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At Riverside:

Acclaims Prevail at 'My Fair Lady'

By Mardy Louth Modern Living Editor

"Outstanding, fantastic, delightful" echo the halls of Riverside High School today lauding the senior class production of "My Fair Lady".

The three-day sell-out performance drew thousands of area and distant viewers to the famed musical.

The production seemed as a three-dimensional movie which stood out and grabbed the heart and emotions of the audience. Not once did any actor slip out of his cockney role. Each performer played with excellence and realism capturing the realm of the era and mood of London.

Janie Vayo, the "deliciously low and horribly dirty" Eliza Doolittle was exciting as she emerged from a humble flower girl to an elegant lady.

Spirits lifted as she's saying sweetly the music of Frederick Loewe. She carried herself with the elegance of Audrey Hepburn in the film version.

It would have been hard for her without the help of her male partner, Steve Hodges. As Henry Higgins, he appeared as the selfish and arrogant English gentleman. A convincing actor, he added just the right touch of harshness and sentiment to fulfill his role.

Charm and laughter were never at a loss with Tim Cavanagh as Eliza's father, Alfred P. Doolittle.

Along with his cohorts, Pauli Panu and Austin Wertheimer were hilarious in the rendition of "With a Little Bit of Luck". It was a refreshing routine as a threesome cleverly romped about the stage.

Don Sebian and Jim Pugh rounded out the main cast as Colonel Pickering and Freddie Eynsford-Hill respectively.

The chorus and dancers cannot be forgotten as they tied the show together.

Choreographer, Mrs. Bettie Kerr Gray and choral director, Miss Marilyn Henry need to be congratulated on the consistency and smoothness of their students.

It stands without saying that again David W. Shaner directed a memorable performance. Together the cast and stage crew united themselves in from their efforts a great script became an even greater play.