

Players elicit Shavian humor

By GAY ZIEGER

The production of George Bernard Shaw's "Candida" by the Oakland University Theatre Arts Program players is effective, with actors equal to the task of conveying the typically Shavian crisp, clean humor.

The play concerns a woman in her mid-30s who, while devoted to her formal minister-husband, finds the attention of a young poet rather attractive. The two men in Candida's life represent political and emotional extremes. Merrill, the husband, played admirably by Brian Murphy, is the embodiment of muscular socialism. Murphy, through his stances and beautifully timed facial spasms, conveys this, yet also shows the clinks in the armor of this man of sensibility, confidence and reason.

The shame that the minister felt when driven to anger and jealousy is portrayed sensitively by Murphy.

MARCHBANKS, on the other hand, is a picture of effete aestheticism. Richard Klessig's interpretation of the role may have been a bit timid at first.

Review

but he rallied. He plays the romantic to the hilt, staring dreamily, caressing words, and showing proper indignation at the idea that Woman the Ideal should be driven to peeling lowly onions and polishing dirty boots.

Klessig has a true Shakespearean quality. The two suitors engage in verbal, and threaten physical, combat. This is largely because of their love for Candida but also because of their totally different views. When Merrill sees as "idle, selfish and useless," in Marchbank's life, the latter perceives as "beautiful, free and happy." Both, at times, are noble; both, at times, foolish.

Candida, the focal point of this threesome, has a surprise for her suitors. Melanie Neal plays her with such strength, however, that no one is shocked.

Ms. Neal's tonal quality is perfect, as is her bearing. When she lightly tripped on the rug, she bent down and smoothed it, as one would do normally, thus preventing the audience from riveting its focus on crumpled carpet and the embarrassment of the moment.

Candida's father is played with bluster by Nahum Z. Medalia. The part is difficult because the old opportunist speaks in that English dialect which necessitates the exaggerated use of the letter "h." In the early scenes, some of the dialogue could not be understood. Nevertheless, the essence of the character was there.

LORI PHILLO, as the devoted secretary, is beautifully jealous and indignant. Her precise use of the language is pleasing.

Andrew Krause, as another of the minister's devotees, is nicely gentle and thoroughly enthralled with his idol.

There are a few minor flaws in the production. Predictable and theatrical stances and hand motions are disconcerting. Once or twice, a character anticipated a line and grimaced accordingly.

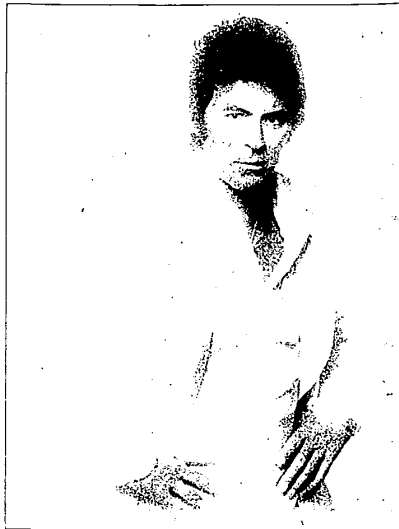
At times the dialogue is too English to be understood, even for one with an ear attuned to Monty Python. But these imperfections do not detract from the total performance to any great degree.

The play is fun. Subsequent performances will be held Thursday-Sunday at the Studio Theatre, Vassar Hall, on the Oakland University campus in Rochester.

Film shows Switzerland

The majestic Swiss Alps and tours of Lucerne and Geneva are among the highlights of the World Adventure Series color movie "Mark Twain's Switzerland" at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

The movie follows the same route through Switzerland as American author Mark Twain did in 1878. There's a complete tour of Lucerne including its Chapel Bridge and famous "Lion of Lucerne" monument dedicated to the Swiss guards. Mark Twain's villa is still on the shore of Lake Lucerne.



Multi-talented

James Darren—dramatic actor, singer and nightclub performer in both music and comedy—will appear again in Db's Club at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn starting Monday. Showtimes are at 8 and 10:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 and 11:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday through March 4. First a singer, Darren then became a Hollywood star appearing in three "Gig" films and "The Gene Krupa Story." Next he packed his bags for the nightclub circuit, playing the Sahara and Sands Hotel in Las Vegas among others.

