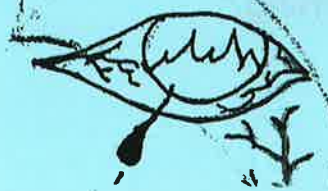
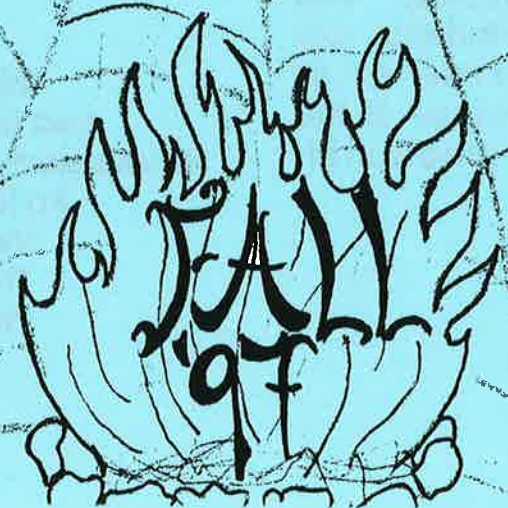
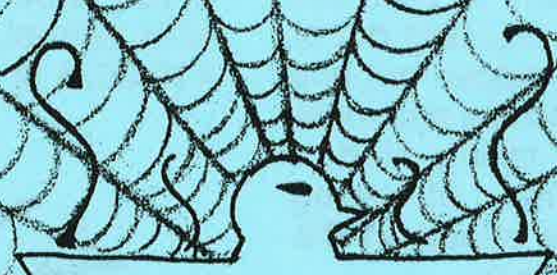
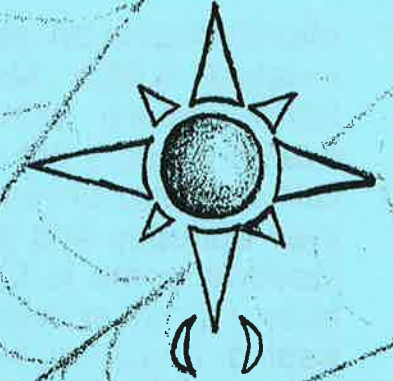


COMMUNICATION



By: Kristina Petron
Rachell Larson

Mini-School Overview

Mini-School is an alternative program located within Minnetonka High School where 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 and 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 many students. 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.



**"We the unwilling
Led by the unqualified
Have been doing the unbelievable
So long with so little
We now attempt
The impossible
With nothing."**

Meandering Through Mini-School

By: Doug Berg

Year 28 of Mini-School is underway! Randy and I started this program in 1970. Along with other Mini-School founders Pete Hegrenes and Leo Razidlo, we set a clear, definite mission- to provide a meaningful education for high school kids who weren't getting that education in mainstream high school. Fulfilling that mission for 27+ years has taken Randy and I down and around hundreds of rivers, lakes, hiking trails, canyons, forests, bike routes, campfires, job sites, basketball games, and classrooms. We've never lost sight of our reason for being and are happy to be back in Mini-School for the 28th time, doing what we do best.

Since I'm writing about the staff, I'll add a few things. Pauline is finishing up her master's program at Mankato State University. Her thesis is on waste management and involves a study of what Minnetonka Public Schools do with the garbage. It's very interesting! In one of her blocks Pauline has shared much of her findings with Mini-School students. Mini-School continues to recycle all of the pop cans in the high school, a big thankless job. Pauline and

the recycling kids deserve to be commended.

Ramona started the year with Mini-School but left in mid-September to give birth to her second child, Zorina, a new baby sister to her 2 yr. old son Zachie. Ramona gave birth while I was paddling the Missouri River in Montana with 12 Mini-Schoolers. I had suggested that she come along and have the baby on the trip (precedent had been set- Sacajawea did it on the Lewis and Clark expedition), but she didn't go for that idea. Another missed opportunity. Gabe Peterson could have been the mid-wife.

After Ramona left for her maternity leave, her place on the staff was taken by Ben Schultenover, retired MHS math teacher. Ben, Randy and I go back a long way. In 1970 Randy and I started Mini-school. Also in 1970 Ben, with 3 other teachers, started the School Within a School (SWAS) program, another alternative program at MHS. Both programs featured a wilderness adventure, or trips program, and in preparation for this, Ben, Randy, and I took a month long training course with the Minnesota (now Voyager) Outward Bound Program and got to know each other really well. Also, Ben and I together took a combined Mini-School/Swas group on a trip to The Grand Canyon in 1974. We're grateful to Ben for taking time out from his retirement to pinch hit for Ramona.

Randy has been busy as usual in the fall, juggling the job of teaching in Mini-School and coaching soccer, 2 full time jobs in and of themselves. His soccer team had another fine season, finishing second in the classic lake conference with a 12 win, 4 loss, 1 tie record and losing in the playoffs 1-0 to the eventual state champion, Apple Valley. Randy's also experiencing a little of the empty nest syndrome as his oldest daughter, Edie, is attending the Minneapolis Business College and is living away from home. His youngest daughter, Ashely, is another soccer junkie, playing for Orono High School.

JoAnn and husband Brad spent a month of their summer on a rafting trip down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. With all the new kids coming into Mini-School this fall, JoAnn has been extra busy with forms and orientations.

I spent the summer canoe racing, hangin' out at my cabin, and working on my house. I managed to keep several Mini-School Alumni employed as I hired Josh Day and Justin Streeter to do some construction, Russel Schmid to do some driveway and landscaping, and Rhett Rasmussen to do some painting.

Since school started it seems like I've been on trips almost constantly with Montana, Mark Warren, Rum River, and now Grantsburg. I'm

looking forward to a good cross country-ski season. Also, my son Charlie will be getting married this spring. Mother Berg and I are excited.

In February or March Mini-School will be moving to the area currently occupied by Mr. Engstrom's art classes and the Work Experience programs. The area promises to give us more overall space, a better office area, more versatility in classroom use, and better facilities to prepare for trips. It will be different though. Mini-School has been in its current area for 27+ years. After the move, Pauline and Ramona will probably have to send kids up to room E213 to fetch Randy and me-old habits die hard.

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Eleanor McCarthy, a student new to Mini-School this year. Eleanor succumbed to cancer on Nov. 4th. Mini-School extends its sympathy to the McCarthy family. The kids in the program raised \$180.00 over the weekend which will be sent to 2 charities as a memorial to Eleanor.

The funds for Eleanor were raised as part of our own annual fund raiser, the great Mini-School Weatherguide Calendar Drive. As I write this over 250 calendars have been sold, netting the program about \$1200.00. Lacey Landt started the drive off with a bang selling 34 calendars. Kortnie Hanson has also sold 34. As yet we've found no one

to match graduate Phil Lynott, who sold 75 calendars each of the last 2 years.

Speaking of Lynott, he is now located at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, undergoing army basic training. He calls us 2-3 times per week and has even written 2 letters. Must be homesick.

Other Alumni News

Terry Smith '77?- stopped by to visit me this summer. He's employed by the post office and has been bicycling a lot, riding through Oregon and California this summer. He got started bicycling back in Mini-School in the 70's and has helped Randy with a trip or two.

Meredith Clawson '87?- I ran into "Maud" in Minneapolis in October. She's attending River Falls University in Wisconsin, majoring in health/PE with an emphasis on environmental education. She recently visited her old employers, the Hansens at Sawbill Canoe Outfitters and Mary Alice Hansen wrote and told me of Maud. Just can't break that old Mini-School connection, eh Maud (no one but me calls her Maud anymore.) Meredith may help out with a trip sometime.

Josh Stinson-'93 As you will learn from other articles in this publication, Josh has assisted with 2 Mini-School trips this fall, Montana and Mark Warren. His assistance has been most valuable and welcome. Josh

has been house painting and will return to the University this year. He lives with his girlfriend, Sarah, and his dog, Seven.

Rhett Rasmussen '90- The Rhettster is painting houses, working at Lakewinds, traveling the country with his mom and dad, and trying to get his girlfriend, Lacey Landt, to school so she can earn a unit once in awhile.

Marcelle Dorenkamp '97- Marcelle is kind of an understudy to Josh Stinson. She's assisted on Montana and Mark Warren trips, kind of an assistant to the assistant. She works at Caribou Coffee and tries to sell calendars for Mini.

