Performances of the Avon Players production of "Some-thing's Afort" continue through Saturday, Nov. 19, at the play-house in Rochester Hills. For tick-et information, call 656-1130.

By Frank Hursley special writer

Avon Players has raised the curtain on its fist season with a splendid mounting of the musical farce "Something's Afoct." This is no gentie mounting, for all the stops are pulled to allow a lively, bosterous production that is also a comedic spoof of Agaha Christies" Ten Little Indians."

James McDonald, David Vos and Robert Gerlach teamed on the book, music and lyvies, gathering a collection.

Robert Gerlach teamed on the book, music and lyrice, gathering a cellection of British types and setting them down as guests in a country estate on an island in the Lake Country of England.

A violent storm seals the Island, A violent storm seals the Island, and no one can decamp until the waters reside. In honest Christie fashing the Country of the

ion, the scene is set for maybem, and the guests fall victim to an unknown mastermind devilishly causing one body after another to be toted to the library for storage. A marvelous set is vintage Chris-tie for country-house entrance balls.

A marvenous est variety constitution of the for country-house entrance balls.

Embellished as it is with stout Englished as it is with stout Englished as lit is with stout Englished as little as little as little as little as little as little as lit

trait, armor, ascending staircase and sherry decanter, the effect is so pleasing that a weekend slay would not be unthinkable. Such a notion would be inviting except we soon learn that elements of the set, although appearing properly innocent, "do in" various of the guests assembled. For example, a telephone beliches a deadly gas.

THE PLAYERS MANAGE this romp so efficiently that it would not be surprising if they had also arranged the opening night mist as well as the pattering rain on the playbouse roof as a complement to the atmosphere of mystery and murder.

the atmosphere of mystery and murder.

Linda Shepherd as director and
Karen Elillott-Upchurch as choreographer effectively teamed to pace
the players through sprightly capers
and amusing scenes. They grace the
production with imaginative attention to detail, and hardly a moment
is lost in limbo. Competition between
the music and dialogue does allow
incoherent moments that are disturbing, however.

The ensemble as a whole pays
close attention to classic, well-costumed, British types, and each character stands out individually.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT



Make a home improvement.

BRING IN THESE COUPONS & SAVE 12065 Telegraph, Redford, MI 48239 (Belwoon Schoolcraft & Plymouth Road)

(313) 531-9200

Your generous donation to the Torch Drive can make a difference in troubled homes.



A luxurious room for two. Exciting surroundings — fun fitness center and indoor pool. Superb dining and entertainment.

And in the morning — Free breakfast of your choice in our Cache restaurant.

A wonderful evening for two — just for you for the great price of *49.00.

Specify "Evening For Two" package when making reservations. Valid Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Not applicable with other discounted rate. Price per room, per night up to two people per room. A limited number of rooms are available for this promotion.

RAMADA HOTEL **DETROIT-SOUTHFIELD**

28225 TELEGRAPH RD. • (313) 355-2929 Worldwide Reservations 1-800-272-6232

Ballet scene best in 'King and I'

review

Performances of "The King and " presented by the First The-atre Guild continue through Sat-urday at Knoz Auditorium of the First Presbyterian Church in Bir-mingham. For ticket informa-tion, call 681-0189 during the day.

The First Theatre Guild production of "The King and I" is ambitious, to say the least. It takes great energy to engage 57 cast members, four musicians and a large technical

four musicians and a large technical crew, ... Good will, eager troupers and entusiasm were on hand last Sunday evening, even though everyone involved had turned up for a 2 p.m. performance for senior citizens and the ... and the ... and ... and ... and ... with the best of intentions and the most willing crew aboard, the First Theatre Guild has simply bitten off more than it can chew. The result is an uneven production. Clark and Mary Fry are to be commended for creating set designs with little more than painted backrops, a throne, a few pillows and sheets. And Gloria Ruberts deserves credit for whipping up lungenious cost-

sneets. And whipping up ingenious cos-tumes out of yards of colorful mate-rial, leotards, strings of pearls and

Brunch so good,

you might forget the game.

Kingsley Inn

\$69 can make you the World's Greatest Lover!

How would you like to slip away with that someone special for a romanti I? Would you like to celebrate that anniversary, birthday or just get away

all? Well, Holklay Inn Detroit/Fairlane is making it easy and irresistible!

