Berg

Mini-School just completed its second annual Minnesota Weatherguide Calendar fundraising drive. Mini-School students sold the calendars; the Mini-School Program earned \$4.00 for each calendar sold.

The top salesperson, without doubt, was Sharon Korzendorfer with 23 calendars sold. Karen Kenefick sold 12, Valerie Raihl 7, Chad Zzaback 6, and Chris Bagdons, Jenny Case, Kristie Ennis, Chris Glowaski, Jessica Lawson, Rochelle McCabe, and Katie Steger 5 or more.

A thank you is in order to all the Mini-School students who worked so hard on their program's behalf, and to all the people who supported Mini-School by purchasing one of these fine calendars. Mini-School made over \$800 on the drive. The money, for the most part, will be used to upgrade and purchase trip equipment—tents, packs, canoes, etc.—for Mini-School.

Clem

by: Josh Stinson

Dying a lonely, sad person is my greatest fear. To die feeling that I was a failure, not accomplishing my duty in life, not living life to its fullest would be terrible. Being at peace with myself when I die is important. I want to be at the peak of happiness when I die, not a depressed old man.

My way of coping with my fear is to live life to its fullest each day, to be able to see the rose growing out of the manure, to be with the people I love and who love me back until I die.

Perhaps my way of coping with my fears is just a dream, and my fears are reality. If this is so, then so much for reality. I will live in my dream. I will be happy and content.

Einstein, Biff, and Barbie

by: Josh Stinson

Words like "best" and "most" do not make sense. There is no "best" out of the class. I may think Georgena is the best-looking girl in the world, but is she? Billy doesn't think so. Different people have different opinions. All people have areas in which they are strong and, from their point of view, they are the best. Many things are judged on opinions and viewpoints.

There are downfalls to being good looking, athletic, or smart. During elementary and secondary school, everyone is classified. When a person is an athlete they are called a "jock;" if a person is smart, they are called a "nerd" and are picked on to no end.

Aging plays a part in my decision. As big ugly football players get older, they get fat. Even if they exercise, they cannot keep their figure. A beauty queen does not stay beautiful forever either. Eventually gravity and nature set in and ruin a wonderful thing. Nothing gold can stay.

Intelligence is an asset in a person's life. It can be worked on, improved, and will be with the person until death. Intelligence can be used in everything a person does, and can be taught to others. Being intelligent is more important than looking good or being a good athlete.

Countdown to Extinction

by David Zytoskee

Hello, I'm back with another concert review. This issue's review is on Megadeth. The shelter was Roy Wilkins Auditorium with the group Suicidal Tendencies opening up.

Speaking of S.T., I've never heard them before, so I can't say much about them except: I like 'em. The one song that sticks in my head is "You Can't Bring Me Down."

But onto the main group, Megadeth. The head of this group is former lead guitarist from Metallica, Dave Mustaine. Why is he no longer with Metallica? Well, they kicked him out because of his excessive drinking problem. Although the group has never made it to #1 on Billboard's top 200, they did make it to #2, and their next album could hit #1 right off the bat.

Some of the main highlights were: the moshing (slam dancing), the yelling contest (which the main floor lost), and Dave Mustaine's fly Anarchy guitar.

The main solos were executed by: Dave Ellefson-the bass guitarist, Nick Menza-the drummer, Marty Friedman-lead and rhythm guitarist, and the big cheese himself, Dave Mustaine, doing the lead and rhythm guitars as well. Although they all had astonishing solos I think the best were done by Nick Menza because of how fast he played his drums and Marty Friedman for his combination of speed, rhythm, and accuracy on the guitar!

A lot of people I know that don't know much about the history of the band, well... it took a lot of hard work and effort to get where they are now!

Concert Criticisms and Praises:

C.C. Megadeth- Play in a bigger place, you're a big enough band now.

C.P. Megadeth- Great performance! It ranks higher than "The Concert of the Summer!" Now don't let this get to your head!

How to be Cool

by Josh Stinson & Jenny Case

Trends come and go as time slips through the fingers of civilization. In the past there have been fashions of plenty. Being cool will never go out of style. We have done months of back-breaking research and surveys, and have set up guidelines for you, our faithful readers to be as cool as cool can be. There is also a spirituality to being cool, you must feel cool, act cool, look cool, but most important, of course, is hanging with a "cool" group of people. This report has been carefully divided into three categories, with the top three responses in each. Here are the results:

"COOL" PERSONAL HYGIENE

*Strong natural body odor (so your friends can distinguish your particular scent).

*All body hair is left uncut and unshaven.

*Irregular showering and bathing, less than once a month is most desirable.

"COOL" CLOTHING

*floral print corduroy bell bottoms

*plaid socks

*wool underwear

"COOL" BEHAVIOR

*Breakdancing at every given chance.

*Vomiting in public.

*Picking nose while stuck in traffic jam.

A weight has been lifted from our shoulders; we have been withholding this information for a long time now and we felt it only proper to share it with our devoted Com-Mini readers. Thank you for your time. This has been an uplifting experience for us all.

