

Don-Don Cartoons

FALL ISSUE 2001



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."**

The Mini-School Staff is:

Ramona Anderson – Math, Work Exp.
Pauline Engleby – Science
Paul Gerten – History
Kim Weimer – Office Administration
Merlin Zimmerman – English

Meandering Through Mini-School

by Merlin Zimmerman

The first quarter of 2001-2002 has been an exciting one in Mini-School. Several students have graduated during the first few weeks of school: Josh Reisgies, Andy Sheats, James O'Day, Tyson Haeg and Matt Prich. It feels good to be a part of Mini-School, a place where so many people find their goals within reach. I hear over and over from students how graduating from high school is an accomplishment that they are proud of. Many of our students get a chance to go on a wilderness trip in the last few months of their high school career too, and that makes the accomplishment all that much more satisfying.

This year started with a healthy number of our newer students going to Grantsburg, Wisconsin, to spend a couple of days with Mark Warren. Mark, a naturalist who has dedicated his life to teaching a simpler, cleaner way of life, came up to Wisconsin from his school in Georgia to meet with our group. We thank him again for his commitment to teaching. The students he worked with this year were: Kristin Schneider, Jake Rutstein, Joe Morseth, Jamie Garrett, Noah Bystrom, Jenny Blankenship, Andrew Bernstein, Jenna Bergmann, Andrew Beddor, Stein Thorbeck, Amanda Sheats, John Shannon, Alaina Mielke, Kelly Meyers, Dustin

Mencel, Tom Mason, Lindsay Klug, and Jessica Johnson.

Students that helped with preparation and clean-up are greatly appreciated. They are: Tyson Haeg, Matt Prich, Jake Rutstein, Josh Zelazny, Andrew Bernstein, James Froemming, Teanna Gutzke, Lindsay Klug, Alissa Kuder, Andy Sheats, and Amanda Wegler.

Paul Gerten went to northern Minnesota to hike along the Superior Hiking trail with a group of Mini-Schoolers in September. They returned with several great pictures of the great scenery of the North Shore. The group consisted of: Andrew Beddor, Monica Duperre, Natalie Evans, Katie Juneau, Chris Korolchuck, Dustin Mencel, Alaina Mielke, Joe Morseth, John Shannon, and Stein Thorbeck.



Two very popular day trips this fall were Pauline Engleby and Ramona Anderson's trips to the Arboretum and the Minnesota Science Museum. The students who spent the morning in the great outdoors were: Sarah Beegle, Jenna Bergmann, Jenny Blankenship, Noah Bystrom, Greg Charlson, Jamie Garrett, Billy Knight, Dan Osmonson, Josh Peet, Kristin

Schneider, Jake Stumme, Monica Williams, and David Zernehel. Those who visited the science museum were: Jared Yount, Jake Stumme, Hadiyyah-Lah Sa'id, Matt Prich, Josh Peet, Alex Peden, Dan Osmonson, Kate Muir, Katie Juneau, Tyson Haeg, Jamie Garrett, Natalie Evans, Andrew Bernstein, Jenna Bergmann, Jeremy Appollo, and Joe Allen.

Doug Berg, one of the founders of Mini-School once again contributed his experience to the trips program

Support Mini-School with Your Target Guest Card

This Fall, Mini-School received another check from Target. This time Target donated \$93.26 to Mini-School by contributing a percentage of the money from participating Target Guest Card purchases. Community members who participate in the target "Take Charge of Education" program can indicate Mini-School as their beneficiary school. The chosen school receives 1% of all purchases made on-line at target.com, and 1/2 % of all purchases made elsewhere.

All you need to do to take part is apply for a Target Guest Card, and designate Mini-School as your school of choice.

this fall. Doug worked with Paul on preparing and guiding the Superior Hiking Trail. He also helped me with the huge Grantsburg Hike by taking care of much of the equipment and food preparation, and then hiking along with us. (You can read about that trip in a later issue of Com-Min-Cations.) He has also been working hard at promoting and coordinating our Minnesota Weatherguide Calendar sale this year. His commitment to Mini-School has always been a great asset. Thanks, again Doug!

Minnesota Weather Guide Calendars are still on sale at the Mini-School office!

The official sale came to an end on December 12. Doug has helped us with the sale this year by leading the students on selling trips, and cheering them on with incentives galore! However, we still have a couple calendars lying around, and we will be happy to sell you one if you have not yet had the opportunity to see one of our student salespeople. Give us a call and make your purchase today, before the holidays. We will fill you in on the final numbers of our sale this year in a future issue.

Alumni News

What's happening with Mini-School alumni?

Pat McNutt

- Graduate of 1999

Pat has spent 2 years in the U.S. Navy, stationed in Norfolk Virginia. He said he has taken some college classes and enjoys the service very much. He spends a lot of time in Europe and the Middle East while in the service. We wish him safety during this time of war.

Elissa Johnson

- Graduate of 1999

Elissa has been working as a manager at Petite Sophisticate at the Mall of America. She says she is doing well and would like people to come visit her at the store. That's a good manager!

Jessica Juneau

- Attended 1996-99

Jessica completed her GED in September of 2000. Congratulations to her! She then went on to give birth to Halie RaeAnn Juneau on December 20, 2000, her 6 lb. 13 oz. baby girl. Happy First Birthday to Halie this month.

Marcelle Dorenkamp

- Graduate of 1997

Marcelle is taking care of her own little girl as she attends the Art Institute International of Minnesota. She is studying Internal Design. Good luck with your studies, Marcelle.

Eliot Tan

- Graduate of 1993

After traveling extensively (he liked Key West the best), Eliot met Karen and they were married in the summer of 2001. In June, their daughter Kaija Aban Tan was born. Eliot is working as an electrical contractor and "things are wonderful." He is writing piles of science fiction, and working on his writing discipline. We hope to read your published works some day, Eliot.

Drew Emmings

- Graduate of 1999

Drew has been attending Dunwoody Institute in the area of Electrical Construction. In the summers, though, he enjoys the finer things by working at ROW - River Odysseys West - in Idaho. He says he enjoys that a lot! We are pleased your Mini-School experience can be a part of your adult life, Drew.

Virgil Olson

- Graduate of 1999

Virgil is attending Minneapolis Community Technical College and working at A-1 Rental. He is still very interested in law enforcement, and stays active with local civilian police work. He also spends time riding horses and training dogs in Kansas. He says he's enjoying life, and we wish him well.

If you attended Mini-School, and you want to update the community on what you have been up to, give us a call, we'll talk, then we'll tell everybody we know!

An Alumni Letter to Mini-School

Dear Mini,

I am a recent graduate, leaving Mini-School in 2000 after going through an extra year, as most students do. (Ha) So, I am writing you because my life has been changing a lot lately, and I don't think you guys have any idea.

Well it all started this last January when a classmate Mike Ayotte and I got an idea that we would join the National Guard, currently Mike is at Ft. Knox, KY. I on the other hand have been living on the west coast in a small town in Oregon, but starting April 2001, I too will be heading to Ft. Knox, except not in the National Guard – in just the Army.

