

GHS presents first student-led production

By Ava Ryan
reporter

The theater director stepped away to let students learn how to handle a production last weekend as Ride the Cyclone cast took the stage.

"It has been a whirlwind. It is not the way I normally do things because I'm always working with the adults who already know everything that's going on. So it has been a lot, to say the least, of trying to help students figure out what they need to do when they have obviously been in shows but have not been behind the scenes. I can't just tell them what to do but like helping them figure out what steps they need to do which is a lot more frustrating on themselves while learning the process," Ms. Amy Hayes, director, said.

But, the students feel that this production was easy to manage.

"I feel as if our production is going smoothly. It is very nonchalant in a way and I have really enjoyed it. The experience is moderately strict but mostly flexible. I enjoy it being flexible for other things we have going on," senior Tucker Pierce said.

Theater brings great bonds and friendships.

"My friends are the reason I joined this show. They were listening to a song from the show on our way home one day. I had no idea what it was so I watched the entirety of the show at home. I absolutely fell in love with the show and when I heard we were doing it I was ecstatic. I immediately joined," Pierce said.

Working individually on skills can be fun, but building skills with others can be even better.

"I think the most rewarding thing is definitely seeing them all as a group. Like the cast and the crew there is a family feel when you do the play and the musical. It is different when they're all doing it themselves and seeing people coming in over the summer and stepping up to go above and beyond. It is really nice to see students just get up to that level, to a level that people wouldn't ex-



Sophomore Trever Capien, seniors Nicky Sergi, Tucker Pierce and Max Pendygraft, and junior Novalee Simms practice a rap by Ukrainian bad boy, Mischa, who is singing about his love of money and autotune. Each student in the musical sang to win a second chance at life following a roller coaster accident. Abigail Wilcox photo

pect from them and I think that tells me that we've done a good job up to this point of empowering students so they don't feel overwhelmed. It is a lot of work and they are very stressed and you know people get anxious," Ms. Hayes said.

Theater can be inspiring.

"The best part of doing lights is seeing the final product of what you have made. During rehearsals, you're always busy programming lights and brainstorming ideas. But during the show, you're able to sit back and see all the hard work you've done come together with the rest of the show," sophomore Adam Sobeleski said.

Independent work can lead to excelling in life.

"The fact that it is allowing me to grow in my area and have my own style of acting. Since there is no true voice telling me what to do I can expand and understand

how I act," Pierce said.

The theater program does not fund itself. Students have been finding fun ways to raise money. A karaoke fundraiser will take place at The Suds in downtown Greenwood on Sept. 7 from 6 - 8 p.m.

"We have an upcoming karaoke fundraiser. It is free to attend but \$5 if you want to sing, \$2 if you want to jump the line and \$5 if you want to reserve your song. People should order some food, bring chairs and just have a relaxing fun evening," Mrs. Hayes said. "The money is going to our theater fund because it's very expensive to put on shows. It gets put into any area we need most; for instance, we always need cloth for making our clothes. We are going to be making Pink Lady jackets for Grease which means we need lots of cloth and lots of paint for our sets."

Saving Bikini Bottom disappoints fan



By Alex Kramer
news editor

The smart, sassy, and Texas-loving Sandy Cheeks made her big screen appearance at the beginning of August on Netflix.

This movie featured Sandy Cheeks with Spongebob alongside her attempting to save Bikini Bottom from the evil B.O.O.T.S laboratory.

With high hopes from Spongebob fans, this movie was an absolute letdown. The leading cause of this was the animation and CGI. Going in a different direction than normal animation, Netflix went for a more realistic type of animation while keeping the background in some area's real-life images. Overall, the animation felt unorganized and bounced around from scene

to scene. It feels as though the film could have been something good if they had not changed the style that most fans are used to.

The next letdown of this movie was the plot. It felt dull and half-finished. While watching I found myself half asleep due to the lack of any large strides in a direction. It was hard to find a reason to keep watching after 30 minutes. A series of plot changes made the movie incredibly hard to follow leaving me wondering at the end what and why I had just watched that whole movie. The plot did dive further into the backstory of Sandy Cheeks, which has always drawn both me and other viewers in. My final critique of the plot is its inability to stay on one line. It felt stretched out due to the main villain containing multiple plot twists and a difficult-to-understand backstory.

The final critical failure of this movie is a lack of comedy. I blame

this mostly on the problems, but nonetheless it is difficult to find comedy in most aspects of this movie's comedic aspects. One is the main villain's entire persona. It begins with her name, "Sue Nahmee," (play on words for tsunami), the first fault for this is it just is not funny. I understand this movie was made for children, yet my younger cousin, who fits into the age bracket, failed to understand the joke. I found it gave me a slight chuckle however through out the whole movie the joke is horribly played out. This in combination with Sandy's horrible jokes and the lack of comedic relief made this comedy movie horribly un-comedic.

With all that being said I can see how the movie would be interesting to a younger audience, however, it does not live up to the standard set by the previous Spongebob movies. Because of that, it gets a 3.4/10 on the Kramer-Reichter scale.

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