

Theater announces next season's plays

The selection of plays to be produced during Meadow Brook Theatre's 1978-79 season has been announced by Terence Kilburn, artistic director. The theater's 13th season will open Oct. 12 with Bernard Shaw's comedy "The Devil's Disciple" (through Nov. 5). Jason Miller's dynamic Pulitzer, New York Critics and Tony Award winner, "That Championship Season," will follow Nov. 9 through Dec. 3. A light-hearted romance, "Ring Round the Moon" by Jean Anouilh, adapted by Christopher Fry, will usher in the holiday season Dec. 7 through Dec. 31. Herman Wouk's powerful courtroom conflict, "The Caine Mutiny

Court-Martial," will start the new year Jan. 4 through Jan. 28, 1979. Noel Coward extends the battle of the sexes into the world of the occult with "Blithe Spirit," which will open Feb. 1 through Feb. 25, 1979. James Yaffe adapted the suspense thriller, "The Deadly Game," from a story by Friedrich Durrenmat, which bows March 1 through March 25, 1979. Moliere's outrageous character, Scapin, sets off the riotous fun to welcome spring in "The Adventures of Scapin" on March 29 through April 11, 1979. The last offering of the season, a musical comedy (April 26 through May 20, 1979) will be announced later.

New Shakespeare premiering at OU

A contemporary writer puts a new twist on a Shakespearean classic when "The Curate Shakespeare; As You Like It" receives its state premiere Friday at Oakland University. The Student Enterprise Theatre production is an adaptation by Don Nigro, a young playwright on the faculty at the University of Iowa. His play has been performed on campuses in other areas but never before in Michigan. Nigro blends the language of Shakespeare's day with current dialogue. The story involves the production of "As You Like It" by a Shakespearean troupe that has been reduced to seven members. The seven struggle to portray the many characters in the play, and their efforts create new comedy situations to complement those in the original script.

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY undergraduate students taking on the multiple roles are Karen Swartz, Richmond Nancy Bright, Warren Elizabeth Mar, Lapeer, Mark Sawson, Sterling Heights; Robert Hassett, Pontiac; Peter May, London, England; and John Roman, Sterling Heights. The play will be repeated Friday and Saturday, plus Thursday-Saturday the next three weekends. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m. in the Studio Theatre of Warner Hall. There will be 99 cent matinees at 2:30 p.m. March 26 and April 2. Tickets for the evening performances are priced for general admission. Group rates are available. For additional information, call 377-2245.

'Rumpelstiltskin' coming to Community House

"Rumpelstiltskin," a live stage production for children, will come to The Community House in Birmingham on Saturday for two separate performances, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The show, part of The Community House Children's Show Series, will be presented by Traveling Smiles, a professional group affiliated with the Association for the Performing Arts. Traveling Smiles travels throughout the Midwest, performing for children of all ages, and has played to more than 10,000 children in the state. Rumpelstiltskin, the traditional children's fairytale, tells the story of the miller who has brought his daughter to the king because the king has heard she can spin straw into gold. Of course, she cannot, and Rumpelstiltskin performs the task for her in exchange for her firstborn child. As the story unfolds, the imagination of the young audience is stimulated, with a happy ending to the story. Stan Gill, a native Detroit, directs the show, with James Fleming as producer. Included in the troupe are,

Owen Anderson, Carolyn Tjon, Connie Huber, Barbara Thorne and Stan Gill. Tickets for "Rumpelstiltskin" are on sale at The Community House, Bates and Townsend, Birmingham. The Village Players of Birmingham are presenting "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" by Dale Wasserman based on the novel by Ken Kesey. The play takes place in a ward in a state mental hospital in the Pacific Northwest and has become a classic in its own time, dealing with the characters' quests for human dignity amidst the oppressive forces of the institution. Performances are March 24, 25, 30, 31 and April 1 at the playhouse on Chestnut and Hunter Boulevard in Birmingham. For ticket information and reservations call 644-2075.

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