David Zytoskee '94- David stopped by recently to inform us of his radio program out of Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin (located north of Green Bay). He is known for his staunch support of the Vikings in the midst of Packerland.....He is on the radio over forty hours a week and uses the moniker, Dave Lee (his middle name).

More Student Meanderings

Congatulations to Nick Alatzas, Jenny Taylor, Sven Nelson, and Austin Manship. They completed the requirements for High School graduation at the end of the first quarter.

Tony Cruikshank has a role in the current Minnetonka High School

drama production, Voices of the Holocaust.

We have alot of new kids in Mini this fall- too many to mention- and several, new and old, went on their first mini trip this fall- Titus Woodstrom, Jamaal Major, Collin Davis, Charle Urbia, Mark Thole, Dan Sauer, Rachell Larson, Jeff McGinn, Kristina Petron, Josh Shoberg, Matt Thompson, Christi Welch, Audrey Lopez, Laura Huberty, Jamie O'Day, and Matt Evans, Aaron Sapp, Leah Shoberg, and Kyle Kimrey.

14 kids have signed up for the Grantsburg Hike (it'll be over by the time this goes to the press). We'll beat the Wisconsin hunting season this year and we won't have to wear orange.

Steve Kopischke's mother says he's matured 5 yrs. in the last year. We agree. That brings him up to the level of a 13-year-old!

Mike Phelps writes terrific journals on all the trips he goes on.

Lenny Weissner sold 5 calendars.

Eryn Stoltz calls me "Duggums."

Joe Juranitch, new para-helper in Mini, says he never really realized how much fun working at MHS could be until he worked with Mini. Joe helps the staff with odds and ends and reaches out to some of the kids in Mini. Most of the kids in Mini are

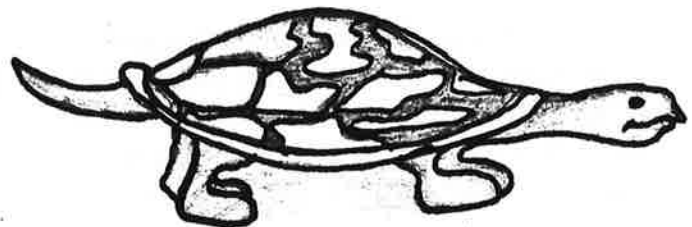
accepting of Joe's new role except Kopischke, who does not feel right unless he can maintain an adversarial relationship with him.

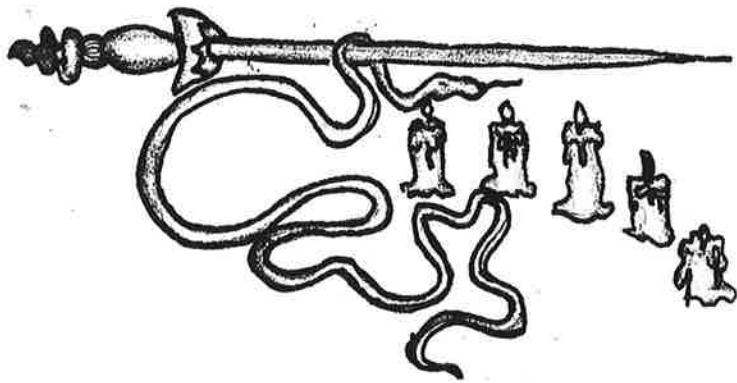
Tony Kohman is transitioning his way back in Mini fom Options South. Welcome back, Tony. Keep on doin' good.

Laura Huberty has taken over leadership in the Mini-School weather girl department. The Montana trip weather was superb, and Laura put Annie Kohman, last years numero uno weather girl, to shame on the Mark Warren trip.

Geoff Boller carries more stuff on his person on a daily basis than most people do in a pack on a ten day trip. He even carries a flashlight, something half the Mini-Schoolers forget on a trip.

Happy Meandering, good readers. Hope you enjoy Com-mini-cations.





Eleanor McCarthy

By: Carrie Tiggas

Recently in our school a tragedy struck when 15 year old Eleanor McCarthy passed away. She had battled cancer for about the last 3 or 4 years. I just thought I'd take the time to express my feelings on what has happened.

I didn't know Eleanor too well. But I did know this. She was a very nice person. She was always friendly. Every time I saw her at school this year she always had a big carefree smile on her face no matter what.

I think a lot of people will think of her as the poor girl who died of cancer and I know that is natural. But I don't think it's right. To me, I will always remember her as a hero. As a woman who tried her hardest to fight for her life. A woman who genuinely loved life, who had a lot of reasons for living. She had a lot of friends who meant the world to her. I don't think she would want to be remembered as a victim.

To Eleanor's family and friends- God be with you and bless you.

In Loving Memory Of
Eleanor McCarthy
December 2, 1981-
November 4, 1997



To all my friends, I love you and know that I will watch over you always. I want you to remember the open mindedness I stood for, a virtue we all value intensely. Encourage everyone to stand up for what they believe in as long as it is not discriminating against other human beings, for we are all equal and we all have the potential to expand our minds to spiritual openness and great knowledge. Take this to heart if you will and know I'm here, voiceless but not silent.

Eleanor McCarthy

Eleanor

Once the life was here and now it's gone! Never knowing how precious our special something is until it's gone. But know she's gone lost in the tears of everyone's sorrow. In the midst of emptiness I feel. There always is something of hope-the only hope I see is for her and she's gone to a better place. The sweetest soul still lives within all of us, and watches down over us.

Lewis and Clark Montana Trip

By: Michael Phelps

The first and one of the biggest trips to go out this year was the Lewis and Clark canoe trip on the Missouri River in Montana. With Doug as the leader, our Corps of Discovery was made up of Mike Ennis, Mike McGinn, Lacey Landt, Hondo (Tony Cruikshank), Laura Huberty, Conan (Bill Gallagher), Jamie O'Day, Dan Voaklander, Matt Evans, Casey Bakken, Gabe Peterson, and Me. Stimp (Josh Stinson, a '93 graduate) and Marcelle Dorenkamp a '97 graduate, came as well.

We paddled 150 miles past deserted bluffs, majestic "White Rock" cliffs, and many, many cow pastures. Following the route of Lewis and Clark, we saw many of the voyagers' famous landmarks- "Slaughter River", "Hole in the Wall", and the Marias River to name a few. The rivers' most famous landmark, "Eye of the Needle", was missed due to unfortunate circumstances earlier this year.

Everyone met at Perkins Sunday morning, to shove off on the two day, two van, drive to Ft. Benton, Montana. We stayed there for a day to tour some museums in town. The first night there, while sleeping in the town park, the park sprinkler came on around 2:00 A.M. at night where we were sleeping. We moved only to

have the sprinklers in that location turn on as well. Matt, who had slept somewhere else with Hondo, laughed at us until the water came on there too. Everything except Doug, who was laughing in his tent, was soaked. As Mini-School trippers, there was only one suitable thing to do in a situation like this. We built a fire across the street to dry off. It must have been quite a sight for the locals driving by to see this bunch of strange kids huddled around a burning pile of lumber in the middle of town.

The group put in the river on Wednesday, and began paddling by endless bluffs, almost completely devoid of trees. Among the shrubbery were the first of many, many cows we would encounter on the trip. The bluffs eventually grew into steep, often vertical cliffs of white sandstone. These beautiful rock formations created natural "cathedrals" all along the river. They were often the focus of free time excursions.

