

Yellow Door Chronicles

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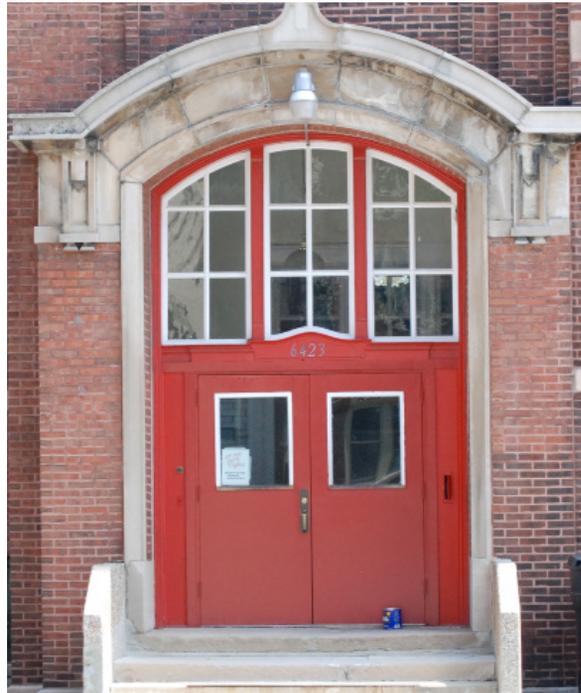
May 23, 2008

Local Women's Shelter Improves Community

By Alan

For over two decades, Sister Therese O'Sullivan of The St. Martin De Porres House of Hope, founded by Sisters Connie Driscoll and Therese, has been helping to rehabilitate homeless and drug-addicted women. She has helped thousands of women during her time at The House of Hope, and really made an impact in their lives, giving them the guidance and help they need in order to progress through their lives. She does her job not out of a need for money, but due to her dedication to the people of her community and her will to help others. It is truly a selfless job. The organization is not for profit, and Sister Therese states "we're just ordinary people doing God's work."

Despite the fact that The House of Hope is Roman Catholic, they do not impose their beliefs on anyone or practice



proselytism in any way. They are a very open-minded group of individuals whose goal is to help struggling women and children through their problems, not to convert them to a different religion.

Even without government funding, Sister Therese and her peers still manage to receive enough donations to support their clients. They spend an average of just \$13.31 per person per day, whereas state-funded programs spend over twice as much, and many are not as successful. A high number of people who attend the House of Hope get their GEDs, some partaking in higher education, and many even pursue lucrative careers that might appear to be unattainable to homeless and drug-addicted women before they receive treatment.

The difference is that The

Continued on page 12

Cougar Visits the North Side

By Rebecca

Chicago's North Side recently received a very unusual visitor. A young male cougar was shot and killed by police in Roscoe Village on Monday, April 14. After several reported sightings throughout the day, police cornered the cougar at around 6 that evening. The cougar was about 150 pounds and five

feet long. Police were not able to sedate the animal because most Chicago Police officers do not usually carry tranquilizer guns. Officers were compelled to shoot the cougar in order to protect both civilians and themselves. The Chicago Tribune quotes Chicago Police Captain Mike Ryan as saying, "It was turning on the officers. There was no way to take it into custody."

Residents of Wilmette, a Chicago suburb, reported seeing a cougar in their town earlier in the week. According to the Wilmette Life, there were also reported cougar sightings in Wisconsin in January, and North Chicago in

Continued on page 6



Graduation, A New Beginning

By Alice

Over the next few months, there are going to be changes at the Orthogenic School. Not only will there be new faces, but some of the old ones will be leaving. At the end of May and the beginning of June some of the students will be graduating not only the O'School, but also high school. Some of the people that will be leaving are part of the staff at the Yellow Door Chronicles.

Jeff, Lizzy, Alice, Jordan and Rebecca will all be leaving at the end of this term, and while some may just say goodbye, others will have full graduations. During the graduations, the students will have a guest speaker and they talk about all the progress they have made. Over the last few weeks the staff have been planning graduations.

There is a long process leading to a student graduating from the Orthogenic School. First, the staff sits down during IEP'S and make a set plan for the

Continued on page 11

NATIONAL & WORLD

The President: Taking Action or Taking Blame?

By Casey

Ever since the beginning of our still very young nation, there has been a distinguished leader, one in whom much of the nation's fate rested. Up until now this person has been a man of influence and charisma, each incarnation bringing his own resolutions and dissolutions to the table. This man is arguably the most important man in the United States. He makes or breaks the deal, and with him lie the country's greatest triumphs and praise, as well as the country's greatest downfall and critique. There is no question that this man is important, but do people place too much of the blame on this single person? Is the President a power-vested leader, or a mere figurehead in the sea of time?

Firstly, let's start with the President's basic Job Description. Obviously he must be 35 years old, must be a citizen of the United States, and must have legally resided in the United States for 14 years. His term is four years, with the possibility of another four years in office. That's not all though; he gets paid a pretty sweet salary of \$400,000 a year; that's a pretty penny right there, PLUS free room and board AND plenty of money left aside for transportation (\$40,000). One has to understand, though, that with this great luxury comes much assumed



responsibility.

When it is said that the President has a lot on his plate, we're talking about 4 serving bowls of mystery-meat soup. First off, the President has to choose his cabinet members. These are the people that will work directly under him for the entirety of his term.

The President holds the ultimate command over the Armed Forces, and is trusted with making the larger decisions surrounding this group, such as war or national defense. The President through his career will have a full load when assuming his role as Commander in Chief, but it gets better; not only does he command the entire armed forces, but is expected to meet with foreign countries on a regular basis, and settle treaties and international business with them.

The president must also appoint trusted ambassadors to aid in this effort, as well as Judges to the Supreme Court. In addition, the President holds the responsibility of proposing and reviewing

new bills. He has to decide on every little bill that makes its way through congress.

Yet to be mentioned, but ever-present, is the President's role in public relations. The President's job not only consists of legal work and signing bills, but also in managing his popularity. That is, keeping relations with not only other countries, but with the very people he serves, the citizens of the United States. Obviously, part of a President's success has largely to do with his standing in the people's eyes. Without their support, his power is diminished greatly. It's a constant battle for a President to win this war for support.

There is much debate about how much the President actually affects our country, and at this point the results are quite inconclusive by and large. As I'm sure that you can probably already see, people think he is that responsible for what goes on in and about our country. There are some of the points, however, that support the fact that the President does not completely

Table of Contents

National World, Pgs. 2-6

Local, Pgs. 7-12, 20

Science & Technology, Pgs. 13-15

Sports & Entertainment, Pg. 16

Op Ed, Pgs. 17-19

The Ultimate in Recycling

By Lizzy

The “Garbage Warrior” is on the prowl, trying to save the planet one garbage house at a time. Michael Reynolds, an architect and environmental activist is putting his creative skills to the test and is building houses out of trash. These houses are energy efficient and self-sustaining. Reynolds wants to make use of all the things that Americans throw away, save energy, and help make this world a more environmentally sound place.

Mr. Reynolds graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1969, and has been trying to ‘green’ the world for the last three decades. In 1972, he built his first house made only of recycled materials, now known as an “Earthship.” He calls his architectural project, ‘Earthships Biotechture’ and has dedicated his entire life to making these houses. They are made out of tires packed with mud, water bottles, beer bottles, and other junk that just gets tossed out. He builds the majority of his houses in Taos, New Mexico, where he lives, and recently a documentary, directed by Oliver Hodge, entitled, “Garbage Warrior,” was done on him and his mission.

The amount of trash that the United



States produces has risen from 1980 to 2005. In 2005 the United States Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, reported a sixty percent increase. That is 246 million tons

of garbage. Although, that statistic is before recycling, it is still a hugely outrageous number. Even though 246 million tons of garbage were collected in 2005, it is two

Continued on Page 5

The President: Taking Action or Taking Blame?

By Casey

control our country.

First off, it's very easy to say that the economy is part of the President's job, but according to many economists, he is more of a supporter than an affiliate of the economy. That is to say that the economy is based heavily on other factors, the stock market, for example. Also, other branches of the government are very responsible for this aspect; as much as the current President. However, the President still plays a major, if not the most major role in the economy.

There is a persistent point that often comes up when speaking about the war in Iraq in which the President does not necessarily deserve all of the blame. The war on Iraq doesn't fund itself. Yes, Bush proposes the grants to fund the war, but it still needs to go through congress to pass. The war is not being funded by Bush, it is being funded by the government and congress who keep giving the grants a green light. So, in the case that you are against the war, Bush is not the only person

to blame for it. You also have to think about the situation as a whole; the President still needs approval from Congress in order to go to war.

Basically, there are many other factors that effect the decisions made by the President and the government. He chooses the people who affect them, but it is ultimately their choice how to meet their responsibilities. Congress keeps the President in check, and also has the power not to sign his bills. It's those good old checks and balances in the

Constitution at work. Therefore, blame does not lie solely on the President for making decisions that people may not like.

