

Talented cast

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wife. Patton is especially good in scenes where she needs reassurance that Elyot loves her more than his first wife.

Now the plot thickens. Because in the next hotel suite, is Elyot's first wife, Amanda, and her new husband, Victor, also on their honeymoon.

Of course, Elyot and Amanda meet. In fact, they elope to Paris. With Sissy and Victor in hot pursuit. What happens next gives conflict resolution new meaning. Suffice it to say that the couples work out their problems — at least for the moment.

Jacqueline Turri Bacus gives a lively and evocative performance as Amanda. One moment coquettish, the next insanely jealous of Elyot: the two go from bliss to blows with great skill.

Caught in the middle is poor Victor, played capably by Erich Jungwirth. Perplexed and angry,

ON STAGE

"PRIVATE LIVES"

*Theater: Theater Guild of Livonia Redford
*Curtain time: 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, through Nov. 27 at the playhouse, 15138 Beech Daly, Redford
*Tickets: \$7 adults, \$6 seniors, \$5 students. Call 538-5678.

he summons up the strength to battle for principle to the very end.

Patricia Parsons is very good as Louise the maid, who cleans up after the battle royale. No need to pardon her French. It was very good too.

Bob Weibel of Westland is a freelance writer, who has spent more than 25 years in community theater as a director, designer and performer.

Symphony

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Southfield Symphony Orchestra Conductor Valery Izonov is in the United States on an extended visa. He studied at the Leningrad State Rimsky-Korsakov (St. Petersburg) Conservatory of Music and twice has won the conservatory's conducting competition, as well as the In-

ternational Opera Competition in Novosibirsk, and the All-Union Conductor Competition in Moscow.

He holds the prestigious title of People's Artist of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and has served as a guest conductor with the Southfield Symphony

during the past two seasons. Leonov is chief conductor and music director of the National Radio and Television Symphony Orchestra, in Minsk, Belarus.

Concertmaster Vaida Kelly performs with the Michigan Opera Theater Orchestra, the Lyric Chamber Ensemble and also

has appeared as soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and Detroit Symphony Orchestra. She has a bachelor of music degree from the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music and a master of music degree from Boston University.

Good performances in classic comedy



MARY JANE DOERR

"The Man Who Came to Dinner" (and never leaves) is another George Kaufman-Moss Hart collaboration from the late 1930s. It is classic comedy, but in the First Theater Guild's

REVIEW

production, the action is sometimes more dramatic than funny. Like Hart and Kaufman romps, the story takes place in one room of a middle class family and blends together the most buzzard individuals. The Burl Ives-like Ron Hutchings is the radio personality Sheridan Whiteside, likeable to the extent he is cras-

Whitehead has made friends with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest W. Stanley, played by a winny Jeanne Sinsor and a stern Ron Vachon. Heaven knows why, Whiteside accepts the dinner invitation.

When Whiteside falls on the icy steps at the Stanley house, an incompetent doctor more interested in his big chance as a writer (played by competent actor George Bloomfield) misdiagnoses the injury. Whiteside is confined to bed and unable to leave the

ON STAGE

"The Man Who Came To Dinner"

*Theater: First Theater Guild at First Presbyterian Church, 1669 W. Maple, Birmingham.
*Curtain time: 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 19-20; 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21.
*Tickets: \$6 adults, \$4 seniors and students. Call 644-0356.

Stanley's home. (This is Ohio in 1938.)

The Stanley's hospitality is quickly abated by Whiteside's demanding "rules of the house," which he implements under threat of suit. Then he invites two murder convicts to lunch, runs up a \$700 telephone bill, accepts odd presents from his friends (like four penguins, an octopus, and 10,000 cockroaches) and sends the Stanley's children off the find their fortune and happiness.

Hutchings is a little hesitant in

his lines but manages the sudden mood swings with a hefty voice, and a sometimes kind heart.

Amazingly, in small-town Ohio his offbeat friends manage to visit the "old buzzard" making a large cast of 19. Sandra Booms is one reason so much of the play holds together. As the secretary Maggie Cutler, she is together, believable and very natural. Her performance sets up the performances of the others, such as a sleazy Veda Harris on an unlikely Lorraine Sheldon.

David Rau benefits from the opportunity and plays several parts. He is Professor Metz and silky smooth actor/whittail Beverly Carlton.

Director Roger Nowland plays an eccentric Banjo, well timed with his lines. If others in the cast had been so adept at the timing of comedy, there might have been more laughs.

Mary Jane Doerr of Troy is a full-time teacher and freelance writer who specializes in opera and musical theater.

Paint Creek Folklore Society hosts concert

The Paint Creek Folklore Society will hold its annual Tin Whistle Coffee House concert 7:30-10:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 27 in Fellowship Hall of the University Presbyterian Church, 1385 S. Adams Road, Rochester Hills. Tickets to the Tin Whistle are \$8 and can be obtained from Paint Creek members or the Rochester Folk Workshop, 420 East Street. Co-chairpersons Brad Doolittle

and Bill Meldrum will have a limited number of tickets available at the door. Call Phil Doolittle, 378-2513 for more information.

Performers will include the nationally acclaimed singer/songwriter/instrumentalist, Joel Mabius from Lansing, and James "Sparky" Rucker from Lexington, Ky., who is recognized as a leading performer and commentator on African-American folk mu-

sic and culture.

Mabius has been called the consummate musician, a person born to make music. He grew up in a family of musicians and early on he "cut-his-teeth" on instruments around the house; mandolin, guitar, banjo and his dad's old fiddle. He began performing full time in 1975 and since then he has traveled over most of North America, playing for audiences large and small at music festivals, folk clubs, concert halls and radio shows.

Marquee

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lines International, a musical organization dedicated to teaching women to sing the complex a cappella four-part harmonies that comprise the original American art form known as "barbershop singing."

"We are always looking for new members," said Judy Mellon the director. The chapter will perform at several activities during the

holiday season. They will perform at the Highland Lake campus of Oakland Community College 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19. For information, call Connie, 363-1959 or Julia, 698-9411 for information.

The Oakland Shores Chapter has 30 members and meets 7-10 p.m. Mondays. They are working on their new competition package,

a medley of songs from "The Music Man."

Keely Wygonik is editor of the Taste and Entertainment sections of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. She welcomes your calls and comments, 953-2105, fax 591-7279, or write: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc. 3625; Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

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