



The High School View

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'Twelfth Night' plays this weekend

BY NATALIE WAMBUI

Shakespeare's comedy "Twelfth Night" is a romance about shipwrecked twins, that leads to mistaken identity, love triangles, and uproarious pranks. With witty dialogue and heartwarming resolutions, it's a timeless tale of love and laughter, and students in the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) performing arts department are ready to dazzle audiences with a musical adaptation this weekend.

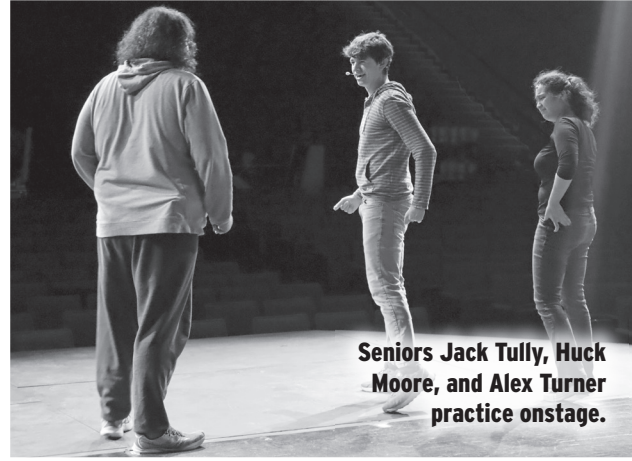
Director Brooke Ditchfield

said, "Traditionally, in Elizabethan England and for many centuries, Twelfth Night falls around Christmas, and has to do with the 12 days of Christmas." She described the play as an exploration of identity. Junior Josie Powers, who is playing the role of Abigail, or Illyrian No. 8, said, "The whole show is about pretending to be someone you aren't, and this applies to teenagers because most of us pretend to be who we aren't to fit in with a standard."

Ms. Ditchfield, who goes by Brooke with her students and performers, said, "We've

grown in size a lot, in terms of how many students participate [in the musical], and in terms of the jobs that students have. We have an incredible tech crew, run crew, costumer, lighting designer, and stage manager — all of these jobs are now being held by students."

Senior Tatum Thomas is playing the role of the royal jester Feste. She said, "My experience in theater has been, I think, one of the best experiences I've had working in the performing arts. Everyone is accepting, all of the teachers are considerate, and they get



Seniors Jack Tully, Huck Moore, and Alex Turner practice onstage.

BRADY VOUGHT

to know you on a friendlier level rather than a teacher-student level, and it makes it much easier to connect with the cast and the directors, and it's a great experience."

Amy Crawford, who teaches Stage Management, said the best thing about working in the theater department is seeing how eager the kids are to learn: "The thing I love is

that everyone wants to learn what it means to put on a show, and I think that is one of the building blocks of a great musical."

Senior Emma Burt is playing a lead role, Countess Olivia. "My favorite part of doing the musical is watching it all coming together, and seeing everyone feeling proud of themselves. That's what makes all of this [hard work] worth it."

The show opens at 7 pm on Thursday the 15th at the Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center at the high school. Performances will also take place Feb. 16 and 17 at 7 pm, and Feb. 18 at 2 pm. Tickets will be available at the door. **HSV**

Science Fair results show innovation and investigation



BRADY VOUGHT

On Saturday, Feb. 10, the 25th annual Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Science Fair took place. In first place overall was sophomore Molly Crawford with her project designing reusable tampons; junior Elliot Stead with first place in the engineering category with his project programming an altimeter, and designing and building a rocket to contain it; and junior Kyle Levy with first place in the investigative category with his project on the effects of humidity on bacterial growth rate and transmissivity. **HSV**

Embracing individuality with style

BY PICKLE EVILLE AND ANINA GARVIN

New York Fashion Week, a week when famous designers and models take to the runway to show off their newest, most fashionable pieces, ended yesterday. For many students who share an interest in fashion, their runway lies within the halls of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS), offering an opportunity to show how they truly are through how they dress.

For senior Olympia Hall, it's important that her clothing reflect her lifestyle. "I like to be outdoorsy, to hike, and just to be in nature a lot, so I try to show that off in my style," she said.

Olympia loves her Carhartt overalls, for example, and further describes her style as having an "Up-Island Mom aesthetic." "It sounds weird," she said, "but [up-Island moms] always wear Blundstones, and all their little hiking outfits and everything are always so cute."

Senior Fernanda Rosa's go-to style consists of wide-leg jeans and her favorite

vintage baseball T shirt. She often looks to the past for style inspiration. "My style is like a Bronx '90s situation," she said, adding that she likes to keep track of celebrities that embody styles she admires. "What Bella Hadid wears, for example, or Hailey Bieber," she said.

Fernanda noted that while many students feel the pressure of moral dilemmas surrounding fast fashion and high consumerism, the issues are complicated. She said, "On the one hand, fast fashion can be good, because it means more clothes for more people, but it does become a problem when people are overconsuming."

Olympia agreed. "Cutting out fast fashion is hard, especially as kids because we don't make a lot of money, and we don't have a lot of our own money. Plus I think fast fashion brands target people [like us], because they make such trendy clothes," she said.

Growing up on the Island has had an impact on Olympia's beliefs about consumerism. "Sustainability is a big thing in my life personally. I think everyone that lives

here kind of connects with our natural environment, so we're pushed more to care about it," she said.

While many students are passionate about finding their own style, sometimes it can be difficult to overcome the fear of standing out. "It's hard to step out of that box, wearing something totally new that no one else is wearing," said junior Sylvi Carroll. "You don't know how it will be received at school."

But for those who do express themselves with unique style, the result can be rewarding. "I think sometimes it's fun to switch it up, and then you end up getting a bunch of compliments, and it feels really good," said Sylvi.

Fernanda agreed. "Obviously, looking like everybody else, you're fitting in and you're accepted. But I also feel like there's good that comes from setting yourself apart, or not looking like everybody else," she said.

When Olympia was a freshman, she tried to follow the trends of her peers but as summer rolled around, she began to experiment. "In the summertime, you're



Molly Crawford proudly displays her outfit.

ANINA GARVIN

not around all the people at school; you can do whatever you want. So I started dressing a lot more like how I wanted to. And I felt a lot happier about myself," she said. "When you have more confidence in who you are, I think that allows you to dress how you want to."

Ultimately, students use fashion as a way to make a statement of who they are and who they want to be.

"I have this big fear of being just ordinary," said Fernanda. "I have my own unique personality and style, and that's all that matters." **HSV**

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