In conclusion, though the President is not a figurehead by any means, he is, instead, a scapegoat of sorts. He takes the blame for the decisions of the other branches of government that have less to do with him than people may initially think.

Experiencing The Juvenile Justice System

By Alice

Juvenile offenders are adolescents who have broken the law, and are either serving time for the crimes they have committed or are awaiting trial. While awaiting trial, the children are kept in locked facilities. In most cases the offender doesn't have a chance to meet with the lawyers before the first trial, because for many cases they are appointed right before the trial is to take place. As a result, they have less of a chance to advocate for themselves.

In the process of a trial, there is a complaint filed, and then the arrest is made with a warrant or a summons.

The next step is when the adolescent is made aware of the charges, the bail can be sent, and the date for the hearing can be made. During the time of the hearing a case can be resolved or a charge can be made or dismissed. The defense counsel put in their suggestion for the plea, and then the defendant is given a copy of any information regarding the trial and about any pretrial motions. Then the defendant gets a chance to enter their plea of guilty or not guilty.

After that, the case could go back to the trial if necessary, or a Plea Bargain could be made. If guilty, sentencing is scheduled, or a pre sentencing investigation can be ordered.

Most juvenile offenders are African American males; women's statistics are rare and hard to come by because most



of the Juvenile centers are filled with male inhabitants. In Illinois, most of the cases are handled by a plea bargaining, and when they do go to court, most of the time they never meet any lawyers until the trial. This means that the defendants tend not to get the best outcome for their trials.

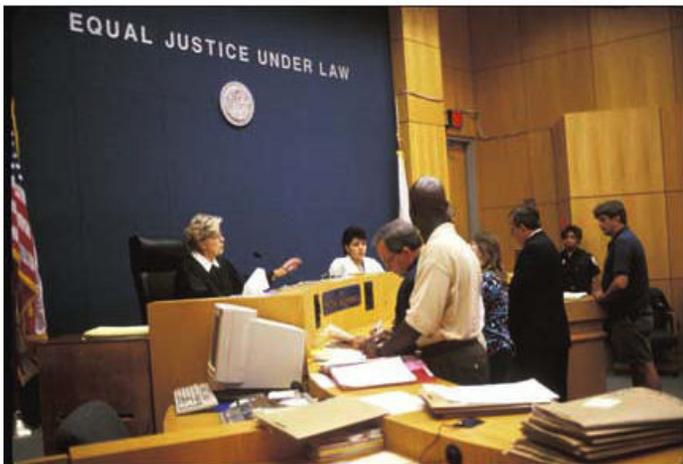
"When I was on trial, I was not able to meet my lawyers until five minutes before the trial, because they were appointed to me. That doesn't always happen when you have the money to pay for a private lawyer, but most of the people on trial have lawyers appointed to them. I felt that people who were there with me, I mean other juveniles, were not given a fair trial," said a teen who has been through the court system. "When I was on trial, I felt that that judge gave me some leeway because of my race."

"When I came in, I had chains on my ankles that went up and were connected to my waist, and from my waist

they were connected to my hands. After my trial, I was given a parole officer and was supposed to get drug tested once a month. That never happened. I was also supposed to go to anger management classes, which never happened. Now the only thing I struggle with, is having to answer questions on job applications when they ask about my offences."

"I feel that there are major problems with the Illinois juvenile programs. When they put people on trial at a young age, [they can feel that they have been] stamped a junior criminal for the rest of their life...because of some of the questions that college and job applications ask. Some of the questions have to do with your past crimes and sometimes you won't get the job which can play a role in how you do things again."

The juvenile justice system is a reality for many teens in Illinois. It is imperfect, and doesn't always work, but your experiences there can follow you throughout your life.



The Ultimate in Recycling

By Lizzy

Continued from Page 3

million tons less than in 2004, according to the website, *Love to Know, Green Living*. Reynolds wants to cut down on the ridiculous amount of trash, and his Earthships, he feels, are the way to do it.

According to the website, *Wired*, Earthships have really caught on in Europe. In England there are two, and plans to build many more. The British government loves the idea of Earthships, and wants to help make this world a cleaner more energy efficient place, with less trash.

Earthships are beautiful, aesthetically pleasing houses that look like any other, except that they are eco-friendly and have amazing features, such as bathrooms with entire walls made with the bottoms of old glass bottles, giving the room a beautiful array of color and light. Earthship insulation is made of old tires packed with dirt. The idea is that they will absorb the cool of night, keeping the daytime cool, and the heat of day, keeping the house warm at night.

In the 90's, some people who own Earthships sued Reynolds. Some had leaky roofs, and some got too hot. One man who owns an Earthship complained that his antique typewriter melted. As a result, Reynolds lost his license to practice architecture, and struggled to get it back.

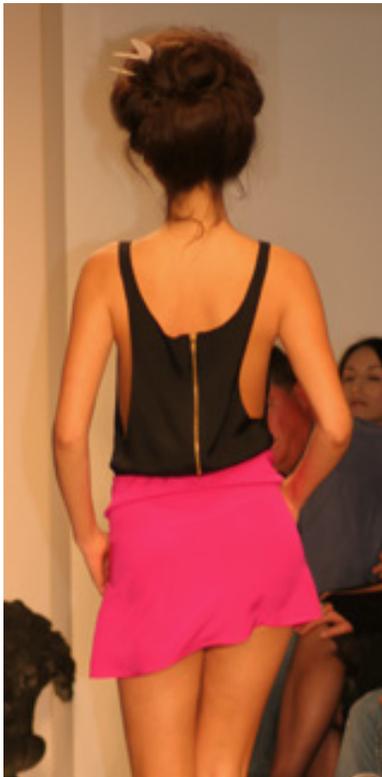
According to *Heraldnet.com*, in 2000, Reynolds lost his license to practice architecture because his homes were not up to code. He says that that was the darkest time in his life, and he went into a deep depression. After petitioning in Utah, he gave a speech and promised to follow state and federal codes and got his license



back.

Recently he appeared on the Colbert Report to talk about his project, and promote Earthships. He showed incredible pictures of his homes, and the satirically clever, and ruthless Colbert was left speechless because of the surprise that houses made of trash could be so beautiful, and look just like homes made of brick. The Earthships are even more aesthetically pleasing and vibrant than your typical home.

Reynolds has struggled and fought for his mission to make this place a greener, cleaner world, and help us move farther into a 21st century that is using energy productively. He wants people, and his homes, to be self-sufficient and make this world a healthier, more beautiful place.



Thin Is Out

By Lizzy

In September of 2006, 30 percent of the models that showed up to Madrid's major fashion week catwalk were turned away for being too skinny. They measured the girls using the Body Mass Index, or BMI, to determine if they were underweight. The girls that were, were not allowed to model in that show. Since then two models have died from anorexia nervosa, and other European countries are starting to follow Spain's lead.

The Brazilian model, Ana Carolina Reston died in 2006 of anorexia, and in August of 2006, Uruguayan model, Luisel Ramos, who was only 22, died of heart failure after not eating for several days. Some world leaders are becoming worried that these

ultra-thin models are setting the wrong standard for teens, and are promoting anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa in girls and boys today.

France is taking a stand and is trying to pass a bill to punish the promotion of anorexia and bulimia with the equivalent of 70,000 dollars or more in fines, and up to three years in prison. This also applies to websites that promote the disorders. These websites often consist of girls blogging and giving tips on 'effective' ways to lose weight through purging and eating less. Also potentially responsible would be super models and runway shows that show girls who are under a certain BMI.

The BMI is calculated

by dividing your weight in kilograms by your height squared. The normal body weight is between 18.5 and 25 on the BMI scale. Underweight is from 16.5 to 18.5, and severely underweight is less than 16.5. People with a BMI rating under 15 are considered to be anorexic and in need of medical attention.

Some people believe that the BMI is outdated. It was created in the 1830's and has not been updated since. In the 1800's people were shorter and weighed less, while today many people are very tall. Therefore, some believe the BMI is no longer accurate.

Anorexia Nervosa and Bulimia Nervosa are often confused. Anorexia is defined by being underweight, either because

Continued on page 6

Thin Is Out

By Lizzy

Continued from page 5

of starvation or binge eating and purging. Purging and binge eating are often correlated with Bulimia. People who suffer from bulimia are normal weight, or overweight, and purge and binge eat, but they do not starve themselves. Anorexia and Bulimia are very real illnesses among teens today, both male and female, although more prevalent in girls. Starvation to become thin is potentially deadly, and kids are killing themselves to be skinny.

In July of 2007, fifteen models were asked to leave a fashion show in Rome for being too skinny, which sent yet another shock wave through the fashion industry about anorexia and the impact it is having on the models and their fans. In an article on News.com, Raffaella Curiel, who runs fashion shows, was quoted saying that “one girl fainted during the trials. I had to give her a ham sandwich.” Models are also being banned from fashion shows in London for being too skinny. The largest fashion capitals in the world are taking a stand and telling everyone that they will not accept models who promote hurting yourself.

