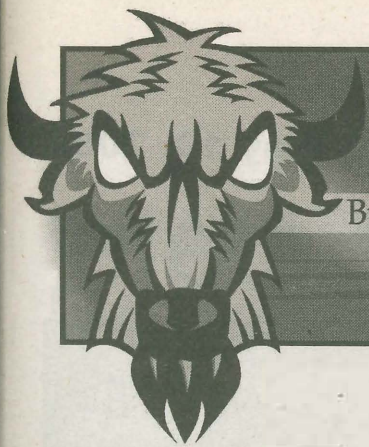




# The Hoofprint

Volume 35 Issue 7

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## Tracking the Bison

### Cast and crew make a scandal on stage

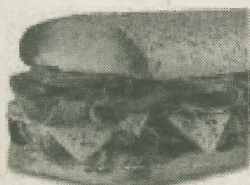
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**Kathleen Dehmer**  
Staff Writer

"Fifteen hours yesterday and another fifteen today," sighed a tired actress as the frantic crew ran through a set change at the dress rehearsal two days before the opening of *A Flea In Her Ear*. Six-and-a-half hours of school each day plus the hours spent at play practice leaves minimum time for much else.

From March 8 through April 24, these dedicated cast and crew members found only three week-days that didn't include play practice. Once into April two-a-day practices were added on Saturdays.

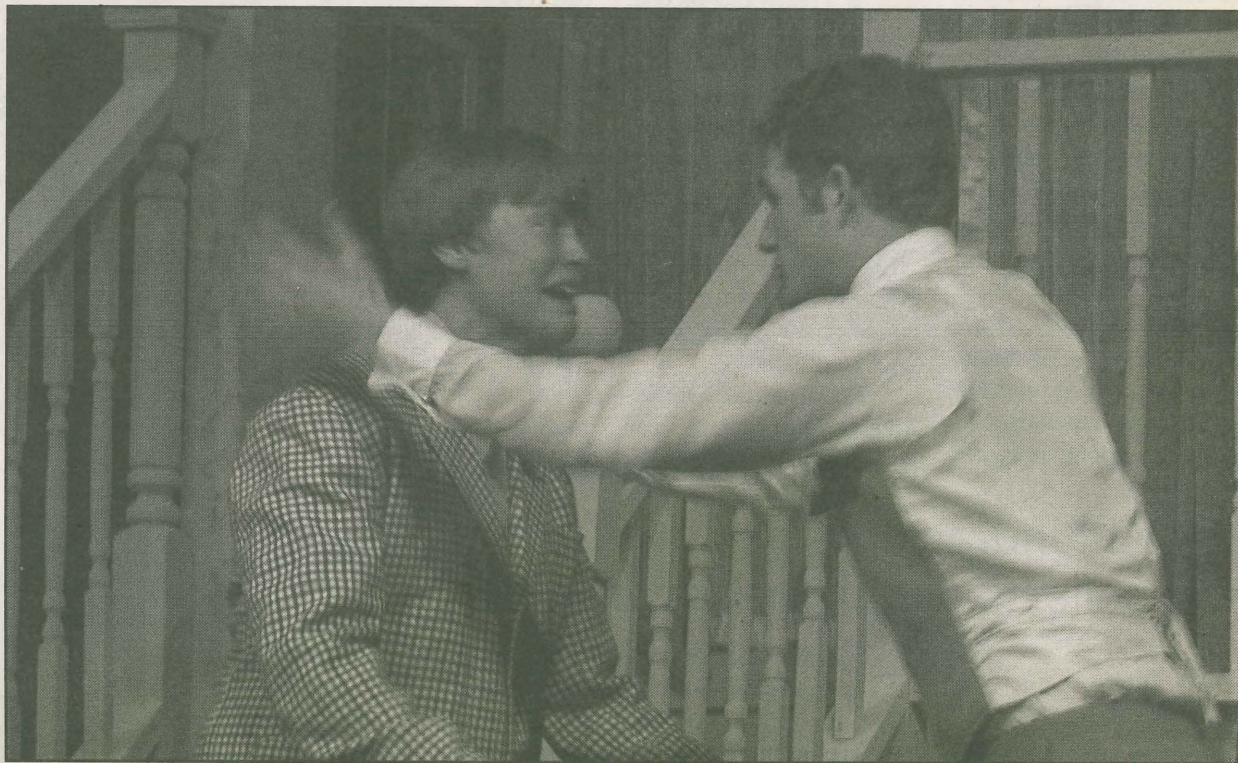
The spring play, *A Flea in Her Ear*, is defined as a farce, which is a light dramatic composition marked by broadly satirical comedy and improbable plot. It was unlike any recent play BHS has put on.

"I wanted to teach them about a different kind of comedy," said Director **Tracy Hagstrom-Dahl**. "One of the reasons is because I do too many dramas and the kids needed something funny. I wanted to challenge them."

The actors took on the challenge and the audience seemed to like the result.

"I thought it was really good," said senior **JoJo Jacques**. "It was definitely one of the best plays I've seen put on by the High School."

The thought and detail put into the play were also acknowledged.



Jason Olson plays Camile Chandeise and Eric Wright is Victor-Emmanuel Chandeise in Buffalo High School's production of *A Flea In Her Ear*. Photo by Anna McCarty

"It was cast very well, everyone seemed to fit their parts," said senior **Katie Mahlberg**.

Not only was the type of play a challenge but dedication played a big role in the success of the play.

"It's a large commitment," said junior **Kendra Tregaskis**. "You're there for practice from after school to ten-thirty sometimes, especially during rehearsal week. I couldn't be in any sports, I wanted to be in track, but you have to choose one or the other."

After school in the spring BHS stays busy, some students flock to

the locker rooms to change for practice, some stay to manage a sport, others work with the newspaper or yearbook. For these actors and crew members it was off to the PAC to rehearse lines, work on the set, adjust sound and lights, or assist in any other jobs needed to make the play work.

"It's kind of my sport," said senior **Eric Wright**. "I've been in every play since I was a freshman, and it's what I like to do."

Play practices not only filled after school time but also week-ends and evenings.

"My life pretty much revolved around the show," said junior **Jamie West**. "It's hard because I have my little sisters at home and I didn't get to see them often."

That kind of commitment is not uncommon in theater or with her previous experience. The time and commitment of the set and crew was a result of their passion for the play and desire for a successful end product.

"I think everybody is really dedicated to every show, to make it the best," said West. "You put your heart and soul into it."

### Tragedy strikes BHS; students grieve the loss of a friend

**Brooke Sandahl**  
Staff Writer

Headed westbound on county road 36, a green Plymouth failed to negotiate a left curve and skidded into the eastbound lane. As the green Plymouth lost control, it collided with a white Econoline van.