Cultural Heritage

by Elliot Kuli Torro (Tan) and Christoph Glowsky (Glowaski)

According to our informal poll, three out of every ten Minnetonka students have no idea what their cultural heritage is. Although it is not necessary, understanding your heritage is an important key for unlocking the mystery of your identity. It can explain why you think a certain way, or act another. It can clarify your beliefs and even give new aspects to them. For instance, a Native American will generally look differently at the woods than an Englishman. An Irish person will view religion differently than a Pole. All these are a result of your cultural identity. Of course, your own beliefs play a part in it, but your ethnic history gives your personality a base.

About a hundred or so years ago, when immigrants from all over the world began to flow into America, their names were changed and they were forced to abandon their cultural heritage in order to assimilate into American mainstream culture. For most of us, our grandparents or great-grandparents were our first generation in America. They were, in many cases, so desperate to make a living that cultural identity did not mean as much as survival. Of

course, since they were urged to abandon their culture, their children, born into an American culture, had no notion of where their ancestors came from. We have just recently become a stable enough nation to begin researching and investigating our history. It is a piece of our psyche that we just now are noticing is gone. The melting pot is no longer necessary. A person can be an American and still be German or Irish or Haitian.

The point is that cultural heritage is an important aspect of your being. It affects the way you act and the way you look. For many it is no longer an obscure part of their past, but an important part of their present and future.

If you are interested in researching your geneology, the Minnesota Historical Society, located in St. Paul, or the Mormon Church have detailed information on the subject.

Lord of the Darkside

by Christoph Glowaski

Once there was a great bard and his name was Glenn Danzig. He was not very well-known, and many of those who knew of him feared and disliked him. He did have three companions, though, and together they traveled through the land, singing their morbid message to all of those who would listen. This party was called the Misfits.

Though they were quite successful, Glen decided he wanted to part from the band and form a new one. He named this group Samhain. Throughout their career, Samhain also encountered many who feared and hated them. This was quite all right, though, for Glenn felt that it did not matter how many enemies he had as long as they were those who understood and enjoyed his message.

There came a time, though, when he decided yet again to form a new band. This time he left with Eerie Von, one of the members of his last band.

Together with John Christ and Chuck Biscuits, they formed Danzig. Soon they discovered that this would be their most successful action yet.

To this day, Glenn and his burley band of beasts have many enemies, but the number of followers is becoming greater and greater. Glenn still lurks in the dark corners where no one else is brave enough to venture, and his group is stronger than any of his previous attempts. He will reign as King of the Darkside for long after all of the others have been defeated.

Movies

by Tom McKinney

Mini-School movies have their ups and downs. For some of you that don't know, Mini-School watches a movie nearly every Friday. The main reason there are ups and downs with the movies is because it is illegal to watch an "R" rated movie, according to the Minnetonka administration.

The movies that we watch are most of the time educational. Otherwise, every once in awhile we'll have a movie that's just fun to watch. The movies we've watched this year are the following: *Cool Hand Luke*, *Matewan*, *Hear My Song*, *Medicine Man*, *The Mission*, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *What About Bob*, *Power of One*, *Tell Them Willie Boy Was Here*, *Absence of Malice*, and *K2*. Most kids in high school have never heard of these movies.

For Mini-School to get better movies there would have to be an administration change at Minnetonka High School. The reason I say this is because the administration would never let us watch an "R" rated movie, but basically, all the good movies these days are rated "R."

Other problems Mini-School has sometimes are the people who pick the movies we watch. I think something new should be started, such as the Student of the Week gets to choose or at least put in a selection for the movie on Friday.

The Art of Cycling

by Josh Hendrickson

Bicycling is a deadly serious activity. NOT! It is real fun with the right bike and equipment. Biking can be fun for just cruising around, or for exercise to get in shape and to stay that way. It is also a good way to get around if you don't have a car.

As far as getting started in bicycling, the best thing to do would be to start off with a less expensive bicycle. Ones like Huffy and Murray are good, inexpensive bikes to start with. They are good for just putting around the neighborhood. These bikes are good for the beginner and someone who is not interested in investing in a more high performance bike.

Now, if you are interested in getting into some more serious biking, you might want to look into some more serious equipment. TREK, Schwinn, and Bridgestone are some of the high performance bikes you could get. TREK and Bridgestone are some good mountain bikes. TREK also has good road bikes. Schwinn is more touring and road bikes. The more high performance bikes have better components and better performance.

To tour, get a bike (like the discontinued TREK 520) that has all the attachments for the bags and panniers. You can get front bags, rear bags, handlebar bags, and under seat bags. Touring can be fun with the right equipment. You can go cross state, or if you are the adventurous type you could go cross country. Make sure you have a tire repair kit with you.

Mountain biking is a type of off road bicycling. You ride to the top of a mountain or big hill, and once you reach the top you ride down. It can be very dangerous. You can also ride off road on flat ground or on rough trails. You can ride on the road, too.

