



IN THE AUDITORIUM on Thursday, Daniel Jordan and Serena Stacy Nedland (below) held his hands high in the air while he sang a song. (above) ran through their lines during dress rehearsal for South Pacific. Hunter

Musical to highlight high school students

By GATLIN REICHERT

The Decatur Dictator

It was revived on Broadway in 2008 and won seven Tonys. Now Rodgers and Hammerstein's award-winning musical "South Pacific" is coming to the Decatur Community High stage.

The musical opens on a South Pacific island during World War II, where a naive young Navy nurse from Arkansas (played by Ashley Horton) becomes romantically involved with Emile de Becque, a French plantation owner (played by Jacob Larue). However, when she learns he is a widower with two dark-skinned children, she cannot accept the situation.

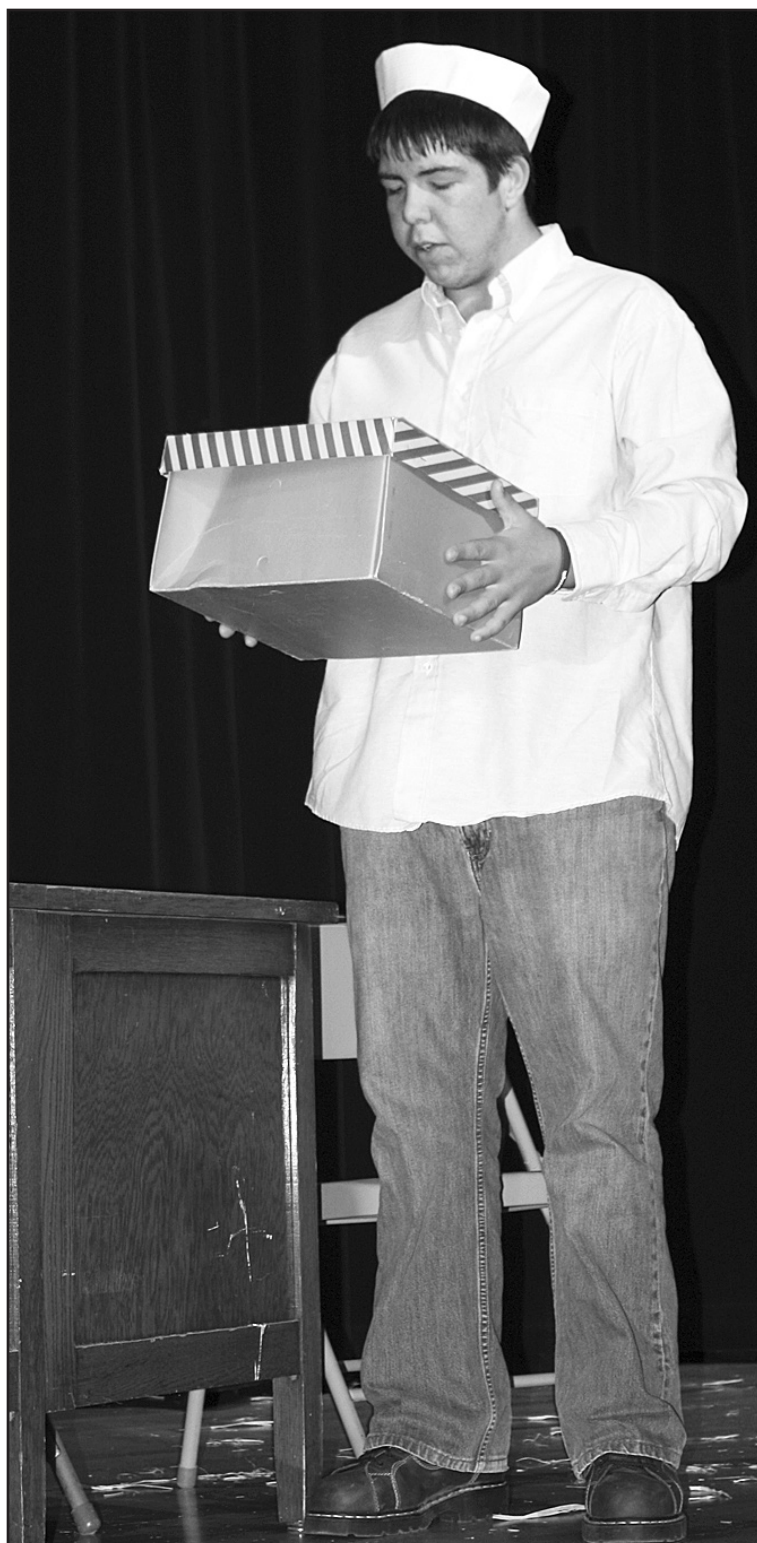
At the same time, the American sailors on the island are growing restless until Luther Billis (Joe Hirsch) hatches a plan to travel to Bali Ha'i, a nearby island where the French plantation owners are believed to have hidden their women. A U.S. Marine, Lt. Joe Cable (Daniel Jordan), arrives on the island undercover on a dangerous spy mission crucial to the outcome of the war. He meets "Bloody Mary" (Serena Stacy), one of the few women on the island, who introduces him to a young Tonkinese girl, Liat (Amanda Marshall).