**Christopher Thorton**, the driver of the green Plymouth, and Joshua Lowe (Chris Thorton's step-brother) were retrieving a motorcycle that Lowe had lent to a friend. Upon returning, Lowe took the lead riding on his motorcycle while Thorton followed behind. Lowe passed a truck in front

of them, and Thorton followed his example. As he attempted to pass, he lost control of the car and skidded into oncoming traffic. Thorton, a senior, was pronounced dead on arrival on April 4th, 2004. As the word spread of Thorton's death, friends and family were lost in the lonely sea of grieving.

"I was at my house watching TV on Saturday morning when my friend **Jacob Gapinski** called me and told me that Chris had died," said junior **Jeremy Bautch**. "I was hoping it wasn't the same Chris. I was hoping it was someone else. I was overwhelmed and needed to go for a drive. I

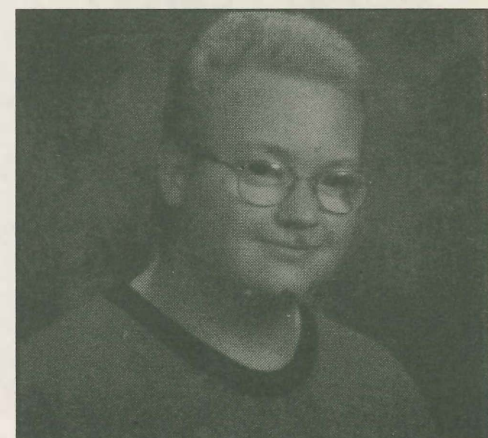
went to Chris's house to make sure it was true. I couldn't go into the house though because I knew I would break down, so I just sat in my car. It was too hard."

Although Thorton's death left the friends and family sad, senior **Nathan Tierney** learned something from the situation.

"Because of the accident Chris was in, it's taught me to be a careful driver," said Tierney.

• Thorton

Continued on page 8



Christopher Thorton



## Every BPA member competes at state

**Serena Buttenhoff**  
Staff Writer

**B**usiness Professionals of America (BPA) is a student organization for business and office occupations.

All eight members of BPA made it to the state meet which was held in Minneapolis from March 11 to the 13.

At the State Meet **Stephanie Wolf, Paul Plusa, Tyler Dushane,** and **Adam Anderson** advanced to nationals.

The students prepared

for meets by getting help from business teachers **Amy Alinder** and **Jim Bollum**.

"It's really one on one, helping the kids," said Alinder.

BPA started at Buffalo High School in 2000. Last year, ten students made it to state and one went to nationals.

"We have never had 100% of our team make it to state, it's really exciting," said Alinder.

The meets are competitive. The students can sign up for two categories

and then go to regions for one day. The top five and top two teams move on.

There are four main categories. The most common that are chosen are administrative support and information technology.

Since most of the competing students are seniors this year, BPA will need new members to take their place next year.

"I have always been interested in joining BPA but the opportunity has never been presented to me," said **Sarah Eckhoff**.



From left to right: **Top Row:** Adam Anderson, Paul Plusa, Jason Wood **Bottom Row:** Stephanie Wolff, Caitlin Murphy, and Kayla Schmidt Not pictured: Tyler Dushane and Ryan Markwardt. Photo by Megan Warfield

## JMNG fundraiser raises over \$400 and collects donations for animals

**Emily Weis**  
Staff Writer

Every year in **Chantel Reed's** JMNG (Jobs from Minnesota Graduates) class, students are required to earn a credit by either doing a community service project or putting together some sort of drive to help organizations.

Last April, JMNG helped put together the Humane Society Drive. This drive alone raised over \$400 in cash and \$200 worth of pet products.

The students are going to use the \$400 to go and shop for supplies needed by the humane society so that the society will receive

the necessary items for the animals they have there.

"The students worked really hard and we're really excited about the results," said **Reed**. "The students had a lot of time to prepare and a lot of thought was put into it."

There are 28 students in JMNG. The class is year long and gives them a full credit.

All the students contributed to the humane society drive.

"I made some signs, and the drive was really rewarding," said senior **Kyle Quigley**. "I got to save puppies."

## Bison enter new conference

**Stefan Robinson**  
Staff Writer

Starting next school year, Buffalo High School will no longer be part of the North Suburban Conference.

The new conference, which hasn't been named yet, includes Monticello, St. Michael-Albertville, Becker, Rogers, Big Lake, Princeton and Cambridge. The decision was made because the districts in our area are growing to equal size.

To get it to work they needed to consider the geography and give a one and a half year notice to the conference they are currently in. In order to set up and make the conference work there is a great amount of input from all of the schools.

"The decision took a group effort from each school's Activities Director, Principal and superintendent," said Activities Director **Tom Bauman**. "Each school will then get School Board

Approval."

Both staff and students like the idea of a new conference. The competition will be similar but may vary by individual sports.

"It's a good idea," said junior **Eric Jenkins**. "The teams will be more equal, opposed to one team always dominating."

All of the schools are close in size in terms of enrollment. Accommodations will be made in some of the sports where there is a somewhat smaller enrollment.

"The new conference is an awesome idea," said junior **Jason Weber**. "The abilities of all the teams are closer to equal."

A new conference of districts closer to our size and closer to us distance wise, allows spectators to only have to travel one hour at the most to a sporting event next year. The teams and students will no longer have to travel into the metro.



The mission of *The Hoofprint* is to be authoritative, aggressive, essential, caring, and creative as a leading source of news and information for the students and staff of Buffalo High School.

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Our production office is located in Room A-209. The editorial office phone number is (763)682-8162. Our mailing address is Buffalo High School, 877 Bison Blvd, Buffalo, Minn., 55313. Emails should be sent to [rmccallu@buffalo.k12.mn.us](mailto:rmccallu@buffalo.k12.mn.us).



**Buffalo High School**  
Buffalo, Minnesota



## Dead cannibals return

**Nathan Hopkins**  
Staff Writer

Imagine waking up in the morning and looking out the window, expecting to see the blue sky, the bright sun, and the birds flying around, but instead you see your neighbors getting eaten by zombies. That's how it all began. Zombies, gore, blood curdling terror, a little bit of crude humor, and sarcasm are used to create a

remake of George A Romero's 1979 horror classic *The Dawn of the Dead*.

Running low on ammunition, food, and sanity, a group of survivors (lead by actors Sara Polley, Ving Rhames, and Mekhi Phifer) make haven in a local mall as they fight for the survival of what is left of mankind.

Every dark corner could hold evil and death. When there is no room in hell, the dead will walk the earth.