Models are also speaking out against the obsession with being skinny, saying that this isn't the way it used to be, and is a problem. Twiggy, a famous English model, award winning actress and recording artist, is speaking out against the “size zero” fad. She was described as having, “the body of a starvation victim and the face of an angel.” Weighing barely ninety pounds, she started the ‘skinny revolution.’ Some would say that she is the reason that today models are expected to be so thin, and are starving themselves.

Although, Twiggy was naturally long and gangly, she did not starve herself, and she is now speaking out against the skinny craze that is sweeping the globe. In an article with Reality TV World, she is quoted as saying, that Hollywood is the real culprit. “Most models are naturally long and gangly, while a lot of these young girls in Hollywood have gone on extreme diets.” She believes that “[The models’] concave arms are terrifying. It's scary to think that normal teenagers are tempted to copy them.”

In the past, models have done many unhealthy things, such as using cocaine to curb their appetite and lose weight. Dietary supplements and laxatives are also abused to lose weight. In The True Life Hollywood Story of Janice Dickenson, the famous model who coined the term, “Super Model,” she stated that she, as well as many other models of the time had a cocaine addiction, and would snort cocaine to stay thin.



Girls sixteen and under have been banned from fashion shows in London, because they are too young, and the government doesn't want the sick ways of the other models to rub off on the young girls who aspire to be them one day. This is just another sign that Europe is cracking down on underweight models, and is trying to promote a healthier image for today's teens.

Cougar Visits the North Side

By Rebecca

Continued from Page 1

in March. Many people believe all of these sightings to be of the same cougar, and, since cougars have not been part of the Illinois eco-system for nearly two centuries, experts believe that the animal may have traveled all the way from the Black Hills of South Dakota. DNA tests have been planned in hopes that they will reveal more information about the animal and its origins.

The cougar, also known as panther, puma, and mountain lion, is a member of the cat family and is native to both North and South America. The cougar is the fourth heaviest cat in the world, but it is more closely related to domestic cats than to tigers, lions, and jaguars. Cougars are very solitary and territorial, with each cougar having its own territory. The terri-

tory of a male cougar generally does not overlap with that of another male. The existence of cougars throughout the Americas is due in large part to their ability to adapt to a wide variety of habitats.

Over the past century, land development has driven many cougars from their natural habitats, and forced them to seek new territories in which to live. Many of the cougars that have been spotted migrating east are also likely looking for a new source of food. Cougars will eat a variety of small-to-medium-sized animals, but their preferred prey is deer. The roving cougars are thought to be looking for areas with larger deer populations. Since cougars are not generally found this far east, Illinois and Wisconsin present opportunities for these cougars to have larger territories and more plentiful food with much less competition than they would have in the Western United States.

LOCAL

Finding Art and Architecture at the O'School

By Ryan

Seven murals, three sculptures, numerous antiques, and an art room.

Since the Orthogenic School's founding, it has accumulated much artwork and is now rich with it. Murals can be found all over the school, from the stairwell on the dorm side to the art room's walls. The Supine Lady relaxes lazily in the side yard, and a brass mother perpetually caresses her child in the courtyard. An antique carousel pony rests in the living room.

No matter where you turn, there is always artwork to make the school richer and livelier. Even more amazing is where it all came from.

"Art was never taken lightly," says Diana Kon, principal of the O'School. "[Bettelheim] did not have just anyone do the art. He commissioned big-name artists to do it."

Most of the school's artwork was installed under the rule of Bruno Bettelheim,



Continued on Page 8

Getting to Know Richie

By Casey

I am introducing a man who needs no introduction; glorifying he who need not be glorified, making great a man who has achieved greatness in his own right. Greatness on his terms is not necessarily gained through amazing feats of strength or for heroism on a cosmic scale, but instead lies in the very perception of those around him. His reputation and personality speak highly of him, and indeed ranks him among one of the many wonderful staff at our school. This man as we know him is Riche Heard, or, as he is known to his fond family, "Scooby".

Richie was born on May 1, 1978 in Chicago where he lived until around the age of 7, at which point he moved onto his cousin's farm. He enjoyed these years very much, he reminisces about his experience with the cosmos, "One could look at the stars and see endless possibilities." Even at this point, Richie could easily be characterized as a kind and compassionate person. He once told me a story from the days on the farm, where he was charged to kill a chicken for dinner. He went to go do the deed, but found he couldn't do it. "It was smiling at me! I couldn't kill that thing, it had no idea."



Once residing in Chicago again, Richie was constantly learning. He is a seeker of ultimate knowledge, interested in anything that will help him learn. He made straight A's in school, learned to become a great writer despite his learning disability, and eventually made it into the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Richie is a man of the mind, who chooses to exercise his intellect and experience in many fields and to relate and enjoy basically anyone. In other words, Richie could get along with the devil himself, as he might put it.

Richie has a masters in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, and is aspiring to one day become an administrator of a school or board of schools. He plans to eventually go back to get his PhD. This, however, is not an easy thing for him to do, as he has become attached to this school.

Richie will constantly remind students that he doesn't do this work for the money, to which he often laughs heartily, but for the students with whom he works. He enjoys the highs and lows here, making the best out of both, and also bringing the best out of the students. In his words, "I stay persistent in my charge here

Continued on Page 10

Finding Art and Architecture at the O'School

By Ryan

Continued from Page 7

from 1944 to 1973. The most prominent example of this is the large mural in the front of school adjacent to the TLC door, created by sculptor Jordi Bonet in 1965. Commissioned under Bettelheim's name, it is one of the most forgotten, yet beautiful, pieces in the entire school.

The application of transitions

The rear stairwell on the dorm side follows another one of Bettelheim's philosophies – transitions. "There is something drawn on every tile in the stairwell," Diana notes. "No matter how tall or short a child is, at every level there should be something interesting to spark his or her imagination."

The transitional hallway also follows this theme. "Students leave behind the residential side, transitioning into a new day," says Diana. In going to the school side, the student also passes through another yellow door.

The Orthogenic School's iconic yellow door is a symbol for safety and hope. It dates to WWII, when certain homeowners would

paint the doors on their houses yellow to show that the home was a safe house for people persecuted by the Nazis.

The transitional hallway crests were created by students during Bettelheim's era. Bettelheim also wanted students to create art for the school. These crests are now used for their original purpose – as a visual cue for students to identify their lockers.

The school's deeply-rooted traditions in art continue today. Student art also adorns other parts of the school, some made within the past 15 years including the murals in the art room, dining room, Professors and Archaeologists; all are student works.

The history of the O School's antiques

During the Bettelheim era, the ultimate in luxury was also purchased for the school. Students dined on fine china with silver dinnerware. The dormitories were lavishly decorated with antique bedroom furnishings, and every dorm had a unique set of furniture. The bathrooms throughout the school are still reminiscent of this; the floor and wall tiles were imported from Italy. All



of this was chosen directly by Bettelheim; he even chose the individual faucets in each dormitory bathroom.

Bettelheim's ultimate intention was to give the students a place to feel safe and comfortable. "His intention was not to be controlling," says Diana, "but to make sure

Continued on Page 10

South Pond Renovation Project

By Alan



The South Pond of Lincoln Park Zoo is a man-made wildlife habitat created to provide a place for plants and animals to thrive, for there are few opportunities for them to live elsewhere in the concrete jungle that is Chicago. However, in its current state, it cannot fully support an ecosystem. Surrounded by concrete sidewalks and man-made structures, and lacking native plants and animals, it is not quite sufficient for nature to live there. Luckily, Linda, the Orthogenic School science teacher, along with her students, has devised methods that might revamp the pond, enabling the wildlife to bloom once more.

The proposed renovation project would breathe new life into the pond, bringing new plants to the area. Ranging from Marsh Milkweed to Prairie Coreopsis to Alumroot, the list of plants planned to be brought into the area is quite diverse. "By planting the native plants

and also removing the cement paths, we would be able to reduce the use of man-made materials and create an Eco-friendly environment. It would provide a haven for native animals, reduce the need for fertilization, and create an opportunity for learning about the environment hands-on," says Linda.

Linda and her botany class recently visited the Lincoln Park Zoo and presented their ideas to manager of the pond. The ideas were well accepted and may soon be implemented into their future plans of what to do with the South Pond. The zoo was well aware of the fact that the pond needed some work, and were grateful for the suggestions that the Orthogenic School made. The Lincoln Park Zoo awarded the class with a plaque in recognition of their efforts in trying to improve the pond and its environment.

"It's important to have the South

Continued on Page 11

Wii Like Video Games!

By Rebecca

In addition to getting cable, the Orthogenic School also got another pretty cool present for the holidays. Thanks to the generosity of the parents association, all of the O'School students now have access to two brand new Nintendo Wiis. The Wii is Nintendo's newest video game system, and has some pretty cool features that make it the first of its kind.

