



Abbi Rajasekhar will sign copies of her new CD, "Anywhere," Saturday from 1-3 p.m. at Olivet Book and Gift in downtown Alpena.

Teen cuts CD of original songs

By **DIANE SPEER**
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Music is an important part of Abbi Rajasekhar's life. A senior at Alpena High School, she has participated in school bands and choirs for many years, including currently as a member of the AHS Jazz Band. She has taken nine years of piano lessons, appeared in numerous live theater musicals and currently leads the music worship team at her church. Now, she also can add recording artist to her list of musical accomplishments.

Rajasekhar recently released a 12-track CD of original songs for which she both composed the music and wrote the lyrics.

On the CD, entitled "Anywhere," she plays acoustic and bass guitar as well as sings.

"I want to be a musician for the rest of my life," Rajasekhar said of her future intentions. "I finally had enough songs to do a CD and my parents were willing to help me out."

The recording was done locally by Spyder Byte Studios on Long Lake Road and produced by Crossway Productions. A total of 1,000 copies of the CD were cut. Her favorite song on the CD is "Time Flies."

"It's definitely the prettiest," she said. "It's beautiful the way the studio has arranged it for me."

Rajasekhar will sign copies of her "Anywhere" CD at a special signing event Saturday, Dec. 6 from 1-3 p.m. at Olivet Book and Gift in downtown Alpena. The CD sells for \$11.88 and is available at Olivet and at the Campus Closet at AHS. Rajasekhar also hopes it soon will be available at FYE in the Alpena Mall.

One of the most enjoyable parts of the recording experi-

ence has been the day her CD was released.

"My friends all really liked it," she said. "Most of them came out and bought it the first day. Some even skipped school so they could buy it at Olivet as soon as it came out."

Besides music, faith also is an important part of Rajasekhar's life and although she doesn't consider her CD a Christian one, she does credit God with her musical accomplishments.

"God is a big part of my life," she said. "This isn't necessarily a Christian CD, but He's definitely given me all the gifts I've needed to make this CD."

Rajasekhar has enough credits to graduate from AHS after this semester. She will spend the second semester of her senior year as a foreign exchange student in Australia. She still isn't sure where she will attend college next fall, but has narrowed the choices to Columbia College in Chicago and Berklee College of Music in Boston, where she plans to study music.