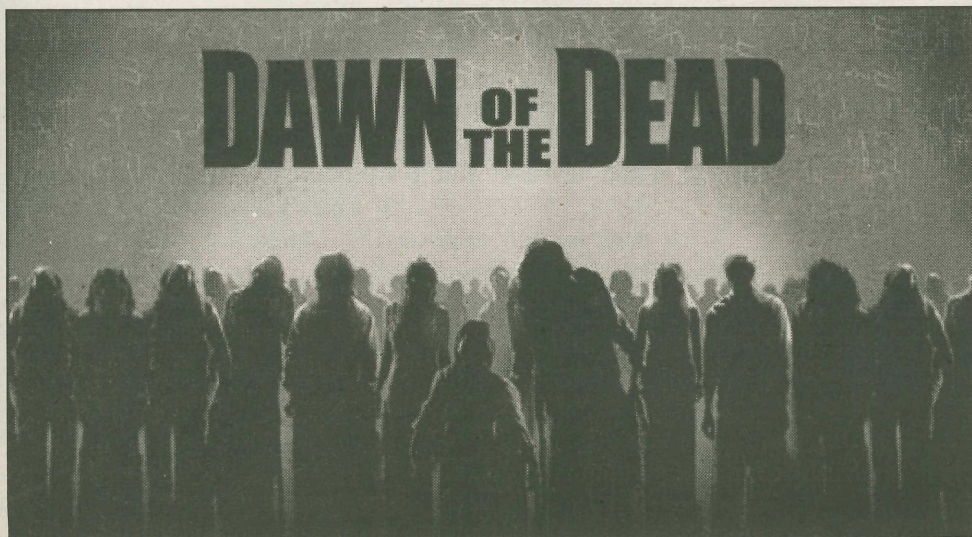


Photo courtesy of dawnofthedeادمovie.net

## Shadow Man haunts BHS

**Brooke Sandahl and Samantha Cote**  
Staff Writers

*'Twas the night before finals when all through the schoolhouse, not a creature was stirring not even a mouse. The tests were hidden in a cupboard with care in fear that shadow man soon would be there.*

Shadow man, a legend born in the World Language Resource Area is described as a dark, mysterious figure in the shape of a man. Revealing himself only when least expected, teachers are caught off guard and tell the stories to their students.

"When I first started teaching here, he came and checked out my class room," said Spanish teacher **Brian Harapat**. "He comes by before and after school and paces back and forth in front of my door. When I notice him he goes away-I think he is shy. He is friendly, doesn't want to bother anyone, I think he is just curious."

While some may say that shadow man is but a figure of their imagination, others claim to have seen him and support

his existence with stories of their own experiences.

"One day I was teaching class and I saw this shadow out of the corner of my eye standing behind a student," said Spanish teacher **Nancy Eiyneck**. "At the same time, the student said he felt a shiver on the back of his neck."

If a shadow appears or strange things occur some people automatically blame shadow man. However, some remain unconvinced of his existence despite strange occurrences.

"My friend and I were listening to a message in Eiyneck's office," said senior **Amanda Bartos**. "Eiyneck came in and closed the door and later started screaming because the door opened, but I don't believe in ghosts, so I think the door wasn't shut all the way and it just popped open."

Whether shadow man exists or not, the stories do exist and from several different sources. Captivating the minds and imaginations of existing teachers and students alike, the legend of shadow man remains a mystery.

## Subway and Quiznos battle for sub superiority

**Brianna Brush**  
Staff Writer

Friends and family alike try to choose a specific place they all like to eat at, but with Subway versus Quiznos it can be a tough choice. Subway has been here longer, but as this new sub sandwich franchise popped up many people have been torn.

Let's start with the older submarine sandwich restaurant. It was founded in 1965 by a 17 year old college freshman named Fred DeLuca and a family friend Dr. Peter Buck. They both got together on a family celebration; got to talking and came up with a sandwich chain, but it was not known as Subway, it was known as Pete's Super Submarine. Now the franchise exploded with 21,015 restaurants in 73 countries. One of those stores is in this town at 701 Soo Ln. right across from the McDonald's.

"I think people enjoy Subway over Quiznos is because of the low-fat sandwiches," said Subway Manager **Ava Schmidt**.

At nine o'clock in the morning the doors are open to the public to get some healthier fast food. Before that, the four employees have to do some preparations. They have to make the bread at around five o'clock, heat the meat up and put out the choices to go on the subs. Finally the costumers show up at the busiest time, lunchtime, which is from eleven to one. Their choices are soups, salads and of course the traditional sub. Some sandwiches that had hit big with the public are the Atkins friendly subs. But they don't stay with the recommendations, thinking that they can add anything they want.

"I like Subway better because I am so used to

ordering what I usually get and if I try something I don't like my money will be wasted," said sophomore **Lucy Rinck**.

As the new Quiznos opened up in Buffalo people have been trying the new toasted taste. The first restaurant opened in 1981 and spread quickly in the U.S. Soon 2,500 restaurants in 15 countries were available and they were the number one sandwich chain ranked by U.S system wide sales growth in July 2003.

When the six to seven employees enter the restaurant they have to prepare for their hungry costumers. They cut the meat, cheeses and vegetables, and then they open the doors at eleven o'clock sharp. Unlike Subway, everything is fresh.

"I think people prefer Quiznos because our toppings are all fresh while Subway's are frozen," said Quiznos Manager **Sherri Orsucci**.

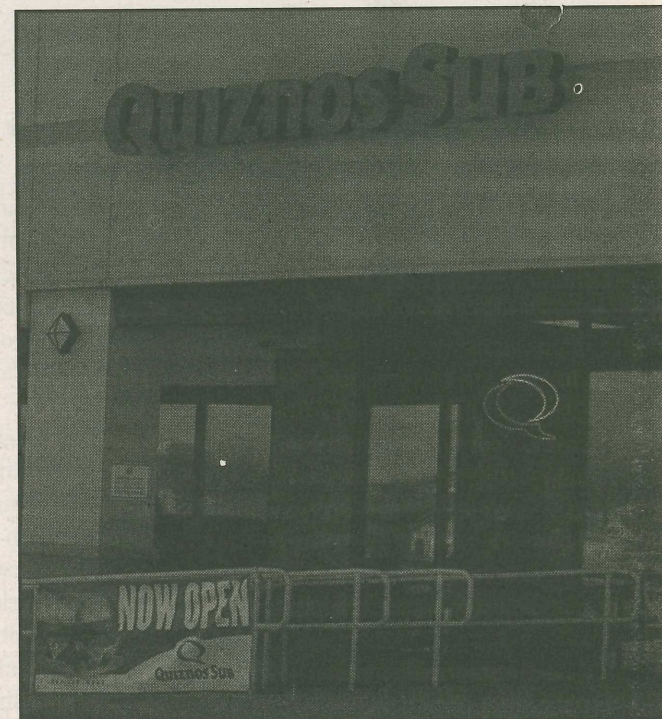
With the new location in the new strip mall by Wal-Mart, they have had good business because it is on Highway 25. People pour into the restaurant at the lunch hour sneaking in comments about the sponge monkey's on the Quiznos commercials. Love or hate them, the people still buy soup, salads, subs and the new flat-bread sandwiches.

"I like Quiznos better because it is new and different, I also think it is better toasted," said freshman **Ashley Schiferli**.

Whether this will help you decide which one is better at least you know what is available. With either the familiar Subway or the new Quiznos you will end up with a full stomach. A Subway/Quiznos taste test was conducted and 13 out of 16 preferred Quiznos. The secret is the

sauce and seasonings they add to the sandwich adding a little more kick to it. Some of the students preferred the bread at Subway than that of Quiznos.

