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FALL 2000

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# 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 (952) 401-5920.



**"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**

**Pauline Engelby**

And they're off! Another year in Mini-School has begun.

I feel sometimes that we never really ended. The summer break has come and gone with the blink of an eye. Mini-School seems like one continuous year with some seniors diligently, anxiously trying to complete graduation requirements into the summer, and us preparing for the return of our many veteran students. But there is always time for fun. The Mini-School staff got together for a 2 day workshop put on by MAAP (Minnesota Association of Alternative Programs). Teachers themselves are a unique breed of extroverted entertainment oriented people; alternative educators are that, plus! It was great to see all the support for alternative education across the state.

I spent my free time enjoying my two small children with my husband Jason. Samantha is now 1 1/2, and Alex is 4 years old. We had a great summer playing at the parks and beaches. Sam is quickly becoming the family comedian and Alex will probably make a fine teacher herself someday. She has begun practicing on her guinea pig, Lucky; her cat, Nick; and the two Beta-fish, Ashly, and Jewel.

The big news for Ramona this summer was that she obtained her Masters' Degree in Work, Family, and Community Education. Way to go Ramona! When she wasn't working on her Masters' paper or the Independent Study she was able to spend time with her family vacationing in Lutsen. Zachary has begun first grade at Clear Springs Elementary and Zorina is still anxiously waiting her turn to be off to school.

Merlin and his wife, Laurie, were able to get away to the bikers' mecca in Sturgis, South Dakota, and drove to Atlanta to see Laurie's family. When Merlin wasn't spending time with his wife and son, Willy, he spent his summer free time playing the drums in his bagpipe band, the Minnesota Pipes and Drums.

Paul also spent time traveling this summer in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area with his family, friends, and his dog, Jackson. He was able to spend some time with his nephews teaching them the skills to survive in the back country. He also worked hard at his second profession, which is tree trimming and was a great help to me in developing one of my new teaching blocks on the different species of trees in the Midwest.

The newest member of the Mini staff is Kim Weimer. Kim comes to us all the way from Dallas, Texas. There she worked as a stay at home mom and a volunteer in the pre-school at her local church. Kim and her husband, Tom, have two sons, Jacob (11), and Kevin (7). Kim works in the Mini-School office as our para-professional, so be sure to welcome her when you get her on the phone.

The fall trip line up began with the traditional Mark Warren trip in Grantsburg, Wisconsin. Mark is a naturalist from Georgia and works with the kids in a very unique way to get them in touch with the earth, and with themselves. Doug Berg and Paul Gerten facilitated the trip, which was comprised of two groups of students. Group 1 included Billy Knight, Carl Poulsen, John Grambsch, Nichole Huddleston, Monica Williams, Josh Boudreau, PJ Davis, and Marc Cohen. Group 2 consisted of Krissy Valdez, Josh Reisgies, Katie Juneau, Kevin Witte, Alexis Montemayer, Natalie Evans, Zach Hobbs, Keri Allen, and April Brown.

The highlight of this year's trip was that everyone was able to make fire from the basswood tree. The kids brushed up on their tracking and stalking skills along with their hunting and gathering techniques. The week culminated in the traditional sweat lodge ceremony on an island in the St. Croix River.

Shortly after their return preparation for the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore Trip, which was a seven day hiking trip, led by Paul. The seven participants were John Grambsch, Josh Boudreau, Jenny Blankenship, James Froemming, Andy Sheats, John Hunter, and Andrew Bernstein. The kids and Paul hiked out of Grand Marais Michigan destined for Munising. As in the Mini-School spirit they hiked through the unique geology of the Upper Peninsula in the cold and sleet barely escaping a nine inch snowfall in Marquette. The group returned back to school with a great attitude. We're proud of all the kids. They did a great job!

Currently Merlin and I are gearing up for the traditional pre-Thanksgiving stomach-stretching Grantsburg Hike. We are working hard at rallying a group together for the eighteen mile hike that will take place the fifteenth and sixteenth of November.

Back at the home front, mid-quarter has come and gone. Seniors are working fast and furious toward graduation; juniors and sophomores are concerning themselves with graduation standards and social events. Our own Mike Bromme was nominated to the Homecoming Court and we had a great time cheering him on (way to go Mike!). We also have 30 new kids in the program and the staff is working diligently at instilling in the kids a sense of Mini-School history and philosophy.

Lastly we will be beginning our annual sale of the WCCO Freshwater Foundation Weather Calendar sale. We are all hoping for another year of record breaking sales, so contact your nearest Mini-School kid or give us a call and we'll be glad to send a kid your way. Thanks for all of your support throughout the years. We're looking forward to hearing from all of our alumni and friends.

## Alumni News

Many alumni from Mini-School have contacted us over the summer. Here are some updates.

Scott Hedke (class of '95) stopped to visit in early June of 2000, after having completed 4 1/2 years in the U. S. Navy. With him and his wife, Satsuki, a native of Yokahama, Japan, was their son, a very interested and engaging boy named Samuel Joshua. He was born on November 9, 1999. The Hedtke family was planning a summer move to Jacksonville, Florida.

Jesse Steinwand, class of '99, is going to school at Normandale right now, but is considering a transfer to Alexandria Technical College where he will study law enforcement.

Tony DeSantis, a graduate from the late '70's now has a son who is in Randy Nelson's Work Experience class. (Randy says TJ is a great kid.)

Coreena Schulz attended Mini-School in 99-00. She is going to cosmetology school soon.

Keith (Pugsley) Bartram, class of '94, sent the following e-mail to Mini-School:  
After Keith's discharge from the U. S. Navy in March of 1997, he has been spotted at such businesses as Fleet Maintenance in Eden Prairie working as a diesel mechanic, William's Towing in Excelsior, and now finally an association management company called the ARDEL group. Keith is currently working at both the ARDEL group as a Marketing Consultant and part-time at a local Target, as security. Keith's full time job as a Marketing Consultant puts him in a position where he is in charge of maintaining and expanding vast databases, selling exhibition space, advertising in client publications, internet visibility, and membership development. The ARDEL group also keeps him busy with sending him to various other trade shows across the United States in hopes of expanding his current client and trade show lists, and databases. Keith feels that he has finally found his niche in the career world, and is looking to be the first person to sell a MacIntosh to Bill Gates and a 1/2 pound all beef burger to a vegetarian. He is currently residing in Excelsior, and his son, who is 2 1/2 years old, is living in Illinois with his mother.

Matt (Meatball) Richards, class of '93, attends the University of Southern Oregon. His major is Astronomical Physics, and according to Dad, he lives for homework! He was recently named to the faculty Dean's List and received a scholarship from NASA.

Bill Gallagher, who attended 98-99, is going to HTC for Electronics. He works for UPS and, due to the physical nature of this job, likes going for a massage on occasion.

Colin Davis, a late '90's attendee, is a roadie for Laurie Line & the Pop Chain Orchestra, and is travelling quite a lot.

Rob Ayotte, who attended Mini-School in '92-'93, is teaching art classes at Minnetonka Institute of Art. He's also taking classes and doing freelance artwork. He says get in touch with him if you need anything artistic.

Missy Quaas, a '99 graduate, had a real-life adventure recently. She used her Mini-School trip skills in Louisiana, where she lives, when she and her friends got lost in the woods. Close to heat exhaustion and plenty tired, Missy led the group back to civilization. Now they do it the way she says from the start!

Mike Ayotte, class of '99, is assisting in shipping and receiving at Data Metalcraft. In his spare time, he "varmint hunts" with Dad in North Dakota and shoots skeet.

Kortnie Hanson, class of '98, is working at Gina Maria's with Kyle, and she starts her modeling career on January 1 with Karen International.

Dave (Zyt) Zytkoskee, '94 graduate, has been back from Wisconsin for a while. He's a mobile DJ (does weddings) so keep him in mind if you need someone to play tunes.

The Johnstons have a new house. Brad, who graduated in '80, and Joanne, our para-professional who you might say "graduated" with Doug and Randy in 1999, recently bought a little tiny cabin on top of a really tall hill just a few blocks from where they used to live in northern Minnetrista. Joanne says if you want to give them a call or visit, that probably means she would like to hear from you. Here's their new address & phone:

5685 North Arm Drive  
Minnetrista, MN 55364  
952-472-4620

## Readers Comment

**Ellen Sommer**  
**Media Specialist MHS**

I enjoyed the last issue of Com-Mini-Cations as I did the one before that. Someone always puts one in my mailbox. Thanks, and please keep doing that. I always read it.

**Dan Jett**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

Dear Mini School Students and Staff,  
Thanks for the year-end edition of Com-Mini-Cations. Your publications this year have been consistently great and I have enjoyed each and every one of them. I look forward to further Com-Mini-Cations next year and an opportunity to read what our Mini School students have to say.

