Raising their arms in the "grand finale" of "Anne of Green Gables" at a recent dress rehearsal, these GDHS students are ready for the show's opening tomorrow night (Thursday). The

classic has required two months of hard work, but most agree [

Students ready Green Gables [for gala three-night run

By CHRIS AAGAARD Herald Staff Writer

The story of the orphan girl who made Prince Edward Island famous and Lucy Maude Montgomery a household name in hundreds of countries throughout the world opens tomorrow night (Thursday) for a three-night run at Georgetown and District High

And parents will no doubt be impressed by the results of two months of energy and free time the school's amateur thespians have devoted to this Harron (Charlie Farquharson) production of Montgomery's "Anne of Green Gables", directed by the school's music director, Ralph Ursel.

Not counting the band, about

GDHS presents

'ANNE OF GREEN GABLES' Thursday, Friday, Saturday

8 p.m.GDHS cafetorium

tomorrow's premiere performance, the gala musical event of the school year. Actors and stage crew have been working since mid-September, gathering props and clothing and sewing together costumes to outfit the cast in turn-of-thecentury garb.

The three theatre arts students who captured the lead roles in September's auditions -- Brenda Archer (Anne),

Bill Marchant (Matthew) -agreed that, despite lengthy working hours, sacrificed social life and an obvious threats to marks, they wouldn't have missed this musical for the world. In fact, the crew and cast have worked so intensely together for the past two months that they have

"The best part of the year is



Much of the credit for the smooth operation of the Georgetown and District High School production of "Anne of Green Gables" which opens tomorrow (Thursday) goes to the backstage crew, part of which is pictured above. Front row (left to right) Joanne Keen, propmaster; Sharon Langdon, make-up; Karen Ivany, make-up; Bruce Hulme, assistant propmaster; and Patty Welsh, stage manager. Play producers Greg Cazabon and Barb Treviranus stand to the rear.

Aussie brings play charm

Adding a distinctly international flavor to what is otherwise a wholly Canadian play, 18-year old Australian Rotary exchange student Jenny Inglis can really belt out a song in the GDHS production of "Anne of Green

In her role as Miss Stacey, the refreshingly different school marm who takes over from poker-faced Mr. Phillips after he marries one of his students, Jenny brings an impressive amount of musical talent from her native Ningan, New South

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Back home, she participated in numerous interscholastic singing competitions and while attending Ningan High School, played in a light, country folk music ensemble. She has also led singing groups during church services in Ningan and is a talented guitar and piano

As an "ambassador for Australia" under the exchange program sponsored by Rotary International. Jenny has been in Georgetown since January, spending some of her free time

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talking to school groups, scouting organizations, church socials and the University Women's club about her homeland

But come January, the visit to Canada, which has taken her to Niagara Falls, Ottawa and the Haliburton Highlands, will come to an end as she boards a plane bound for Australia. Sometime early next year Jenny will start classes at Armidale University (Australia), studying child psychology to, hopefully, one day practice in a third world country.

said in a Herald interview with members of the cast Friday. "The worst part is when the play is over."

Already an accomplished actress in her tenth grade. Brenda had performed with Nornic Studio, Georgetown Little Theatre (GLT) and a number of smaller church and school groups, before sinking her teeth into the lead part as the precocious, sharp-as-atack Anne adopted by siblings Marilla and Matthew.

But Anne has her work cut out for her as she gradually overcomes Marilla's reluctance to exhibit any great deal of affection for her.

Becky Reid's rich backbecome kind of a surrogate ground in the local theatre scene-she has acted since she was in kindergarten 13 years ago-indicates a promising career for her in drama once she graduates from high school next year.

> WARMHEART In this, her fifth musical, Becky conceded that while she plays a slurp-tongued shrew, deep down, Marilla hides a large, warm heart and a lot of

"Marilla is a proper Godfearing lady," Becky explained. "She's firm and takes no nonsense from anybody. But as the play goes on, she grows funder of Anne while trying not to let her emotions show." To fit into the character, she

said, she had had to "calm" her own personality down a bit and then do what all actresses and actors do: act as the character would act, think like he character would think. 'Despite Matthew's age and

failing health, coupled with the fact that he is not a romantic heavy in the musical, the character is full of spirit; look forward to a convincing performance from Bill. Also with a long list of

amateur acting credits to his name, including GLT's upcoming "Hans, The Witch and The Gohbin", Bill puts a lot of effort into this quiet lead. But don't be fooled by Matthew, the introvert: he can still belt out a whale of a song.

The actors are also quick to give plenty of praise to their musical accompanists, the high school band, which they say has never played better. The band has had the operous chore of wading through piles of sheet music, attending early morning practices for the play and then several late afternoon

joint rehearsals as well. The play runs Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. Tickets will be available at the door at a general admission price of \$3, or \$2 for students and senior citizens and \$7 for a family package.

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Arts Council column --page A 19

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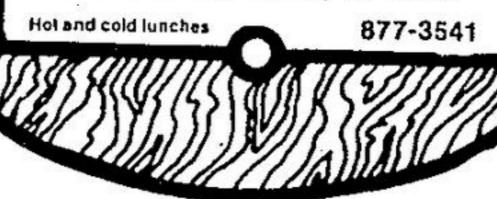
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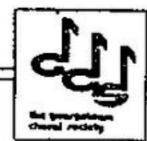
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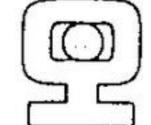


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