"It was really good but messy," said sophomore **Natasha Bursch**. "They added some seasonings too and that made it all worth it."



With the grand opening of Quiznos Sub in Buffalo, residents now have another option for sandwiches. Photo by Ashley Dressen



## What rights do you have left?

**Derek Swart**  
Guest Writer

What if I were to tell you that almost half of the Bill of Rights had been destroyed by Congress following the Twin Towers disaster? What would you say if I told you that you could be picked up in a "terrorist" sweep and held indefinitely without your family knowing? What would you do if I told you this was true?

September 11th marked the end of an era in the United States' History. We ceased to be known as an impartial voice in world politics and became seen as a wounded giant like the Cyclops of the Odyssey. We had been attacked, and the news would not let us forget it. Something had to be done, that much had been agreed on. Bipartisanship seemed to be alleviated, at least for the time being, and Congress was working as one unanimous voice calling for vengeance against those who had wronged the American people. However, they were faced with a difficult decision. We had not been attacked by a country, so therefore we could not declare war. We had been attacked by a group of people who shared a common idea: we are American infidels who had to be annihilated. So in all their fervor, Congress declared war on terrorism.

We have all watched the news and had "war on terror" coming out of our ears for some time now.

By this time, who really cares what happens in Afghanistan or Iraq, so long as we can get our TVs back to the Simpsons and Entertainment Tonight, correct? But what repercussions did our hasty retaliation in the Post- 9/11 era bring about?

As most of you who were awake in American Experience for more than 35% of the time (I do know that there are some of you out there that weren't, which is an undertaking in and of itself to be commended) are aware of, you are entitled to certain inalienable rights as a human being, but even more as an American. You have the right to say what you want. I have the right to write what I want. You have the right to bear arms. I have the right to call you unkind names for wanting to bear arms, but I still have to sit quietly because you have the right to do what you want so long as you don't shoot me. In which case, I have the right to sue you. Our rights are the basis of how we live. We can choose our careers, how we want to vote, how we want to dress, what sex we want to be (well, kind of), and what we want to say in private with our peers. What if we couldn't? It is at this juncture that I get to the crux of the issue at hand.

As American citizens, you have more than likely heard of the Roe V. Wade controversy; The Abortion controversy, and as teenagers, you more that likely have an opinion on this. This issue

has been hotly debated for the past 20 to 25 years, give or take a few. There has finally been some headway recently, as Mr. Bush is expected to sign the end of 3rd trimester abortions into law, the good of which is debatable. The point that I am making here is, just six weeks after September the eleventh, Congress passed the largest piece of legislature of our generation: Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 or The Patriot Act.

If you remember the era after September 11th at all, you will recall that we were scared, and we needed some protection from those people who hated our freedom and wanted to cut us up in to little pieces with box cutters. This was our answer. However, it was not entirely thought through or well researched. Apparently, the 107th Congress had not read the Constitution or the Bill of Rights, or even had much of a conscience because if they had, they would not have introduced such a blatant example of how dangerous it is to be an American, not only abroad, but in your homes as well. Did you know that your phones can now be tapped, your mail read, your email intercepted, and your news media covered? I bet you didn't. Did you know that if you are suspected of being a terrorist, you can be held for an indefinite amount of time

without giving you a phone call, an attorney, or even a courtesy "While you were out we kidnapped your son" to your family? Now you may be asking yourself, why would anyone think that I'm a terrorist? I don't make bombs. I'm a good American. I pay my taxes and watch Dateline. Well, say you're a farmer, and its springtime, and you want to order 100 pounds of Nitrogen rich fertilizer. That's good, right? Nope, sorry. You my friend, are now capable of blowing up a certain building in Oklahoma City, if any of you recall the tragedy in the id 90's. You go away.

What about the right to privacy? Surely I can find asylum in my home? Well, that's not so true anymore. So much for the Search and Seizure amendment, the FBI can now enter your home without a warrant and arrest you on what they find. They have access of everything from medical records, financial records, and even the gun right under your pillow at night. It's okay, if they arrest you. Your lawyer can get you out, right? Right? Well, no. The Patriot Act also disregards the attorney-client privileges. If you tell your lawyer a super-special secret, there's a possibility it won't stay so super-special secret and can be used against you in a court of law. Oops, no luck there either.

Come on now, this will never actually be used, it's just a precaution. There are holes in that argu-

ment too. How many of you have heard pf Guantanamo Bay, Cuba? It's that place in the movie A Few Good Men with Jack Nicholson and Tom Cruise. Gosh I like that flick... Oh, and that's where we are holding a whole lot of people whom we thought to be terrorists, and we claimed them as Prisoners of War. We aren't at war with them, so technically, we are guilty of war crimes, just like the people who still that have our soldiers from Vietnam and Korea that won't give them back, so we hang black P.O.W. flag in honor of them. Whooo... That's a mouthful. That's what it boils down to.

There has to be some good news, right? Yes! I'm glad you brought that up. There is good news. Although it is technically illegal, there are 81 cities (and counting) that have taken a vote of the population and decided that the Patriot Act cannot take precedence over America's founding principals in their town. But it's not like this can really make a huge difference, right? Well, not necessarily. These cities include Cambridge, Amherst, and Berkley. For those of you who don't care about geography, those are cites that are home to three of America's Ivy League schools. These are the great minds of tomorrow making a stand and saying that we shall not be quiet as our future is taken away from us, lest this great nation perish from the earth.

## TOXIC POLLUTION IS EVERYONE'S PROBLEM

**Ryan Brown**  
Staff Writer

Everybody has to breathe. We all have to breathe the same air. If people knew everything about the air they breathe, things would change in a hurry. Even walking in Minneapolis, you are continuously breathing cancer causing particles. Obviously part of the population does not really care about pollution, since some people smoke.

Big industry like to pollute. They like to pollute so much that they will pay money to do it. Enron did this before it went bankrupt. They can do this un the Clean Act of 1990. If a company does not pollute their "share," another business can pay money for it. Companies should not be able to go past their limit just because they have money.

As technology advances, companies are able to purchase more and better ways to control the pollution they create. Should they be forced to implement these innovations? The government could help out with these costs, to better the air of the general public.

The Bush Administration seems to think that our air is just the place to store harmful chemicals. He even backed out of his campaign pledge to seek out mandatory emission restrictions for electric power plants, America's biggest polluters. George W. Bush appoints people tied to industry to science panels. This kind of information isn't published in newspapers; it gets pushed under the rug. Should the public be more aware?

