



Bill Taylor was Vince Fontayne in the high school production of "Grease".



Richard Gardin played the character of Kenickie in the high school production of "Grease". Kenickie was one of the more macho characters in the production.



Josie DeVirgilio (Sandy) sings out her sadness as she wants her boy friend "Danny" to come back to her. Miss DeVirgilio was an excellent choice for the lead part in the production as her clear, strong voice will make the most of the musical scores in the production.

'Grease' good and great

by Mark Holmes

Playing to a full house each night, the Acton High School production of "Grease" proved to be an entertainment success that unfortunately has closed after only three performances.

It was obvious that the entire cast and crew of the high school production took on their jobs with a sense of pride and dedication that resulted in a professional looking and sounding show.

The leads, Chris Lobsinger, as Danny, and Josie DeVirgilio as Sandy gave good solid performances. The pair did appear to become tense in some of the scenes allowing their stage presence to falter, but on the whole both Lobsinger and DeVirgilio were a credit to their directors.

One of the big surprises in the show was the minor part of Eugene, played by Rick Sato, who came up with some major laughs. Sato's constant hamming on stage had the audience sidesplitting almost every time he appeared.

The characters of Frenchy, played by Cathy McKenzie, Kenickie, performed by Richard Gardin and Sonny, played by Steve DiPersio, were performed with ease and flair. All three came across as being very believable in their roles and they displayed a lot of energy on stage.

Another surprise plus for the show was Chris Rosenquist as Roger. Despite having a few troubles carrying some of the music, Rosenquist was outstanding with his timing as a straightman and he performed with confidence in every scene.

One of the most difficult characters to portray in the show was Betty Rizzo. Jacinta Porter took on the job which was made difficult by the fact that the character of Rizzo was one of the few that had to remain serious throughout the entire program. Porter played the part with conviction and her bold, clean vocals were a highlight of the performance.

Other major performances in the play included Tracey Parker as Doody, and Stacey Hillier as Patty Simcox.

Parker's dancing was smooth and graceful and while he sang quite well during his solo effort, his voice, which was weak at times, left the audience straining to hear what was being said or sung.

Hillier also had troubles getting some punch behind her voice, but in both cases they did a commendable job.

Lisa Keith as Cha Cha DiGregorio didn't have many lines in the production, but her dancing was worth a thousand words. Brassy and bouncy was Keith's style and she pulled off a fine performance.

Kim Heaps as Marty and Carolyn Gibson as Jan proved themselves to be competent actresses and singers as they also provided stable, well executed performances.

Bill Taylor as Vince Fontayne, Joan Cox as Miss Lynch and Karel Sury as Johnny Casino performed well in their parts which required a lot of energy to pull off.

The play was the story of two high school sweethearts and their friends in the era of Brylcreem and bobbysocks. A vintage 1960 automobile called Greased Lightning gave an authentic flavor to the production and the costuming was generally very good.

Directors Suzi Beber and Jan Pennick made excellent choices when they cast the characters.

"Grease" was at one time a Broadway play and the basis for two popular movies and through good directing by Beber and Pennick the show was again a success.

Even the nostalgia of the early 60s wasn't lost with scenes of burger palaces and gang fights.

Overall the production was superbly entertaining with the outstanding musical scores by the "Grease" band sending the audiences home with their toes tapping.



Tracey Parker belts out a song at the high school production of "Grease" showing last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

This week 'Grease' grabs the limelight thru the lens



Eugene (Rick Sato) inspired a lot of laughing in "Grease".



Johnny Casino (Karel Sury) was a high rolling rock and roller in "Grease".



Roger (Chris Rosenquist) and Jan (Carolyn Gibson) have a bit of a falling out in "Grease".

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