

North Korea Threatens U.S. With Nuclear Weapons

By Nick A.

North Korea is boasting about their weapons of mass destruction. On May 25th 2009, North Korea tested their second nuclear weapon near the Kilchu area. North Korea is also holding a shooting practice in the waters northeast of Wonsan from June 25 to July 9-10, which falls within the date that North Korea said they would fire a nuclear missile at Hawaii: July 4th, Independence Day.

They also told Japan's coast guard to watch guard of the Wonsan region. U.S. officials say that the North Koreans' never said
Continued on page 3

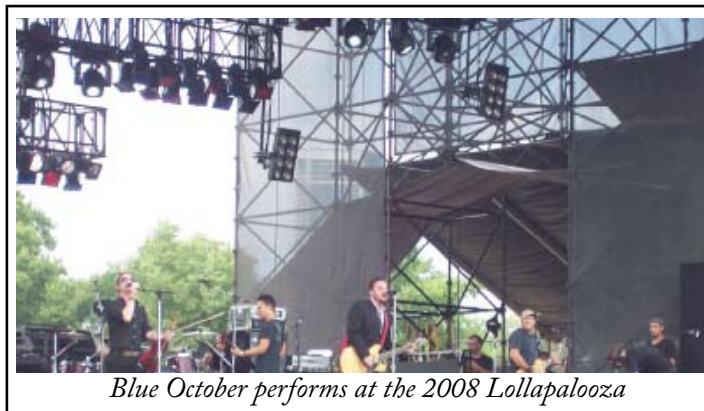


A North Korean Soldier

Lollapalooza 2009 Schedule is Announced

By Tommy

The lineup for the 2009 Lollapalooza was announced on June 18. The 3-day music festival, which will occur from August 7 to August 9 at Chicago's Grant Park, will have two headline acts to end each day. The headline acts will perform at the South Stage and the Budweiser Stage. The six headline acts this year will be Depeche Mode, Kings of Leon,



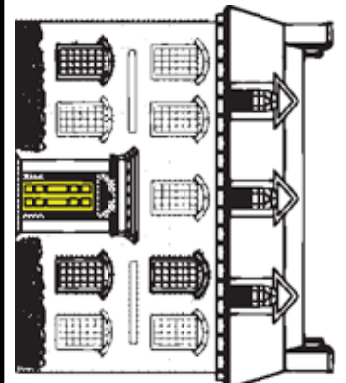
Blue October performs at the 2008 Lollapalooza

Continued on page 15

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**Year
door
Chronicles**

The student newspaper of the
Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School



hot topic

What is your opinion on the o'school restructuring?

A lot of cool people won't be able to work here, or will at least be influenced by this in their decisions to quit working here. I also think the thing about people having to go to college to work here is elitist.

-MacK MacKenzie

Not sure what to think.

-Anonymous

I'm surprised to hear about some of my favorite staff members leaving.

-Tommy

I think that the school will be very different when it is over, both good and bad because some staff are leaving and it is sad + hard.

-Shelby

A lot of former staff are leaving and the effect is quite profound.

-Kyle

I don't agree with it. I just got here, but as soon as I start making that connection with staff, they leave. Some of the staff have been working here 6+ years and it is unfair to them & us to go through that.

-Stephanie

I feel like it's harder to form solid relationships w/ part-timers, so I like that every part timer is given the chance to become full time if they wish, but (no offense to them) I'm happy with the restructuring. The main problem for me is that some full time dorm staff have to leave.

-Danica

To me, it's quite a major change, which in most cases, is Really overwhelming.

-Billy

I think that change is going to be hard for everyone, at the end it will work out and everything will fall into place.

-Kayla B.

yellow door chronicles

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By Ryan

The student newspaper
of the Sonia Shankman
Orthogenic School



If you are interested in contributing to our paper, please submit your articles, poems or artwork to Michelle Pegram or Michelle Zarilli.

Your work will be reviewed by the YDC team for future issues.

“Green” Marketing Campaigns Mislead Consumers

By Alan

During the past couple of years, various companies and manufacturers have been claiming to be “green,” making efforts to help lower or remove their carbon footprint and impacts on nature. According to TerraChoice.com, however, a vast majority of these claims are baseless, often manipulated into sounding better than they really are, and sometimes completely fabricated for the sole purpose of misleading consumers.

According to The Guardian, a UK newspaper, a whopping 98% of green claims are false. A few main contributors to this greenwashing, or whitewashing with “green” lies are airlines, auto manufacturers,



“Green” Companies Polluting the Environment

cleaning product manufacturers, banking groups such as Citi, and the cosmetology industry. Other examples include Kmart, Tender Corp., and Dyna-E.

Airlines such as EasyJet have been saying that their aircraft are better for the environment and atmosphere than previously, but there are

Continued on page 4

yellow
national & world

North Korea Threatens U.S. With Nuclear Weapons

By Nick A.

continued from page 1

what the consequences would be for trespassing vessels.

The missile was a Taepodong-2 missile, which is able to launch 4,000 miles from the Dongchang-ni site located at North Korea’s northwestern coast. Intelligence analysts do not believe that North Korea would be able to hit Hawaii from that distance for Hawaii is 4,500 miles away.

In order to protect South Korea, South Korean president Lee Myung-bak, flew to America on June 15th to get a written promise from president Obama



A Korean destroyer ship, *Sejong the Great*

that America will continue to protect South Korea with a “nuclear umbrella” project. It was signed a week later.

Also, in order to protect America, president Obama has increased Missile defenses in Hawaii. The United Nations is also lending a helping hand by urging North Korean authorities to refrain from taking any further measures, which may deteriorate the already serious situation, despite previous threats from North Korea of worse actions to come.

The main reason North Korea started threatening the U.S. is

Continued on page 6

The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act

By Shelby

On June 22, 2009 President Obama signed the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. This act gives the Food and Drug Administration the right to regulate what tobacco industries put into their products; flavored tobacco products including menthol or fruit flavor and misleading labels on cigarettes that say things such as “mild,” “light,” or “full-flavor,” will soon be taken off shelves.

In addition, tobacco companies will be required to print the general health risks larger and with more information, so

that the warning covers most of the product. Another big part of this act will reinforce how and where tobacco companies market their products and what crowd these ads speak to.

Although the number of tobacco related deaths have decreased in the past years, they are still considerable in number. In recent years, more than 400,000 Americans die annually from smoking-related ailments.

Cigarette smoke contains over 4,800 chemicals including ammonia, natural flavors and lead. Of those chemicals, 69 are proven to be cancer causing. Smoking is the most preventable cause of death

in the U.S. and the world.

Right before the new law was officially passed, President Obama noted that it “represents change that’s been decades in the making.” During George W. Bush’s presidency, the legislature talked about making similar changes, but Bush threatened to veto any law passed.