I ride because I love everything about it. The speed, the mechanics, and it's just fun! It is also a challenge for me, to see how fast I can go and how far I can ride in a certain amount of time. The last two months of summer I went over 1,000 miles in the time I had.

Biking can be VERY dangerous, no matter how good you think you are. If you want to be safe, wear a helmet.

Life is a Privilege

The mass testimony of the detestment of objection by the world,
is upon us.

Life as it is known will end abruptly,
stop functioning as a whole.

The Wall has come down,
and is only a wrecked ruin of the past.
East and West have come into a union
of minds and soul.

The imaginary creatures of time gone
are being reborn
into a state of neverending regression.
We were born into a state of confusion,
only to be known as a mutilated
organism,

on a black-out cybornoid nation.
The older generation is one for us to
question and wonder,
Coming to face with reality
is not a norm,

but a supposed symptom of insanity.

Ladies on the street,
Men in unemployment lines,
Why does it happen,
Is it society, government or human
nature

that life is led as it is.
Coming to life and living it is a privilege.

by Keith Bartram

Student Rights

by Hendrickson and Wright

This school has the *right* to search through your locker *and* your personal things without you there. This is not right at all. There are also a lot of double standards. I'm not saying that students and "*adults*" should be equal, BUT the students should have some privacy. Students have no *real* rights at this school.

The administration has "locker checks" here where they dig through your locker, bags, jacket pockets, and other personal items. When they do this they warn you a week ahead, but they don't tell you exactly when. You are not even told when they are searching through your locker the day they do. They just do. They take their list and go down all the lockers and open them one at a time, sitting on their "royal behinds," scooting down the hall on a chair with an interactive radio system in their hands.

The students are not allowed to have tobacco in any form at school, not even snuff. If you are caught with any form of tobacco at all, you get suspended from classes for three days, and prior to his/her reinstatement to classes, the student must participate in a conference at school with a parent and principal. The student must also confer with a Chemical Health Specialist. When the hall monitors smoke, either on campus or within view of campus, nothing is done to them.

So basically the students at this school have very little (if any) rights here—no privacy and double standards are what make up our "*Student Rights.*"

The Dudley Riggs Holiday Outing

by Tom McKinney

On the night of December 16, 1992 most of Mini-School met at Perkins for a night of laughs. We were off to Dudley Riggs Brave New Workshop. The group consisted of Brandon "Vito" Marcacinni, Brian "Youngun" Nelson, Tiffany Penbera, Terry Vincent, Jesse Walker, Stacey Vetvick, Joshua Stinson, Josh Rockstad, Chris "Glowman" Glowaski, Jessica Boerboom, Pat Cretan, Matt "Meatball" Richard, Tony Bernatz, Simone Winthelser, Alina Barr, and myself. The staff that went were Doug Berg, Randy Nelson, Joanne Storlie, Lester Hughes-Seamans, Joe Komerak and his girlfriend. After everyone got to Perkins we piled into the vehicles and headed for Dudley Riggs. The ride there was quite exciting. Doug was racing through yellow lights and losing everyone on the way there. Luckily, everyone knew how to get there.

We arrived about 15 minutes early. Doug passed out all our tickets and about the time he finished, it was time to be seated. The seating arrangement we had had to be changed around for Joanne's sake. She couldn't see over Randy. Before we knew it it was show time. The name of the show was "Holiday on Nice, It's Not a Christmas Carol."

The show had five actors, 3 men and 2 women, and they all played more than one part. The types of shows Dudley Riggs performs are short satirical skits. One of the skits they performed was about a family at Christmas time and the daughter came home for Christmas dinner, but she had to prepare it. The daughter's type of dinner for Christmas was Fetucinni Alfredo instead of the usual turkey dinner. The mother was furious. The show was hilarious and I would recommend anyone to go and see it. Age makes no difference. Everyone would find it funny.

My Job

by Josh Stinson

I am a laborer for a construction company. I do what nobody else wants to. I do the work like digging drain tile, hauling lumber, putting in erosion fences, and laying erosion fences blankets. I also clean up the job sites. I save the company a lot of money because if I didn't do that work, higher paid professionals like plumbers probably would.

There are many benefits and reasons I enjoy my work. I feel like I'm a part of something, people remember my name and are generally friendly to me. I also enjoy getting outside and doing manual labor, using and pushing my body. I go home tired and sleep well.

I feel good about what I do. I am able to concentrate on my work and forget about the world's troubles. In a way I can escape reality. The world would be such a peaceful place if everybody just thought of how to dig ditches for drain tile.

Mini-Choices

by David Zytoskee

What choices do people in Mini-School have? This is a simple question commonly asked by new people in Mini, but no one takes the time to answer. That's why I'm here, to let you know what is offered here in Mini.

Let's begin with Hour 1 (although I'm in mainstream the first two hours, I still know what goes on). You are given two choices, either Computer with Lester and Dawn or Recreation with Doug and Randy. I think computer is self-explanatory, but

just in case, Computer shows you how to use a computer, and you work on the computer for articles such as this one. Recreation or "rec" wakes you up in the morning with Phy. Ed.

