

Entertainment

Ethel Simmons editor/644-1100



Thursday, March 28, 1985 O&E

(T-Bo-70XO)WC

Ken Berry, cast keep laughs coming

Performances of "Run for Your Wife" comedy by Roy Cooney continue through Sunday, April 21, at the Birmingham Theatre in Birmingham. For ticket information, call the box office at 644-3333.

Exercise caution when exiting from the Birmingham Theatre's production of "Run for Your Wife." There may still be people rolling in the aisles.

Despite the silliest of plot premises and an insipid opening scene, "Run for Your Wife" is just so darn funny that even the crustiest curmudgeon will be howling with laughter before long. The laughs start slowly, build steadily during the second half of Act I and flow in a raging torrent throughout Act II.

New York taxi driver John Smith (Ken Berry), described by everyone as a very ordinary guy, has one wife in Greenwich Village and another

one just across the river in Hoboken, N.J. By keeping to a very tight schedule, this arrangement works just fine until Smith intervenes in a street mugging and becomes something of a local hero.

With his double life in danger of exposure and two overly zealous police officers dogging his heels, Smith goes to great lengths to fool both the law and his spouses.

WHY DOES SMITH have two wives? Though happily married to Barbara (Brenda Thomson) for eight years, five months ago he just couldn't find a way to say "no" when Mary (Carolyn Blackinton) proposed. Once past that absurdity, "Run for Your Wife" is classic farce.

The action takes place in Smith's two apartments simultaneously, so that actors sometimes nearly collide when they supposedly cannot see each other. As with all good



Barbara Michals

farce, there is a lot of mistaken identity, people running in and out of multiple doors and a steady stream of double entendres.

Under director Jack Boock, the cast works well as an ensemble, each person playing off the others. Berry is fine as the beleaguered Smith, as plausible in the role as anyone could be. While his timing and delivery are faultless, Berry most dazzles when he shreds and then systematically consumes an entire front page of a newspaper.

Smith confides his plight to his helpful New York neighbor, Stanley, played to comic perfection by Joe Greco. With an expressive face resembling a bloodhound and impeccable comic timing, Greco can draw a whole series of laughs from one pregnant pause.

While Thomson remains remarkably calm through most of the

strange shenanigans taking place around her, Blackinton excels at hysteria. She throws most convincing tantrums, pounding, screaming, crying and generally flinging herself about with abandon.

JAMES HARMS is hilarious as a gay neighbor in Hoboken, full of good-natured self-mockery. Rick Snyder is very good as the laid-back but suspicious New York cop, while Bernie Landis is wonderfully funny as his New Jersey counterpart, a domestic busybody. Landis accentuates his lines with a bob of his head and a self-satisfied smirk each time he further contributes to the comic chaos.

Steve Perry's striking set manages to both successfully delineate the two Smith apartments and also merge them.



Ken Berry is John Smith, a New York cab driver with two wives, in "Run for Your Wife" at the Birmingham Theatre. Here, he's on the phone with wife Mary, played by Carolyn Blackinton, who is originally from Birmingham.

While his timing and delivery are faultless, Berry most dazzles when he shreds and then systematically consumes an entire front page of a newspaper.

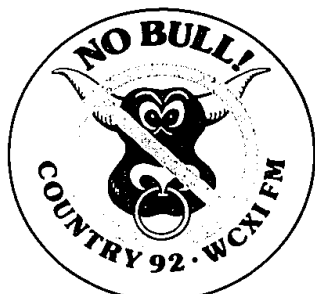
Detroit Film Theatre screening Australian movie

German director Werner Herzog's first Australian movie, "Wurde die Green Ants Dream," will be featured by Detroit Film Theatre at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Friday at the Detroit Institute of Art Auditorium.

Tickets at \$2.50 are available at the DIA ticket office and at the door. For ticket information, call 832-2730 during regular business hours.