## Arkansas Trip

**Jessica Turner and Nate Paulson**

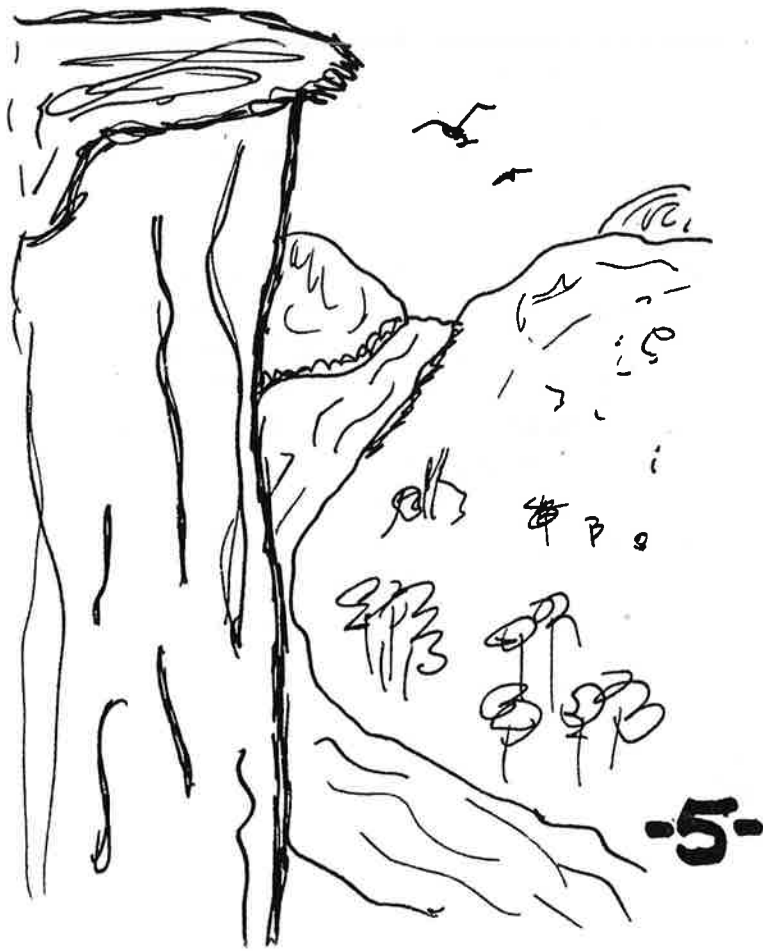
**Editors Note:** As the school year came to a close last year, there was a lot happening in Mini-School. When we got the year end Com-Mini-Cations ready to go to the presses, we had mistakenly left out the article about the Arkansas Buffalo River Trip (April 9 - 20). We wanted to be sure our readers got to hear about this trip, so here is the article, a little late, but definitely full of enthusiasm.

This April, 11 Mini Schoolers and two teachers took a trip to Arkansas. The teachers were Doug Berg and Paul Gerten, and the students were Andy Sheats, Tim Miller, Nate Paulson, Andy Black, Nick Merchant, Jenny Ertz, Jessi Eiden, JJ Day, Jessica Turner, Bill Goudy, and Justin Ponter.

It was a 5:00 a.m. wake up call on a cold Sunday morning with the sun barely peeping over the horizon. Everyone had to meet at 6:00 a.m. at Perkins. We were all on time, just sleepy eyed (a few kids with growling bellies, waking up too late). We were on the road within a half an hour. Doug was playing his usual folk music, while the kids were trying to get some shut eye. Nick, however, was in back listening to his head phones. We happened to see an old Mini-Schooler at a gas station stop, Craig Schrupp. He wanted to follow us to Arkansas, but decided otherwise, since he didn't have any equipment.

We drove all day to Knob Noster State Park in Missouri. We ate Dinty Moore beef stew for dinner, and afterwards, Doug had school with us and gave everyone a brief description of the trip. Even though we just drove all day the kids were tired and everyone went to bed early that night.

The next morning, Doug and Paul treated us to the Hometown Cafe, where you can find the biggest pancakes you'll ever see. They're two inches thick, and two feet wide! Everybody ordered pancakes with everything you could imagine on the side. Even though our waitress warned us that you should only order one pancake at a time, nobody lished. JJ was the



closest to finishing his shortstack: only two bites away. Poor Nate and Tim, were grunting and groaning all day. While Nick decided to save his pancake for later, Paul and Tim threw it away when Nick wasn't looking.

After breakfast, we were headed towards Steel Creek, Arkansas. (We had a late lunch, because nobody was hungry.) This place is really beautiful. It's down in a valley, and the campsites are right next to the river. There's a huge bluff on one side of the river, and a big meadow and hills behind the campground. Everyone liked that place. Justin claimed he found an armadillo, so half of the kids were running around looking for armadillos.

The next day we went on a hike to Lost Valley, a really pretty place where an ancient amphitheater sits underneath a huge hill. There we climbed up the hill to a cave with a waterfall in it. At first some people got scared, because we had to crawl on our hands and knees for some time and there were tiny bats hanging just above our heads. It was worth it! You enter a huge room that's pitch black, and there's this small waterfall pouring right above your head. It sounds really loud because it's trapped in a room. Everyone loved that hike.

At dinner, Doug taught us about vultures. If you get too close to them they'll puke on you.

The fourth day we had home made oatmeal for breakfast. No, not the packets! We went on a long hike, and here are some of the highlights: Jessie got a turkey feather from some hunters (our good luck charm the rest of the trip), Big Bluff where you can see for miles, Granny's Cabin where you can see what Ozark life used to be like, Hempden Hollow which is very beautiful, and everyone getting lost!! It was a tough day, but very beautiful.

The fifth day of the trip was the first day of canoeing. Doug and Paul packed up all of our gear and drove to the ending spot. We were only

going to canoe with our day packs that day. And that was a good thing, because four out of seven canoes did sink. The first to go were Sheats and Paulson. They went through the first set of real rapids and got stuck on a rock. The canoe had so much pressure on it, that it bent in half. So we named that canoe Captain Crease. Second were Tim and Ertz. They got stuck on a rock sideways, and their canoe started to flood, so they stepped out of the canoe and dragged it to shore. The third and fourth swamps happened in a stretch of really long rapids. Jessie and JJ went first, went too far to the right, and got attacked by the trees. (Nobody was expecting that one.) Bill and Jessica were the next runners up, and did the same exact thing, except that they lost the canoe and had to go chasing after it. The swampers were all happy to get to camp and put on dry clothes. Now that's a luxury!

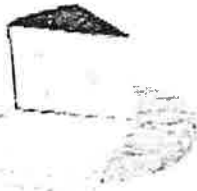
One night Doug wanted to camp on the sand bar in the river. We set up camp, ate, and decided to sleep out under the stars. Well, that was a bad idea. At about 3:30 or 4:00 a.m. it started to pour! We got the tents set up and went back to sleep. We slept on a sand bar another night as well, but had to problems.

Well the last day on the river we had a pretty easy day. We didn't have that far to go, we kept our spirits high and enjoyed all the beauty and pristine wilderness around us. The next day we packed up and hit the road. We slept most of the way home.

The first day on the river was very difficult. We were trying to get used to canoeing with each other which took some time and patience. We suffered some low spirits, and we had good times. One evening we were assigned to say something good about every one on the trip. This was not always easy; it's hard to put that into words sometimes, but we all did all right as a group. Arkansas was great!

# Got Cheese

Ryan McCullough



A survey of Minnetonka High School's favorite cheese. Two hundred and seventy five students were asked out of the 82 most common cheeses what their favorite was. With 28% Cheddar takes the gold medal!

Cheddar is the most widely purchased and eaten cheese in the world. Cheddar cheeses were originally made in England, however today they are manufactured in many countries all over the world. Fully cured Cheddar is a hard, natural cheese. It is shaped like a drum, 15 inches in diameter, with natural rind bound in cloth. Normally, the color of Cheddar ranges from white to pale yellow. Some Cheddars, however, have a color added, giving the cheese a yellow-orange color. Cheddar is always made from cow's milk and has a slightly crumbly texture if properly cured. If the cheese is too young, the texture is smooth. Cheddar gets a sharper taste the longer it matures. It is generally matured between 9 and 24 months. The important thing in purchasing Cheddar is to consider the age of the cheese.

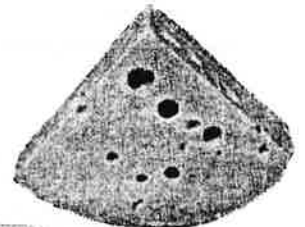
Milk is heated to 86 degrees F and inoculated with a lactic starter culture. After an hour rennet is added. When the curd is firm, it is ground down to marble-sized bits which are heated to 100 degrees F. The whey is discarded and it is sliced into slabs. The curd is pressed overnight and stands for 4 days in a cool atmosphere. Unlike other well-known cheeses, Cheddar's name is not protected so it has been used and abused by many producers around the world.

