

Free Press

YOUTH PAGE

Theatre Hour Company



PERFORMERS with the Theatre Hour Company are Patricia Grant, Dominic Hogan, Alan Jordan, (front) John Evans, Gregson Winkfield, and manager Thomas Hooker. The troupe, sponsored by the Ontario Department of Education entertained students in the high school last Friday morning. — (Staff Photo)

Brings live theatre to 195 schools

Many A.D.H.S. students got their first taste of live theatre on Friday morning, when the Theatre Hour Company presented a one-hour program in the school gym.

Formerly associated with the Crest Theatre in Toronto, the troupe is supported by the Ontario Department of Education through the St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts.

The show consisted of excerpts from plays, poems and songs mostly from the school curriculum. The choice of material is much more difficult

this year, since every school has a different set of titles on the English course.

Action took place on a specially designed portable stage on the floor of the gym. This enabled the students to sit around three sides of the stage in a more informal atmosphere.

During 22 weeks, the Company is visiting 195 schools, giving 240 performances before 110,000 students. In a typical week, the group puts on an average of 12 shows.

While much of the cost is footed by the government, each

school pays a nominal fee depending on the number of students enrolled. Schools with over 1,000 pay a maximum of \$100. Acton paid \$25.

Manager Thomas Hooker complains that the financial support is hardly in step with the work hours the group puts in. This season, some 125 school applications have had to be turned down.

"The demand is there," said Mr. Hooker. "There should be more concern for the project. We're hoping the Department of Education will increase the grant to enable the formation of two companies. That's the only way we could get to every school."

Performing with the company this year are Patricia Grant, Gregson Winkfield, Dominic Hogan and Alan Jordan.

Most students appeared to enjoy the show.



A FORMAL MESSAGE

This week's column is directed to the boys of A.D.H.S. who haven't as yet, taken the plunge and invited a girl to the winter carnival formal.

True, from the male point of view, an entire evening in a stiff white shirt dancing at arm's length to avoid crushing the corsage, tends to look like a drag. On the otherhand, formals have been known to work wonders for a budding romance. It's a case of understanding the feminine psychology behind the whole thing and weighing the advantages against the discomforts.

For the girl, a formal is a big deal — a high school highlight. While you fellows generally lose the boutonniere half way through the evening, girls collect corsages like notches on a gun. The larger the pile of withered vegetation inside her yearbook cover, the greater the status.

Most of the fun of formals, as far as the girls are concerned, is deciding what to wear, practicing small steps in front of a mirror, suffering a couple of hours under a hairdryer, and experimenting with the latest in cosmetic magic. Once the grand entrance has been made, and every prima donna has compared herself with everyone else, the rest is downhill.

Naturally, the escort is expected to be so charmed by her beauty, and sophistication, that opening doors, pulling out chairs, or throwing his topcoat over a puddle if necessary, gives him more pleasure than he could ever say. There ARE harder ways to make an impression.

Nearly every father chokes up slightly at the sight of his daughter on her way to that first formal, and he can't help but have a soft spot in his heart for the boy who made it all possible.

At the same time, merely going to the formal could do a lot for your image at home, even if you don't really want to impress the girl or her family. Your mother will remember her high school days with a nostalgic sigh, and no doubt help out with the expenses. Your father will look on the occasion as a sign that you are at last growing up and settling down. Besides, they'll say, it's a great excuse to make him get a haircut.

Certainly asking the girl in the first place takes a bit of courage — it will cost you a bit of money — and playing the gentleman all evening will tax your powers of concentration. Yet, with so many advantages, can you afford not to?

Who knows — perhaps you may even enjoy it.

ACTON HIGH

—Secret sources report that mid term marks are generally low and there will be a lot of people writing those finals in June.

—About 100 people including a dozen adults enjoyed "The Dirty Dozen" in living color last Wednesday night in the school gym.

Debra Bousfield enters Festival

More than 29,000 students from across Ontario will invade Toronto in mid-February for the Kiwanis Music Festival, the world's largest annual music competition.

This year an Acton pianist is entered, Debra Bousfield.



Phase in 'Phuture Phreeze'-next week

Snow or no snow—the carnival will go on. Acton High School's first annual winter carnival will get under way on Wednesday, Feb. 12, whether or not the weatherman is co-operative.

