



'And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little'

The entire cast of Farmington Players' production of 'And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little' confer during rehearsals leading up to opening night Friday, April 30. Standing (at left) is Frances Castner, who plays Mrs. Pentran. Bud Johnson, who takes the part of the delivery boy, Stu Orman, who takes the role of Bob Stein, and Kathleen Monticello, who takes the part of Fleur Stein. Seated are the Reardon sisters, Ceil, Anna and Catherine, played by Ellen Dietrich, Ceci Orman and Jan Salisbury. The bittersweet comedy in three acts, written by Paul Zindel, is scheduled to run for three consecutive weekends in the Players Barn on Twelve Mile between Orchard Lake and Farmington Road. Tickets are available by calling the box office, 851-5508. (Evert photo)

The Observer & Eccentric

Farmington LIFE

Thursday, April 8, 1976 (F1B)

Music students vie for scholarships

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

For Farmington area music students Saturday was a busy, nervous but rewarding day when young musicians were faced with back-to-back competitions.

While judges were tallying scores for the Farmington Musicals scholarship competition in Our Lady of Mercy High School, the box was held for Cathy Bennett who placed in the reception room until the vocal winners were posted.

She learned she had taken first place then rushed on to Flint and earned a number one rating in the Vocal Solo and Ensemble Festival there.

Dutch exchange student Frank Aftor played with the Harrison High Jazz Band in the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Jazz Festival, then rushed back to Farmington to win honorable mention in the Musicals' Senior Piano Division.

Wherever it was possible Mrs. James McElroy, who chaired the Musicals' competition this year, shifted schedules for the seventh to 12th graders trying to juggle both affairs during the day.

MISS BENNETT's lead in the vocal category was followed by Karen Sheshek and Jane Kinney.

All told, 62 junior high and high school students assembled to vie for a total of \$600 in cash awards, an amount that continues to grow since the competition began on an annual basis eight years ago.

Winners in the junior piano division were Eva Tai, Sue Notestine and Michele Balag. In the senior piano division, Bill Salisbury, Tim Doost and Frank Aftor.

Obvius Marianne Daniel took first place in the junior instrumental division, followed by clarinetist Dan Lochrie, violinist Allison Fish, trombonist James Cavanagh and baritone David Sheshek.

In the senior instrumental division,

judges made a special point of declaring all contestants "outstanding," then declared Flutist LouAnne Sweeney winner of the first place award. She was followed by Linda Kobel, violinist, Liz Moehman, clarinet, Doug Fazzini, trombone, Karen Halderbrand, violin, and Kristin Murnan, flute.

THE FARMINGTON Musicals, a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs, secured five judges for the competition.

Mildred Everson judged the vocal division. She earned her bachelor of music degree at Michigan State University, is on the faculty at Schoolcraft College and teaches, voice, privately.

Piano judge Lynne Lynch teaches piano at University of Michigan.

Judges for the instrumentalists were Peter Zerouman, Phillip Haddrell and Rich and Kittman.

Mrs. Zerouman is a violinist, teaches privately in Royal Oak, is on the staff of Interlochen and the Community Music School in Detroit, and is concertmaster of the Michigan Chamber Orchestra. Michigan Opera Theater and Oakway Symphony.

Haddrell teaches band and orchestra at Fairland Junior High School in Dearborn. He has judged the solo and ensemble competitions at school district and state levels and has taught for 38 years.

His particular expertise is wind instruments. He has composed a Michigan song, "Water Wonderland," that is being sponsored by the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs as its new state song.

Kittman has been with the Garden City school system for 19 years and is a band director at Garden City West High School. He earned his masters degree at Iowa State University and his specialty is brass instruments.

Photos by Cyd Abatt



Vocalist Lisa Slowcroft, from Farmington Hills, waits for her turn to perform in vying against 62 others for scholarships



Musicals members in Grapenthin (seated) and Beverly Notestine wait for the judges' decisions

At Mrs. Notestine's right is her daughter Sue, who placed in the junior piano division



A winner in the junior instrumental division is Jim Cavanagh from Livonia, whose mother is a Musicals choir member

By SHERRY NEWMAN

Rex Reed, who views about 10 movies a week, claims that even with a spyglass you can't find a woman in them these days.

