

see

electrifying sounds

By: Samantha Kahn



Tasha Hissett, 12, Charles Mueller, 10, and Michelle Torres, 12, all join in rhythm. There were very unique instruments played in the ensemble including: electric guitar, violin, electric bass, and cello. Piano and drums were played as well to keep a steady beat. While there was only one concert, it was very memorable and everyone involved rocked out.

SEE was back and bigger than ever! Sycamore Electric Ensemble consisted of 16 people, which was more than in years past. Under the direction of **Mr. David Smarelli**, this group did amazing things.

"Despite going deaf and tripping over cords during every rehearsal, it's actually a lot of fun! It's difficult, and we don't have to dress like penguins," said **Kathryn Ibbotson, 12.**

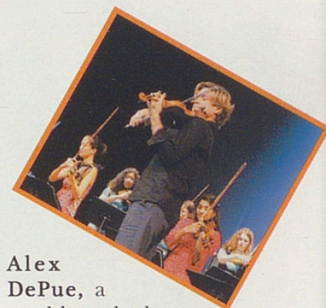
Every year a special guest plays with the ensemble. **Alex DePue**, a famous fiddler and soloist, joined SEE for their concert in March.

This group had a unique sound that took many grueling hours of practice during the week.

"I like electronic music. I like 'rock.' I play violin. Therefore, naturally I joined the Sycamore Electric Ensemble," said **Max Frecka, 11.**

With instruments not normally seen in any orchestra or band, this group got to experience many different types of music.

"I am really interested in looking at different styles, sounds, and interpretations of music. SEE gives me the perfect opportunity to do this," said **Marisol Cerda, 12.**

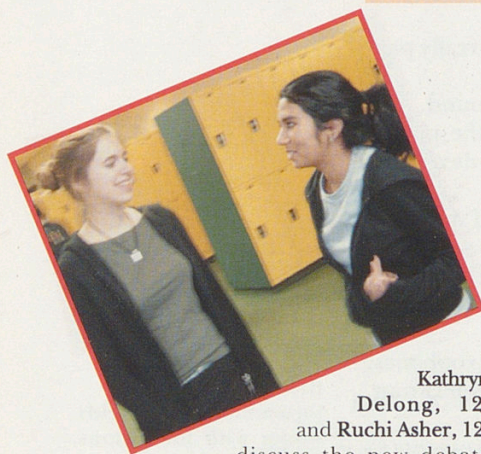


Alex DePue, a world ranked fiddler, plays with the ensemble. Every year the group was lucky enough to have a guest player join them for a concert. This helped gain interest and attract many fans.

debate club

speakers take sides on issues

By: Katie Hellman



Kathryn DeLong, 12, and Ruchi Asher, 12, discuss the new debate topic. Discussing is a vital part of the team because students must view all pros and cons to every topic to be better prepared. Even though the group did not go to a competition in public forum in January, discussing prepared the team for future competition.

While traveling to different schools, many wonder why students are nicely dressed in suits, ties, blouses, and skirts. Who are they? Why are they dressed like this? These students are represents of our school who are well versed and outspoken on national topics such as the government's involvement with the clean up of Katrina.

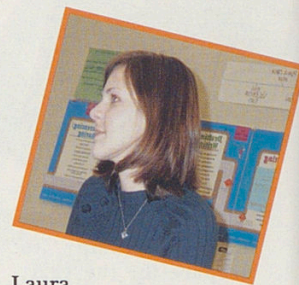
The last tournament was in November. Debate team practiced arguing and discussing the topic to prepare for the debate. The team shared all of the information they found on whether or not tax cuts should be ended to pay for

Hurricane Katrina damage.

"No side was stronger, each side was an equal argument so it gave us a chance to go both negative and positive," said **Michelle Johnson, 9.**

One of the debate club presidents talked about how the club was founded and its purpose.

"Nassar Haddad and Jared Goldfarb founded it after they had such a positive debate their sophomore years, so it's a relatively new club. The purpose is to give students a chance to experiment debate past sophomore year and also be involved in the sophomore debates as judges," said **Jasmine Nazek, 12.**



Laura Fisher, 11, strategizes with her teammates. **Fisher** was a key member of the debate team. She was debating hurricane relief efforts as presented by FEMA. This was **Fisher's** second year on the team.