

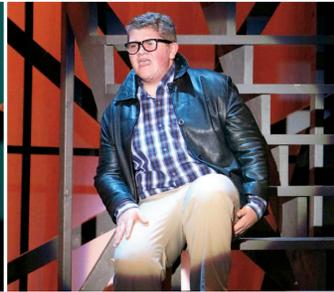
Autumn Activities

Senior Tristan Voelker rallies the citizens with his rock 'n' roll music in, "C'mon Everybody." From left to right: Emma Dunkel (10), Elijah Heims (10), Mariah Seeley (12), Aleah Heims (9), Chloe Wilson (10), Kaylee Osterhaus (9), Annika Sutter (11), Tristan Voelker (12), Gracie Weeks (10), Sheeley McMahon (9), Aleah Vaske (12), Laiken Blommers (9), Becca Farmer (9), Alex Zumbach (12) and Anna Werner (9).

Andrea Salow (12), as Mayor Matilda Hyde, complains about the new roustabout in town in "You're the Devil in Disguise." "For the past three years, I've been backstage, but being on stage is a totally different experience," Salow said. "I'm happy I decided to perform for my last year of high school."

Expressing his affection in "It Hurts Me," senior Alex Zumbach says he loved playing Dennis. "Over-exaggeration was the key; his over-the-top dorky dance moves and awkward speech is how I learned to just have fun and embrace it," Zumbach said.

Olivia Neuzil (11) belts out her solo in "Heartbreak Hotel."



My Dream

"Performing is my passion, and one of my big goals is to make a living performing on Broadway. Through hard work and the help of my family and coaches, I'll get there one day."

■ Mariah Seeley (12)

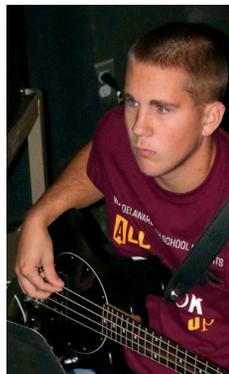


Playing in the Pit

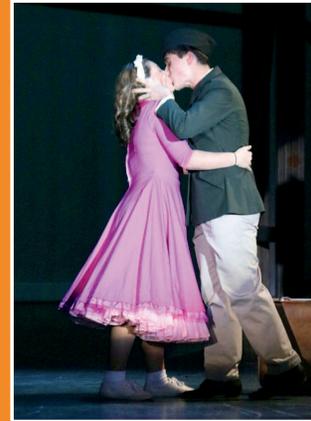


Freshman Mikaila Neuzil plays flute in the song, "All Shook Up." "My favorite song to play was 'Fools Fall In Love,'" Neuzil said. "Not only was it the number I played in the most, but I also loved how it tied into 'Can't Help Falling In Love' while still being its own independent song."

Jacob Vaske (10) plays "Let Yourself Go" on his bass guitar. The band consisted of 12 students, one parent, and the high school band director, Mark Philgreen.



Rachel Haight (12) and Justin Grawe (11) kiss after singing "It's Now or Never."



Sing Big, Kiss Bigger

Leads came with a price in "All Shook Up" as the script demanded a kiss for ten main performers.

"I was in complete disbelief when I found out," junior Olivia Neuzil said. "I wasn't expecting to kiss anybody in the performance; as soon as I heard, it almost felt like a violation to my personal bubble."

Rachel Haight (12) also admitted to "being nervous at first, but after (she) thought about it, it was all for the show."

Hesitation came with the kisses for Haight and Justin Grawe (11). "There were times we both hesitated. Is he going to lean in? Am I going to? It was a little awkward," Haight said.

With Mariah Seeley (12) dressed undercover as a man wearing black makeup as a beard, kisses were bound to be a mess.

When Seeley kissed senior Tristan Voelker, the black makeup smudged all over his face. "I tried to wipe it off as part of my acting while the crowd reacted, but sometimes I just couldn't wipe it off until I was offstage," Voelker said.

Haight and Grawe were stage kissing at first, their thumbs covering their lips to look like they were kissing. "That was super weird," Haight said, so they decided to kiss for real. "Actually kissing (gave) a more believable look to the audience."

In the ending scene, Voelker was to take Seeley into a dip and kiss her. "There were times when she almost slipped out of my grip and could've landed into the pit," Voelker said. "It never actually happened, but there were a few close calls."



Kennedi Rogers (12)



Ethan Proper (9) and Alias Underwood (9)



Maxwell Weber (12)



Justin Miester (12)

New Technology for the Performances



Bailey Beckman (12)



Colby Samuelson (10)



Regan Recker (9), Kall Million (9), Mercedes Riley (10)

For the musical, the crew had a show of their own learning new equipment.

Sound members borrowed three AKG microphones from UNI for use in the show.

"The AKGs replaced our background mics, which allowed us to mic people better and, from the choral standpoint, create a more blended sound," Samuelson said.

A permanent upgrade to the auditorium was the installation of a new lighting board, the ETC Ion, which required all users to go through an eight hour training course.

Another upgrade was the installation of a new video board. The Tricaster 410 was installed the previous year and wasn't fully implemented until this show.