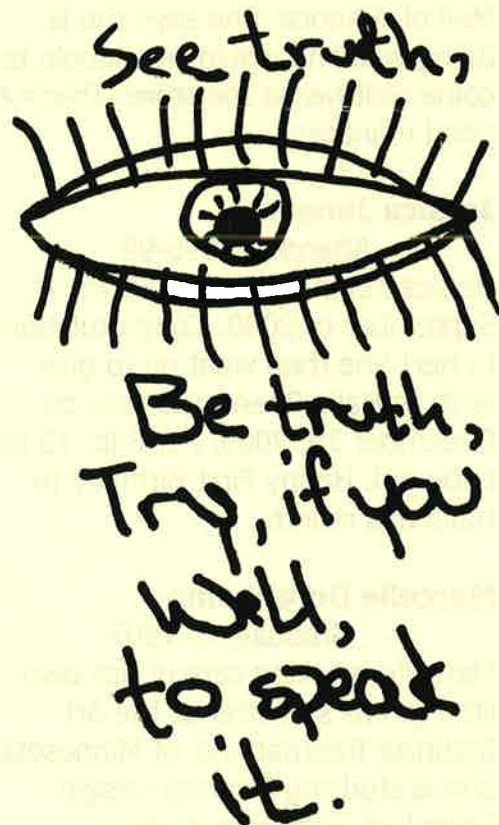
Well I must tell everyone who is still there you all were an inspiration to me. The trips, the day-in, day-out environment, have made me who I am today. A little advise to you who are there today: take advantage of what you have sitting right in front of your face when you have those ideas to leave and you say to yourself, "What's another day, I can skip." Trust me, I said that to myself about three times a week for quite some time, and now I am kicking myself just to have to wake up and go to school.

You all can't see it right now, and I am not saying everyone in Mini is like this, but this letter goes to anyone who thinks, "Just do what

you have to do to get by." Trust me when I say, you will be sorry.

I have told about everyone I know out here about my high school, and what I did and where I went. They all would give anything to be as lucky. So remember how lucky you all are. Ramona and Pauline you two probably were the only ones there when I was there, thank you both for always putting 100% behind me even when I must have let you both and the program down. I will keep in touch from Ft. Knox and then you guys can send me a Com-Mini or something.

Matt Thompson



Interview With 4 New People

By Emily Dolentz and Natalie Evans

We asked the following questions to four of our new students - Stein Thorbeck, John Shannon, Devon Flaherty, and Jake Stumme - and these are the answers we got.

1. If you could be any animal, what would you be and why?

Stein - Some kind of bird, because I already look like one.

John - Monkey, because they're funny looking and they can climb.

Devon - Eagle, because they kill and fly.

Jake - Cheetah, because they run fast.

2. What's your favorite cartoon?

Stein - "Two Stupid Dogs," "Freakazoid" is sweet too. (Stein proceeds to sing the theme song.)

John - "Recess"

Devon - "Simpsons" and "South Park"

Jake - "Simpsons"

3. If you were stuck on a deserted island, but you could have two other people with you, who would it be - famous or not, dead or alive?

Stein - Dustin Mencil and Amanda Sheats

John - Ramona Anderson and Mark Warren

Devon - Carmen Electra and Nikki Taylor

Jake - Jennifer Lopez and Jennifer Lopez

4. What's your favorite album?

Stein - *Plastic Ono Band*

John - *Pink Floyd - The Wall*

Devon - *Pink Floyd - Delicate Sound of Thunder*

Jake - *G'NR Live*

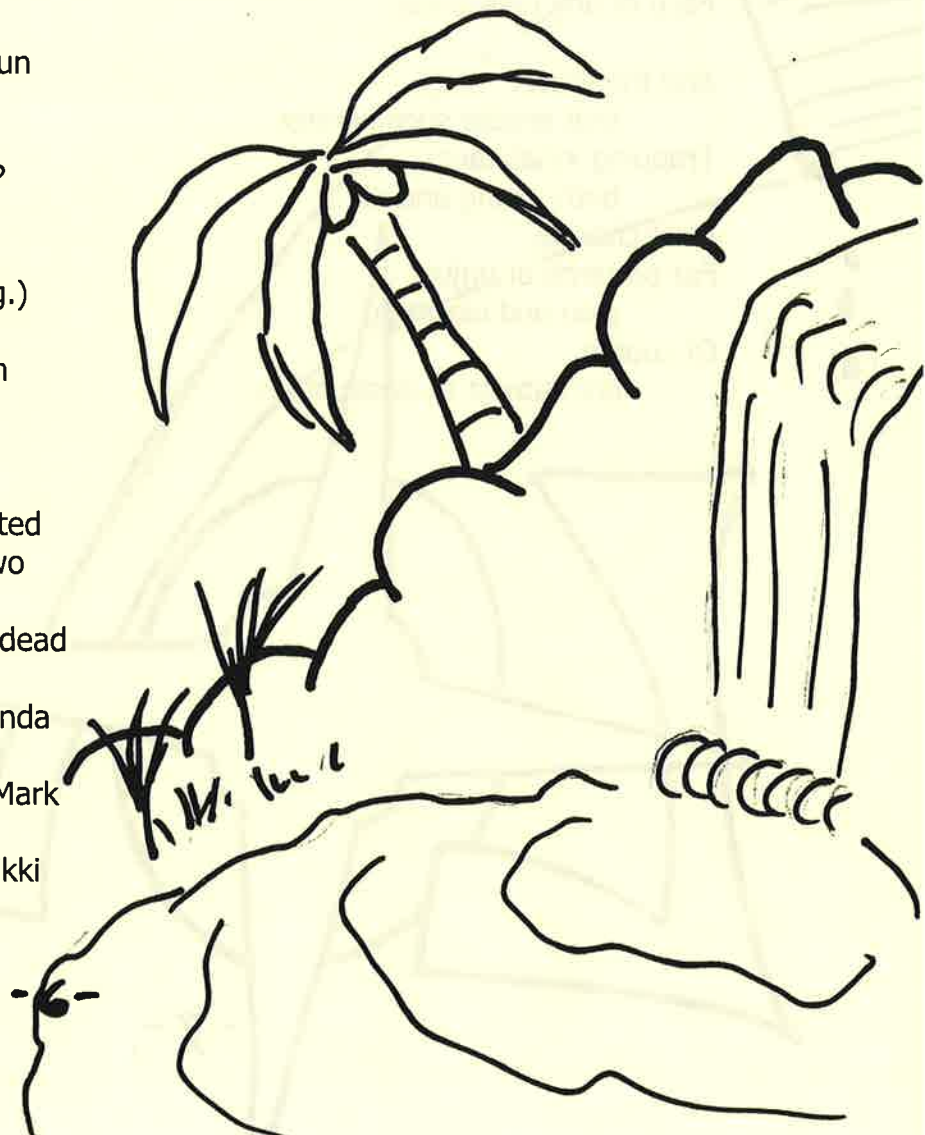
5. What's your favorite Kevin Smith movie?

