

recreation & entertainment

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN HALTON

Friday Night Fever

By BERNADETTE WARD

Meadowvale Theatre patrons may be enjoying their very own Friday night fever given the number of sick children in the audience at the Milton Youth Theatre Production's (MYTP) rendition of *Friday Knight Fever* on February 17.

Produced by Kim Belvedere and directed by Christine Houle it was an entertaining piece of theatre marred mostly by the number of hacking and coughing young patrons, obviously on hand to witness the budding thespian talents of family and friends.

Putting their best food forward, the MYTP did their best to bring off the amusing and eclectic concoction based on the book by Rachel Davidson with lyrics and music by Bill Francoeur.

Friday Knight Fever is a tribute to everything 70's right down to flashbacks in the form of the Brady Bunch with characters named Bobby, Peter, Greg, Marsha, Jan and Cindy and props of magic 8 balls, roller skates (the kind with four wheels), psychedelic clothing and some seriously wild hair.

A multi-layered plot with jewel thieves, chess players, a beleaguered roller rink owner and budding love, the play makes a

light-hearted attempt to paint the 70's as the decade that saw feminism blossom and disco reign.

An almost believable premise, unless of course, you were actually there. Some say the decade was a little more about sex and drugs and rock and roll than perhaps most tail end boomers would care to remember.

Katie Preisner as Eileen, provided the cast with a strong vocal presence and David Burchett's performance as Danny, the misguided and angry loser was quite believable.

Natalie Paterson and Sarah Stockall as the female undercover cops disguised as construction workers gave a smooth and solid performance with the added bit of reality and comic relief at the end of the play, when some long hair got caught in the workings of a hard hat.

The cast did a reasonable recreation of some of John Travolta's more memorable *Saturday Night Fever* moves in their dance numbers, the only thing missing was strobe lights bouncing off a disco ball.

Actually, a couple of other things were missing as well. Let's see, no Cheech and Chong, Aerosmith, Queen, Styx, Van Halen, Bob Segar, Fleetwood Mac...



PHOTO BY BERNADETTE WARD
Members of Milton Youth Theatre Productions took a moment out of their rehearsal time to pose for a quick picture a few days before the opening night of *Friday Knight Fever* performed at the Meadowvale Theatre in Mississauga on February 17, 18 and 19. From left to right are Evan Parant as Greg, Meghan Greaves as Carrie, Meghan Sinclair as Doris and Connor Lander as Buzz.



PHOTO BY BERNADETTE WARD
Members of Milton Youth Theatre Productions took a breather just before curtain time on opening night of their presentation of *Friday Knight Fever* at the Meadowvale Theatre in Mississauga on February 17. The production company performed for three nights with three different casts. From left to right are Emily Alexander, Narrator 1, Mitchell Carson playing Bobby, Evan Parant as Greg, Erin Vaillancourt as Checkmate Michelle, Meghan Sinclair as Doris, Meghan Greaves playing Carrie and Katie Callaghan as Stacy.

Big Band Sound coming to Milton

By JENNIFER ENRIGHT

The Big Band era produced memorable music including classics by such musical greats as Glenn Miller, Jimmy and Tommy Dorsey, and Benny Goodman.

Knowing the popularity of music from this era, Milton Concert Presentations (MCP) is once again hosting a concert for the Toronto All-Star Big-Band. The band, comprised of young musicians between the ages of 16 and 21, has made a name for itself playing music from the 1930s and 1940s. The 22-piece orchestra has performed for audiences in Canada and the United States.

The concert takes place at St. Paul's United Church, 123 Main St. East, at 8 p.m. For more information or tickets, call 905-878-4732.

To find out more about MCP, visit its website at www.artsmilton.ca.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Toronto All-Star Big Band will be performing on Friday, March 4 at St. Paul's United Church in Milton.

ONE VOICE MARCH

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