Hour 2 is generally Newspaper, except on Tuesday. On Tuesday it's a meeting. I don't know much about what goes on during the meetings, but I do know that they discuss upcoming trips and "Block" classes.

Speaking of the block, the block is during Hours 3 and 4/5. Those are the hours that I'm in Mini. The topics for each of the blocks vary, but are generally: with Doug, it's English or Com-Mini-Cations, with Randy it's Social Studies, with Dawn it's always science or science related, and last but not least the "new kid in town," Ramona teaches math.

Also on Tuesday there's a twist. We can watch an educational video with Doug, go to Insights with Joanne, or (for the females) go to Women's Issues with Dawn. The rest of the week is the same except for Friday. Friday we watch a movie, the latest movie being K2, and the best movie that we've seen was Medicine Man!

After the Block the majority of the students go to Hennepin County Technical Center or Vo-Tech. Some go to lunch, then mainstream or jobs, but the remaining hard core students go to Beyond Mini with Randy in the weight room. These die-hard individuals are as follows: Chris Bagdons, Chris "Glow-Man" Glowasky, Josh Stinson, Jesse Walker, Justin Weitnauer, and yours truly, David "Zyt" Zytoskee. But there is a new person with us, yes, a new addition! Elliot Tan! Yep, the big guy is pumping his muscles for the camping trips and other activities!

As you can see, here in Mini-School you have a wide variety of things to do. So choose wisely, my son, and may the Force be with you!

Philosophy with Randy

by Josh Stinson

Philosophy with Randy was an experience. Randy covered the basic principles of philosophy. His easy-going methods of teaching were lapped up eagerly by the students. There was a lot to swallow, but Randy's scintillating interpretations of ideas and concepts were understood by all. There was also a stimulating group with different ideas and views on life.

Not everybody is intellectually ready to be involved in a class of such caliber. If typical teenagers were put in this class, they wouldn't know what to do.

People are afraid that if high school students are exposed to new ideas through philosophy, they may begin to question what they have been trained to believe, be it their religion or government or the way they lead their lives.

The institution of "American Values" is threatened by philosophy, and most school board members as well as parents would not stand for it.

It takes an alternative program like Mini-School to accomplish teaching such a sensitive subject. The students in Mini-School have already questioned most of these things, so they are easily attracted to such a mind-opening and intellectually stimulating class.

Life with Tourette Syndrome

by Keith "Pugsley" Bartram

Walking down the hall at passing hour cussing and swearing, shaking and twitching. Some people staring at me and mocking me, while the others whisper to each other, wondering if I am an epileptic or maybe that I should be put into a mental hospital. But what most of them don't know is that I have a condition called Tourette Syndrome.

Tourette Syndrome (TS) is classified as a genetic, neurological disorder characterized by motor and vocal tics. Although there is no cure for TS, it is not degenerative or fatal. The symptoms for diagnosing TS are as follows:

1. Both multiple motor and one or more vocal tics that are apparent at some time during the illness, although not necessarily simultaneously.
2. The occurrence of tics many times a day, nearly everyday, or periodically throughout a span of more than one year.
3. The periodic change in number, frequency, type, and location of the tics, and also in the severity.
4. Onset before the age of 21.

Tics are non-purposeful sounds and movements that are sudden and occur repeatedly in the same way. The two categories of tics and some common examples are:

Simple: Motor—Eye blinking, head jerking, shoulder shrugging, facial grimaces.

Vocal—Throat clearing, barking sounds, sniffing, tongue clearing, spitting.

Complex: Motor—Jumping, falling to the ground, twirling about, whipping objects.

Vocal—Coprolalia (saying socially unacceptable words or phrases)

Echolalia (repeating others)

Palilalia (repeating oneself)

Now, with all the explanations over with, here is my story about living with Tourette Syndrome. I started having the symptoms around the age of 6 and from what I can remember, I displayed some symptoms I like saying "hut" over and over. At the age of 8, after many psychoanalytic tests, I was finally diagnosed with TS. As a third grader, I knew nothing about TS, let alone being able to explain it to my fellow students.

Around the age of 9, I started to display symptoms of another condition called Coprolalia. As stated above, Coprolalia is basically where, for no reason, I would just blurt out swear words repetitively. Kids

would look at me funny, and think I was weird or something. My dad was real supportive in helping me adjust to my condition. Of course, at that time I had no idea that TS was such a complicated issue.

Right before I started fifth grade I moved to a new town, North Canaan, and a new school. My dad again went to the school and explained to the school nurse, teachers, and peers about my condition. Most people seemed to understand, but many still seemed to be afraid of me and puzzled by me. But I tried to fit in and go with the flow, as to not cause any more fear and hate toward myself. Around 7th grade, I started to see a school counselor, to talk about my most outstanding problems, mostly about my TS. In 8th grade, I graduated from the elementary school.

The next year I went up to Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and met my new counselor, Mr. Chinnatti, who was also my football coach. He put a major mark in my life that I will always remember. Mr. Chinnatti was always there when I needed to talk about my problems, or just about football plays. He also introduced me to a great cooking class.

