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The California News

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Special guest stars
from the elementary
department:
Brianna Dike and
Christina Call share
the role of "Annie"

A note from Producer CM

"Annie, the CSDway Musical," directed by Megg Davis, was a smashing success! Doralynn Folse and Farrah Nolan, along with Michael Davis and Sheila Korolev, had no life from December till February, as they dedicated their time, energy, and love to the performance. The students were fabulous, including the stage crew.

Every performance was sold out. Sadly, we had to turn away quite a few people who assumed they could purchase tickets at the door. (HINT: buy your tickets in advance next year, smile)

Believe it or not, I can name at least two staff members from EACH department on campus... YES... from each department, who chipped in to help with the play. If I do, this Cal News issue probably would have at least two pages full of names for me to acknowledge. What would we do without them?? Here is my HUGE HUG for everyone out there and THANK YOU, AGAIN!



Annie photographers:
Cat Cassidy, action photos
Barbie Dike, character photos
Mark Call, front cover photo
Colleen Ryan, cake photo



Western Regional Academic Bowl for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

California School for the Deaf Team:

Amelia Bernstein, 9th grade
Andrew Hursin, 12th grade
Mark Montalette, 12th grade
MJ Kielbus, 11th grade
Samantha Weethee, 11th grade

Stace Gough, Head Coach
Toby Daniels, Assistant Coach
Darah Odelson, Assistant Coach

CSD is certainly blessed with a great group of students. Our boys and girls were awesome as they one by one conquered their competitors. Our 2007 team was able to push aside Colorado and University High School in competition, which is something that we have not done in years. Toby Daniels and Darah Odelson, along with stay-behind coach Stace Gough, did a fantastic job in getting our kids ready for the competition. Ethan Bernstein was there to keep heads cool and clear, and our students made it all the way to the finals. The championship match was a hot competition. CSD had previously beaten the team we were facing. When the final buzzer sounded, we were down 4 points and came in second. However, a second place win means that, on the weekend of April 21, our team will be in Washington, DC, at Gallaudet University competing in the national championship. We wish them the best. GO EAGLES!

--Dr. Hank Klopping
CSD Superintendent

Champions

Edmonds Woodway High School

Second Place

California School for the Deaf, Fremont

Third Place

University High School

Fourth Place

Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind

Outstanding Player

Mark Montalette
California School for the Deaf, Fremont

Participating Schools

Alaska State Schools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Arizona School for the Deaf and the Blind
California School for the Deaf, Fremont
California School for the Deaf, Riverside
Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind
Edmonds Woodway High School
Marlton School for the Deaf
Montana School for the Deaf and the Blind
New Mexico School for the Deaf
Oregon School for the Deaf
Phoenix Day School for the Deaf
South Hills High School
University High School
Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
Washington School for the Deaf
Wyoming Dept of Education, Deaf and Hard of Hearing



Deaf students from all over Northern California come to see CSD's production of *Annie*

Photograph by
Cat Cassidy

Article by
Marilyn Cassidy

The California School for the Deaf offered two days of “Annie” performances to the mainstreamed programs of Northern California. This is the first year that two days were set aside for this event. It was decided too many programs were not being accommodated by offering the play for only one day. This was a good decision because every seat was assigned for both days. A total of 758 tickets were reserved by 31 programs from as far away as Yuba City and as close as Hayward.

An elementary student was seen asking his teacher if it was true that people here at CSD sign ALL the time. He was amazed. It would be difficult to say whether these students benefited more from seeing the play or from the social time spent sharing lunch with each other and the cast from the play. Students lined up to get autographs from the “stars” of the play.

The visiting teachers and parents met students who had originally come from their programs and were delighted to see these students doing so well at CSD. They commented on how much more meaningful the event was because our own Barbara Morrison had traveled to their schools to

familiarize the students with the vocabulary and storyline for the play prior to their visit.

The following is a message received on the same day a class came to the play:

Dear Ms. Chiou,

I am a D/HH teacher from Vallejo. The Vallejo program just returned from the February 13 performance. We have been going for the past five years, and this year was the best we have seen yet. Your director Megg Davis is very talented and did a phenomenal job with those kids. The staff and students at Pennycook really enjoyed the show and were blown away by the choreography, set, and costumes. The director and the students did a top notch job. We were all impressed. Academy award nominations to ALL! We look forward to next year.

Please forward this to your director Megg Davis and anyone else who would be interested. I was not sure who to send it to.

Great Job!