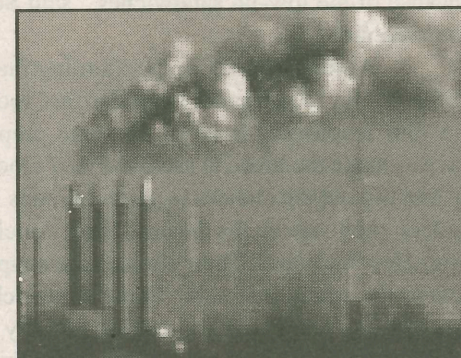
Power plants produce a large amount of pollution. Cost is no reason to use coal

and petroleum power plants today. We value our air quality over saving a little money. Nuclear may not be the way to go, since nuclear waste takes a very long time to disintegrate, but natural gas is very clean compared to coal. Our government should provide money to help cities be able to afford natural gas power, because coal is much too dangerous to us. It has been proven that particles form coal plants only have killed thousands of people per year, in just the United States.

Cars today have not changed a whole lot since the invention of the fuel injector. The U.S. government should create an incentive to overhaul the entire gas system to hydrogen, or provide money so hydride cars are actually cheaper than their alternatives. As of yet, the only car companies in the world that have created hydride cars are

in countries other than the U.S.

Air pollution is a side effect of technology that needs to be taken care of. We like our toys, and we like to have fun, but it's not as fun when our toys eventually kill us.



The Seattle skyline is filled with smog from a nearby power plant. Power plants and factories contribute much of urban pollution.



## The work-proof life

**Nathan Hopkins**  
Staff Writer

The other day, I was at the grocery standing in line at the checkout counter. I had about 15 to 20 items that I started to set up on the lane. As the girl scanned my items, I glanced down to the end of the lane. The lady before me had around five items. She actually yelled for the bagger to come over and bag her items. She sat and watched the bagger put her few lonely items in a bag. She actually had the nerve to tell him that she could have done a faster job as she walked toward the exit.

That made me realize how much our country takes for granted. That's just my nice way of saying that every American is getting more and more lazy everyday.

It seems to be a growing attribute in a culture that goes through life getting everything handed down to them.

Not everyone tries to be lazy; it's just what we've grown in to. It's gotten to the point where you can spend some time on your computer and get whatever you need to live a normal life. Without leaving your living room, you can get groceries delivered to your door.

I know a minor part of the laziness is because everyone is busy with life. It's

almost as if no one wants to eat a decent meal anymore. You get home from work, and instead of making a meal, tell the kids to get ready because your taking them to McDonalds.

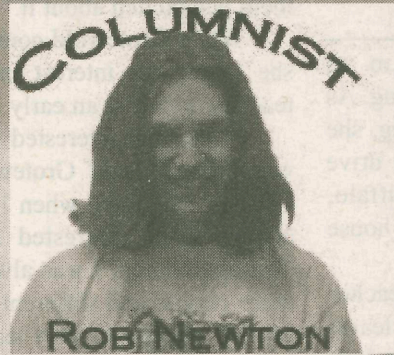
It also seems to be a common trend that the more money you acquire, the easier it is for you to live a work-free life. I'm not talking about work as in a day job, I'm talking about the fact that people actually buy other people's service. (Butlers, maids, etc.) You actually look for a way to work-proof your house.

Hmmm... What can I do to make it so I don't have to walk up my stairs everyday? I'll install an elevator.

I actually know people who won't go out to see movies at the movie theatre because they don't like walking up and down the slanted aisle. I say "slanted" because it's angled up a slightly. God forbid anyone can use their legs anymore.

It's the American dream to get more with less. More for me with less work. The reason other countries spit on the American name isn't because we're better than them. It's because we're so damn lazy. Then we get involved in to stupid stuff that doesn't involve us. What do I mean by that? I'm talking about....

## Speeding the way to death



I was watching the "news" today when an astounding breakthrough news event took place. They had prescribed the ADD drug to another kid, hoping to fix him up into a well adjusted, healthy member of society. It's generally a form of a stimulant that is used to counter the effects of Attention Deficit Disorder, a "chemical imbalance" in the brain. I wonder if he will grow to be as well adjusted if he neglects his pills and meets a good speed dealer. If the drugs are the answer, then that may be.

You know, when my parents were youngsters, and you were not perfectly alert in class, a cruel sheep in a black shroud would smack your hand with a ruler. You may grow up to become a serial killer, but you sure as hell fork over your undivided attention. Nowadays you can't be slapping the kids around though, so we've come out with some good dope to keep the youth in line. But it doesn't stop in the classroom, oh no, they got your fix for everything in this day and age. Having emotional problems, feeling depressed all of the time, experiencing uncontrollable sexual feeling, it's all good. It seems that the answer is not to change the situation to meet the human needs, but instead change the human to meet the needs of the situation.

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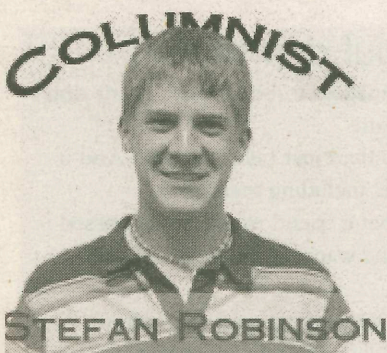
Now it's gotten to the point where they will advertise a drug on TV but never actual say what it does, just that it will make your life that much better. You know the drill, there will be some kind of scene in a park or a field or something and children will be running and playing. A man chuckles and slaps his buddy on the shoulder, and then you see a middle-aged woman staring out a window with a half smile on her face. Finally, a serene voice gently coos, "Ask your doctor if Brainwashitrim is right for you, your life is waiting." I'm not saying that the over-the-counter meth has never helped anyone, but I sure hope that those people know why it helps them. I hope they asked, "Hey, what's up doc? Yeah about these pills you gave me, what is in them? From the second my body begins to absorb them how will they affect me? What are these chemicals going to be doing inside my body, and why will it make me feel better?" Would you eat some strange vegetable if an intelligent ape told you that it was good for you? I know I would, but I'm not one to always do the smart thing.

When I stand back and try to look at the big picture, this is how I see the situation: A person is brought into this world. They might end up being a reasonably intelligent person, a strong willed person, a talented individual. It doesn't really matter at this point because this little human will one day be given all the opportunities its tiny heart desires. As this person grows up, it develops and changes. Its body and mind become what they make of themselves and the person is defined by genetics, environment, and sub-

jectivity. It will proceed to go to school, and it will be trained to become something that will hopefully fit into the intricate plan that has been previously laid out for them, a world and society as unnatural as a stick of gum. If for any reason this individual can not sufficiently mold themselves into that cog, that piece of the puzzle, then there are certain "options" presented to them. If someone is born with the purpose or potential to do something our society has deemed obsolete, then we must use substances to alter the way they think until they can do what they are supposed to do.

Now I'm not saying that there is some conspiracy in all of this, but do you really believe in a "chemical imbalance" in the brain? What is that compared to? An average brain perhaps, but what makes the majority way of operating better? I'll admit, I find myself unable to perform beautifully in most of life's endeavors, but I'm not going to externally become something I wasn't before. I believe that a person must understand change gradually, that Buddha didn't drop acid and attain enlightenment, and Jesus didn't kill himself in order to open up the gates of heaven early. Rest assured I am no psychologist, but I see an abstract brain as a unique thing, not a thorn in one's side. Maybe the people that we view as crazy are really the enlightened ones. Maybe the schizophrenic who draws free hand spyrographs will be the next messiah someday. And maybe, just maybe, by inoculating our adolescent masses with stimulants and mood controlling supplements, we are slowing down the process of human evolution in its entirety. Or maybe not.