Obama strongly believes that this new law will save lives, especially those of teenagers. According to CNN, right before Obama signed the new law he stated, “Each day, 1,000 young people under the age of 18 become new, regular, daily smokers, and almost 90 percent of all smokers began at



This law may prevent people from smoking.

or before their 18th birthday.”

In addition to the ban of flavored tobacco, it will no longer be legal for tobacco companies to advertise at sports venues or print their logos on clothing and give them away, because these acts target younger crowds.

Continued on page 6

“Green” Marketing Campaigns Mislead Consumers

By Alan

continued from page 3

no statistics that help back up their claims. GreenwashingIndex.com calls EasyJet out on this. Another example would be The Airbus A380, which was marketed as being “a cleaner environment inside and out,” though it is actually a very polluting plane.

The Bush Administration even addressed this issue with the Clear Skies Initiative, which was supposed to heighten restrictions on emissions from aircraft, but in all

actuality made things worse, being more lenient with airplanes and their fuel usage.

Auto manufacturers are also a large player in the greenwashing scene. They market their hybrid electric/gas cars as being “green” and “clean,” but no car is good for the environment. This is a classic example of a lesser of two evils.

Toyota in particular is responsible for perpetuating many of the lies in the “green” auto field; the Toyota Prius is advertised as being good, or at least neutral for the environment, but in reality it is not, still using gas and containing materials that are harmful and not biodegradable.

Some of the more obscure and deceitful tactics that are used by manufacturers to get consumers to believe that their products are “green” is to put pictures and text relating to nature on their packaging. For example, cleaning product manufacturers often put pictures of trees on their bottles of harmful cleaning substances to cover up the fact that the chemicals are very bad for the environment and the plastic bottles take a very long time to break down and biodegrade.

Despite being a reputable bank holding company, Bank of America subsidiary MBNA has had its part in greenwashing, according to ClimateChangeCentral.com. They say that for every transaction made by their customers, a portion of the money made from the transaction fee will go to work towards “carbon offsets”, but in reality less than half a percent of their revenue is used for this purpose.

Lastly, the cosmetology industry has been using terms and buzzwords like “natural” and “organic” in their advertising, even when those claims may not be true.

Kmart, Tender Corp., and Dyna-E have been accused of making unsubstantiated claims about the biodegradability of their products, according to the US Federal Trade Commission (FTC). FTC claims that Kmart lied about the biodegradability of its house brand paper plates; Tender Corp. claimed that their moist wipes were biodegradable; Dyna-E said its towels were biodegradable. While some of these products might biodegrade after a long period of time and under the right circumstances,



Universal Recycling Sign

Continued on page 5

“Green” Marketing Campaigns Mislead Consumers

By Alan

continued from page 4



Images similar to this are used to mislead consumers

the FTC says the claims these companies have made are misleading and states that “claims of biodegradability should only be used if there is scientific evidence showing the product will completely decompose in a reasonably short period of time under normal disposal methods.”

The Environmental Leader states that while Kmart and Tender Corp. will have their affairs settled out of court, Dyna-E

will be litigated. For consumers looking to find out the validity of the “greenness” of the products they may potentially buy, there are many signs and indicators that can easily show if something really is legitimately good for the environment. For example, many products claim to be “green certified” or something similarly worded, but if on the label there is no reference as to what that certification is, it is most likely inauthentic.

Many products try and exploit the loophole of not specifically saying that they’re green so that they will not get in any trouble with the FTC or other groups,

but subliminally and implicitly tell the consumer that it’s good for the environment with things like imagery of trees and green plants. These are usually found on cleaners and other chemical-based products. Simply ignore the trees and look at the list of chemicals found within the product itself.

Another thing that manufacturers will do is say something such as “no CFCs” on their bottles. Even though CFCs are bad for the environment, they have been banned for a very long time, so it’s misleading, similar to saying something like “zero-calorie water.” Tactics like this can easily mislead the uninformed consumer.

If you have taken all the steps and still think you are not well-enough informed about the product, there are other things you can do to find out more. When in doubt, use the Internet and other media and information outlets, such as public libraries. Odds are you’ll be able to find what the product really is and how it impacts the environment.

Baghdad Hit By Wave of Bombings

By Matt U.

On Monday June 22, 2009 seven Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), were set off by Iranian insurgents in Baghdad, Iraq, leaving at least twenty-four Iraqi civilians dead and leaving dozens more wounded including three American soldiers.

IEDs now cause about half of all American combat casualties. The insurgents are placing IEDs with the sole purpose of discouraging the U.S. troops from completing their duties.

An Improvised Explosive Device is characterized as a low-tech mine and is normally “homemade.”



The Aftermath of an IED Explosion

They are hidden beside a roadway, can be set off by a variety of triggers and can utilize commercial, military, or

homemade explosives. Often the builder has to use only the materials that he or she has on hand. Some can be made powerful enough to produce a kill radius of 75 meters, or 246.063 feet.

There are many different triggers for an IED. Some of which may include a cellular phone, garage door opener, or even a child’s remote control toy. Some can be as simple as a vehicle driving over a garden hose producing enough air pressure to trigger the IED.

There are many different ways to increase the damage done by IEDs such as boosting, which is stack-

Continued on page 6

The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act

By Shelby

continued from page 4

Obama commented on his own struggles with nicotine addiction at the ceremonial signing of this law in the White House Rose Garden, "I know. I was one of these teenagers. And so I know how difficult it can be to break this habit when it's been with you for a long time."

In a Gallup Poll conducted in June, statistics showed that 52% of adults, including smokers, disagree with the new law and 46% support it. Adult non-smokers and smokers had mixed reactions to the law. Yan Meek, a 42 year old non-smoker in disagreement with the law, said in a Yahoo News interview that this law allows, "too much government control over personal lives, personal choices."

Reginald Little, a 47-year old smoker commented in the same interview and advocated for the new law. He started smoking cigarettes when he was a teenager and thinks that this law is necessary, "because you don't know exactly what's in it."

America's largest tobacco company, Phillip Morris USA, is in support of the new act. The company believes that it won't affect their sales and could possibly boost them. Phillip Morris manufactures tobacco products such as Marlboro and Virginia Slims. They use ad campaigns that lean towards adult smokers 21 and over.

RJ Reynolds, the tobacco company that makes Camel and Pall Mall, is not in support of the law because they aim their ads and products at younger smokers and believe that the law will impact their sales.



Cigarette Butts

Baghdad Hit By Wave of Bombings

By Matt U.

continued from page 5

ing buried IEDs on top of each other, and coupling, which is linking IEDs to increase the area that gets detonated. Then there are the shaped charges which fire a large piece of molten metal through the bottom of a vehicle.