Emily Bristow and Pennycook Staff in Vallejo



Brianna Dike

I really enjoyed performing for the audience. I felt I did my best to act and look like Annie. My favorite part was doing the dances. I will miss being around my new friends (the cast) after being with them hours and hours in the last two months. I hope the audience enjoyed our show. I want to perform again in the near future.



Christina Call

Since I got picked for the role of Annie, I got to interact with high school students. I got to know people other than the students from the elementary department. It was a great experience.



Leila Hanaumi

I love music, so I was excited when I heard we were doing a musical. I developed a different kind of bond with my cast-mates singing and dancing together. It was truly a great experience.

Shara Winesburg

It was good learning how to perform a choreographed dance and having to work with a large number of people.



Logan Bowers

I loved being the richest man in the world, and adopting such an adorable little girl. Being rich wasn't as easy as I thought; I always thought rich people were jolly, but they aren't. They are snooty, and I had to act that way until I grew attached to Annie.

Clara Baldwin

Being Miss Hannigan wasn't a simple task; dancing in heels while on stage was one of the craziest things I have ever done! Since I played Miss Hannigan, I had to be mean to the kids. Both of the girls who played Annie were so adorable! There were some really difficult moments when I had to resist their drop-dead cuteness and tell them to clean the floor. It was tough, but I had fun being somebody else.



Lucas Gosselin

This was my first time and I had a blast. I loved the attention I got on stage. I loved it when the people laughed when I got pushed by my "girlfriend" and fell off the stage. My favorite parts were whenever I was on stage. Overall, it was just a lot of fun.



Moni Brown

I am a first timer and it was really interesting. I learned how to disconnect from myself so that I could fall into my role while performing on stage. And, I learned how to exercise my facial creativity.



Christopher Joseph

I was in a play at my mainstreamed school, once, so Annie was my second time being in a play. I am a very charismatic type of person, so I enjoy being on stage. One time when I was acting, a wall fell down. It was scary at first, but then it became hilarious. I just love being on stage and acting, no matter what happens, even when a wall falls down!



Amelia Bernstein

This was my first time being in a play where people could actually see my face. I truly enjoyed it. My character was the complete opposite of who I am, but that was a test for me as an actress. To be an actress you have to be able to capture the role.



Rachelle Richardson

I want to say thanks to Dack Virnig for encouraging my involvement in drama. I always thought drama was easy, but I was wrong. It is hard to be confident on stage. I developed my confidence through this play. It has been a difficult journey, but I enjoyed the ride and made a lot of memories, thanks to this play.



Erika Schwehr

I have had some on-stage experience with modeling, but none like being part of a play. During the rehearsals, I grew as an actress because Megg Davis taught me how to express myself physically and facially on stage. Also, it was really interesting acting with young kids from the elementary department—a first for me.

Liz Jarashow

This is my third year in drama. I have to admit this year wasn't like the other two, because I had bigger roles in them. But, this year my role was colorful and unique so it was, in a way, exciting.

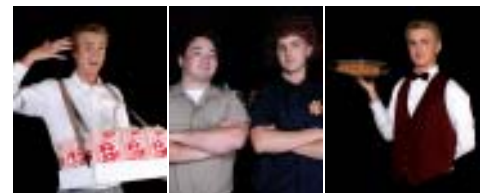


Janel Schmidt

I learned through this production that even though some of us are not doing anything like moving or talking on stage, all eyes are actually still on us nonetheless. Secondly, I worked with a really diverse group of people—from elementary to high school—and it has really given me in a whole new perspective. I also enjoyed a lot of moments backstage.

Mark Montalette

It was my first time being part of a play. I really, really, really, really (...and 100 more really's) enjoyed it. I loved having Megg Davis as the director, as well.



Cody Dike

This was my first year in drama. It was a rich experience and a lot of fun working closely with my peers.





Dog costume made by Jane Newkirk, Middle School Teacher

Haley Lawrence

This year is my first year participating in the high school drama. I learned how to move like a dog, act like one, and bark. It was a good experience using a dog costume. Although I had to put up with a lot of sweat, it was worth it.



Omar Estrada: Because I was a rookie, naturally I made a few mistakes, which was all right. I just didn't repeat them. It was a good experience for me.

Everett Glenn: This year, we had a good group. I really enjoyed working with everyone.

Nicky Lim: Originally, I joined because I thought it would be easy, but being a stage crew member was no small deal. I had to learn where to place everything and to remember the props that were needed for the play.

Marissa Mejoradoa: It was a wonderful experience for me as a freshman.

