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ATCENICE BY THE OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC NEWSPAPERS

STICLE COLLEGE The Farmington Players lash out with 'Habeas Corpus'

See America's Top Skaters on their way

Farmington Players present Habeas Corpus 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Dec. 6-8 at West Bloomfield Civic Theater inside Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, between 14 Mile and Maple. Tickets, \$13, call (248) 219-0800.

BY BOB WEIBEL

From the title of the Farming-ton Players current production, Habeas Corpus, you might think you're in for a stirring legal bat-

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RUSH HOUR 2 (PG) SUMMER CATCH (PG) JURASSIC PARK III (PG13) LEGALLY BLONDE (G)

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getti, i

tle involving a missing body. In fact, the play is a hilarious British sex farce by Alan Ben-

Though the fast pace is a bit flat at times – perhaps a smaller acting area would help – we are always aware of the body downstage center. Not just one body, but the human body, and not always beautiful. Trapped inside is the mind trying to cope with repressed desires while coping with external social rules.

Bawdy material of this type made Benny Hill a hit on TV. Director Vicki Gruike and the Players have great fun creating lusty, ribald characters with uni-Though the fast pace is a bit

 \blacksquare 'Bawdy material of this type made Benny Hill a hit on TV.'

formly good British accents. They're full of earthy passion while maintaining an exterior coolness of "please don't touch me." It's what you might call the Victorian Age meets the permissive society.

victorian Age insects the personal rate sive society.

The Wicksteed family headed by Dr. Wicksteed (Jim Snideman) is not ready for the change. The good doctor, at middle age, has tired of his wife. He is, of course, professional while examining his female patients, but he

enjoys the pleasures of the flesh as a man. Snideman couplets to the audionce, as in "he whose lusts last, lasts longest."
Linda Killewald is terrific his his drab, seemingly menopautial wife, awaiting a man, any man, to bring to her to bloom again. Kevin Potocaky is very good as their sickly son, with just three months to live (breast palsy). He wants a woman before it's allower, but he doesn't know how to proceed. Fortunately, aimiest-Folicity Rumpers (Rita Montipotit) solves his problem (and here). She is already pregnant/Montpotit is delightful as kwoman caught in a romantic triangle. She has also agreed to meet Dr. Wicksteed for a little whoopee.
Ellon Akina plays the weirded.

meet Dr. Wicksteed for a little whoopee.

Ellen Akins plays the weirdealt Wicksteed of all; Constance. Sha is 33, unmarried and dux endowed topside. Akins is an orgy of laugh as she wipes off any area of her body touched by an unwanted suitor. And what a riot as she exercises to pumpiupher chest, orders an appliance the supplement the condition and Ix wowed by the attention men given.

supplement the condition and Tawowed by the attention men givin
her.

John Yone plays the local
yicar, Canon Throbbing, who
lusts after her even before her
falsies but then he has a thing
about looking up skirts. Events
become really hectic when the
appliance company sends a man
to fit them properly.

Dave McCabe is a howl as the
falsie-fitter who mistakenly
checks out Mrs. Wicksteed. She
loves the attention, chaese after
him and strips him of his pants;
Meanwhile, Sir Percy Shortee.
(Thomas Adams) arrives to further confuse the offense at reference to his "small" physical condition. Brott Milnek is fun as q
man attempting sulcide. Emly,
McSweeney is splendid as the
all-knowing cleaning lady who
provides insights about the
household. Cynthia Tupper, as
Lady Bumpers, is the epitome of
upper-class snobbery, arrogance
and Victorian attitudes.

After learning of what's been
going on she says. "I'm not
having any of it." Of course, ahd
has, which we don't learn about
until the delicious ending of this
comedy of errors, infidelities;
permissiveness and questionable
ethics.

FINESPIF

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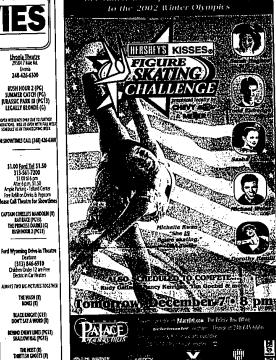
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