Stein - *Dogma*

John - *Dogma*

Devon - *Mallrats*

Jake - *Mallrats*



A Bit of Prose and Such

By Nate Davis

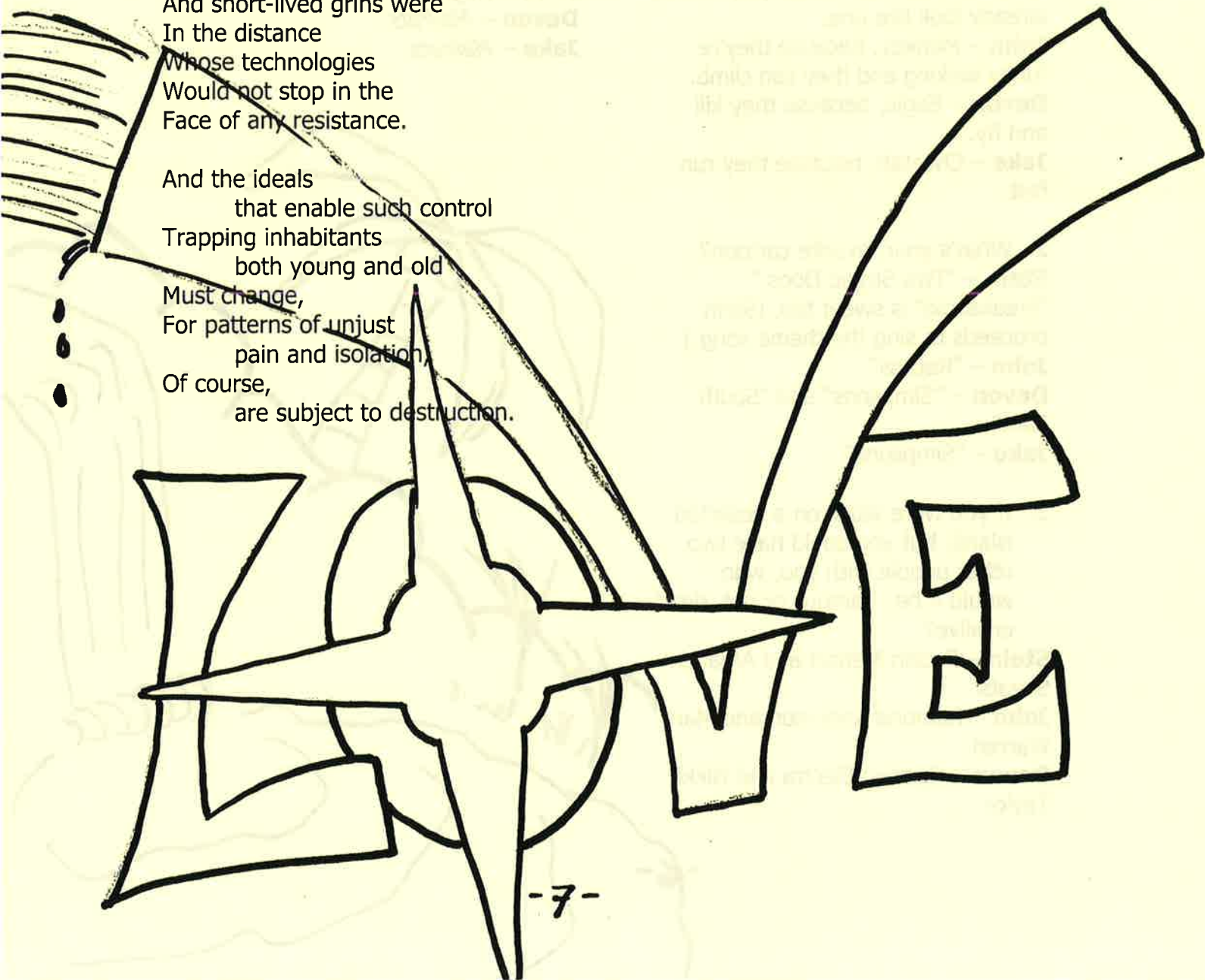
Late one eve,
Or shall we say
Early the next morn,
An obnoxiously sauced,
Tricked and sickened,
Pre-Colombian American
Glared

In the direction
Where

A moon beam's reflection
Hinted of men with white skin
And short-lived grins were
In the distance

Whose technologies
Would not stop in the
Face of any resistance.

And the ideals
that enable such control
Trapping inhabitants
both young and old
Must change,
For patterns of unjust
pain and isolation,
Of course,
are subject to destruction.



New Mini Folk

By Janel Hagstrom and Steve Lawson

Three kids new to the Mini-School scene were asked ten simple, yet odd questions about Mini-School and the works.

1. How do you like Mini-school so far?

Here is what **Chrisi** Abrahams had to say in response - I like it; it's better than mainstream.

Scuba Steve Lawson, the man of no words - Nifty

Chris Molle, man of even fewer words - Great

2. What differences between Mini and Mainstream do you like best?

Chrisi - More passing time!

Scuba Steve - Mini-School is cool and mainstream sucks.

Chris - More one on one with the teachers.

3. If you could rename Mini-School, what would you name it?

Chrisi - No Clue!

Scuba Steve - I'd call it 'I Dunno'

Chris - None

4. Would you pay to see Merlin in a kilt?

Chrisi - I don't know if that's a good thing or a bad thing.

Scuba Steve - No

Chris - No

5. Is Mini-School helping you?

Chrisi - Yeah, I guess, sorta, I dunno yet.

Scuba Steve - Sure

Chris - No

6. I forgot Question 6 for a moment, what's your opinion?

Chrisi - Janel, you're stupid.

Scuba Steve - Well, da###!

Chris - What?

7. Multiple Choice: a, b, c, or d?

Chrisi - C

Scuba Steve - Seven

Chris - B

8. Would you recommend Mini to other mainstream students?

Chrisi - If they suck in Mainstream.

Scuba Steve - Probably

Chris - Yes

9. Do you know where Jay is?

Chrisi - No, and I'm fine with that.

Scuba Steve - Maybe

Chris - Over there

10. How many movie days a week should we have?

Chrisi - Five!

Scuba Steve - 25

Chris - Two



Mark Warren Trip

By Kelly Meyers

I went on the second Mark Warren trip it was a wonderful experience for all of the trip members included: Jessica Johnson, Lindsay Klug, Tom Mason, Dustin Mencil, Kelly Meyers, Alaina Mielke, John Shannon, Amanda Sheats, and Stein Thorbeck. All of us got along very well we all "bonded" with each other and ourselves.

We participated in many activities such as; zoogel, stalking games and gling. We made rope out of bark and built a fire without using a match. They all were great learning experiences and a lot of fun. In the daytime we did the activities, but the night was our time, so many unforgettable memories were made such as the "Mickey Mouse formation" (props to Dustin) that gave us a good laugh. We also can't forget the sleepless nights. All we heard was Dustin and Stein serenading us till about 3:00 a.m. Stein would provide, "In the Year 2000," then Dustin would ad-lib the endings. For example "who knows, maybe Merlin's bag-pipe band will make it big."

And then there was Tom, or "Mot," who fell in the fire. That was hilarious. Dustin and Stein made fun of Tom the whole trip, and when I made one comment Tom freaked out on me. It was super funny. The rest of the trip was just the basic hiking, learning, and eating. Except, for the

sweat lodge. That was an unexplainable feeling. I have never experienced anything so spiritual in my life. Afterwards, I had such a peaceful sensation. I felt like I was one with nature. The Mark Warren trip was truly unforgettable.

The Woods

By: Katie Juneau

I love the woods a lot and I would rather learn in the woods than in school. I've learned so much being in the woods with Mini-School. I've learned a lot about myself, about others and about the world in the woods. I think trips we take teach kids about their limitations and their inner-self. It teaches them to get along with other people they would normally not get along with. When I do hard trips like this last one, (The Superior Hiking Trail) it makes me feel so good like I could do anything.

So I went home and got a job and started to turn my life around, because I thought about it on the trail. I just kept thinking, "If I can do this, I can work and earn some money to pay my debts." I think a lot when I'm on trips. I think about how I'm so lucky to be here right now. Not a lot of people get to do things like this. The trips are the best thing for me in Mini.

The Mystery of Steve

By Tom Mason and Tamara Roberts

Have you ever seen that one hall monitor in the halls? The one you know who is always smiling and saying hello to the students. Well, that's our favorite hall monitor, Steve. Steve came to Minnetonka last year. So we went to Steve and wanted to ask him a few questions and here's what we found out.



What changes have you made in your life since you have become Mormon?

I don't drink anymore or smoke. I have other, better family values and a better lifestyle.

What is your most important job at Minnetonka?

Coaching girl's hockey and developing a good relationship with the student body.

What do you consider the most fun about your job?

Being here all day with the kids.

What is your most prized possession?

That would be the knowledge that has been passed to me from other people.

What are your favorite sports to play and watch?

Hockey and watching football.

Who is your favorite staff member at Minnetonka?

Paul Gerten in Mini-School, he's the head coach of Girl's Hockey, as well.

Why did you choose this job?

They offered it to me and I said yes.

What did you do previous to this job?

I was a truck mechanic for 33 years.

What are you most scared of?

