

## Arts and Entertainment

## OPERA REVIEW

## Students sing about love, money at Opera

Kaylin Bowers  
Pilot Staff

Nov. 14 through the 16, sounds of the Gardner-Webb opera filled the Dover Theatre. The opera consisted of Mozart Opera Scenes and St. Nicholas: A Christmas Opera.

Lindsey Warner's extravagant voice opened up the opera, playing a 13-year-old boy, infatuated with the Countess Almaviva. Samantha Staton performed the following scene as a Countess, desiring her husband's lost affection for her again. The third scene, also performed by Staton, displayed a lady's unwavering love for a bachelor. The messages of the songs were expressed through the emotion of the young ladies since the songs were written and sung in Italian.

The Christmas portion of the evening followed the Mozart opera scenes. The story

surrounded three sisters getting ready for Christmas. While fixing the house up, they each light a candle, making a wish hoping that St. Nicholas will honor it. Each of the sisters wishes for a husband. Juliet wishes for a rich merchant, Lucy wishes for a rich scholar, and Sophie wishes for her true love, Sir William, to be able to find her.

Through the songs and acts, the true meaning of Christmas and compassion is shown. Juliet and Lucy both act selfishly while Sophie is full of compassion and love for her sisters as well as others. When a poor couple asks for help, Sophie is willing to give up the money St. Nicholas gave her in order to help them. Through her actions, she showed that helping others was more important than helping herself and her wish was granted, unlike her two sisters' wishes. In the end, St. Nicholas helps



Photo by Scott Holstein

Samantha Staton, senior, front, and Jennifer Solomon, junior, in back, prepare backstage for the opera theater.

the two sisters understand why Sophie acted with compassion and love to those around her.

The entire opera showed

the talents of the students who participated as well as incorporating a Christmas message in the production. The Victorian

dress presented certain elegance during the performance that would not have been there with any other period dress.

## PERFORMING ARTS



Photo By Chris Armstrong

This Stavesacre guitarist rocks the Millennium Playhouse during the band's concert Nov. 13.

## MOVIE REVIEW

## "Tuck Everlasting": A movie worth seeing

Rachel Jones  
Special to the Pilot

For all you Disney skeptics, this movie will definitely surprise you.

When I first saw the reviews for "Tuck Everlasting," I groaned. All I could think about was Disney ruining a wonderful children's novel, while capitalizing on it.

However, when I saw the cast list, which includes at least three Oscar nominees and winners, I found myself drawn to the movie.

"Tuck Everlasting" is based on the book written by Natalie Babbitt. A sheltered teenage girl, Winnie Foster, played by Alexis Bledel of "Gilmore

Girls," becomes fed up with her over-protective family and runs away into the woods. While in the woods, Winnie meets up with the Tucks, a family who will change her life forever.

The cast, which includes Sissy Spacek of "In the Bedroom," Ben Kingsley of "Gandhi" and Jonathan Jackson of "Insomnia," entertains the audience from start to finish. The chemistry between Jackson [Jesse Tuck] and Bledel [Winnie Foster] is touching and sweet.

"Tuck Everlasting" leaves its audience with a lesson on living and dying. The movie gives deeper insight to more mature viewers as to the sacrifices a person makes in order to live a full life. The book, on the other hand, introduces younger people to a different outlook on living life. I recommend both reading and viewing "Tuck Everlasting." Disney, for once, did not shirk its duties towards the book. Instead, they added more to the classic children's novel.

## Just the Facts

- Starring: Alexis Bledel, William Hurt, Sissy Spacek, Jonathan Jackson, Scott Bairstow, Ben Kingsley
- Rated PG