

Fine voices highlight OU's 'Carousel'

Performances of the musical "Carousel" continue through Sunday, June 22, at Varner Recital Hall on the Oakland University campus in Rochester Hills. For ticket information call 370-3013 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Bigelow is an all-around loser, who kills himself after an ill-fated robbery attempt. To redeem himself and gain entry into heaven, Bigelow is allowed to briefly return to earth to lend spiritual support to his daughter, now grown into an unhappy teenager.

FROM THE OPENING strains of the haunting "Carousel Waltz" to the always-heart-tugging finale of "You'll Never Walk Alone," "Carousel" has some of the very loveliest Rodgers and Hammerstein tunes. Under the direction of F. Andrew Aston, the Oakland cast does an excellent job with the music, dancing and overall staging. As Julie, Wolff is the perfect inge-



Cathie Breidenbach

nue: pretty, perky and exuding wholesomeness and sincerity. Her clear, sweet voice excels in numbers like "If I Loved You" and "What's the Use of Wond'rin'."

You." One wants to hear more each time he sings. As Julie's friend Carrie, Lisa Morrison is full of high spirits and appealing charm. Her pleasing, powerful voice shines in "Mr. Snow," "When the Children Are Asleep," and many ensemble numbers like "June Is Busting Out All Over" and "A Real

Nice Clambake." Seasoned performer Kate Rodwell aids the student production as Julie's cousin Nettie, full of good sense and steadfast motherly support. Rodwell, too, has a clear, strong voice in the ensemble numbers and her solo of "You'll Never Walk Alone."

WILLIAM O'CONNOR is quite convincing as the villainous Jigger, the friend who lures Bigelow into the attempted robbery, and he sings fine as well.

Of the principals, only Kevin Dennis as Enoch Snow disappoints vocally. Barbara Michals teaches high school English and journalism in Southfield. A theater critic for the last 12 years, she is an inveterate playgoer who regularly catches up on all the New York produc-

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