

Seasoned actor gives strong show



Still in diapers

Diapered Bruce Baum brings back his characterization of Bahyman when the "Make Me Laugh" comedy star appears Thursday-Saturday at the Comedy Castle at Friday's in the Pine Lake Mall, West Bloomfield. Show times are 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. Thursday-Friday and 8 and 10 p.m. and midnight Saturday. Baum will be seen as a regular on the "The New Stockard Channeling Show," on television beginning March 25. For more information or reservations call 851-3252.

Tamburitzans play Athens High School

The Duquesne University Tamburitzans of Pittsburgh, Pa. will perform at 2:30 p.m. March 16 at the Athens High School Auditorium 4333 John R. and 17 Mile Road in Troy. This group of folk song and dance artists play stringed lute-like instruments. In the 43-year history of the Tamburitzans, the group has traveled thousands of miles throughout the United States, Canada and Europe, performing more than 100 concerts each season. Eight overseas tours have been made by the Tamburitzans. The students who make up the performing ensemble come from all parts of America. These college students receive full four-year scholarships to Duquesne University for performing with the group while having the opportunity to travel and study in the field of their choice. THE GROUP EXISTS for the dual purpose of preserving and perpetuating the Eastern European cultural heritage in the United States and offers scholarships to deserving students. Tickets are available at J.L. Hudson's, at the door or by calling 264-2234.

concerts

Children's theater group sees 'Whales'
AAUW Birmingham Branch Children's Theater will meet at Harlan School, at 10 a.m. Monday to see the children's play "Whales," directed by Carol Halstead. A luncheon meeting will follow at the home of Sue Mitchell, 115 Linda Knoll, Bloomfield Hills. For further information phone 646-1682.

By MATT GERSON
"St. Mark's Gospel" starring Michael Tolaydo, is a one-man rendition of what he calls a "short version" of the King James' testament of the travels, conflicts and high moments of Jesus' stay on earth.
An Alec McCowen Production, "St. Mark's Gospel" was performed Thursday and Friday at Varner Hall on the Oakland University campus near Rochester. The special event was presented by the Oakland University School of Performing Arts.
Working from a spare, medieval set of three chairs and a long, rectangular table — the chairs perhaps symbolizing the Holy Trinity — Tolaydo uses his strong, resonant voice well, now as speaker to the masses, now as indicator of the Scribes and Pharisees, now as gentle teacher to the 12 chosen to "take out the evil spirits and do good" by Jesus.
He uses gesticulations and pauses like a seasoned Shakespearean actor (which he is) and, especially for those already familiar with the parables and miracles he relates, his style works quite well.
BUT FOR THOSE who have not

review
been reading scriptures lately, or who never have heard them, it can be somewhat of a trying exercise following the language.
After a time, one can get lost in the archaic sounds of the words; "spake, answereth, thou art," as well as incredible sentences like, "They were astonished with a great astonishment."
Here the very rapidly and, apparently, amount of ground covered by Tolaydo works against the uninitiated — who might find the experience at times like hearing a totally foreign tongue in tones that seem to go on, with an example of Jesus saving someone or preaching a complicated moral tale, repeated over and over.
Mark's account, Tolaydo explains, is the "nearest we have to an eyewitness story of Jesus." A couple of moments that stand out when he recounts how "the damsel" — Salome, we are left to understand, having gotten John the Baptist's head delivered to her on a plate, wasn't sure what to do with this prize, so she gave it to the person who had told her to ask for it, her mother.
Truly, as Tolaydo recites this, we do shake our heads in amazement at such "fidelity" to motherhood!
ANOTHER DRAMATIC time is when Jesus, confronting the Pharisees, with their insistence he not preach on the Sabbath, and seeing the disciples "with unclean hands," decried their customs and unboly ways.
Jesus spoke back: "It is the things that come from within a man that defile him — nothing from without can do this."
Then, again, the same Pharisees cried out about "the 12" harvesting corn on the Saturday holy day. Replies Jesus Christ: "The Sabbath was made for man, and the Son of Man is Lord over the Sabbath."
Tolaydo spins these verses out more vividly than many others that he offers. He gives this credo to those who wish to follow the true path: "All sins are forgiven to all that blaspheme, except that he that blasphemes against the Holy Ghost will be damned — for he has unclean spirit."
Terms like "Holy Ghost" are left un-

defined, leading this reviewer to infer that the night's performance is pegged more for the faithful than those unfamiliar with Christian dogma.
Numerous parables are a bit hard to visualize: "The Word" of Jesus and the Kingdom of God will go out "like a mustard seed — that when sown, will grow out to all dominions, so that the fowls of the air will stay under its shadow."
But again, for those somewhat versed in the modern meanings, this traditional reading should have proved a rewarding evening's adventure.

Inside Track gives concert

The University of Michigan-Dearborn will continue its Tuesday night jazz series, "The Inside Track," on March 11 with The Dan David Quintet.
This five-member group features Dan David, leader of the quintet, along with Bruce Parker, Bob Jepp, Richard Margitza, and Simon Austin, who are all members of the Wayne State Lab Band in Detroit.
The band is scheduled at the Montreux International Jazz Festival of Switzerland this summer.
The Recreation Organization Center on the U of M-D campus, will host the jazz series. Following Dan David will be "Tropical Squall" on March 25. For further information call the Student Activities Office at 593-5399.



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