## Presenting the handbook for being a good customer



I don't know how many of the students in our school work a retail job, but there are probably

quite a few. I'd guess four out of five students who chew gum recommended by their dentists at work are in retail. Gum and retail sales: It's an axiom.

There are a few things that I have noticed when I'm working at my retail job—in between blowing Bazooka Joe bubbles. I see a significant population of customers or potential customers pin the blame of high prices and poor quality of products on the worker, or just plain abuse the store

employees' manufactured courtesy with their halitosis or bullying attitudes. This happens every time I work—at least five times a shift.

Customers need some kind of etiquette manual to insure they make every employee's work life an extended tour of middle school.

If there were a handbook on how to shop, for these customers, I suggest there would be rules like:

1.) When you ask for a

price check or when you look at a tag and it's over-priced, blame the employee instead of the owner of the store or company. Also blame the minimum-wage employee about the poor quality of a product. Just because the product you've selected encased in hermetically-sealed plastic, is a genuine piece of crap, it is obvious the clerk must have made it himself and cut back on quality to take in a grand or two. Remember, you the customer, whenever you complain

about price and quality, you throw a little bit of sunshine into the employee's day.

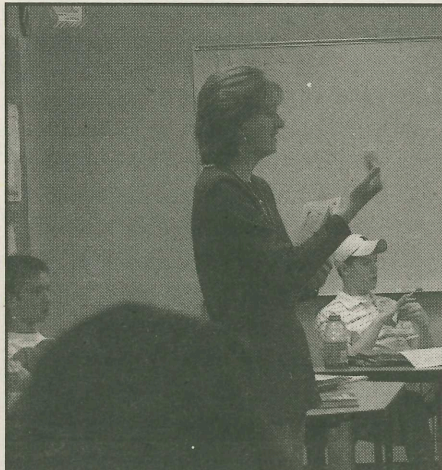
2.) You must show up five minutes before closing time to start that impossible project that you could have been done earlier or waited for the next day. Employees love the last five minutes of every shift. It's their favorite time to hunt for what-cha-

• Society

Continued on page 8

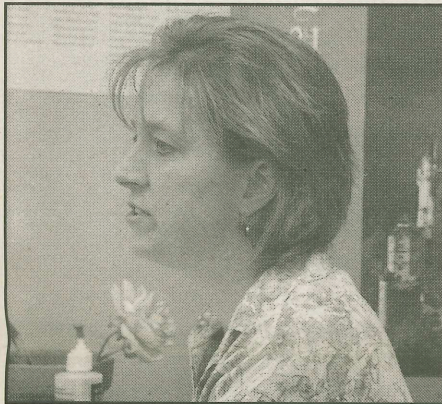


# New teacher welcomed by German students



**Above:** Sandi Grotewald speaks to her class about model verbs.

**Below:** Grotewald explains to her German two class about grading her grading system



**Brooke Sandahl**  
Staff Writer

The alarm clock displays 4:50 a.m. as **Sandi Grotewald** wakes up to it's ringing. As she prepares for another day of teaching, she gets ready for the hour and 15 minute drive ahead of her from St. Paul to Buffalo. Grabbing her car keys, she leaves her house ready to do the job she loves.

Three months before German teacher Michele Straussburg left on maternity leave, **Dr. Nick Miller** searched for a German substitute.

"The qualities I looked for in a teacher was someone that had strong skills in the German language," said Miller. "I looked for someone who had good experiences in teaching and could relate well with students. It takes a special person to come and take over someone's job in the middle of the year. It is very hard and Mrs. Grotewald does a great job at that and has a unique ability."

With the unique ability to relate well with students and help them expand their education in the German language, Grotewald enjoys her job.

"I started teaching because I like working with people," said Grotewald. "I like being in that atmosphere where people are learning and we rub off each other. It's exciting to teach

something new to somebody else and see them get excited about it."

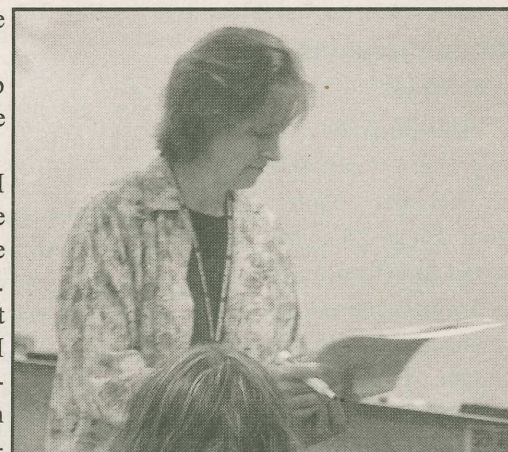
While Grotewald continues to do the job she loves, her interest in the language she teaches started at an early age.

"I became interested in German when I was young," said Grotewald. "I had some German neighbors when I grew up, and I've always been interested in other cultures. Through church, I was always learning about other people and different countries. When I got old enough to start learning another language I chose German because of my German neighbors and because I have German heritage."

Pursuing her interest in the German language through high school and college the language became an important part of her life. Sharing part of herself with her students, Grotewald emphasizes the importance of language classes.

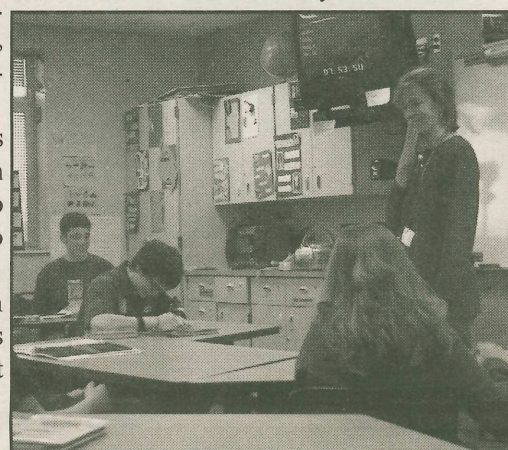
"It is important to take a language class because it adds character," said junior **Sarah Eckhoff**. "It gives me background and we also learn about Germany so it helps us to not be so self-centered."

As Grotewald will stay with Buffalo High School until the end of the year, she continues to give of herself and become an important role in the learning aspect of student's lives.



**Above:** Grotewald checks German students homework.

**Below:** Grotewald and students discuss the cultural differences between Germany and the U.S.



## Debating anti-depressants: Do they help or hurt?

**Kelli McCourt**  
Staff Writer

I would not have been able to write this, unless I shared with you my own personal experience. About three years ago I was diagnosed with Depression and Social Anxiety, and I was prescribed to an anti-depressant called Paxil, which was also suppose to help with panic disorder. After taking the drug for a month, I wasn't feeling the significant change I was hoping for. I was then switched to Lexapro, where my doses increased.

