

Keizer man convicted on multiple abuse charges

A Keizer man charged with multiple crimes related to sexual abuse was found guilty by a jury last week.

The jury delivered the verdict on Thursday, May 4, after a six-day trial that included testimony by three of the man's victims, two of whom were children at the time they were abused.

Nikolay Avdeyev was convicted of three counts of rape in the first degree, three counts of rape in the second degree, one count of unlawful sexual penetration in the first degree, and eleven counts of sexual abuse in the first degree.

The charges stem from acts that allegedly took place between 1999 and 2002 and involved two victims under the age of 14.

Keizer Police Department detectives arrested Avdeyev, a Keizer resident on the 1300 block of Angie Way N.E., on Dec. 3, 2015.

According to court documents, Avdeyev began sexually abusing and raping his pri-

mary victim when she was 11 years old and continued for three years. The abuse was discovered in 2002, but the family did not notify police citing religious beliefs. Avdeyev reportedly ask for forgiveness from the victim's parents.

The crimes might have continued to go unreported were it not for a witness to some of the incidents who reported it to their pastor in 2015. The witness was encouraged by the pastor to contact police.

All of the counts are subject to Ballot Measure 11 presumptive sentences. Rape in the first degree has a presumptive sentence of 100 months; rape in the second degree has a presumptive sentence of 75 months; sexual abuse in the first degree has a presumptive sentence of 75 months; and unlawful sexual penetration in the first degree has a presumptive sentence of 100 months.

Avdeyev is expected in court again on Monday, May 17.

CAESAR, continued from Page A1

The play has a strong anti-bullying message.

"It's about bullying and the use of social media and technology and how we're talking behind people's backs and spreading horrible things about each other," Henifin said. "That's how it actually is in high school and we're trying to show the reality of that through this play. It's really powerful."

McNary senior Annie Purkey plays one of the biggest bullies—Cassius.

"The thing I like about placing it in a school is the important message that we bring to it, which is bullying and how deeply your words can affect other people, especially in a high school setting where that's super prevalent," Purkey said. "It's the perfect show to see in a high school."

Purkey, who's been picked on in the past, wanted to see what it was like to be a bully.

"I wanted to be something that's not like me at all so that I can really act," Purkey said. "I was thrilled to find out that I was Cassius because he's a big

bully. Playing that kind of role where you're the one that starts the rumors for your own personal gain, it's kind of come full circle for me so that I can try to put myself in the people's shoes that did it to me and really have empathy for everyone all around. Hopefully it will be something impactful so that people can look at my character and see just how wrong it is to do that kind of thing."

McNary is using a series of movements to show the damage bullying can have at a high school.

"This is the most intensive theatre physical that we've done in this show," Purkey said. "That piece in itself is really cool because it tells the story in a very different visual way instead of just the lines. Through the movement we do different pieces that end up leaving people alone and by themselves."

Everyone is affected by the bullying, not just Brutus, which really comes out in the Battle of Philippi scene.

"Everybody has had their backs turned on them at one point so it's showing how far that can escalate and it really does affect every single person," Purkey said.

Senior Spencer Lamb, who plays Caesar, said the dialogue

in the play still sounds a lot like Shakespeare, including long monologues. He also recommends people pay close attention to the way the different characters move.

"This is the play where you should observe the movements and how people are interacting with people a lot more," Lamb said. "A lot of our transitions and some of our story telling moments are seen through large movement pieces."

While Henifin, Purkey and Lamb are all seniors and have been in many McNary productions over the years, #Caesar will be the first for freshman Isabel Pineda, who plays one of the conspirators plotting against Caesar.

Pineda has never taken a theatre class but has wanted to give it a try ever since watching her cousins perform in shows at McNary.

"It's a little nerve-racking," Pineda said. "I've never done a super huge production like this and I've seen what McNary has done in the past and I know that it's very big and it draws quite a bit of attention to their shows. But it feels so good to be part of such a wonderful community, like everyone in the group has been supportive right from the beginning."

Fire district budget meeting May 17

The Keizer Fire District Budget Committee will hold a public meeting regarding the budget for the next fiscal year on Wednesday, May 17 at 661

Chemawa Rd. NE.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget and take comment.

A copy of the budget for

the fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 may be inspected or obtained on or after May 16 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at KFD.

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Carolyn is a graduate of WSU in education and has served the Keizer Community for 36 years, and volunteers for various organizations. Ken is a graduate of OCE and has been a realtor for 14 years and has also been in the moving business. The Reams are also members of Keizer Chamber of Commerce.

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John L. Scott Real Estate is located at 1124 Cornucopia St. NW. The office phone number is 503-399-0089. Carolyn can be reached at 503-551-3656, Ken can be reached at 503-881-5335.

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