Brittany Comegna: I have been involved with drama three out of my four years with high school. Each year has brought me different lessons, experiences, and personal growth opportunities. With "Annie," I was given the responsibility of prop manager. It was a difficult and challenging task for me, because I basically became responsible for ALL of the props. I definitely learned to be more alert and to dodge people while running back and forth behind a stage.

Bringing "Annie" to life on stage the CSDway!

"Annie" is the second high school musical that CSD has produced over the past 10 years. The play was a smashing success. The seats were completely sold out during all four of the public performances.

It seemed as if we wouldn't be ready in time for the opening performance, but if anyone could organize a play within a few weeks' time, it was our director, Megg Davis. Just a few weeks before the play, the choreography and music were still undergoing major changes. The commitment from the cast became a huge asset to the success of the production.

Not only were the actors surprised at their own ability to follow songs and dance, the hearing audience witnessed deaf performers make the "impossible" possible. The actors were amazed at their own ability to sing along with the songs. Many of the actors didn't have a strong dance background, and choreography was difficult to learn, but apparently deaf actors can do anything they set their minds to. Deaf people truly can do anything but hear!

Upon the closure of the play, the audience left the theatre with smiles on their faces. Once in the lobby, they stared with amazement as they got the opportunity to meet the actors.

A large goal of the play was to bring music to life for deaf and hearing audiences through American Sign Language. Everyone involved in the production helped accomplish this goal... above and beyond!

—Brittany Comegna

It was an honor and delight to work with this cast of "Annie" on the choreography. I have choreographed many of our high school plays over the years, however this time was unique in

that I was involved from the very first rehearsal, assisting the director and the producer. New for me was witnessing the incredible fusion of dance and theater unfold amongst the cast daily. Their dance skills ranged from the non-dancer to several of my former dance students with years of performance experience. No matter what their dance background was, the entire cast of dancers was energetic, high spirited, took direction, and even assisted along the choreographing process. Their energy and enthusiasm, regardless of the countless times we repeated each piece, was always entertaining! I thoroughly enjoyed working with such a talented group of students and have many cherished and amusing memories, as well as nothing but praise for their commitment, perseverance, and success.

—Doralynn Folsé

Lights...curtain...move that wall where? Being on the stage is all glitz and glamour, but there is quite a bit happening that just doesn't get seen. That's behind the scenes, back stage.

I was the assistant director for "Annie" as well as the stage manager. I had a great time working with all the kids from the actors and actresses to the crew who worked so diligently backstage to make sure every thing was in its proper place and every actor had their props and costumes.

The students all worked very hard to make this show a success. I am honored to have been a part of it.

Thank you for making me feel special and welcome, cast and crew! I look forward to working with you all again.

Good luck to those seniors. I look forward to seeing you on stage in the future!

—Farrah Nolan

2006-2007 1st Semester Honor Roll



Yo Eagles Fans

Last weekend we, the middle school boys' basketball team, participated in the Northern Tournament of Champions, hosted by Mira Loma High School in Sacramento (Deb Ayres' alma mater).

Naturally, we all wondered what we were getting ourselves into, but with the abundant support and faith this school has in us, we moved forward and blended right in. The host of the tournament, along with the other schools, made us feel welcome.

We played the best we knew how, and it was fun competing with new teams from different areas. The results were added experience, boosted confidence, and exposed variances. Jr. Eagles motto and FAA creed is self explanatory. We lost our first two games, won our third game, and lost our fourth and final game. But more importantly, competing at the tournament was a positive experience that enriched our personal growth. We, the middle school boys' basketball team, would like to thank CSD for making this experience possible for us.

Peace out!

CSD Middle School
Boys' Basketball Team
www.csdf.k12.ca.us

GOLD LIST

4.0

Amelia Bernstein, 9th grade
Brittany Comegna, 12th grade
Leila Hanaumi, 12th grade
Melissa Kielbus, 11th grade
Lang Yang, 11th grade

3.938

Brenda Cavallaro, 12th grade

3.875

Clara Baldwin, 12th grade
Everett Glenn, 12th grade
Craig Wafer, Jr, 12th grade

3.75

Aaron Bye, 11th grade
Amanda Mosher, 12th grade
Justin Salvato, 12th grade

3.625

David Aguilar, 12th grade
Mark Eyron, 11th grade
Troy Eyron, 11th grade
Daryl Garcia, 11th grade
Andrew Hursin, 12th grade
Eugene Lipnitsky, 11th grade
Sarah Lui, 10th grade
Alexandrina Miller, 11th grade
Andrew Paratore, 10th grade
Cody Dike-Pedersen, 10th grade
Nicole Perry, 12th grade
Dack Virnig, 12th grade