To a predominantly female Livonia Town Hall audience he decried the fact that "today women are selling real estate, robbing banks, busting bosses and finding their way into positions of power everywhere but in movies."

The women who do turn up on celluloid are in Reed's opinion "whores, bird brains, emotional cripples or sex-starved Lolitas."

And the visiting film critic had an explanation for the problem he had noted: "Men who make films," he said, "are confused about society and the changing female roles, so they make buddy films defining men in macho terms and casting women as fantasy images."

He added: "The men in Hollywood are keeping women dependent on them for employment, and the women are fighting for scraps."

"When I was growing up, half the players were women. Whatever kind of woman you wanted to see, they were there. So I am tired of seeing only half the human race in current films, so I watch them instead on the late show."

Reed regretted that movies portraying women in a realistic way have not been supported by women at the box office. Some of those which have been ignored, but which Reed found good, were "Happy Ending" with Jean Simmons, "Play It As It Lays" with Tuesday Weld, and "Up the Sandbox" with Barbara Streisand.

He observed that when film writer Eleanor Perry was asked to write a western, they called in a man to write the rape

scene "because women don't know anything about rape."

He characterized Joanne Woodward as a fine actress looking for a job, and added that Shirley MacLaine is having heavy going trying to raise money for a movie about a woman flyer, Amelia Earhart.

"Hollywood is treating women so badly they are having to develop their own films," he commented. "No one is giving them a chance. Only three per cent of

those in the industry are women. I'm tired of women being kept around just to keep the sheets warm."

CLEARLY, THE MOVIE industry was not in Reed's good graces that day for he added "the movie industry is falling apart."

He noted: "Someone makes a film and then disappears forever. The industry is in chaos. Films are made so that so many people are killed off, so many heads shot off. There is no character development. We never know why they are fighting each other."

Where there was once romance, there is now only sex and violence. I am surfeited with films that do nothing but lower values."

He confessed to turning more and more to TV for the kinds of films he wanted to see, and was applauded when he mentioned his fondness for "Rah Man Poor Man."

REVIEWING FILMS is not all Reed does. He also in a sense reviews film stars and other celebrities. Actually it is called an interview, but so intense is he on not passing on the legend that they are gods and goddesses that he makes a point of describing them as he finds them.

Barbara Streisand didn't speak to me for five years," he said. And no wonder when you consider what he wrote about her in the New York Times.

He described an incident he witnessed in a Philadelphia museum where Streisand was taping a TV show, reading comic books and eating "everything that wasn't nailed down."

Late in the evening a knock came on the heavily guarded door. "Behold, children of men," he said. "I have come to see you." "We love Streisand," they cried.

The response from their idol was "the creeps follow me everywhere." She gave

orders to get rid of them. She even directed that guard dogs be sent after them with the result that the kids and their soup buckets went flying in all directions.

"She went into a coma when she read that," observed Reed. Sandy Dennis did likewise, he said, about an article he wrote on her.

Her place was filled with 20 cats and she had on a nightgown even though she knew I was coming," said Reed. In time Mrs. Dennis was able to get it together to offer Reed a drink in a glass from which he had to pluck cat hairs.

Tuesday Weld, whom he described as an alcoholic at 12 and a has-been at 18, worried him a lot when the told him that on weekends she hires a car and drives out on a freeway with her small daughter doing scream therapy. He was even more worried about her daughter.

He reported that when Tatum O'Neal announced she was leaving her school, the whole class applauded.

"In this age, people can't be tied to any more," he maintained. "As long as I go I'm going to tell it."

However, not everyone comes off badly. Sophia Loren is nice and beautiful, but not as exciting as Melina Mercouri. Angela Lansbury is a real person," Jean Simmons and her husband, Richard Brooks are two of the sanest people I know."

In a response to a question at the Plymouth Minghouse luncheon and afterglow, he won a number of hearts and minds when he put thumbs down on the movie, "Shampoo."

"I room to be in the museum on this," he said. "I hated it. It was a phony and empty picture and after I rapped it, Warren Beatty didn't speak to me."

Now did he much like "Taxi Driver" or "Nashville," although he found "Barry Lyndon" to be "a most beautiful film, re-

fusing literature to film."

Film critic prefers TV late shows



REX REED