THEATER

Hartlande presents entertaining evening of one-acts

BY BARBARA MICHALS SPECIAL WRITER

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Love and londiness, aspirations and frustrations are the themes running through the presentation of eight 10 minute plays, part of the Hartlande Theatre Company's "Playscape" '97", at Oakland University's Studio Theatre.

All eight of the short plays are entertaining, some of them humorous, some touching, some highly unusual. Director Mary Locker does a fine job with all eight plays, each by a different author, and, the acting is consistently pleasing.

In William Borden's very amusing "Muse," a frustrated young writer (Matt Talbot) pleads for some help from his

Playscape '97
Where: Varner Hall on the Oakland University campus, Rochester.
When: Through Sunday, June 22
Tickets: Range from \$5 to \$12.50, with discounts for seniors and students. Cell (810) 433-1233 for information.

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Mainstage
 An Evening of Short Plays — 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, June 20-21, (\$12.50); 7 p.m. Sunday June 22 (\$10).

 First Stope Reading
 The Agent _ by Maggie Patton ~ 8 p.m. Thursday, June 19, (\$5).

muse. He is quite taken aback by the arrival of a gay male (David Podulka) to fill the role. Though he would much prefer a female muse, the writer finally concedes that this muse is better than no muse at all. A diner late at night is the set-

ting for Jim Leach's Two Coffees Black, where the lone waitress (Phyllis Lewis) overhears two young men (Matt Troyer, Steve Dombrowski) talking suicide. Though frightened by the men-tion of guns, the waitress decides to intervene and try to save the

two from themselves.

In John Patrick's "Next Door Down," a young apartment dweller (Jan Waldren) fears that her elderly next-door neighbor has been dead for several days. She fights an uphill battle to enlist the aid of her other neighbor (Thilbot), who takes the very urban view that it's none of their business.

Act I ands with "Labor Day" by Milan Stitt. A woman on the terrace of her high-rise apartment (Kim Arnaut) is so starved for intelligent conversation that she uses her telescope to spy on the man waiting below at a bus stop (Troyer). She keeps ringing him at the nearby pay phone until she finally arouses his interest. Though the play tries to deal

with some profundities, it never completely rings true.

Act II opens with the very wacky "Clovn Wives," by Kim Carney. Ever wondered about the difficulties of being married to a professional clown? Probably not, but it's fun to hear the complaints of the young wife (Mary E. Rychlewski) married to Blinkey as she seeks the sadvice of the long-married wife (Lewis) of Shleppo.

Ronald Jay's "The Pitch" examines the interaction between aman on the street (Dembrowski) begging that he "will work for food" and the failed corporate executive (Podulka) who tries to befriend him but canner recognizes his own shortcomings.

In Kitty Dubin's "Mystical

Charity event brings Wings fans together Meadow Brook offers

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAFF WRITER

BY CRIMSTINA PIDOO
STATP WARTE.

Red Wings fans have been gathering at William Beaumot Hospital and the site of the crash that critically injured defensement Vadmir Konstantinov and masseur Sergel Mantsakanov as form of group therapy to deal with the tragedy.

Concerned fans will have an opportunity to come together at Joe Louis Arena at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 22, for the "NHL and Celebrity All-Star Hockey Game" and to sign a banner encouraging the recovery of Konstantinov and Mantsakanov.

"We're locking at it as a way for people to escape the tough times of the situation, but in addition to that we will address the injured Red Wings, and we will be placing a large banner joe Louis for people to sign," anid Kathleen Kennedy, public relations manager for Olympia Areiaa.

"When there's a tragedy like

Arena.

"When there's a tragedy like
this, people want to be together.
This is a good opportunity."
The scheduled appearances of
Stovs Yzerman, Darren McCarty,
and Joey Kocur are now tenta-

Headroom, and George Wendt of Cheers."
Athletes Mark Howe, Kirk Gibson, and the Montreal Canadiens' Valeri Bure, and ESPN's Barry Melrose and John Saunders are also expected to lace up.

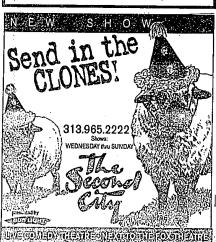
Thear he plays in a league, Coulier said of Gibson. "Ho's gotta be huge."
Tickets range in price from \$10-\$250 and are available at Joe Louis Arena and Fox Theatre box offices and all Ticketmaster locations. For more information, call (313) 983-6606.
Comedian Dave Coulier is hoping to raise more than \$500,000

httie tear, and a lesson learned at the end.
Edward Albee's play, "Three Tall Women" runs Oct. 22 to Nov. 16. In this drama, a 92-year-old woman reminisces with two younger associates about her life, loves and feelings toward an imponding reunion with her estranged son. The Wall Street Journal had once called the play "a dazzler." From Nov. 28 to Dec. 28 the theater returns to the original script, set and staging of "A Christmas Carol." Charles

The season concludes with Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers," from April 15 to May 10.

Meadow Brook Theatre is sup-ported by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural affairs.





claims that in the first year of equipped with THX, the state-of-business, 3 million patrons (and business, 3 million patrons (and popcorn) will be served at the theater. Expect standard Star meneities like rocking chair seats, cup holders, and extra leg men in the auditoriums, which range in size from 96 to 502.

Each of the theaters is



