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# SDSS serves up fun at annual show

By KATE GILDERDALE  
Once again, Stouffville District Secondary School students provided an evening of music, laughter and pure entertainment when Variety Show '89 crashed into port on the SDSS Minnow last week.

The show opened with ominous storm warnings, lightning flashes and loud rumbles of thunder, quickly followed by the unmistakable crunch of metal on rock as the Minnow was washed up on an uncharted tropical island. The crew's troubles and the audience's fun were just beginning.

Tim Balazs and Steve Fronske as two dippy and deluded wimps called Lou and Herbie, whose much quoted claim "we drive women mad" was surely the literal truth, stumbled in and out of some sticky and

hilarious situations throughout the show.

This year, the seven Locals treated the crowd to their typically deadpan humor in a series of vignettes, including an underwater ceremonial dance to the music of 'Hands Up,' in which they executed some pretty nifty footwork — made even more impressive by the fact they were sporting flippers.

In 'Tropical Cooking,' Ute DeLecate and Jen Pritzker did a marvellous send-up of television programs on cooking tropical style, while bumbling Lou and Herbie, in goggles and bathcaps, were stewing away nicely in the pot, which one of them described as a "great Jacuzzi."

Audience participation was encouraged, if not demanded, in "What The Heck Is It?" Once again Steve Fronske, ably assisted by Mike Pongranz, was on the scene, trying to discover the identity of something he'd spotted from the island.

Steve Holder and Mike Pongranz were excellent as two American sports commentators in Political Wrestling,

discussing the performances of Brian Mulroney, George Bush and John Turner. Viewers were treated to translations into French and metric, for Canadian audiences.

A familiar television commercial received the SDSS treatment in Lodak, as female students danced gracefully on the stage, each one dressed in a separate color, announcing "I'm blue, or I'm orange." Peter Fintelman capped things off when he swept onstage in a plaid shirt and kilt with a cry of "I'm plaid."

Ed Grimley, Michelle Osborne, Mike Pongranz and Todd Tungatt got plenty of laughs in a sketch about two individuals vying for a top accounting job, while the final skit, The King Elvis, had crowd-pleaser Steve Fronske back with a superb imitation of Elvis as king of the jungle paradise.

Bill Robbins as the Spirit of the Island was the offstage narrator and the talented dancers shone in Fascinated, Right Stuff, Fine Time, Catch Me I'm Falling and Chains of Love.



A lot of the work done behind the scenes helped make the annual SDSS Variety Show a laughing success this year. Here, Director Mark Gornik (left), Producer Kevin Harmer, and dancer Stefanie

Schader, 17, pose at a presentation of gifts for their efforts. Students served up a raft of humor for the audience at the show.

## Photos by Jim Thomas



The legend of Elvis lived on with an hilarious impersonation by Steve Fronske at the event. He disproved the myth that the King now works at a 7-11 store in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Instead, Elvis is alive and well and ruling a jungle paradise. This all-out skit was a fitting finale to the successful show.



Make-up supervisor, Dee-Anne Denholm, applies the finishing touches to variety show cast member Tim Balazs before he steps on to the stage for one of his scenes. The students took over all the theatrical tasks needed — from designing props to producing and directing — to make the show the success that it was.



Cooking, tropical style, was the premise for this comical scene (above) in which nerdy Steve Fronske is the apple of Jenny Pritzker's eye. In the



photo above right, things really start to cook when Steve and friend Tim Balazs find themselves in a "great Jacuzzi."



And what's a tropical island retreat without authentic hula dancers? Students Debbie Chilvers, Tracy Blackwell, Christine Dube, Amy

McNally and Catherine Thorne offered their brand of native dancing — complete with grass skirts — to the delight of the audience.



Todd Tungatt brought the audience into view with his telescope in another comical skit as Jen Hart looks on. The show's vignettes revolved around a

tropical island theme which set the stage for a night of laughs, music and fun.



### Smorgasbord dinner

St. James Presbyterian Church is holding a smorgasbord dinner and talent night this Saturday, April 15, from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. The dinner will be held in the church hall, 100 St. James St. Tickets are \$5.00. Admission is \$2.00 for children under 12 years of age. A special thank you to all who have helped make this event a success.

Len Wideman has carved a spot in southern Ontario.

