

Carrie: the Musical to be performed at Mayfield School

By Bill Rea

There have been several versions of Carrie, the story which originally was the basis of one of Stephen King's early novels. There is a musical version, and it is opening this week, a production of the drama department at Mayfield Secondary School. The story deals with Carrie, an awkward teenage girl who is subjected to merciless bullying at school, and lives under the burden of her religious fanatic mother. Carrie also has telekinetic powers, which are unleashed after she has been humiliated once too often. This is a very large production. Lindsay Hatch, who plays Billy, a young trouble-maker who helps his girlfriend Chris arrange for Carrie's ultimate humiliation, said there are easily 75 students involved in the production. Kyle Leonard, who plays Freddy as is also handling publicity for the production, said the project has been going on for some months, with auditions taking place before classes ended for the summer, with production starting almost when school started. 'I think the first day of school, we had a rehearsal,' he said. 'It's definitely not in any way your light-hearted musical,' observed Erin Sevigny, one of the girls playing Sue, who out of feelings of guilt tries to make amends to Carrie. 'It's heavy.' Jillian Cooper, who plays Carrie, said the production also looks into what it's like to be an outcast. Leonard said an important part of the story is people. He said Carrie has values from her upbringing which she brings to school and tries to deal with other people who don't share those values. 'They see her as an outcast and pick on her and bully her,' he said, adding the story also deals with how relationships develop. Sevigny observed that doing this show makes one check their own morals. Cooper observed that Carrie goes through a lot of pain. 'She realizes who she wants to be and what she wants to show others,' he said. 'She goes through a lot of personal growth,' Hatch added. Cooper said the scene where Carrie finally lashes out against her tormenters involved a lot of choreography, complete with lighting effects. 'It's a very physical scene,' Sevigny said, and Hatch observed it could almost be a dance. Carrie: the Musical will be presented at Mayfield Nov. 2, 3 and 4. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m.



Jillian Cooper plays Carrie, an outcast who brings the values from her religious fanatic mother to a setting where they aren't shared.

