

# 'Barefoot in the Park' laugh-filled

By BARBARA MICHALS

Laughter abounds in the Troy Players production of "Barefoot in the Park," a light-hearted look at a young couple looking to adjust to the trials and tribulations of married life. Further performances of the witty Neil Simon comedy are scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at Baker Junior High School in Troy.

## Review

Corie, the bubbly young bride with a zest for living, thinks it's fun to do offbeat things like walking barefoot in the park—in February. Paul, her conservative-minded husband, finds such zany activities distasteful. By the end of the play, each learns that marriage requires compromises and some serious working at.

As Corie, Melissa Toler is energetic and appealing. Ron Turek is convincing and sympathetic as Paul, the straight-laced young lawyer accused of being a stuffed shirt by his new bride. Both

principals work very hard in their roles.

AMONG THE MANY problems confronting the young couple are a six-foot climb to their cold and drafty apartment, an undersized bedroom fitted with an undersized bed, and a slightly lecherous, very eccentric neighbor.

To keep her lonely mother from meddling too much in her new marriage, Corie tries to arrange a match between her mother and the neighbor, Victor Velasco. Mother's lifestyle is as stiff as the bedboard she sleeps on, while Victor is strictly a free spirit. Like Paul, Corie's mother eventually learns to unbend, and, like Corie, Victor learns to act his age.

Elaine Boike does a particularly fine job as Corie's mother. Her facial expressions underscore her lines for maximum effect and heighten the comedy considerably.

As Victor, Bob Olesinsky is a bit wooden at first, but he eventually warms up in the role and becomes quite believable by the third act.

In minor roles, Don Hubbard as a telephone repairman and Earle Chalfont as a deliveryman get maximum mileage on the laughs as they recover

from their six-foot climb to the couple's apartment.

BOTH HUBBARD'S Brooklyn accent and Olesinsky's European accent are handled a bit clumsily and might better have been dropped.

The make-up on the male players is

also clumsy—far more noticeable than it should be.

Director David Hubbard and assistant director Jennifer Rakovick keep the comedy moving at a smooth pace. Neil Simon's clever repartee and some talented performances add up to an entertaining evening.

## Dance classes set

Dance has arrived at Will-O-Way Apprentice Theatre.

Beginning Saturday, a series of classes in basic ballroom dancing will be offered, under the instruction of Will-O-Way's head choreographer, Dolores Bolling. Miss Bolling has trained at the Christopher Flynn School of Dance in Rochester and has also studied ballroom dance at the Arthur Murray School in Colorado Springs.

While Charter Dancer with the Christopher Ballet, Miss Bolling performed in the "Nutcracker Suite," "Hansel and Gretel" and "Peter and the Wolf," among others. She has also appeared in lecture demonstrations throughout Michigan.

As new head choreographer at Will-O-Way, Miss Bolling has contributed

eight original dances to Will-O-Way's current production of "Oklahoma!"

Some of Miss Bolling's expertise as a dance instructor can be witnessed as the cast of "Oklahoma!" waltz around the stage to the song "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning." Most of the actors had little or no dance experience prior to working under Miss Bolling in "Oklahoma!"

Classes in the first part of the series will run for five weeks and will be held at the Will-O-Way Apprentice Theatre, 775 W. Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Township, every Saturday from 4:30 p.m., beginning May 21. Tuition is charged plus a registration fee for new Will-O-Way students. For further information, call 644-4418.

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1 Robert Shaw  
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**FAIRLANE**  
Last Fri. at 10:15 PM  
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Marlon Brando, Al Pacino

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Continuous Performance Wed. Matinee

**MAPLE 1 • 2 • 3**  
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1 Starts Friday  
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2 David Niven, Peter Sellers  
"MURDER BY DEATH" (PG)

3 Robert Altman's  
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Starring Academy Award Nominee  
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559-3366  
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1 Bruce Dern Robert Shaw  
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—Best Picture—  
—The Champ—  
"ROCKY" (PG)  
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553-2210  
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Continuous Matinee  
Sat. & Sun. 1:00-5:00

**TERRACE 1 & 2**  
937-1717  
2000 Plymouth Rd. N. W. Jackson  
GA 7-1200

1 Last Day!  
George C. Scott  
"ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" (PG)  
Starts Friday May 20th  
"THE GREATEST" (PG)

2 LAST WEEK!  
Paul Newman  
"SLAP SHOT" (R)  
Starts Wed. May 25th  
"DAY OF THE ANIMALS" (PG)

**TOWNE 1 & 2**  
968-8700  
Continued Fri. at 10:15 PM, at Lincoln Center

1 Woody Allen Diane Keaton  
"ANNIE HALL" (PG)

2 George C. Scott David Hemmings  
Claire Bloom  
"ISLANDS IN THE STREAM" (PG)

Starts Friday  
Mohammed Ali  
"THE GREATEST" (PG)

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