

Pricks, pains and pokes! Ann Bernert, senior, takes on the Himalayan blackberries in her ISEF project, trying to discover what you need to kill the weed.

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Basketball bonanza hits West Linn with a poignant slam dunk.

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Spicy, vibrant, fresh! New Mexican restaurant offers delectable dishes at reasonable prices.

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All State offers place for dedicated musicians to meet

ALISON FIELDHOUSE

"Just like any sport, every high school has a band and choir, and many have an orchestra," Kevin Egan, Band and Orchestra Director, said. "To be selected as a member of the All State group means you are among the best players in all of Oregon. It takes discipline, hard work and perseverance to reach the level of performance to be in the upper echelon of musicians. It is akin to making an all league team for sports."

Troy Cornelius, Tabitha Gholi, Samantha Ing, Georgia Muggli and Alyssa Walhoo, seniors and Zoe Shroy, junior, were chosen for Orchestra. In the Band were Jeffrey Richardson and Christiana Smith, seniors, Caroline Attanasio, Kristin Nesbit, Jenna Tatiyatriong and Michelle Virgin, juniors. Students that made the choir ensemble were Abigail Chadwick, freshman, and Oliver Muggli, sophomore. The lone Jazz Band selection was Joonas Lemetyinen, junior.

For All State, an honor ensemble for band, choir and orchestra, the competition is making it in to participate. All State, presented by the

Oregon Music Educators Association, is held in Eugene every year.

"We auditioned, and were notified if we made it into the band, choir or orchestra," Muggli said. "It's a pretty

into the ensemble, they spent the weekend learning from and working with other musicians, as well as a conductor, to create and perform music. The ensembles practiced select

were chosen from schools throughout the state, providing a chance to meet new people and to learn from them.

"The best part was getting to meet the seven other bassists in my section," Muggli said. "They were from all over the state, and it was so fun getting to see what they could do with the music."

The Orchestra ensemble performed pieces chosen by Neal Stulberg, Orchestra Director. The three pieces selected were "Academic Overture" by Brahms, "Two Elegiac Melodies" by Grieg and "Les Préludes" by Liszt. Different pieces were chosen for the different ensembles.

"I really enjoyed the pieces we performed because they challenged me in a good way," Ing said.

All State was a chance for students who made the cut to improve their abilities as musicians. They could meet other students just as dedicated to their music and learn valuable skills to apply to their futures as musicians.

"I learned so much about preparing music on my own to bring to a large ensemble without a lot of ensemble rehearsal time," Muggli said.