One of the most popular methods

among the insurgents is called Daisy-Chaining. Daisy-Chaining is a type of Coupling. A vehicle drives over a first non-fused IED and sets off a second fused IED, which then sets off the over-passed IED underneath the vehicle.

A U.S./Iraqi security agreement that

went into effect on January 1, 2009 says that all United States troops must pull out of Iraqi cities and into U.S. bases by the end of this month. All U.S. troops are to be pulled out of Iraq by December 31, 2011.

North Korea Threatens U.S. With Nuclear Weapons

By Nick A.

continued from page 3

due to the U.S. protecting South Korea from them. Obama says the U.S. is prepared for any threat the secretive and unpredictable regime might pose. Obama said in an interview on Friday June 26, "I don't want to speculate on hypotheticals, but I want ... to give assurances to the American people that the t's are crossed and the i's are dotted in terms of what might happen."

There are some people who are having second

thoughts on this whole situation. Those people would be some of the people in the Obama administration team. They believe that once we find the Kang Nam 1, and ask to see the cargo and find out that is no W.M.D. Obama will look just like George W. Bush. Some people are worried, that Hawaii is only the beginning and others think there is nothing to worry about due to no activity for a long-range nuclear launch.

The O'School Reorganizes

By Shelby

On June 15th, Pete and Diana made an announcement about a big change that will happen at the O'School known as "reorganization." This adjustment will ultimately affect staff the most, but students may also notice differences such as some staff changes or program structure changes.

In the next few months, senior staff, along with Diana and Pete, is hoping to accomplish a set of goals to help the O'School run smoother. According to Pete and Diana, the purpose of this "reorganization" is "to make sure that we are organized so that we can best meet all of the requirements of outside agencies, which have increased quite a bit." Senior staff members hope that reorganization will help the O'School operate more efficiently and re-work some staff positions.

Outside agencies provide financial support to the Orthogenic School, but have certain guidelines that they expect to be followed in order for programs to receive this support. Agencies that provide the O'School with support include Illinois Care Grant, The University



The Yellow Door, The Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School

of Chicago and each student's individual school district.

Thoughts of reorganization have been going on for about nine months, according to Diana and Pete. The announcement of this change, however, came as a surprise

and was

upsetting

to some

staff members. One girl's floor staff said, "I was shocked because a lot of people that have worked here for a long time will soon

Continued on page 9

Yellow
local
now

New Students Come To The O'School

By Matthew U.

Summer is a time when a wave of new students comes to the O'School. Coming to the Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School the first time is a scary experience. It is hard to live away from home, away from parents and away from good friends. We should all remember this and treat the new students with respect from the get go.

Stephanie is one of the new students in the STARZ dorm. Her interests include graffiti, and art and drawing and she also likes music, tattoos and piercings. Stephanie likes all sports. You name it she plays it. One of her favorite past times is playing Ultimate-Frisbee. Her favorite food is Borscht, which is kind of beet soup. One thing that she absolutely hates is school, but Stephanie does have a pet Beta, a type of fish, named Petrol. Her favorite animal

is the Sloth and she also likes DA BEARS. Her profession of choice is to be a Professional Gypsy and she doesn't want to go to college.

Michelle is another new student in the STARZ dorm and her interests are computers, dance, gymnastics and observing people. The sports that she likes are dance, gymnastics and cheerleading. Her favorite food is Ramen Noodles and her favorite past time is computer work. She likes school and has a pet Chihuahua. Her favorite animal is the Monkey and her favorite Pro Sports team is the Chicago White Sox. In college she wants to major in computer security and programming and wishes to work in the computer network security field.

Michael C. is a new student in the newly dubbed GRYPHONS'

Continued on page 8

Fun with Summer Fun

By Nick A.

It's that time of year again, "Summer Fun" time. The time of year when we get out of school early and get new summer staff. We also get to do three activities a week, on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. These are all things that happen during summer at the O'school, but there is a lot that happens behind the scenes to decide what to do such as "Guitar Hero" instead of "Rock Band." Why don't we have a llama?

The Summer Fun idea started with Dr. Roth, the former Executive Director, Diana Kon and Pete Myers. It was created so that O'School students would have more experiences outside of the classroom during summer months. Ellie said, "Moreover, we wanted the kids to be able to hang out with their friends (all of the dorms together) and with their staff, all while trying new things and having fun – because that is what summer is all about!"

"Activities are planned by me, Kristin, and all of the counselors," Ellie continued. "[Kristin and I] plan the schedule in advance (with input from counselors) and then the counselors work as 'Point People' for the events – leading staff and students on various activities it is definitely a group effort!" There are lots of activities to do for Summer Fun that require their planning.

The O'School Carnival is a classic Summer Fun activity. "This was a whole lot of fun. There were some excellent battles on the obstacle course (and no one was injured too badly!). The petting zoo animals were adorable. The kitchen prepared some wonderful snacks, AND, most importantly, Mishawn was out of



O'School Carnival

New Students Come To The O'School

By Matthew U.



A new student entering the Yellow Door

continued from page 7

dorm. He likes animation and gaming. Michael doesn't like watching sports but will play most, and his favorite sports team is the Chicago White Sox. He likes Asian food and pizza and his favorite past time is playing video games. His favorite animals are dogs of which he has two, a Beagle and a Puggle. He sometimes likes school and doesn't know what he wants to major to be in college but he wants to do film and animation for a living.

Victor is a new day school student. He likes to play with animals and cards. His favorite sport is soccer and he likes DA BEARS. Victor's favorite food is Mac-n-cheese and his favorite past time is free time. He likes school and aspires to be a police officer. His favorite animal is a frog and has a crab named Pinchy. Victor wishes to be a math major in college.

Jeremy is another new day school stu-

dent. He likes to play piano and listen to music. His favorite food is pepperoni pizza and his favorite past time is playing with Lego's. He likes school and wants to major in engineering to become an architect. Jeremy doesn't have a pet but likes parrots. He likes baseball and his favorite Pro team is the Chicago White Sox.

Brandon is a new student in the Bronco's and the Argonauts. He likes skateboarding and dodge ball. His favorite Pro sports team is DA BEARS. His favorite food is lobster and his favorite past time is skateboarding. His favorite animal is the wolf and he has a dog, which is a Husky-Chow Chow mix. He kind of likes school and doesn't know what profession he wants to go into or what college major he wants.

Welcome to all of these new members of the O'School Community.

The O'School Reorganizes

continued from page 7

be out of a job because they don't meet certain requirements."

Students had similar reactions to the announcement. "I'm kind of angry that some of the cool staff will leave and that they waste our time being vague. I would have preferred if Pete and Diana would have had a meeting with us when they had more details," commented Matt U. of the Penguins Dorm. Mac, also of the Penguins Dorm, said, "I thought it was lame how vague Pete and Diana were and I thought it was [bad] how staff wouldn't be able to work here if they didn't work full time."