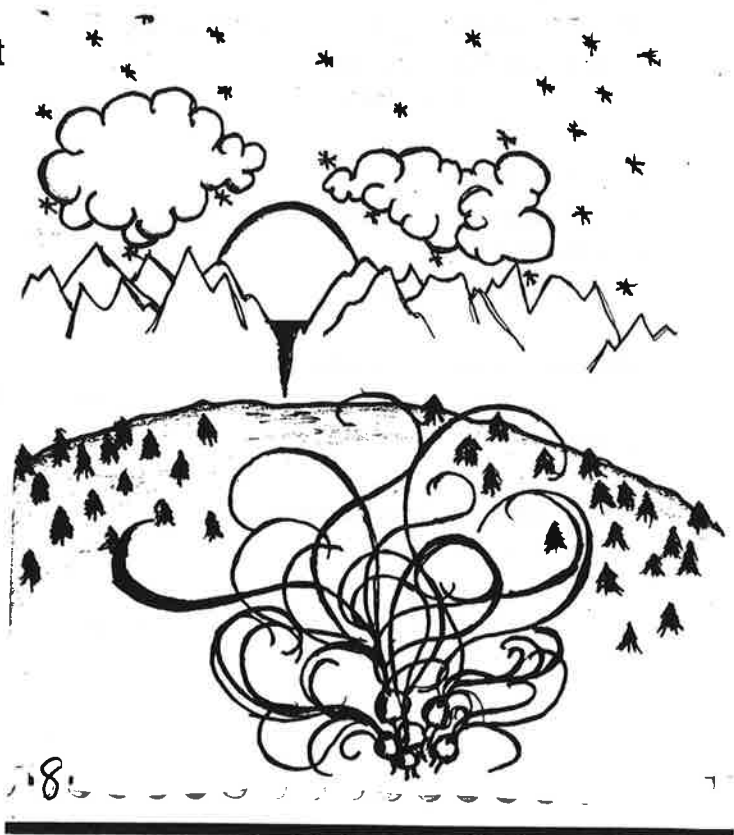
We stayed on actual Lewis and Clark campsites on several occasions and we were constantly hearing about the voyage of exploration including a half hour book on tape each night in camp. I know that everyone on the trip, including Doug, learned more than we ever would have in the classroom.

The trip had its highs, like Conan's light shows (performed with a burning stick) or when groups

climbed the cliffs to behold some breathtaking views. One night around the campfire Bill did a different performance. He stood up and began stumbling around on the wood pile with a terribly confused look on his face. This spectacle continued for quite some time until he stopped and said "My leg fell asleep."

The trip had its downs as well, like paddling a quarter mile upstream around an island or a violent windstorm the last night on the river (although some found it enjoyable). I found sitting on a prickly pear cactus to be a particular low for me. On the way back to Minnesota we stopped in Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota. The wildlife we saw there included countless Prairie Dog towns, herds of Buffalo, and the last remaining herd of wild horses east of the Rockies. But no cows.

This trip was one of my favorites so far and definitely among the greatest learning experiences of my life, thanks to my fellow trippers.



Interview with new students

By: Geoff Boller and Maya
Diedrich

Josh Shoberg (Kind-of, again)

What are you doing after graduation?

Doing stuff, try and pursue a writing career.

Do you have a cape?

I had one but I left it in a biffy and someone stole it.

Have you ever tipped over a Biffy?

No, but I have been meaning to start.

What was the nastiest or meanest trick you ever played on someone?

I was in 4th grade and I tied a kids shoelaces together, he fell over. I had to go to the principals office where he told me I was a bad kid.

If you were a cartoon character what would you be?

Freakazoid or Earthworm.

Aaron Sapp

What are you doing after you graduate?

Living with my mom.

Do you have a cape?

No, but I have a hand thing no one else does.

What does a hand thing do?

It goes on my hand.

Have you ever tipped a biffy over?

No.

If you were a cartoon character what would be?

Mighty mouse

Aaron Hoerst

What kind of Rollerblades do you have?

Rollerblades Daytonas.

Have you ever tipped over a biffy?

No, but that's a good idea. I think I'll do it after school.

What was the nastiest or meanest trick you've ever played on someone?

This kid was standing barefoot in front of me and he told me he was a ninja. He turned around and tried to do his ninja skills on me. He stepped in a pile of dog poop that I knew was there.

Rachel Larson

Do you live with your parents?

Yes.

Do you have a cape?

A black velvet one and a plain black one.

Have you ever tipped over a biffy?

Ya, with a truck. We ran into it and drove away. Burned it too.

Was anyone in it?

No. Someone was behind it and almost got crushed.

If you were any cartoon character who would you be?

Shera

Can you turn someone into a frog?

Not yet.

Kristina Petron

What is your relation to Brandon?

He is my brother.

Do you have a cape?

No.

Have you ever tipped over a biffy?

See above. (Same truck as Rachel.)

What was the nastiest or meanest thing you ever did to someone?

My brother was sleeping in the basement, I locked him down there and forgot about him.

If you could go anywhere on the planet where would you go?

Jamaica.

Erin Stoltz

Do you have a cape?

No.

Have you ever tipped over a biffy?

Yes, at a park we had a girlfriend of ours in the biffy and we tipped it over. She came out with S@*t all over her face and she was screaming. We had to put her in the trunk. The cops pulled us over and thought we had murdered someone.

Can you turn someone into a frog?

No, but I've licked them before.

What is some extra ordinary things you've done?

I've drank human blood and gone skydiving.

Matt Thompson

Do you own a cape?

Ya, it doesn't fit me, but I own it.

Have you ever tipped over a biffy?

Yes, to see what would happen.

What is the nastiest or meanest

trick you ever played on someone?

Kidnapped someone and dropped them off in Waconia.

Where do you see yourself in 5 yrs.?

In the service.

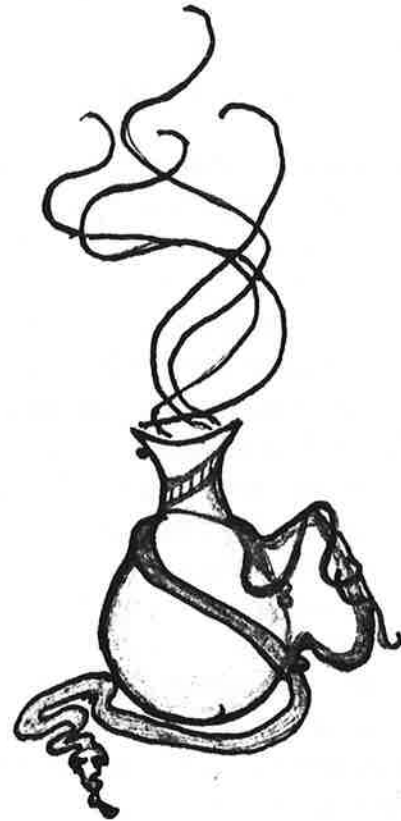
JoAnne Jonston

Have you ever tipped over a biffy?

Yes.

Do you have a cape?

Yes, but I don't wear it to school.



Preparation for the Mark Warren Trip.

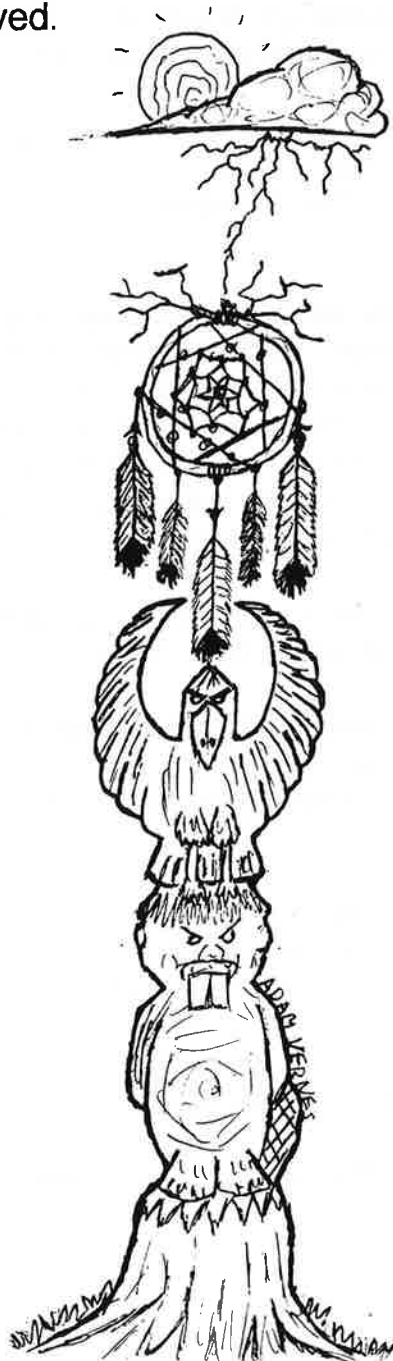
By:Lacey Landt.

On Tuesday September 30th, Doug Berg, Ann Kohman, Charlie Urbia, Josh Shoberg and I went up to where Doug's old cabin was. He is using his neighbor's cabin for the Mark Warren trip. We went to cut wood for the sweat lodge. Before we went there we had to fill up our stomachs at the hotel restaurant in Rush city. We went across the street and got food for lunch. Annie found some cookies. She wasn't planning on sharing them either.

