



The High School View

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Minnesingers perform spectacularly in season's final concert

BY WILLA VIGNEAULT

Harmonious voices helped to welcome in spring at the annual Minnesingers' concerts during Mother's Day weekend. In the show, titled "An American Songbook," 32 student performers sang a range of music in classic American genres by American composers and arrangers. The choral program was the first half of the show, and included styles such as jazz, spirituals, blues, folk, rock, and rap.

"Energy is so important during these performances. You have to throw yourself into the music. I enjoy singing, and Minnesingers is an incredible experience," junior Jared Livingston said. The dance program fea-

tured pieces from 90 years of Oscar-winning movies. The program consisted of group performances, duets,

"Despite technical difficulties on Saturday night, I was proud of how well we rose above them.

spring show accurately showcased how much the trip to Spain changed us as a group. We became such a family,"

guage we were singing in, but they were cheering us on anyway. We found that singing is a universal language."

Tears were shed on Sunday as the Minnesingers sang their final concert of the year and said goodbye to the seniors. "Other than some tech complications on Saturday, [the show] was brilliant.

We had a bunch of really hard-working students this year, and I'm pleased with the end result," said Minnesingers choral director Jan Wightman.

"During some of the choral pieces, I would look over at the seniors and they were crying. It was my last time performing with these people. The music added another level to the emotion," said Jared. **HSV**



Senior Minnesingers Zana Van Rooyen (left) and Katherine Reid perform in the dance portion of the annual spring concert on Saturday, May 9, in the Performing Arts Center.

PHOTOS BY KRISTINE HOPKINS

and soloists. Sophomore and audience member Danielle Hopkins said, "I loved the duet by Darby Patterson and Ben Nadelstein. They sang "The Way You Look Tonight" by Jerome Kern. It was cute the way they interacted on stage."

I could really feel us come together as a group," said sophomore Minnesinger Tessa Whitaker.

Before performing for the Martha's Vineyard community, the Minnesingers performed in Spain for 10 days over April break. "I think the

said junior Penelope Dutton.

Jared also commented on how the trip to Spain affected the group. He said, "The trip brought us a lot closer. We performed in cathedrals, schools, restaurants, and on the street. Most people didn't understand the lan-

Plant sale starts tomorrow



PHOTO BY KRISTINE HOPKINS

Sophomores Madison McBride (left) and Emma Kristal tend to the plants in horticulture class, leading up to the annual plant sale that will occur from Friday, May 15, to May 21.

Watt's up with the Engineering Club, you ask?

BY SOPHIA MCCARRON, WILLA VIGNEAULT, KAELA VECCHIA-ZEITZ

The MVironment Club has blossomed from the senior project of a regional high school alumni into an award-winning outreach program. Current members will attend the National Energy Education Development (NEED) Energy Conference and Awards Ceremony on June 26 to 29 in Washington, D.C., to accept the NEED Project's Youth Leadership Award. The MVironment Club provided engineering opportunities in each Island elementary school, directed by teams of high school students.

The NEED Project's mission is to organize groups of students, educators, and

leaders in the community to design and promote energy education programs.

Co-advisor and science department chair Natalie Munn said, "The purpose of the project is to have our students create engineering clubs within the elementary schools, and design energy-themed activities for them for four sessions at each school. Then they work with the school to run the club for third and fourth graders."

Junior Casey McAndrews, a leader of the project, added, "There aren't enough engineering opportunities for elementary students, so this was a way to introduce it to them. Also, it was fun for the high schoolers who got to go back into their old schools."

"I think the high school

students enjoyed taking on a leadership role in engineering education," said Dr. Munn. "We had so many students come to help, and it was great to see them all enjoy the volunteer work with the younger students."

Casey McAndrews and junior Zack Bresnick were the club's student leaders. "We were really geared toward the NEED competition, because we had done it last year. We wanted to expand on that. Last year we focused on one type of energy, and this year we focused on a different type of energy each week," said Casey.

The elementary engineering project set itself apart from other NEED applicants due to its comprehensive approach to the project.

Casey said, "Most schools did one event each, but we did four weeks at five different elementary schools."

Dr. Munn said, "We reached over 100 elementary students, which means that our project was not just meaningful in terms of content, but also widespread in its impact."

Co-leader of the Edgartown School team Jared Livingston said, "It was the amount of people who were involved and determined to teach the kids, and the kids themselves, they were amazing. I never thought before that we could be teaching third and fourth graders about advanced topics like kinetic and potential energy."

Dr. Munn said, "Our project involved so many high school students in volunteerism." **HSV**

Conservation art contest

BY ERIK FABER

The Vineyard Conservation Society will host its second annual high school art competition this month. The theme of the competition is water, and includes five different categories: painting, drawing, photography, sculpture, and

other. The competition is open to ninth- through 12th-grade regional high school and charter school students. Winners will receive a cash prize, and their artwork will be displayed at the Martha's Vineyard Film Center in Vineyard Haven and Mocha Motts in Oak Bluffs. All entries are due by May 14. **HSV**

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