

Freedom High School students give it their all in final performance

By R.J. FOSTER
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REVIEW

FREEDOM — Excitement met emotion on Freedom High School's stage last weekend.

The final play of the school year was the last for some Freedom students.

The result was "absolutely wonderful," according to Nancy Hacker, an audience member and stage parent.

The show opened with narrator Julie Goerl wearing a "technicolor" dress made from old ties. Her voice was restrained, yet dulcet, with an impressive range for a high school performer.

Sean Carlson brought charisma to the role of Joseph. Walking through the front row offering audience members a chance to feel the texture of his multicolored coat drew audience members into the story.

Having just sold their brother into slavery, Carlson's stage brothers serenaded their father with the news of Joseph's demise with "One More Angel in Heaven." Tears of sadness masked smiles and high-fives as the brothers rejoiced at the removal of their father's former favorite son.

Dean VandenHoy provided a nice blend of ancient Egypt and modern gangster as Potiphar, the wealthy captain who bought Joseph. The chorus — decked out in sunglasses and feather boas — completed the mobster-feel of the scene.

It was Potiphar's unfaithful wife who stole the scene, though. Amy Kooiman was perfect as the sultry seductress who, upon being caught by her husband, turned weeping vic-

tim.

"Close Every Door," gave Carlson the chance to open the door on his vocal power. The emotion of an innocent man jailed for life poured out of Carlson, giving audience members their first taste of this young artist's choral strength.

The high school stage was transformed into a Vegas showroom by Dusty Varick in the role of Pharaoh. From the pompadour hair to the twitching left knee, Varick played

"the king" to a T.

"I like Elvis," said Combined Locks resident Jerry Van-Schyndel.

But Joseph's brothers stole the show back with "Those Canaan Days." James Steinberg was superb leading his brothers in the song about how bad things had become for the family since losing their brother Joseph.

The show was even more impressive considering the production timeline. Director Lori McNamara took on the project with a scant three weeks to work with as a parting gift to

her seniors.

"They wanted to do a show, so I wanted to give them a

show," McNamara said.

R.J. Foster can be reached at pceast@postcrescent.com.

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