

# Opinions 'n' Such

## Governator



Aaron Schutjer  
Staff Columnist

I never thought I'd see the day when Minnesota's own ex-governor Jesse Ventura was out done. On Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> action star and body builder Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected Governor of California. The previous governor, Gray Davis, was recalled by 55 percent of Californians.

The governor's race in California was probably the oddest political race in the U.S.A. To name a few of the 131 candidates, there was Larry Flynt, who if you don't know, is the man behind Hustler magazines and adult stores. Following that trend was "Adult" film actress Mary Carey, and by adult I mean porno in case you were wondering. Trek Thunder, a performance artist, also ran, and stated "Please vote for me, thus breaking the Seventh Seal and incurring Armageddon."

When I first heard that Schwarzenegger became governor of California, I almost had a brain aneurysm (that's when a blood vessel pops in your brain). It's hard to have much faith left in good ol' America when the big mean Terminator has power over the most populated state in it. I just can't understand what happened; my guess is that the people who voted for him thought that he would go over to Iraq with a shotgun and bag Saddam and Bin Laden. Hopefully, when they realize that he's not actually a robot from the future, they'll recall him like they did Davis.

What may sadden me most is that after Jesse Ventura, this is the proof that the political system is just a nation-wide popularity contest. Throughout all the campaigns and television media for Jesse, I never really heard what his views were for important issues like schools and budget plans. Instead, I was bombarded by bumper stickers and buttons that read "Our governor can beat up your governor." I wish California would have learned from our stupid mistake, because after Ventura took office, schools

*I'LL BE BACK* Continued on 9

## Discipline policy debated



Jon Sherman  
Staff Columnist

A student arrives back at Open School after walking down to Burger King for lunch. The student is spotted coming through the entrance with a greasy bag of fries and is questioned about where he's been. There has long been a rule regarding leaving school grounds without permission. The student confesses to having gone to Burger King; but what's the price to pay for such unlawfulness? Detention? Saturday School? Dismissal? You may be shocked to know (insert voice of Stone Phillips), this may depend on just who you are.

Along with the beginning of a new school year, the question has arisen about how to address discipline.

The Saint Paul Public Schools 2003-2004

handbook leaves plenty room for schools to have an individual approach to discipline. Whether that approach be directed by a student's advisor or teacher is all up to the school.

A "more proscribed" proposal reached by SLC staff members, came this October and concluded as follows:

that all discipline (except for classroom tardies) to be handled by the advisor.

The tally system is now in place, targeting students who, are tardy, hang in the hallway, leave class early, come to class without materials, don't work or disrupt a class, or sleep in class. A student shall receive one tally mark for any one of the above offenses and may receive two detentions for skipping class and/or Saturday School for leaving school to, ex. eat lunch. This is in an effort to make discipline more consistent. However, the SLC discussion summary states that depending on the severity of an offense, cer-

*DISCIPLINE* Continued on 11

## Vikes start fast, hit skid



Maritza  
Richardson  
Staff Columnist

All I can say is WOW! With the Vikings starting out 6-2, who knows what they will come up with next. Hopefully they will keep it up. If you would like to know their schedule here it is: San Diego Chargers Sunday November

9th @ 3 p.m. away, Oakland Raiders November 16th @ 3:15 p.m. away, Detroit Lions Sunday November 23rd, @ 12 p.m. home, St. Louis Rams November 30th @ 12 p.m. away Seattle Seahawks Sunday dec. 7th @ 12 p.m., Chicago Bears December 14th @ 12 p.m. away, Kansas City Chiefs Saturday December 20th @ 4 p.m., and the Arizona Cardinals December 28th @ 3:05 p.m. away. Out of all these games I feel that the Kansas City Chiefs will be the most threatening because they are undefeated. The easiest game I think we will have is against the Lions. The case used to be that I thought that the Vikings have a good chance against

Detroit, but now I am not so sure.

Well, let's talk about the Denver Bronco game, which the Vikings won 28-20. Man was that a game, with the Vikings intercepting the ball three times and sacking Broncos quarterback Steve Beuerlein three times. On offense the Vikings dominated. A highlight was when Culpepper threw the ball to Randy Moss, and as he was getting tackled he latteraled it to Moe Williams and Williams ran it in for a 15 yard touchdown. What a play!

On special teams we got a total of 107 yards running between John Avery and Keenan Howry. Avery got 86 yards and Howry got 10 yards. The coaches for special teams, offense, and defense did really well. Vikings head coach Mike Tice was getting really upset with some of the penalties that they were getting. Some of them were just common sense, like off sides and face masking.

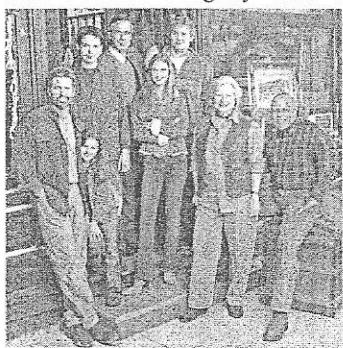
One game I am not about to discuss is the game against the Greenbay Packers, because that was overall the worst we have played so far this season. The defense was

*VIKINGS* Continued on 9

### *BOY From 7*

riend, Colin Hart (Mike Erwin), was in a horrible car accident that left him in a coma. Amy has the brilliant idea to become Ephram's friend and get him to ask his father to perform lifesaving surgery on Colin. But before things get completely back to normal, it is brought to everyone's attention that Colin needs to have another surgery to correct the side effects from the first surgery.

