



Cynthia Cole and Bruce Cook portray an engaged couple who stumble into hilarity in "Black Comedy." (Photos by Randy Borst)

Area residents appearing in Theatre IV comedy

Three Birmingham-Bloomfield residents will join Pontiac Theatre IV in staging an evening of music and comedy at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10-11 and 17-18 at Pontiac Central High School.

They are Bruce Cook of Bloomfield Township, Cynthia Cole of Bloomfield Hills and Nina Gilbert of Birmingham. All three are appearing in the play "Black Comedy," which will be played by actors and actresses of Pontiac Theatre IV on the second half of the bill.

Pontiac Theatre IV and its musical group, 2nd Company, are presenting the entertainment. 2nd Company will start off the evening with a musical variety show.

A seven-member group of professional and semi-professional entertainers, 2nd Company has traveled throughout Oakland County performing selections of Broadway show-stoppers for business, educational and cultural groups.

The medley they will present is a choreographed show featuring tunes from such shows as "Pippin," "Shenandoah," "Chicago" and "Chorus Line."

AFTER INTERMISSION Pontiac Theatre IV will take the stage with "Black Comedy," which opens with the stage in total darkness. Yet the

Theater

actors onstage can "see" everything—until they blow a fuse.

Then the lights come on and it's the audience's turn to see all while the characters stumble around in the "dark" trying to straighten out their mismanaged affairs.

It seems that a young English sculptor (Bruce Cook) and his flighty fiancée (Cynthia Cole) have, in an effort to impress her father, borrowed fine antique furniture from a neighbor, an interior decorator.

The fun begins when they must move the furniture secretly back into the neighbor's apartment before he discovers that his treasures have been "borrowed."

Also on hand stumbling around in the "dark" is a prim and proper woman (Nina Gilbert), who changes when she is accidentally given gin instead of lemonade.

For ticket information, reservations or group rates, call 334-6439. Pontiac Central is located at 300 W. Huron.



Nina Gilbert plays a character who lets her hair down.

Stoppard play due at Studio

"Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead" by Tom Stoppard will open Friday Nov. 24, at 8:30 p.m., in Wayne State University's Studio Theatre, downstairs at the Hilberry.

The play will run at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25, and the following week, Wednesday-Saturday, Nov. 29-Dec. 2, with a Sunday performance Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. For this play, Stoppard has taken two of Shakespeare's minor characters—Hamlet's school friends Rosencrantz and Guildenstern—and has elevated them to the center of action, while Hamlet, Ophelia, Claudius and Polonius take the secondary roles. The London Observer's Ronald Dryden called this play "the most brilliant dramatic debut of the sixties."

"Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead" was produced at Wayne State University at the Hilberry Theatre in the summer of 1971 and was held over by popular demand for the 1971-72 season.

Tickets and information for "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead" are available from the Wayne State University Theatre box office at Cass and Hancock, Detroit 48202. Call 377-2972 for telephone reservations.

County sponsors ballroom dances

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission is sponsoring a series of ballroom dances at the Waterford-Oaks Activities Center, 2800 Watkins Lake Road, Pontiac.

The dances will take place 8-11 p.m. Fridays on Nov. 10 and 24 and Dec. 9. There is an admission charge. For more information call Tom Jackson at 858-0913.



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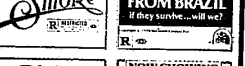


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