My biggest fear is my children.

What do you think of the attack on America?

I am deeply saddened but our president wants revenge for the attack so it never happens again.

What is your favorite TV show and why?

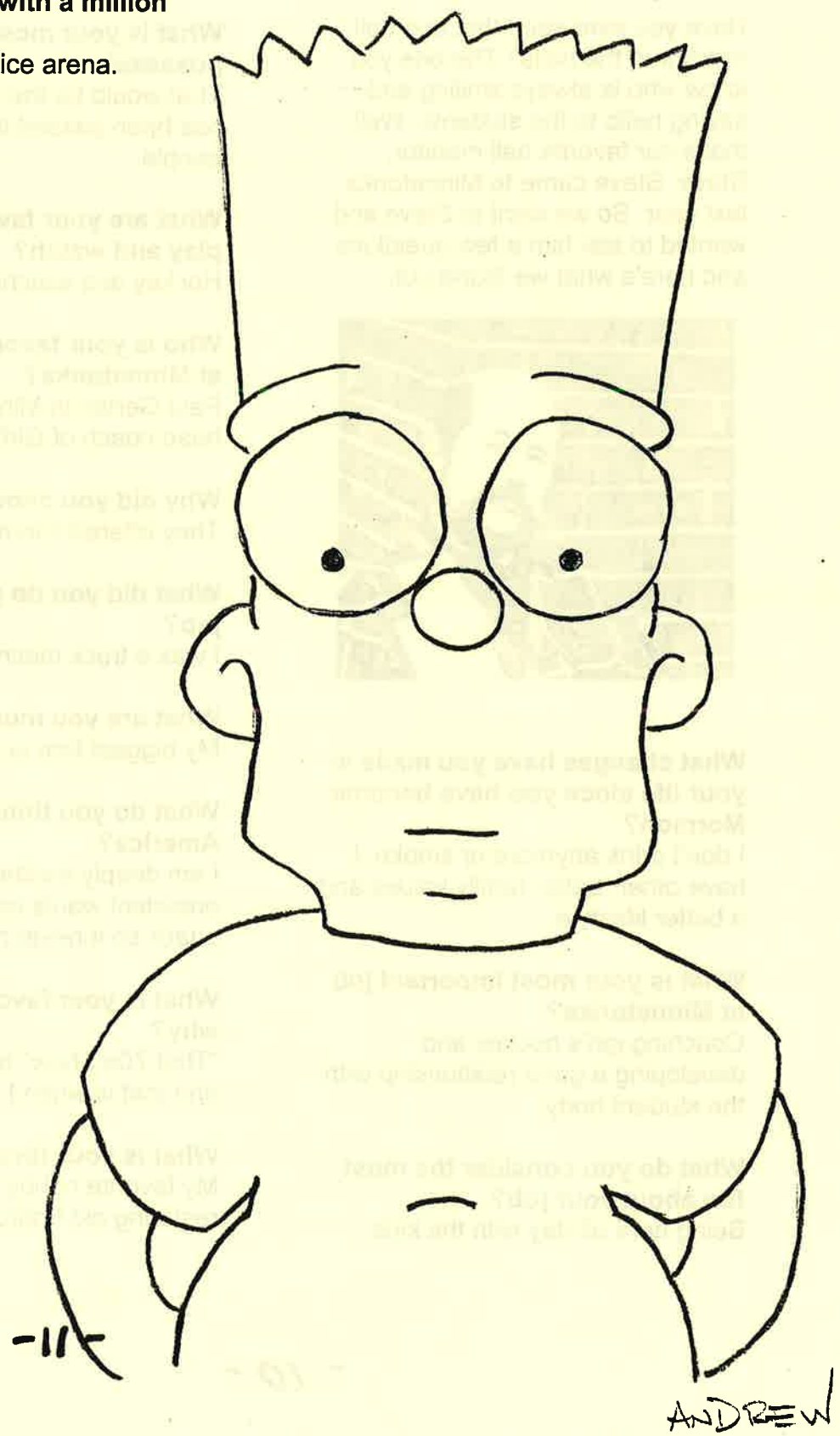
"That 70s Show" because it's funny and that is when I grew up.

What is your favorite hobby?

My favorite hobby is collecting and restoring old firetrucks (real ones)!

If you could do any job you wanted what would you choose?
I would work with youth hockey as a coach and maybe coach professional women's hockey.

What would you do with a million dollars?
I would build my own ice arena.



Super Senior Interviews

By Trevor McDonald

The Super-Seniors interviewed in this article are Jessica Johnson, Mike Bromme, and Alexis Montemayor.

1. Why are you a super senior?

Jessica - I am behind in credits.

Bromme - I have no recollection of my freshman or sophomore year.

Alexis - I dropped out of school my junior year and needed to make up the lost credits.

2. Does the fact that you haven't graduated anger you?

Jessica - No, its my fault.

Bromme - Not in the least bit.

Alexis - He## yeah, it bugs me! I shouldn't be here anymore.

3. Do you have any plans after you graduate?

Jessica - Yeah, two years of Normandale, than move out to Oregon and attend Oregon State in Eugene.

Bromme - To conquer the world.

Alexis - I'm either going to go to LA and work to become a super-model, or go to the Philippines to help my brother's career.

4. Have you ever seen the movie *The Big Lebowski*?

Jessica - Yeah.

Bromme - You're out of your element, Trevor.

Alexis - Yes.

5. Have you ever plotted to take over the world?

Jessica - No.

Bromme - After high school, the deed will be done and the world will be mine!

Alexis - No. (looks puzzled)

6. What is your biggest goal in life?

Jessica - To become an RN (Registered Nurse).

Bromme - To be in high school, conquering the world and watching *The Big Lebowski*.

Alexis - To be a super-model and live in an underground mansion.

7. And finally, do you like to be interviewed about stuff that has been done a hundred times before?

Jessica - If the questions are different it is O.K.

Bromme - Actually, Trevor, it really doesn't bother be too much because I am helping keep the tradition of Mini-School, thereby continuing the legacy which I was born into by destiny: filling the world with peace and justice for all.

Alexis - Aw man, no I don't like this, but if you make me...



Superior Hiking Trail Trip

By: Dustin Mencil

The Mini-School Superior Hiking Trail trip was a blast this year. The hikers that went were Andrew Beddor, Monica Duperre, Natalie Evans, Katie Juneau, Chris Korolchuck, Dustin Mencil, Alaina Mielke, Joe Morseth, John Shannon, and Stein Thorbeck.

The first day was a little bit cloudy and it rained in the afternoon, which was kind of a bummer, but everyone was good because people were working hard. Everyone was really pumped to hike and people were helping the whole group. According to Paul and Doug who were the teachers that were on the trip with us, we were moving at a slower pace than we would have liked but we still made it to the camp site before dark. When we got to the site we made dinner and then Doug cancelled the start of the book The Foxhound due to weather. The campsite was located at the beginning of the lake walk. Paul wanted to push for another mile or so but the group didn't want to so we stayed at that spot. It was cold, windy, and rainy so we all went to our tents after dinner.

The next morning was really nice. It was sunny and warm. We were slow leaving the campsite because nobody wanted to carry the extra group gear. Doug wasn't too happy with us. We finally got on foot and headed down the lake walk. The lake walk was tough because we were walking on rocks and our feet were

sinking in so you couldn't get a footing. We made it to the end of the lake walk and then hooked back up with the woody trail. Everyone was relieved to get back on that because the hiking was easier. For lunch we stopped at a German Bed and Breakfast. It was called the Jagerhaus. The people were really nice there. They gave us free candy and then they set out pop and chips that we could buy. On our way out they gave us each a pop for free, which was really cool. Stopping there also gave us a chance to fill up our canteens. After lunch we pushed pretty hard for the campsite. When we got to the campsite we ate dinner and the Doug started The Foxhound for the school part of the trip. When we finished we hit the tents and fell asleep.

