

# Bell, Book and Candle leaves crowd just a little bewitched

Poor Shep Henderson. The stuffy, New York publisher was all set to announce his upcoming nuptials when he accidentally stumbled upon a witch.

Actually she had been there for a while, living below him as the superintendent of their building but not above casting the odd spell to keep things interesting.

Harmless enough stuff, until the hapless hero of the John van Druten play *Bell, Book and Candle*, playing February 9 to 12, steps in to use her telephone.

Then whammo! He ends up bewitched, bothered and bewildered in the apartment of the enchanting Gillian Holroyd.

Played by Sandy Bennett, Gillian is a sultry sorceress with the kind of good-natured charm typical of those with a less than firm grasp on the moral side of life.

But her heart is in a deep freeze, since witches don't fall in love. If they do, they lose their powers.

As for Shep, one lousy phone call and he finds himself hopelessly late for his own engagement. Cute as a bug as a plot device, but we feel compelled to insert a public service announcement here.

Men, don't try this at home. Your loved ones, no matter how open minded, will not accept the excuse that a witch made you do it.

But in the Milton Players production it's eminently believable



## Spotlight

with IRENE GENTLE

that New York is chock-a-block with witchy types who are as mischievous as the average 10 year old.

Portrayed by Players' veteran Gary Metcalfe, Shep is all gooey and love struck until he learns he has literally been under a spell. Then it's all apoplectic outrage as he searches for a way to rid himself of the charm.

Meanwhile, Gillian is shocked to discover that his unscheduled rejection stings.

If she were a regular gal she'd react by eating a lot of ice cream. But since she's a witch she does something equally destructive. She (cover your eyes, witches) gets a job.

Of course, she doesn't have much of a choice. Having lost her magic she's as powerless as a newborn and New York is expensive. You can't make a living just being a former witch. The play is rounded out by a colourful cast of characters, including the inebriated

author of magic books, portrayed as a disheveled Indiana Jones by Players newcomer Brian Walton.

Margaret Brady is flakier than chipped paint as the adorably dotty aunt who careers between wide-eyed innocence and wicked glee.

Finally there's the perpetually broke younger bother, Nicky, played by David McPhail.

This shiftless kid never saw a lie he didn't like and is disgusted when Gillian begins showing all the signs of that human frailty called love.

In fact, it's little brother who makes sure the jig is up for big sis, leaving her not only love sick, but alone. So does love turn out to be the most powerful magic of all? We're not telling.

Either way, as directed by Paulette Tae, *Bell Book and Candle* is a pleasant play that tugs gently at the heartstrings in lieu of tearing them right out.

And it leaves the audience feeling just a little bewitched when it's all over.

The play will run as a dinner theatre February 11 and 12, and as a show only February 9 and 10.

All shows take place at the Milton Seniors' Activity Centre, 500 Childs Dr.

Tickets can be purchased at Delacourts on Main Street.

For more information, call 875-0629.

Don't forget to check out our Lifestyles section in this Friday's Champion. The section is published on alternate Friday's with Arts and Entertainment.



(From L to R) Don Lindars - President - Optimists Club of Oakville, Phylis Ann Way-Lieutenant Governor - Zone Optimists, Scott Schlotzhauer - President - Optimists Club of Milton, Joy Thompson - Halton High Five Coordinating Committee, Floyd Nelson - President - Optimists Club of Georgetown.

### Creating Quality Play Experiences for Children.... It's More Than Kidstuff!

With over 300 community sport and recreation groups in Ontario, did you ever wonder who was making sure that our children were receiving a consistent and quality play experience?

Until recently NO ONE!

Recognizing the important role that organizations and groups play in providing activities to over 1.2 million children across the province, Parks And Recreation Ontario established **HIGH FIVE** - a quality assurance program for community sport and recreation programs. The **HIGH FIVE: Quality at Play** initiative provides easy to use resources for community sport and recreation groups to create and maintain quality play experiences for children.

### Halton takes the lead on HIGH FIVE!

At a time when this initiative is gaining international recognition, the local communities of Halton Hills, Milton, Oakville, and Burlington have taken a lead role in bringing HIGH FIVE to Halton. Having experienced the success of HIGH FIVE training and resources with their own programs, the Halton HIGH FIVE Coordinating Committee (representatives from all four municipalities and the Region of Halton) is encouraging community sport and recreation groups to jump on board.

### Local Sponsorship provides HIGH FIVE resources to all Community Sport & Recreation Groups in Halton!

Committed to the principles of "healthy youth development" the Optimists Clubs of Georgetown, Milton and Oakville, as well as Metroland, have contributed \$14,000 to ensure that the HIGH FIVE resources will be provided FREE to volunteer sport & recreation groups throughout Halton. Community meetings have been planned in each municipality (below) to inform groups about the HIGH FIVE project and distribute these resources.

### CHOOSING THE BEST PROGRAM FOR YOUR CHILD...

#### A Parents Guide to Recreation and Sport,

is another resource of the HIGH FIVE initiative. The booklet provides parents with information on the various social, physical and developmental benefits of recreation, and discusses the principles of healthy child development. Soon, parents will know that programs using HIGH FIVE resources are those that provide a consistent quality play experience for their children.

### Community Meeting Times & Locations

#### Halton Hills

Wednesday, February 16, 2000  
7:30 - 9:30 PM  
Halton Hills Library  
& Cultural Centre  
9 Church Street  
Halton Hills (Georgetown), Ont.  
Hot Line: 873-2601 ext. 2275

#### Oakville

Saturday, February 19, 2000  
1:30 - 3:30 PM  
Sir John Colbourne  
Recreation Centre for Seniors  
1565 Old Lakeshore Road  
Oakville, Ontario  
Hot Line: 845-6601 ext. 3153

#### Milton

Wednesday, February 23, 2000  
7:30 - 9:30 PM  
Milton Leisure Centre  
1700 Main Street East  
Milton, Ont.  
Hot Line: 878-7211 ext. 188

#### Burlington

Thursday, February 24, 2000  
7:30 - 9:30 PM  
Appleby Ice Centre  
1201 Appleby Line  
Burlington, Ont.  
Hot Line: 332-1996 ext. 222

## ROLE MODELS FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

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POWER WINDOWS/ DOOR LOCKS	Standard	Optional	Optional
HORSEPOWER	155-HP	133-HP	150-HP
AM/FM/CD	Standard	Optional	Optional
REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY	Standard	Optional	Optional
15" WHEELS	Standard	Smaller	
P205 TIRES	Standard	P195	P195
WOODTONE INTERIOR TRIM	Standard	N/A	N/A
8 WAY ADJUSTABLE DRIVER SEAT	Standard	N/A	N/A
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