After taking Lexapro for a month, I began feeling a change in my moods. It felt like a huge weight was lifted off my shoulder. I started to get my life back together, interacting with other people, eating more, sleeping better, the basic activities that I always did. I thought to myself, "Is it possible for me to feel happy with my life?"

Three months after I started taking Lexapro, I started falling into the habit of not taking them. I didn't feel that I needed them anymore, and knowing that I was abnormal set me apart from the rest of my friends. Mentally, physically, and emotionally, I began to dwindle. I would get really bad headaches and my moods began to change. That's when I realized I couldn't go on without taking my medication, not taking my medication made me feel worse than I did before.

Both Pail and Lexapro are FDA, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, approved medications, and two of several anti-depressants that are taken by millions of nation wide. They are selective serotonin reuptake

inhibitors, SSRIs, in which their purpose is to serve as a treatment drug for Depression and other mental illnesses. Although their purpose serves well, it can also bring harm to its user. It has been discovered that anti-depressants have a dangerous effect on the brain, causing altered thoughts and images of suicide. The FDA has been contemplating whether or not these drugs should be available for kids under 18. The UK as well as "down under" has put strict restraints on the prescription of anti-depressants. Researchers believe that the drug regulates aggression and other hostile behaviors. So when prescribed to young kids, the act of suicide are tempting.

"I think anti-depressants should be available to anyone who is in need of them, and if those under 18 aren't able to take them because of risks of overdose, then those people should be monitored whiling taking the drug," said junior, **Dana Fisher**.

Fisher was diagnosed with Depression during her summer of 7<sup>th</sup> grade. She was taken to the doctor where they prescribed Buspar, but then later they switched her over to Zoloft, both also FDA approved.

"It took almost a month to feel a significant change, and its not that it made me feel happy, it just prevented me from feeling sad all the time, and wanting to hurt myself," said Fisher. "I think it more neutralized my emotions than anything."

Although the FDA is trying to outlaw prescription drugs for kids to take, Fisher feels it could be the biggest mistake they make. It's like taking away someone's life and watching it fade away. It takes away any

opportunity they had of ever feeling happy with themselves.

"There are many teens and young adults that suffer from Depression, and not one person ever chose to be that way," said Fisher. "Teenage years can be hard and we need all the help we can get, and anti-depressants are a good source for help. Although I do think that they are most effective when combined with the treatment of a psychiatrist."

**Approximately 4 out of 100 teenagers get seriously depressed each year. Major depression and dysthymia affect twice as many women as men. These facts are from [www.psychologyinfo.com](http://www.psychologyinfo.com).**

### Myths about depression

**MYTH:** It's normal for teenagers to be moody; Teens don't suffer from "real" depression.

**FACT:** Depression is more than just being moody. And it can affect people at any age, including teenagers.

**MYTH:** Telling an adult that a friend might be depressed is betraying a trust. If someone wants help, he or she will get it.

**FACT:** Depression, which saps energy and self-esteem, interferes with a person's ability or wish to get help. It is an act of true friendship to share your concerns with an adult who can help. No matter what you "promised" to keep secret, your friend's life is more important than a promise.



## Motocross; speeding the way into America

**Chris Corfman**  
Staff Writer

With school sports ending, athletes are getting excited for the new summer season. However, there is another season that is well underway; that most people don't know about, unless they're either a fan, or someone who actually participates in it. This sport is called Motocross.

"Motocross is racing motorcycles on dirt, and using dirt to form obstacles for us to go off of, such as jumps," said sophomore **Nick Abel**.

Motocross is a growing sport in America, and growing faster than most other sports due to its exciting, thrill-seeking and risk-taking riders.

"Motocross has grown over the years," said Abel. "Altogether it's about ten times bigger than a school sport, almost like NASCAR, it's more competitive and exciting."

People wonder why these athletes risk their own lives to participate in such a dangerous sport.

"What motocross is for me is an adrenaline rush" said sophomore **Lawrence Berthiaume**.

"You're going so fast, it's just exciting, just different than any other sport" said Abel.

Many people have been seriously injured while riding and racing. Some people have even died while riding.

"I've broken my arm, had three concussions and have had water on my knee all from riding" said Berthiaume.

There are some obvious differences in Motocross compared to other sports. There are

amazing, and somewhat bizarre obstacles that motocross riders have to encounter while riding. There are jumps that throw their bikes 20 feet in the air, ruts that are multiple feet deep, and sand that will wash their bikes from underneath them. All of this requires different conditioning just like any other sport.

"Other sports aren't as strong, they don't have as much endurance" said Berthiaume.

"Motocross is mostly conditioning, you need to be in shape to take the different blows from the bike" said Abel.

Athletes in Motocross take a lot of blows. To some people, the blows their body take while riding is the equivalent of boxing. Motocross racers must train their bodies to be able to take such blows. That training may require weight lifting, running and even just riding the dirt bike.

"I usually ride five times a week," said Abel.

Besides being hard on the body, it is hard on the wallet. To get started riding is a lot of money, and going to races require even more money. You have to consistently make repairs to the bike which costs even more money. The average new dirt bike is around \$5,000, then gear costs anywhere from \$200-\$1,500. Race fees are usually \$20, and memberships to be able to ride places will cost over \$300.

"Most riders risk losing all their money since riding is so expensive," said Abel.

Interested in riding? Check with a dealer near you, or find a local race to go to and talk to the riders. Almost all of them are willing to talk about riding, since it's one of their hobbies.



Todd Greninger catches air as he flies over a jump in his backyard course.

## Disc golf popularity rising among Buffalo students

**Terry Kalk**  
Editorial Staff

The latest craze to sweep Buffalo High School is disc golf. It is a simple sport based on the rules of golf, but instead of hitting a ball with a club, you throw a Frisbee. Instead of a little hole it is a basket about two feet wide and two and a half feet off the ground. Many factors contribute to its popularity; anyone can play, disc golf can be mastered by anyone at any age or physical ability. Also, unlike regular golf, disc golf is completely free once you buy a disc which will cost right around \$14, there is no tee times or fees to play on any courses.

"It's fun learning the game...everyone does it so it's fun hanging out with them," said sophomore **Ryan Liljequist**.

Everyone has a moment on the course that sticks out in their mind, whether it is a great shot or a laugh at someone else's expense.

"My favorite disc golf moment was

when Ryan (Liljequist) got hit in the head with a disc from over 40 feet away," said senior **Neil Loberg**.

The popularity of disc golf is rising, about 2/3 of the schools population gets out and enjoys the occasional round. As a trend, the seniors play the most and it steadily decreases each grade level. It is also more common for males or "yes please" as marked on most surveys, to play disc golf but it is still common for females to play.

Our local course is located at West Pulaski Park off of highway 25. It is a short nine hole course and is rather simple when compared to the course in Becker or the one in Plymouth off of Fernbrook Lane. The most popular seems to be the one on Fernbrook, it is a few holes longer than West Pulaski and also more difficult. Pulaski is still really popular with BHS students because it is located so close and the simplicity makes the environment very nice to play in.



