

Entertainment

Play season foreshadows impending debuts

ASHLEY SHERON & ASHLEY WELP

Staff Reporters

The 2009 fall play lineup has great potential, with an exciting collection of humor, tragedy, and romance that will fit any viewers taste. Along with fans, the drama department is also anticipating the arrival of director and drama teacher Jessica Murray's child, set to "debut" on Nov. 3.

"*Picasso at the Lapin Agile*" will premiere Oct. 17 in the auditorium. "It is quick, intelligent, incredibly well written, and breaks the rules of time and space," Murray said.

Picasso takes place at a bar in Paris in 1904. Pablo Picasso, Albert Einstein and other artistic personas meet to talk about science, art and the future in this comedy written by Steve Martin. Yes, that Steve Martin—the comedian Steve Martin.

"The audience gets an education while laughing," Murray said. Although it's only a 90-minute production, there has been a large amount of time put into its making. Actors

rehearse from 4 p.m.-6:30 p.m. each day while volunteer tech crews help make sets, props and costumes on the weekends. The tech crew sessions are from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays

and 1 p.m.-5 p.m. on Sundays providing an opportunity to volunteer and to gain Thespian points.

"I love the part I auditioned for and got. Picasso is a genius and sees everything as a piece of art," Peter Bonoff, sophomore, said of his lead role.

The cast of "*Picasso at the Lapin Agile*":

Picasso: Peter Bonoff
Einstien: Tyler Harmon*
Sagot: Spencer McCoy*
Gaston: Nick Altishin*
Countess: Anneli Tostar
Germaine: Alyssa Johnston*
Visitor: Jake Weston
Freddy: Troy Spivey*
Suzanne: Sara Sebastian*
Female Admirer: Melissa Andre*

"The production is going incredibly well. We all just hope I don't have my baby early before opening night!" Murray said of her approaching due date. In the event the baby is born early, Murray's husband, Colin, will take over for her as director.

If Picasso doesn't quench the thirst for theater, "*Dancing at Lughnasa*" opens Dec. 5 in the Black Box. Written by Brian Friel and directed by Annie Kaiser, "*Dancing at Lughnasa*" is warm, funny, spirited and tragic according to Kaiser. It takes place at the Mundy home in Ireland, August 1936. The lives of the family change dramatically and are never the same. Michael, the narrator, describes two days in the lives of the Mundys during the play.

"We are always looking for plays that have numerous

and well-written female roles and this play has five terrific women's roles; the play fits well with the other plays that we chose for this year and provides our performers with another type of production and acting to explore," Kaiser said.

This Tony-Award-winning play was chosen for many different reasons, including the fact that the current director has both worked on the crew of a professional production of the play and portrayed one of the sisters in another production.

"The actors are nervous about learning and using an authentic Irish accent in the play—but they're committed to mastering it and I think they're going to sound terrific!" Kaiser said.

"All of the characters are interesting and this is the most interesting character I've played yet," Anna Stapleton, sophomore, said. She will be playing one of the five Mundy sisters about whom she says already feel like family.

The cast of "*Dancing at Lughnasa*":

Kate: Andra Sturtevant*
Maggie: Caitlyn Olson*
Agnes: Anna Stapleton
Chris: Alyssa Aramaki*
Michael: Michael Johnson
Gerry: Corbin Wescott*
Jack: AJ Benya
Rose: Avery Breynne-Cartwright*

The directors are ecstatic, the casts are eager, and the crews are energized. Go online to www.wlhtheatre.org for showtimes and information.

*Denotes Thespian membership



Tyler Harmon and Nicholas Altishin, seniors, rehearse a scene from the upcoming show, "*Picasso at the Lapin Agile*," set to open Oct. 17. Also in the works is "*Dancing at the Lughnasa*," which will open Dec. 5.

Photo by Ashley Sheron

Popular Twilight series captures teen audience

LIBBY MATHES

Staff Reporter

What is it about the "Twilight" series that addicts readers? Most people have heard of it; tons of girls have read and fallen in love with it. The craze is huge. "Twilight" has popularized the vampire genre and true love in addition to inspiring many consumer products: drinks, books, shirts, make-up, poetry and even role plays.

"Twilight" is a story about a girl named Bella who moves in with her father, Charlie. Bella meets an intriguing and beautiful family, the Cullens; more

important facts and featuring only the characters who are vital to the story.

Vampires in this series are different from other vampires in fantasy books like "Dracula." They don't burn in the sun, they can't be killed by a stake, and they also don't turn into bats. But they aren't just like humans either; they drink blood, and they have special abilities, such as being incredibly fast and strong.

The second book in the series is "New Moon," which is just as good. It's filled with suspense and develops the theme of friendship. The third book is "Eclipse" and

original release date, Dec. 12 to take advantage of the Thanksgiving break traffic at the box office.

Moviegoers may recognize some of the scenery in "Twilight" movie as part of the movie was actually filmed in Portland. In the lead roles, Kristen Stewart plays Bella Swan and Robert Pattinson plays Edward.

This is a great series, anyone and everyone would probably enjoy these books. The story takes place in Forks, Wash., which gives it a local Northwest feel.