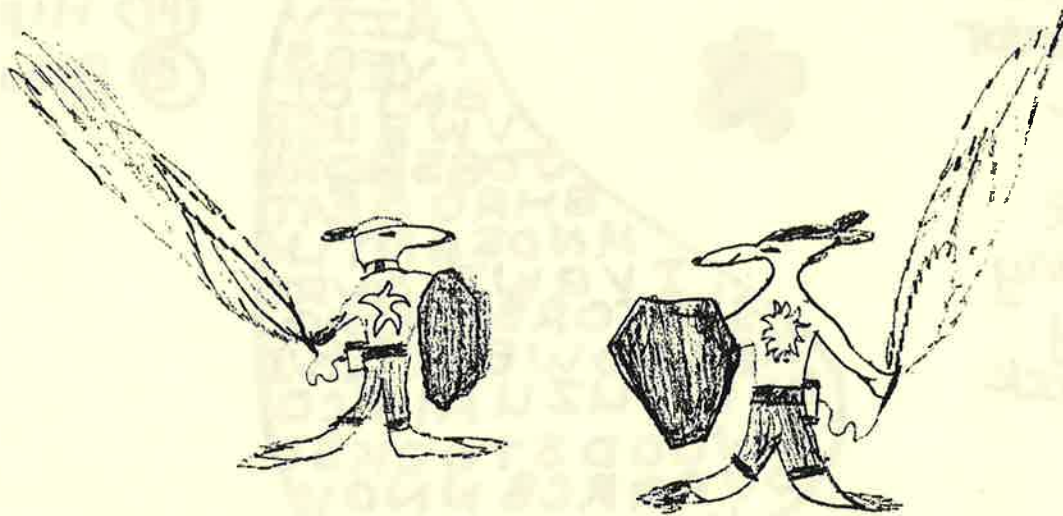
On Wednesday it was drizzling when we woke up so we had to eat in the rain. By the time we got on the trail and were hiking pretty steady it was down pouring. The rain was definitely slowing us down. We almost made it to the spot where we were going to eat lunch and Alaina slipped and sprained her ankle pretty bad. She iced it in the river while we were eating lunch. Alaina was slowed down by her injury, so we didn't make it too far. Tex and Joe and I were the first ones at the campsite so we set up our tents, and started looking for firewood. When everyone got there Doug got annoyed because no one was helping to gather wood. We finally got the fire started and made dinner. Doug read us The Foxhound but he cut it off early because it started to rain a little bit and we went to bed.

Thursday Paul got up and out of the campsite earlier than everybody else. He was going to push for Pin Cushion Mountain so he could call Alaina's grandma to come and pick her up. John and I were assigned to bring up the rear. I put Alaina's sleeping bag and sleeping pad on my pack and shortly afterwards, Paul made it back from Pin Cushion and took the rest of her gear. By the time Paul and I got back everyone else was sitting at Pin Cushion except Alaina and Natalie. Natalie was slow because her feet were hurting. Paul had me stay with him to wait for Alaina and her grandma while the rest of the group pushed for the campsite. We told Natalie to run up to the rest of the group.

Alaina's grandma arrived and took her to her home, then Paul and I were trekked hard to catch up with everyone. When we caught up to them we didn't have Natalie and she

should have been caught between the two groups. Paul and I had to run back down the trail to find her. When we got back to the highway 12 crossing Paul sent me down the road and he continued on the trail. It turns out that she made it to town and got a ride up to the campsite. So everything worked out well. We all made it to the campsite O.K. When we finished our dinner Doug finished The Foxhound and we went to bed. We all slept well knowing that we would push for home the next day.

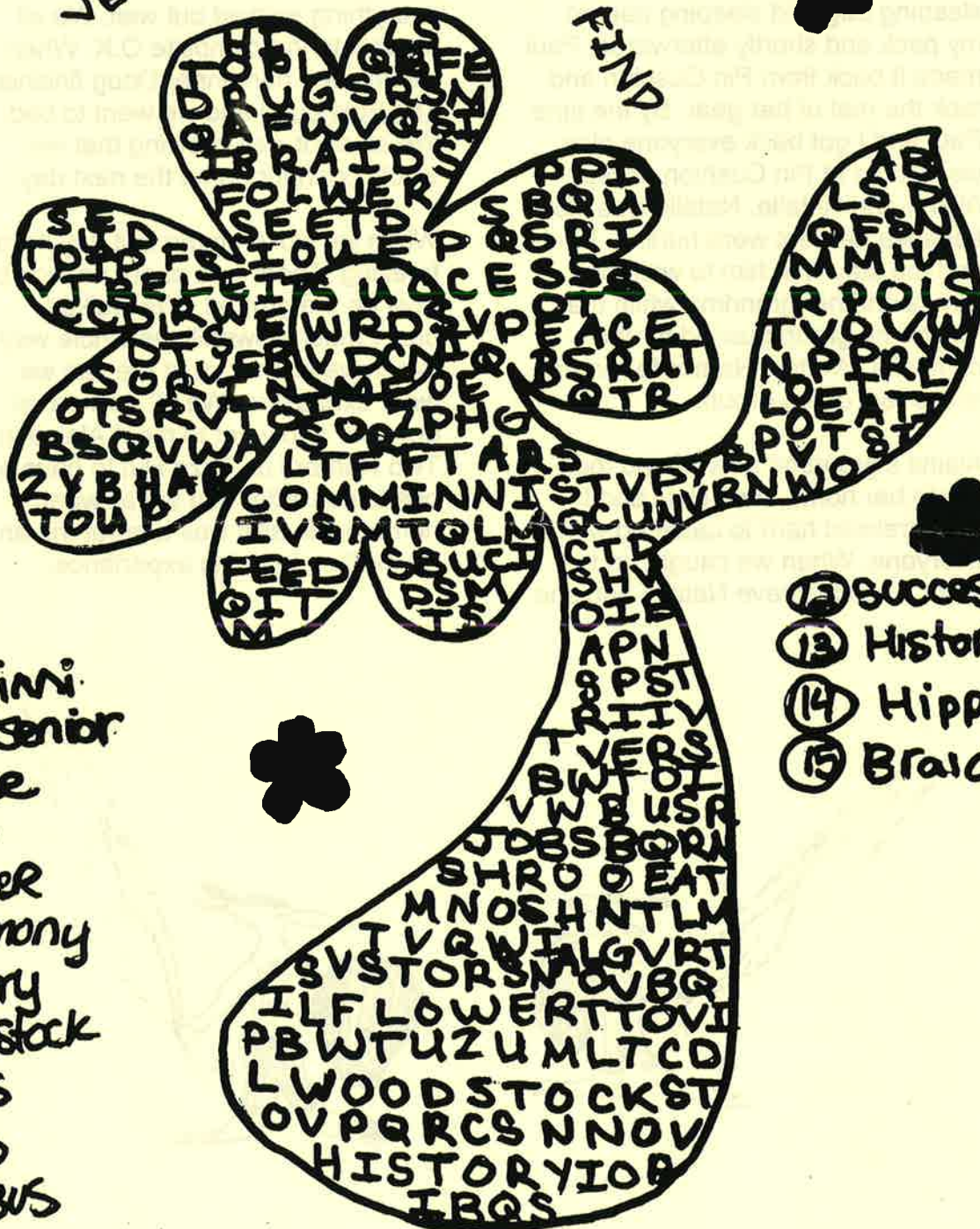
When we woke up the last day it was freezing. There was about an inch of frost on the ground. We walked pretty much downhill the whole way. When we all met up at the van we were exhausted. We all packed up our gear and went to meet Alaina in Two Harbors at Pizza Hut to have a bite to eat. After that we all went home. All in all it was a great trip and an exciting learning experience.



