

MUSICIANS COMPARED

Perfection prerequisite for contests

by Andi DeWahl

What contest is more important than the State Basketball tournament, more exciting than the State Hockey tourney? The state music contest, of course.

Senior Patrice Guston, president of the choir, says "You get a chance to see what other schools are doing and to compare our choir with theirs." She added, "I get a little nervous, but it's a good experience. You can learn a lot about yourself."

Another choir member, junior Ed Vivian contends that the contests are "a challenge." Ed is doing a solo.

A member of violin choir, sophomore Cathy Barnett described her feelings toward the contest. "This is the highlight of the whole year. You are showing the other school how good you are. It's really cool."

The district contest for band will be April 16 at Ramsey. The Concert Band is playing Festive Overture by Denitri Shostakovich, and also Preludium and Fugue by Girolamo Frescobaldi. The Varsity Band is playing Overture in B flat by Caesar Giovanni.

Most sophomores participating in the contest are a little apprehensive. Oboist Nancy Hakomaki, part of a woodwind ensemble says, "It's fun. I think it's an exciting challenge.

I'm petrified the night before, but it's not so bad once you get there."

Trumpet soloist Bill Webb remarked, "Performing gives one a challenge. It's something to aim for, and if I don't make it this year, at least I've tried. It also gives one a chance to compare myself with somebody else. I don't know how good I am, so this is a chance to find myself."

Jane Burt plays the French Horn in the same ensemble, and thinks "It's kind of fun. It's just a contest, but I am scared."

"It builds my ego," stated senior Rita Christianson flatly. "I play for the fun of it." Rita is playing a tuba solo.

Advantages in participating in contests says Peterson, are that "you are playing for qualified judges who know the details of technique and articulation, and you have to prepare differently than you would for a regular concert. You have to be very specific."

Under Peterson's direction, the orchestra has made it to the state contest every year and gotten a trophy five times.

Band director Robert E. Hallquist feels that the value of these music contests is in the solos and ensembles because the students must work on perfecting and performing.



photo by bob christiansen

Sue Mackenzie challenges Maria Callas.

Books due

All materials must be returned to the library by April 30. "We need student co-operation in getting the materials in," said Miss Hokanson, Ramsey's librarian. "May 1 we will start to pack, since by June 5 everything must be out of the library."

"We are sorry that the library must close so soon, but due to the construction, it has to close," concluded Miss Holkanson.

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