

With only one senior, Varsity Volleyball looks to win league for the tenth year in a row.

-Page 11

Community comes together to remember beloved band teacher, Jeff Cumpston.

-Page 7



Need to eat? Try Famous Dave's or Chang's Mongolian Grill.

-Page 14

Amplifier

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"Sound of Music" unites community

The musical, performed by cast members of many ages, premieres next month

KATIE DUDLEY

SPECIAL TO THE AMPLIFIER

With a cast of more than 50, including students from high school, middle and elementary schools, the fall musical, "The Sound of Music" has a strong family theme. The production will open Nov. 4 and run for 7 performances over a two week period.

The varied cast, ranging

from six to 18 years old, is the brainchild of Jessica Murray, director, who thought to cast the von Trapp children with elementary and middle school children from the district.

"Since we cast kids from the grade schools, not just high school kids, I really think that the community has ownership of this show... It's a show they're familiar with and something they

know and love," Murray said. "I'm really glad we could get everyone involved, especially now that we're part of the community."

Murray, her husband, Colin, and their infant son, Tristan, moved to West Linn over the summer. Colin, who also acts and directs professionally is guest directing the winter production, "Waiting for Godot."

"I think it's important that we all come together. Theater is a great way to bring people together. It's like being a part of a family," she said.

Emma Davis, junior, plays Maria and is joined in the lead by Michael Johnson, junior, who plays Captain von Trapp. Tyler Whitcomb, senior, who played the lead role of Bobby Strong in last year's production of "Urinetown" was cast as Rolf. He had always wanted to be involved with the fall musical, but could not in the past because it conflicted with football which he quit this year in order to concentrate on drama.

"It's been very eye-opening to find out where I really belong," Whitcomb said.

The work is proving easy to the family von Trapp, in which there are six cast members that are from the elementary and middle school. They were some of the first cast members to have all their lines memorized. Among them are Nell and Connor Egan, the daughter and son of Kevin Egan, band director who is also conducting the Orchestra, and Katie Jones, the daughter of Todd Jones, social studies teacher.

"It's not that hard for me..." Katie said. "[My dad] helped me in the summer before we started practicing."

The musical is set in Austria 1939, just before and during the German invasion. Maria, a postulant from an abbey who loves to sing, is sent to the home of Captain von Trapp to work as a governess for his seven difficult children. There, she bonds with the children and teaches them how to enjoy life and how to sing.

The musical was adapted from the stage to the screen in a 1960's movie starring Julie Andrews as Maria. The musical features such popular songs as "Do Re Mi," "16 Going on 17" and "The Sound of Music." It also features two songs that were cut from the movie.

The play will run Nov. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 at 7 p.m. and at a 1 p.m. matinee on

Nov. 7. Tickets which are \$7 for students and \$10 for adults, are on sale online and Fridays during lunch and after school.

National Merit Semi-finalists

Avilash Cramer, Aaron Waller and Emily Fischer, seniors, are National Merit Semi-finalists who scored in the top one third of the 50,000 highest scores from the PSAT/NMSQT test scores. Over one million students take the PSAT each year.



Aaron Waller

- Eagle Scout
- Fields of study: engineering, physics and math
- National Honor Society
- Math club



Avilash Cramer

- Cross country, rock climbing, and Model U.N.
- College choices: Stanford and Williams
- Field of study: physics
- First in the Engineering, Computer Science and Math category at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair



Emily Fischer

- Colleges choices: Brown, Stanford, Yale and Duke
- Choir, Math Club and NHS
- Oregon Youth Chorale