3.6

Shara Winesburg, 12th grade

3.5

Megan Abordo, 11th grade
Lizzie Finley, 12th grade
Liz Jarashow, 12th grade
Nha Kim, 9th grade
Montserrat Vazquez Fonseca,
12th grade

SILVER LIST

3.438

Britnee Hursin, 10th grade

3.375

Valerie Farr, 9th grade
Haley Lawrence, 9th grade
Nicky Lim, 9th grade
Mark Montalette, 12th grade
Hee Jae Yoon, 12th grade

3.313

Ronnie Cuartero, 10th grade
Anthony Guido, 10th grade

3.25

Andrew Fernandez, 12th grade
Monica Hernandez, 12th grade
Lawrence Lizotte, 12th grade
Mariel Ortiz, 9th grade
Rachelle Richardson, 9th grade

3.188

Moni Brown, 11th grade

3.125

Franchesca Dorado, 12th grade
Carlos Medina, 9th grade
Panuphong Mogaew, 9th grade
Maria Nixon, 9th grade
Eric Taylor, 12th grade
Tiffany Wade, 12th grade

3.0

Stacy Caruso, 12th grade
Lucas Gosselin, 12th grade
Jessica Gussman, 12th grade
Alicia Johnson, 10th grade
Michael Lizarraga, 12th grade
Casey McCullough, 12th grade
Michael Raffanti, 11th grade
Jose Ramirez, 12th grade
Shea Rasmus, 10th grade
Nigel Walker, 9th grade
Karlee Williams, 10th grade
Belen Zarate, 11th grade

It's not too late to purchase the **Yearbook!**

New price is \$60

Or you can order the Yearbook + CD for \$65

Powerlifting Team at CSD



The athletic department has established a powerlifting team for both girls and boys this spring. Powerlifting is a high-energy team where students can support each other in the weightlifting room. Students will maintain records of their progress in their log book. It is an opportunity for them to fulfill their goals in relation to personal fitness. Powerlifting allows individuals to increase their strength, improve their abilities, agility, and endurance in their preferred sports. It is a

challenging program for them. It requires a strong sense of self-discipline. Powerlifting is a hot trend in the high school level nationwide, so CSD is proud to add this as one of many opportunities for our students! "It's easier to go down the mountain than up, but the view is best from the top!" Go CSD!
Len Gonzales, Athletic Director

The *Web Development Team* students have created a new front page for the CSD website

The site can be visited at www.csdf.k12.ca.us

The team put special emphasis on easier navigation which you will see by the two horizontal orange bars on the upper and lower portions of the website. New focus will be placed on academics for all levels: early childhood education, elementary, middle, and high school. Happy surfing!

This website was 100% produced by students in the *Web Development Team* class. The team members for 2006-2007 are:

Logan Bowers
Aaron Bye
Andrew Hursin
Melissa Kielbus
Dima Korolev

Eugene Lipnitsky
Mark Montalette
Amanda Mosher
Michael Raffanti
Monserrat Vasquez-Fonseca

Nathan Montoya, Business Office Technology Instructor

Parents...

Come and join us for a discussion about **Healthy Emotional Intelligence**

Why is it important for your child? This presentation will include self-awareness, self-discipline, and empathy, adding up to a different way of being smart:
"Emotional Intelligence"

presented by **Marilyn Cassidy**

Marilyn has been employed at the California School for the Deaf for 15 years. She and her husband raised seven children: three deaf and four hearing. They now have nine grandchildren: six deaf and three hearing. All of the deaf children and grandchildren have attended the California School for the Deaf. Marilyn has been active in parent advocacy for years. She helped start a parent organization, now called IMPACT.

**Thursday, March 15, 2007
6:30 – 8:30 PM**

**Elementary Building
California School for the Deaf
39350 Gallaudet Drive
Fremont, CA 94538**

**Free Admission
*Spanish, ASL, & voice
interpreting provided**

Sponsored by
California School for the Deaf
Outreach Division

Visit us on the web at:
www.csdf.k12.ca.us

For additional information contact:
Cheryl L. Boyd,
Outreach Specialist,
cboyd@csdf-cde.ca.gov
510-794-3707

19th Annual Middle School Storytelling Festival

March 13, Deaf PAH! Day
10:30 am - noon, in the Little Theater

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