

Spring musical comes to life

Actors shine in new rendition of Footloose

By: Christy Miller

Actors took the stage and turned it back in time to the eighties in their last production of the year. "Footloose" brought life to the auditorium with its catchy songs, spirited choreography and entertaining plot line. The biggest theater production of the year, the spring musical did not fail to impress the packed auditorium.

The new theater director, **Mr. John Whapham**, worked to piece together his cast of 63 talented students. He, along with **Carolyn Miller**, the vocal director, **Martha Carroll**, the choreographer, **Mr. Danny Frank**, the orchestra director, and **Jerry Hill**, the set director, put together an amazing performance.

Cast as the male lead Ren McCormack, **David Morton, 12**, performed in his last high school performance.

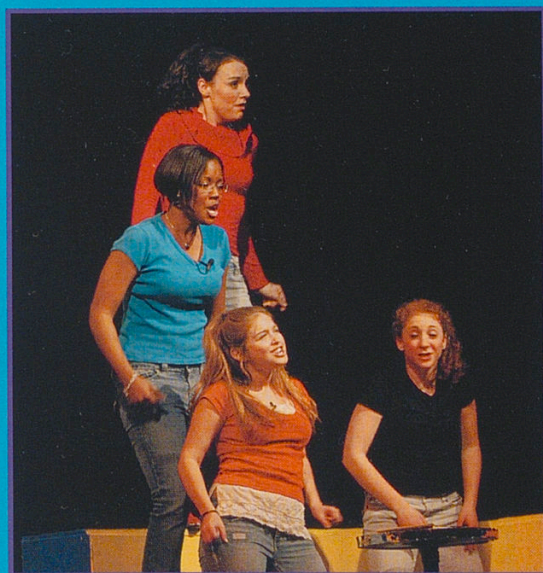
"We demanded perfection, and that's what we got-perfection," said **Morton**.

In essence, he was right. The audience was amazed by the cast's dancing abilities and vocal talent.

"Footloose" was nominated for the 2006 Cappie Awards, or local high drama awards. Twenty seven public and private schools in the area were judged and nominated in various areas and aspects of performance. "Footloose" was illegible for a total of 18 nominations and received an astounding 15.

Nominations included best musical and best song. The song "Dancing Is Not A Crime" earned this nomination, with dancers and ensemble members stomp-dancing to the beat.

Both leads **Morton** and **Amber Jolley, 12**, were nominated for best lead actor and actress, while **Brandon Cole, 11**, and **Laura Wacksman, 10**, were in the running for best featured actor and actress.



Amber Jolley, 12, Chelsy Lutz, 12, Laura Wacksman, 10, and Hilary Fingerman, 11, dance and sing to the song "Holding Out for a Hero." The spunky girls were comical and endearing. They were nominated for a Cappie Award for the Best Ensemble in a Musical, an honor all four of the experienced actresses certainly deserve with their ability to blend and harmonizes their voices.

"We were all so dedicated and put so much effort and time into it, we are really proud of how it turned out," said **Jolley**.

The cast deserved to be proud! Many people involved got acknowledged for their hard work. **Hilary Fingerman, 11**, with her comical expressions and outgoing personality kept the audience grinning. **Kyle Darbonne, 9**, who played the lovable Willard, added his own element to the show. With his small, but tough, personality and his shy giddiness, he and **Fingerman** were nominated for best comic actor and actress in a musical.

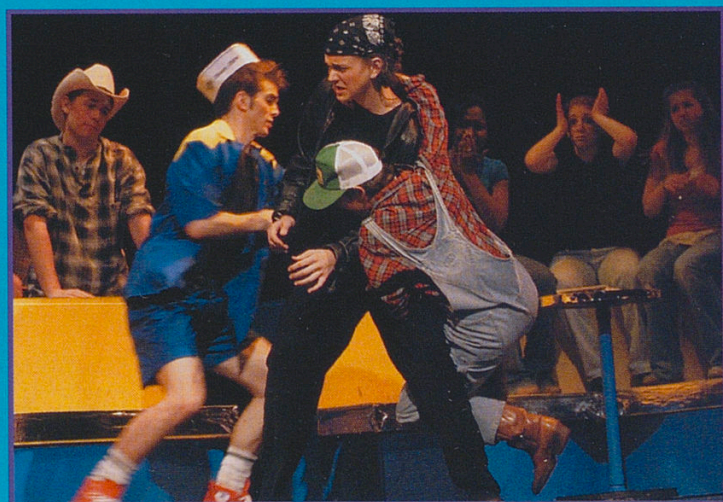
Cameo actor and actress nominations went to both **Dustin Amrine, 12**, and **Laura Friedmann, 10**. **Friedmann**, gliding around in rollerskates as the overweight worker at the restaurant, surprised and delighted the audiences with her appearance. **Amrine** also caused laughs when playing the part of Willard's mother, complete with a scarf around his head and a falsetto voice.

Samantha Zola, 9, scooped up a nomination for best female dancer as a featured tumbler in the musical. Other nominations went to stage crew member **Rushi Asher, 12**, the assistant production manager. Lighting nominations were taken by **Christina King, 12**, the student technical director, and **Bear Wilfong, 10**, the lighting crew head. Lastly, a nomination for best sound belonged to **Zack Goldman, 11, Anna Young, 12, and Corbin Lay, 9**.

All in all, audiences were pleased with the talent displayed by all students involved.

"I was really amazed at how many talented singers and actors we have in our school," said **Olivia Poff, 11**.

The students really pulled together to provide an amazing performance with the help of the theater staff, the orchestra players who provided music from the pit, and stage crew. Overall, "Footloose" did not fail to impress all those who attended.



David Morton, 12, Alan Dicken, 12, and Kyle Darbonne, 9, act out a fight on stage. **Dicken** participated in almost every show at the high school. His rebellious character **Chuck Cranston** created drama and conflict throughout the musical.