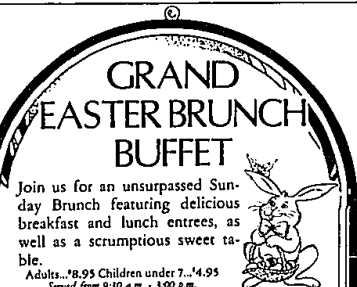
DFT will offer two low-budget thrillers by director William Castle

Night, "The Tingler" (1959) and "Homicidal" (1961), complete with special presentation gimmicks, at 7 p.m. Saturday.



THE MOST COUNTRY MUSIC AND NO BULL!

COUNTRY 92.3 WCXI-FM



Join us for an unsurpassed Sunday Brunch featuring delicious breakfast and lunch entrees, as well as a scrumptious sweet table.

Adults...\$8.95 Children under 7...\$4.95 Served from 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY DINNER MENU

Served from noon in the Dining Room

'Marvelous J. Bunny' will be carrying a basket of Easter goodies for the kids.

Kingsley Inn

Selected to serve at the U.S. Presidential Inaugurals in Washington, D.C., 1981 and 1985

WOODWARD AT LONG LAKE ROAD BLOOMFIELD HILLS • 642-0100



Sunday's Best Brunch

Sundays 10:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

ALWAYS Roast Sirloin of Beef, Baked Ham or Leg of Lamb or Whole Turkey, Eggs Benedict, Scrambled Eggs, Belgium Waffles, Bacon & Sausage, Bar-B-Q Beef ribs, Peel Your Own Shrimp, Assorted Pastries, Apple, Cherry or Blueberry Crisps, a never ending Salad Bar, Assorted Fresh Fruit and Much, Much More!

All for \$7.95 Special Children's Prices

TABLESIDE MAGIC To Entertain the Entire Family! Reservations Please!

WE ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK!

(313) 851-8880 6066 West Maple Rd. • West Bloomfield

OUR EASTER BUNNY BUFFET IS FOR EVERYONE!

Make this Easter Sunday something your whole family will remember. A special Easter Brunch Buffet will be held in the Grand Ballroom from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., featuring an exciting selection of breakfast and luncheon foods.

Adults - \$8.95

Children & Seniors - \$7.95

Children under 3 FREE

P.S. The Easter Bunny will be sharing goodies with the little guys and dolls. Also, be sure to visit our Live Bunny Farm located in the Front Lobby. Have your picture taken with the Easter Bunny!



The Haymarket will be open from 2:30-7 p.m. with a Special Easter Menu.

For Reservations Call 583-9000

Troy Hilton Inn 1455 Stephenson Hwy. • Troy

Bernardi's
RESTAURANT
APPLEGATE SQUARE, NORTHWESTERN AT INKSTER, SOUTHFIELD
Dining & Cocktails
MONDAY THRU THURSDAY DINNER SPECIALS

BROILED CALVES LIVER With Sautéed Onions & Apples	\$7.95
PETITE FROG LEGS Roadhouse Style	\$7.45
BAKED STUFFED CHICKEN BREASTS ITALIANO With Fettuccini Alfredo	\$8.25
BAKED CANNELONI ala Romano	\$7.45

Dinner Includes: Soup or Tossed Salad, Potato, Fresh Vegetable and French Bread
FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS CALL: 353-2757
HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 11:30 A.M.-9 P.M., Fri. & Sat. 11:30 A.M.-11 P.M.

The **ANNEX** RESTAURANT

Our Famous **Homemade Chili** **1.35**

"All You Can Eat"
Fried Fish Dinner
Tartar Sauce
French Fried Potatoes
Crisp Cole Slaw
3.25

This Special Not Available for Carryout - Offer Expires April 9, 1985

Available Daily
4 Varieties Of Stuffed Baked Potatoes

— Breakfast —
Served Daily 8 a.m. To 11 a.m.

2 fresh eggs cooked any style,
3 sausage links or 4 strips of
bacon, hash brown potatoes,
served with toast and jelly.

1.88

223 W. MAPLE - BIRMINGHAM
642-6655