As we were on the way up the drive way Doug stopped and picked up his chainsaw and went crazy sawing everything in sight. I knew what to expect. I went along with him last year too. Once we finally filled up the trailer we brought the canoes to the boat launch and loaded them up with wood. Annie and I canoed together and Charlie and Josh paddled together. We dropped the wood off at the Island and found dead trees all over the island so we spent some more time following Doug around as he cut down the trees. After we cut down every piece of wood there we paddled across the river and filled one and a half canoes full of wood. We finally completed our mission.

We canoed back to the boat launch up stream on a river that is about one foot deep. Not too easy. We made it back to the boat launch ready for lunch. We had our peanut butter sandwiches, chips and Annie's cookies. The drive home was a long one. Everyone crashed out right away except for me and Doug .

Of course we got units for the trip so it's always worth it when units are involved.



Mark Warren Trip 1

By: Matt Thompson

The people on this trip were: Nick Alatzas, Annie Kohman, Rachel Larson, Trish Lauman, Jeff McGinn, Clare Meyer, Kristina Petron, Josh Shoberg, Matt Thomposn, Heather Trowbridge, Christi Welch. Staff were: Doug Berg, Ben Schultenover, and Mini-School alumnus Josh Stinson. Our fearless leader was Mark Warren.

Day 1

Six a.m. was the meeting time at Perkins and remarkably, everyone was there on time except for Josh Stinson.

We drove for two hours and got to a really nice site on the St. Croix. Doug and Mark had come up Sunday and set up the campsite- dug a latrine, set up tents, made a firepit. It was raining hard when we got there, {Annie Kohman- some weathergirl!} so we donned raingear and followed Mark into the woods.

Mark showed us how the Native Americans made rope from the inner bark of the basswood tree. We then collected our own bark. We got pretty wet and muddy. We moved into the cabin to wait for the rain to let up. While we were in there we made bracelets and necklaces from the bark. Mark also demonstrated

how to make fire without matches using a bow, drill, fireboard, and basswood bark for tinder.

When we went back outside Mark broke us into fire-making groups. Each had to collect and make its own fire-making materials, then make fire. Only one group was able to do so, but all the groups came close.

Later Mark taught us a game called Zoogle stick. We all stood in a circle and played catch with the stick, if a person missed it they were penalized by losing an arm or a leg, and eventually eliminated. No one could beat Mark.

Doug made tacos for dinner. Excelent! After dinner we had down time for the rest of the evening. It was nice to explore the property on which we were staying.

Day 2

We woke up to Dougs famous french toast. We were all so hungry we could have eaten hundreds of pieces.

Once breakfast was done Mark taught the group how to stalk animals. To do this we had to learn to be silent and move very quietly. We later played a game called night watchman which used the stalking skills. Some of the group didn't want to play. You could tell Mark was disappointed.

Doug fixed us lunch- peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, carrots,

crackers, cheese, chips, apples, raisins, and kool-aid. Then he had to go leave to drive home so he could bring up group two in the morning. After that he would drive group 1 home, then come back up- lots of driving.

After lunch Mark taught us how to play a game called gling. The game is like Hacky-sack except it is played with a milk carton and there are alot of funny penalties.

Mark then taught us about spirit names and explained the naming ceremony we would have that evening. If you wanted to receive a name you had to write answers to three questions: 1 {optional} name an animal you feel close to, 2 what are you known for, 3 what is the quality that is unique to you.

Dinner was next and our cook, Doug, was gone so Ben was the main man. He made beef stew with mashed potatoes. It was very good. After dinner we had the naming ceremony around the campfire, and learned each other's names. We then learned some sign language which we would use for the sweat lodge the naext day.

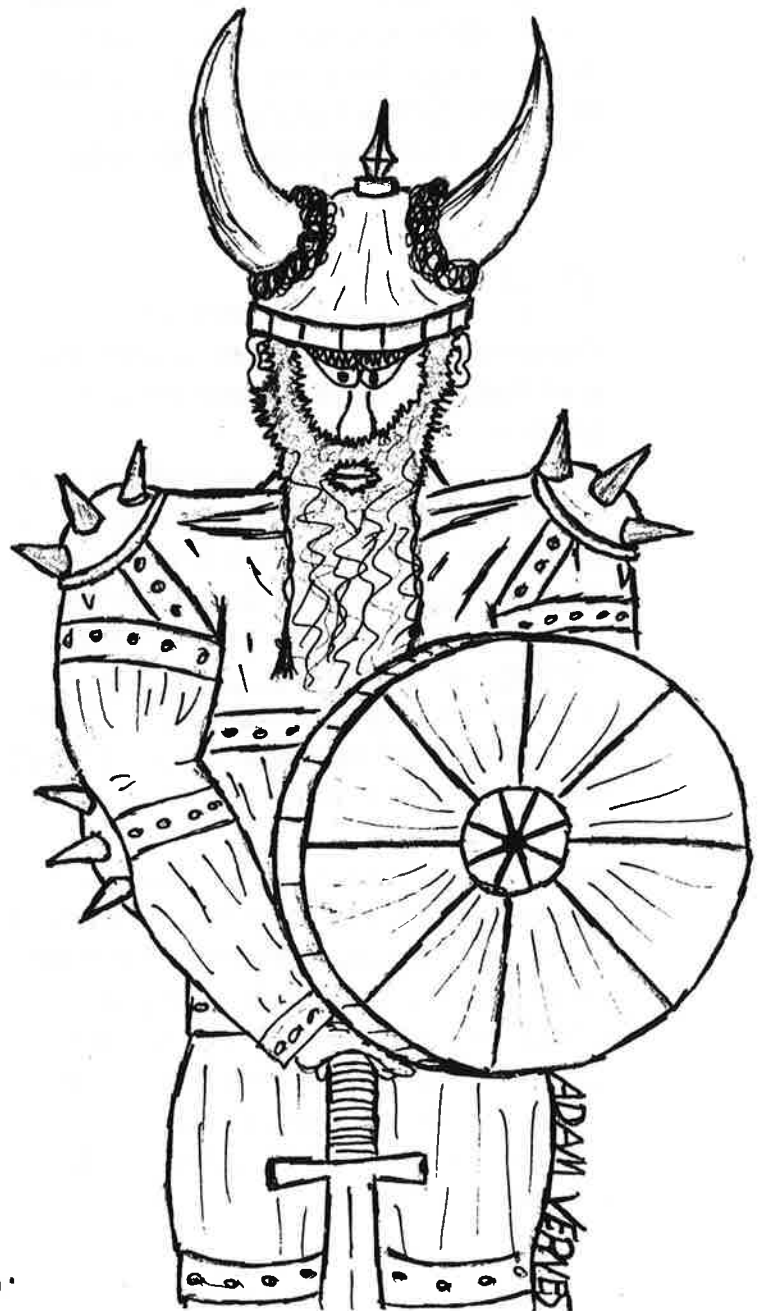
Day 3

We got up around 7:00, had an oatmeal breakfast, and collected rocks to heat up for the sweat lodge. We got our stuff packed up so group 2 could move into the camp and tents.

We paddled canoes over to the

island in the river for the sweat lodge. On the island people could only speak in Native American sign language, so it was quiet for 2 hours. The sweat lodge was great. The best part was jumping in the river afterwards.

Mark Warren is a very wise person and good teacher. If you ever have a chance to go on this trip, definitely do it.



Mark Warren

Trip 2

By: **Laura Huberty and
Audrey Lopez**

The second trip was Laura Huberty, Gabe Peterson, Jaimie o'Day, Charlie Urbia, Mike Ennis, Geoff Boller, Mike Phelps, Tony Cruikshank, Maya Diedrich, Titus Woodstrom, Audrey Lopez, Staff: Doug, Pauline, and Joanne, Leader: Mark Warren, alumni: Marcelle Dorenkamp.

First Day

We arrived around lunch time, picked our tents and unloaded. The first group was just coming back from the island you have the sweat lodge on. We ate lunch together, said our little "see ya later," and they left.

Mark taught us about nearby plants and trees. He taught us how to make rope out of basswood bark, {one of the trees we learned}. Afterwards, we learned a game called zoogle. It was about time for dinner and Marcelle and Laura were missing. We looked around camp, and even called for them. They had fallen asleep and were just waking up as we were returning for dinner. When it was finally dark everyone gathered in the cabin. Mark shared a few of his songs with us. He taught us a little sign language. It was interesting to

learn and it helped us for the last day on the island. On the island we were to be silent.

second day

On this day we learned to make fire. Some of us succeeded. Others, however, did not. Mark also showed us some stalking techniques and games that were related. That night we had the naming ceremony. Those who chose to get a spirit name, received one. It was probably one of the more serious things we did. It was really meaningful to all of us.

