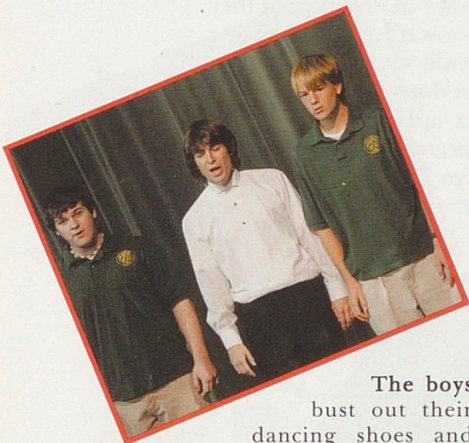


# shag

## they've got it going on

By: Jacky Roesch



The boys bust out their dancing shoes and warm up their voices. **Justin Hanks, 10, Daniel Schear, 12, and George Benson, 11,** were always up for entertaining audiences. The best part of watching the show was the great stage presence that they showed.

The song "Stacy's Mom" could be heard echoing through the hallway. No, the radio was not on; SHAG was practicing their new song.

The Sycamore High School Acappella Group was an all male group that met twice a week to sing and was headed by **Mr. Duane Crowe**.

Boys tried out to be accepted into SHAG, and it was very selective. The criteria was based on how well they sang on their own and how well they could blend with a group.

SHAG entered competitions such as the OMEA and sang at volunteer functions, like at the zoo.

"I really liked singing at the zoo because it was fun to be up on stage in front of a bunch of kids that I didn't know," said **Alex Gering, 12**.

Senior leaders, **Daniel Schear** and **Alan Dicken**, inspired the group through hard work and gave extra input into the songs and dance moves.

"The goal of the club was to provide an outlet for pent up emotion through the magic of song," said **Schear**.

"My favorite was 'Stacy's Mom' because it had tight harmonies and melody," said **Dicken**.

The future of SHAG was left to the underclassmen.

"We're excited to continue on the tradition," said **Micah Kamrass, 11**.



**Justin Hanks, 10, Daniel Schear, 12, George Benson, 11, Alex Gering, 12, Alan Dicken, 12, Micah Kamrass, 11, and Nate Kaplan, 12,** provide entertainment to the masses. All the boys' work finally paid off at performances. Singing without a piano was no problem for these guys.

# japanese club

## one culture, lots of fun

By: Alex Hunter



It's picnic time! **Anna Young, 12,** enjoyed traditional Japanese food with her friends. "I enjoy being able to do a whole bunch of activities you don't get to experience during class," said **Young**.

Did you know that the Japanese celebrate Valentine's Day twice? Lucky for Japanese Club members, they got to celebrate both. On Valentine's Day, the girls gave boys chocolates and on White Day (a month later), the boys returned the favor.

Once or twice a month, this group of students met in **Mrs. Chicako Pierson's** room for Japanese-inspired activities. Meetings were devoted to watching Japanese movies, eating Japanese snacks, and playing Japanese games.

The club also held annual events, like Game and DDR (Dance Dance Revolution) Day, the Tea Ceremony, Shodo Day, International Reception Day, and Udon Day.

The Tea Ceremony was especially fun for members. Dressed as an "expert," the mother of a Japanese student showed students how to have a real tea ceremony. Members also had fun writing calligraphy during Shodo Day and eating noodles during Udon Day.

"I love the variety of events in the club," said **Tianqiong Wang, 12**.

Students of the club even had a voice in the club's activities.

"We want them to vote; that way it would allow the club members to have a say," said **Marisol Cerdá, 12,** board member.



**Melodie Jeng, 10,** dances with the beat. **Jeng** played Dance Dance Revolution on Game and DDR Day. This day was devoted to experiencing popular Japanese games and activities.