

Anything Goes, CAODS, September 27, 2008
Director and Choreographer – Jeremy Tustin

This was a splendid production full of energy and wit, strong on detail and without inappropriate distractions. A fixed set, the ship's deck with a railed top-deck above on which the band was permanently set, was beautifully lit and capable of transformation to inner cabins or brig with rapid placing of a few large props. The production numbers provided masses of colour and what appeared to be effortless enthusiasm. I have never seen so disciplined a company as in *Anything Goes* (Finale Act 1) or in *Blow Gabriel Blow*. Just when you thought it was coming to an end off it roared again with even more people joining in the choreography. I swear that everyone was dancing except the Lady in the Wheelchair and Cheeky the Dog. CAODS does this well, with what I can only assume is a huge effort by the Director and Dance Captain. The principal line up was strong with superb performances from Crocker and Reno. We take for granted that we can hear the vocals perfectly but a good band and appropriate balance through the sound-desk also played their part. Whitney and Moonface Martin provided comedy aplenty, with accents maintained and timing to perfection. Oakleigh played the silly ass just so and his conversion to gypsy lover was slickly done while keeping tongue firmly in cheek. This production was the complete article and left me wanting more. I was also delighted to see recent former Young Gen performers shining so brightly on stage, proving that where talent is concerned. Anything Goes!

Reviewer – Stewart Adkins