

St. Dunstan's captures play's heart

By BARBARA MICHAELS

Continued from the previous page. The current production by St. Dunstan's Guild of Ambrosius is effective and touching. Under the direction of Florence Neal Brown, the pacing is perfect and a fair amount of humor shows through to enliven the number story. Set designer Stan Wheeler's dior is an archetype of seediness.

The drama is set in a bleak small town diner in Kansas Grace (Bink Karskalla) owner of the diner, is a cynical woman hardened by a ruinous husband and the harsh realities of small town life. Elma (Jane Lynn Killy) the teen-age waitress is naive and idealistic, yearning for broader horizons than her hometown offers.

McKerskalla is a perfect Grace, concealing her tenderness behind a cynical exterior. Ms. Killy is highly effective as young Elma, a role that can easily become maudlin if not handled delicately.

INTO THE TWO women's lives drift two passengers who are stranded at the diner overnight by a blizzard. Dr. Lyman (Fred Buchalt Buchalter), a three-married former professor, has turned to drink and molesting young girls.

Cherie (Pamela Tucker), a floozy nightclub singer, has been abducted by rascous cowboy Bo Decker (Bruce McClelland) and his pal Virgil (Pat Cavanaugh). Bo is determined to marry Cherie despite her repeated objections. Buchalter seems miscast as Dr. Lyman, he appears neither old enough nor world-weary enough. Buchalter never really looks comfortable in the



Bruce McClelland is Bo.



Pamela Tucker is Cherie.

role, reminding the viewer that he is watching an actor, not a lonely old man.

McClelland is appropriately bounteous and touchingly naive as Bo, and Ms. Tucker does a nice job of capturing Cherie's underlying vulnerability.

A David Kahn is very believable as Will Masters, the local sheriff, who along with Virgil, serves as the norm of good sense. Representing the old-fashioned, "square values," Masters, too,

seems a lonely figure left out in the cold.

IN SMALLER roles, Cavanaugh is a credible Virgil and Ralph Todd a likable Carl.

Virgil and the local sheriff both try to persuade Bo to use a more subtle approach with Cherie, but Bo is skeptical of anything but brute force. "Ya gotta take a chance, Bo," Virgil admonishes.

Impelled by loneliness, many are willing to take a chance. Grace risks being hurt again when she opens her heart and her bed to Carl, the bus driver who passes through three times a week.

Flattered by the attentions of Dr. Lyman, Elma is willing to take a chance on meeting him in Topeka for a day on the town. Even when she learns of his unsavory reputation, Elma con-

tinues to romanticize the lonely old man as a tragic, misunderstood figure.

Theater

The isolated loneliness of his Montana ranch has made Bo desperate to return with a wife. Finally even Cherie is willing to take a chance and accept Bo after she realizes that her notion of love may be an unobtainable ideal.

Only Virgil has learned to comfortably accept his loneliness as a permanent state. His closing line runs something to the effect that "some folks are meant to be left out in the cold."

"Bus Stop" concludes its run with performances at 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday.



Tevya's child

Claudia Sills is Tevy, one of the daughters, in "Tevya and His Daughters" by Sholem Aleichem, continuing Saturday, April 7, at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday, April 8, at 8 p.m., in the Aaron DeRoy Studio Theater at the Main Building of the Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield. The Sunday performance is preceded by an optional kosher dinner. For ticket information about the Center Stage production, call the Jewish Community Center at 661-1000, ext. 250.

Hostels show sailing film

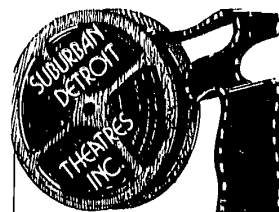
The American Youth Hostels will show a 90-minute film, a John Hiddle Production on sailing, at 8:30 p.m. Friday, April 6, at Detroit's Ford Auditorium. The film features the 1978 Bermuda

Yacht Race, the Hurricane Island, Maine Outward Bound School and the International Catamaran Challenge Trophy Race. Tickets will be sold at the door.

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Sally Field
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"NORMA RAE" (PG)
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Lannan
Patrick
McWarren
Tim
Veronica
"THE FRENCH DETECTIVE"
(PG)
(In French - English Subtitles)
"PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK"
Starts Fri.: Robert Altman presents
"THE PERFECT COUPLE" (PG)
"YOUR TURN, MY TURN"
In French-English Subtitles
Fri. Sneak Preview 8:45

Sally
Field
Heaven
Bridges
"NORMA RAE" (PG)

"THE BRINK'S JOB" (PG)
Matinees Wed., Sat., & Sun

"THE PROMISE"

"FAST BREAK" (PG)
Starts Fri.:
"THE PROMISE" (PG)

"EVERY WHICH WAY BUT LOOSE" (PG)

"BUCK ROGERS" (PG)
Wed., Sat., Sun. Matinees

Christopher Plummer
James Mason
"MURDER BY DECREE"
(PG)
Mat. Wed. 1 show 1 p.m.

Starts Friday, March 30
Marilyn
Harris
Julie
Jackson
"THE BELL JAR" (R)
Mat. Wed. 1 show 1 p.m.

Richard Pryor
Starts Fri.:
Academy Award Nominee
"HEAVEN CAN WAIT" (PG)
Nominated for 6 Academy Awards
"MIDNIGHT EXPRESS"
(R)

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MAPLE 1-2-3
First Show at 10:00
653-3000

NORTHLAND 1 & 2
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553-3300

OLD ORCHARD 1-2-3
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553-2210

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