Flower of Power

VERY HARD WORD

FIND



KEY

- 1 COMMUNI
- 2 SUPER SENIOR
- 3 PEACE
- 4 LOVE
- 5 FLOWER
- 6 HARMONY
- 7 POETRY
- 8 WOODSTOCK
- 9 DRUGS
- 10 GOOD
- 11 VW BUS

- 12 SUCCESS
- 13 HISTORY
- 14 HIPPIE
- 15 BRAIDS

NICOLE HUDDLESTON

Interview with Barb Wilkes

By Josh Zelazny

Before I start with the interview I would like a chance to introduce Barb Wilkes. Barb is a therapist at Minnetonka High School. I had a chance to sit down with Ms Wilkes and ask her a few questions; this is what she had to say.

Q: What professional education did you receive before becoming a therapist?

I have a master's degree from St. Thomas. I attended college for 3 years, previous to that I was in school for 4 years but all together I went to school for 7 years.

Q: Approximately how many clients do you see during the school year?

During the school year I visit around 30 different clients.

Q: What is your favorite thing about working with children?

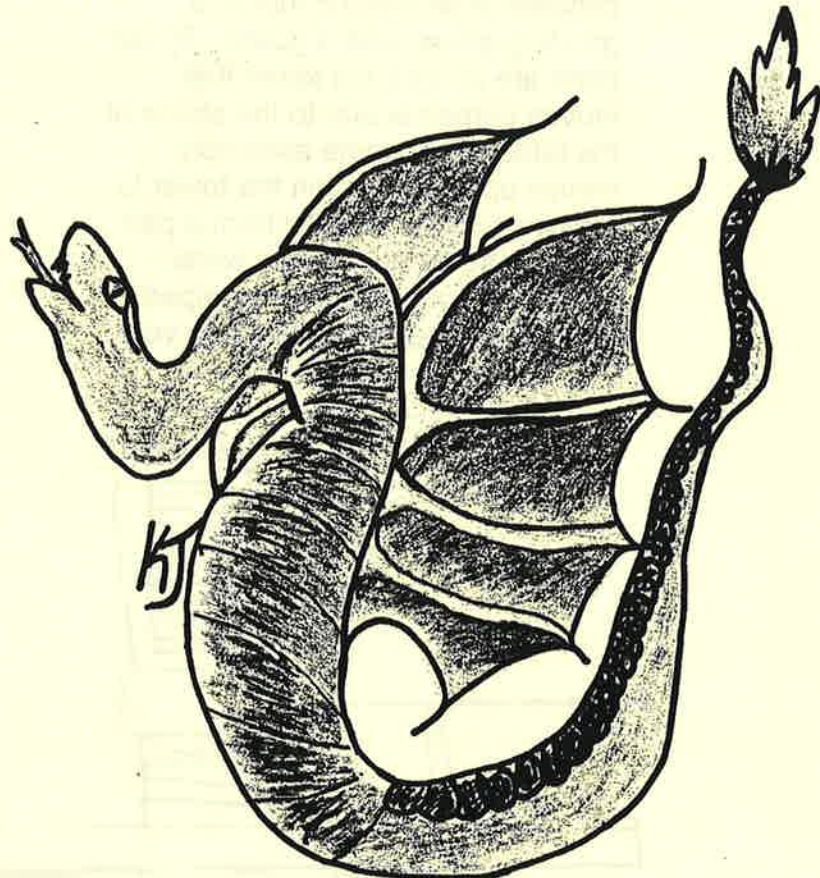
I love learning about their lives. I also like problem solving and resolving their problems. One very important thing is that I like to see the people grow from learning experiences.

Q: You listen to a lot of high stress problems. How do you keep yourself from not thinking about them when you go home at the end of the day?

I have a busy outside life. I mentally try's to put the kids problem's away until I go back. I would say that it is very difficult to accomplish.

Q: How does being a therapist help you deal with parenting?

I know the right things I'm supposed to do. It's more difficult with your own kids. I believe I'm a good parent because of being a therapist! I listen to a lot of problems. I hear kids talk about their own parents, and I correct myself with the help of my patients.



Low Tolerance Work Place

By Jon Hunter

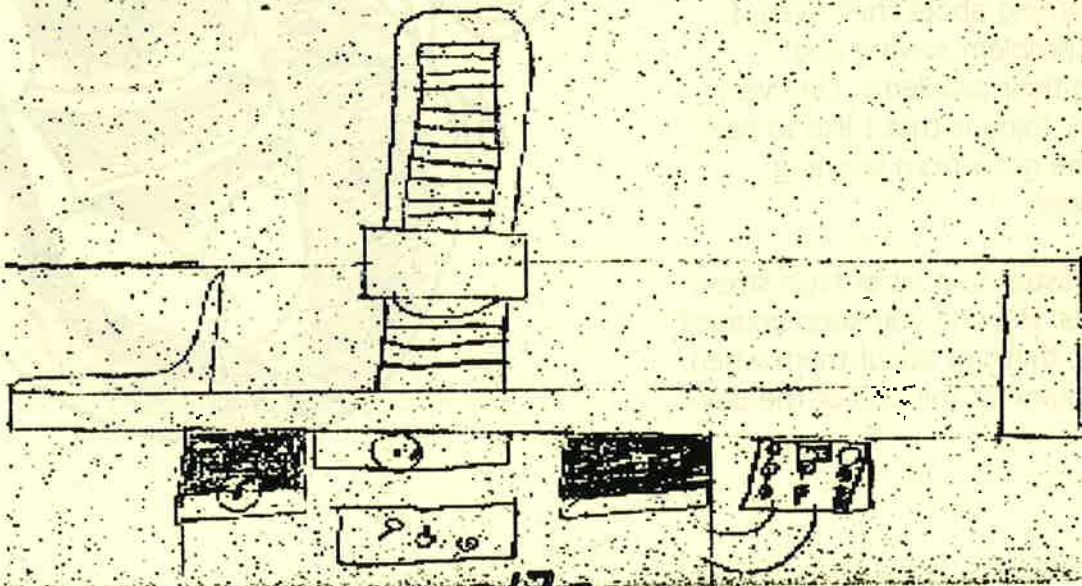
I use several different machines at the shop to accomplish the extreme level of precision required for the tight tolerances that engineers specify. For example the job I am working on now requires the use of a surface grinder. A surface grinder is a machine that generally uses a magnet to hold the parts to a hydraulically driven table. The table is pushed back and forth by a small hydraulic cylinder.

The grinding part of the machine consists of an electric motor, a grinding wheel, and a guard. Those parts are all on a big tower that moves perpendicular to the stroke of the table. That same assembly moves up and down on the tower to remove excess material from a part. To cool the parts it uses a water-soluble oil solution that is pumped through a hose, which ends up very

close to the grinding wheel.

I am working on pieces of steel that need to be flat and parallel to each other to about a tenth of the width of a human hair. So the first thing I do when I get the part is clean it with isopropyl alcohol. Next I run a flat stone along the large surfaces to remove all remaining contaminants. Then I measure the part for flatness and parallelism and determine which of the two larger sides is bowed up.