Racism, love, war, fun, and great music highlight the musical, which includes such memorable songs as "Some Enchanted Evening," "I'm Gonna Wash that Man Right out of My Hair" and "Bali Ha'i."

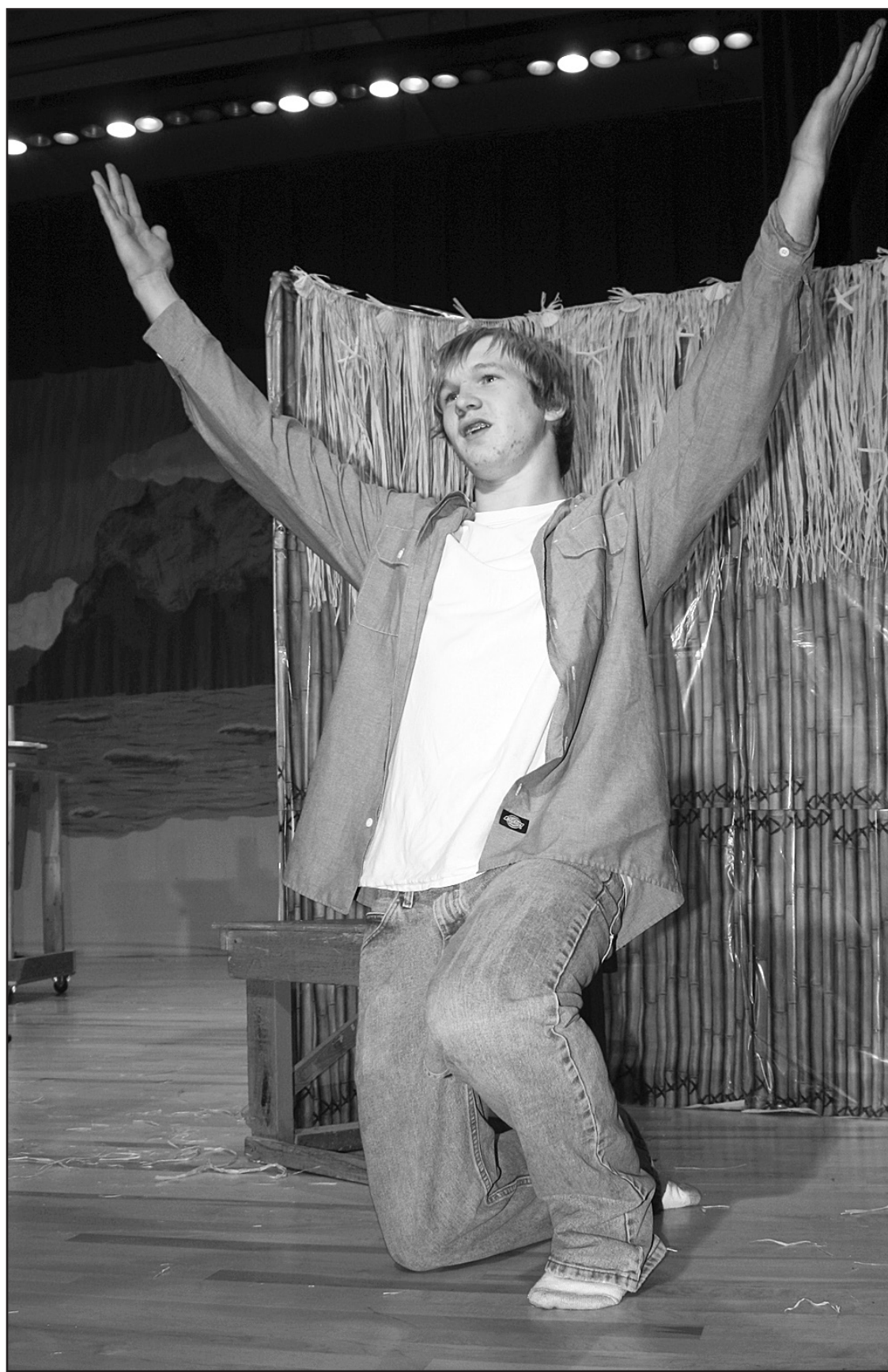
Other students in the musical are Sam Anderson, Ryan May, Nolan Henningson, Hunter Nedland, Jaxen Alstrom, Elizabeth Nedland, Greg Shaw, Channing Fortin, Matt Glading, Rachele Scott, Katie Glading, Adrienne Pauls, Rhiannon Davies, Jordan Dreher, Cassidy Shields, Jessica Fredrickson, Brandi Diederich, Miki Dorshorst, Miranda Shelton, and Kiah Blau.

The musical will be performed at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the high school auditorium.

Tickets, \$4 for students and senior citizens and \$6 for adults, can be bought at the door or from any cast member.



CHANNING FORTIN carried a box, a delivery, onto the stage.



Herald staff photos by Kimberly Davis