In the summer of the transition from 9th to 10th grade, I ended up moving to Minnesota from Connecticut. I started going to Minnetonka High School. I really did not like mainstream because I got the same crap from students in mainstream. As I was walking down the hall, some of the other students that I know would talk behind my back, saying things like "Twitch Kid" or "There's the kid I was telling you about" and other less subtle things like staring, and laughing at me. I started going through the steps of being suicidal, up to the point of actually cutting my wrists and legs.

I finally told someone about how I felt. Margaret Gaumond, the school social worker, was a real help to me. She was the boost I needed to get myself on to the road to overcoming my problems. At the beginning of 11th grade, I entered Mini-School and was a little apprehensive as to how I would be treated. I had heard around mainstream how bad and stupid people in Mini-School were, but none of it was true. The kids in Mini-School have been really

supportive and seem to understand me and my condition. I have never felt so comfortable in a school setting. The staff in Mini-School have taught me more than I have ever learned in mainstream, and the peers I have been with for these five months have really made me feel I belong, as part of a group.

Conferences: Teachers Talking With Kids

by **Melissa Stahl**

The students in Mini-School are lucky. We get something that we couldn't get in mainstream!

At the end of each grade period during the year, every student has a one-on-one conference with the Mini staff. These are very important to the students because we find out not only how we are doing but what areas we need to work on, what can be done to achieve our credit goals, and where we go from there.

These meetings help students stay focused and let them know how they are doing and where they are going.

Mini-School Without Doug and Randy

by **Tom McKinney**

Without Doug and Randy, Mini-School would not be the same program. Doug and Randy, over 23 years, have been able to handle the troubled kids in Mini-School, help them graduate, and send them on their way to meaningful lives.

The Mini-School students have a lot of respect for Doug and Randy. The students receive a lot of respect in return, because Mini-School is like one big family. Doug and Randy are not only our teachers, they are our friends. I think if you are

going to accomplish anything being a teacher you have to have a good relationship with the students. Doug and Randy have that special relationship with Mini-School kids.

If Doug and Randy were not in charge of Mini-School, most of the students would not graduate on time or would drop out. They help us by keeping us on top of our credit needs and by helping us build good programs to earn our credits. They teach us English and social studies and many other things. They take us on trips, they help us with our problems, they keep us focused, and they encourage us to come to school and get the job done.

Replacing Doug and Randy in Mini-School would be very hard. Doug and Randy are basically irreplaceable. The only person that comes to my mind who understands Mini-School students the way Doug and Randy do is Joe Komerak.

Most of the graduates of '93 owe a lot to Doug and Randy for all they do for us. And that's one of the main reasons I'm graduating this year, because of Doug and Randy.

To the Mini-School Students: Thanks for the Memories

by **Karen Evans**

Ten years! I cannot believe I have been here that long. I was only going to work a few weeks until I could find something else, at least something that didn't include teenagers. Many things have changed during this time, one being how I feel about Mini-School.

When I first started working at MHS, Mini-School was explained to me as a negative place to be. But during my time here, I have experienced many different feelings toward you—ranging from fear, anger, dislike to acceptance, liking and most recently, friendship.

To a certain degree, I have walked in your shoes. I admire you for staying in there and completing your education. I may have been a candidate for Mini if it had existed in my time. I was co-dependent and my "moods" depended on pleasing certain people. I grew up feeling I was not "good enough." Just recently I have admitted that I was and am co-dependent and have begun counseling. Twenty-five years ago, if you had a problem, you didn't talk about it, especially away from home. Society now feels it is better to face your problems and talk about them. In my opinion this is right.

Enough of my rambling. I would like to close with a few thoughts which have helped me. Take it one day at a time, tomorrow will come soon enough: Live for the moment, you never know how much time you have left. Don't go looking for trouble, enough will find you.

And probably the most important is not to judge a person by their looks, it is what's inside that counts.

I am learning more and more to accept people as they are. I have a poem on my refrigerator that has helped me:

Don't walk in front of me,

I might not follow.

Don't walk behind me,

I might not lead.

Just walk beside me

And be my friend.

Best of luck to you all.

[Editor's note: Karen is one of the MHS hall monitors.]

Fad Way of Life

Rapidly jerking our lives from place to place,
 facing reality with two feet in the grave; I
 jumping into a ballistic era,
 showing a mere part of ourselves
 in a cliché of words;
 our earphones beating with a hum of
 simplicity,
 the gentle buzz of a fly,
 is what it sounds like,
 from across the room
 in a doldrum sense of life;
 shutting out ourselves from the truth,
 and achieving a fake sense of security
 is the fad way of life.

Keith Bartram

Learning to Fly

To soar through the air,
 dodge through the trees,
 and watch the world beneath you.
 To feel the air,
 brush hard against your face.
 And see your shadow,
 on the land below you.