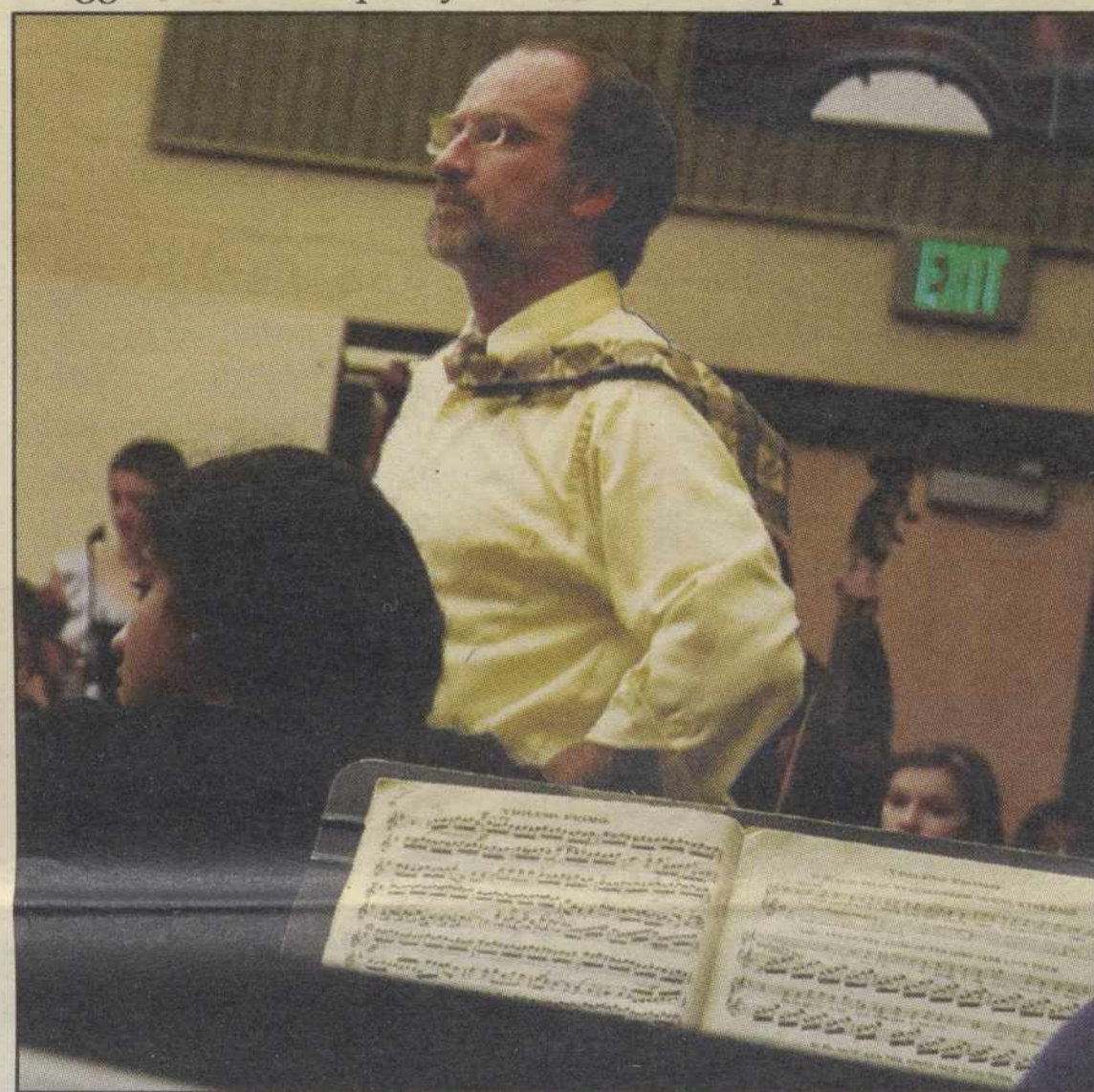


Photo by Rachael Woolley

The WLHS Orchestra rehearses for upcoming performances under the direction of Kevin Egan, Band and Orchestra Director. Members of the Orchestra, Band and Choir participated in All State, an honor ensemble for bands, choirs and orchestras.

selective process designed to highlight Oregon's top high school musicians."

Once students made it

pieces until Sunday when they performed for the rest of the musicians as well as other guests. Musicians

Ten seniors attempt to outwit, outplay, outlast in pursuit of iPad

DANNY MCGARRY

Ten seniors. One week. One school. One iPad. One winner.

This may sound like a television show but it's actually Senior Survivor, a competition that took place the week of Feb. 7 at WLHS. Ten seniors were locked in the school for one week. They had to complete challenges that not only tested their physical prowess, but also their mental acuity. In the end, only one senior remained. The winner's name will be revealed today at the assembly.

The idea developed as a response to cut school days, according to Butch Self, leadership adviser.

"This was to take the place of Rejuvenation Week," Self said.

During the competition they had a designated study time so they could focus on their studies while still competing. They went to school and attended all of their daily classes but after school, they participated in Survivor.

"I hope that school spirit will come out of this. It's a chance for the student body to relax and enjoy the

experience," Self said. "There has been a buzz about it around the student body."

They held a tribal council each night that resulted in two people, one from each team, being voted off the island. It tried to reproduce the real TV show as closely as possible given the school surrounding.

"We want it to be like the regular TV show, where students root for people," Drake Edwards, senior ASB video director, said. "We're hoping it can be a recurring theme and create a tradition."

Contestants were selected based on what they brought

to the table in certain challenges. Thirty people auditioned to compete and only 10 were selected.

"Originally, we were going to do eight but we just had to choose 10," Edwards said.

Since this is the first time they're doing this, they're trying to keep this as secretive as possible. They want to maintain the element of surprise.

"We wanted someone who wanted it, and not someone who by the third day, wanted out," Edwards said.

Survivor

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Downs named principal of Wilsonville High School for 2011-2012 school year

Aaron Downs, assistant principal, was recently chosen to replace retiring principal Andy Sommer at Wilsonville High School.

After going through

a process that involved panel interviews with staff, students, administration and parents, Downs was selected from a group

of several qualified candidates.

Downs, class of 1992, began his career at WLHS as a teacher, eventually becoming a Teacher on

Special Assignment, coach and later an assistant principal. More information on this recent hire will be featured in the March issue of Amplifier.

"This is a reality that classical musicians face if they get jobs subbing for players in the symphony. It requires a lot of dedication."

Three weeks after All State, members of band, orchestra and choir competed in the Three Rivers League Solo Contest held at Clackamas High School. There were a total of six league champions: seniors Troy Cornelius, bassoon, Rachel Metzler, flute, Georgia Muggli, string bass and Alyssa Walhoo, French horn and juniors Joonas Lemetyinen, trombone and Keven Kraus, baritone.

Writing Fest provides outlet for creative expression

CHARLIE CRAFT

This Valentine's week is a time is not only a time to celebrate your love for friends and family, but also your love for creative writing! Andy West, English teacher, and the English 12 staff are hosting the second annual Winter Writing Festival, a week-long series of events Feb. 15-18.

"Our goal is to make (the event) relevant to English class, but we are also hoping to draw interest from outside of English," West said.

The series will include writing prompt activities Tuesday and Thursday, and a panel of presenters. Camile Cettina is a professional theater director and actress, she recently directed *The Unraveling*, which won critical acclaim in Great Britain. Carri Minns is a local writer of cooking/life stories who is a presenter for AMNorthwest's cooking segments.

Other presenters have not yet been confirmed, but Mark Twain is a for sure. There is also an open mic day on Friday in which anyone's writing, from any context can be shared.

Writing Fest

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