As a result of reorganizing the O'School, there will no longer be part-time staff members. There will be five primary counselors assigned to each dormitory who will be working with students during the daytime and the night. However, this does not mean that current part-time staff will not have the opportunity to reapply and work as full-time.

One basic requirement to work at the Orthogenic School now is to have at least a Bachelors degree, which means a staff member would have gone to a 4 year college and received a degree. Nick A. commented on this aspect of reorganization, "I understand why they are making this change, because I think there should be people with more educational experience

in this area."

Some staff members who are currently employees at the O'School may no longer have a job due to not meeting this requirement. "We hope that most of the people who work here now will remain—even if their responsibilities will change a bit, but we recognize that some people may choose not to stay and some may not meet the job requirements," replied Diana and Pete in an interview.

One of the biggest concerns amongst staff as a whole seemed to be whether they and their co-workers would still work at the O'School after everything is said and done. One part time staff member commented, "Everyone's main concern was probably job security." Another staff member said, "I was worried and upset because I knew a lot of people would no longer have a job."

Many students might wonder how many staff members will "leave." "While we recognize that change will be difficult and that all adjustments take some time, we anticipate that the majority of the people who work here now, will stay," commented Pete and Diana.

Another big concern of O'School employees was how these changes will affect the students. Overall, staff members seemed to feel that this change would affect the students in some way. "Our program

is relational and heavily relies on relationships between students and staff; this can affect the student in significant ways." Another staff agreed, "Dorm staff will probably change more than it does this time of year. There will be many positive changes, but I think the transition will be rough."

Diana and Pete agree, "Well, certainly in the short run, it will be hard for students to say good bye to anyone who may be leaving the school. It is always hard to say goodbye – especially at our school. In the long run, we hope that the changes will enhance the experience at our school – for students and their families as well as for all of the people who work here."



Fun with Summer Fun

By: Nick A.

continued from page 8

control with the cotton candy. In all, a great day!" said Ellie.

Then there is the walk to the point, "a lovely walk to the point to get ice cream, what's not nice about it? "A "low-key" event, but always a good time. It was a hot day, so I think the students were very happy to see the overflowing ice cream sundaes at the end of their walk." said Ellie "I know that after ice cream, a bunch of kids went on to the beach, because later on I saw Keenan, in all of his clothes, soaking wet."

There are five weeks of summer fun to participate in before summer session ends. Be sure to check the calendar and make your plans.



staff profile

Ryan Walter the Penguins

By Mack

Ryan Walter. Students know him as the crazy hairy guy who does random things, the Frisbee player and the guitarist. He's one of the younger counselors, only 22, only recently having graduated from U.C. Boulder and aspiring to become a therapist. This, however, is stuff everybody already knows about him. What more is there to learn about this quirky young man?

He enjoys working at this school because of the things he learns from students and staff, and the relationships he develops with the kids in his dorm. He says, "Everyone gets dealt a different hand in life, some of them harder than others. I think everyone deserves a fair shot at trying to lead a happy life." He knew he wanted to make psychology his major when he took some interesting classes, but he knew he wanted to make it his career when he started working with children.

Ryan likes to play the blues. He has some old recordings of himself from college playing alternative type music, which seems to be what he was into when he was younger. He's good at playing funky riffs on his guitar. He spends a lot of his time around the dorm playing the guitar, and sometimes makes up random funny songs. Ryan can also play the saxophone,



Ryan Walter from the Penguins to you.

piano, drums and banjo. He says he likes all kinds of music, except maybe death metal, and he loves to see live music. He says, "If someone out there enjoys it, then it's cool by me. I imagine you think that's a cop out... call it what you like."

He considers himself a pretty shy kid. He only hangs out with his family, a few close friends and his guitar. He tries to keep in touch with his siblings as much as possible. He had these pearls of wisdom for us, "One thing I've learned throughout the years is that friends come and go. Take the time to learn as much as you can from them and if you're lucky enough, you'll find a few that will stick around a while."

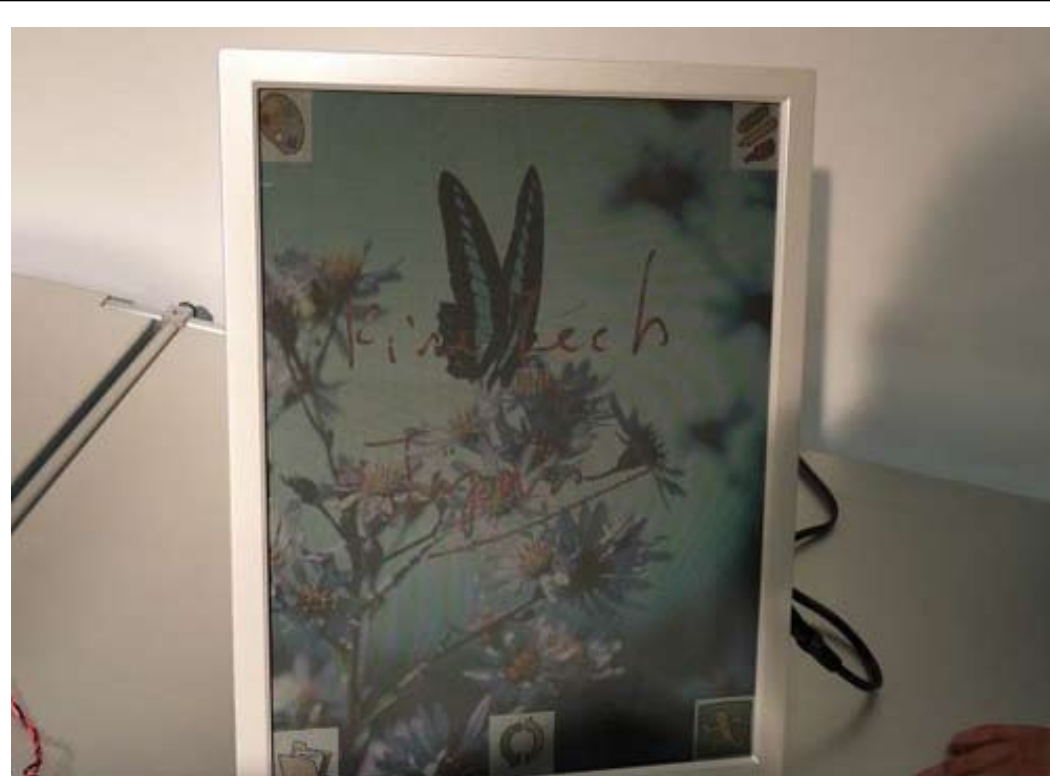
Ryan is a big fan of the Cubs. He also likes the Bulls and the Bears. He says he likes to watch all sports, tries to follow Chicago teams, and also likes

the Denver Nuggets, Notre Dame, because his sister goes there, and the Colorado Buffaloes. He tries to make it out to at least a few baseball games and the occasional basketball game, but he hasn't been to a football game at Soldier Field. The only TV show he really watches is sports center. He plays tennis, golf, Frisbee and basketball. He played on the Ultimate Frisbee team in college at Boulder.