Instead of a sedentary player manipulating the game by just pressing buttons on a standard controller, the Wii is operated with an interactive controller known as a Wii Remote, or "Wiimote." The Wiimote has all of the standard Nintendo buttons but is shaped and laid out more like an average television remote. With the help of a sensor that is placed either directly above or directly below the television, the user is able to move objects or characters, depending on the game, just by pointing at the screen and motioning with the Wiimote. Additionally, the Wii Remote itself has motion detectors that allow for a wide range of movement.

These exceptional features allow for a nearly unlimited number of possibilities for how the Wiimote could be used. In the game *Wii Sports*, the controller can be held and swung like a baseball bat or swung underhand in a bowling motion, among other things. In *Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess*, enemies can be attacked either by waving the Wii Remote like a sword, or by pointing at the screen and pressing a button to use your bow. *Mario Kart Wii* comes with a steering wheel, which the Wiimote is inserted into; the player then turns and motions with the wheel in order to control his car.

The Wii is compatible with all Nintendo GameCube games. The Wii can be connected to wireless internet and, according to the Nintendo website, "Wii also connects wirelessly with Nintendo DS." Games made for older Nintendo systems can be purchased online using the Wii's internet connection and can then be played on the system.

Having the Wiis at the O'School has gotten mostly good responses from both staff and students. Many students, especially those who have

their own gaming systems, do not have much interest in using the school's Wiis. Students who do not have their own video games, however, seem to be quite happy about the existence of school-owned systems that everyone has access to. Leo, a student in the bulls dorm, explained, "Nintendo comes out with the most E-rated games, which is important here [at the Orthogenic School]."

There are also many staff who believe that having the Wiis is a positive thing. Michael Williams, the Bulls dorm supervisor, said, "I really only have seen positive effects. Students have been respectful in requesting to play, and often use them as motivation to complete school work and improve behavior."

Some concern that staff and students shared were that the Wiis might be broken or treated disrespectfully, and that students at the school already play enough video games as it is.

As most students and staff probably know, there were a few different video games systems that the Parent's Association could have chosen. In an e-mail, Dr. Pete Myers listed a few reasons as to why the Wii was chosen over other games systems. Wii is one of the newer systems and is relatively advanced, it has a "number of interactive games that [do] not involve destruction or fighting," the games involve movement and motor activity, and it is a system that can be stored and moved easily.

Whether or not everyone likes or uses the Wiis, most people appear to be pretty happy with them. The unique interactivity of the Wii, and the fact that a large portion of Wii games are targeted towards families and children, make it a particularly good system for this school. If they are treated respectfully and used properly, the Wiis will hopefully provide Orthogenic School students with a healthy source of entertainment for years to come. And, of course, the entire school owes a big thanks to Jeff and his parents for getting up early and waiting out in the cold in order to purchase the Wiis.



O'Schoolers Battle on Wii's

By David & Casey

The week of May 6th through 8th will never be forgotten. Thanks to the Student Council and devoted counselors and teachers, the video game tournament couldn't have turned out better. The entire week was filled with excitement.

Tuesday started things off nice and easy with Mario Kart 64 and Wii Sports, both very laid back games. Mario Kart was a fun competition; the game itself is very unpredictable, so guessing who would win was almost impossible. Slowly but surely, the tournament went into the semi

finals. The students competing in this round were Danica, Eddie, David and Tyler. After a well played race on the mushroom circuit I, David was declared the victor of the competition.

Wii sports seemed to be more for the entertainment value than for the sake of the actual money or competition. People who hadn't even played before tried their hand at this one. It was a long one, but with some real-time rule adjustments, the tournament's last few rounds went by quick. All in all, it was a very fun tournament for all who

participated. Congratulations to John on a great victory in the sports category.

On Wednesday things heated up in what was arguably the most intense competition of the week. Guitar Hero certainly took the slow pace of Tuesday and kicked it up a few notches as contenders were rocking out in head bang worthy guitar duels. The competitors thrashed fiercely, giving it their all. It all came down to one final round. Sparks discharged from the two rival's guitars, as Casey and Derrick faced off in

Continued on Page 11

Finding Art and Architecture at the O'School

By Ryan

Continued from Page 8

kids knew he cared about them so much that he wanted to make sure every part of their lives was comfortable."

After Bettelheim left, having antique furniture in the dorms gradually became more difficult to maintain and was replaced with what is present today. "It's an impracticality to have antique furniture in the dorms when it's difficult to replace [the pieces]," says Diana. Most of the Orthogenic School's antiques were either sold or put into long-term storage.

The Orthogenic School, however, still maintains some antiques in the school. The front living room has the most numerous collection of these. The antique horse is the most prominent feature, but there are more pieces. The rear wall

has antique lamps on it, the bookshelves are lined with classic tomes predating World War II, and both of the tables in the room are over 75 years old.

Three segments

The Orthogenic School's building has undergone many changes since its occupation in the early 20th century. Originally, the school's complex was composed of three separate buildings—a lone Victorian manor, which became the offices; a church, which is now the Hyde Park Day School; and the church's fellowship hall, which is now the Mariners class. When Bettelheim inherited the school in 1944 this was also the case. Under his rule several more key additions were added to the building.

All three additions were added in one, massive project

that linked the three buildings and created the school as we know it now. The church was expanded and linked to the fellowship hall as classrooms were added. At the same time dormitories were added to the rear of the home. Finally, a massive middle structure linked the two buildings, creating a courtyard and extensive staff living space.

Over time, the purpose of these spaces has changed greatly. The art room was previously located where Jerry's office is now, and the library was located in what is now the Argonauts class. The little gym and current art room were once one massive room, and provided a smaller recreational space for students.

The space the Hyde Park Day School now resides in

was once an auditorium. "It was used daily as a transitional area," Diana notes. "It was also used for all the big plays and holiday parties." Since the day school's occupation, the space has been remodeled to create various smaller classrooms.

Under Bruno Bettelheim the school became a pleasant place to live; it is now one of tradition, art and values. Artwork continues to this day through the school's one-of-a-kind art program; and the building, though mazelike, is homey, calm and friendly. "Kids care when the details are tended to with care and thought," Diana says. "The one thing that I really love is that I really believe the genius is in the details."

Gardening at The O'School

By Ashley

"The garden is a great project for the O'School milieu," says Linda. "There's a lot of pride put into it. The garden has created another vocational opportunity for our students. It fosters an awareness of our environment, and a responsibility to plan for a green planet."

On Saturday, May 10th 2008, parents, dorm staff, students, Linda, and even Linda's husband, gathered in the Side-yard and the Courtyard to prepare the gardens for spring. According to Linda "Parents did a lot of edging and weeding, [and] removing dandelions. They also bought and planted a lot of beautiful flowers."

Although Garden Day 2007 wasn't able to happen because of the building of the garden barn, Linda tries to do a Garden Day each spring, this being the fifth year. Each year, the

Getting to Know Richie

By Casey

Continued from page 7

at the school to make the world a better place." He believes that through aiding us, he is opening a brighter future for the rest by means of his students. He also firmly believes that his own character is benefited from working here.

Richie may appear to be categorized under that subjective term that everyone dislikes; "normal." However, though most would never guess, Richie went through his own treatment program, where he worked on many of the same issues that we work on now. His was a college program, much more strict than ours. Richie worked past his issues, and now strives to help others with theirs. Using his knowledge of these issues in personal experience, Richie can both counsel and directly relate to the students of the Orthogenic School. He never let's go of hope, living by his belief, "The things with which I have overcome and coped [with] over the years have been many, nevertheless I remain steadfast in my journey to solidify the goals given to me by

the fates"

So many may ask; what makes Richie so cool? Well, among the many other qualities that he holds which have been mentioned, he has found his own salvation in Buddhism. He has been practicing Buddhism and heavy meditation for over 10 years, and it has benefited him infinitely. Richie not only practices Buddhism, but also opens his arms to those who wish to learn about meditation or Buddhism to mentor them in the arts. Richie always has others in mind, because he is so settled with himself. Richie finds himself attracted to his religion because of the fond words and wisdom of the illustrious Buddha. He follows his teachings as he reveres them among the highest.

Richie: many may call him a great guy, I would call him an amazing human being well accomplished in many areas of life, though he would probably deny it himself. Richie is a man who we will hopefully see do great things, and will continue to inspire and help those around him as he progresses through life, and maybe, just maybe, reaches his ultimate goal of Nirvana in this lifetime.

Continued on Page 12

Graduations

By Alice

Continued from Page 1

the student to graduate. They then set up of a graduation in a series of meetings with the parent's and the school districts of the students to determine if everyone is on the same page about the student leaving.

The first Graduation was Jeff. Jeff had been at the Orthogenic School since 2007. He is someone who takes the time to make someone smile when they are having a hard time. He is all around a great person. During his graduation he was even cracking jokes.