Katie Steger

Tangible Thoughts

The burns down my face,
 From the tears that have fallen,
 The holes in my heart,
 That cannot be filled.
 Can anyone hear me?
 Does anyone care?
 Sometimes I feel,
 like I blend with the air,
 'Cause no one sees,
 or hears what I feel.
 Sometimes I just wish
 I would not be here.

Katie Steger

Desolation

My feelings run deep,
 Deep in my heart.
 You hurt me so bad,
 Left me in the dark.
 How can you say what you do
 and not mean it.
 My voice never heard,
 No one around to hear it.

Katie Steger

The Lonely Wolf

The pain inside
 It cuts so deep
 Feel the pain
 and I must weep.
 Like the wolf must
 howl at the moon
 I know I've lost him,
 Lost him too soon.

Katie Steger

One Hundred

Please sir accept my fruitbasket
 Please of it before it rots
 In return kindly grant her a favor
 Bury our breathing flesh
 Lock them in a steam chamber
 As you digest your
 Well-nourished motherly love
 Smell our armpits can you take it
 We fake it when we make it
 Preaching to all my aborted children
 Like they can hear me, what a fool
 Their ears stuffed with thick dough

by Jenny Case

Poems by Keith "Pugsley" Bartram

Torpor

Confused in a state of numbness,
 waiting for the right way
 of a formed and structured life,
 in this difficult situation on earth;
 we are only a simple organism
 on this disputatious—
 who cares;
 Everything is a confound and fission,
 consisting of not which it should be
 but the other,
 the opposite;
 The disreputable reputation
 of the world's "leaders"
 is one to be questioned and aliened.
 We are in a sanction stage of life,
 one which is cared for,
 but thrown away.

Child's Philosophy

Free these words and let them sing,
 these words, sung by the children,
 are our key to happiness;
 the children sing of the way the world
 should be,
 listen with not discord, but curiosity;
 show them you care
 enough to tell them
 They are the future.

Love Is the Same

It is wonderful to be loved,
 Why to be loved is not that
 I know,
 To sit here with love on my mind
 is a thing out of heart,
 not from the well in your mind
 but the well in your soul,
 conjure it up to your mouth,
 and say you love me,
 and I shall say the same.

Want Ads

by Aaron Burns

WANTED: Donations of 10 speeds (road bikes) in working condition to the Mini-School program. Call 470-3574.

WANTED: a few musicians for a rhythm and blues/folk band. We are in dire need of a piano player, bass player, guitar player, drummer, brass (trombone, sax, trumpet, etc.) backup vocals and possibly 2nd lead vocals. If interested, please contact Elliot Tan at 935-9997 or Josh Stinson at 541-9563. Please get ahold of us as soon as possible.

WANTED: One bass guitar with amp. Contact Keith Bartram at (612) 937-5468.

WANTED: a person who owns a car with an automatic transmission. Call Raeann at 937-5694 or 473-4182.

FOR SALE: Tunturi rowing machine. Excellent condition. Cost \$200 new. Will sacrifice for \$75. Call Doug Berg at 470-3574 or 474-7706.

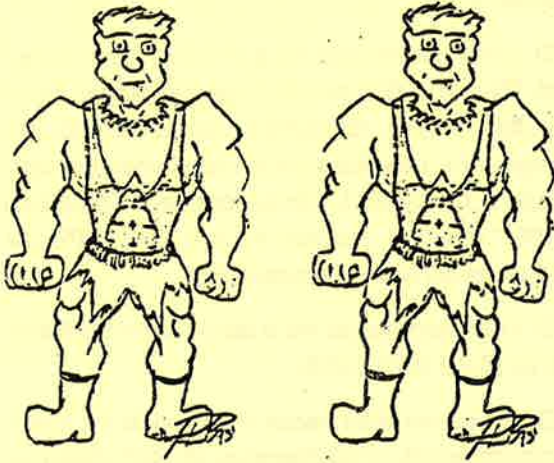
FORSALE: One remote control off-road car. Futaba controller and service. Style car: Hornet. Needs new battery. Will also come with a brand new pair of rear tires. Price \$75. Contact Keith Bartram at (612) 937-5468.

INSIDE OUT: ART

by Racann Rasmussen

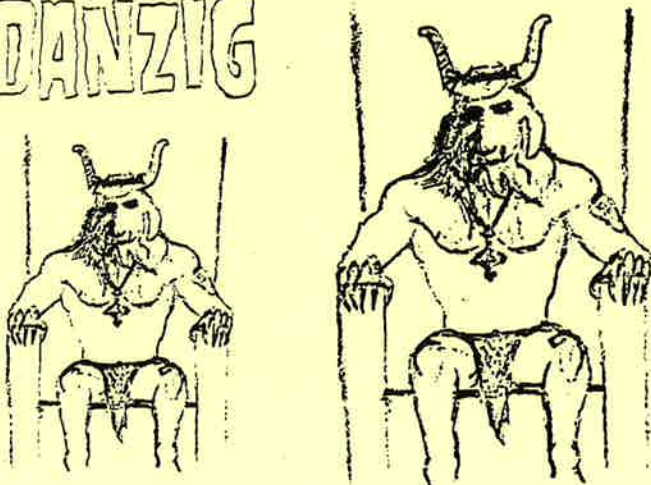
What do you see when you look at a Mini-School student? If you don't see something, look a little bit deeper. Now what do you see—talent, maybe? Well, if not, I'll help you.

