‘HAIRSPRAY’

Continued from D1

Pantages is gigantic and fragile as Edna, and Depp is the perfect counterpart as Willy. All the roles are well cast and performed, but Jennifer Taylor’s Calista brings down the house with her superb vocals on “I Know Where I’ve Been,” and Corey Liggon as Seaweed is a single, demented, autistic triple threat. Two actors nearly steal the show: Joyce Michaelson, a familiar face on local television but new to CS, plays Prunty Pingleton to a regexp 5, but just wait till she shows up as the Lesbian gym coach and the drill sergeant jai gai jai! And Ashley Rae Little, as Penny, milks her nefariously cute role into the best song since Monroe Dennis had Verna Charles.

Skip Epperson’s delightful sets take us immediately into the cartoon 90s world of “The Jetsons” and “The Pink Panther,” with a little “Laughin’ Thru” thrown in. The same scenes on the autos of those era are evident in both sets and costumes. Costuming: Maria Crush has built a huge show, including lots of suits. In “Welcome to the Sixties,” the audience gasped and applauded the costumes as the characters made their entrances.

Julie Scott brought all this together—designers and direction, costuming and choreography. The dancing is dazzling and her directorial skills are evident in her signature production numbers. Mini-stories are happening all over the stage, characters and plot are being developed even as we goggle at the song and dance.

A person would have to see the show several times to catch all that goes on. Which I plan to do.

See ‘HAIRSPRAY’ ON D2

IF YOU GO

‘HAIRSPRAY’ — THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

PRESENTED BY: Cabrillo Stage
DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY: Jane Scott
MUSICAL DIRECTION: Lisa D. Gause
WHEN: Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Sundays 2 p.m., through Aug. 14, Special children’s matinee, Wednesday, Aug. 3, 10 a.m.
WHERE: The Crocker Theatre on the campus of Cabrillo College, Aptos
COST: Adult, $15 to $26; Senior (65+) $10 to $20; Children 5 to 12, $10 to $15
DETAILS: 455-6544 or www.cabrillostage.com
NOTE: There will be another production in the same building, so allow plenty of time for parking.