One-liners keep Avon show moving

By CINDY HOGASIAN

"Not Now, Darling," the Avon Players' current production, is a slightly bawdy, very entertaining comedy. The two-act play is fast paced and one-liners abound. In a little under two hours, two marriages are broken up and two weddings are planned.

The play is worth seeing, although you should leave the little ones at home.

Principal players Tom Cole and Skip McCully portray Gilbert Bodley and Arnold Crouch, part-owners of an exclusive furrier, who are involved in various love triangles. McCully is very effective as the meek, bumbling Crouch. His performance is best in the second act, when Crouch gets a grip on himself, becoming the pivotal character.

Cole, new to Avon Players, portrays the adulterous Bodley with a dignified air.

Although over-dramatic when carrying on chats with the audience, Cole

arouses sympathy for the entrapped Bodley, whose amorous nature gets him in plenty of trouble. One of his troubles is Janie McMichael, Bodley's seductive, greedy, would-be mistress.

Ann Prokop plays Janie McMichael. She performs magnificently, delivering some of the play's best lines, and adding a great deal to the action.

JAN HUNT plays Miss Tidpole, the object of Crouch's affections and the furrier's receptionist. She is a quiet, conservative character who, like Crouch, matures in the second act.

Dorothy Kothelher and Joe Moore break up the audience with their walk-on parts as Mr. and Mrs. Frenchman.

Other performers of note are Jack Prokop as husband Harry McMichael, and Carol Tietz as Sue Lawson. Mrs. Maude Bodley is played by Jan Lawson.

Director Joyce Contrucci can be proud of her crew's adaptation of the Ray Cooney-John Chapman play.

The play is set in the fourth floor salon, which surprisingly tends itself to many sight-gags. The set, designed by Kurt Stuenkel, is simple, but conveys the feeling of luxury. The salon is well designed with plenty of space for movement and ample opportunity for entrances and exits.

The costumes are effective, with one important exception. The much-

sought-after mink coat has an elegant surface appearance, but the painted lining really detracts from its desirability, particularly since the lining is often a focal point.

"Not Now, Darling" will be performed at 8:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday at the Avon Players Playhouse, 1185 Washington. Tickets may be ordered by calling 651-9229.

Evening program will benefit Harp Seal

The Earthforce Environmental Society, in cooperation with Artwear Shirt Printing of Birmingham and the Punch and Judy Theater, will present "An Evening for the Harp Seal" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday.

The evening will consist of viewing the film "Say Good-Bye," an address by a director of the society, Satori's jazz sounds and the artistry of Jonathan Haglund.

Marilyn Turner will serve as host for the performance.

The slaughter of infant Harp seals has come, in the last decade, to be of great concern to people of environmental consciousness," a spokesperson said. "Few issues have gener-

ated the attention this annual hunt commands.

"The Earthforce Environmental Society directors and members strongly hold that the killing of these beautiful animals is senseless. Further, we feel that the actions taken by

the participating governments are harsh and repressive to the environmental movement."

Tickets to the event are available at Hudson's, Artwear, 222 E. Maple; and the Punch and Judy box office in Grosse Pointe.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ON THE TOWN

ALL CINEMAS—EVERY DAY TIL 2:30 P.M.—\$1.50

SOMERSET INN
643-5444
M.M.L. RD. (BIG BEAVER) OF COULIDGE
1:30-3:30 3:30-5:30 5:30-7:30

PONTIAC MALL
682-5544
N.T.L. RD. (BIG BEAVER) OF COULIDGE
1:30-3:30 3:30-5:30 5:30-7:30

GENERAL CINEMA THEATRES

IF YOU WANT IT SOLD
DIAL

522-0900 644-1070
WAYNE COUNTY OAKLAND COUNTY

The Roman Terrace

Open Mon. thru Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2:30 a.m.
27822 ORCHARD LAKE RD. 851-4094
At 12 Mile, Just Off U.S. 69E