Country: England  
Milk: Cow Milk  
Texture: Semi-hard  
Fat Content: 48%



# Number of Votes

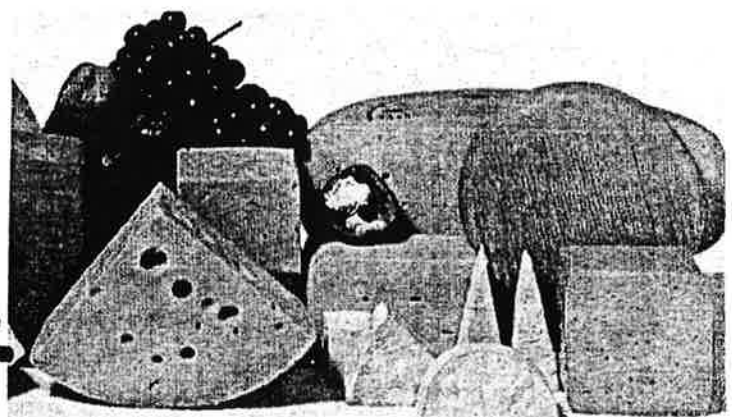
1. Cheddar: 78
2. Mozzarella: 45
3. Munster: 25
4. Parmesan: 22
5. Monterey Jack: 14
6. Cream Cheese: 12
7. Swiss: 10
8. Asiago: 9
9. Brie: 9
10. Provolone: 9
11. Gouda: 8
12. Cottage Cheese: 5
13. Jarlsberg: 4
14. Feta: 3
15. Gorgonzola: 3
16. Taleggio: 3
17. Blue Cheese: 2
18. Crottin de Chavignol: 2
19. Ricotta: 2
20. Tete-de-Moine: 2
21. Bossons Maceres: 1
22. Brick: 1
23. Edam: 1
24. Gruyere: 1
25. Neufchatel: 1
26. Romano: 1
27. Surati: 1
28. Weissacker: 1



I can't live without my cheese!"



-7-





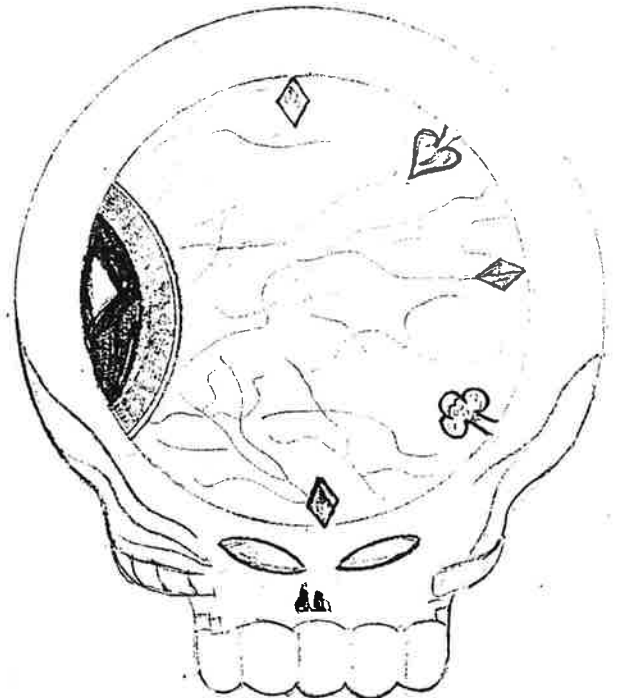
# Harmony Park

Kari Opheim

Harmony Park is a piece of land in Geneva, MN. The man who owns it used to travel around following the Grateful Dead. When Jerry Garcia died, he started Harmony Park so people could carry on or still "have the vibe" that the Grateful Dead concerts had.

Harmony Park opens about four or five times in the summer. The Third Stone (a store in Uptown Minneapolis) helps him put on concerts by selling the tickets, getting the bands, and advertising for him. Since he owns the land he allows everyone to camp right there, which kind of brings everybody together.

I went to Harmony Park for the first time this year. It was the last concert until next Spring. It was called Harvest Fest. There were a bunch of bands such as: The Big Wu, The Big Tasty, Pua Fua, Wookie Foot, Jones Gang, and more. They played on a Friday and Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. There was a Third Stone booth and food booths. I would have to say that it was by far the best concert I've been to and I'll for sure be going back next year.



## Super Senior Interview:

### Jeana Doescher

Interviewed by Keri Allen

Questions by Aaron Sapp

Q: Why are you still here?

A: 'Cause I didn't graduate.

Q: What do you want to do with you life?

A: Go to college, get a job.

Q: Do you party alot?

A: It comes and goes.

Q: What was your favorite Mini-School trip?

A: The 2000 Summer School Trip.

Q: Does it piss you off that your a super senior?

A: Yes...no, not really, sure.

Q: Who was your favorite Teacher?

A: Doug.

Q: Favorite class?

A: Com-mini-cations.

Q: Favorite student?

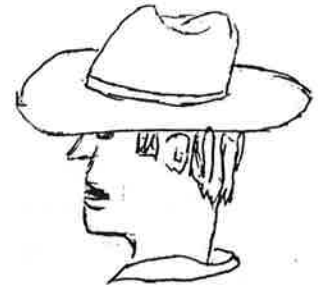
A: Geoff Boller.

Q: Is Andy Sheats cool?

A: No

Q: Is he Nice?

A: He can be, but only when he wants something.



### Lima Beans

Nicole Huddleston

Do you know about Lima beans? Well, I am going to talk about them, because not a lot of people care for them, and I do. Yes, I would agree, they are a nasty little bean, but they do serve a good purpose. One purpose is they are a good source of fiber. Another is that they are fun to glue on something to make it look better. You also can grow them. You now are wondering, what is the point of this article.

Well, I think it is a logical subject to debate about, and people need to know! The public has a right to know about Lima beans, and I am here to tell them. They do serve a purpose, they feed the hungry ( the really desperate). They reproduce into more Lima beans. They make good trade, and they are artistic little beans too.

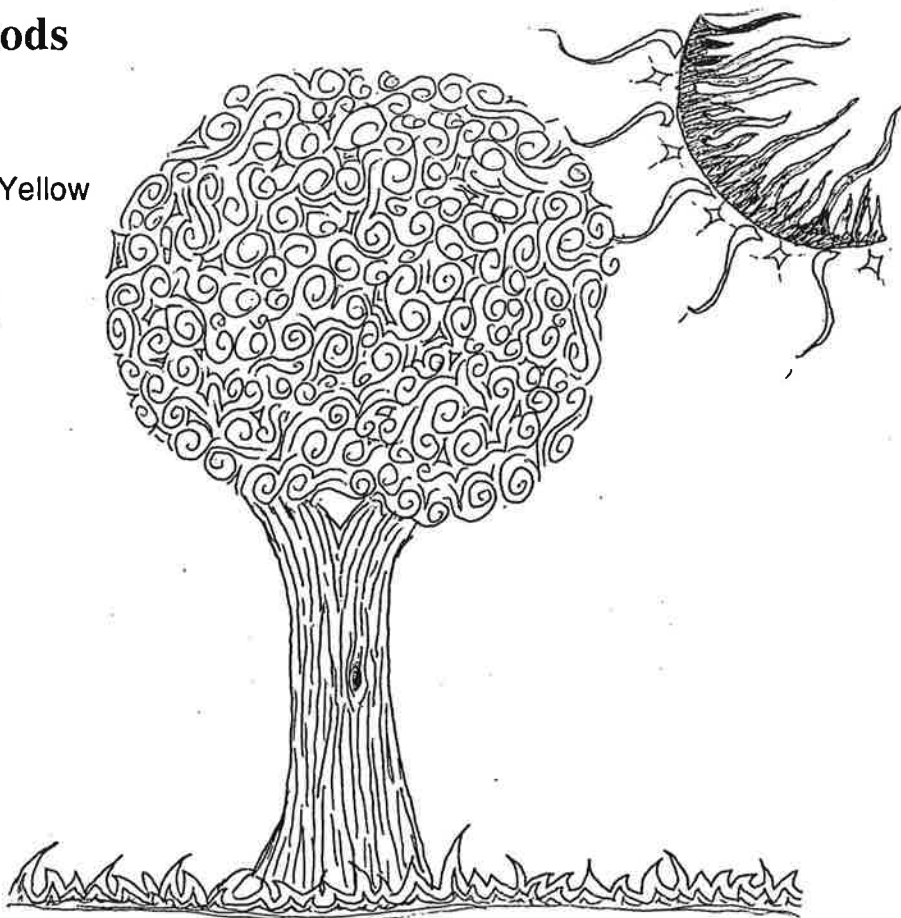
So, I am here to tell everyone, Lima beans make me angry and it's a sensitive subject. Lima beans grow in pods (I think) and can be hairy. Don't fret! They are healthy hairs. Lima beans are a type of nut. A nut that's great for all occasions such as: recreation, going out to eat, parties, and becoming sober.

So eat up! Or throw up! The beans are back to the public for re-integration.

## The Flowers in the Woods

Kevin Witte

Oh so pretty are you  
How many colors? Red, Purple, Yellow  
and Blue too  
With your pedals so bright  
Stems so sweet  
I truly adore the  
wonder that is you.



## Untitled

Monica Williams

Just recently you came for help and I  
wanted to be there for you, today you ran  
away from me and I keep seeing you try.  
Though all I know is going slow, Not quite  
right and so I... feel that you could come  
back to me for some reason not known, in  
the heavens where you stay, can you see  
my go that way.  
For the very first time I see the clouds and  
through the gates I pray...  
to see you again.  
Marble gates surround you and when you  
look down my way I pray... To see you  
again and go your way... and be there for  
you... My only true love

# The Tri-Athalon

Kristina Petron

Well, this year it was a bit more like a bi-athalon. Our trip had to relocate to White Water State Park due to another group of alternative school kids who misbehaved. Because of those kids we could not go white water rafting this year. I think it is very unfair.

Anyway, the trip included Pauline and Merlin for the teachers and Jeana Doescher, Andrea LaDouceur, Jessica Johnson, Justin Ponter, Andre McDonald, and Kristina Petron for the students. I believe that the group worked very well together. There weren't really any big arguments.