Something cool about living in this school is that we meet many good young counselors who care about other people a lot, who are very talented and will certainly go on to do many great things after they leave here. Ryan is one of those counselors, and one who will still be here with us.

Electronic Paper Underway

By George



E-paper displaying a book cover

YELLOW
science & technology

In the 70's Nick Sheridon conceived the idea of electronic paper. Later he developed the idea and eventually brought it into reality. Electronic paper, like paper itself has many features that make it like paper combined with what the electric in its name makes it. Not only is it paper in that it reflects light but also in that it bends backwards and forwards.

Electronic paper, or e-paper, does not hurt the eyes after viewing it for long periods of time and is actually comfortable to read, more so than similar devices. E-paper will allow people to have all the content that can fit inside two books on a device that is the size of a regular sheet of paper.

Electronic paper does not consume electricity but has its own power source inside of it. There is no information given as to how long the power source will last, but

it is guaranteed to last long.

The common element in all electronic paper is positively charged particles. Some companies have managed to make electronic paper that only displays black and white text and images while others have developed electronic paper that can display colored images. There are also different versions of electronic paper being worked on in other companies.

You cannot draw or write on electronic paper, and you cannot load images on to it, it has not yet been revealed exactly how electronic paper works.

A benefit of electronic paper is that it saves trees from being used for paper and a drawback is that it isn't recyclable. There is no telling when electronic paper will become widespread, but companies indicate that it might be in 5 to 10 years.

Axolotl Brings Hope to Amputees

By Stephanie

The axolotl can regenerate its limbs, spine and various body parts. What is it about this strange looking salamander that makes it able to regenerate limbs? With today's most modern science we are able to now see the process it goes through to create a new appendage. Scientists are able to inject the green fluorescent gene found in certain jellyfish into an albino, almost transparent, axolotl to be able to watch the re-growth of the new limb. They then transfer the information into finding out how it works and how we can help amputees with this newfound information.

"How does it re-grow its limbs so easily?" one might ask. The axolotl goes through the initial healing process after parting with a limb, but as soon as the site of the wound starts healing, instead of forming scar tissue it produces a stem cell protein that will, soon enough, become the new limb. Phrased simply, it goes through the same process as it did when it was in the womb. The stem cell holds memory and can create the new limb exactly as it was before.

The axolotl's origin comes from Spain, but they were introduced into Mexico City when explorers brought them over as 'pets.' The name 'axolotl' comes from the Aztec word 'Nahuatl,' which can be translated to either their lightning god, Xolotl, or the more common phrase water dog. The Aztecs used the axolotl in medicine and religious ceremonies believing that the salamander was an incarnation of the lightning death god who went through metamorphosis to escape being sacrificed. The axolotl lives in Mexico City's Lake Xochimilco and Lake Chalco, but due to foreign predators the axolotl is slowly becoming extinct.

Scientists are now trying to breed more albino axolotls in hope to be able to view, through their transparent skin,



An Axoltol

the regeneration of limbs. Although the salamander is slowly becoming extinct in their natural habitat, numbers dwindling down to the 400 count, they breed freely in captivity and their numbers are flourishing once again. The genetic variations of the pigment in the axolotl's skin range from black to almost transparent. Scientists have figured out which axolotls to breed together to come up with more albino axolotls.

Amputee victims have very few options at this point when it comes to living normal lives. They end up spending massive amounts of money for personally fitted prosthetic limbs. These limbs have to be fitted to the person's body weight, height, and shape of their body. Most amputee victims are able to carry on with their normal lives, but it is more difficult for them than the average person. There are support sites for these amputees that can help in financial aid for their new limbs, and also help raise money for research on stem

cell limb regeneration.

Although humans have the ability to re-grow the tips of their fingers and parts of their liver, the axolotl is just exceptionally good at regenerating larger parts of the body. So if scientists view how the salamander creates an exact replica of the new body part, they may somehow, someday, create something that will help amputee victims regenerate new limbs.

Expression on Unfair Computer Policy

By Tommy



Computers in school can be tricky buisness

YELLOW
Opinions & editorial

The Internet policy at the O-School, which was set by the O-School Technology Committee, lists the requirements for students to surf the web. The Internet Policy was set because of the ever-evolving technology. There are restrictions placed on e-mails, sites, language, downloads, software, shared resources, hardware, and property rights. The most unfair policy about computers is probably the policy about installing software because most student accounts are not administrators.

The most important concern about e-mailing is about the physical and emotional safety of all students. People can be dishonest online because the Internet allows social networking sites and businesses to

operate without in-person dealings. Another concern involves a business relationship with the University of Chicago. Since the O-School is an affiliate of the university, we are allowed to use their computers; however, the University is concerned about what children use on their computers because the children are financially liable for misuse. If I were principal of the O-School, I would prevent students from e-mailing because of their safety, unless the e-mails are for teachers or parents.

Concerning the Internet, students are forbidden to visit sexually explicit or adult-oriented sites. Visiting any site in this category will result in losing computer privileges for a certain amount of days. For

most other sites that don't fall under either category, students must consult their teachers to see if a certain site is appropriate. I consulted Linda to see if I could have a special computer privilege for free time on appropriate sites, and she agreed. If I were principal, I would install a content filter on every computer to prevent students from visiting sexual websites, but still allow students to visit teacher-approved sites.

Students are required not to publish threats, obscenity, or any disrespectful language online. One shall not engage in a personal attack, which includes discrimination and prejudice. Harassment, repeating an annoying act on someone, is also forbidden. You must stop sending

continued on page 14

Expression on Unfair Computer Policy

By Tommy

continued from page 13

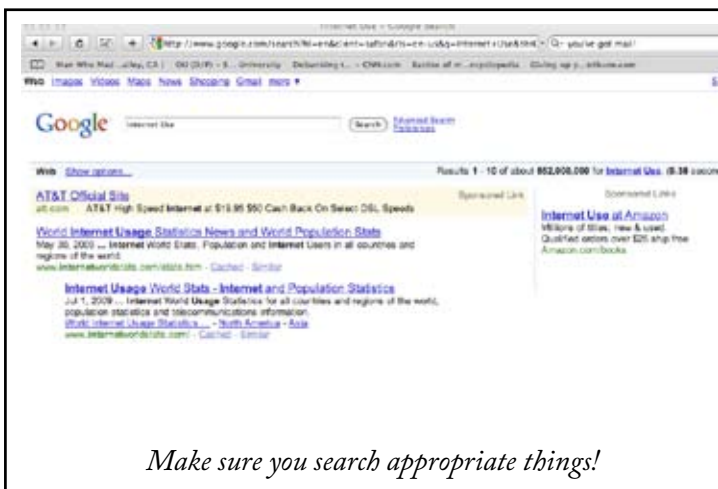
messages to a person if they tell you to. Another forbidden act is knowingly posting incorrect or defamatory information about a certain topic. If I were principal, I would encourage students to post correct information online so the Internet can be a more trusted resource instead of a web of rumors.

