Avon's 'Rumors' has lots of laughs

Performances of the Avon Players production of "Rumors" con-linue through Jan. 23 at the play-house in Rochester Hills. For the st information call the box office



The Avon Players' production
of Neil Simon's
clever farce,
"Rumors," is a
tunny and quickwitted look at an
evening's mischlef for the upper middle class.
But just as many
vintage musicals
were written

Whose from page 7C

were written ound previously written songs, umors" was written around non's previously written one-

Farces are notorious for blend-

doctor's final helpful acts be-

the doctor's final heipful acts believable.

Linde Pelliccioni is too beautiful to play Dr. Joan Scott! Dr.
Scott's deeply complex shifts of
motion, and her basis eympaty.
With Harrison need to be stronged
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to the palent's lawyer — are
- silm Rink looks every inch the
fawyer who decides to plead Harfison's case. As Philip Hill, Rink
trudes a troubled, yet meticulous
sense of a man strugging to do
the right thing in a "cloudy uniterse" a world of difficult decisions. Jack Abella as Peter Kershaw, his collegue, is fast on his
feet.

Lerxy Rander, a bear of a man.

Lerxy Rander, a bear of a man.

Jerry Brader, a bear of a man, plays Dr. Paul Travers, the hospi-

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ot Turkey with Staffing

ing a mix of high and low comedy with ridiculous story line, and the story line for "Rumore" is ridiculous, but misses the fast-paced style of the farceur fancier. Director Joyce Contruct blends quirky characters, timing and pace for a function of the contract of the co

tal psychiatrist. Brader is effective in his single scene, trying in valu to prove Harrison is insane, then going for help.

Jacqueline Saltz, as Dr. Barr, 'the help' that arrives from Bellovue, turns out to be the voice of "outside objectivity." She doesn't believe Harrison is too depressed to make rational decisions, and Saltz efficiently plays the formidable Dr. Barr.

Lori Jacobs does fine in a camoe as Andrea Edon, the hospital representative, and Hal Safron is excellent as Mr. Justice Millhouse, the thoughtful, kindly 'honging judge' of whom so much a saked. Kudos to Lee Welkewier for the fine set.

Helen Zucker has many years' experience reviewing for newspa-pers and magazines in Michigan, New York and Massachusetts.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

Silmon sarcasm rather than the stareotypical ditry female with a squeaky voice. Katz gives a laudable performance as Ken.

The host and hostess are missing, as are the domestic help, but guests keep arriving nonetheless. Kim Monteroses gives as splendid performance as Lenny Ganz, and is the highlight of the show with his confident comedic timing. He is hilarous delivering lines such as, '.. there's only a sheet-and-ahelf left on the toilet paper. It's sloppy, but not a scandal.'

Linda Shepherd pleys his wife, Claire Ganz, with flair and interesting detail. Most people drop names to be chief, Claire drops diseases while boasting which charity she has attended.

Cookle Cusack (Sue Warner)

charity she has attended.

Cookie Cusack (Sue Warner)
and her husband Ernie (Jim
Warner) are duped into preparing
the evening fare. Sue Warner's
farcical facial expressions make
her a perfect fit for the part of
Cookie.

Cookie's bad back makes it difficult for her to "sit, stand or

walk," but dancing is good for her,
Jim Warner playe, well the
confuser profit of the state are Glenn
Cooper, played by a canable Mark
The last of the state are Glenn
Cooper, played by a canable Mark
Stanger, and Cassic Cooper portrayed well by Natasha Monchak.
Cooper doesn't want to moss up
his political career with a scandalous earlobe injury, and Cassic
is more interested in the rumors
about her husband's infidelity
with a bimbo.
Technically, Doug Patterson's
set design is faultless as the set
functions perfectly for the needs
of the show. Set decoration by
Joan MacVey and Letha MacNeill is beautiful and filled with
plazazz. The design and decoration combination is is dazzling.
"Rumors" has a shaky premise
without much plot. Farce depends
upon plots within plots, mixed
identities and lots of fun confusion. The many doors required for
the set were misused in the writing. Simon would have done better to call it a comedy. The Aven
Players' production is a valid
comedy.

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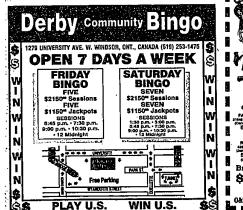


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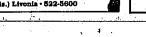
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