Teacher Harvey Goodman and guidance instructor Brian Skerrett, carnival organizers, emphasize that PHUTURE PHREEZE, as it has been dubbed, is not a SNOW carnival—it's a WINTER carnival. Most of the events can be run with or without the white stuff. Bruce Andrews has volunteered to give the students the extra push, firm but gentle, that is needed to make the carnival a success. Judging by the interest shown so far by staff and students alike, the festivities should be the first of many years of carnival fun.

The project can however, fall on its face if the students and staff at A.D.H.S., as well as the townspeople, do not realize the fun that can be had.

Back the carnival! We urge your attendance, your participation, your interest, your donations for prizes, and your involvement. Arrange your dates now, get your tickets, and see Mr. Andrews if you would like to participate.

A meeting of all student chairmen on the various committees and the members is held daily at 12:15 in room 20. Make the scene if you want to aid in setting up the program.

Events which should be of particular interest to the community as a whole are the torchlight parade, the variety show, and Saturday's outside activities which includes contests of various sorts, a chariot race through local streets, and the Folk Service in the school gymnasium.

To sum up—get that float floating, or that snow sculpture sculpted, or that variety show act practiced.

Come on out and enjoy the fun, before the long haul towards June finals begins. LIVE IT UP AT PHUTURE PHREEZE!



THE PROBLEM WAS where to start with plans for the high school Winter Carnival. Project organizers met with Mr. Skerrett, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Goodman last Thursday to iron out some of the details. Latest reports indicate Phuture Phreeze could be the greatest thing to happen to winter since Christmas. — (Staff Photo)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Wednesday, Feb. 12:
TORCHLIGHT PARADE - 7:30
post-office to high school

The Snow Fun Committee hopes to add to the success of the 'Phuture Phreeze' by contributing a hockey game, on Wednesday, between the school hockey team and a team consisting of teachers and any other interested adults

ICE SCULPTURE

All potential Michaelangelo's and Henry Moore's are required to make ice sculptures for the carnival. Plots are up for grabs. Get your groups NOW.

Thursday, Feb. 13:
BASKETBALL GAME - 3:00

On Thursday, February 13, Acton will host the boys' Basketball teams and cheerleaders of Milton District High School. At the last meeting of the Senior teams Acton was defeated by one point. The much improved teams are looking forward to this rematch.

TOBOGGAN RACE
In Glen Lea Park

COFFEE-HOUSE
SOCK HOP - 7:30

Thursday night is highlighted with a coffee-house dance and the final judging of the beard-growing contest. This is a chance to let your hair down and any type of dress is acceptable. Everyone is welcome with or without escorts.

SNOW QUEEN

Six princesses will be chosen by the students on Feb. 8. Final judging will be on Feb. 12 before the Torch Parade and the queen will be named upon the return of the parade to the school. Prizes will be given to the top six contestants.

