

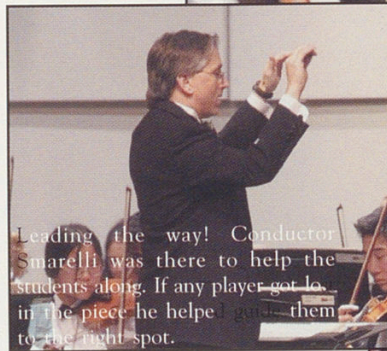
STRINGING ALONG



"It may have taken a few years, but orchestra has helped us to appreciate the classics,"
Johnny Lee, 12

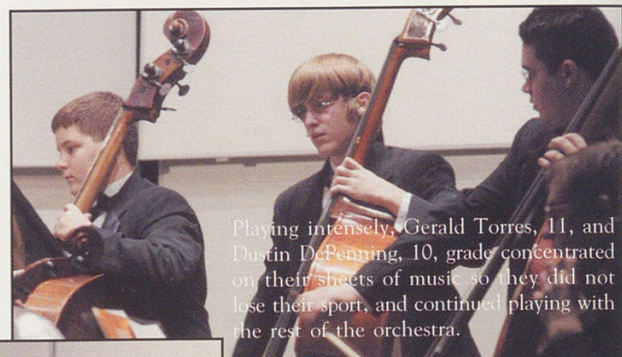
Competing with confidence, members of orchestra worked very hard to get to the point they were at during their competitions. Whether it was a student's first year competing, or their third year, all the members worked well together to achieve a beautiful sound while playing. "I have been in orchestra for 8 years. It has been a great experience, and I think it helped prepare me for playing in future orchestras," said **Lauren Buchakjian, 12.**

At the OMEA competition, the orchestra did an excellent job earning a one — the highest score possible. They were required to play a total of four pieces, one of

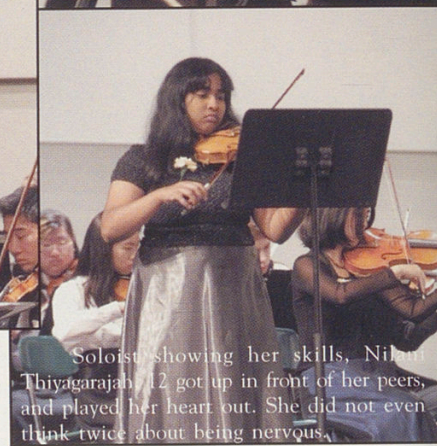


Leading the way! Conductor Smarelli was there to help the students along. If any player got lost in the piece he helped guide them to the right spot.

which was a site reading piece that they had never practiced or seen before. This was not the first time the orchestra received a score of one, for the past 11 years they have been excelling in their musical skills. "I have been playing violin for seven years, and I am really proud to be



Playing intensely, Gerald Torres, 11, and Dustin DePenning, 10, grade concentrated on their sheets of music so they did not lose their spot, and continued playing with the rest of the orchestra.



Soloist showing her skills, Nathan Thiyagarajah, 12 got up in front of her peers, and played her heart out. She did not even think twice about being nervous.

a part of such a successful and talented orchestra. It is a lot of fun," said **Nathan Schneider** and **Lauren Fox**

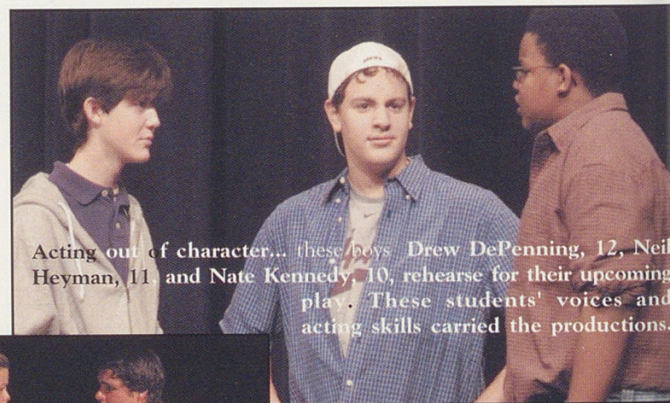
ACTING OUT OF THE ORDINARY



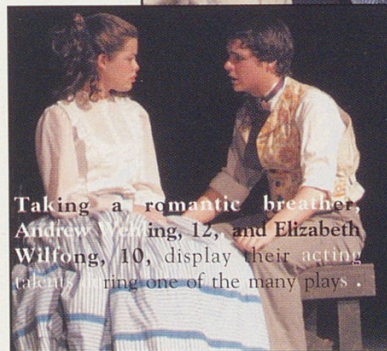
"STAG was an awesome community for learning and making new friendships,"
Aaron Morris, 12

As a showcase of multiple talents, STAG represents a variety of students. "Light years ago I was given a chance to go into a career field, educational theater, that allowed me to combine visual art with music and language with the goal to convey the human condition through the human voice and body," said **Ms. Leslie Knotts.**

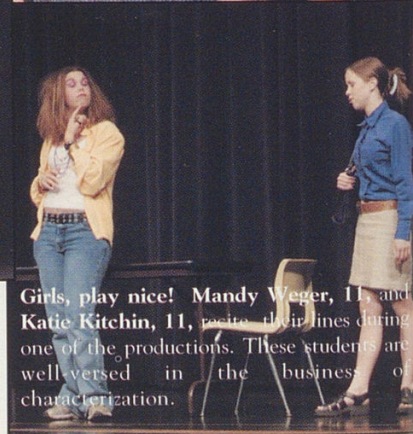
STAG met only the first Wednesday of each month, but was able to accomplish great things and form well-connected relationships. These students participated in a wide variety of fund raisers, as well as musicals performances. These performances helped the students to prepare for the school oriented plays and the



Acting out of character... these boys Drew DePenning, 12, Neil Heyman, 11, and Nate Kennedy, 10, rehearse for their upcoming play. These students' voices and acting skills carried the productions.



Taking a romantic breather, Andrew Willong, 12, and Elizabeth Willong, 10, display their acting talent during one of the many plays.



Girls, play nice! Mandy Weger, 11, and Katie Kitchin, 11, perform their lines during one of the productions. These students are well versed in the business of characterization.

musical.

"The new people made this group a lot of fun. I really enjoyed all the time we spent together, and we always had a blast," said **Julie Dolan, 12.**

The co chair people, **Aaron Morris, 12,** and

Jennifer Rollins, 12, did an excellent job in leading this club.

By Meg Hauser