Only certain staff members, not students, may download or install any software on a school computer. Students may only install and use personal software, such as computer games, on their own computers. Students should download music at home, as there are currently no plans to install WiFi in the dorms. Students shouldn't bring school software home because it belongs to the O-School. If I were principal, I would install WiFi throughout the school because it allows more computers to connect without using wires. Also, all the students would be administrators so they can download and install important programs, such as educational software.

Students are forbidden to hack into other accounts. This includes disabling or decoding passwords, or modifying computer settings. Students should never reveal personal information online. These days, in my opinion, everyone is using MySpace or Facebook. Students are encouraged to visit such sites at a coffee shop or a library. I use both. One must never reveal one's password to other students. I have never revealed my password to anyone, except my parents for obvious reasons. If I were a high school principal, I would forbid students from posting personal information online to protect them from cyber-predators and identity theft.

Students must avoid damaging computers or accessories, including software and peripherals, belonging to the Orthogenic School. The student who damaged the hardware will be held responsible. The computer maintenance staff holds the exclusive rights to fixing and altering the hardware. If I were principal of a high school, I would allow students to use personal software on their own computers and school software on the school computers because that's the correct usage of software at a school.

Property rights include copyright infringement and plagiarism. Students must refer to their sources in



documents with permission from the source. It is also illegal to plagiarize online works, which means taking another person's work and presenting it as one's own. Copyright infringement is when a person reproduces a copyrighted work without permission. One should request permission from the copyright owner. I have always written my own works, using original characters.

Overall, I would deem the O-School Internet policy very strict because of the rules. Students must be supervised while using computers, but I want the students to be left alone. Some sites are considered inappropriate by teachers, but some of those sites actually contain limited sexual or violent content. I know that some online filters accidentally block appropriate websites that have hidden profanity in them, so I might suggest a filter that allows adults to customize the content filters. This way, students can be promised the safest online experience.

Guerilla Graffiti Artist Sends Powerful

Message

By Stephanie

Painted on London's Royal Mail depot, the piece featured a photograph of a child with a paint roller outlining the words "ONE NATION UNDER CCTV," with a London police official and his K-9 waiting at the left side. Infamous United Kingdom artist 'Banksy' strikes again with a message speaking out against society and the government.

This recent piece of art voices his opinions on the surveillance cameras all over London. His work has become so well known that famous actors such as Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie have spent thousands of dollars at auctions to buy his work. His work might be raking in the money, but his identity remains anonymous. He even held an art show in Bristol where the museum staff knew and saw nothing of this guerilla graffiti artist known as Banksy.

He has an extremely strong voice on the subject of the government and society at large. Much of his guerilla graffiti artwork mocks the government and other govern-



Someone in the act of creating illegal graffiti

ment related issues, sometimes illustrating that monkeys and primates would run a better government. He doesn't agree with the prison systems either, which he advertised

at Disneyland 2006, where he left a life-sized Guantanamo prisoner dummy in the "Big Thunder Mountain Railroad" ride for ev-

continued on page 17

YELLOW
sports & entertainment

Lollapalooza 2009 Schedule is Announced

By Tommy

continued from page 1

Beastie Boys, Tool, Jane's Addiction, and the Killers. The concerts last from 11:15 AM to 10 PM each day.

In 1991, the year of the first Lollapalooza, Simon Reynolds of the New York Times reported that Perry Farrell, the lead singer of Jane's Addiction, had recently planned a music festival named Lollapalooza as a farewell tour for his band. The headline acts at the 1991 Lollapalooza included Jane's Addiction, Living Colour, Nine Inch Nails and Ice-T.

Lollapalooza was a touring festival until 2003. The festival went on hiatus from 1998 to 2002. The 2004 Lollapalooza was cancelled due to poor ticket sales. In 2005, Perry Farrell sold the Lollapalooza brand

to Capital Sports & Entertainment, which reorganized the event as a weekend-long festival in Chicago's Grant Park.

More than 120 bands and singers will perform this year, including The Killers, Depeche Mode, Kings of Leon, Glasvegas, Tool, Snoop Dogg, The Airborne Toxic Event, Coheed and Cambria, Jane's Addiction, Silversun Pickups, Lou Reed, Beastie Boys, Cold War Kids, Kaiser Chiefs, Ben Folds, Rise Against, and The Raveonettes. A complete schedule for the festival can be found on 2009.lollapalooza.com, which also lists band information and performance dates.

One can find eight stages and an autograph tent at the 2009 Lollapalooza: the

Budweiser Stage, the PlayStation Stage, Perry's for the DJs, the BMI Stage, Kidzapalooza for the children, the Citi Stage, the Vitamin Water Stage, the South Stage and the FYE Autograph tent. The stages are named after their sponsors, but Perry's is named after Perry Farrell, singer for Jane's Addiction and founder of Lollapalooza.

Overall, the 2009 Lollapalooza has an interesting lineup and a mixture of genres, including rap, pop, progressive rock, metal, emo, indie, electronica, alternative and art rock, performing on each stage. Downloading music by the featured performers at the 2009 Lollapalooza is an alternate choice for music fans who can't attend the festival.

“Vampyre:” it’s more ancient like me

By Mack

Sinister dead people stalking people, killing them and drinking their blood; guys in black leather jackets with big guns powered by blood killing wolf men or their own kind; teenage pretty boys with pale skin that glitters in the sun light. Vampyres have once again had an upsurge in the popular media with the HBO series *True Blood* and the book series *Twilight*. Why have vampyres lasted into today’s media? What is it about them that’s so exciting to us?

The ‘vampyre,’ derived from the Latin name *Hominus Nocturnus*, was made a contemporary monster in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*, pronounced “Dra-noon-ya” in Romanian. *Dracula* is an icon in the vampyre genre, and many movies and books feature him, most notably the black and white film *Dracula*, which built the image most people think of *Dracula*, and the more current rendition by Francis Ford Coppola, which is widely believed to be the best incarnation of *Dracula* on film. *Nosferatu*, the silent film famous for first bringing vampyres to the big screen, was directly based off of *Dracula* but wasn’t directly about him due to copyright issues.

