



utstanding acting and singing describe

OLIVER

Singing, acting, dancing, hard work and having fun contributed to the enthusiastic performances of this year's musical *Oliver*. The cast, which consisted of over 100 people, included not only high school students but also students in grades kindergarten through seventh. This rationale alone made the show unique, however there were other reasons why the show was so different from other Sycamore musicals. After all, the title role was divided between fourth grader Ryan Barber and seventh grader Matt Hiudt. Moreover, *Oliver* sold out both the Friday and Saturday evening performances. This is the first time in four years, since *Peter Pan*, that a Sycamore High School musical has been such a success.

The main characters consisted of mostly juniors and seniors, although some underclassmen had considerable parts. Sophomore Stephan Stubbins portrayed The Artful Dodger, who befriends Oliver. Senior Tim Mettey played Fagin who sang songs such as "Pick a Pocket or Two" and "Reviewing the Situation."

Then there was the flirtatious Nance, portrayed by Clare Mettey and understudy Chriss Kuess, who performed "As Long as he Needs me."

Nancy's friend, Bet, was played by sophomores Rachel Hoffman and understudy Jennifer Scheer.

Lisa Hopp, who was the Widow Corney understudy commented, "It was a really good show with a lot of parts and therefore there was a lot of opportunity for many people to be cast." Mrs. Corney, also portrayed by Jennifer Joseph, was part of the duo who sang "I Shall Scream" and "Oliver". The other member of this duet was Mr. Bumble, played by Jeremy Whalen.

Nancy, Fagin, the Artful Dodger joined Bil Sikes, David McDowell, and understudy David Zelina, with the rendition of "It's a Fine Life" in the second act. According to Gipp, "everyone got along."

For a show that requires that much time and effort, "i though it went off really well," stated Hopp. She even felt that the children who were part of the Workhouse Chorus were "very professional for such little kids."

Though there were many underclassmen in *Oliver*, several seniors contributed to the success of the musical. For their last high school musical, it seemed only appropriate that the show should be such a success and quite memorable.

by Janet Spugnardi



M R. NICE GUY

r. Brownlow, who turns out to be *Oliver*'s grandfather, leads *Oliver* to safety with the assistance of Mrs. Bedwin, the housekeeper. Senior Justin Leyda played Mr. Brownlow, senior Laura Knight was Mrs. Bedwin, and seventh grader Matt Hiudt split the role of *Oliver* with Ryan Barber.