Final Day

The last day, we cleaned up and packed up. This was the day of the sweat lodge. We canoed over to the island. As soon as we stepped out of the canoe we were silent. We had time for a while to ourselves, but soon enough it was time. The majority of us crawled inside the sweat lodge. We all managed to stay in for the whole time. Only inside we could talk, and we were given time to speak our minds. It was a time for thoughts, reflection, and for complete respect.

After, we all headed straight for the river.....refreshment. We went back to eat lunch, play a game, and pack up the last of the gear. Those who have been on this trip would agree that is one that you won't regret or forget. So, if any of this interested you, I highly recommend it. Too bad it's not longer.

Mini School Work Day

By: Trish Lauman and
Kristina Petron

After the Mark Warren trip a group of us had to go back up to the site and do some brush cutting and wood stacking for Mr. Jim McNally, the man whose cabin and land we used for the trip. This is how we paid for the trip instead of with money.

About ten people signed up to work this day. When I got to school only five were there. We waited to see if anyone else would show up. No one did and we had to get going to beat the traffic, so we left.

The people who did go were Clare Meyer, Gabe Peterson, Mike Phelps, Trish Lauman, Kristina Petron, Our faithful helper Josh {Stimpy} Stinson, and the Chainsaw Massacre man, Doug Berg. Mini-School Alumnus Steve Lauman was supposed to come but he had gone to the Motley Crew concert the night before and couldn't get up.

We all trudged down the hall half asleep carrying the hand saws, the left over lunch stuff and the raingear. We were all sleeping until we got to a small cafe. We ate a huge breakfast then left for a long day of work. Doug sawed as we hauled the brush away. Later we stacked wood, Mike threw

wood to people and everyone else stacked it into a pile.

A little bit earlier that day Stimpy was off sawing things and when he came back he had two big gashes on his hand. Apparently when he was trying to cut a stick, the saw slipped and he cut his hand. {that is why Doug is usually the only one who uses it }

Soon after that we all piled back into the van to go home after the exhausting day. We stopped at a rest stop to call and let our rides know that we would be back to school soon. Just outside of the rest area there is a pavilion with picnic tables under it. On the way back to the van Gabe ran and jumped over the picnic table. As he was trying to jump down off of it he jumped up and hit his head on the over-hang of the roof. It knocked him flat on his back. He looked really confused, but he was alright. We then continued to try and make it home.



Advice to the New Trippers

By: Ann Kohman

The trips program is obviously very important to both the students and staff who participate. As Doug is always saying, Mini-School has been taking trips for 28 years and has yet to have a serious accident. It is our belief that both the spoon and the trippers are responsible. So in order to keep the record clean we (veteran trippers) have given some advice to those daring new Mini students who plan on tripping this year.

Mike Ennis- Bring more than you think you need, pack extra!

Gabe Peterson- Learn to respect the people on the trip.

Tanya Schierman- Learn to like oatmeal.

Hondo- Pay homage to the spoon.

Mike Phelps- If you make everyone believe you're having fun you probably will.

Laura Huberty- Keep a positive attitude. Keep your complaining to yourself.

Doug Berg- Bring rain gear, especially if Ann is the weather girl.

Ann Kohman- Participate in all activities. Take as many trips as you can.

Lacey Landt- Change your socks when you go on Winter Camping. Do your part and the trip will go better.

Lester- Bring warm clothes and moleskin.

Randy- Mind over matter.

Mike McGinn- Don't take any more than 4.

So in conclusion remember that Mini-School trips are a group effort. Help out others and do your part. I guarantee you will have a good time.



Rum River Trip by Charlie Urbia

Leaving School

All the participants (Nick Alatzas, Jamaal Major, Dan Sauer, Collin Davis, Steve Kopischke, Mark Thole, Charlie Urbia, and Titus Woodstrom) were to meet at school at our normal time and be on the road by 7:30 AM. We didn't get under way until after 8:00 AM due to the tardiness of one of the group members.

The Ride Up and the Rest of the Day

The ride up was an uneventful hour and a half composed of sleeping, Doug and Joe talking and telling stories, and some conversations.

We got to the landing and put the canoes in and by the time Doug said his little spiel and got under way, for our three day canoe trip down the Rum River it was about 9:45 A.M. We came over our first obstacle right after we pushed off and that was making it through 100ft. stretch of ice with me and Nick in the lead canoe clearing the way. When we stopped for lunch we took out what we were to eat and it's not what you would eat on a normal basis but under the circumstances it was really good. We canoed about 15 miles that day just trying to keep up with Doug and by the end of the day we still fell short of our destination.

The First Full Day on the River

We awoke the next morning to Doug yelling at almost everyone to wake up and eat breakfast. Once you got out of your bag you were immediately cold, but hot

oatmeal does the trick. Once we got on the river it got a lot warmer out.

About two miles from where we were camping was our first regrouping spot. After about 10 minutes of floating there I noticed a dead animal in the river and oddly it was skinned. We drifted maybe 15 feet from our original spot and we found at least half dozen or so of these animals and after closer examination we came to the conclusion that they were cats. By this time we were all thinking that there were some psychos in Cambridge so we got out of there as fast as we could.

After canoeing for twenty miles you are happy to be on land, get in your tent, and lay down.

The Final Day

About half way through the day the sky began to cloud over and the wind picked up so that made canoeing a little harder than it had been during the morning. When we stopped for lunch it began to sprinkle and continued to do so for the duration of the day. By the time we got to the landing Joe was already there waiting for us to bring us home.

We had a good group, everyone did their fair share of the work that needed to be done. Even though it felt nice to go home I'm sure that most if not all of us would miss being on the river.



Todd McCormick MHS's new principal

by Josh Shoberg & Tony Cruikshank

How are you?

Doing very well, thank you.

Do you have a family?

Yes, I do. I have a wife and three children. I have a daughter who's 23, a son who's 18. Both of them are in college, and I have 13-year-old son.

Do you think your 13-year-old son might end up in Mini-School?

I don't think so, although I would say he's a non-traditional learner.

What are your credentials? Where did you go to college?

I did all my graduate work at Mankato State. I have a Master's Degree in Music, 6th year degree, and a specialist degree in Educational Administration. I was a band director for 16 years. I played in rock groups to get through college.

If you were a jello jiggle, what shape would you be?

I'd probably be an arrow, so that I could set some direction and look into the future and try to impact change.

Do you like Minnetonka so far?

Yes. Best of all, and I don't say this to kiss up to anybody, is I like the students. Every day I come into the building I continue to be reaffirmed about how good the students are.

Do you come up with policy or does the school board do everything?

It's kind of a combination. A lot of the policies have been established over the years. Some are new changes, for example, the passing tones. When I came on board, I heard from both students and staff that we should do something to help everyone be in class on time. And I also heard because our clocks are so messed up around the school, nobody knew exactly when classes started.

What have you heard about Mini-School?

Well, I've heard quite a bit. I talked to Doug when I came on board in July. He gave me a good description of what happens. It's not much different than the alternative schools I've worked with. I think it's a good opportunity for folks to have an alternative way to learn, and I think that's something education has to recognize, that people learn in different ways. I like Mini-School. I like the idea of the trips. I like the idea of all the groups you have.

Why is it that most of the new staff doesn't know anything about Mini-School?

It would probably be a good thing to put into our orientation in the fall, so that people know about it.

When did you decide to be a principal?

From really early in high school I knew I wanted to be a teacher. Then I was looking for a change and a friend of mine encouraged me to take a look at administration. I was an assistant principal for six years, and this is my fifth year of being a principal.

Is Elvis really dead?

Gee, I don't know. They just said they saw him in Detroit about a month ago.

Do you believe in aliens?

No, I don't think so.

Any deformities? Third nipple? Extra toes?

None of those things.

What kind of stuff do you do for fun?

I ride a motorcycle, fish, hike and camp, play jazz piano, and I like my job.

Do you think you might go on a Mini-School trip?

Doug has asked me to go next May on the Boundary Waters.

