

# 'Black Coffee' mystery opens

The Oakland University Theatre Arts Program will present the Midwest premiere of Agatha Christie's vintage mystery-comedy "Black Coffee" starting Thursday.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Thurs-Saturday and Nov. 6, 13-14, Dec. 4-6; 2:30 p.m. Sunday and 6:30 p.m. Nov. 9 and Dec. 7. For ticket information call 377-2000.

The play was first performed in England in 1930 and has remained a favorite there. The OU production, however, is only the third known staging of the play in the United States.

Adeline Hirschfeld-Medalia, director of "Black Coffee," said the work is vir-

tually unknown in the U.S. She had to obtain the master script from the publisher in order to make copies for the cast.

"Black Coffee" introduces detective hero Hercule Poirot to theater mystery fans. The action begins when Sir Claud Amory is found dead on his country estate, his coffee laced with poison.

It is observed that there appear to be more suspects than inquirers present.

Is Amory's death connected with the theft of his new invention, the atomic formula? Is the murderer his daughter-in-law, was it the wastrel son, or did the butler do it? Poirot unravels the mystery in one eventful day.

THE CAST includes Peter McBryan of Grose Pointe Woods as the Belgian detective; OU Psychology Professor Harvey Burdick joins the otherwise student cast as Poirot's admirer, Inspector Japp.

Robin Lewis of Washington and Douglas Moons of Pontiac are the trouble young couple Lucia and Richard Amory.

Others in the cast include Patricia Jones of Westland as Sir Claud's dotty sister, Caroline; Kim Workman of Rochester as Barbara, his flapper niece; and Christopher Howe of Shelby Township as the sinister Dr. Carelli.

Martin Klein of Rochester is Capt. Hastings and Robert McCabe of Detroit is Treadwell, the butler.

Rounding out the cast are Janet Bogema of Bay City as Sir Claud's secretary, Miss Raynor; Nick Callis of Mt. Clemens as Dr. Graham, the family doctor; Michael Lashbrook of New Baltimore as the policeman; and Daryl Fortier of Warren as Sir Claud.

## Sweet Adelines gather to hear Foreign Affair

Members of the South Oakland County Chapter of Sweet Adelines Inc. will attend an evening of entertainment presented by the 1980 Regional Championship Quartet, the Foreign Affair, Tuesday at the Knights of Columbus Hall on 12 Mile in Berkley.

The Foreign Affair received the first place award last spring in London, Ont., while competing with Sweet Adeline barbershop quartets from all over Michigan and Ontario.

The Foreign Affair will try for national titles when it travels to Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 4 to participate in the organization's international contests.

Betty Kraff, who sings lead in the quartet, commutes regularly from Sterling Heights to Windsor to rehearse with the three other members — Judy Smith, Diane Kelly and Helen Thibert, all residents of that city.

Mrs. Kraff has been a Sweet Adeline for more than 20 years and is a member of three other regional championship quartets. She also is a member of the SOC Chorus and, as associate director, is helping prepare for the chorus' upcoming show "Next Stop — Broadway."

The dinner-performance is scheduled for Nov. 15. For ticket information, contact Mary Ann Frank at 528-0969.

AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

# ON THE TOWN

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<p><b>FRIDAY KING CRAB FEAST</b></p> <p>1-lb. King Crab, plus salad bar, clam chowder, corn-on-the-cob, baked potato, dessert.</p> <p>\$7.95 (tax &amp; gratuity not included)</p> <p>Reservations required. Jimmy's Restaurant, 477-4000 6 p.m. — 10 p.m. only.</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY PRIME &amp; WINE SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Roast prime rib of beef, plus salad bar, soup du jour, baked potato, dessert.</p> <p>A glass of house wine included with your meal.</p> <p>\$7.95 (tax &amp; gratuity not included)</p> <p>Reservations required. Jimmy's Restaurant, 477-4000 6 p.m. — 10 p.m. only.</p>

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