

# Entertainment

Ethel Simmons editor/644-1100



Thursday, February 9, 1984 O&E

(O)11C



## 'Who's Charley's aunt?'

Lee Rosender (left), John Lake and Mark Walters appear in a scene from St. Dunstan's Guild of Cranbrook's production of the comedy classic "Charley's Aunt." Performances are at 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 18 at the playhouse on Lone Pine Road in Bloomfield Hills. Rosender plays Charley's real Aunt. Meanwhile, Walters, who is Lord Babberly, has

dressed up as the aunt to provide a chaperone for girlfriends visiting the Oxford undergraduate in the year 1892. Directing the production is Dwight Rinke. Seats are \$5; students, \$4. For reservations call 644-2527. A benefit performance was given Wednesday and other benefits are scheduled for Sunday, and Thursday, Feb. 16.

STEPHEN CANTRELL/Joint photographer

## Kiss faces up Band reveals its secret

Its songs have always been tough and catchy. Yet, almost everyone over a prepubescent 12 usually had difficulty getting past the obvious burlesque, the mock blood-spitting and the crass commercialism of Kiss.

Kiss' biggest hype has always been in never allowing its naked faces to be photographed in public. But this is 1984 and things change.

Ten years after its initial foray into the world of heavy metal and glitter rock, Kiss is appearing in Detroit without its wild makeup.

This may not diminish the band's popularity among the younger segment of rock 'n' roll fans. Without that gimmick, however, Kiss may have to reach for new visual and sonic energies.

Find out when Kiss appears at Cobo Arena on Saturday, Feb. 18. For more information about the concert, call 567-8000.

IT WAS JUST about 100 years ago that London's stellar lyric troupe, the D'Oyly Carte, first visited the United States to present the comic opera of Gilbert and Sullivan.

Brethren Productions brings the stars of the D'Oyly Carte to town for a first North American tour with a show called "The Best of Gilbert and Sullivan."

In this show you can expect songs and snippets from all your favorite Gilbert and Sullivan shows. These will certainly include "The Pirates of Penzance," "Iolanthe," "The Mikado," "The Gondoliers" and "H.M.S. Pinafore."

All of this will be at Orchestra Hall on Friday, Feb. 24. Brethren Productions (271-4360) can give more details.

LARRY NOZERO, one of Detroit's finest jazz reed players, is playing a concert at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18, at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills.



on music

James  
Windell

Nozero seems destined to be one of the current crop of jazz musicians who will break out of the Detroit market. He has been featured at both the 1980 and 1982 Montreux-Detroit International Jazz Festivals. He also got some international exposure when he and his quartet traveled to Montreux, Switzerland, to represent Detroit — although he lives in Farmington — at the Montreux Jazz Festival in 1980 and 1981.

During his concert, Nozero, along with his quartet, will be playing songs from his last two albums, "Up to Your Neck" and "Island Fever."

If you miss this concert, you can catch Nozero every Monday night from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Nicky's in Troy. For O.C.C. concert information, call 471-7700.

JOHNNY O'NEAL, the Chicago piano player originally from Detroit, finishes his engagement at Baker's Keyboard Lounge, Livorno at Eight Mile Road, Detroit, this weekend.

O'Neal is an exuberant entertainer who plays jazz standards like "Summertime" and "How Long Has This Been Going On" with a flurry of two-handed notes and plenty of rhythm.

He reminds many jazz listeners of other well-known pianists, such as Bud Powell and Oscar Peterson — and maybe even Les McCann.

O'Neal, currently playing with Detroiters Ken Kellett (bass) and Pistol Allen (drums), is not a household name yet. His debut album on the Concord label ("Coming Out") should help.

Clarence Baker, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Baker's Keyboard Lounge, was well aware of metro-Detroiters' lack of familiarity with O'Neal when he booked the pianist for the month-long stay ending Sunday night.

"He's quite an entertainer, and the reason I'm keeping him here so long is that I want people to get to know him," says Baker, who has nurtured many a jazz newcomer over the years.

The reaction by listeners has been gratifying to both O'Neal and Baker. So look for O'Neal to return to Detroit in a few months.

IN AUGUST 1978, I reviewed a book for the Observer & Eccentric papers called "Jazz Styles." It was the first book review I had published, and although I've written dozens of book reviews since, that first review was memorable for me because of the quality of the book.

In my review, I predicted that the Prentice-Hall book written by former Birmingham resident Mark C. Gridley would be widely read and used in jazz courses in high schools and colleges.

For once, I was right. Gridley's parents still live in Birmingham, and Helen Gridley reports that the book continues to sell well and has just been published in Bulgarian and Danish. She also says that the book, which her son has just revised, is being used at more than 200 U.S. colleges as well as in England and Australia.

"He's real thrilled," said Helen Gridley, "that his old college, Michigan State University, has recently adopted it for use."

The book is being used in classes at Interlochen, Western Michigan University and Oakland Community College.

Please turn to next page

## Comedy is funny, yet sad

The Actors Alliance Theatre Company production of "Why Hanna's Skirt Won't Stay Down" by Tom Eyen continues through March 4 at Lycee International, 30800 Evergreen, Southfield. Performances are at 8:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays and 6:30 p.m. Sundays. For ticket information call 642-1522.

By Cathie Breidenbach  
special writer

\*Why Hanna's Skirt Won't Stay

### review

Down, a bizarre play billed as "unabashed trash," crosses the line from risqué into flat-out raunchiness. It's both funny and pathetically sad, and though billed as a comedy, the ending to this innovative play is far from jolly. The setting is Coney Island, back a

few years, and the Actors Alliance Theatre Company cleverly sets the scene even before the audience enters the theater.

There's hurdy-gurdy music, hot dogs and popcorn for sale in the lobby. Then Charles Greenleaf, the Barker for the funhouse, lures the audience into the theater-in-the-round with nonstop prattle about wonders and wonders to be seen inside.

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