PRIVATE CATERING AND BANQUET FACILITIES
• BUSINESSMEN'S LUNCHEONS • DINNERS
• ENJOY THE PIANO STYLINGS:
TOM ALLENBURY, TUES.-SAT. CHARLES BOLES, MON.-FRI. 4:30-7:30
Now featuring GOURMET TABLESIDE COOKING
MON.-FRI. NIGHT BY RESERVATION ONLY

Bodega...enjoyable dining

Bodega
25425 Van Dyke Centerline
14433 Telegraph Rd., Redford Township

Larry Paskow's
HARBOR ISLAND SPA
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33141

Reserve Early For
March & April

Main Building Rates from
\$44.

INCLUDES ALL MEALS • FREE DAILY MASSAGE • FREE
TENNIS (DAY OR NITE) • FREE GOLF TO PARENTS (2
TIMES) • \$15 WEEKLY NITELY DANCING & ENTERTAIN-
MENT • MILLION DOLLAR HEALTH SPAS • EVERY RESORT
FACILITY

CALL TOLL FREE 1-800-327-7510

THE PENINSULA CLUB

in St. Clair, Michigan

Summer Boat Wells—Cable T.V., water, electricity
and telephone at each slip.

Recreation and Family Activities Available

- Racquetball Courts
- Tennis Courts
- Jogging Track
- Horse Shoes
- Playground
- Bar-B-Que Areas
- Showers and Dressing Rooms
- Ship's Store
- Family Fun and Parties

Call for further information:

The Peninsula Club
700 Marine Drive
St. Clair, Mich. 48079

Kingsley Inn

HOTEL

Would like the pleasure of hosting your next banquet or party. Call us today. Our experienced staff, headed by Mr. Frank and Mr. Rino, will personally oversee all arrangements and details.

Woodward and Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills

644-1400 564-5144

Pearl's Garden

Serving the finest in
Chinese & American Cuisine

- Luncheons • Dinners • Carry Out Orders
- Chinatown Style Welcomed
- Open 7 days a week
- Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Sat. 12-11 p.m.; Sun. 12-10 p.m.

469 S. Woodward, Birmingham
644-2913

Presenting Our New Dinner Menu
For Your Intimate Dining Pleasure!

Beef Oscar
Sautéed Veal Cutlet with Asparagus,
Cranberry and Hollandaise
Served with
Horseradish Cream

Roast Prime Ribs
Of Beef, Au Jus

Entrees

All Steaks are Char-Broiled

SIRLOIN STRIP STEAK
Choice Sirloin, Onion Ring Garnish

STEAK AU POIVRE
Choice Sirloin, spiced with Crushed Peppercorns
Dejon Mustard, and Imported Cognac Sauce Flambe

FILET MIGNON
Choice Filet served with Broiled Tomato and Onion Ring
Garnish

TOURNEDOS ROSSINI
Twain Filet Mignon on rounds of Pate topped with Madeira Wine
Sauce

STEAK & LOBSTER
Drawn Butter and Lemon Garnish.

STEAK & SHRIMP
Cocktail Sauce and Lemon Garnish

STEAK & SCALLOPS
Cocktail Sauce and Lemon Garnish

BROILED LAKE SUPERIOR WHITEFISH
Tartar Sauce and Lemon Garnish

BROILED FLOUNDER
Tartar Sauce and Lemon Garnish

STUFFED FLOUNDER
Filled with Rich Crabmeat Stuffing and Lemon Garnish

SEAFOOD PLATTER
Broiled Scallops, Jumbo Shrimp and Lobster Tail,
Drawn Butter and Lemon Garnish

BROILED LOBSTER TAILS
Twin Cold Water Lobster Tails, Drawn Butter, Lemon Garnish,
fried daily

Dinner includes Merrick's Soup and Salad Bar and
tempting Specialties of the House passed at your Table.

Dinner Hrs.: Tues. thru Sat. 5:30 p.m. Lunch: Mon. thru Fri. 11:30 to 3 p.m.

FOR RESERVATIONS AND EASY TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS CALL 353-8144

a delightful dining experience
in the Mercantile Building
American Center, Southfield

MERRICK'S