“*The Vampyre*,” by John Polidori, a forerunner of *Dracula*, was the first story to truly create the vampyre as a sentient being where before it had only been a blood-sucking corpse. This short story, along with “*Carmilla*,” by Sheridan LeFanu, also helped develop the vampyre as a sexualized being paving the way for stories such as *The Hunger* or *Twilight*. A couple of other influential vampyre stories are *The Lost Boys*, an 80s film directed by Joel Schumacher, and *The Vampire Chronicles* by Anne Rice. *The Lost Boys* helped to establish vampyres as counter culture anti-heroes, while *The Vampire Chronicles* has been the biggest vampyre saga of the 20th century.

A lot of people around the school are interested in vampyres, and staff are no exception. Mark and DeMarco have a pret-

ty common opinion as they like vampyre movies such as *Blade* & *Underworld*, because they often have good action. Cullen explained how he liked *True Blood* because of its good writing, interesting characters and it’s blending of different monsters so that when a new character is introduced he

him die.” He sees *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* as, “The epitome of a female superhero... Perfection... The first was Xena, then Buffy, then the Charmed Ones... Buffy changed the way humanity looked at female superheroes. For teenage girls, she was a hero who wasn’t subservient to a male counterpart.”

The most interesting thing our vampyre nut had to say, though, was his theory as to why vampyres are so interesting to modern readers and movie viewers. He said, “When people say vampyre they are taken back and they think ‘would I actually be a good person as a vampyre?’... It’s their allure, it’s their beauty, it’s what we yearn to be. I think people would elect to be a vampyre above any other monstrosity... The vampyre speaks to us. It speaks to this idea because forever is such a long time.”

On the Internet there is a Dartmouth student’s thesis on “The Vampire in modern American Media” that analyzes in-depth the appeal of the vampyre to modern audiences. First the essay talks about modern spirituality, with religion and science, and how that has affected the style in which modern vampyres are portrayed. It then talks about people’s interest in psychology and modern media focusing more on the mind and feelings of vampyres. Lastly it analyzes sexuality and gender roles in the modern vampyre genre.

It seems as though vampyres have struck the perfect balance between eroticism, horror, drama and action. Vampyres are versatile too. They can make it in sappy love stories like *Twilight*, zombie-esque survival horrors like *30 Days of Night* and leather jacket and gun movies like *Blade* and *Underworld*. Vampyres have captivated people since the Victorian Era and will most likely captivate generations from now as well.



Nosferatu, Classic Vampire Movie

wonders what they are. He also explained how he likes vampyres because he’s intrigued by their immortality, all the horrors they must have seen, and yet they’re not afraid of anything.

The guy with the most interesting things to say was school vampyre nut, Richie. When asked for his favorite moment in vampyre media he referenced the TV show *Forever Knight*, “when Niqua killed Nicolai... Nicolas was brought across in 1228... Nicolas asked Niqua to help

Guerilla Graffiti Artist Sends Powerful Message

By Stephanie

continued from page 15

everyone to see. According to BBC, by the time the dummy was identified, the ride was shut down and the doll removed.

Banksy has kept his identity a secret from the world due to law officials looking for him for his vandalizing of property. He has few friends who know of his true identity, but hold his secret with pride.

A few photos have been taken where people believe it to be Banksy, but no one is sure about the true identity of the man in the photos. One photo shot in Jamaica depicts a man kneeling over spray paint cans and a backpack. Some will argue that this could be him, yet no one can be sure.

Not only has his artwork gained him attention from the press, but so has his hidden identity and elusion of the press and media.

Many people become upset when Banksy spray-paints their property, such as Westminster Council, accusing him of ad-

vertising on their walls and property. His response to that was, "I was offended when Westminster said my painting was an advertisement. Advertising makes people feel inadequate and worthless. Graffiti doesn't do that. Graffiti doesn't emotionally blackmail you, graffiti doesn't make you feel fat and graffiti doesn't make you rush out and buy things, except maybe high strength cleaning products," according to *Time Magazine*.

When the owners of the estate tried to remove his work, he released a statement to *Time* magazine saying, "I don't know what next door is complaining about — their building is so ugly the 'No Trespassing' sign reads like an insult."

He not only paints graffiti on walls, but he also has a wide range of artistic mediums. On his webpage you can view sketches he has done, as well as his indoor and outdoor artwork. At his art show in Bristol, there

were sculptures made out of different materials and even a few paintings. Although most of his better known artwork is done with spray paint, he has created many other lesser-known art pieces. No matter which medium he uses, he always seems to get his message across.

This guerilla graffiti artist never ceases to surprise anyone. The media has had a field day with his controversial artwork. Many people have made it a personal mission to find out who this 'Banksy' character is and why he does what he does. He has painted murals all over the United Kingdom and even the United States, displaying artwork that ranges from ironically humorous to deep and awesome. Regardless of which piece of art you look at, you can always find some kind of meaning within it.

Rockstar Mayhem Festival Comes to Chicago

By Alan O'Connor

Coming to the First Midwest Bank Amphitheater in Chicago on July 26th are popular bands and artists such as *Slayer*, *Trivium*, *Marilyn Manson*, *Bullet for my Valentine*, and many more who will gather to perform together in what is anticipated to be one of this year's biggest concerts – Mayhemfest '09. It will not only include hardcore music and moshing, but also the world-renowned motocross group Metal Mulisha performing daredevil motorcycle stunts. There will also be merchandise vendors, video game booths, and much, much more to keep concertgoers busy.

Founded by Vans Warped Tour founder Kevin Lyman, and John Reese of the Taste of Chaos Tour, the Mayhem Festival is a relatively new tradition, only having been around for a little less than a year. Though concerts of this type are great in number, the distinct metal, alternative, hard rock, and industrial sound of Mayhemfest has manifested into something much larger. With plenty of high-paying sponsors such as Hot Topic, Jägermeister, Rockstar Energy Drink, Citi, Skullcandy, Q101, and others, it is not only popular, but very financially successful as well due to the high amount of ticket sales, according to the Mayhem Festival official website.

This year's lineup of musical groups and artists includes many

popular metal bands, such as *Whitechapel*, *Killswitch Engage*, *God Forbid*, *Cannibal Corpse*, *All That Remains*, *Job for a Cowboy*, *Behemoth*, *Black Dahlia Murder*, and, of course, classics like the aforementioned *Slayer*, who will be performing music from their new album due to be released in late summer '09. *Psychopathy Red* will highlight their newest release, after 2006's *Christ Illusion*. They will of course be playing old classics like *Raining Blood*, too. Mayhemfest.com reports that even bands like *Mushroomhead* might be making some sneak appearances.