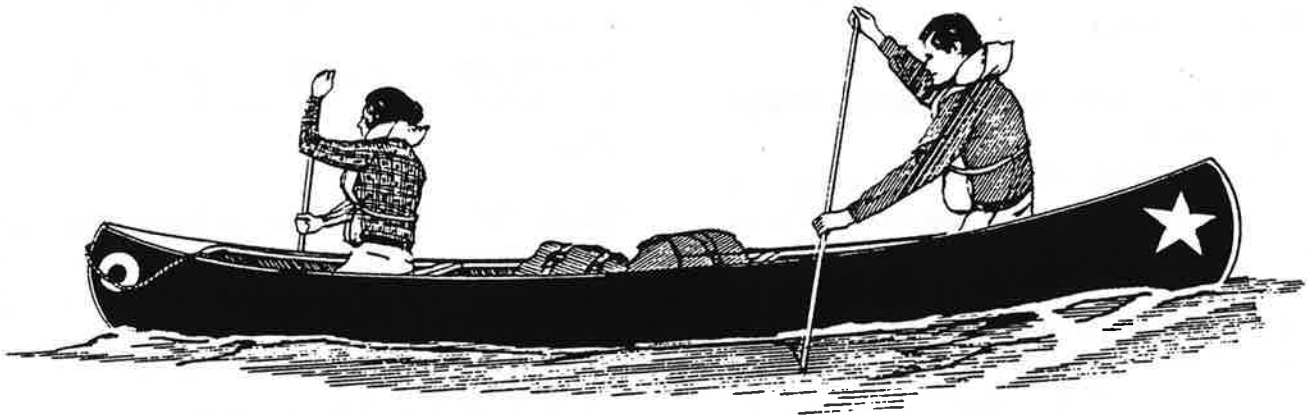
Do you have any pets?

I had a chocolate lab, but I had to give him away before we moved. I didn't think it would be a good place to be and with all the time I have to spend at work, I'd never get to spend time with him.

Top Ten Things Not To Say When Confronted By Bob

By: Leah Shoberg

10. Anything.
9. Any profanity.
8. Do you come from a long line of hall monitors?
7. Do you have some sort of genetic problem?
6. I have a hard time taking orders from someone half my size.
5. Can I bribe you not to write me up.
4. I'm sorry, I thought you were a freshman.
3. What were you before this job, a prison guard?
2. If you think you're taking me to the office you better think again.
1. I'm in Mini-School.





Famous Quotes

By: **Carrie Tiggas**

Here are some famous quotes I've collected from students and staff.

"I'm just playing Devil's advocate."
Pauline

"Can I have it quiet please." **Doug**

"5th floor. Lingere." **Randy** in response to the new passing tones.

"If it were up to us....." **All the teachers**

"I took a leap of faith, and landed on my @\$\$." **Mike Ennis**, Mark Warren 1997

"It makes your mouth numb." **Josh Day**, Black Hills, spring, 1997

"GE,GE,GE,GE,GE,GE,GE,GE,GE,GE,GE." **Tanya Scheirman** imitating the Grouse, summer trip, 1997

"So, do you want to go on my boat?" **Pete Riedel**. All the time.

"We have to eat all the nuts before the bear eats us!" **Laura Huberty**, summer canoe trip, 1997.

"Stop talking about that. You're

making me have to go to the bathroom." **Molly Latterner**, summer canoe trip, 1997

"The Crotchcloggin' River." **Tanya Schierman** and **Ann Kohman**, summer canoe trip, 1997

"Wake up! Wake up, Ann! Oh, well I just wanted to see if you were awake." **Phil Lynott**, Utah, spring 1997

"If no one is going to sell any calendars we'll just stop this whole thing right now." **Doug Berg**

"Doug, this salt tastes like sugar, are you sure it isn't sugar?" **Jessica Juneau**, BWCA, 1997

"Doug, I would taste it before you eat it." **Jessica Juneau**, BWCA, 1997

"Being friends with Joe is like trying to befriend the Devil." **Lenny Weissner**, Mini meeting, 1997

Happieness is a warm Gun!



What Did You Do Last Summer

By: Matt Thompson

Over the period of the 96-97 summer, a number of Mini-school students found a number of things to do. Here is a few quotes from Mini-school students.

Casey Bakken- "Party alot."

Adam Vernes- "Can't remember."

Kortnie Hanson- "Went to Florida and partied."

Jamal Majors- "Partied alot and worked."

Craig Schrupp- "Worked all summer."

Sven Nelson- "Worked."

Len Weissner- "I don't know."

Mike Ennis- "Worked."

Jenny Taylor- "Worked and got a tan."



MY JOB AT K-MART

By: Danielle Weiss

I work at K-Mart in Minnetonka on Hwy 7 and Hwy 101. I work Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, 3:30-7:30. So I have a set schedule. I make \$6.75 an hour. I'm a cashier at the checkouts. Basically I ring people out and bag their belongings.

When there is nobody in my line I straighten up my area or go straighten aisles up. I also stand out to greet people into my lane. Once in awhile I do a little back shop, which is taking a cart full of merchandise that people leave at your register or don't want, and put it back in the aisles where it belongs.

I get a 15 minute lunch break and have a choice of buying something from the store, or the candy machine, or getting something quick from the eatery.

So basically my job is really easy. It can be fun at times and the other employees that work there are a lot of fun to work with. K-Mart is pretty much a good paying job, and has a lot of easy work to do.

WORST PRESENT I'VE EVER GOTTEN FOR CHRISTMAS

by: Josh Shoberg

Maya Diedrich-orange flavored chocolate

Geoff Boller-Zubaz

Leah Shoberg- box of garage sale leftovers

Aaron Hoerst- school supplies

Aaron Sapp- Jell-o mold

Rachel Larson- all of them

Joe Juranich- underwear from his mom

Doug Berg- a sleeveless hooded sweatshirt

Lacey Landt- really ugly, awful sweater, 3 sizes too small

Joanne Johnston- Life insurance, she had to pay for it

Trish Lauman- Barbie mansion

Mike Phelps- Blue underwear



How Lance Graduated

By Lacey Landt

Most people graduate all the same way- you know, do your work, get your diploma- same old thing. For those of you that don't know Lance Hamlin or don't know how he was in school, he liked to listen to Randy by sleeping through his classes.

Lance was supposed to be done last June. Unfortunately he was a little short on credits. He took independent study with Ramona and Randy. They gave him packets to do and bring back in a short time. When Lance finally turned them in they all congratulated him on graduating.

Months went by and Lance still didn't get his diploma in the mail. He finally called Randy some time in September asking if he was sure that he graduated. Randy said he was sure. Lance went down to the office and talked to the principal, who told Lance yes, we have your diploma but you owe us two hours in the crisis room.

Monday morning came around and Lance's faithful friends Dan Voaklander, Mike McGinn, and Lacey Landt went to his house, woke him up, and dragged him to school to graduate. Lance did what he does best and walked right into the crisis room and went to sleep. When his two hours were up he walked down to the office and got his diploma.



Featured Teacher: Lester Seaman- Hughes

By: Lacey Landt

Lester used to be a teacher here in Mini- School back in the mid 70's. She went on trips and she taught Art/ human relations. She is a wonderful lady. Unfortunately she left us for mainstream art. She organizes the yearbook and teaches photography. Lester was such a hard nose she was out on the first Grantsburg hike 5 months pregnant. Lester influenced many lives. Unfortunately I was not in Mini-school when she was but I know her well. I wanted to just have this article to show our appreciation for her.

What is your favorite memory of Lester?

Doug Berg: "stuck in mud up to her waist on a BWCA portage, with a Duluth pack on her front and back, cursing at me as I pelted her with mud and made fun of her."

Joanne Johnston: The Rum River express, sitting in the back of the canoe as she was expressing milk

into a cup, {to keep her milk supply up}. No one wanted to try it, {she was still nursing her new born, Sarah, now a junior at MHS.}

Randy Nelson: Lester and her video camera. She took it everywhere with her, winter camping, and activities in school. Lester was rarely ever without her video camera.

Lester:

What years did you teach in Mini?

1974-1977 Para

1977-1979 went back to school and got my teaching degree.

1979-1992 taught art in Mini

Is there a big difference teaching from Mini to mainstream?

I remember the first couple of days in Mainstream. I was shocked-30 kids leaving then another 30 kids coming. It might have been harder if I wasn't teaching art but the kids are so relaxed and there are many similarities. There is one really nice thing. I don't have to deal with the administration down my throat.

What trips did you go on?