Jason Paulson has been drawing ever since he can remember. He has taken one quarter of commercial art at Vo-Tech and describes his art as mainly cartoons. In the future, Jason would like to pursue a career in this field.

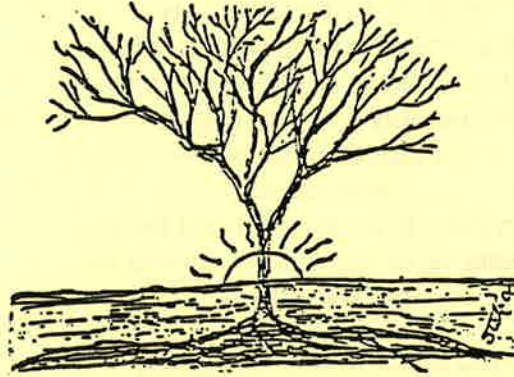


Chris Glowaski says he's been drawing since he was in his mother's womb. Such a neat way to put it, Chris! Drawing is just a hobby for him and he sees no career with it. Besides those required in elementary school, Chris has taken several art classes throughout high school and describes his style as scary and offending to some people.

DANZIG



It is just a hobby for Sharon Korzendorfer, yet it gives her a feeling of accomplishment which makes a lot of sense. She has taken oil painting and drawing classes in high school and says her drawings are more or less realistic with meaning and lots of the time about the earth.

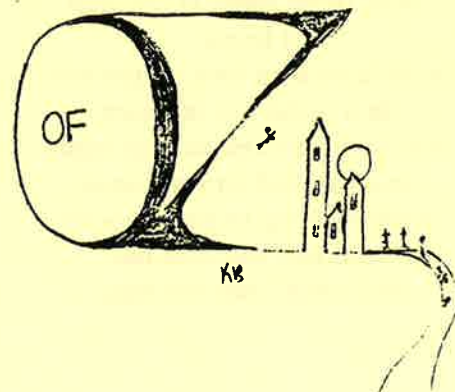


Brandon Petron has enjoyed drawing as a hobby since kindergarten and is in his first year of commercial art. Death-oriented is how he labels his style and also he likes drawing designs for tattoos.

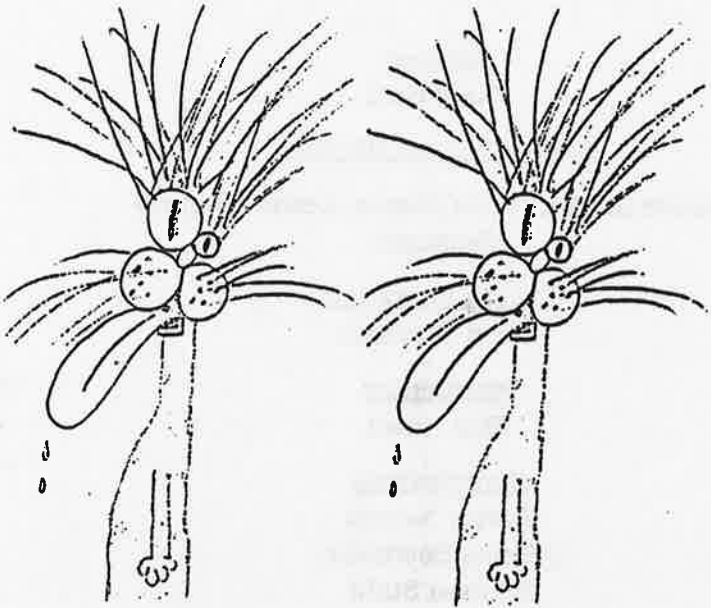


Keith "Pugsley" Bartram draws for fun, and his work mainly consists of portraits.