Jeff's advice for other students was "Do what you are told and smile." Jeff will be moving on and completing his treatment at another placement.

Jordan graduated from the O'School on May 14. She was in TLC, and before that she was in the Minstrels. She was the person you would go to if you wanted to know the lyrics of a song. She is always up for saying great things about you when you are down, and is always ready for a sing along, even at the dinner table. Jordan will be missed at the O'School and we wish her good luck in the next phase of her life!

The next graduation is Lizzy who, as of May 27, will have been at the O'School, for 792 days which will equal 27month. Lizzy will

be a summer camp councilor at camp NUHOP in Ohio, which is for kids with mental disabilities. After the summer is over, she will be attending college at DePaul University where she will be studying history and psychology. During Lizzy's time at the O'School she has made tons of progress and has really grown as a person.

After that, I will graduate. Over the summer, I will be lifeguarding and will be giving swim lessons at a local pool, as well as taking some college classes. After the summer is over, I will be attending Lincoln College starting with the fall semester. I hope to study psychology. The one thing I will miss about being at the O'School is having the support of the friends I have made. The hardest part of leaving is having to say goodbye to the people that have matter to me, and the ones that have given me strength through my time at the O'School.

On June 11, Rebecca will be the graduate. She has been at the O'School for a year and 9 months. The next steps for Rebecca will be going home, hopefully getting a job, and getting some horseback riding done. Then she will be going to University of Illinois at Chicago and majoring in history. Her advice to the other students is, "even though its hard to be here, it's a really good place and has lots of resources and staff. If you let it help you, it will really help!" When Rebecca looks back on her progress, she remembers feeling like when she came here she did not have any idea about her future. Now she is going to college and can live a normal life. Rebecca has always thought that she wanted



to leave the O'School, and knew that it would be hard, but now that she is leaving it's harder that she thought. The one memory that Rebecca has is the funny conversations in and out of her classes.

For the students who will be leaving the O'School, and even the ones that are staying, remember, the people who go and seek the help they need will go the distance. Good Luck and congratulations for all the progress that you have all made.

South Pond Renovation Project

By Alan

Continued from Page 8

Pond as a viable environmental education resource," Linda states. "Accessibility is a key issue because it has excellent proximity to city schools, it is free, and also is accessible to people with special needs. The South Pond gives students and visitors the opportunity to spend time in nature, scientifically investigate their environment, and to have their voices heard. The incorporation of the native plants at the South Pond would improve the environment too." Overall, the project will make a great impact on the pond.

The South Pond is an important place in Chicago, giving animals and plants a place to live in harmony, devoid of man-made burdens. It makes people realize that they can make a difference in the world if they put their minds to it. The South Pond renovation is a great project, and there is always more that can be done to improve the Earth.

O'Schoolers Battle on Wii's

By David & Casey

Continued from Page 9

a song worthy of legend, *Through the Fire and Flames*. The competition felt as though it would never end, and, as wrists began to numb, the song ended. The dust cleared, and the victor was apparent; Casey had beaten Derrick by a slither in a guitar battle of epic proportions. The competitors congratulated each other at the end. This was truly one of the most exciting and blood-boiling highlights of the tournament.

Super Smash Bros Brawl made Thursday the most hyped competition by the entire boys floor. Not a day went by where contenders weren't practicing their move sets and polishing up their combat skills in anticipation of this heated battle. There were many impressive fights; the amount of determination that was needed to progress was almost overwhelming. Many people played but only one person earned the title of champion. Matt was the winner, and for a good reason. He was one of the first people at the school to have a vast amount of knowledge of the game even before its release, and with the fights being as hardcore as they were, only someone as seasoned as Matt could beat all of the extremely talented competition.

In retrospect, the tournament turned out to be a huge success and a great amount of fun.

Thank you to everyone who participated, and see you next year.

Live From the Heart

By Geoff

Once again this year, the O'School was able to participate in the Museum of Science and Industry's *Live from the Heart* program, and view open heart surgery. Due to technical difficulties, there were only two schools participating this year. While we were on-site at the museum, there were two other schools attending; one was from Kansas and the other was from Wisconsin; both joined us via internet connections. The Wisconsin school eventually dropped off due to technical difficulties and then we were able to proceed with the surgery.

It is an amazing experience because there are multiple cameras that allow us to view the surgery from different perspectives. Not only did we watch the actual surgery from different perspectives, but we also were able to listen to the different perspectives of the various nurses and technicians that are involved in performing the surgery. While the doctor was informative, his answers paled in comparison to the lively Anesthetist, who led us through the process of putting someone to sleep and the complications, however rare, that one faces in

doing so.

The most exciting part is, of course, watching the surgery. We had an insider's perspective of what actually occurs. This time around we saw a quadruple bypass surgery, which means that the person had four new veins connected to the heart. During this we watched from the beginning as they cut open the chest and slurped up blood, and the doctor made his way to the heart, all the while explaining how his instruments worked and how he was going to help the person. The new veins were taken from the person's



leg and chest and once they were sewed on, the doctor was finished and a nurse sewed the person back up (we did not stay for that). I highly recommend taking advantage of this unique event when you reach Biology or Chemistry. You will remember it for your lifetime.

Gardening at The O'School

By Ashley

Continued from Page 10

garden gets bigger and brighter, with a growing selection of plants, thanks to the work of the science, especially the horticulture, classes.

We even have multiple gardens, which include the organic, perennial, and courtyard gardens. The organic garden is a collection of mostly vegetables and herbs. The organic garden is also a sustainable garden that does not use chemicals. The perennial garden is mostly flowers that bloom annually, and uses chemicals minimally.



"Creative minds made this successful and fun day possible," says K.J.

Thank you to the hard work of Linda, as well as the O'School staff, parents, and all of students who participated in the 2008 Garden Day. It was a day of fun for everyone who attended the event.

Mother's Day Tea

By Lizzy



The Mother's Day Tea was once again a success at the Orthogenic School. Several families came out to enjoy the day and each other. Michelle Z speaks of what a wonderful day it was; the weather was perfect, and so many students helped out with the set up and clean up.

In addition to good company and good food, there was the fun of a hat contest. Justin's mom was the winner for the second straight year. Her hat had a special ambiance, as it once belonged to her ninety-seven year old grandmother. Justin's great-grandmother had over two hundred hats in her collection, and this one was wide-rimmed with artificial roses and lace covering; it was an exquisite ornate accessory. Her prize for the best hat was a tea pot and tea cups. "The hats were hilarious," said Ryan.

The contest was truly a great addition to a fun day. It was a great day for tea in the side-yard, and good fun celebrating our moms.

Women's Shelter

By Alan

Continued from Page 1

House of Hope workers actually care about their jobs and the people they work with; it's more than a career – it's their life. In fact, some of the workers actually reside at The House of Hope, because they spend so much time there. Overall, St. Martin De Porres House of Hope has truly made an impact on many women of Chicago, and ultimately changed them for the better.

The Orthogenic School Community Service Group has recognized what wonderful work The House of Hope has done and is currently raising money to donate so that they can continue to work towards helping struggling women function in society again. Students of the Orthogenic School, along with women and children of The House of Hope have been creating art that will be auctioned off, and the money gained in this process will be given to the shelter to help their cause. However, the donations don't have to stop there. You can contribute as well. If you would like to get more information on The House of Hope, or possibly make a donation, call (773) 643-5843. For information regarding the art auction, call (773) 834-3646.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Garbage: A Stinky Yet Renewable Source of Energy

By Alan

Garbage – unwanted waste which people want nothing to do with. It has no purpose, and just takes up space in large, unpleasant-smelling landfills. It is utterly useless, but it doesn't have to be anymore. The experts over at CleanTech Biofuels have been coming up with ways to turn garbage into ethanol. It is actually possible, via acid hydrolysis.

Acid hydrolysis utilizes specialized enzymes to break down materials into various sugars, which are then fermented and become ethanol. This process has been around for decades, but only now it has become feasible. It was

not a cost-productive method of producing liquid fuel up until recently, when scientists decided to use nitric acid instead of sulfuric acid in the process of breaking down waste, which is marginally cheaper, but has nearly the same effect. The cost of production is a key issue for fuel providers, and it can determine whether or not they can make a profit.

With the prices of oil skyrocketing, it is important to have an alternative source of fuel. Ethanol by itself is not sufficient to power cars, but in conjunction with a mixture of a decent amount of petroleum, it can work well, and can potentially

lower gas prices, benefiting everyone who drives.

Corn is also used to create ethanol, which is then added to gasoline. However, corn has other purposes, whereas trash does not. Aside from being burned for geothermal energy, garbage is never used. Corn is a large food source which is widely consumed throughout the US, and using it for a gas additive isn't the best decision. The use of corn for ethanol production has driven costs up due to a higher demand, but if garbage is used instead, then that price might settle down once again.

