

At high school

Sell out crowds for Mad Show

by Jennifer Rowe
The combination of enthusiasm and hard work made the two night Mad Show an overwhelming success on Thursday and Friday evenings, with sell out crowds both nights. The Acton high school drama club put together the musical comedy in less than seven weeks.

Originally the show was planned for last spring, however rehearsal problems caused the show to be cancelled until this year in the new school. With a new cast the drama club began to hold intensive rehearsals for the cast, the Mad gang and the Mad band.

The show began with some well-known Monty Python sketches which were directed by Miss Nancy Clark, a teacher at the high school. Cast for the Monty Python skits were Egan Robinson, Jeff Goebels, Sheila Johnson, Jackie Denny, Simon Thwaites, Bonnie Caplan and Colin Mallet.

After a brief intermission the show continued with the second portion being the Mad Show. The humorous skits were based on Mad magazine with the script coming from Samuel French in New York. The cast in the Mad Show was Lee Robinson, Norman Bourassa, Allison Moore, Jessica

Buscher and Colin McFarlane. The show was directed by Geoff Sansom, theatre arts and English teacher at the high school, and Susan Mellor, a senior student.

The Mad Gang was a chorus line of singers and dancers clad in the most absurd costumes they could find. The Gang added to the skits by adding musical humor to the show. The choreography work was done by Mrs. Eva Sansom who also took part in the Mad Gang.

Included in the gang were Ruth Alexander, Sylvia Bourassa, Nancy Patterson, Karen Rosenquist, Christine Arbic, Patti Gordon, Marie Jordan, Mary McGlashan, Alex Pitt and Lynda Shadbolt. To add to the comic effect were a few staff members dressed in outrageous costumes and dancing right along with the gang. Dave Jones, Ian McGillivray, Brian Skerrett and Bill Taylor spent many hours rehearsing along with students to do their part in the show.

The Mad Band under the direction of Dave Sale set the show off by contributing to the musical side of things. In the band were Janice Ellerby, Cheryl Springle, Jennifer Buscher, Dave

Pendergast, Eunice Gibb, Michael Donal, Karon Patton, Simon Rainford, Gene Braida, Jim Saxon, Maureen Rouse, Jeff Carr, Peter Zions, Frank Pappilon, Geoff Saxon and Lynn MacNaughton.

The musical arrangements for the Mad Show were prepared last year by some interested music students. Many of the students have graduated and so the band had to start from scratch with this year's rehearsals for the show.

In any production many people who have contributed to the show get lost in the crowd. Some of the most important people in the show were never seen by the audience, they were the people "behind the scenes" who are vital to the success of a show such as this.

Make-up for the actors was done by Laurie Pierce, Donna Robinson and Wendy Stephens. Properties were handled by Miss Aileen Spencer, Paula Gardin and Tom Burke. The set was built by Rick Van Fleet.

House management, publicity was organized and carried out by Harold Mahatoo, Joyce Parker, Laurie Pierce, Lynn Christie, Susan Mellor, Sue Dickson, Anne McDonald, Deb Thornhill, Anne McCord, George Pearn, Joanne Hachee and Angie Reid. The curtain was run by Paul Brunelle.

The artwork and posters were done by Larry Kurtz, Don Leese and the Acton High school Art department.

The new facilities at the high school have made it possible for better special effects such as lighting and sound. The lighting was done by Greg Kitching. Sound for the two nights was done by Bill Pearn and the slide projectionist was Phil Brown.

Mr. Sansom is hoping that the drama club will select a new play before Christmas to perform in the spring. This show grossed approximately \$700, with expenses running about \$250. The club is very pleased with the profits from the show.

After many long nights of rehearsals it's all over, but the memories of those teachers who cared enough to spare the time will always remain in the minds of those students who took part in the great production at Acton High.



TEACHER IAN McGillivray serenades Christine Arbic in what was almost a serious skit at the Mad Show.



DAVE HANNAH took time out from the Mad Band to sing for the Mad Show Thursday and Friday evenings at the high school. Those in the front rows of the auditorium noticed his bare toes also did a show of their own.



MEMBERS OF THE Mad Show gang, Jessica Buscher, Norman Bourassa, Colin McFarlane and Allison Moore do a skit on morning television.



ECCH SONG was sung by Colin McFarlane, Lee Robinson and Norman Bourassa at the high school Mad Show.



NORMAN BOURASSA captured the audience with his facial expressions.



TEACHER Eva Sansom did a good job as Gladys Ormsby in the high school Mad Show. Lynda Shadbolt, background, had green hair for the evening.



TEACHERS AND STUDENTS alike wore the most outrageous apparel they could find for the high school Mad Show. Teacher Eva Sansom, left, kept the sell-out crowds in stitches with her Gladys Ormsby act.

kg means kilogram

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