



BETWEEN FRIENDS - Acton High School gave three performances of Preppies May 7-9. Acton was the first high school to perform the play which was directed by Suzi Heber and Jan Penick. The cast and crew began rehearsing Preppies in February. Here, Angelica Liver-

more Atwater - Muffy to her friends (played by Patricia Reynolds) chats with her sweetheart Parker Richardson Endicott IV, known as Cotty (Hick Sato) during a pose gathering in a high class New England home. (Herald Photo)

Preppies Cotty gets the girl and the money

By BRIAN MacLEOD
After more than three months of rehearsals, Acton High School students strutted on the stage May 7 for three performances of Preppies.

Acton is the first high school to perform Preppies, which was co-authored by New York writers David Taylor and Carlos Davis in the early 1980's.

Preppies is a musical which chronicles the roller coaster life of a servant couple's son whose identity is changed to that of a previously unknown son of a New England aristocrat with the intent of inheriting the dying rich man's money. Parker Richardson Endicott III (played by Keith Black) finds he has little time left to live and rather than see his substantial trust go to his scheming obnoxious cousin (Bolsworth Norvil Bogswater II), better known as Boggy (Kevin Quinn), he searches for someone who will take the Endicott name and inherit the trust when he reaches 21 years old.

The servants, Joe and Marie Fantry (Paul Tamblin and Marie Zions) reluctantly surrender their son to the Endicott name while they remain his servants.

When Boggy learns of the new Endicott, nicknamed Cotty (Rick Sato), he vows to thwart him every step of the way.

The two compete for the affections of young Angelica Livermore Atwater (Patricia Reynolds) known to her friends as Muffy.

But when Cotty learns he is not an Endicott, he drops out of sight, choosing instead to work in a pizza parlour.

Muffy, who had taken to the shy, unassuming Cotty, then agrees to marry Boggy who's snobbish mien has lured her into marrying into the right blood.

The set used in Preppies is not an extensive showpiece but rather it's a simple backdrop used effectively to keep audience concentration on the characters, rather than the backdrop.

The only significant props in the play are a sofa, used mainly to allow the elder Endicott to pass away of an ailing heart, a table and chair setting to set the mood of a pizza parlour and a few wrapped wedding presents.

While the show had 17 musical pieces the People Like Us refrain sang several times by the entire cast seemed to be the catchiest number of the performance.

The mood-setting Summertime, is an effective scene changing tool while Cotty's solo also kept up nicely with the pace of Preppies.

Preppies' token attempt to bring the audience more into play comes

when Boggy dances and sings his way up and down the centre aisle. The move does serve its purpose but perhaps a follow-up number by Muffy or Cotty would have helped to bring the audience even closer to the three main characters.

The band music in Preppies is kept for the most part to the background with a piano and guitar at the back of the stage setting the pace for most of the songs.

The pace of Preppies is fast enough to keep the audience interested but not so fast so as to confuse those caught up in the plot.

Rick Sato easily picks up on the quirks of his character Cotty and is believable as the son of servants trying to find out why he doesn't fit in with the rich life as naturally as the others.

Kevin Quinn as Boggy is an appropriate choice as the antagonist for the shorter Cotty. Quinn's devilish smile and his upper-class-sounding style is used well opposite Cotty.

The only significant attempt at broad humour in Preppies comes when Cotty changes on the set while he sings. As the trousers are peeled off, a pair of white boxer shorts nicely decorated with red hearts definitely caught viewers by surprise.

As the climax approaches, it becomes apparent that Muffy and Cotty will meet once again and the attention is turned to who will get the trust and how to wrap up a happy ending. Boggy's frustrated tantrum served adequately to allow the audience to believe he's been brought back to earth because of successive defeats at the hands of Cotty, who wins the girl, the money and even beats out Boggy for a spot on the school soccer team.



Our wonderful world of television 'Stay Tuned' in Norval, May 22, 23, 29 & 30

Television entertainment, in its many forms, keeps the average person occupied for many hours per week. There are the old war movies, variety shows, westerns and even the new rock videos which keep us glued to the TV. In a salute to this wonderful world of entertainment, Georgetown Globe Productions presents Stay Tuned. The show will be staged May 22, 23, 29 and 30 at the Elks Hall in Norval. For the price of \$12.50 per person you get an evening of entertainment followed by a light buffet. The bar opens at 7 p.m. and drinks will be available throughout the evening.

How does one individual costume the 21 people in Stay Tuned, a show which spans such a wide variety of topics? That's the problem that has faced Hazel Gorin, the costume designer for Stay Tuned. Hazel has quite a bit of experience designing and sewing costumes for Globe and other productions she has been involved with. Her favorite saying seems to be "glitz and glitter" and that's what she has in store for the show. Some of the musical numbers in Stay Tuned require full costume changes and Hazel has arranged for everything from choir gowns to cowboy hats.

In addition to Hazel, there are a number of people "behind the scenes" who are helping to make Stay Tuned a reality. The following people have donated their talents to the show: Marilyn Mickelthwait (Musical Director), Michael Dimperton (Artistic Director), Mary Glover (Producer), David Glover (Stage Manager), Maureen Walker (Script Assistant), Gerry Andrew (Asst. Producer-Food), Dave Hill (Set Design), George Smart (Master Carpenter), Barb Dunleavy (House Manager), Lee Hewitt (Set Painting), Margo McVittie (Properties), Steve Rees (Sound), Irene Bata

(Make-up), Jan Stewart (Asst. Producer), Linda King (Choreographer), Rose Carnduff (Choreographer), Hazel Gorin (Costumes), Joan Herrier (Ticket Manager), Keith Mills (Bar Manager), Diane Mel-Minke-up), Naomi McNeil (Publicity).

Orchestra members include: Warren Mickelthwait (Bass Guitar), Dean John-Bevens (Piano) and David Atkinson (Drums).

Cast members involved in Stay Tuned are: Jean Bennett, Phil Brennan, Rose Carnduff, David Cyr, Vic Dunleavy, Colin Eastment, Joy Eastment, Bob Gelaznikas, Hazel Gorin, Joan Herrier, Jan Hillier.

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The Milton Players presents "Riders to the Sea" by J.M. Synge and "Frosted Ice" by S. Clark directed by Penny Carlos May 21 at the Muddy Duck Restaurant, Steeles Ave. The dinner/theatre/dance begins at 8 p.m. (bar opens at 7 p.m.). Tickets are \$16 each and are available at The Milton Book Exchange. Riders to the Sea is the Players' entry in The Oakville One Act Festival at the end of May.

True to life

Come see the true-to-life paintings of Rick Manners on display at the Mountsberg Wildlife Centre Saturday, Sunday and Monday, May 16 to 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rick will be there to talk about his methods each day from 1 to 3 p.m. and will add to a painting in progress.

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