Senior Lucas Rausch smiles as he makes a basket with his frisbee at West Pulaski Park in Buffalo. The addition of new trees and other landscaping has made the course more challenging. Photo by Terry Kalk



## Fencing captivates BHS students

**Cody Holmberg**  
Staff Writer

With swords in hand, members of the Minnesota Sword Play duke it out in the Maple Grove High School gym. Sweat drips from under their mesh mask as the wheels turn in their head trying to block every hit and strike the opponent.

Most of Minnesota Sword Play's students are citizens of Maple Grove. However, juniors **Andrew Dale** and **Stuart Johanson** from Buffalo are also in the class. Although both have been members for only a year, they enjoy the unique sport. In fact, they are currently working with BHS Activities Director **Tom Bauman** to organize an Internal fencing group, and strongly encourage others to try the sport.

"We are waiting to hear back from Mr. Bauman," said Johanson.

The instructors of Minnesota Sword Play Gerald Benford and his wife teach a class of approximately 25 in the Maple Grove high school, from all ages. Each class is an hour long and begins with a 15 minute exercise routine, fencing, and a game to end. There are six open classes every Thursday for each season of spring, summer, and fall, and open competitions on the weekend.

Throughout each season, students are taught three

basic techniques used in fencing: foil which the torso is target and stab only, epee which the entire body is target and stab only, and saber where the waste and up is target and stab or slash. Even though blades are dull and rubber covers each sword's tip, fencers usually wear safety gear. A mesh face mask covers a fencer's face and a lame' jacket protects against bruises.

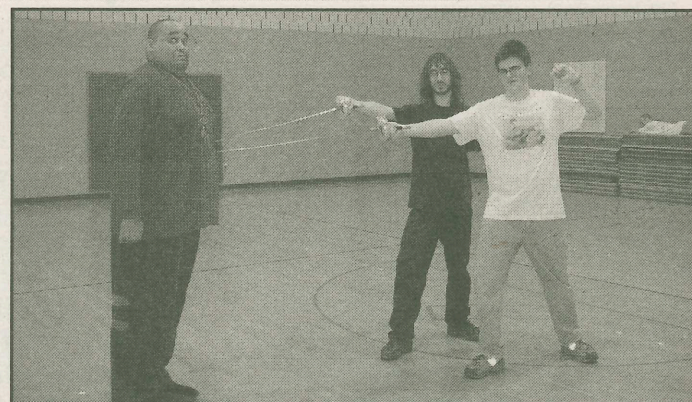
"I don't mind it, you get so caught up in the moment you don't even realize it's on," said Johanson.

Of course most fencers' goal is to build up for the National Fencing Championships, where the winner is rewarded a bronze sword. Benford is an inspiration to all of her students, after being coached by the Soviets she won the National Fencing Championships in Cuba.

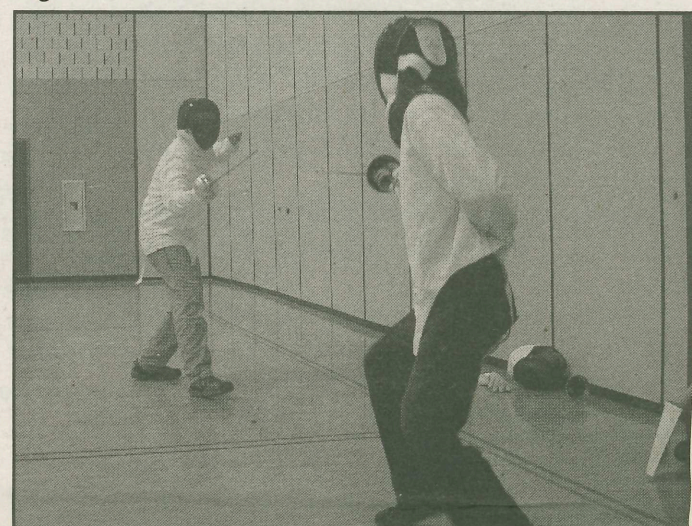
Unlike football or basketball, fencing is not a team sport. It has a fast pace and so requires the fencer to think on his feet. Movies such as "Cyrano" and "Peter Pan" are misleading with duels that drag, when in physical chess the goal is always to quickly strike the opponent.

"It requires accuracy and strategy to win, but it has a faster pace than most sports," said Dale.

One fencer is stabbed in the gut, and the duel continues, for the challenge of competition is biting at each other's side and the swords are magnetized to their hands.



**Above:** Johanson and Dale stand with their swords to their instructor.  
**Below:** Johanson and Dale battle it out during lessons at Maple Grove High School.



## UP COMING EVENTS

-Thursday, May 20: Varsity Softball vs. Monticello Home 4:15pm

-Friday, May 21: Varsity Baseball vs. Monticello Away 4:15

-Tuesday, May 25: Varsity Track & Field Sections begin, Varsity Softball Sections begin

-Thursday, May 27: Arts Finale Concert 8:00pm BHS (Pac)

-Friday, May 28: Student Appreciation Day Yearbook Distribution

-Monday, May 31: Memorial Day No School

-Thursday, June 3: Last day of school

-Friday, June 4: Graduation BHS (Gym) 7:00pm

### • Society

#### Continued from page 5

cha-ma-call-its.

This rule would be followed by a few guidelines and advice:

Sub Rule 2a.) If you show up and the store is already locked up, banging on the glass door really hard works every time. Or better yet, try and sneak in through the backdoor.

Sub Rule 2b.) Great closing time projects are the ones that require improvised uses of parts or invented products that no retailer carries but you think they do.

3.) When you're not being helped and need it you can do two things: one, don't make a sound and expect them to help you in the next second. Or two, make small ges-

turing sounds like dropping your car key or coughing. Shaking your car keys for assistance is a pleasant way to beckon employees to your whims. Belching repeatedly works well too.

The Customers Guide for Dummies is out there. Run down to your local McDonald's-Wal-Mart-hardware-store-tanning-salon-Subway and ask for one. It's the handbook that insures every trip to a store is memorable.

Or you could write your own. Just go to any store and bother some of the employees and keep track of what you do. Add plenty of belching and show plenty of "plumbers crack" to make yourself more attractive and pleasant so you may enjoy those magic words you'd never hear at home: "How may I help you?"

### • Thornton

#### Continued from page 1

"He taught me to take better care of myself and to have a positive outlook on life, and that things aren't always as bad as they seem."

Living his life to the fullest, Thornton left lasting impressions on people's lives up until the day he died. After Thornton's death, friends thought about the impact he had in their lives.

"Chris was a cool kid, he stood out and didn't care," said Gapinski. "He was a big, loveable bear that wouldn't hurt a fly."

The outstanding character of Thornton and his beautiful attitude towards life left a gap in the lives of Thornton's friends and family. Although his friends and family will always miss him, Thornton displayed a life full of spirit and left an example to follow.