

DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY. Judge Edwards (8), auditions for the role of Pumbaa for The Lion King. After getting the role, Judge got to meet all his fellow cast members. "My favorite part of the musical is being able to make so many friends," said Edwards.

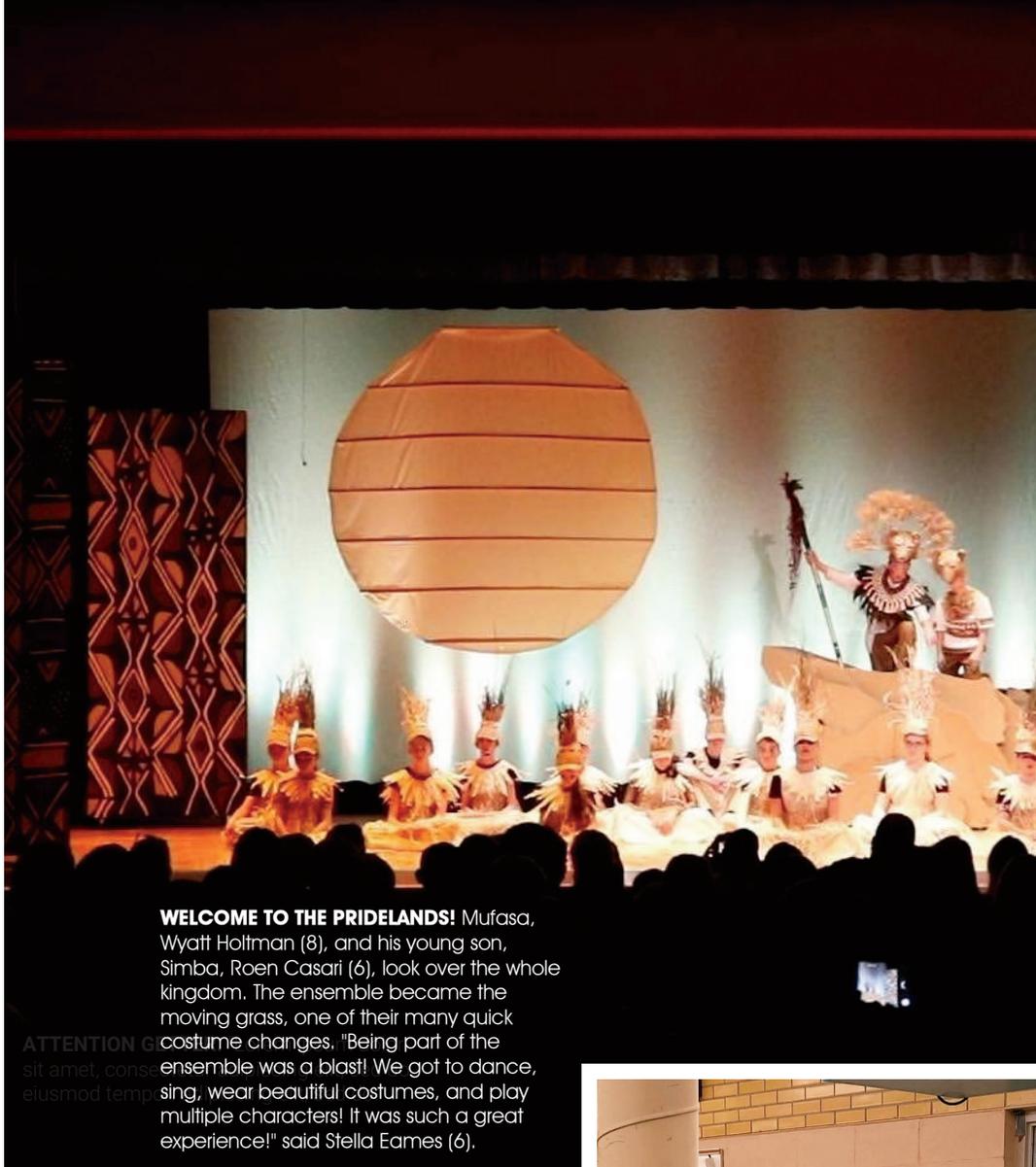
PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT! Portraying Young Simba, Braiden Portie (7) continues to practice for the big show. "My favorite part of The Lion King is just getting a chance to improve my acting and singing," he said.



photo by rylie miller



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WELCOME TO THE PRIDELANDS! Mufasa, Wyatt Holtman (8), and his young son, Simba, Roen Casari (6), look over the whole kingdom. The ensemble became the moving grass, one of their many quick costume changes. "Being part of the ensemble was a blast! We got to dance, sing, wear beautiful costumes, and play multiple characters! It was such a great experience!" said Stella Eames (6).

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"I love coming here and imagining it was all real."

Heather Thome (6)
-on what she loved about participating in the musical



photo by rylie miller

CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES! Members of the choir enjoy a break during dress rehearsal. Only two days later the show would be postponed. Worried for the other cast, Evelyn Donaldson (6) said, "I loved the Lion King; it's very happy and so fun! I love every part of it, and I hope other people will have the opportunity to do it, too!" **WILDEBEEST PRODUCTIONS.** Helping create one of many set pieces and props, Noah Gueldner (8) works on a wildebeest mask. Gueldner was the first person to volunteer for stage crew.



TERRIFIC TECHIES

Crew members give their thoughts on their jobs for the musical.

"MY ADVICE TO NEXT YEAR'S STAGE MANAGER IS TO TAKE LOTS OF NOTES AND STAY VERY ORGANIZED. IT GETS CRAZY

BACKSTAGE."
-KATHERINE BUCARO (8)



"The most challenging part was getting the scene changes to happen fast. There were a lot of elements to them."

-Emma Levy (7)



"My favorite part was filling in for ensemble members when they weren't here."

-Sam Burgess (7)



"MY FAVORITE PART WAS ALL THE NEW PEOPLE I MET. I ENJOYED LEARNING ABOUT ACTING, TOO. EVERYONE WAS HAVING FUN!"

-EVEE JONES (8)



* BY THE NUMBERS

Little known Lion King stats:

- 1 big elephant
- 2 giraffe heads
- 4 zebra heads
- 10 Home Depot runs
- 12 gazelles and wildebeests
- 14 adult volunteers
- 15 gallons of paint
- 28 trips to Joanne's fabrics
- 43 crew members
- 72 cast members
- 130 costumes
- 952 lines memorized
- 1276 tickets sold



photo by bill towber

photo by bill towber



photo by nyle miller

ANOTHER LECTURE...SIGH. Zazu, played by Maddie Mueller (7), tries to set young Nala, Barrett Walker (6), and Simba, Roen Casari (6), straight. "My favorite part of the Lion King is being able to be myself," said Mueller. **MAKE WAY FOR THE KING.** Ashton Largent (8) rehearses the part of Mufasa. "This was something completely out of my comfort zone, and I had wanted to be a part of a musical for a long time. I finally decided to just do it, and it turned out to be the most memorable thing from the whole school year," said Largent.

photo by gina nelson