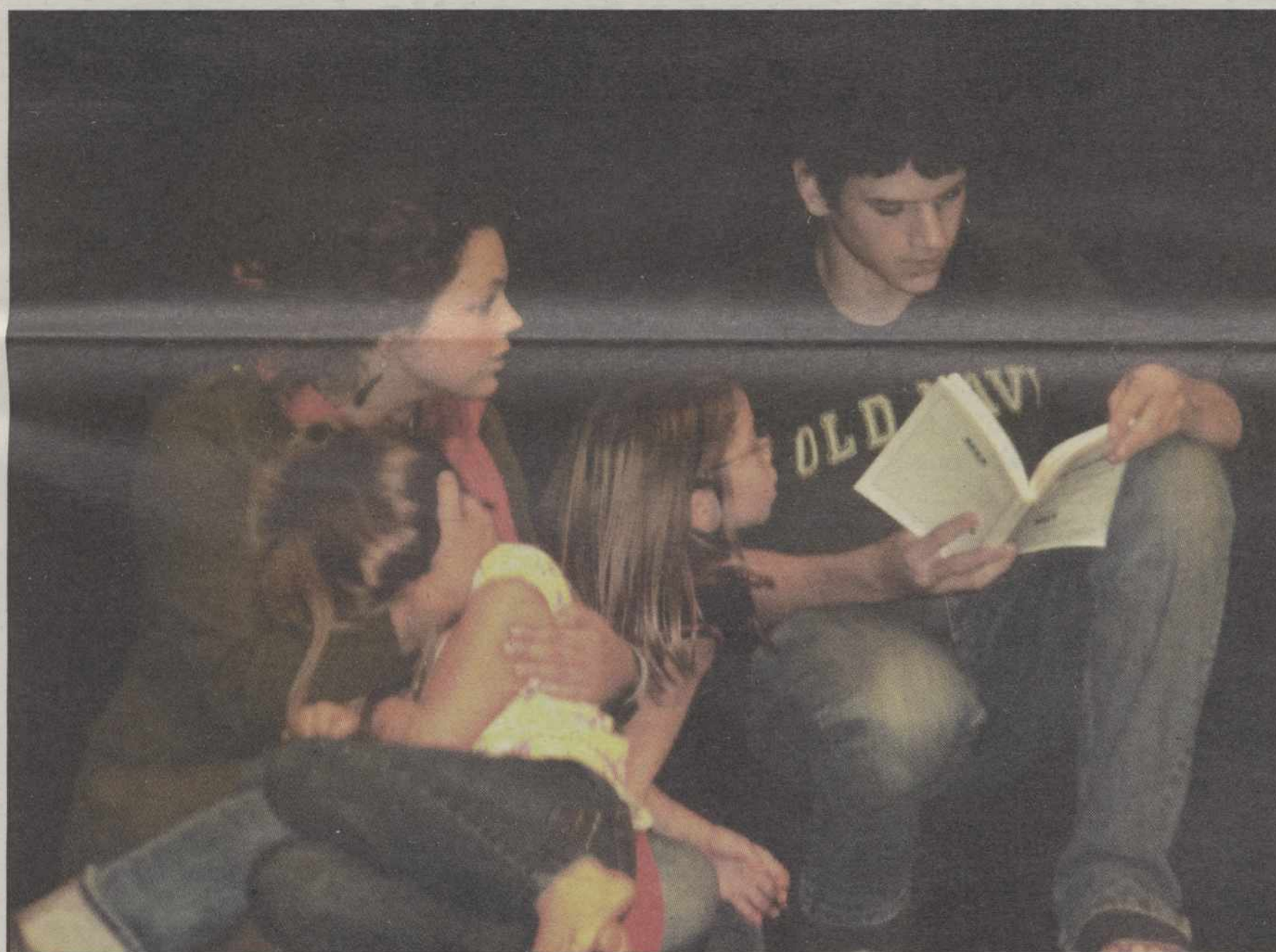


Photo by Katie Dudley

Anna Stapleton and Michael Johnson, juniors, work with Maia McNamara and Claire Matheissen, elementary school students, to rehearse a scene from "Sound of Music." The cast has over 50 members, including six elementary and middle school students and at least three children of West Linn faculty members. Opening night is Thursday, Nov. 5.

Welcome back students and staff of Lion country!

We are off to a great start this school year. Every fall brings the excitement of another school year and what it will bring. There is a good spirit around campus and it is fun to be part of it all.

As I ended my first year as Principal last year and thought over the summer about my second year, I continue to be awestruck about this place we call WLHS. The staff, the students, the parents, and our community combined together are powerful sources that make this place the best school in Oregon. WLHS is more than a place; it is a special experience for everyone involved.

As we gear up for another school year, it is exciting to think about all of the

outstanding academic and curricular opportunities, programs, and events that will take place to create this positive



Photo by Ethan Brent experience for everyone. I am especially proud of the efforts of our student leadership/ASB class as they continue to push for increased school spirit and pride. It takes everyone involved from the athletic

program, the cheerleaders, the staff, the fine and performing arts, the AP program, the leadership from the Senior Class, the contributions from the 9th, 10th, and 11th graders, the clubs and activities, and from everybody associated with WLHS to create true, genuine pride of being a Lion at WLHS. I would prefer to be a Lion than anything else!

I look forward to seeing how this school year plays out and enjoying the successes that will come from our staff and student body.

Welcome back!

J. Bailey

Lou Bailey, Principal