Bye Bye Birdie

November 19, 20, 21, 1999
Greenville High School
Performing Arts Center
1999 is the 40th anniversary of "Bye Bye Birdie," and for us backstage, it also marks other milestones. Without the constant, hardworking, and good nature of Jenny Lesko, Assistant Technical Director on "Birdie," this show would not be where it is. Jen is a recent graduate of GHS and is shipping out for the U.S. Navy Nuclear Program this winter. Good luck, Jen, the Navy is getting the best.

The design of the sets for this production of "Birdie" were inspired by the works of Central Michigan University's resident scene designer, William Valle. After over 30 years working for CMU, Mr. Valle is retiring this year. Mr. Valle was instrumental in teaching me the best way to do theatre, and I carry on his tradition with the students at GHS. Students are what drive the GHS Drama Department. Every piece of scenery, each one of the 718 lights in this show, and every cue has been executed by students.

"Bye Bye Birdie" is the second major musical to be done in the new Auditorium of Greenville High School. It has been a long road for the students who have toiled backstage for long hours, building, painting, lighting, and rigging. But, as the performance you are about to see will demonstrate, it was well worth the time.

The beginning of the year 2000 will see the GHS Drama Department joining the Michigan Interscholastic Forensics Association One Act Play Festival. We hope we can depend on your support, as GHS Drama students show the rest of Michigan what a great and talented group they are. Make plans now to see the One Act plays when they are performed at home and be sure to join the cast and crew when they hit the road to tour the show in January.

Enjoy the show!
From the Director . . .

Welcome to the 1950's and "Bye Bye Birdie," a musical spoof of an Elvis-type rock and roll singer who is going in the Army. "Birdie" opened on Broadway in 1960 and has been the number one musical performed in schools and amateur theater. It was made into a movie starring Dick Van Dyke, had a national tour with Tommy Tune and most recently was presented as a TV special with Jason Alexander.

The hardest part of this production was getting the cast to think and act like people in the 50's. After all, girls in the 50's did scream and faint over Elvis; families did watch Ed Sullivan every Sunday evening; wives did pamper their mates; and teen girls wouldn't dare say "puberty" in front of their parents. However, our cast took up the challenge and rose to new heights in music and acting. Many of the actors are performing far beyond their expectations and ours, to bring you a very strong musical show.

This quality of singing and acting does not happen in an eight-week rehearsal period, rather it is the combined efforts of many dedicated educators from Kindergarten through Twelfth grade who have given their time and talents to the Greenville students.

Therefore I would like to give a very special thanks to the Greenville School District Music Educators and any teacher who has put on a classroom show, directed a play or used theater as a teaching tool. Hats off to all of you.

Jim Goodrich
Lincoln Heights Elementary

Jennifer Jarvis
Baldwin Heights Elementary

Katy McDonough
Walnut Hills Elementary

Paula Haist
Cedar Crest Elementary

Keith Hudson
Middle School Vocal Music

Charlotte Lothian
Middle School Band

Jeff Ayres
Middle School Orchestra

Susan Gould
High School Band & Orchestra

Joel Van Houten
High School Vocal Music

Laurie Timm
High School Acting, Debate & Forensics

Now we invite you to sit back and enjoy a nostalgic trip back to the 1950's when TV was king, as Greenville High School very proudly presents "Bye Bye Birdie."

Ruth Hansen
Theater Advisor
Greenville High School

SYNOPSIS

An old-fashioned Broadway musical comedy about the birth of the rock and roll era. Call it the last gasp of the old guard. The premise is spun off from the real-life turmoil stirred up by Elvis Presley's tour of duty in the army as a draftee. The musical's plot concerns a teen idol pop star, Conrad Birdie, who is about to be sent overseas for military duty. When his half-hearted manager, Albert Peterson, finds himself in debt as a result, Albert's secretary, Rose, comes up with the idea of having Conrad record one last song (titled "One Last Kiss") and dedicating it to a teenage girl chosen at random – in this case, one Kim MacAfee from Sweet Apple, Ohio. Albert, Rose, and Conrad go to Sweet Apple to promote the record and soon the small town is in a tizzy over Conrad. When The Ed Sullivan Show decides to come to town for a live broadcast, pandemonium breaks loose.
Bye Bye Birdie
A Musical Comedy
Book by Michael Stewart – Music by Charles Strouse – Lyrics by Lee Adams
Presented with Permission of Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.

Cast Of Characters
(In Order Of Appearance)

The Quintet/Teen Chorus
Kim MacAtee
Ursula Merkle
Alice Peabody
Deborah Sue Mauda
Helen Merkle
Albert Peterson
Rosie Alvarez

Kelly Wickham
Stacey Evans
Jordan Wylie
Jennifer Horst
Anna Powell
Calvin Drevet
Kym O’Connor

The Girls/Teen Chorus
Becca Wilkins
Carrie Ross
Ashley Wellman
Bridget Millerd
Erin O’Connor
Heather Carpenter
Lindsay McBride

The Guys/Teen Chorus
Nancy Johnson
Margie Johnson
Susan Peabody
Phyllis Johnson
 Charity Garfien
Helen Garfien
Randi MacAtee

Randi MacAtee

Ryan Evans
Ryan Garlick
Brandon Carey
Jon Bayer
Chris Sowards
Brandon Boys
Scott Wieszewski
Matt Hanson
Nicole Wysocki
Maggie Carlson
Heather Carpenter
Andy Poolman
Keith Eckhoff
Jan Bayer
Carrie Ross
Scott Wieszewski
Eric Wieszewski
Brandon Boys
Brandon Carey

Special Thanks

The Company of “Bye Bye Birdie” would like to thank the following individuals
and groups for their help in bringing this production to the stage.

