

The Charger

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Record number compete for parts in Annie

By Liz F.
News Editor

Annie, the very popular Broadway musical for the past year is now the Spring Musical of 2000. It was selected over *Once Upon a Mattress*, *Into the Woods*, *Sound of Music* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. *Annie* is a play set in 1933 in New York about an orphan who spends Christmas with Mr. Warbucks, a very wealthy man, and how she is adopted by him.

Mr. Travis, music and choir teacher, is in charge of the play. The two other teachers who contribute greatly to the production are Mr. Cousineau and Mrs. Knudsen. They work with the various crews, whose responsibilities include

Annie

Eighth graders, Rooster (David P.), Lily St. Regis (Kristen W.), and Miss Hannigan (Abby W.) are the dastardly villains in the spring musical, *Annie*.

making props, painting, construction and more.

Some early preparations include scheduling and getting up posters and sign-up sheets. It takes time to go through the script, and label and create parts in the script where it is skimpy. Mr. Travis explained that he picked *Annie* because it had never been performed at Peacock and the price for the rights to perform it was affordable.

Annie is going to be the largest play put on, as far as Mr. Travis can remember, but it is a shorter show, with only twelve scenes. It has a variety of named characters compared to past shows.

Mr. Travis commented, "Auditions were competitive." He had an extremely large stacks of audition papers, compared to past years.

Co2 cars start race to glory

By Abby W.

CO2 cars are a part of an engineering project that students create in Mr. Cousineau's eighth grade Industrial Technology class. They design and create cars from blocks of balsa wood. Then they attach wheels and add paint to the cars.

When finished, the students put CO2 cartridges in the back of the cars and hook them up to a racetrack, which extends 65 feet from one side of the room to the other. The race track is actually fishing wire, and the cars are attached to the wire by hooks near the tires.

With the cars in place to race, the racers puncture the CO2 cartridges and release the gas to drive the cars down the track.

The CO2 cartridges on both cars must be punctured at exactly the same time for a fair race.

A special starter is used for this purpose. The students who have the best times continue to race and compete against winners from other classes. 0.7 seconds is the record among Peacock racers.

After the first set of races this year, Garrett K., with the time of .860 seconds, and Dave S. with a time of .861 are in first and second place. They won in their respective classes, thereby qualifying for the year-end tournament.

Jimmy G. at .870 seconds, and David N. with a time of .900 seconds, posted the fastest non-winning times. "The times posted so far will be pretty hard to beat," said Mr. Cousineau, but it can be done."

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