



Local song and dance team Marg Eggleton and Joe DeGuidice were in the cast of Guys and Dolls, the Bramalea Musical Society's production which Herald writer Mark Clairmont reviews below.

## Guys and Dolls extravaganza

By MARK CLAIRMONT  
Herald Staff Writer

The Brampton Musical Society (BMS) proved once again that there is strength in numbers. Holding true to its policy of presenting major musical extravaganzas, the neighboring society for the performing arts, under the direction of Rod Maxwell, opened a seven-day run of Damon Runyon's Guys and Dolls Thursday night to a near-capacity, standing-ovation crowd.

The second weekend run begins tonight (Wednesday) and goes to Saturday at the Bramalea City Centre's Lester B. Pearson Memorial Theatre.

In recent years, the BMS has treated local audiences to the theatrical likes of My Fair Lady, Hello Dolly, South Pacific, Oklahoma and, this past fall, Superman.

The current production has the company of 40 singers and dancers wrapping themselves around the tale of two gamblers and their loves as they affect the plot of a gang of frustrated dice rollers in search of a place to hold their rotating crap game.

The popular theatre stage play, copyrighted in 1951, has become a favorite of similar societies throughout North America. A motion picture adaptation of it, starring Frank Sinatra, Marlon Brando and Jean Simmons, was also made a few years ago and became a late night specialty on some channels for a while.

Set somewhere in the American mid-thirties along a lower side of town West 4th street, appropriately but simply staged with bright flashing neon lights jumping out from the black back-drop advertising the Bijou Theatre, the Hot Box Cafe and the

centre set Salvation Army Mission hostel-hall, the fun and merriment takes place.

Much of the production involves short scenes with some vaudevillian type routines rolled in with a bit of slapstick humour. These brief interludes serve as cast breaks and set changes between the play's real attraction, the lively chorus numbers.

As much as the leading characters, who handle the pace changes, put forth some strong individual performances during certain instances to make their solo parts worthy of notice, some poor song and monologue voice projection make them drag a bit and only tend to enhance the role of the 29 people who back them up throughout.

Musical director Ian Cuthbertson leads the pit orchestra through some rousing joyous toe tapping music that brings choreographer Margaret Eggleton's chorus crew to life with some awakening audience-inspiring song and dance routines. Colorfully adorned in striking flamingo pinks and sparkling yellows, the ladies of the night chorus look somewhat out of character for the time period the rest of the play is depicting. They look more like disco queens than depression street queens.

However, this does not detract from their and their male counterpart's exciting en masse displays of enthusiasm as seen in strip scene and San Juan ensemble. This is the show at its best.

Overall, the BMS presentation of Guys and Dolls is a hardworked (as are all of their offerings) generally entertaining piece of live theatre, suitable to a spring evening's outing.

## Police display, talks join Industry '80

Displays by the Halton regional police force and seminars hosted by the Federal Business Development Bank have been added to the roster of activities planned for industry '80.

The exhibition of local industrial and commercial wares and production techniques opens May 15 at Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena in Georgetown, Ontario. Labor minister Robert Elgie will formally snip the ribbon to open the show, which is being organized by the Rotary Clubs of Georgetown, Acton and Milton.

The Rotary itself will display a model of the proposed library-theatre complex which is at the centre of its current fund-raising drive. "Art badges", part of the campaign, go on sale at the show.



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### Scout's paper drive

The 1st Norval Cubs and Scouts will be holding a paper drive Saturday in Norval and Terra Cotta. This paper drive will be conducted by the cubs and scouts' fathers, since the boys will be busy with the "Trees for Canada" project, planting trees to raise money for Scout projects.

### Gone fishin'

The "fishing holes" at Terra Cotta, Belfountain, Monora and Orangeville Reservoir conservation areas open this Saturday at 8 a.m. The Credit Valley Conservation Authority expressed hope this week that the fishermen, who need pay no gate charge to enter the areas, adhere to a courtesy limit of three trout each because of the limited number of fish in the ponds.

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