

Elle Woods sings her way to Harvard

Anuva Ganapathi
REPORTER

The Performing Arts Department presented "Legally Blonde: The Musical" from Mar. 14 to Mar. 23. A spin-off from the movie, the show centers around Elle Woods, played by sophomore Sondrine Bontemps, a sorority girl from California who attends Harvard Law School in an effort to re-kindle a romance. Though she appears to be a stereotypical "dumb blonde", she tries to prove her worth and gain the respect of her friends and teachers. "[Elle] is so bubbly and friendly, but she is also a very strong young woman who knows what she wants and won't let anything, including her image, get in her way," Bontemps said. The cast was also comprised of many other colorful characters who were not originally in the movie, such as Elle's sorority sisters, who contributed to the plot line with their fun musical numbers.

In addition to the noteworthy cast, the show also owed much of its success to the tech crew and musical pit. "At Gunn, we're not only lucky to have an awesome theatre program, but also an awesome tech class," Student Director Sivan Spector said. "The show really can't happen without tech." According to her, the crew put a lot of effort into building an extravagant set and making sure the stage was set up properly for all the different scenes. The pit orchestra rehearsed for many hours to perform various songs that added to the play's upbeat themes. "The composers gave certain characters themes in the

music so it was interesting to see when the themes were repeated," orchestra member junior Beni Ran said. "The audience was able to enjoy the music because, even with all the changing genres, the music stayed pretty cohesive, and it was pretty catchy."

Along with the cast, crew and pit orchestra, the show consisted of a variety of talented singers, dancers and artists, who all worked together well. "I'm so lucky to be part of such a talented cast, and to be working with such an amazing artistic team," Bontemps said. "One thing that was great about this whole experience was that not only were the cast members extremely talented and hardworking, but we also had fun putting this musical on, and I know I've loved every minute."



Courtesy of Julia Nelson
Sophomore Sondrine Bontemps (right) and her co-star Tatiana Boyle (left) discuss their boy problems while hanging out at the salon.



"Dead Man Down"

Niels Arden Oplev's "Dead Man Down" stands as a heavily underrated crime drama that rises far above its 38 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes to serve as an effective meditation on the nature of vengeance. The film focuses on a criminal (Colin Farrell) who seeks to exact retribution on the ruthless mob boss (Terrence Howard) who tore his life apart in a manner not to be revealed here. While Oplev's direction seems unrefined at times as the narrative progresses, the acting across the board ranks as phenomenal. Alternating from a provocative, noir feel to a riveting, action approach, "Dead Man Down" is a decent gangster film that far surpasses 2013's early star-studded dud "Gangster Squad."



"Oz the Great and Powerful"

Sam Raimi's "Oz the Great and Powerful" registers as a fun, family-friendly adventure film with an evocative psychedelic feel before stumbling in its over-riden, embarrassing epilogue. James Franco stars as the professional magician Oz, who, much like Dorothy in "The Wizard of Oz," "escapes" from his unremarkable life in Kansas to the fantastical kingdom of Oz. Upon his arrival, he must combat an evil witch in order to secure for himself the title of king and seemingly endless wealth. The film is a highly entertaining and well directed, if also formulaic, treat of a film. By faltering in its final minutes, however, "Oz the Great and Powerful" comes off a bit like a letdown.



"Admission"

Paul Weitz's "Admission" benefits from its likeable cast members but fails to utilize them in any meaningful manner over the course of its 117-minute runtime. The film's plot concerns an ambitious Princeton admissions officer (Tina Fey) who falls in love with a progressive school director (Paul Rudd) in typically bland, rom-com fashion. Karen Croner's screenplay manages to elicit a few good laughs, but none of the jokes could divert the overall narrative from concluding in a bizarre and confusing fashion. In the end, however, the greatest sin of "Admission" lies in its failure to delve deeply into the modern college application process without devolving into the clichés with which most Gunn students are already familiar.



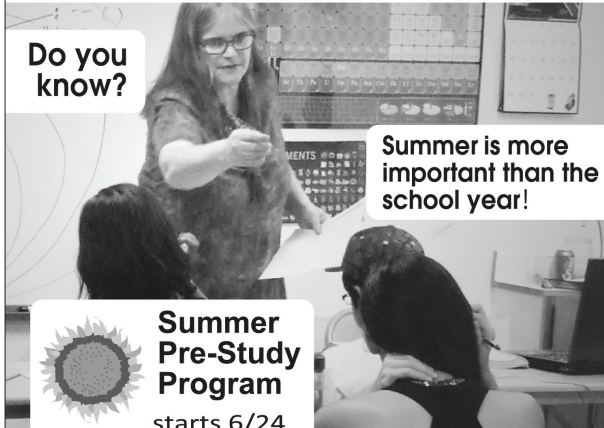
ShareWorld Learning Center

新學友

(408) 446-1956

www.shareworld.org

Do you know?



Summer is more important than the school year!

Summer Pre-Study Program

starts 6/24

We offers assistance with extracurricular and summer activity planning. We encourage participation in activities that you're passionate about and that make a difference within the community.

Intensive SAT I/II Prep

Available NOW for JUNE Test Starts 6/24 for OCT. Test

GPA/Homework Help Essay Writing Class

Write into College

Step by Step Counseling

Schedule available online!

21601 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014

20th Anniversary

To Celebrate ShareWorld's 20th anniversary, we are Offering College Application Packages with FREE Counseling for JUNIORS throughout 2013!

Referral ShareWorld Discount 新學友



OVERPLAYED SONGS ON THE RADIO

1. "One More Night" by Maroon 5—By now the group has had 300 more nights and doesn't deserve second chances.
2. "Thrift Shop" by Macklemore—Macklemore has made thrift shopping mainstream.
3. "Diamonds" by Rihanna—There just aren't any diamonds in the sky.
4. "I Knew You Were Trouble" by Taylor Swift—Taylor never learns.
5. "Beauty and the Beat" by Justin Bieber—Nicki Minaj's part is far too short.
6. "Some Nights" by Fun—The song just makes you depressed because he never figures it out.
7. "Locked out of Heaven" by Bruno Mars—The distressed situation described makes everyone uncomfortable.
8. "Heart Attack" by Demi Lovato—All of our hearts need a break from her emotions.
9. "Ho Hey" by The Lumineers—You eventually feel like the band is screaming at you.
10. "Scream and Shout" by Will.I.Am—Kudos to Will.I.Am and Britney Spears for remembering their names while at the same time screaming and shouting.