Some of the other main or semi-main characters are Irv and Edna Harper. Edna works for Dr. Brown (she's his nurse/receptionist), and Irv is her second husband—she used to be an Abbott (she's Dr. Abbott's mother) until the original Mr. Abbott died and she married Irv. That pretty much tells you about the first season, except for one important detail, Colin's correction surgery. The second surgery was even more



dangerous than the first one, and Colin and his parents decided that if he was n't going to come back

the same (meaning he would come back paralyzed or something like that) that Dr. Brown wouldn't revive him after surgery.

The second season starts off with everyone in town at a pool, including Colin, then it switches to a depressed Amy at Colin's memorial, and the whole town dealing with the death of Colin Hart. That means, Dr. Brown has become the town pariah and Amy will have to deal with her depression over Colin's death. But as episodes begin to unfold, everyone works through their issues and life begins to go on. There are two new arrivals in Everwood, Dr. Abbott's sister, Linda Abbott, and the Brown's new baby-sitter, Madison (Sarah Lancaster).

This show seems to be mostly a family show. There are some characteristics of the show that would target people in what I guess would be the teen category. It has been pretty successful so far; it was the best WB show in its time slot in the history of the network, says an internet source. This show is appealing to an older age group because of its family show status, but since there aren't a lot of parts of the show that appeal to a younger age group, it might not appeal to younger viewers.◊

### *DISCIPLINE From 6*

tain discipline procedures should be handled on a case by case basis.

"I've given detention and Saturday School for fighting," said Open School teacher Susanne Hollingsworth.

IEP teacher Kim Kvenild said that she considers herself to follow the tardy consequences pretty consistently. She has resorted to dismissal when a student left school or skipped a class. One advantage to consistencies is that most agree that some advisors are more consistent than others. There's also Senior Geoff Freeman who sees consistency as a solution to complaints of discrimination.

While Student Government voted 28-0 (against the new policy), while pending, that a teacher, and not the advisor may choose a student's discipline.

The vote spoke for itself and ELL teacher Jeff Caulum was glad with the way it went.

"I was surprised that they (student gov.) voted against it. I thought they would want it to be fair for everybody. But they said that Open School is different and advisors know their students well," said Caulum.

There are a wide range of Open School students who are pro-advisor. 10th grader Devlin Byrne favors favoritism, both from teachers and advisors, while Senior Danielle Kennedy believes prizes should be awarded to those with creative excuses for skipping class; and Joe Levine who is also pro-advisor, thinks that repeat offenders should receive repetitive consequences.

Jet Collins, an Open School sophomore remarked about the tally system, "It's just like my old school."

"Lenni said it best when her son used to go here (open school). They didn't have hall passes then, why should we now? Times are changing, that's why," said Open School's Greg Adams, Wood Shop Instructor.◊

### *MARRIAGES From 10*

In traditional Hmong marriage, the male can marry as many wives as he wants to, but a woman may have only one husband. In Laos and Thailand, when you marry a lot of wives, it means you are wealthy and rich to be able to pay all those dowries. Multiple wives are uncommon here in America, because Hmong women in America generally won't put up with it. They know they have a lot of different opportunities here!◊

### *SEVEN'S TRAVELS From 8*

trip to "Los Angeles" and "Denvemolorado." Another highlight is "National Disgrace," a song that basically talks about the stupid things and people that exist in America, "dumb and ignorant/drunk and belligerent/ open up your heart y'all/ come on and let me in/ package the kid's face/ put it on display/ look 'ma another national disgrace." Which brings us to the last track "Always Coming Back Home to You," and it seems that Slug decided to save the best for last in this song that reminisces about wandering through Uptown. Just when you thought the fun was over, there is a hidden track called "Say Shhh," that can be found at the 4:15 mark after "Always Coming Back Home to You." The track first appeared on the Sad Clown Bad Dub 4 DVD, and it is basically a track about being proud of wherever you stay, particularly Minnesota. So there it is, another amazing album by the duo known as Atmosphere. Whatever type of music you may be a fan of, you should definitely cop this album, it won't disappoint.

I had a chance to speak with Slug while he was sitting at the merchandise table at a recent show at First Avenue. "I realize a lot of people are saying things like 'Slug fell off,' and saying that I make music for women. It's not true, it's not true at all," Slug said, beginning to smirk, "I make music for Manic Depressive women!"

Atmosphere just released their first video for the song "Trying to Find A Balance." It will be up against acts such as Mr. Lif, Maroon 5, Sahara Hotnights, and other up and coming artists (in MTV's opinion, that is) on an MTV show called Advance Warning, which will not air until May, according to MTV.com. They have shot the video and signed with Epitaph as part of an effort to expose an alternative to mainstream rap, according to Rhymesayers Entertainment. Take it from Brother Ali, "everybody needs to go home, go to MTV.com, and vote for that Atmosphere video, so we can knock one of those weak a\$\$ rappers off the countdown." I used to feel the same way as the haters, but I guess I was just upset that my little hometown secret isn't so little or secret anymore, but in reality, I should be glad that now the entire world is being exposed to good music.

On a scale of \$1-\$20, this CD is worth \$20.◊