The Daily News
Hansen’s Music House
Mrs. Judie Schnachtenberger
Mrs. Laurie Timm
Mrs. Chole Kohn
GHS Jacket Depot
GHS Secretarial Staff
GHS Athletic Department
GHS Custodial Staff
GHS Jacket Video Productions
The Parents and Families of the Cast and Crew

Coming Events

Greenville High School Auditorium

December 7
H.S. Orchestra & CMU String Trio – 7:30 p.m.
December 8
H.S. Band & H.S. Orchestra Concert – 7:30 p.m.
December 9
M.S. Orchestra Concert – 7:30 p.m.
December 14
M.S. Choir Concert – 7:30 p.m.
December 15
M.S. Band Concert – 7:30 p.m.
December 16
H.S. Choir Concert – 6:00 and 8:15 p.m.
December 13 & 14
Auditions for G.H.S. Small Plays - 2:30-4:30 pm
“The Class Act” & “Last Dress Rehearsal”

Greenville Area Community Center

November 20
“Classical Balls & Dessert Buffet”

December 13 & 12
“Spirit of Christmas”
Including: Lunch, Senta, Classical Music, Children’s Choir & Spiritual Play, “The Vision”
The Travelers/Adult Chorus
Mrs. Migg Johnson
Dr. Kevin Johnson
Mrs. Bertha Merkle
Mr. Dave Merkle
Mrs. Ethel Maula
Mr. Charlie Maula, Sr.

The Adult Chorus
Mayer Peabody
Mrs. Edna Peabody
Mr. Jerry Garfin
Mrs. Nancy Garfin
Mr. Henry Ferske
Mrs. Rosemary Ferske
Gloria Rasputin

Ed Sullivan Show
TV Stage Managers
TV Cameramen
Stage Crew

Make Up/Wardrobe

The Quartet

Gala Teen Chorus

Presidents - Radio Fan Club
Club #1
Club #2
Club #3
Club #4

Radio Fan Club Members & Ushers
Jen Fairko
Courtney Morgan
Jessica Banks
Nicole Fellers
Tracie DeWitt

Understudy:
Mr. MacAfee
Conrad
Rosie

Assistant Technical Director
Jenny Lasko
Jacquelyn Van Dam
Jason Kite (Stage Left)
John Townes (Stage Right)

Jody Pettitt
Darielle Burkholder
Leah Custer
Stacey Kiate
Ben Slates
Darielle Burkholder
Leah Custer
Josh Warner
Meagan Treadway
Josh Johnston
David Kohn
Aaron Kohn
Rob Courtright
Heather Dukes
Jayme Hardin
Erik Johnston
David Kohn
Jason Mosher
Nick Peterson
Meagan Stewart
Meagan Treadway
Heather Dukes
Meagan Treadway
Katie Willard
Krista Vlahas
Melrose

Can you spot Yeda?
Act One

Scene 1
Almaloys Music Company
Scene 2
The Telephone Hour
Scene 3
MacAfee House
Scene 4
Penny Station
Scene 5
Sweet Apple Station
Scene 6
Courthouse Steps
Scene 7
MacAfee House
Scene 8
Back Stage
Scene 9
TV Show – Ed Sullivan

Act Two

Scene 1
MacAfee House
Scene 2
MacAfee House
Scene 3
Street of Sweet Apple
Scene 4
Moose's Roadside Diner
Scene 5
Back Door Of Moose’s Roadside Diner
Scene 6
Ice House
Scene 7
Sweet Apple Railroad Station.

Musical Numbers

Act One

Overture
“Are You There, Conrad?”
“A Happy House”
“Put On A Happy Face”
“The Woman, the Man, and the Waive”
“A Healthy, Normal, American Boy”
“Let’s Get Together”
“Tirpity Tiptoe”
“Wounded – We Love You Conrad”
“Flynn For A Sunday Evening – Ed Sullivan”
“Over the Rainbow”

Intermission: Fifteen Minutes

Act Two

Est’ Acte
“What Did I Ever See In Him”
“A Lot Of Livin’ To Do”
“Kids”
“Spanish Rose”
“I Love You More Than You Love Me”
“Do the Lord”
“Ice House Livin’”
“The Jitterbug – We Love You Conrad”
“Rosie”

Finalé

Orchestra

Orchestra Director
Liza Saunders
Pianist
Violin
Cello
Flute/Piccolo
Flute
Clarinet/Alto Saxophone
Alto Saxophone
Clarinet/Tenor Saxophone
Trumpet
French Horn
Trombone
Bass
Bass Guitar/Guitar
Mallet Percussion
Timpani/Percussion
Percussion
Drums

Superintendent – Mr. Don Haisl
Principal – Mr. Harold Deines
Department Head – Mr. Joel Van Houten

Adult Production Staff

Ruth Hansen
Larry Moss
Joel & Lisa Van Houten
Krista Chapman
Larry Haisl
Jim Goodrich
Susan Gould
Merri-Anne Leyser
Pat Cradock

Chris Chapman
Jenny Lasky
Sharon McCreary
Lori Willenberg
Cheryl Williams
Chris Stollman
Mary Permak
Diane Brownell
Sharon Pridegge
Cynthia Perry
Cynthia Perry