The Dangers of Online Gaming

By David

Many of you either know, or are, one of the millions of people hooked on the online gaming phenomenon. These games, called MMORPG's, are slowly but surely consuming hours upon hours of spare time for children and adults worldwide, but is it a healthy usage of time?

The name MMORPG is short for Massive Multiplayer Online Role Playing Game. These games are very simple to get started on and prices vary depending on the chosen game. Some games have no cost, such as *Maple Story* and *Runescape*, while other games like *World of Warcraft* and *Everquest* require a monthly payment to play. Of course you will also need a computer to even consider playing these games unless you like pretending to play video games.

In these games the player assumes the role of a fictional character created by the player, and in order to progress in the game's fantasy world, the player usually must interact with the games other npc's, or non-player characters, who provide information about quests or even sell necessary items such as potions for healing, or weapons for slaying monsters, in order to raise the character's level.

There is also a social aspect in MMORPG's that opens



the opportunity for fellow gamers to hold conversations with ease because, for even the least sociable, there is always a topic of conversation in the online fantasy universe as long as you know how to type.

Continued on Page 15

Global Social Networking

By Ryan

Instant contact with the rest of the world is just one poke away.

Online social networking has helped many to keep in touch with long-lost friends, meet new people across the planet, or just playfully annoy their next-door neighbors over the Internet. It has allowed millions of people from around the globe to easily connect and communicate with each other.

When a person thinks of the phrase social networking, the first thing that comes to most people's mind is Myspace or Facebook. However, social networking is a very broad term, and it includes seemingly unrelated things, such as Classmates.com, a site that allows users to reconnect with former schoolmates, deviantART, an art-oriented network where members can freely submit their own pieces for public distribution and/or purchase, or Second Life, an online game in which players can communicate with each other, buy and sell goods and perform activities much like real life.

The phenomenon is undeniably powerful; according to a Facebook fact sheet, with over 70 million worldwide members, the site is the sixth most trafficked on the Internet. In 2005, Myspace.com recorded more users accessing the site in

one day than Google, the largest web search on the planet, says an article in Business Week.

The social networking phenomenon has also led to endless opportunities for businesses, charities, musical groups, and research foundations. Due to the Internet's naturally viral nature in spreading information, organizations can promote themselves to a wide audience very easily – and sometimes, even for free. In addition, since most social networking sites gather specific information about their users, businesses can easily and accurately target different demographic groups for advertising.

Myspace.com's artist feature allows music groups to promote their music to the entire network. Ingrid Michaelson, a pop artist, showcased her album *Girls and Boys* on her Myspace profile before being discovered by a recording company and shown to a nationwide audience on the show *Grey's Anatomy* and later an Old Navy commercial, according to the New York Times. The Ivy league-based band Vampire



Weekend became enormously popular after numerous blogs and other websites toted their music, says NPR. Facebook Pages lets anyone create free pages that give them a presence on the website. For a nominal fee they can also advertise to the entire network with a variety of options to target specific groups or locations.

These sites have also been beneficial to non-profit organizations, which use them to promote their causes and raise money. In 2006 an organization called Water Partners International

Trusted Computing: Added Security at the Cost of Freedom

By Alan

Trusted Computing is a new secure computing technology concept developed by the Trusted Computing Group, which limits the freedom a user has over their computer in an attempt to make it more secure. Trusted Computing limits the behavior of computers, and is enforced by both software and hardware. This makes the computer much less susceptible to malware and other unwanted things. However, one of the drawbacks of such a concept is that the user cannot do some of the things they would normally be able to.

Benefits of Trusted Computing include better security, reliability, and the assurance of knowing that a well-educated computer expert overlooks what users do and can help make decisions for those who are not computer-savvy. TCG not only protects from malware, but also from identity thieves, which are quite com-



mon in today's world where it is easy to gain access to people's personal information. TCG has implemented features into their conceptual technology, which have yet to be fully explained, that make it much harder to do such things.

TCG also tries to prevent people from cheating in online video games by ensuring that game clients connecting to servers are not modified. In addition, TCG's technology includes Digital Rights Management to cut down on piracy and sharing of copyrighted material. Digital Rights Management constantly searches for illegitimately-obtained, copyrighted material.

This may sound appealing in theory, but in reality it may not be ideal because the end-user has virtually no freedom on their computer. A master ID and password are assigned to each computer with Trusted Computing technology, but neither are given to the owner of the PC, ultimately meaning that what

Trusted Computing: Added Security at the Cost of Freedom

By Alan

they are able to do is controlled by the Trusted Computing Group. Only TCG has administrative privileges, not the user themselves.

One of the limitations of Trusted Computing is not being able to install operating systems, games, useful applications, and device drivers which one would normally be able to do. It's supposed to be for safety of the user, but it definitely limits their computer use.

You might be wondering why you have to worry about Trusted Computing, because you can simply buy a computer which doesn't have a TPM, or Trusted Platform Module, the technology which TCG uses. That isn't necessarily the case. Intel, Microsoft, Dell, AMD, and other major corporations in the IT industry plan on incorporating Trusted Computing technology into their products. Even the U.S. government and Army plan on utilizing TCG's technology. The International Data Corporation predicts that by 2010, a majority of all new computers will have TPMs in them, meaning a majority of all people will have their computer usage severely l

limited.

Soon, America's computer freedom will be analogous to that of China. Their internet use is restricted and monitored by the government and they are not allowed to do various things or access certain websites. TCG might have similar limitations. However, China is a communist nation, whereas America is supposedly "the land of the free."

The only real way to get around having to use a computer with a TPM in the nearby future is to buy a Sun Microsystems processor, assuming they don't implement TCG technology into their future processors, and use an operating system other than Microsoft Windows, such as BSD, Solaris, or a distribution of Linux. Other than that, there isn't much choice in what you can do.

Global Social Networking

By Ryan

placed representations of three individuals in the online game Second Life. Portrayed to be from Ethiopia, India and Honduras, the avatars demonstrated the difficulties of accessing drinkable water, says the Chicago Tribune. The characters also have profiles on both Facebook and Myspace and people can make donations to the organization through these sites.

In all of these instances, social networking has assisted organizations and individuals for personal success, and it seems that this trend will continue in the future. As more and more people catch onto this idea it will become more effective and beneficial. Considering social networking's recent popularity jump, it's surprising how much has already happened.



The Dangers of Online Gaming

By David

Continued from Page 13

As a matter of fact, as of 1997, when MMORPGS started to make a big hit on the scene with *Ultima Online*, people ended up getting so involved in their fantasy lives that they neglected their real ones. This has gotten to be so serious that people have lost their homes for not paying bills, or even died from playing for multiple days without food, drink, or sleep. Problems like this are giving these games a bad reputation. Events such as these are notorious online, and a simple google search for deaths related to online gaming will provide many sad stories.

Even though horrid events have occurred to people who play these games, it isn't the game's fault; the player should

be the one taking the responsibility for how their life could be impacted. For example, a couple from Korea was playing World of Warcraft so excessively that they neglected to care of their four month old daughter who, sadly, passed away due to her parents addiction to the virtual world.

As everyone knows, I would never bash videogames or the culture, but I will state the fact that MMO's can be harmfully addictive. There are signs that can indicate addiction according to *Dr. Kimberly Young, Center for Internet Addiction Recovery*. They include:

1. Lying or hiding gaming use
2. Disobeying time limits
3. Loss of interest in other activities

4. Social withdrawal from family and friends
5. Psychological withdrawal from the game
6. Using gaming as an escape
7. Continuing to game despite its consequences

Players who exhibit these symptoms may need an intervention or even just a break from their online world. They should try going outside, hanging out with real life friends, or just doing something that can be fun and not involve massively online gaming. Any break can help.

SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Mario Kart Races on to The Wii

By David



April 27, 2008 was a very exciting day for me and many other people in the United States; Mario Kart Wii was finally released, and luckily I was able to get my hands on this game. Seeing that the school now has Nintendo Wii's for student use and people are going to want this game, it seemed important to get an educated opinion on how entertaining the game is before anyone else shells out \$50.

The game has many strong points that make it very enjoyable. Mario Kart, like always, delivers a fast paced and fun experience that is perfect for playing with a group of friends. The game itself hasn't changed much since the Super Nintendo days; if you have played Mario Kart before, you know what to expect.

The game's main point is to participate in races as your favorite Mario character makes their way to the finish line using whatever means are necessary. When I say whatever means necessary, I'm serious. You can throw a turtle shell at your opponent or drop a banana peel on the road without consequences.

The Wii version of the game is even entertaining when just watching people get used to using the Wii wheel, which is a great accessory once you get the hang of it. Sadly, the learning curve for the wheel can be very steep; it isn't always as responsive as it should be, but mastering the wheel is certainly a rewarding

feeling. Be prepared to look kind of silly holding a steering wheel a few feet in front of you while sitting on the couch, though.