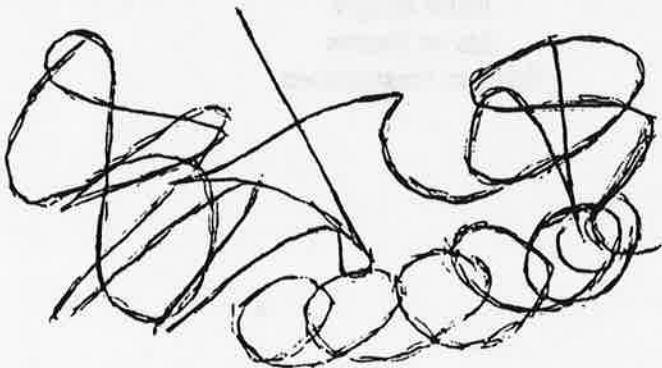
THE WIZARD



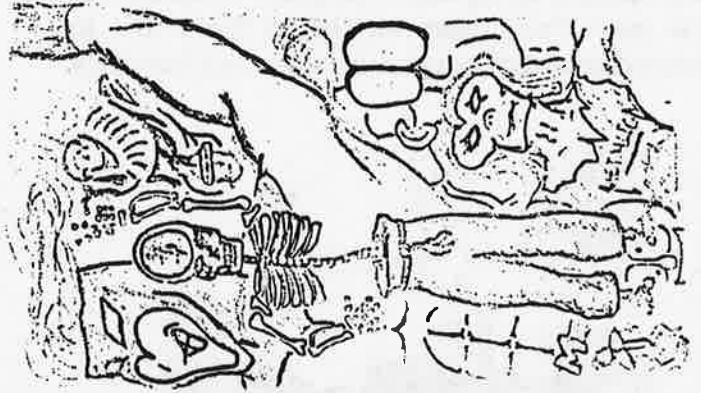
For the past three years, Aaron "Aaroon" Burns has been drawing his creative thoughts down on paper. In the future he may pursue this as a career. Commercial art, calligraphy, and drawing classes all have educated Aaron in this hobby of his. Like Jason Paulson, Aaron's drawings are mainly cartoons.



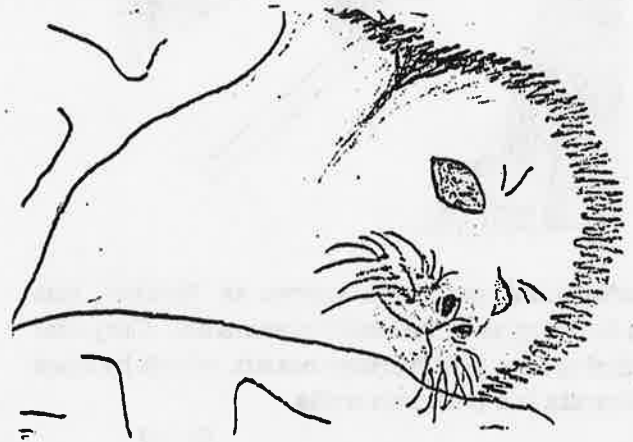
Josh Stinson, new to Mini-School this year, grew up watching his dad, who is an architect. He enjoyed making drawings with his father and would maybe like to make a career out of this. Josh has taken watercolor and graphic design classes. Painting is his "thing" right now and sometimes drawing. Faces are what he likes to paint and draw and in doing this he tries to capture the feelings of these people. Although Josh's example of his talent has nothing to do with faces, I suggest you study it closely.



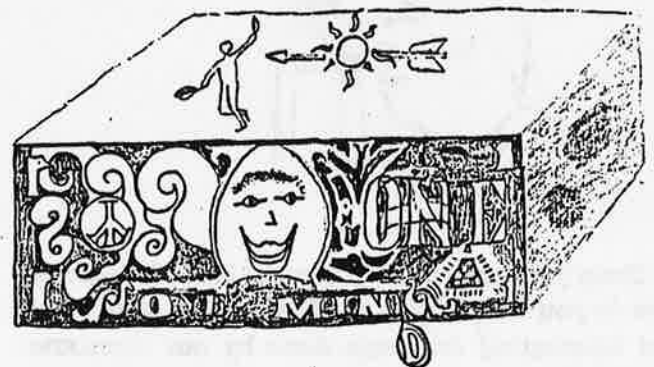
Matt Richard has never taken any art classes and decided he will continue drawing as a pastime instead of a career. He has been drawing since he was little and describes his style as off-the-wall.



Katie Steger draws for fun and has never taken an art class. She looks at things and then draws them down on paper.



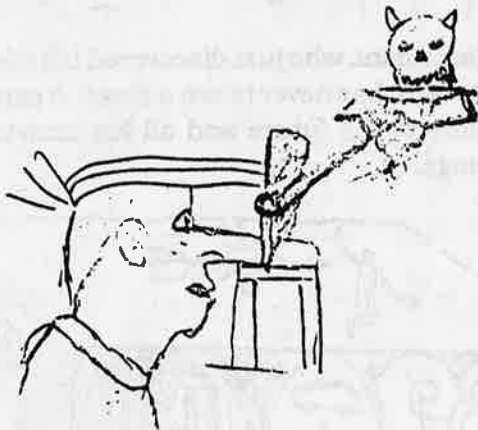
Brandon Marcaccini, who just discovered his talent a few months ago, has never taken a class. A career is a possibility in the future and all his drawings have meanings.



Matt McCrady, a well-known artist in Mini-School, was in commercial art for 2 1/2 years and knows just what he wants to do after school. Stout College is where he plans to go to study graphic arts and then make a living with this great talent he has. One more thing Matt wanted to throw in: he received an award last year in commercial art class.



Brandon Lindner, better known as "Bubba", has been drawing since he was five years old. Gory and detailed is how he describes his art, which he uses to decorate his bedroom walls.



So there you have it, the talented Mini-Schoolers. Now do you see? I hope so. Enjoy these wonderful and fascinating drawings done by our awesome students!

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