

MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS - SYNOPSIS

The Lehigh Valley, PA (Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton) is high school sports crazy, giving short shrift to arts education.

However, State Theatre CEO **SHELLEY BROWN** fights back by creating the **FREDDY AWARDS**, a high school musical theater award ceremony – akin to the Tony Awards – for the 27 high schools in the area. She is aided by Freddy coordinator **VIC KUMMA**. The ceremony provides the theater programs with the recognition they deserve and scholarships too.

Three of the 27 schools involved in the ceremony are **FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL, PARKLAND HIGH SCHOOL** and **EMMAUS HIGH SCHOOL**.

Freedom's production of **BYE BYE BIRDIE** is directed by the caring **JENNIFER WESCOE**. The show stars school soccer hero **JOHN**, the shy **AMANDA**, and **ZACH**, who became a full-time theater devotee after being diagnosed with a childhood illness that prevented him from playing sports.

Parkland and Emmaus are big rivals – only five miles apart on the same road. Coincidentally, both schools have chosen to perform the mega musical **LES MISERABLES** – and on the same weekend.

Parkland theater director **MARK STUTZ** is bent out of shape but believes he has the better production. His choral director **FRANK ANONIA** works the kids hard to be the very best.

Emmaus lacks the resources of Parkland, but they work just as hard. Theater director **JILL KUEBLER** isn't interested in what Parkland is doing and plays down the rivalry, while her cranky choral director **RITA CORTEZ** tells it like it is – even if it hurts the kids' feelings. Emmaus students **ALI & KATIE** are an adolescent Greek chorus - chatting away and dishing dirt – and both very talented.

When the nominations are announced, Freedom and Parkland and Emmaus lead the pack with 16 each! All three win the coveted nomination of **OVERALL BEST MUSICAL**. **JOHN, AMANDA, ZACH, ALI & KATIE** all garner nominations.

Freddy rehearsals begin – even with the announcement that beloved Freddy coordinator **VIC KUMMA** has been diagnosed with cancer.

All the rivalries, hopes, dreams and emotions come to a head during the Freddy Award ceremony – an event televised live to 5 million homes.

MOST VALUABLE PLAYERS - CAST

THE KIDS

JOHN (Freedom High School)

ZACH (Freedom High School)

AMANDA (Freedom High School)

ALI (Emmaus)

KATIE (EMMAUS)

THE TEACHERS

FRANK ANONIA (Parkland)

MARK STUTZ (Parkland)

RITA CORTEZ (EMMAUS)

JILL KUEBLER (EMMAUS)

JENNIFER WESCOE (Freedom)

THE STATE THEATRE

SHELLEY BROWN (CEO)

VIC KUMMA (FREDDY COORDINATOR)