Each year, the ever-changing lineup for Mayhemfest hosts different bands with different qualities. Some of the more significant bands featured in Mayhemfest this year are *Slayer*, *Behemoth*, and *Bullet for my Valentine*. Many metal bands including these not only make music that appeals to metalheads, but also convey messages pertaining to religion, politics, environmentalism, humanitarianism, or otherwise important issues that they feel need to be voiced. For example, the metal band *Extreme Noise Terror* expresses their concerns with animal cruelty and environmental issues, in songs like *Raping the Earth*, *Murder*, and *Cruelty to Carnivores*. *Slayer* voices their opinion on religious extremisms, in songs like *Jesus*

continued on page 18

Rockstar Mayhem Festival Comes to Chicago

By Alan O'Connor

continued from page 17

Saves, Skeleton Christ, and Jihad.

Slayer entered and pioneered the genres of thrash and speed metal in 1981, alongside other metal giants such as *Metallica*, *Megadeth*, and *Anthrax*. Considered to be one of "The Big Four" thrash innovators that brought the genre into the public's eye, they have put out many different albums, and are still producing plenty of content to this day. While others have fizzled out after their few years of fame, *Slayer* has remained at the top of the charts.

Emerging in the early 90's, *Behemoth's* avant-garde Blackened Death Metal stylings have helped progress Poland's Extreme Metal movement. Their inspiration helped pave the way for contemporary metal artists. AllMusic.com, Behemoth.pl, and MetalCrypt.com state that *Behemoth's* music can be described as controversial, meaningful, thematic, and brutal. Their lyrics often consist of pagan, occult, and satanic messages that have stirred many due to their clash with mainstream religions and doctrines.

Bullet for My Valentine, formerly known as *12 Pints of My Girlfriend's Blood*, is a relatively new band to the mainstream alternative and metal scene, compared to the

other ones mentioned already. They have been around for 11 years, but only gained mainstream support and notoriety within the past 4 years. Even so, they have toured all around the world, gaining acclaim from all sorts of Screamo and Metalcore fanatics.

They have toured all through the UK, and US, and even planned on going to South Africa, but cancelled their tour there to work on their next album. Their 2005 album *The Poison* sold more than half a million records globally, making them one of the most popular, if not *the* most popular Metalcore band of all time.

The annual Mayhem Festival, sponsored by Rockstar Energy Drink, started in 2008, but already has quite a following. This year's Mayhem Festival Tour will go all over the US, from California to Massachusetts and nearly everywhere in between, starting on July 10th and continuing on until August 16th, according to pickRset.com.

Last year's Mayhemfest was a hit, featuring hit bands like *Slipknot*, *Disturbed*, *DragonForce*, *Mastodon*, *Machine Head*, *Underoath*, *Black Tide*, and *Suicide Silence*. This year will have more bands than before,

including those lesser-known players on the Jägermeister Battle of the Bands Stage, such as *Northwest Royale*, *Negative 263*, *Saint Diablo*, *Switchpin*, *X Factor 1*, *Hemlock*, *Corrupt Absolute*, *Stemm*, *Continent of Ash*, *Madlife*, *Mobile Deathcamp*, *Adakain*, *Property*, *Powderburn*, *Know Lyfe*, *Skinlab*, and *Soul Made Visible*.

Last year's tour brought in approximately 340,000 fans for all of the amphitheaters they visited with just a handful of bands, so it's expected that more fans will show up due to the greater amount of musicians performing on tour.

According to LiveNation.com, the First Midwest Amphitheater has an occupancy of 28,000 people, large enough to accommodate the expected audiences for these bands in the Chicago area. There is a large designated mosh pit, a couple of seated areas, and very large, sprawling lawn areas for which tickets can be purchased cheaply, some as low as \$10 a piece, compared to the \$50 mosh pit tickets, or upwards of \$300 VIP seat tickets, according to CoastToCoastTickets.com.



Slipknot at Mayem Festival, 2008

The Sims 3 Releases

By George



Sims 3

The Sims 3 is the latest game in this series, releasing in North America June 2nd. The creator of The Sims, as well as The Sims 3, claims to have conceived of it when his house burned down and he had to start over.

There are three modes in The Sims 3, as well as all its predecessors, which are vital to the game; they are buy mode, build mode and live mode.

In buy mode you purchase items that your sim can interact with such as a television which the sim can watch, and chairs in which they can sit. Each item you buy costs money, some items may be over a \$1,000 while others can be \$20. You buy items with the money they give you when you first move into a house, which is around \$2,000, and also money you earn from working. You can also sell the things you brought or had when you first moved in for money. In build mode you build a house, from walls to door to windows and floor tile.

In live mode the sims live their lives. This

is the only mode where the game doesn't pause automatically, but you could choose to pause the game anyway.

The Sims is not the kind of game you win, unlike sim games released for consoles which have a story mode where your character can win. Rather, you play as the sim or sims you create, doing things like going to work, which only young adult and adult sims can do, raising children, and making dinner. You can do these things as long as you like, or at least until your sim dies, which would leave you with an empty household unless there were other sims who lived there. In Sims 1, death happens from neglect or fire only, but in the Sims 2 it can happen from old age.

In The Sims 3, just as with previous installments, you take care of your sim's needs such as hunger, bladder, hygiene, social, fun and energy while also fulfilling your sim's wishes and, over a longer period of time, their lifetime wish. More wishes come for you to complete, except for your sims lifetime wish, which is only one wish.

New additions to The Sims 3 include the new trait system. Instead of choosing a zodiac sign or adding more to your outgoingness or shyness, you choose character traits of which there are 60. A sim can have up to five traits, but you do not have to pick 5. Each trait affects the gameplay in some way. For example, sims with the trait friendly get the option of doing some friendly interaction with other sims.

In the Sims 3 you are allowed to film your sims and make movies by telling your sim what to do. Another form of story telling you can do is to take a picture of your sims talking with other sims cooking food or whatever you want them to do. Then you can write captions underneath the photo.

In the game's live mode your sims can fall in love, have children, get married, learn new skills, start fires, die, throw parties, order food, make out, visit others houses, quit jobs, learn to swim and so on. Sims 3 allows you to explore life without the usual risks.

The student newspaper of the
Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School

yellow door chronicles



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This Issue's Top Headlines

**North Korea Threatens U.S.
With Nuclear Weapons**

**Lollapalooza 2009 Schedule
is Released**

Also Inside

National/World
Government Heightens
Tobacco Restrictions
Page 4

Op/Ed
Expression on Unfair
Computer Policy
Page 13

Science/Tech
Axolotl Brings Hope to
Amputees
Page 12

Local
Meet Ryan, O'School
Dorm Counselor
Page 10

Sports/Ent
Rockstar Mayhem Festival
Comes to Chicago
Page 17

And More!

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