Our first day we went to Mystery Cave near Preston MN. It was very interesting. We learned all about bats stalagmites, stalagmites, soda straws, and how each was created. Our tour was about an hour long and very interesting.

On the second day we woke up early, ate breakfast, packed our lunches and off we went. We biked 36 miles that day. We began at Lanesboro then biked through Walen, Preston and our destination was Rushford. In Rushford there was a big auction that people came to from all over to go to. That is where we had our first encounter with the Amish. Everyone seemed to be intrigued by them.

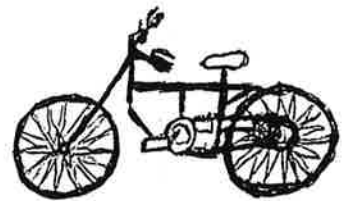
The bike ride was on a beautiful trail along the Root River, until it started to downpour. I have two pieces of advice for anyone that plans on going on this trip, no, make that three. Bring a rain jacket, water proof everything, and make sure your bike seat is soft and comfortable. By the end of the bike ride I thought that my butt was broken and I was soaked.

That night it rained so hard that we got flooded out of our campground early in the morning. The river was flooded every where. There were even highways closed due to the flooding. Since we couldn't go bike riding we decided to find more Amish people but first we went to breakfast at Del's Cafe. After breakfast we drove for about an hour, maybe longer, to a town called Harmony. There was an Amish market in Harmony. Jessica and Jeana were excited to see the study Amish men, but when we got there there wasn't one in sight. We later learned that it was Ascention Day. None of the Amish work on that religious holiday. I'm not really sure what Ascention Day is, but I think it has something to do with Easter. After that that we decided just to go home.

Overall , our trip wasn't that great because of all of the rain, but I would still recommend it to anyone because I can see how it would be a lot of fun with no rain.



Spring  
2000  
Trip



## Job Survey

Jobs are a major part of most Mini-Schoolers' lives. Here are some of the jobs in Mini this year

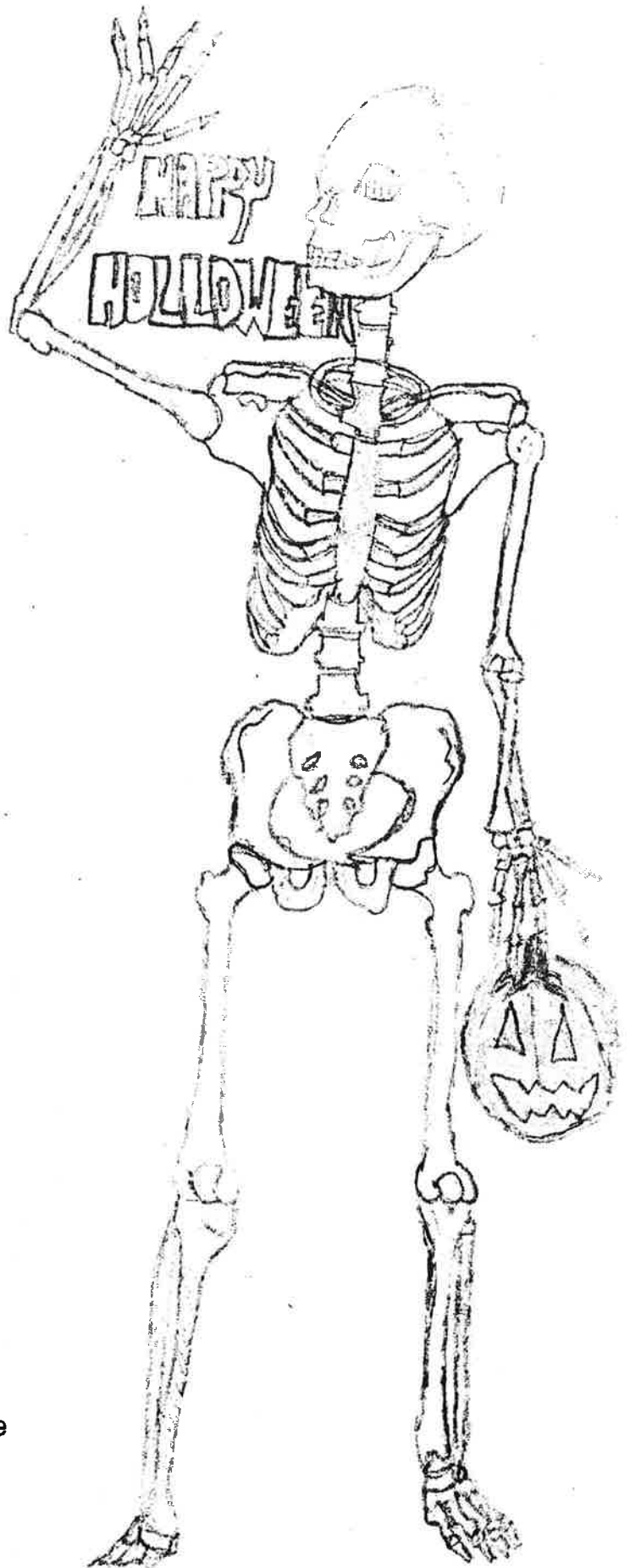
1. Career Cleaners - Jeana Doescher
2. Hopkins Bowl - Ryan McCullough
3. Coopers - Aaron Sapp, Kevin Witte
4. Great Clips - Nikki Huddleston
5. Camp Coffee - Monica Williams
6. Minnetonka Country Club - Zach Hobbs
7. Grays Bay Marina - Dusty Mahn
8. McDonalds - James Froemming
9. Heartland America - Jenny Blankenship
10. Maynards - Jen Pettit
11. Oasis Market - Andy Sheats
12. Aldo Inc. - Kari Opheim
13. No job . . . yet - Billy Knight

## My Job

Alex Peden

My job is working at Valvoline Instant Oil Change, also known as V.I.O.C. It's an automobile oil change place, if you didn't know. We mostly do oil changes.

I've worked there for over a year now. I started as a normal tech, then I worked my way up to senior tech. I am able to do everything in the store now. My role at Valvoline is upper management so its kinda cool. Working there is a fun job but its not going to be a career for me. It's a job for me until I get a real job.



# MTX

Aaron Sapp

On Sunday September 24th, I went to the North Star Ballroom to see the Lookout! Freakout tour. The three bands representing Lookout! Records were The Eyeliners, American Steel and The Mr. T Experience.

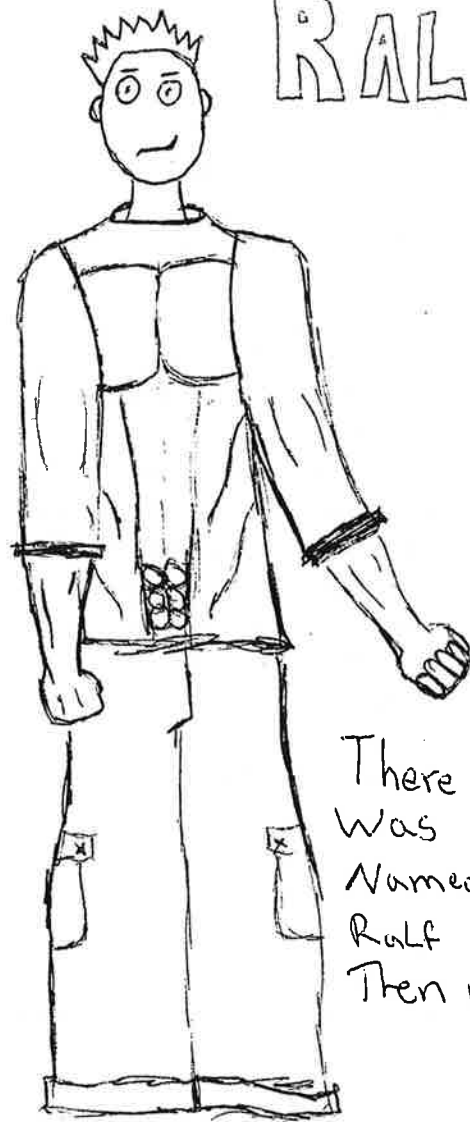
I have been a big fan of MTX (Mr. T Experience) for a long time now, and I had only seen them once. I missed them last year due to deer camp, so I was really excited to see them.

The opening band was an all girl band, The Eyeliners. I had never heard of them before, but they played really well. I think the guitar player and bass player were sisters, and the drummer did a really swell job playing and singing at the same time.

The second band was American Steel. I had bought the Lookout! Freakout CD, and fell in love with their song "Got A Backbeat". They consist of two guitar players, a bass player, and a drummer. They played for maybe half an hour. They played fast, and hard punk rock. I enjoyed them.

Finally at exactly 9:00 pm, Doctor Frank (the guitar player for MTX) came out with Jim the drummer, and their new bassist Gabe. Like the last time I saw them, Doctor Frank started out by saying "This song's about a girl." They played a lot of older songs such as "Let's be Together Tonight," "More than Toast," and "Velveeta." They played a few off their new EP too, and I liked their newer stuff better than their last CD. This concert was what I'd hoped for and more.

# RALF



There Once  
Was a Boy  
Named Ralf.  
Ralf Liked Drugs.  
Then He died.

Mini-Schoolers  
4 a Drug Free  
America.



