



JUDGE NIY, played by Rory Wendelin, talked with Molly Loveless (above), played by Danica May, during practice of the melodrama "Deadwood Dick". Wild Bill, played by Jeremy Tally (below), and Calamity Jane (Tricia Dorshorst) discussed the plight of a missing girl.



Melodrama to come to life at high school

Memorizing lines, building stages sets and finding costumes are only part of the work students at Decatur Community High School do to get ready for a production.

With only a few days left until the spring play, the students and director Leigh Davis are making sure everything is ready for opening Fri-

day night.

Since the end of January, 30 high schoolers have been getting ready for the opening of "Deadwood Dick."

Ms. Davis said the melodrama, written by Tom Taggart, is set in the 1880s or 1890s. It's about a villain who abducts a pretty lady and the

hero who is trying to rescue her.

It's a funny play, she said, and a lot of fun because the audience gets to participate with lots of boos and hisses.

Ms. Davis said she lets the drama club pick the production and "Deadwood Dick" is the one they decided on. She said she gave the students several plays to choose from. They decided on this one, partly because the school hasn't put on a melodrama in a while.

The show will start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday at the high school. General admission, school age and up, is \$4. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Students involved in the play include: Kellen Doeden, Jeremy Tally, Jenny Hirsch, Jenny Ploussard, Jonathan Smith, Rory Wendelin, Tricia Dorshorst, Karyn Jordan, Kim Wessel, Jay Wessel, Gabe Moore, Danica May, Destry Jackson, Sarah Marcuson, Jessica Bremer, Alyssa Montgomery, Jared Marcus, Jordan Tally, Chris Larson, Ethan Merrill, Rebecca Helm, Nikki Wessel, Katrina Wentz, Annamarie Larue, Makenzie Nelson, Jacinta Carter, Heather Ploussard, Heather Glodt, Emma Merrill, Aaron Helm and Haley Barrett.



BLACK 'N' RED, played by Jonathan Smith (above), put Pong Ping (Kim Wessel) on the floor. Teetotal Tessie (Destry Jackson, far left) and Scarlett (Alyssa Montgomery, left) both get to sing during the production.