New York City, Bayfield, Mississippi River, Kekebabic trail, Grantsburg, Rum River, Gunflint trail, Grand Canyon, Border Route Trip. There are more but it's been so long I can't recall all of them.

Featured Grandparent Pat Cruikshank

By: Leah Shoberg

Which one was your favorite?
Kekekabic snowshoe trip. It was the most physically challenging and rewarding.

Would you ever come back to Mini?

Maybe, it is hard to say. After this week I'd like to retire.

What is the worst thing about mainstream?

"Grading all this crap"

What are the best things about Mainstream?

Getting to know more students and not being so isolated from the staff.



As we are growing up I have found that the ones we rely on the most is our parents. Or in this case, our grandparents. The featured Grandparent of the month is Pat Cruikshank, loving care taker of Tony {Hondo} Cruikshank.

Leah- Where did you go to high school?

Pat- Deephaven High School, K-12

Leah- Was there a program like Mini School ever available then?

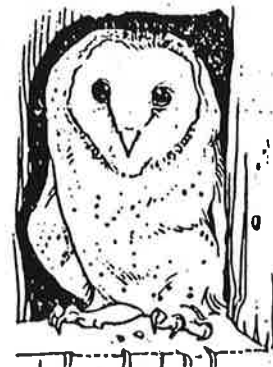
Pat-No, not then I wish there was though. There were good teachers, but for help we usually went to older siblings or other students.

Leah- What is your favorite flavor of Kool-Aid?

Pat-Well, grape is pretty good.

Leah- What do you think are the benefits of the trip program?

Pat-It's a good program- Mini-School trips, It helps to make a person whole, to be strong within themselves. It puts people in a position to learn how to get along with each other. It gives kids an opportunity to be outside with nature, and to be closer to God.



Milton L. Creagh

By: Carrie Tiggas

Earlier this year a speaker came to our school. His name was Mr. Creagh. This article is my personal opinion on him.

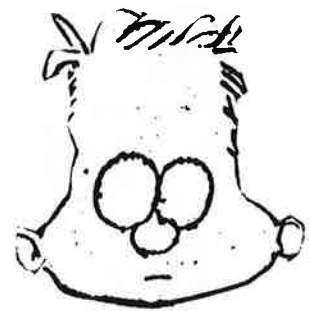
Thursday morning, cramped onto undersized bleachers were a large number of our student body, Minnetonka Mini School included. Our fearless leaders decided it would be good for us to see a program on sex, drugs, and rock and roll, so we all trooped to the main gym to see yet another speaker preaching about drugs. Well when we got there he wasn't even there so our wonderful student government decided to have us do some incredibly fun activities. Right.

Finally the speaker arrived. My first impression was that this guy is really tall. The second thing that shocked me is that he was black. We don't see any prejudice in this school, but we do have a very white school. I've never had a black speaker before.

I liked him from the start. He talked to us like human beings, not like teenage mutants. Also he had an attitude. I like people with attitude. It gives them character. If he saw someone not paying attention he would pick them out of a crowd and

recognize them. He carried himself very well. He was very confident. In my opinion he was the best speaker that has ever come to this school.

Now I would like to give you a little background on him. His name is Milton L. Creagh. He has been a public speaker since he was 17 yrs. old. He hosted the Georgia Emmy nominated series "Atlanta Teen Talk" and most recently co-hosted a teen dance/talk show called "In Effect". He is married with children. He travels all over the United States talking to students and parents. He is an excellent public speaker. If you ever have the chance to hear him speak please do. It was a very good experience.



Wanna Get High

By: An Anonymous Mom

Hey students! Making plans for that bonfire with a keg this weekend? Maybe wondering how to get that acid in time for the concert? Finding out who's parents are going out of town so you can party there? Is that your goal for the week- how drunk or how high or how many times?

I was once told "but it's fun mom". Is it really fun to wake up in jail? Is it really fun to have your friends mad at you for things you've said or done the night before that you only vaguely remember? Is it fun to wake feeling embarrassed or ashamed, or too hung-over to go to school or work? When was the last time you truly had fun drinking? Try going to a party sober, and see what idiots your friends turn into when they are drunk or high. Is this you? Scary, isn't it?

Those, really, are minor worries. What matter if there is fear or that you hear a few angry words from parents, police, teachers or friends when the alternative may be boredom?

But, boredom does not kill- boredom does not maim.

Look at your best friend. Imagine that person broken or bleeding with

a smashed in face as a result of an alcohol or drug-related accident. Imagine being responsible for the pain, responsible for that terrible hurt. Imagine you or your best friend dead or paralyzed for life. Yes it can and possibly will happen to you. Maybe not this week. Maybe not this month. Maybe tonight. It can happen faster then it takes you to go get another beer or fill up your pipe.

Are we having fun yet? Perhaps it is way past time to redefine "fun". Do you use alcohol or drugs to cope with life- happy, sad, lonely or scared? But all your friends are drinking or smoking weed?

There are thousands of teens out there who are having fun without drugs or alcohol. Don't know any? Sober fun is only a phone call away- AA (992-0880) and NA. It's easy. Try it- you may like it. Why wait until after a tragedy strikes someone you love? Why wait until it's too late? What do you have to lose?

What do you have to gain? Your best friend's life.

And if you continue with your behavior, and you find yourself too disabled to go to the bathroom by yourself, you can bet the rest of your life on the fact that the Captain won't be there to help you- he'll be laughing all the way to the next fool who believes the Captain is his best friend.

Yes, you do have the courage to change.

What do you have to gain?



New Teacher in Mini

By: Lacey Landt

There has been a new teacher in Mini-School this fall. Ben Schultenover has been teaching Mini-School math in place of Ramona who is on maternity leave with her baby girl, Zoe.

Ben is a very experienced teacher. Before retiring the year before last, Ben had taught mainstream math at Minnetonka for 23 years, he taught 4 years in Africa, and 5 years in an alternative program at Minnetonka called School within a School {SWAS}.

In addition to teaching math in Mini, Ben went on the Mark Warren trip. He said it was an emotionally uplifting experience and was a good bonding experience with the teachers.

Ben got to know Doug and Randy when SWAS and Mini started in 1970. The three of them went on an outward bound trip to Canada that summer to prepare them to take high school kids into the wilderness. In 1974 Ben and Doug took a combined SWAS and Mini- School backpacking trip down the Grand Canyon.

Ben came back after retirement as a

favor to Mini. He has done an exceptional job considering that most Mini- School kids hate math and teaching math in Mini is nothing like teaching in Mainstream.

Thanks, Ben, for helping us out. It has been great having you here.



Calendar Drive

By Aaron Hoerst

In case you didn't know it's that time of year again, but you wouldn't know cause you don't have a calendar to remind you. That's right, the calendar drive, and its participants are very determined Mini-School students. Why? Because the sales profit goes to funding adventurous, yet educational Mini-School trips.

The \$4.00 profit (per calendar sold) goes to funding for Mini-School's educational trips (i.e. Montana Canoe Trip, Mark Warren Trip, Rum River Trip, and many more.) The money is invested into the trips in order to lower the cost to a minimum for student participants. From what I've seen in my first year in Mini-School it makes an incredible difference in price for students who might not be able to afford the recreational journeys.

The calendars come in two different variances: the desk or wall calendar. The desk (or engagement) calendar comes with an easy to interpret weather guide, daily engagement planner, and information about wildlife and vegetation. But let's not forget all of the cute, fuzzy, cuddly, adorable, little animal pictures inside as well. The wall calendar comes with a bit more information on weather including: sunrise, sunset,

average temperature, past records, astronomic information, and pages of useful and intellectual graphs and charts. Still with many pictures of animals, scenery, and vegetation. And for all those people who love to garden, there is a monthly "Gardening Tips" by Rebecca Kolls of the WCCO weather center.

The cost is \$13 each. The months that are covered are January '98 to December '98. They are a great investment and one of the best calendars I have ever seen.



"I Know What You Did Last Summer"

By: Erin Stoltz

It begins with four kids who go out and get really plastered. Then on their way home they hit some guy. Then he comes back and starts killing the kids who ran him over. The movie was terrible. It was poorly directed. The actors were no good. It needed more detail and better actors. I wouldn't recommend it.