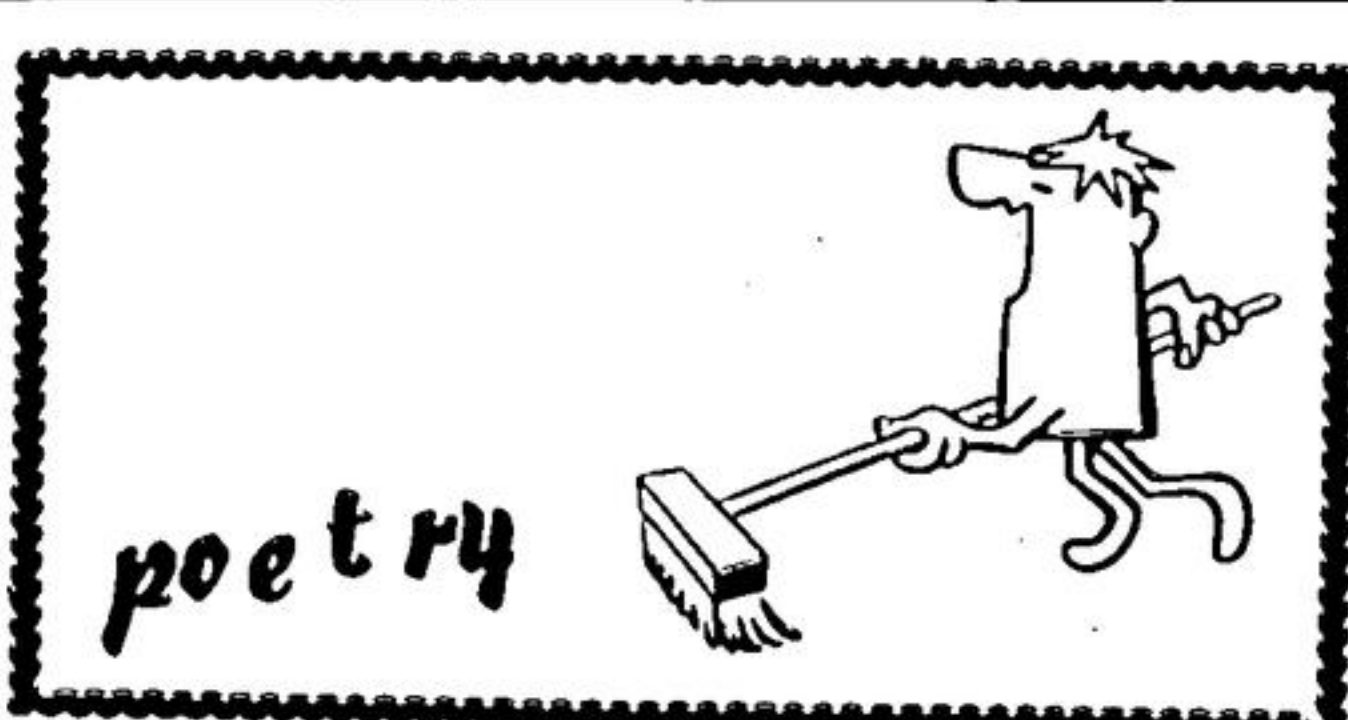
Friday, Feb. 14:
BROOMBALL GAME - 2:00
Staff vs Students
VARIETY SHOW - 8:00

Friday's main event will be the variety show. It features our own mayor with other performances by local talent to suit every age and taste. Admission is 50 cents for students and adults and 25 cents for children in public school.

Saturday, Feb. 15:
CHARIOT RACE - 10:00

To round up the activities, on Saturday horse and sleigh rides will be held all day at a cost of 25 cents per person; a Powder Puff football game; a ski-doo race; a woodchopping contest; a wood-sawing contest; a tug-of-war; and a spike driving contest.

FOLK SERVICE - 2:30
Rev. L. Doby
FORMAL - 8:00



The following is a super test for Latin scholars. If after concentrated effort your vocabulary fails you, check translation below.

Si ville, si ergo;
Fortibus es in ero.
Nobile, deis trux.
Vatis inem? causan dux.

Translation:
See, William, see her?
That in them? cows and ducks.
No, Lilly, they is trucks.
Forty bucks in a row.

Heidi Merritt wins public speaking event

Heidi Merritt received top marks from the panel of judges for her speech entitled "Discoveries in Egypt" at the Wellington County public speaking semi-finals at Rockwood centennial school Tuesday afternoon. She is a student at Eramosa public school.

Other contestants in order of finish were Laura Hull of Erin village school, Ellen Faulkner of Ospringe school and Betty Ann Rossmussen of Puslinch. Laura spoke on "Trees", Ellen on "Martin Luther King" and Betty Ann on "Brothers".

Ross Lambourne and Mrs. Kent Hallman of the Acton district high school staff and Dave Bernon, principal of St.

James Separate school, Guelph, were judges for the contest. Mr. Lambourne, speaking for the judges, said the decision to select a winner was difficult. All four speakers spoke very well with excellent delivery.

Miss Merritt received a trophy and the three runners-up a plaque from Ospringe principal Bruce Macpherson, representing the Wellington No. 2 Teachers' Institute.

Lorne Brown, principal of Erin school acted as master of ceremonies for the event and introduced the Rockwood gym team for a performance while the audience awaited the judges' decision. The contest was postponed twice because of bad weather.

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