RAVEN

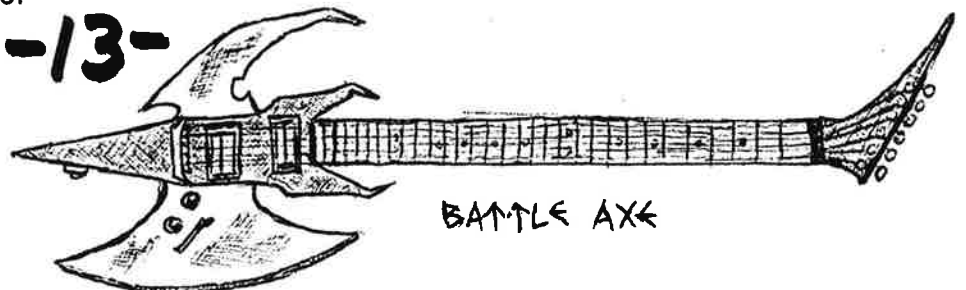
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# MJOLNIR

GUITARS

BY!

Tony Anasco



BATTLE AXE

# dave matthews band Summer Tour 2000

James Lundell

This summer the dave matthews band toured the U.S. before the realese of their upcoming album. Frontman Dave Matthews told me before the first of two shows at Soldier Field in Chicago, "We like to test our new songs on tour before we release them on an album. The way our songs change from night to night is a reflection on how the fans like them. If we see a lot of fans up dancing around, we'll play them louder, if we see they are just chilling we'll just chill." I made it to three shows on this tour, June 29 and 30 at Soldier Field and August 19 at Alpine Valley Music Theatre in East Troy Wisconsin. Out of the three shows I think the best was the first night at Soldier Field. I have never seen or heard a better show.

This is the set list from June 29 at Soldier Field:

#41  
Warehouse  
What Would You Say  
The Song That Jane Likes  
Watchtower  
Grey Street  
Don't Drink The Water  
Say Goodbye  
Lie In Our Graves  
Bartender  
#36  
JTR (John The Revalator)  
Diggin' a Ditch  
Stay  
Two Step  
Drive In Drive Out

The second night at Soldier Field dmb was joint by soul legend, Al Green. Al joined the band for the filming of the upcoming I-MAX movie "All Access," which also features

artists like Trey Anastasio from Phish, and Carlos Santana. Al Green joined the band on stage for the song "Take Me To The River". The second night was a good show, but it not nearly as long as the first night. The band played many new tunes such as, "Sweet Up & Down," "Grace Is Gone," "JTR," "Long Black Veil," and my favorite, "Grey Street." The most un-expected thing of the night was Dave's 15 minute guitar solo on "Jimi Thing."

The new album is expected to be released in November and is rumored to be titled "Busted Stuff." There are also many rumors that dmb will play two nights at the Metro Dome this winter. For up to date information on tour dates and dmb news, visit [www.DMBML.com](http://www.DMBML.com).



## True Feelings

Ryan M.

I step back, away from this world and look around. What I see is a hell that is covered with amercrombie and daddy's money. I want to cry but I can't because I don't know what's worse, the fact that makes this a horrible place, the denial which covers it up, the ignorance that doesn't believe it's here, or the fact that I can't do anything about it.

## Separate Ways

Monica Williams

Go your way and I'll go mine  
Do you have feelings  
Can you see  
The way you make me feel  
I sit in my world  
And close you out  
I'll be alright someday  
But not today  
Because you're the one  
Who ran away  
And left me all alone  
To face my fears  
And live through this  
Hell you've kept me in  
Just knock me down  
And run away  
You are strong  
As you crumble to pieces  
I am weak  
And laying under the rubble  
Find away to say  
How you feel  
Or I know we'll see each other  
Like no other  
When we meet someday  
In the great beyond  
In some next life  
In a world not our own  
And the void will be there  
Forever



## My Mistake...?

Nikki Huddleston

Your touch  
Is not to love  
But as to want  
As you lay  
Your perfect hands  
Upon my breasts  
You can hold me  
But you can't love me

Your words were  
As rocks that  
Lay upon  
The ground  
That only  
Made the sound  
Echo in my ear

Your love is  
Hidden within  
Amongst some years  
So it's time to  
Tell me so  
Is it not love  
That moves you  
To and fro?

I can grab  
your eyes  
Lock them with mine  
Is honesty  
Forbidden?  
I need a sign

I tell you  
I love you  
But those words  
I see shatter  
And you step on  
Them as if the dirt  
Were in your  
Fingernails

I see you  
Are not to love  
But to have

My mistake?  
Was to  
Give



## Anti-U Anti-Me

Doc Sapp

You don't have anything good to say about anything  
You don't think anything good about anyone  
You don't feel great about being here  
So why don't you pack your bags and get the Hell Out...



## Rivers Of Poo

Christina Youngren

For a long time in Mini-School the environment has been an important issue. Doug and Randy's trips, filled with Earth-friendly info and teachings, are a mainstay of any Mini-Schooler's memories. Right now, there's a big problem with our water that not many people know about.

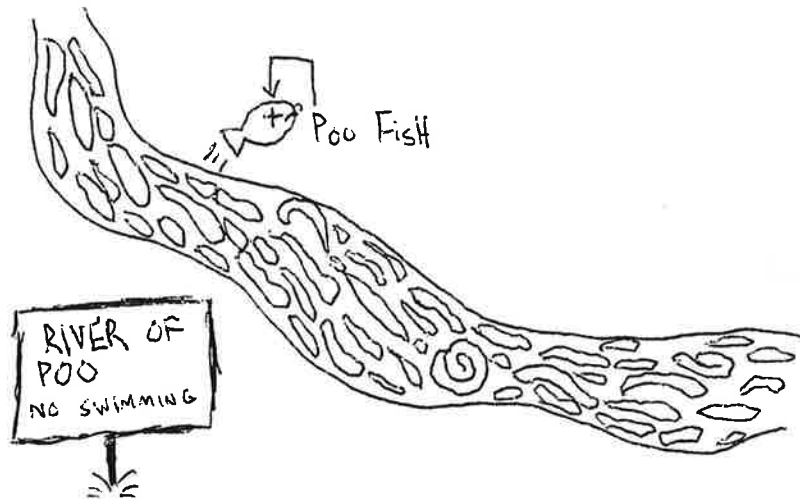
Huge corporate animal farms, or factory feed lots, are the worst water polluters in Minnesota. What they are doing is accidentally, or purposely, dumping hog manure in lakes and rivers, killing all the fish and putting anybody who drinks it at huge risk. They have as many as 70,000 pigs, and that's a lot of manure: 3 times as much as a human per pig. They store it in huge pits called lagoons, which can get as big as 10 acres.

Instead of properly disposing of it, some feed lots have been caught deliberately putting manure straight in our water, just so they don't have to pay for it. On top of that, the gases from the manure pits are so strong and dangerous that people have miscarried and gotten extremely ill just from the smell. They even get government money, or tax dollars to clean up the many manure spills, even though they have enough of their own money to lobby with billions in Washington.

The laws that are supposed to protect us from them aren't enforced, so they get rich and we get sick. Right now, most of the problems are in southern Minnesota but if they get their way any feed lot, farmer, logger, or miner could dump whatever they wanted, and not get in trouble. They are lobbying to get rid of part of the Clean Water Act, the law protecting us, so they can have their profits.

Lots of groups in Minnesota are fighting back, like Clean Water Action Alliance and the Isaac Walton League, by going door to door telling people and organizing and doing studies to see how the feed lots really are. The national law is under attack, and we'll be the ones to pay.

Contact your local legislator and let them know how you feel about this, or contact CWAA, Sierra Club, or IWL to get involved. Our water is too valuable to fill with manure.



# Halloween word find

BOO!



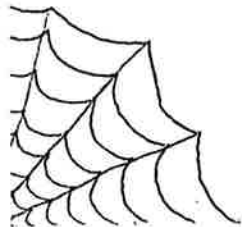
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G	H	O	S	T	K	E	V	K	U	M	N	F	P	Q	U	I	J
Y	H	O	L	T	S	R	J	W	I	T	C	H	E	S	N	J	A
Z	G	M	U	A	R	A	I	A	F	E	C	B	G	H	T	D	C
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J	Z	T	N	W	B	K	A	S	T	S	R	Q	P	O	D	O	O
E	K	I	S	X	C	E	K	N	P	V	H	K	L	M	H	N	L
H	L	C	E	X	D	N	O	G	U	I	I	J	M	N	O	S	A
A	M	K	V	B	E	S	F	O	T	P	D	Z	L	R	U	Q	T
L	D	C	L	X	W	T	G	B	W	X	Y	E	D	C	S	T	E
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E	D	S	A	E	F	W	X	Y	S	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	C
N	Q	R	W	Z	V	A	M	P	I	R	E	S	A	C	D	E	B

Boo  
Broomstick  
Candy  
Ghost  
Goblins

Halloween  
Haunted House  
Jackolaterns  
monsters  
Pumpkin

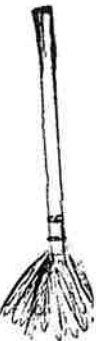
spiders  
trick or treat  
vampires  
werewolves  
witches

# Happy Halloween!



-17-

♥ By: Jenny B & James F. ♥



## Hunting

Dusty Mahn and Tom Scheirer

Wednesday, October 25 at 4:00 a.m. Tom and I packed up our hunting gear and left for Patterson Slough. The slough is about five minutes outside Waconia, MN. The day was rainy and really cloudy which is usually good for duck hunting. When we got there we launched Tom's canoe and paddled down the cattail trail and set up in the "second hole". We were hoping this would be a great day for killing ducks.

