

Looking at TV through new eyes

ONE hundred pages of lines, six characters, a technical crew and video cameras, Mount Isa Theatrical Societies' "tech week" is never easy.

Tomorrow is the opening night for MITS' latest production and director Derek Freeman said it's been an explosive six weeks in the making.

But the final week before opening night was always "testy".

"It is when we do the final run through with all lights and sounds. The cast is no longer learning the script and they'll be in full costumes and makeup.

"If there's ever going to be any arguments then tech week is the week for them," Mr Freeman said.

Nth Degree Reality is a change from their last production, Cruisin Calypso, and the small cast in comparison had rehearsed three times a week to get the concept just right.

"It's been slow going because its a full on script," Mr Freeman said of the locally written tale by Yvonne Mes, comparable in parts to reality television.

"Yvonne's given us a very different, well thought out, well written script.

"The whole TV is a new element to this play, which means a tech crew and toys to play with.

“ It explores the relationship between people and cameras and how people react to each other; how they hide things. ”

"The play uses the TV to get the message across, the whole idea that when people think they're on camera, it always changes the way they act.

"Cameras definitely do make people bring out different parts of their personalities," he said.

That's not to say it's all doom, gloom and black and white close ups.

"It's got quirky, comic elements. It explores the relationship between people and cameras and how people react to each other; how they hide things.

"I've definitely enjoyed it," Mr Freeman said.

Nth Degree Reality written by Yvonne Mes opens tomorrow night at the MITS Theatre Restaurant from 7pm. The \$30 entry includes two course meal, tickets are available at Natural Health Barn in K-Mart Plaza.



PREPARATION: MITS members Stephanie Dawson and Tyne James get into character for Nth Degree Reality.



TECH-WEEK: Nth Degree Reality cast members in rehearsals before opening night tomorrow.