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Frantic 'Bingo' proves to be a winner.

By **BOB ROSE**

Special to The Post-Star

REVIEW

GLENS FALLS ♦ Comedic chaos set to wild music is a good way to describe the Adirondack Theatre Festival's "Bingo." It brings together in rural Hamerin County a group of ruthless women dead set on winning even at the cost of loyalty, friendship, and good

will. After all, those are only words when stacked up against BINGO.

As the show opens, a fierce and dangerous storm is striking the community. The power is going out,

the noise is deafening, bolts of lightning are streaking in all directions. Travel is not recommended. Four bingo fanatics arrive as usual at Minnie's bingo hall to play bingo. Obviously, bingo is their life.

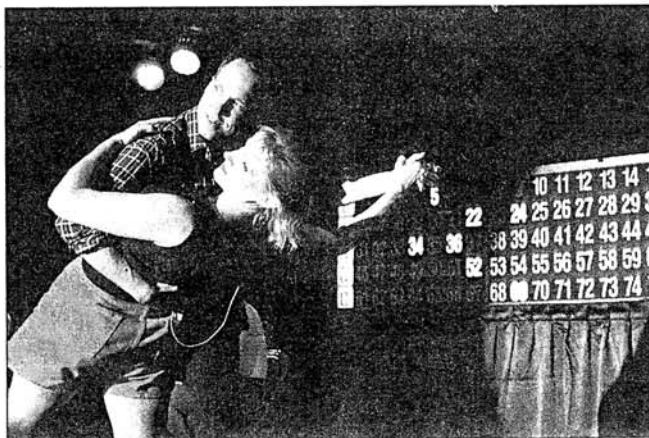
The audience is enticed to play a few games perhaps as a ploy to help them understand the ladies' obsession. Minnie and the four players, plus Sam, the caller, and a mystery guest named Alison all take turns singing their hearts out with nearly outrageous gusto. They relive past experiences and pour out their hopes, their dreams and what is left of their souls.

Backed by a terrific backstage

trio of musical director David Truskinoff on piano/keyboard, Gregory Verheyen on bass and Christopher Reed Jr. on drums, these gals and Sam soon have the whole place bouncing to the beat and laughing at the lyrics.

This is no show for the faint-hearted. Hidden within all this frantic and most exciting activity is the semblance of a love story, a tale of friendship restored, but all that comes along gradually. Meanwhile we laugh uproariously at all the rivalries, jealousies and threats of violence among these far-from-gen-

Please see ROUSING, Page D4



ERIN R. COKER—THE POST-STAR

Stacia Fernandez and Kilty Reidy rehearse Tuesday for Adirondack Theatre Festival's production of 'Bingo' at Church of the Messiah Parish Hall.

Rousing display of talent is on show in ATF's 'Bingo'

♦ ROUSING

Continued from Page D1

teel lady bingo fanatics.

I've seldom seen a group more in need of therapy in my life — and I'm not referring to physical therapy. They are truly a sketch to watch, to hear, and to warm up to faster than the lightning that is threatening the hall.

Lisa Asher, Stacia Fernandez, Lori Fischer, Jan Leigh Herndon, Liz McCartney and

Beth Malone make a perfect cast for this kind of frantic show. Kilty Reidy, as Sam, fits right in. He knows his place and stays safely there.

Director Glenn Casale has done an outstanding job of bringing us a rousing display of talent in this exuberant production written by Michael Heitzman, Ilene Reid, and David Holcenberg. Whether you like bingo or not, you'll find yourself with a winner when you watch "Bingo" come to life.