Top Ten 80's Lists

By Geoff Boller and Maya
Diedrich

Top 10 80's Movies

10. Spinal Tap
9. Short Circuit
8. Thrashin'
7. Pretty in Pink
6. The Terminator
5. Cheech and Chong- Still Smokin'
4. The Goonies
3. Foot Loose
2. Ferris Buelers Day Off
1. Breakfast Club

80's Records

10. Metallica- Ride the Lightning
9. Billy Idol- Don't Stop
8. Skid Row-Skid Row
7. Motley Crue-Too Fast for Love
6. Metallica- Kill 'Em All
5. Guns 'n' Roses- GNR Lies
4. Beastie Boys- license to Ill
3. Motley Crue- Shout at the Devil
2. Cyndi Lauper- She's so Unusual
1. Guns 'n' Roses- Appetite for Destruction

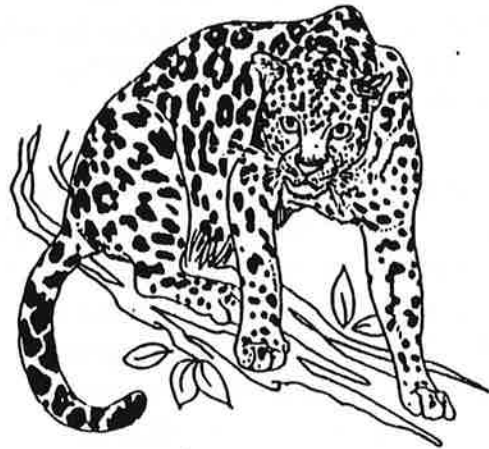
80's Singles

10. Metallica- One
9. Guns 'n' Roses- Sweet Child of Mine
8. Slayer- Rain Blood
7. Billy Idol- White Wedding
6. Motley Crue- Shout at the Devil
5. Plant Man- Plant Man

4. Cyndi Lauper- Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
3. Devo- Whip It
2. Guns 'n' Roses- Mr. Brownstone
1. Guns 'n' Roses- Welcome to the Jungle

80's Videos

10. Motley Crue- Smokin' in the Boys Room
9. Motley Crue- Live Wire
8. NIN- Head Like a Hole
7. Cyndi Lauper- Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
6. Talking Heads- Burning Down the House
5. Metallica- One
4. Billy Idol- White Wedding
3. Van Halen- Hot For Teacher
2. Guns 'n' Roses- Paradise City
1. Guns 'n' Roses- Welcome to the Jungle



Wiico

By: Aaron Sapp

I went to First Avenue on the 29th of October to see WIICO.. I've never heard of them, and I wish I would have before I went. I would have gone bowling instead.

The opening band was... I can't remember- it doesn't matter though because they were horrible. They wasted about 45 minutes singing. It didn't really bother me, because I played X-MEN:CHILDREN OF THE ATOM. When they were done, the screen dropped and music started playing.

During the intermission type time, I played a really cool pin-ball machine called Medieval Madness.

Then WIICO came out, my friend said it wasn't them, but the Love Drops, or something like that. Actually I don't know who it was, but they stunk .

The concert was a real big waste of my time, and I would have rather gone league bowling.

CD Review

By: Mike Ennis

Megadeth Cryptic writings

As far as an older metal group coming back, Megadeth's new effort puts Metallica's load {of crap} to shame. Although it's hard to compare their new music to their old, I still like their old music better. So if you're a Megadeth fan you'll enjoy Cryptic Writings.

The Doors Box Set

The Doors Box Set is a 4 cd set of non stop kick a@# music. This set has all their classic hits, some of which are unreleased, live recordings from multiple concerts. The best part is this set has the Doors first new songs since the early seventies of L.A Woman. This is the essential piece of any Doors fan. If you're still reading this go to the store and buy it now.

S.C.O.T.S

By: Aaron Sapp

The people danced and threw fried chicken around. They played for a little over an hour. All in all it was a good show.

On October 8th, I went to First Avenue to see Southern Culture On the Skids. I had heard them on Jay Leno one summer night, and bought their album. They play hill billy alternative(stuff about fried chicken and flies).

The opening band was the Magnatones.. they played alternative music, and were pretty good. They played for 30-40 minutes. When they finished, they got off stage and talked to people.. There was about a 45 minute intermission before S.C.O.T.S came out.

During this time I played X-men: Children of the Atom, while my friend picked up on two girls.

Finally Southern Culture On The Skids came out. The lead singer, and also guitar player was wearing overalls, with an old red beat up chevy hat on. The female Bassist was wearing a dress, with her hair up in a beehive. The drummer played the drums while standing, and smoked a cigar.

They talked a little about how great it was to be here, then played songs. During the last 4 or 6 songs, they asked people to join them on stage. So about five did.



Untitled

By the Lizard King.

The leaves are falling in the wind
the face through the space wears a
familiar grin, the clouds still floating
over head, As if to pay tribute to the
dead. As darkness comes and eats
the light, the face is gone now out of
sight. The constant pounding in my
head, the trip set in, my visions dead.

Untitled

By: Kristina Petron

TAKE ME TO THE LAND UNKNOWN-
WHERE THE LAVA SMOOTHLY
FLOWS
WHERE THE FLAMES RISE ABOVE-
SOARING AS HIGH AS A BEAUTIFUL
DOVE
COLORS ARE BLACK-
SHADOWS ABOVE-
DEMONS RACING THROUGH MY
LOVE
HATE THROWN THROUGH ME SO
STRONGLY KNOWN-
THE ANGELS SURROUNDIN' WHERE
NEVER SHOWN

I

By: unknown author

I am person
so clear, so free
I am what's possible
between you and me
I am just someone
both good and bad
I am so pathetic
it makes me sad
I can be empty
without a love
I am so gifted
falling high above
I am so lonely
at this moment in time
Yet, I am so focused
to walk down this line.

Higher Powers

by Audrey Lopez.

fellow peace,
follow me.
brilliant minds,
creating everything.
perfect builders,
of all this greatness.
just true reality
bringing me...
beauty.

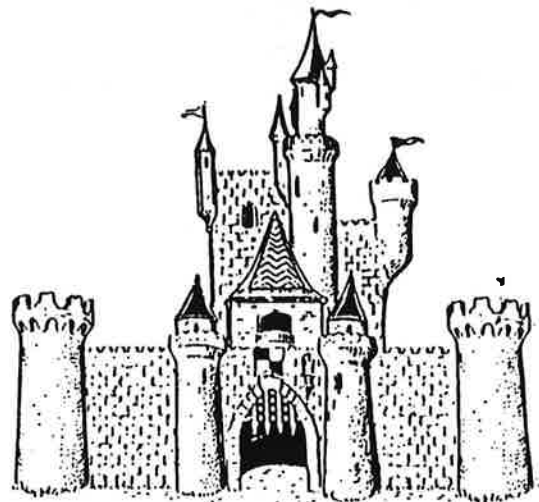
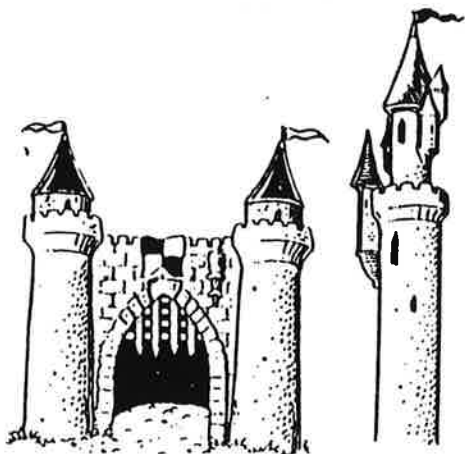
Untitled

By: Rachel Larson

Stepping into the light
seeing all
No lies
All truth
blinding reality
the burning heat
overpowering flames
beams of light show the paths of
destiny
overwhelming consious minds
shadows creep and crawl
confusion sets in
darkness to all
once lost, now found
within ones self
fear turns to comfort
alone in the black
beauty more stunning than any eyes
have ever seen
without worries
the pure peace of happiness
not wanting
not looking
standing still, but always moving
together forever
and now alone
content.....shameless.....beloved
feeling.....sleeping through eternity.

"When your spirit cries for peace,
come to a world of canyons deep in an
old land. Feel the exultation of high
plateaus, the strength of moving water,
the simplicity of sand and grass, and the
science of growth."

-August Frute-



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Address Correction Requested

Rus-ti-cate: to go to or live in the country; 1. to send away to reflect. 2. (chiefly Brit.) to suspend (a student) from a university.

(Just a little reminder of Mini for some of you . . .)