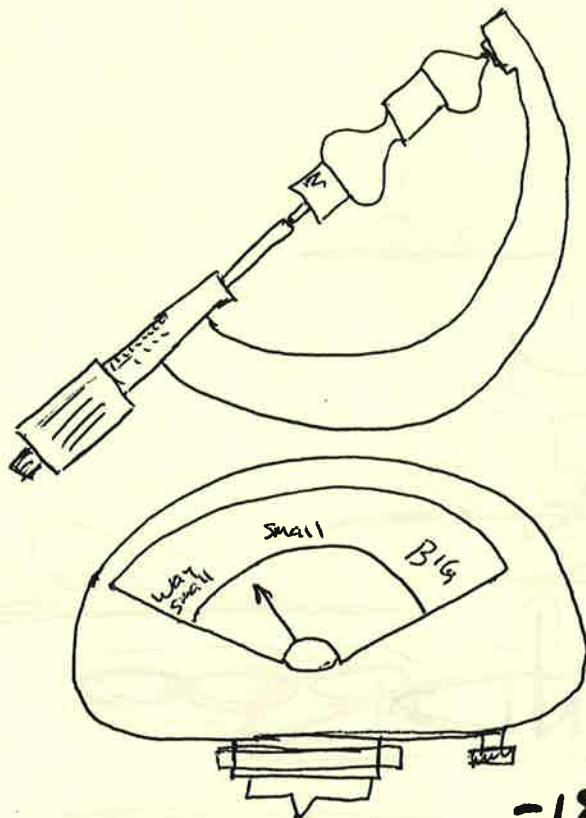
When this is done I start preparing the grinder. I use the isopropyl alcohol to clean the magnetic surface and I use the flat stone to remove any remaining contaminants. After that is all completed I place the part on the magnetic surface bowed side up. I use a special type of glue that seeps into irregularities in the surface facing the magnet were the metal does not actually touch the magnet. This keeps those spots



from being sucked down by the magnet, which would cause the other side of the part to distort. I then turn on the hydraulics, the grinding wheel motor, the magnet and the coolant pump.

I adjust the grinding wheel height so that it is just above the part, start the table movement by pushing a lever, and start the coolant flowing over the part. I feed the wheel down until it touches the part then I grind it to proper size. After that I stop the table, and turn off the coolant. I remove the part from the grinder and proceed to clean and measure it again.

That is what I do for a living. I hope you have found this article interesting and slightly informative.



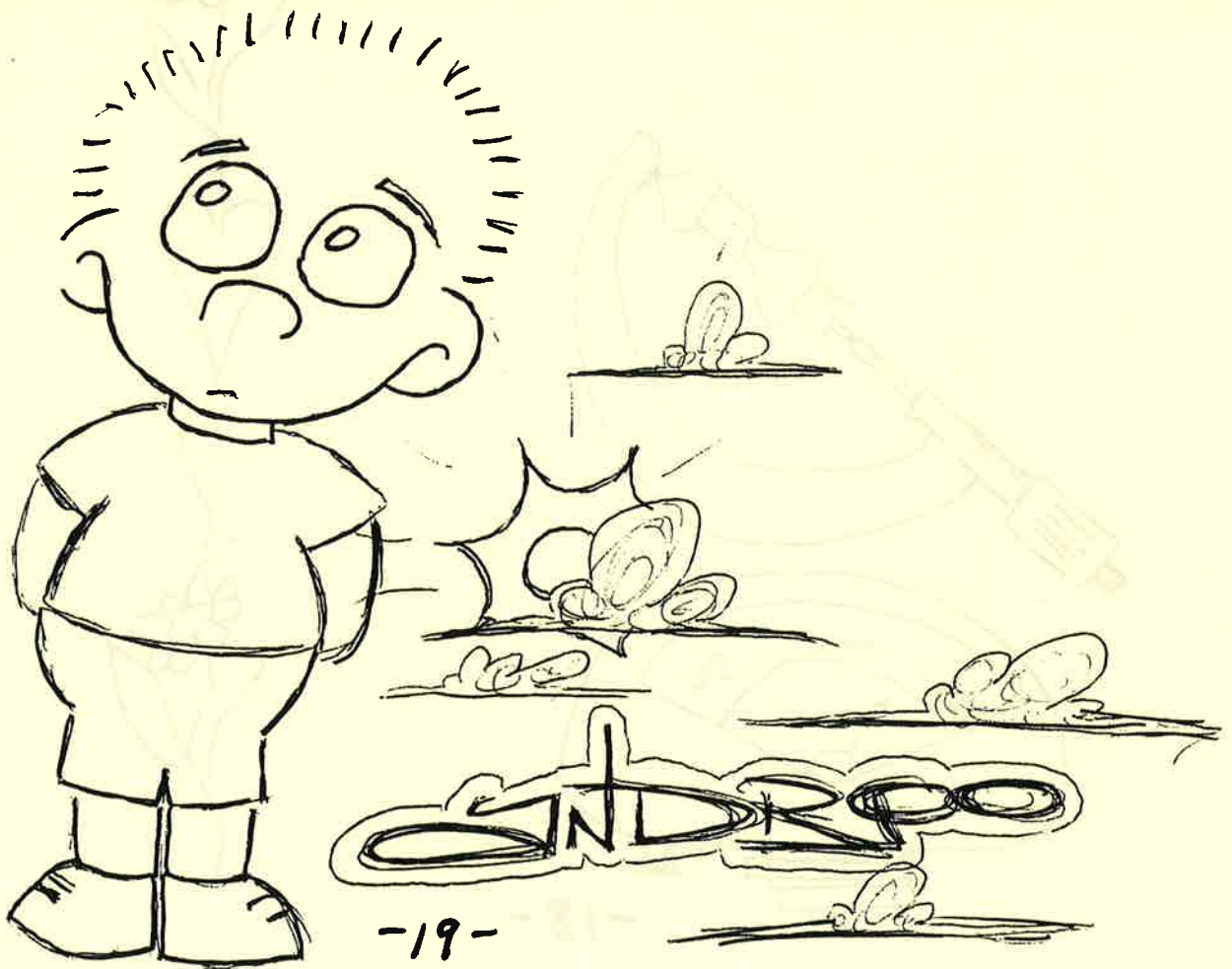
I Love You

What once had an eternal meaning, is now just a silly phrase that gets passed around like pollen. A simple sentence containing three words: two pronouns and a verb. A sentence that can mean the world to lovers yet jack to acquaintances pretending to be friends. But then, when is it, to be exact, you decide your acquaintances are your "friends"? Because, in all actuality you never really know. There is no barrier that you cross that profoundly or profusely tells you that you've entered friendship-ness. You kind of decide that on your own. And maybe there is a reason why you choose to allow some to cross the line and not others. You win some and you lose

some. But it's never quite clear which ones you've won and which ones you've lost. You never know if it was a mistake to gain, or a mistake to lose. Because on one hand you lost something, but you never would have lost it if you had never gained it. If you had lost whatever you had, you could have actually gained something, but somewhere along the line you fell in love or you thought you did, and felt bad about it. When really, the love died long ago, or perhaps had never even existed.

So back to my point about love. Never say it unless you mean it, and never mean it because it doesn't last.

