



Orchestra



By: Lauren Truax



Kavita Joshi, 12, playing the violin at the Senior Spotlight Concert. Joshi was a four year member of orchestra. As a senior she looked forward to the Senior spotlight Concert.

Orchestra continued its excellence by receiving a score of one at the OMEA Competition. A one was the superior rating and the highest the orchestra could receive. Orchestra met during 2nd bell and spent many days and hours practicing for the OMEA Competition.

It was worth while because in the end they earned the highest level of excellence. The orchestra has received a one for all the years **Mr. David Smarelli** has been conductor.

The students in orchestra also practiced outside of school and played in other orchestras.

Most students practiced for two to three hours every day

and had been playing for six to eight years.

"I don't know about anyone else, but it's big **Dave Smarelli** that's kept me coming back for eight years," said **Nicole Smile, 12.**

The orchestra also traveled to Chicago during early spring.

"**Mr. Smarelli** worked so hard planning the orchestra's recent trip to Chicago. It made the difference; we all had a great time," said **Krystal Kruse, 12.**

The Chicago trip was a big success. All students had a great time and performed extremely well.



Andrea Lee, 12, plays a solo at the Senior Spotlight Concert. At the concert each senior had the option of performing a solo. Each senior also received a flower to wear during the concert



Electric Orchestra



By: Lauren Truax



Rehearsing for her concert, Nicole Smile, 12. SEE had a rehearsal with Mark Wood to guarantee a successful concert. The concert went great and many people enjoyed the "new sound".

Sycamore Electric Orchestra (SEE) had a concert with **Mark Wood**, a member of the Trans-Siberian Electric Orchestra and an Emmy-winning composer.

"The concert was amazing," said **Kavita Joshi, 12.**

The Trans-Siberian Orchestra was formed in 1996 by Paul O'Neill. The concert was a big success.

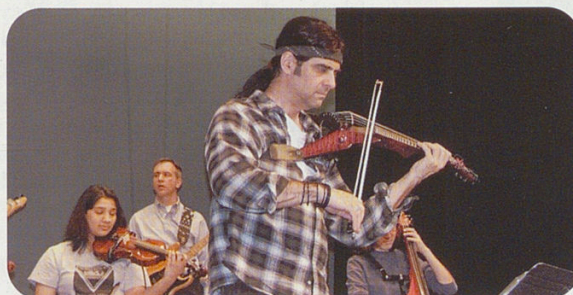
"We rehearsed with **Mark Wood** for two days before the concert. It was great to play with a member of the Trans-Siberian Orchestra," said **Ashley Cummings, 12.**

Wood was one of the original people to

get involved with electric orchestras and, therefore it was a major opportunity for the Electric Orchestra to perform with him in front of a large audience. **Wood** left behind a full classical scholarship at the Juilliard School of Music and set out to realize his personal vision of a "new music."

Tickets were sold for the concert a lunch for \$20. Although the tickets were expensive there was still a large turnout.

Another concert was held during lunch on May 18th. It was their final concert. The new group was liked by the school and will be a great addition for the years to come.



Mark Wood practices with SEE. The members of SEE enjoyed performing with an experience performer. It was a great opportunity for them to learn more about their interests.

