

**NORMALLY DONE BY TEACHERS**

**Veteran student actors produce play**

By **GEORGE EVASHUK**  
Herald staff writer

The roles of director and producer normally filled by high school teachers is being filled for the first time by Georgetown and district high school students in the school's upcoming production of *How To Succeed in Business With-*

out Really Trying. Suzanne DeGroat, 18, a Grade 13 student will direct the musical comedy and Paul McGrath, also 18 and in Grade 13 will produce.

Suzanne told The Herald she is trying to direct the show to be "energetic and exciting." Her hands, gestured, "Big,"

she added, "like a spectacle, almost."

Although the director's position is a new one for her, she has about four years of acting experience at Georgetown Little Theatre, Aquarius Theatre in Hamilton and Theatre Ontario in Toronto.

Usually there are about six months from time the play is announced to the opening four night curtain but in this case there are only two months, she said. Consequently, she has the cast of 30 rehearsing Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday in the high school's cafeteria where the play will open for a three night run Dec. 1.

Besides the cast, there will be about 20 students in the band, directed by teacher Ralph Ursel and the backstage crew.

With such a heavy extra-curricular load, how does she manage the regular school work?

"It keeps me busy," she said. She has talked to her teachers about it and neither they nor she are worried, she added. "I'll be all right."

For Paul McGrath, being a producer is the first time he has taken a backstage role. He made his first appearance on stage in 1972 with little parts in high school productions and has been a member of Georgetown Little Theatre for four years. "Theatre is my first hobby," he said.

The producer is in charge of everything but the acting, Paul said. He looks after the tickets, makes sure the bills are paid, that the sets are constructed and in general organizes all

the groups to get the show done.

The fact that *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* is a popular show, "is a good point going for us," Paul said. "I just hope it's a success as the name suggests it should be."

The leads in the cast are

Peter Clark as J. Pierpont Finch; Sandy Smith as Rosemary, the female lead; Eddie Thatcher as J.B. Bigley, the boss; Bruce Clark as Bud Frum, the boss's nephew; Julia Miles as Smitty, a wisecracking female and Melissa Bell as Heddy LaRue, Bigley's girl friend.



PAUL McGRATH



SUZANNE DeGROAT

**Flooding investigated on Shelley, Raylawn**

Regional officials are investigating flooding in Halton which forced 22 staff to work overtime during one of the heaviest rain storms in 50 years.

Public works committee learned last week that almost three inches of rain fell during a nine-hour period Sept. 24.

The bulk of the flooding calls (95) came from Burlington with 43 from Oakville, nine from Milton and six from Georgetown. No flood reports were received from Acton.

Most of the flooding in the Georgetown area is reported in the Shelley Street and

Raylawn Crescent areas, engineer Bob Moore reports. An investigation has been launched to determine why the flooding occurred.

"It should be noted," he adds in a report to committee, "that the Weber Drive relief sewer which was recently installed seems to have performed satisfactorily since no calls were received from Weber Drive which was formerly a troubled area."

Extensive maintenance in the Mill Street area of Georgetown appears to have alleviated another flooding problem, he added. No report of trouble was received from this area, he said.

The rainstorm which started at about 1:30 p.m. continued to about 10:30 p.m. and at its peak rain fell with an intensity of .96 inches per hour.

"I would like to point out that because of the extremely large number of calls received, it was impossible for region staff to respond as fast as we would like," Mr. Moore said.

There was also some difficulty reported in residents calling the regional emergency telephone number, he said.

"All regional after hours calls are answered by our operators at the Burlington water plant which is manned 24-hours-a-day. We also pick up all after hours PUC hydro calls at this location."

"The possibility of having more lines going into our plant with extra personnel called in to answer them is being investigated."

Possibly the worst flooding in the region was experienced in the Leighton Avenue area of Burlington where "persons unknown removed four covers

of our manholes and drained approximately 10 acres of low-lying land into the sanitary sewer."

"Needless to say, the sanitary sewer was not designed to handle such flow and it surcharged backing up into a number of basements," Mr. Moore says.

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**Region transit survey concludes**

Halton regional planners will be tabulating the results of a region-wide survey that is designed to find a consensus on the value and availability of public transit and the demand for expanded services.

Chief transportation planner Ho Wong reported Thursday that approximately 2,500 of the 10,000 questionnaires mailed to homes throughout Halton in mid-August have been completed and returned.

The 25 per cent return rate also applies to the forms sent to Halton Hills homes, he added, resulting in 270 questionnaires being answered by North Halton residents, who are assumed to be the most concerned segment of Halton's population on the subject of public transit.

The planners have been waiting until the end of this month to begin tabulating the public responses to the 13 questions included in the survey forms.

Mr. Wong predicted that this report on the survey's findings will be presented to the regional planning committee in early November.

The committee is in turn, expected to make recommendations regarding public transit to council.

The circulated questionnaires attempted to assess Halton's current and future needs for public transit by assembling statistics on the number of cars owned by each household, the distance residents must travel to get to work and the type of transportation they most frequently employ to get there.

Other questions asked for the respondents reactions to rising fuel prices, the number of trips made each week in the region and the availability of public transit in his own area.

Residents were asked to give their annual income so that planners can ensure their questions had reached a fair cross-section of the public.

A separate space on the forms invited additional comments, and Mr. Wong estimated that the bulk of the responses from Halton Hills included remarks underlining the need for public transit in the area.

"I can't say now," he said, "There seems to be a lot of problems related to the lack of transit in Halton Hills."



Bob Gougeon

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