~Truth



Interview With a Beginning Company

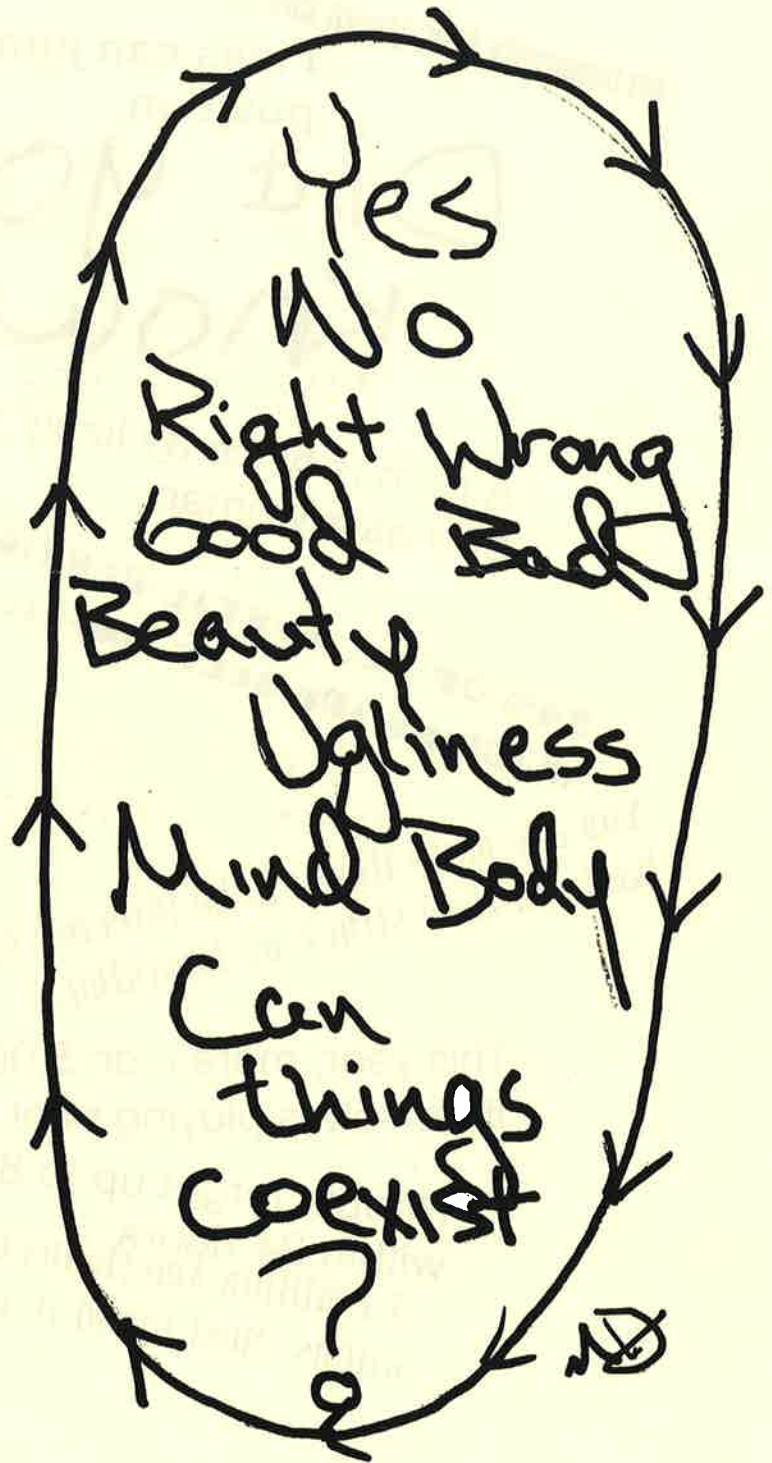
By: David Zernehel

This is an interview with a teenager who does not want to work for someone else. He wants to start his own business.

1. What is the name of your company?
Banana Boards
2. What is your name?
Royce Allen Wagner
3. When is this company going to start up?
Most likely, in 4 or 5 months.
4. Where are you getting your money from in 4 to 5 months?
I'm getting a loan from my mom.
5. How are you going to sell your stuff?
By sponsorship.
6. What kind of stuff are you selling?
Cloths, skateboards, stickers, and soon shoes will be coming to the business.
7. Where are you getting the sponsorship?
From friends.
8. Starting out, if the sponsorship does not work, how are you going to sell your stuff?
I'll sell 'em myself.
9. Who is on your team?
David, Kelly, Kuna, Kevin, Emery, Tyler.
10. Where do you see your self with this business right now?
Just starting out.

11. How long do you see your company lasting?
Years.

Well that's it.
You can decide for yourself if you think his business will make it or not.



Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months two could have over a million descendents.

It's harder to tell a convincing lie to someone you're physically attracted to.

An unusually long yawn can break your jawbone.

Fleas can jump 13 feet from a standing position.

Did you know?

By Emily Dolentz

A man is twice as likely to fall out of a hospital bed as a woman.

34% OF ACCIDENTAL HUNTING DEATHS AND INJURIES ARE SELF-INFLICTED.

Using a cellphone while driving increases your chances of being in an accident by 39%.

You are more likely to be infected by flesh-eating bacteria than struck by lightning.

This year, more than 5,000 people will injure themselves playing pool.

People forget up to 80% of what they learn within 24 hours.
3.7 million Americans claim to have been abducted by aliens. Most found it a positive experience.

YOU KEEP US RUNNING Donations and Gifts to Mini-School

In times when budgets are tight, a school district can only provide the bare essentials to keep its programs going. Mini-School has definitely felt the effects of Minnetonka's restricted budget, to the point where we needed, in recent years, to fight to maintain our staffing level. However, Mini-School has a tradition of gathering support directly from those who have benefited from the program, and this fall has shown us how thoughtful and generous our own Mini-School community is.

We have received many contributions of classroom materials, such as pens, pencils and paper, along with the practical (but often overlooked) facial tissue. Along with these things, we have also gotten technical help of a less visible nature with everything from replacing broken VCR's in Mini's classrooms, to space, fuel and expertise for welding our new trailer.

This year along with the ever-present *Star-Tribune* newspaper, we are using *Time* magazine as a resource for the Current-Events class. This has a cost of \$20.80 per magazine for the school year subscription. We have gotten several one and two magazine sponsorships from the parents who feel a desire to give back to the program.

Remember, any contributions you may make to Mini-School are fully

tax deductible. Contact the Mini-School office if you would like information on how to contribute.

Mini-School staff, students, and parents would like to thank the following people and groups for their support so far in the 2001-2002 school year.

Debra Young and Tom Meyer
Candy and "Tuna" Sjostrom
Kurt Witte
Mary Witte
Paula and Mike Wegler
Mike and Diane Beddor
Marty and Beth Kuder
Linda and Jerry Garrett
David and Ellen Osmonson
Jerry and Cynthia Gill
Tom and Jayne Allen
Colleen Steven
Sheryl and Greg Mielke
Jim and Alice Yount
Mike and Janet Cohen
William and Holly Bernstein
Don Bergman
Carol Bergman
Scott and Mary Morseth
Charlie Urbia
Ryan Prich

The Hanson Racing Team
Kinko's of Minnetonka
McCoys Petroleum
Professional Instruments Company
Glenn Skoy and his excellent staff in
the MHS Media Center

If you know of others who have given in the same spirit as these people, please call the Mini-School office, and we will be sure to give them the recognition they deserve.

Contributors to Com-Mini-Cations

Writers

Jon Hunter
Emily Dolentz
Josh Zelazny
David Zernechel
Katie Juneau
Trevor McDonald
Dustin Mencil
Nikki Huddleston
Kelly Meyers
Nate Davis
Lexy Montemayor
Natalie Evans
Janel Hagstrom
Steve Lawson
Tom Mason
Tamara Roberts

Guest Writer

Matt Thompson

Student Editors

Tom Mason
Tamara Roberts
Jessica Johnson
Kelly Meyers

Teacher Editor

Merlin Zimmerman

Word Processors

David Zernechel
Dustin Mencil
Kelly Meyers
Jon Hunter
Emily Dolentz
Trevor McDonald
Monica Williams
Natalie Evans
Josh Zelazny
Lexy Montemayor

Layout and Design

Billy Knight
Nate Davis

Production

Deb Christensen

Cover Art

Trevor McDonald

Other Art Work

Shane Pelino
David Zernechel
Nikki Huddleston
Emily Dolentz
Jon Hunter

Com-Mini-Cations
Mini-School Program
Minnetonka High School
Minnetonka School District #276
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, MN 55345

Non Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Excelsior, MN 55331
Permit #66

December 2001

Address Correction Requested

Minnesota Weatherguide Calendar

Sale Coming To An End!

Call the Mini-School office (401-5920) for your last minute purchases. Wall and appointment calendars are \$15.00 each.

**Have a Happy
Winter Holiday
Season**