

## The Show Goes on at CHS

# At Coventry High, Varsity Revue looks to rake in laughs

Nearly 35 years after its first run, show hits stage again this weekend

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COVENTRY— Approximately 35 years after it was created, Coventry High School's Varsity Revue will yet again bring in a large crowd to watch students of all ages show off their talent tonight and tomorrow night.

Sue Tracy, Math Teacher and Advisor to the student council at CHS, explained that the annual talent show's name, Varsity Revue, was created during the time when letterman jackets were an icon in high schools throughout the country.

She explained that the beginning years of the show focused on the varsity letterman's club, but now, she joked, "students probably don't know what that is."

The large show will give the 150 freshman to senior participants the chance to perform musical acts, comedy acts, dancing and singing.

"One of the acts is a rock band," she said. "The kids always look forward to that. It's really a variety of people. There are songs I've never heard of to songs that are very well-known."

After two days of auditions back in October, the members of the student council chose 14 acts out of 35 to perform during the show tonight and tomorrow.

"It was a tough choice to choose," she added. "They were fair to everybody; they were looking for a well-rounded show. The competition was definitely there."

On Oct. 14, the council posted their decisions on who made it through auditions.

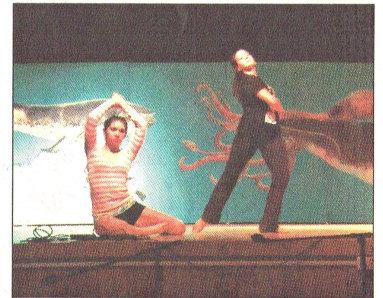
Along with numerous solo acts, school based groups such as the jazz band, select choir and the dance team will be performing on stage as well.

She explained that the teachers in charge of those groups were "extremely" helpful in ensuring the students were prepared. She said many of them started practicing the first week of school.

"The kids look forward to the show, they know it's coming," she added. "They practice individually and work on their acts and routines the first day of school sometimes. They plan something and once they make the show we meet with them."

The performers have worked hard this past week, she said, meeting everyday after school

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Submitted photo

Dancers at rehearsal perform "Be Italian" as they prepare for the "Varsity Revue" at Coventry High School this weekend.

# Coventry showing annual 'Varsity Revue'

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to perfect their acts and the show in general.

The show, which saw upwards of 700 attendees 10 years ago, has seen a decline in crowd size, but Tracy said it's remained moderate the past few years—with approximately 450 people attending both nights.

The theme chosen for this year's show, she said, is "Oakers Under the Sea." While the theme does not coincide with the performances, she said much of the show has an underwater feel.

"The job of the MCs is to tie it together and make it a show so somehow they end up underwater during the show and somebody's dressed as a mermaid," she laughed. "The student council worked hard to prepare a large

backdrop that's 10 feet high by 10 feet wide and it has a fish mural type thing on it."

Also, she said, the council designed the cover of the program to mirror the underwater theme.

"One of the things that makes the show unique," Tracy said, "is the fact that the kids are responsible for it. The student council is responsible for it."

More than 30 student council members will be working backstage at the show, controlling the lighting, selling tickets and working at the snack bar.

The proceeds of the show go towards the student council, which they use for different activities during the school year.

Tracy said the show starts at 7 p.m. both tonight and Friday at the high school auditorium; tickets are \$8 per person.



Submitted photo

Catie LaChance is one of 35 performers who will try to get the crowd to its feet this weekend at Coventry High's production of its "Varsity Revue."