

Three SSHS actors named to Honorable Mention All-Star Cast, one to All-Star Crew at Area 2-4A One-Act

Written by BY TERRY MATHEWS, News-Telegram Arts Editor
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Three Sulphur Springs High School actors earned spots on the Honorable Mention All-Star Cast at UIL Area 2-4A One-Act Play Contest held yesterday at McKinney Boyd High School.

SSHS won the district OAP competition with their beautiful production of William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Logan McGraw, who did double duty as Egeus and Peter Quince, was named to the Honorable Mention All-Star Cast.

Keely Melton, who played a very mischievous Puck, was named to the Honorable Mention All-Star Cast, gaining mention from area judge Robin Robinson.

"Puck. Good physicality," said Robinson during her critique. "Are you a gymnast for real? Great surprise. I loved the chase."



Triston Pullen, who took on the role of Lysander, was the third SSHS student named to the Honorable Mention All-Star Cast.

In her post-awards ceremony critique, Robinson said of Pullen's performance, "Good energy. I watched you. Funny. In the fight scenes, were you and Demetrius [Josh Thompson] really punching each other? It looked good."

Judge Robinson also commended the crew for their costumes, makeup, staging and sound.

Haley Thomas was named to the All-Star Crew.

"A beautiful design and use of the stage," she commented. "Loved the lighting. Really, really loved the strobe. I loved that those trees moved and you didn't take them off stage. You really tricked me. Very nice."



Along with her positive comments, Robinson gave the cast some constructive criticism.

"My biggest issue with y'all today was I just felt like we were rushing," she explained. "Yes, it is comedy. Yes, it is fast-paced. I totally agree. Y'all captured the essence. But even in comedies and even in romantic comedies, you gotta take those moments to connect and build relationships, even though it's fantasy – even though we're doped up with flower power."

In her final comments to the students, the judge reminded them of their success and good fortune.

"Y'all had a good show today," Robinson told the cast. "Y'all should be proud. You got to compete at area. A lot of schools were home today."

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A large crowd of family, friends, school administrators and staff made the trip to McKinney to support the theater students.

“Look around,” said SSSH Fine Arts Director Charles McCauley. “Sulphur Springs has the most people here.”

Advancing to regional competition were McKinney North High School for their powerful presentation of “Never the Sinner,” and Lovejoy High School for the emotionally wrenching “The Women of Lockerbie.”

Pine Tree High School was named alternate for their production of “Fuddy Meers.”

Congratulations to everyone involved. Bravo!