We set up three dozen mallard decoys, six bluebills, four canvasbacks, six geese, and five teal. We shoved into the cattails and covered the canoe up with cattails. I have a Remington 870 pump 12 gauge three inch magnum shotgun. Tom has a Remington 1187 semi automatic 12 gauge three inch magnum. We had brought along two boxes each of Remington High Velocity 12 gauge BB Shotgun shells. Now all we needed were some ducks.

Just as we finished covering the boat with cattails we looked up and there was a drake greenwinged teal sitting in the middle of our decoys. It flew up and Tom and I both shot at it. Tommy got it and we left it lay because now a widgeon was flying into the decoys. I shot it and we saw some buffleheads flying by the decoys. I called them in with my Haydells Redleg mallard call and they landed in the decoys. I shot one of them on the water and the other one escaped.

Next, the hen mallard flew into the decoys and I shot it. Now it was time to go pick up the ducks. We canoed through the decoys and picked up the four ducks we had shot

so far. At this point it was only 15 minutes into our shooting time, still 10 minutes to sunrise.

We pulled back into our spot and covered up just as a flock of six or seven ducks came in. They were setting in and two drake widgeon were in front. Just as they were going to land, Tommy and I each shot one. Moments later, another greenwinged teal drake came in. We hit it, but it flew and died too far away for us to retrieve. We felt bad about that.

After that, we saw a flock of eight mallards and as I was calling at them I noticed three shovelbills coming right at us. When they were in range Tom and I each picked one and shot it. Then, we each shot once more at the last bird, missing. Tom gave up, but I loaded one more shell and shot it way out there.

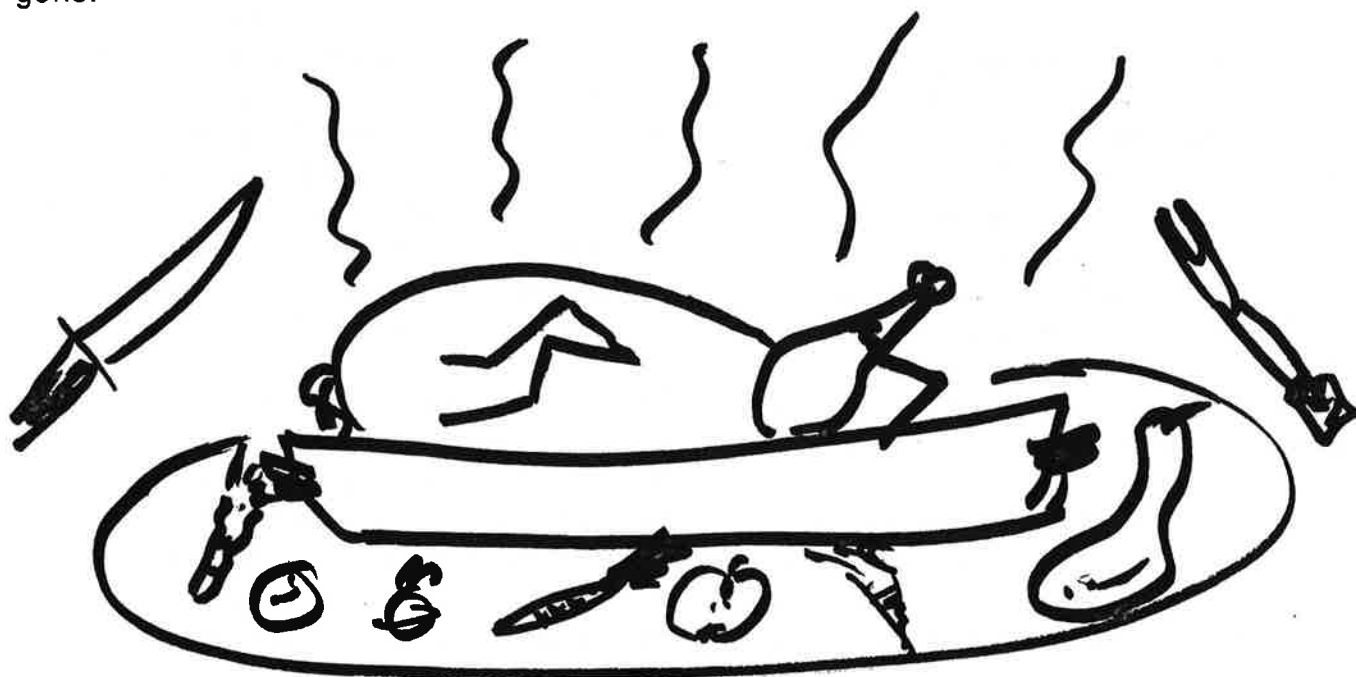
It was time to go pick up ducks again and by this point we had nine ducks in the boat. We were getting very excited because it was only about 8:00 a.m. and it looked like we might even get our limit. We covered the boat again and saw some more flocks of mallards but they didn't come in. A single widgeon dropped down and Tom shot it and it fell so close to the boat we almost caught it! Next, a bluewinged teal flew in and landed right in our decoys and I shot it.

About 10 minutes later a single drake mallard came in and we both shot it. By this time we had our limit, so we sat and watched all kinds of ducks fly into our decoys. We watched for about an hour and then went to pick up decoys and the rest of our ducks.

While we were picking up decoys a flock of about 20 or 25 geese flew by. I called them into range and we shot and missed them. we were really mad that we missed the geese so we decided to go home.

Back at my house we breasted all the ducks except the two mallards. We plucked the mallards and dipped them in paraffin wax to get the pinfeathers off.

Later that night we decided to cook the two mallards that we had shot. We stuffed them with apples and onions, rubbed them with sage, salt and pepper and wrapped them in bacon. We put a little water in the bottom of a pan and roasted them for an hour and a half at 375 degrees. Next, we took a dozen small red potatoes and boiled them until they were done. We added 12 cloves of garlic, a lot of butter and 1/2 of a package of Alouette Garlic and Herb cheese spread. We feasted on duck and garlic mashed potatoes and were really happy with the way the day had gone.



## Mark Warren Trip

Zach Hobbs

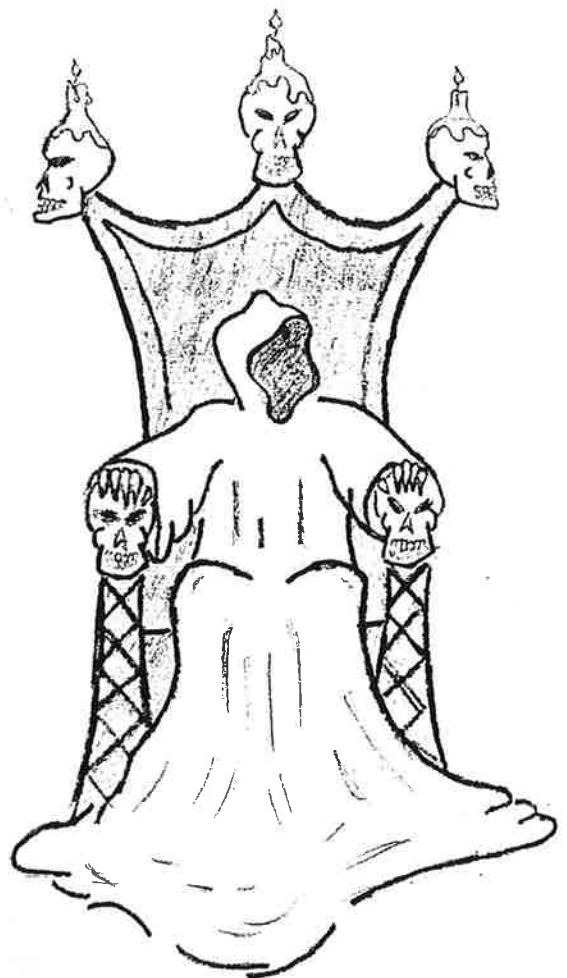
Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be stranded and not be able to survive. Well thanks to Mark Warren I will hopefully not have this problem if I ever am faced with this situation. Mark had two goals in mind. His first goal was of course to show us how to survive. Second and the more important goal was to get you to work at whatever you were. Mark has really opened a whole new door for me and my fellow colleagues who were a part of this trip as well.

Mark showed us everything from moving through the forest without a sound, to making fire with simply a stick a rock and a piece of wood. Mark has spent most of his life studying nature and its ways. He has been doing this trip for nearly 13 years and every time is different and new for him. Mark would continually tell us that if we didn't succeed in our goal, we better die trying.

Out of the groups that went on this trip this year, every single one of them was able to make fire. There were also a few lucky and hard working souls from both groups who were able to make it on their own.

The final day of the trip consisted of waking at 6:00 a.m., cleaning our tents, and gathering our gear. Then it was off to the sweat lodge for sweating and serious conversation. The sweat lodge was really the turning point in the trip for me, and I'm sure this is true for many others who went on, or have been on this trip in the past.

Over all, the Mark Warren Trip was very much worth the time spent in the woods with nature and the bugs of this world. There are many good things I got out of this trip: many good survival tips and just many good experiences. I would take the trip again if the opportunity were there.