Overall Mario Kart has a lot to offer. Unfortunately, I found myself getting tired of repeating the same tracks over and over at different difficulties to discover all of the secrets that lie in this game. Having said that, the game is very solid, the graphics are good, and the cartoony sound effects and music are at the series' best. The selection of vehicles has significantly improved; there are a number of different karts and motorcycles that keep racing fresh. The levels are, for the most part, very good; some of them like Grumble Volcano and Moo Moo Farm, seem a little generic and uninteresting while the Rainbow Road track is by far the most intense in Mario Kart history.

This game is definitely worth playing and would be a good addition to the O'School Wii gaming library. Hardcore gamers need not apply though, because this game doesn't provide much outside of the main single player and multiplayer races, so it may not be as appealing as the likes of *Super Smash Bros. Brawl*. I would give this game a 7 out of 10 because it is fun, but not really as revolutionary and long lasting as it could have been.

OP ED

Make Your Voice Count

By Ashley

When I first learned about the *Bill of Rights*, I was ecstatic. What I heard that day in class was that I could say whatever I wanted, without getting yelled at by my teacher or my parents. I was protected by the First Amendment; I had freedom of speech. I quickly learned that my parents didn't care about the *Bill of Rights* or pretty much any law at all. Apparently, most countries feel the same.

Ever since the beginning of time, people have fought to have the freedom of speech. For thousands of years, all across the world people have willingly given up

their lives, their absolute freedom, with the hope that one day their ancestors will be free to express themselves as they wish.

In 1776, the final draft of the *Declaration of Independence* was adopted. In a way it's kind of cool that 232 years later we still have all of those same rights that our founding fathers established for us. How did they know that the Bill of Rights would still apply more than a century after it was written?

What I find rather unfortunate is that since our country's founders laid down the road map for our government, not even a tenth of the world's countries have followed in its footsteps. Less than 50 countries in the world have any type of bill of rights guaranteeing basic human rights to their citizens, and there is an even smaller number of countries that guarantee the freedom of speech to its citizens.

Over the past eight years, in the Middle East alone, thousands of writers and reporters have been murdered. All over Africa, people are surrounded by genocides and modern day slavery, fearing for their lives and



those of their families just because they dream of speaking up for themselves. In the Peoples Republic of China, citizens are detained, without charge, in reform camps for exercising freedom of religion, expression, and association. To me, that is out of control.

Now, I am not saying the United States is perfect, or that we are better than the rest of the world. There are many things that I would change in our country if I had the power to do so, but I do think that the *Bill of Rights* and the *Declaration of Independence* set a powerful list of guidelines that are necessary for our country's stability. Freedom of speech affects every citizen of

Continued on Page 18



The Iraq War: Is It Really Worth Fighting?

By Alan

Ever since March 20th, 2003, The United States of America has been waging war with Iraq. It began when the U.S. alleged that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction which could possibly be a threat to the U.S. and other nations as well. However, these supposed weapons have yet to be found, aside from remnants of older ones previously known to be in the Middle East. Many anti-war activists claim that the U.S. had ulterior motives, namely wanting to obtain the vast supply of oil in Iraq and wanting to impose our form of government on their country further clenching our hold on the world.

Regardless of the speculation involving the motives for initially starting the war, one might wonder why the U.S. continues to battle when almost no progress has been made in Iraq. Admittedly, there have been some good outcomes of the war, such as Saddam Hussein's tyrannical regime being overthrown, but the negatives greatly outweigh the positives in this particular scenario.

The war has cost an estimated \$3-5 trillion dollars thus far, creating an ever-increasing deficit, which will seemingly never be paid off. To put that



Continued on Page 18

The Iraq War: Is It Really Worth Fighting?

By Alan

Continued from Page 17

number into perspective, consider the fact that the average American makes approximately \$40,000 per year. The deficit would take 75 to 125 billion years for one person to pay off. And the Iraq War has only been going for five years...

Comparable to the Vietnam War, this one seems rather pointless and has just resulted in mass casualties and a huge financial expense. Deluded supporters of the war say it has helped maintain order in Iraq and will hopefully bring democracy to it, but the Iraqi people don't seem too pleased about the U.S.'s presence. U.S. news channels such as Fox News claim that Iraqis are

pleased that the U.S. is helping to keep peace in Iraq, but, according to interviews of Iraqis on Al-Jazeera, an Arabic TV network based in Qatar, that couldn't be further from the truth.

According to Wikipedia, violence and crime rates have been drastically climbing in Iraq ever since the war started. This is definitely not coincidental. It could possibly be due to a change in power of the government, but that is not necessarily the case. The likely explanation is that the citizens of Iraq don't want us invading their country and are reacting as a result of it. We should listen to them and leave their country alone.

Aside from killing many people on both sides, the war has also caused the U.S. economy to fall into a recession. The U.S. dollar is worth an all-time low, and it negatively impacts every single American, even if they do not realize it. It has contributed to inflation, and as a result, minimum wage has been increased, but it amounts to the same value.

Something else which the war has resulted in is that the



reputation of America has been tarnished to an irreparable degree. Many other nations realize that the War in Iraq is unnecessary, and tension with other allied nations has risen significantly. Many candidates for the next presidential election oppose the war and claim that they will end it once elected, but the damage caused by the war has already been done and cannot possibly be reversed.

Although what has already been done cannot be fixed, we can at least stop continuing to hurt our military, economy, and the people in the Middle East. For those of you who do not support the war, you can help make a difference by voting for a presidential candidate that does not want the war to continue, and it will hopefully be ended once and for all.



Make Your Voice Count

By Ashley

Continued from Page 17

the United States.

There are some circumstances that are not protected under freedom of speech such as; shouting "Fire" in a crowded building. Fighting Words and Weasel Words, meaning slander, libel, threats, or highly provocative speech, go unprotected as well. The United States government reserves the right to regulate or even prohibit speech or writing that is considered obscene or pornographic. Compared to other countries, where people can be murdered for praying, I think citizens of the United States have it pretty good.

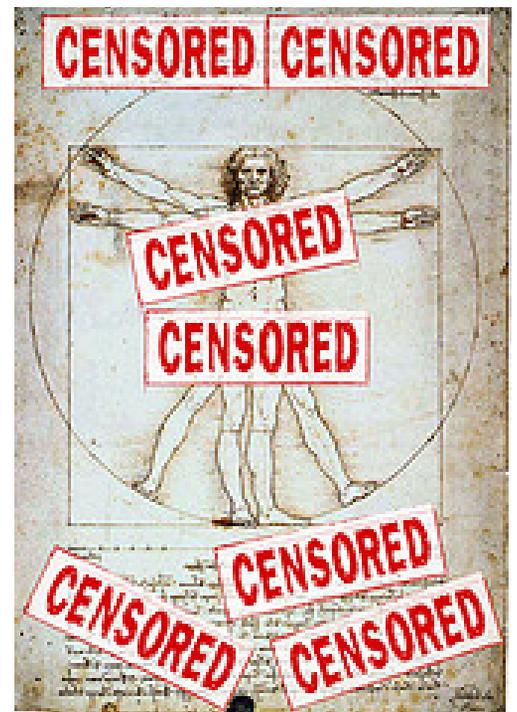
Without freedom of expression or speech, people

wouldn't be able to wear the clothes that they want, or do the things they want. Everyone would be expected to have the same jobs, and have the same interests. All art would be made in factories, and music would be government regulated.

In a world without freedom of expression, nobody would be distinguishable by the way they looked. People wouldn't be allowed to complain about things they disagreed with, and only people who had power could make any decisions without anyone else's input. When it comes down to it, I think that people who are United States citizens, a lot of times,

take for granted their rights, and especially their right to freedom of speech.

Since I haven't really stopped talking since I was six months old, I've come to realize quite a few things in this area. The first thing is that swearing at my parents is not covered under the first amendment. The second thing I have learned is that despite all of the scrutiny our country is constantly under, it is not such a bad place, especially with the amount of freedom we have compared to other places. The third thing I have learned is that if you don't speak up for yourself, no one else will.



The O'School on the Iraq War

Poll Conducted by Alan

Question 1:

What is your stance on the war in Iraq? Do you support or oppose it, and why?

Name: Ariel

Answer: I do not support the war in Iraq for a number of reasons. 1- it costs the US government an incredible amount of money that could be put to far more productive uses (health care, schools, etc). 2- The war does not seem to be helping the people in Iraq and overall it seems to be hurting them. 3- Ironically, the war seems to be making the USA a bigger target for terrorist attacks by further agitating and engaging the attention of terrorist organizations.

Name: Adjoa Tetteh

Answer: I think the Iraq war has been an unnecessary cost of lives, time, energy, money, and respect within the global community. I strongly oppose the war and regret that it has been waged in our name under false pretenses.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I oppose the war, but I believe that we must resolve the issues before we withdraw our forces. I say the aforementioned because if we leave the country in a state of unrest we risk a greater problem with Iraq in the future.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I think it was unnecessary. Whether or not there should be a withdrawal is a more complicated issue.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I am not a supporter of the war currently though I am a strong supporter of our troops who are risking their lives.

