



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Charles Fallon of Farmington Hills gets gobled by the Venus flytrap in an OCC interpretation of the play "Little Shop of Horrors" (holds the plant is another Farmington Hills

resident, Rob Still, who serves as puppeteer. Both are North Farmington High School students.

'Little Shop' musical opens tonight at OCC

By Casey Hane
staff writer

A SERIES of four Broadway-style puppets will enhance this week's Oakland Community College musical production of "Little Shop of Horrors" which runs through Saturday.

"I would consider it a rock show," said director Robert Janes, adding that the production at Smith Theater on OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus is adapted from the storyline of the original 1960 film of the same name which starred Jack Nicholson.

The rented puppets show the progression of a Venus flytrap plant as it grows and takes over the workshop.

Two North Farmington High School students play key roles in the upbeat musical production, which will include a three-piece piano, bass and drum ensemble and a trio of '50s-style singers.

Senior Charles Fallon plays the lead role of Seymour, while sophomore Rob Still is the puppeteer whose skill can be seen through his interpretation and use of the lifelike puppets.

Playing shop owner Mushnik will be longtime Smith Theater actor Will Young. "Little Shop" takes the stage at 8

p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Aug. 15-17. A 2 p.m. matinee is also scheduled for Saturday. General seating tickets are \$8 and \$6 for students and seniors, with all matinee seats \$6.

Tickets may be reserved by calling 471-7590.

The production includes both high school students involved in the college's summer programs and college students in the Summer Theater Workshop. Some adults also play roles.

"Our philosophy is to have high school students working with adult or college actors," said Tom Williams, assistant director for the production and co-director of the summer youth program.

High school students in the Personal Performance/Technical Theater class not only work on their acting skills, but also learn the background necessary to put a production together. North Farmington's Fallon is also earning college credit for his experience this year.

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