## Stress

Tanner Anderson and Jessie Eiden

Stress is an applied force or system of forces that tends to strain or deform a body. It is a mental or emotional, disruptive or disquieting influence. Stress is something that affects everyone. Everyday, things are constantly going on. Your responsibilities, your job, your relationships, your schedule all contribute to stress. It's how you cope with these bricks in your path that either brings on stress or relieves it.

### Stress Test...

Death of parent	98
Having a baby	90
Getting into drugs/alcohol	90
Death of a close friend	86
Divorce of parents	83
Break up with boy/girlfriend	50-80
(you choose)	
Death of close family member	82
Trouble with the law	80
Sexual difficulties	80
Someone close is chronically ill	76
Personal injury or illness	75
Change in eating habits	60
Trouble at school	60
Decrease in income	50
Moving	50
Fighting at home	50
Fighting with friends	50
Being fired	45
Change in physical appearance	40
Change in sleeping habits	40
Begin or end school	30
Start new school	30
Wanting new friends	30
New line of work	26

The average stress is 470. If you scored around 600 you're over-stressed. If over that, you are really stressin'. If you scored 250 or lower, you are under stressed.

## Homecoming

Matt Prich, Eric Zimmerman,  
and Dave Swanson

Minnetonka had it's annual Homecoming on October 6. The week started out with the voting for Homecoming King and Queen. Mike Bromme, a Mini-Schooler, was nominated by the Mini-School students to the Homecoming Court.

Homecoming day was on Friday. In the afternoon there was a pepfest where they announced the Homecoming King and Queen. But when when they did not name Mike Bromme as King it was a total injustice. The winners were Andy Shelp and Chelsea Light.

Then on to the big game against the Wayzata Trojans. After a tough battle we lost 42-14, but fellow Mini-Schooler, Matt Prich, played in the game and played very well. So, Homecoming was a great week.

## Real or Fake

Zach Hobbs

What is love if it isn't real  
Why does it lead you to water then dry the well  
Why would anyone want love anyway  
Why does it give you wings to fly only to take them away

What is fate if it isn't real  
Why does it bring people together only to rip them apart  
Why is fate so good and so bad  
Why does it feed you only to feed you poison

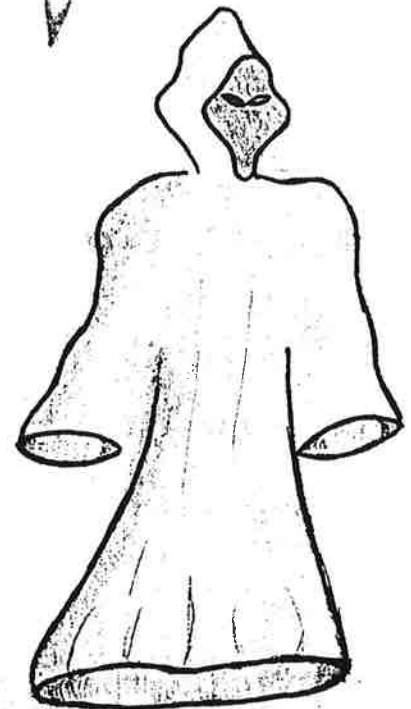
What are friends if they aren't real  
Why do they lead you on a trail only to get you lost  
Why are friends so loving and hating  
Why do they tell you one thing only to mean the other

What is faith if it isn't real  
Why are people who believe saved and people who don't are damned  
Why is faith paradise and hell  
Why does it give the world a saint only to give it a killer

What is a dream if it isn't real  
Why does it encourage you to do well but tell you to stop  
Why do we dream impossible dreams  
Why do they show us the light only to blow out the candle

What is death if it isn't real  
Why is our breath taken away only to be given back to us  
Why do we die into eternity  
Why when we die in sin only to be raised into perfection.

What is god if he isn't real  
Why does he send his only son to save us only to kill him  
Why does want to save us all  
Why is he such a dream but yet so real and pure.



## New Student Interview

Jeana Doescher, & Androo Bernstein

We asked these questions of two of our new Mini-School students this fall, Androo Bernstein and Jenny Blankenship.

1. Why did You join Mini-School?
2. What program or school did you come from?
3. What's your favorite thing about Mini-School?
4. How did you find out about Mini-School?
5. What's your least favorite thing about Mini?
6. Do you have any pets?
7. Who's your favorite student in Mini?
8. What's your favorite movie?
9. Where do you work?
10. What kind of car do you drive?

Here are their responses:

### Androo Bernstein

1. I wanted no homework and no tests. I also would like to go on trips.
2. Before Mini-School I was in the mainstream at Minnetonka High School.
3. My favorite part of Mini is not having any homework!
4. I found out about Mini through my friends and other kids at school.
5. Interviews! (just kidding)
6. Yes, I have one dog named . . .
7. My favorite students in Mini are Tanner Anderson and Mike Bromme.
8. My favorite movies are Friday, Tommy Boy, and Belly.
9. I work at Snyder's at the 7/41 intersection in Shorewood.
10. I drive a go-cart. I don't have my license yet.

### Jenny Blankenship

1. I didn't like mainstream and I tried an alternative school and that didn't work either, so I tried Mini-School.
2. Before Mini, I was in the mainstream at Minnetonka High School and PCA (Prairie Center Alternative).
3. I like that it's very laid back.
4. I found out about Mini through my friends.
5. Too much time with my boyfriend James.
6. (no response)
7. My favorite student is Mike Bromme in newspaper class.
8. American Beauty
9. I work at Heartland America.
10. I drive a '94 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme.

More New  
Student  
Interviews  
NEXT  
ISSUE!!!

### Nick Names

Mini-schoolers are known for their own unique style of creativity. Here is a list of some nicknames that have cropped up in our community.

Nate Paulson- Styles  
Josh Meyers- Butter Nuts  
Andy Sheats- Slimy  
Jenny Blankenship- Baby  
Billy Knight- BK Knight  
Ryan McCullough- M.C. Cullough  
Natalie Evans- Natapee  
David Huberty- Wacky Nuts  
James Froemming- Roaming Froemming  
Brian Twiss- Wierd Dude  
Carl Paulsen- Crazy Carl  
Bill Goudy- Rowdy Goudi  
Merlin- Merdiddlyon  
Jeana Doescher- Dozer  
Zach Will- Mr. Burns



# The Man Who Walked

Zach Hobbs

There once a man who could walk forever  
He lived in a rundown house  
In front of a old rundown shed  
With an old rundown fence around a old  
rundown lawn  
With a old rundown Ford  
That sat in an old rundown garage  
This old rundown man took an old rundown  
walk  
He walked through his old rundown door  
Across his old rundown lawn  
Till he came to his old rundown gate  
In front of his old rundown house  
He opened his old rundown gate  
And walked down the sidewalk on his old  
rundown legs with his old rundown knees  
He walked until he came to an old rundown  
shop  
He passed the old rundown shop till he  
came to an old rundown bench  
He passed the old rundown bench until he  
came to an old rundown school  
Behind the school was an old rundown  
playground  
The old rundown man walked into the old  
rundown playground  
He slowly sat down on an old rundown  
swing that creaked and squeaked  
He slowly started to swing with his old  
rundown arms  
After a while the swing ran down and he  
began to walk again  
He soon passed an old rundown lady  
walking her old rundown dog  
He waved to the old rundown lady with an  
old rundown hand  
He continued to walk down his old rundown  
street  
Till he came to an old rundown cemetary  
Where he found an old rundown head stone  
He stood there and stared with his old  
rundown eyes and rundown face  
He then started to walk back toward his old

rundown house

He soon passed the old rundown lady  
walking her old rundown dog  
Quickly he passed the old rundown  
playground behind the old rundown school  
Soon returning to the old rundown bench  
Then passing the old rundown shop on the  
corner of his old rundown street  
Coming up to his old rundown gate in front  
of his old rundown house  
He opened the old rundown gate and  
walked back across his old rundown lawn  
He opened his old rundown door and  
stepped inside his old rundown house  
He found his old rundown room with his old  
rundown bed in it  
He layed down on his old rundown bed with  
his old and tired rundown body  
Then the old rundown man closed his old  
and tired rundown eyes  
You will never guess what the old rundown  
man did next  
The old rundown man died  
His old rundown house is still there  
In front of an old rundown shed  
Surrounded by an old rundown fence  
With and old rundown lawn  
With his old rundown Ford parked inside his  
old rundown garage



# Horoscopes

Jenny Blankenship

## Aries

(March 21-April 19)

Open your eyes to new things & people. Someone very close to you wants you to know their secret, so pay attention to your best friends. This month you may slip at your job, but there's always time to correct your mistakes, so don't give up. A Leo or Aquarius brings excitement.

## Taurus

(April 20-May 20)

Take time to pamper yourself, because this month may be stressful. Stop worrying about everyone else for once and concentrate on yourself, or things could get rough. Someone you love may find interest in a close friend. Timing is everything, so don't push.

## Gemini

(May 21- June 21)

An exciting trip with the family may lead you to a love interest, so keep your options open. Wear lots of red this month, it will attract all sorts of good things. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 21, & 9, keep this in mind.

## Cancer

(June 22-July 22)

Income is growing for you this month, so plan a shopping spree, or save up for something big. The attention is on you this month, so show your talents. Your lucky colors this month are: Green and Purple.