New fall TV lineup provides for eclectic tastes

DYLAN LOTSPEICH & ERIN ROBERTSON

Staff Reporters

Although there are many new fall TV shows, a few stand out at first glance. The shows range from drama to action and everything in between.

"Worst Week" is a new show that airs on Mondays at 9 p.m. on CBS, starring Kyle Bornheimer and Erinn Hayes. This new comedy is about a man who recently asked his girlfriend to marry him—and she said yes, but disaster strikes when he goes to meet her parents. If you like a show that is dramatic but is also funny this would be the show for you.

The next captivating show is "Opportunity Knocks", which airs on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on ABC, hosted by JD Roth. This is a family game show where

the family is quizzed on how well they know each other. It involves challenges that may invoke arguments between family members. All of the challenges are very comical, and the kids usually get into trouble. This show will appeal to all ages.

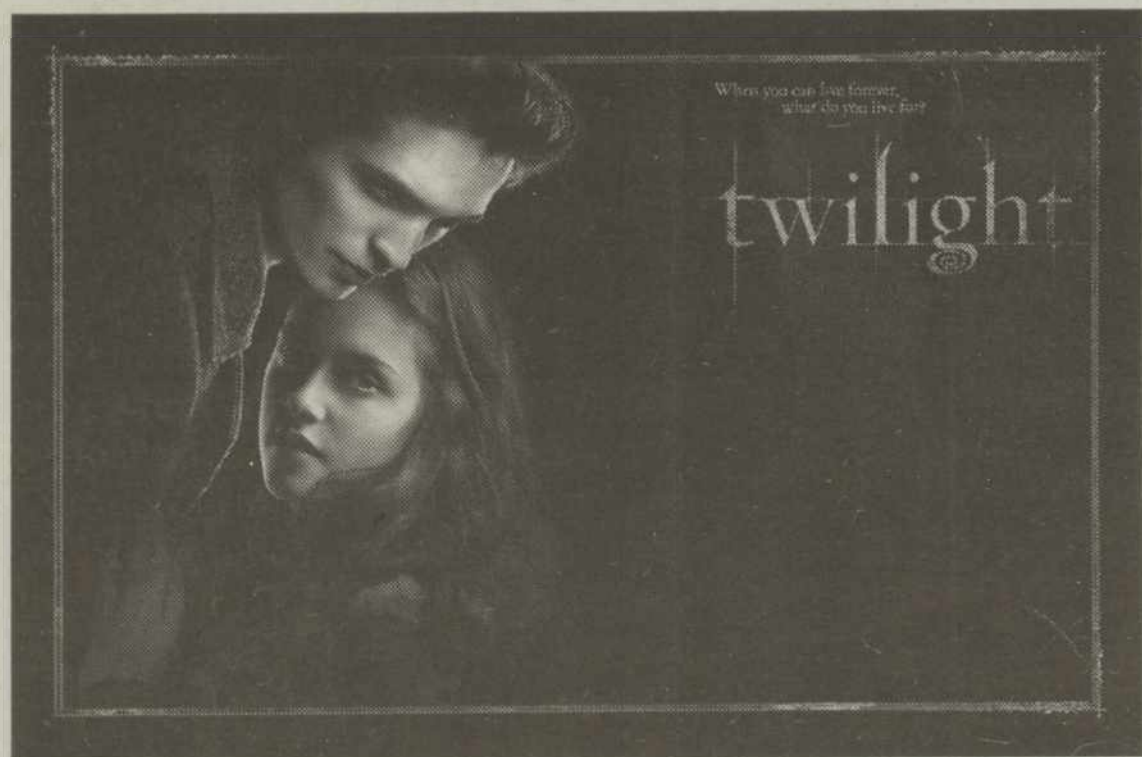
"90210" was a little dicey at first, but as it progressed, it improved. It is on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on the CW starring Dustin Milligan, AnnaLynne McCord, Jessica Walter, Shenae Grimes, Tristan Wilds, Lori Loughlin, Rob Estes, Ryan Eggold, Jessica Stroup and Micheal Steger. The show is about high school students who live dramatic lives. One character, Silver, keeps a huge secret that soon becomes a problem for her, her friends and her family.

If you like really dramatic shows, you'll love this.

Another stimulating show is "Fringe." It airs Tuesdays at 9 p.m. on FOX. It stars Lance Reddick, John Noble, Blair Brown, Kirk Acevedo, Anna Torv, Mark Valley, Joshua Jackson and Jasika Nicole. "Fringe" is about a murderer who kills an entire jetliner



full of passengers and an investigator who tries to find out who the murderer is. It is similar to the X-Files but with different scenarios. "Fringe" is not a show for the queasy and might appeal to viewers older than 13.



specifically she meets Edward Cullen, and soon they fall in love. This book isn't just a romance novel though as the romance element is minimal. It also has action, but telling you about it would ruin the story.

The entire series, written by Stephenie Meyer, is amazing. She has a good writing style that keeps it interesting by using only the

the final book in the series is "Breaking Dawn," an exciting end to a fabulous series.

This doesn't mean Meyer has stopped writing, though. She is currently creating a fifth book, "Midnight Sun," a spin-off of "Twilight." It is written from Edward's point of view rather than Bella's.

On Nov. 21, the "Twilight" movie is coming out. It was moved up from its