

Interactive Rock on

Tradition that keeps on jammin'

By: Jacky Roesch

It may have seemed odd to see tons of students running into the theatre. On a regular school day that would have meant another long, boring assembly. But, on this special day, everyone was running in to see their friends rock out on stage. December 18 was the culmination of a lot of hard work, and it really showed.

All the bands had to try out via videos, which was instated last year and was still a fairly new concept.

"I wish I could've heard the bands live, but the videos were much more convenient," said **Michael Mallette, 12**.

The bands consisted of Hit the Rock, Naru Collar, Phantom and Ash, Hoppin' Heebs, and Two Years' Notice. After all bands were done performing, each audience member dropped a ticket into one of the five boxes based on who they thought gave the best overall performance. This was not always

that easy.

"I couldn't decide who to vote for, all the bands obviously worked really hard," said **Leah Morand, 12**.

The Battle of the Bands winner was Two Years' Notice, an all senior band. Although all the bands provided a good showing, Two Years' Notice stood out.

"They really kept the energy up and impressed me with their skill," said **Elizabeth Lohse, 11**.

The Masters of Ceremony were **Daniel Schear, 12**, and **Alan Dicken, 12**. They also did an intermission act about insecurities that humored the audience.

The other intermission acts were performed by **Lauren Kahn, 12**, **Ryan Darbonne, 12**, **Kevin Crook, 12**, **Lisa Ramstetter, 12**, **Todd Whitman, 12**, **Nicholas Mastruserio, 12**, and the Flyerettes. The general consensus was that these intermission acts were the best that anyone had ever seen.

What did you think about Battle?



"It was my first time going and I was really impressed. All those guys must have put in a lot of hard work. I especially liked Phantom and Ash and their unique style."

-Elizabeth Brill, 11



"I liked watching the performances on stage. I was very surprised at how well kids at our own school could play instruments."

-Samantha Hunter, 10



"The bands were good, but I thought the tickets were overpriced. You don't even have to pay that much to see a lot of shows downtown."

-Emma Troendle, 12



"Dancing and singing are like my middle name. It was pretty sweet to see all my boy's up on stage rocking out."

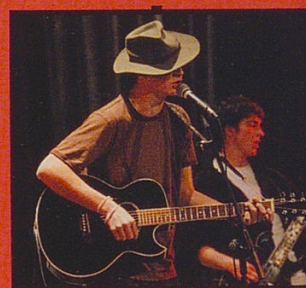
-John Berry, 12

Meet the Bands

Hit the Rock members **Michael Kahan, 12**, and **Micah Goldfarb, 11**, break it down for the crowd. Their style was "alternative rock, minus the rock," and they were inspired by Aretha Franklin. They joked that they tried out so complete their "50 Things to Do Before We Graduate" List, but their performance sounded much more professional considering the week and a half that they were together before trying out for Battle. Other members of the band included **Nathaniel Kaplan, 12**, and **David Sokol, 12**.



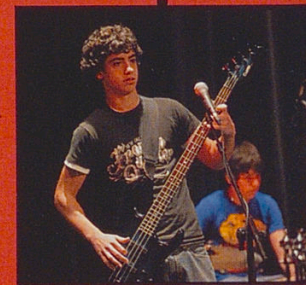
Naru Collar members **James Hutson, 11**, and **Douglas Coughlin, 12**, have a blast entertaining the crowd. The group had only been together for a month prior to trying out. Their genre was classic rock and they were inspired by the Beatles and the Doors, but if they could have picked anyone to jam with they would have selected Pink Floyd or Jimi Hendrix. Other members of the band included **Michael Abitz, 10**, and **Matthew Summerlin, 11**.



Phantom and Ash members **Grant Buckingham, 12**, **Kian Fallahi, 11**, **Gregory Blake, 12**, and **Harrison Weiss, 12**, try out some new dance moves in their performance. Their style was indie and their inspiration came from Animal Collective. They had only been together for five months prior to Battle. Another member of the band was **Samuel Cole, 12**.



Hoppin' Heebs members **Benjamin Krienik, 10**, and **John Scheineson, 12**, work it up on stage. They decided to start their band because they were all brothers, and they had instruments, so it just seemed natural. They were inspired by Pauly Shore and Moses. The third brother in the band was **Ellis Krienik, 12**.



Two Years' Notice members **Ryan Abitz, 12**, and **Daniel Haaser, 12**, excite the crowd. Their genre was "screamo with emphasis on singing over screaming." They were the only returning band from last year. Other members of the band included **Brian Telljohann, 12**, **Renee Sabo, 12**, and **Dexter Payne, 12**.