## Leo

(July 23-August 22)

A new job this month will be a good change, with good benefits. Spend more time with family or a feud may develop after time. Lovers will want to settle unfinished business, so be patient.

## Virgo

(August 23-September 22)

Do something this month to stand out and be your own person. Think about what you want and stop pursuing things that aren't meant to be. Someone you trust, may take something important from you, so stay alert.

## Libra

(September 23- October 23)

Karma may haunt you this month, so watch your steps. Be careful in dating this month, never judge a book by its cover. A co-worker may ask a favor, be kind and something very good will come out of it for you.

## Scorpio

(October 24-November 21)

Travel brings an opportunity that you should think twice about. Be extra cautious for loved ones, accidents can happen to anyone. Light colors are good this month, they may even de-stress your life.

## Sagittarius

(November 22-December 21)

Don't rush into relationships. Take your time and they will last much longer. Take time out to help someone who really needs it.

## Capricorn

(December 22- January 19)

Family brings happiness this month so attend all outings. You can't always count on others, so be strong and stand up for yourself. A Gemini is attracted to you so keep your eyes open.

## Aquarius

(January 20-February 18)

Remember you can't buy love, so spend more time with that important person, but space is good too. You need to be very honest this month, and always, or you may lose everything. Keep your promises.

## Pisces

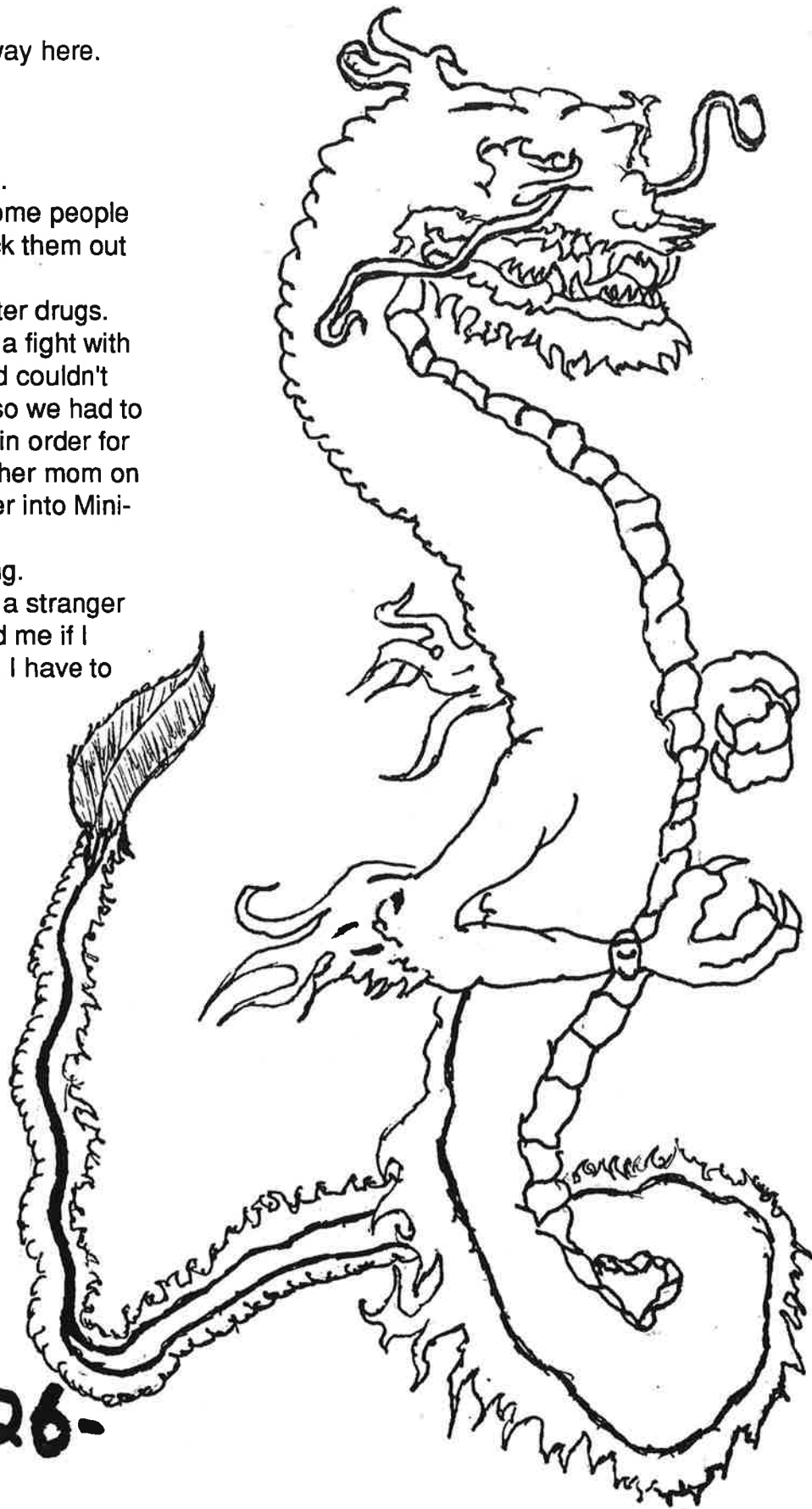
(February 19-March 20)

Sleep is good this month and you need it. Find a new hobby that keeps your mind off your worries. Work hard at your job and it will pay off. Watch out for Capricorns, they only cause trouble.



## Ten Famous Mini- Excuses for Being Late

1. I had to push my bike all the way here.
2. I got lost.
3. My zipper got stuck.
4. I was getting a tattoo.
5. I had a near death experience.
6. I had a party last night, and some people slept over and I had to kick them out in the morning.
7. I needed some over-the-counter drugs.
8. My best friend's girlfriend had a fight with my dad's current wife, and couldn't come over to my house, so we had to meet at the coffee house in order for her to get information for her mom on how to get her little brother into Mini-School.
9. I had to change my tongue ring.
10. I was walking to school, and a stranger came up to me and asked me if I wanted candy, I said "No, I have to go to Mini-School."



## Questionable Classifieds

**75' Ford F-100** 385K on new motor, good runner, rusty but trusy \$2000  
555-3521 Contact: Fergus

**89' Ford Taurus SHO**, blk, 96M, good runner. \$2000/BO. (612)872-9652

**"Ab Roller"** Brand new!! Still in box, \$4,000.  
555-8613 Contact: Jake Pitts

**89' SAAB** \$5800  
473-1542 Steve or Mamie

**Golden Retriever Pups** 2 Weeks. All current shots. One has missing limb (50% off) All others \$200  
(320)-555-0200 Contact: Dick

**89' Nissan Maxima** White. V6. All options and extras. 97,000 miles.  
Contact: Lindsay \$4000 474-1811

**Movie Theatre 4 Sale!!!** Located in the wonderful town of Hopkins.  
Nine screens, all color!  
(612)-555-6210

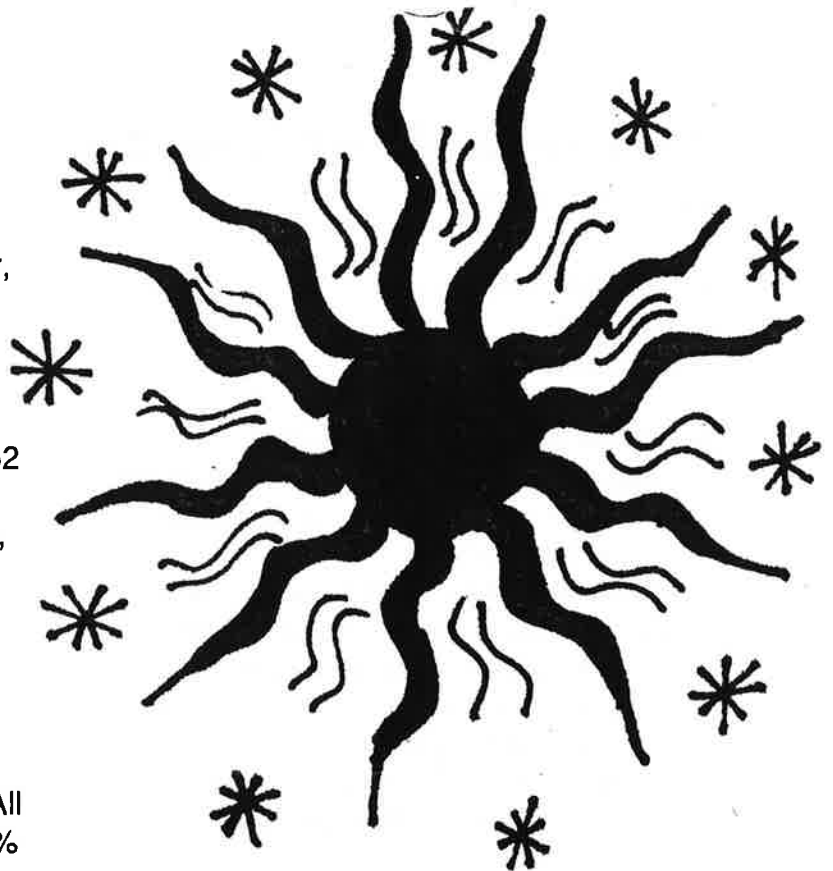
## Employment

### \*\*\*CART PUSHER\*\*\*

Cub Foods, MTKA. Great benefits, Hot boss. Starting out at \$7.10/hr  
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