Will, Holiday Inn Detroit/Fairlance is making it easy and irresistible!
With a Great American Couple Coper Package.
For \$69 per night, this lower's package includes: A specious King Leisure!
Room: A bottle of champage in your norm: Bubble bath, chocolates, and fresh flowers: Free cable TV and in-room movies: Indoor pool, suns & Jacuzzi!
Complimentary full course breakfast for two.
Reservations: 1-800-HOLLIDAY or call:
HOLIDAY INN DETROIT/FAIRLANE
\$501 Southfield Freeway (Ford Rd. Eart)
2 miles from Henry From Reservant & Greenfield Village.
(2)33,336-6300.

Recipient of the Holiday Inn TOP 20 World-Wide Hotel Award.

* Holiday Dnn®

The Great American Couple Caper

what-nots.

BARBARA ANNE GOWANS' wonderful masks nearly steal the show. 'The Small House of Uncle Thomas' hallet is the best part of this lengthy Rodgers and Hammer-stein musical, and everything that's charming about this production culmitates in Staan Doerr's wicked Simon LeGree, Kim VanSullichem's Eliza, the chorus and the dancers in their masks, running about on the ice, The freeting river in the ballet is imaginatively done with the belp of dancers waving a long bedsheet and slowly drowning in its folds.

Phyllis Meyers as Anna Leonowes, the eruberant widow who goes forth to teach Western ways to the wives and children of the King of Slam, overwhelms the rest of the cast.

Meyers can size, is at ease on-

match for Meyers. Eder exhibits ratage presence and a strong voice and carries himself like a royal scion. I wished he had more to do than the "Purzlement" reprise with Louis Leonowens, who is likably played by Bryan Kaufman.

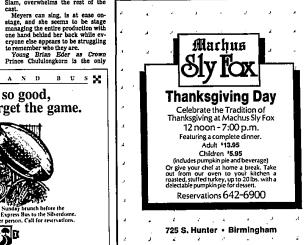
Eder takes over the stage when he tells the royal household to quit howing at the finale.

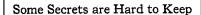
JOHN ROBERTS' imposing presence, bare chest and sense of humor carry him through the demanding role of the despot who rules Siam with an iron will and intellectual curiosity that proves his undoing. Perhaps no one can compete with a king who Yul Bryaner has made so thoroughly his own, but Roberts put up a good fight.

Betsy Evans is quietly dignified as Lady Thiang, the tiptoeing head wife. Evans does a sad rendition of "Something Wonderful" that tells us more about the culture of Siam and the role of women than the rest of

the play does.

John Picha brings his pleasant tenor to a moving rendition of "We Kiss in a Shadow" and "I Have Dreamed." As Lun Tha, the star-crossed lover of Toptim, Picha seems totally lost except when he's singing, a Stomeo, he simply doesn't play the star of the cast and all the wives, children, star of their uneven best.







Creative American Cuisine

We're no longer West Bloomfield's BEST kept secret

Our Chef, EDDIE MATTESON, formerly of The Money Tree, creates the freshest and the most innovative dishes for your dining pleasure. Come help us celebrate our 1st ANNIVERSARY.

(corner of Orchard Lake Rd. & Lone Pine Rd.)

CROSSWINDS MALL

4343 Orchard Lake Rd. West Bloomfield 851-5540 Tues.-Sat. 5-10 p.m.

- Opening Soon for Lunch -

Announcing the Grand Opening of The Restaurant

Located at the Clarion Hotel of Farmington Hills (formerly the Quality Inn)



with this advertisement you are entitled to one FREE Appetizer with the purchase of each Entree.

Dinner served 5 p.m.-10:30 p.m. daily Reservations suggested 553-0000

31526 Twelve Mile Road Farmington Hills Expires 11-30-88



Clarion Hotel Farmington Hills

31525 Twelve Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48018

Michigan Opera Theatre Gilbert & Sullivan's **NOVEMBER 11-20 ONLY!** at the Fisher Theatre

Walk the gang plank with Gilbert & Sullivan's brilliant British spoof! Starring WKRP in Cincinnati's GARY SANDY as the Pirate King with Hollywood's funny man ZALE KESSLER as the Modern Major-General.

Excellent Weekend Matinee Seats Available!

CALL (313) 874-SING TODAY

TICKE | | LASTER | CALL-FOR-TIX (313) 423-4466 Students & Seniors:

1/2 price tickets
one hour before curtain Fri., Nov. 11 & 18 at 8 pm Sat., Nov. 12 at 8 pm Sat., Nov. 19 at 1:30 & 8 pm Sat., Nov. 13 at 1:30 & 6:30 pm Sun., Nov. 13 at 1:30 pm Sun., Nov. 20 at 1:30 pm Wed., Nov. 16 at 1 pm Thurs., Nov. 17 at 8 pm