

Thursday, April 21, 1983 O&E

OCC staging English farce

Alan Aycubourn's "Bedroom Farce" will open at 8 p.m. Friday as the first in-house production at the new Theatre Arts Auditorium of Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

The production will be directed by Sandra Sutherland, a faculty member and president of the Farmington Players Barn.

Performances will continue at 8 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are available at the student activities office on campus or by calling 471-7541. Tickets are \$2 for OCC students, \$4 for non-students.

The Theatre Arts Auditorium is a specially designed 430-plus-seat theater, consisting of seating platforms for the handicapped, computerized lighting, sound block and sound boards to prevent bounce, enclosed catwalks, light and sound-absorbing curtains, 60 separate circuits for microphone and cluster speakers, two separate dressing

rooms, lighted mirror and shower facilities.

MARY ELLEN Owen plays Jan, a nurse of wounded men. Owen currently is an Oakland Community College student, housewife and mother of four. Nick is played by Doug Mason, in his first stage appearance.

Art Lomas, also an OCC student, Farmington Player and member of the Thespian Society, plays the protagonist, Trevor. Cheryl D. Simpson plays Trevor's lovely thorn, Susannah; Gregory Hall, the comic foil Malcolm; Barbara Nixon, Malcolm's wife, and Andrew John Young is an understudy. The latter two have performed with the Farmington Players Barn.

Both Gregory Hall and Andrew John Young are graduates of Farmington High School.



Gregory Hall and Barbara Nixon appear in the Oakland Community College production of Alan Aycubourn's "Bedroom Farce."

Actress displays her many talents

Performances of the Will-O-Way Repertory Theatre production of "The Apple Tree" continue at 8:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays through May 28 at Will-O-Way, 775 W. Long Lake Road, between Telegraph and Lahser, Bloomfield Township. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for older persons and children younger than 12. For reservations, call 644-4418.

By Cathie Breidenbach
special writer

Expressions play over Eileen Weiss' face like light on water, and the three one-act musicals now at Will-O-Way Repertory Theatre show off the range of her skills.

The woman can even twitch her cheeks if the script demands or tie up her face into hilarious contortions. She's expressiveness in motion all the way down to her nimble toes, and she can sing beautifully as well.

The comedy one-acts billed as "The Apple Tree" begin at the beginning with "The Diary of Adam and Eve," a play based on a story by Mark Twain. The funniest parts of Adam and Eve deal with the evolution of language and humor.

A cow will forever more be a "four-pronged white squitter" after Adam's graphically innocent description.

WHAT SEEMS not-so-funny any more in "The Diary of Adam and

review

Eve" is the Blondie and Dagwood stereotypes of male and female. Gary Clason plays Adam to Eileen Weiss' Eve.

He has the muscular calves and deep baritone of an emphatically masculine Adam, but the script calls for more than masculine. It calls for a macho man — a tough guy who puts up with his frivolous female.

Adam ridicules Eve because she's forever redecorating their shelter by squeezing berries on the walls or coming home wearing hats of ferns and flowers.

When it comes to clichés and old chestnuts, this one-act adapted from Mark Twain by Sheldon Harnick and Jerry Bock tries to resuscitate some old humor that may be better off buried in the dark ages of chauvinism.

The play does a better job with feelings. Tenderness somehow comes through, even though the songs are forgettable and Clason expresses love John-Wayne-style. Feelings cross the footlights, and some people in the audience could be seen surreptitiously wiping a bit of something out of the corner of their eyes in the dark theater.

"THE LADY or the Tiger," based on a story by Lewis Carroll. Please turn to Next Page

Actors Alliance presents Off-Broadway's 'Album'

The joys and pains of surviving adolescence during the mid-'60s are recalled in David Rimmer's Off-Broadway comedy hit "Album," presented Friday through May 22 by the Actors Alliance Theatre Company of Southfield.

Performances are at 8:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, with a 6:30 p.m. curtain Sundays at the Detroit's area's

only theater-in-the-round on Evergreen Road at 13 Mile Road in the Lyceum International of Southfield.

For group ticket information or reservations call the box office daily between noon and 8 p.m. and Sundays from 9-7 p.m. at 642-1316.

"Album" follows four typical American teens as they attempt to deal with feelings of sexual awakening during

theater

the turbulent '60s. The high spirits of adolescence are recreated in the play's humor.

MUSIC FROM the period, particularly songs of the Beatles, Beach Boys and Bob Dylan, are integral parts of the production. Annette Madias is director for the production, the Michigan premiere of "Album."

The four-member cast includes Annette DePetris of Detroit, Kirk Haas of Troy, Rod Moeller of Royal Oak and Irene Schweyer of New Hudson.

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