Name: Lizzy

Answer: I am opposed to the war in Iraq. There was no reason for us to enter the country, there was no way Saddam could

have had WMDs. And Bush was just rehashing his father's old score. Also, Halliburton is destroying our nation and murdering our civilians.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: It is stupid. I hate it.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: You can't have peace without war...

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I don't really understand it, so I would say I oppose it, but maybe I'm just not seeing it so I can't say for sure.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I hate it because I feel that it's all about the oil.

Name: JD

Answer: I oppose it, we have no right to be there terrorizing those people.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I oppose it. It's not where the main issues were. We have created potential civil war.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I think the war in Iraq was driven by George Bush's desire to redeem his father's loss in the first Iraq war (early 1990s). I opposed the war the first time and I still oppose the Iraq war now.

Question 2:

Do you think the US was justified in starting the war initially? Why or why not?

Name: Ariel

Answer: No. Although according to the intelligence available at the time, the USA believed Iraq had WMDs, so did other countries (ie North Korea). The USA could

have used diplomatic means to address this issue.

Name: Adjoa Tetteh

Answer: No, the war was waged under false pretenses (claims that Iraq possessed WMDs) and likely had more to do with personal vendetta between the Bush family and Saddam Hussein than decreasing or demolishing the threat Al-Qaeda posed to the American people.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I feel that no war is justified; some wars are necessary, but I'm not sure about this war; I feel that the information about the war was not fully disclosed to US citizens, and therefore I can not make an informed decision regarding whether or not the war was necessary.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: No - it should only have been justified with full UN support, backed by approval from the weapons inspector.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: It seems unclear to me. The reasons for starting the war were to address the issues tied to 9/11 but we weren't justified to address it in this manner.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: No, we never should have entered Iraq. It has only caused devastation and hatred in the Middle East. It was right for us to enter Afghanistan, but the Iraq war was a disaster and there is no point to it. We have just caused chaos and destruction in Iraq and fueled terrorism.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: No I don't agree. I think we invade other people's business.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: It depends, I think we were doing the right thing by starting the war, but I think we went about it the wrong way. It seems too

late to stop it.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: No, because they didn't have solid proof about any WMDs.

Name: JD

Answer: No, I think the planes were set up by Bush so he could finish Dad's war.

Name: Anonymous

Answer: I think when the US invaded Iraq to assist Kuwait in the early 1990s, that was justified. However, I do not think invading Iraq to find "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (that did not exist) was justified.

Iraq War Survey Overall Results

Number of people who support the war: 2 (~10.5%)

Number of people who oppose it: 16 (~84.2%)

Number of people who are unsure or indifferent: 1 (~5.3%)

Number of people who think the war was justified: 2 (~10.5%)

Number of people who do not think the war was justified: 15 (~78.9%)

Number of people who are unsure or indifferent: 2 (~10.5%)

Total people who participated in the survey: 19

Total people in the Orthogenic School (both staff and students): ~150

General Consensus: the war in Iraq should be ended, and is not justified.

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Page 1

House of Hope Front Door - Photo by YDC Staff

Cougar - Photo from ASNE website

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White House - Photo from us.gov

Page 3

Trash Houses - Photo from ASNE website

Page 4

Chain Link Fence with hand & Juvenile Court -

Photos from us.gov

Page 5

Trash Houses - Photo from ASNE website

Model on Runway - Photo from ASNE website

Page 6

Model in Jeans - Photo from ASNE website

Page 7

Mural in front of School & Richie - Photos taken by

YDC Staff

Page 8

Detail of mural in front of school - Photo taken by

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Girl at South Pond - us.gov

Page 9

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Page 11

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Page 12

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Page 13 -

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Page 14

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Page 15

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Page 16

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Page 17

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Soldier in Iraq - Photo from us.gov

Page 18

Combat in Iraq & Tank in Iraq - Photos from us.gov

Censored Da Vinci - Photo from ASNE website

The Yellow Door Chronicles Is Now Available Electronically

By Ryan

This issue of the Yellow Door Chronicles marks the first time that readers can receive it in an electronic format. Distributed online, it will be available to anyone with an email address or direct access to the Internet.

“We wanted the community to be able to have access to it, and this is the low-cost way to do it,” says Michelle Pegram, advisor for the paper.

The move has already garnered much feedback from the parent community. “I’ve gotten feedback already, asking for an email copy,” says Michelle Zarilli, another advisor.

According to estimates from Michelle P. & Michelle Z., the YDC costs anywhere from \$200

to \$250 to print per issue. Individuals outside of the student body who wish to continue receiving a print copy of the Chronicles can subscribe for \$18 per school year. The electronic version is free and can be printed and distributed freely. It will be exactly the same as the print edition.

Anyone who wishes to receive an email edition of the YDC can send a message with their email address to our inbox at yellowdoorchronicles@gmail.com. In addition, the YDC will be available for download from the Orthogenic School website at <http://www.oschool.org/>. Each edition will be sent automatically to the school’s email list, which includes parents and faculty.



Local Women’s Shelter Improves Community
By Alan

Despite the fact that The House of Hope is Roman Catholic, they do not impose that belief on anyone or practice proscriptions in their care. They spend an average of just \$13.31 per person per day, charge, standardized programs spend over twice as much, and many are not so successful. A high number of people who attend the House of Hope get



Cougar Visits the North Side
By Rebecca

Chicago’s North Side recently received a very unusual visitor. A young male cougar was shot and killed by police in Roman Village on Monday, April 14. After several reported sightings throughout the day, police cornered the cougar at around 6 that evening. The cougar was about 150 pounds and



Graduation, A New Beginning
By Alice

Over the next few months, there are going to be changes at the Orthogenic School. Not only will there be new faces, but some of the old ones will be leaving. At the end of May and the beginning of June some of the students will be graduating from the O’School, but also high school. Some of the people that will be leaving are part of the staff at the Yellow Door Chronicles.

Staff Lizzy, Alice, Jordan and Rebecca will all be leaving at the end of this term, and while some may just say goodbye, others will have full graduations. During the graduations, the students will have a great speech and they talk about all the progress they have made so far. Over the last few weeks the staff meeting has been planning graduations.

Hot Topics: O’School Thoughts on Topics in This Issue

By Ryan

How many times per week do you use the Wii game system?

Less than 1	23	82.1%
1	1	3.6%
2	1	3.6%
3	0	0%
3+	3	10.7%

Do you like racing video games?

Y	21	72.4%
N	8	27.6%

Do you think models are the ideal image for an everyday woman?

Y	5	20.8%
N	19	79.2%

Would you want to live in a home built of trash?

Y	4	14.3%
N	24	85.7%

Do you live in constant fear of being attacked by cougars?

Y	8	27.6%
N	21	72.4%

Would you want to lose partial control of your computer if it meant it would be more secure and safer to use?

Y	4	14.8%
N	23	85.2%

What are your most/least favorite pieces of art in the school?

The chick in the side yard. - Anonymous
One of my favorite art pieces at the O’School would be the ballet/ballerina drawing by the computers in the art room. - Anonymous
I like the art in the little gym. It’s more modern.
The older paintings throughout the school make me feel like I’m in a retirement home. And I am

definitely too young for that. - Danica
My favorite art is on the stairs. - Billy
I like the horse in the front living room. - Anonymous
What do you think of online gaming?
I think it’s pretty cool, but I think games for game systems are better. - Kaitlin
I think it is not good for your brain. Even though I play video games, I don’t think it’s good. I think it can cause you to be dumb. - Anonymous
It’s the best thing since Harold’s Chicken! - J.D.
It’s stupid. - Anonymous
It’s really fun but it can be very, very addicting. - Anonymous

Goodbye, Hello

By Michelle P.

This issue of the YDC marks the last for a great crop of journalists. Leaving us in June, for experiences outside the O’School or new experiences behind the Yellow Door, include Alice, Ashley, David, Lizzy, Rebecca and Ryan. We want to congratulate them on a year of hard work that has taken the newspaper to new levels. We are very proud of them and will miss their influence on the publication.

The only good thing about losing so many staff members is that the door is opened to new voices from within the student body. Continuing on as reporters will be Alan and Casey. They will be joined by Derrick, Felicia, Justin, Kayla, Kayla, KJ, Natalie, and Shelby. These students should all be very proud of themselves for successfully completing the application process. We are confident that they will fill the vacancies well.

YDC Staff February 2008

- Involvement Editor: Ryan
- Photo Editor Ashley
- Copy Editor: Lizzy
- Content Editor: Alan
- Staff Writers: Alan, Alice, Ashley, Casey, David, Lizzy, Rebecca, Ryan
- Advisors: Michelle Pegram & Michelle Zarilli

A Note from the Yellow Door Chronicles Staff:
If you are interested in contributing to our paper please submit your articles, poems or artwork to Michelle P. or Michelle Z.
Your work will be reviewed by the YDC team for our next issue.