

Youths film contemporary passion play

By BARBARA BRUMM

The hit musical production "Jesus Christ Superstar," and the original cast of the play may not be in Southfield right now. But Southfield does have a cast of "Performers" who are putting on what might be called a "Jesus Christ Superstar" production in miniature.

The performers are Southfield junior high school students who are members of the Southfield United Methodist Church, the Magnolia United Methodist Church, and St. Marks United Methodist Church's combined youth groups.

The production, which the youths put together almost completely them-

selves, is what they call a "modern day passion play."

The play, like "Jesus Christ Superstar," focuses on Jesus' last days on earth—in a modern day setting.

THE FILMING of the play was done Saturday, and the characters in the play dressed for the production as they would normally dress on a Saturday—in jeans.

The figure of Christ, played by Southfield High School student Paul Eink, was identifiable in the play only by a long white sheet which he wore.

"Our play will be different from the real version of Christ's last days in some aspects of course," said Mrs.

Carol Underwood, co-organizer of the production.

"We have too many girls who volunteered to be in the play, so some of the disciples will have to be girls. Also, we will do a scene in the play depicting Judas' hanging."

"Here we thought it best, though, not to really hang anyone."

THE OPENING scenes of the play were filmed at the Northwood Shopping Center. The disciples were shown getting out of cars and walking down the street toward the place where the Last Supper could be held.

"Here we were simply showing how 12 people today would assemble for a

meeting with Christ for a Last Supper," Mrs. Underwood explained.

The filming of the Last Supper was done at the Northwestern Baptist Church on Ten Mile Road in Southfield. The filming at the church also showed Judas' Betrayal, and afterwards showed Judas casting away the 30 pieces of silver—the money he had received for turning Christ over to the authorities.

The deaths of Judas and Christ were portrayed in the film with the use of symbolism. A shot of a hangman's noose over a tree symbolized the death of Judas, while the flashing of pictures of Christ on the cross in the film depicted Christ's death.

THE LAST scenes of the movie showing resurrection were shot at the Belle Island Planetarium.

"There is a place at the planetarium where there is a cave, and this is where we'll show the rolling of the stone in front of Christ's tomb and then a scene where Mary and Mary Magdalene discover that Christ has risen."

"The film will end here," Mrs. Underwood said.

A camera man from a local TV station did the camera work for the production.

HOW DID the idea come about to film such a play?

"The kids wanted to do something

for Lent and what better way of getting them involved during Lent than filming and starring in a production about Christ's last days on earth?" Mrs. Underwood said.

The film will be shown at the Magnolia United Methodist Church at 7:30 p.m. March 31.

Other special Lenten programs that will be put on by other Southfield Methodist Churches include a pot luck supper on March 3 at the Southfield United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. and a Lenten musical program with the junior-high chorus from the new Black Church of Northwest Detroit on March 17 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Marks United Methodist Church.

O.U. honors

Sixty-six Oakland University students qualified for University grade honors during the 1973-1974 fall term.

The three categories are: University Scholar (3.9 grade point average or higher); Student of Great Distinction (3.5 to 3.9) and Student of Distinction (3.0 to 3.49). The averages are based on a perfect 4.0 for straight A. Students must be carrying a minimum of 12 credits to be eligible.

University Scholars
Marianne Hovsepian, 30560 Woodgate Drive, Carolyn Kusch, 28213 Fontana, Martin Leibman, 16959 Jeanette.

Students of Great Distinction
Marc Abel, 15833 New Hampshire; Esther Blum, 28101 Glasgow; Rhonda Carson, 29585 Woodhaven; Gary Cherniak, 15851 Fairfax; John Cook, 18153 Westland.

Janice Dolenga, 30425 Red Maple Lane; Gary Feinberg, 20241 Alhambra; Stefan Feldman, 25035 Oakbrook; Carl Griffin, 17360 Melrose; Kathleen Kelly, 25388 Dunbar.

Ellen Kroppnick, 27015 Harvard; Mary Lamarra, 18105 Dorset; Alan Leventen, 15971 Goldwin; Sheryl McNamee, 23451 Lake Ravine; Daniel Pernick, 29315 Pine Tree Drive.
Richard Purcell, 30570 Red Maple Lane; Marc Schemansky, 29055 Lancaster; Steven Shaenboen, 17178 Shervilla Place; Sylvia Shrem, 29279 Willowick Court; Antonia Soave, 19739 Midway.
Ronald Spino, 27389 Marshall; Beth Stein, 24621 Lafayette Circle; Linda Bowen, 21780 Concord Court; Gary Burstein, 21280 Independence; Sandra Schuster, 29330 Pinetree; Arthur Wolfson, 24665 Thornbyke.

Students of Distinction
Kenneth Arfa, 21111 Winchester; Mark Blumenfeld, 17365 Sherfield; Richard Boudakian, 27300 Franklin Road; Dana Crick, 30530 Northgate; Mary Darnell, 27275 Red Leaf Lane.

Sally Detloff, 30232 Spring River; Ellen Droste, 25981 Accotia; James Gillespie, 617 6th St.; Michelle Golman, 25445 Concourse; Karyn Goldberg, 23706 Lelo Court.
Ellen Hargis, 20345 Winchester; Garret Hemming, 19390 Middlesex; Gregory Hnadio, 30025 Fairfax; Patricia Hovsepian, 30560 Woodgate Drive; Lynn Kaplan, 25375 Basin 219.

Gail Karbal, 21579 Constitution; Barbara Komer, 27400 Franklin Road; Karen Mandogian, 29231 Stellmar Drive; Claire Micheline, 29230 Leemoor Drive; Gerald Miller, 22322 Lehigh.

Paul Moga, 18605 Hilton; David Norman, 16180 N. Park Drive; Jacqueline Novitz, 29385 Chatham Court; Elyse Ostrow, 21670 Glenmorra; Elyse Parel, 25520 Catalina.

Mark Roberts, 19740 Cherry Hill; Cynthia Rosenberger, 24551 Maryland; Arthur Spears, 29627 Guy; Nancy Stupsker, 17005 Addison; Carol Swenson, 21982 Fairway Drive.

James Vallet, 25876 Mulroy Drive; Maxine Weitzman, 25115 Prairie Drive; Michael Wiseman, 16426 Stratford Drive; Cheryl Charnesky, 25275 Briarbank; Kenneth Crawford, 30707 Fairfax.

Monika Homann, 30665 Red Maple Lane; Brian Kram, 21365 Glenmorra; Michael Kurtz, 17625 Goldwin; Carol Sheets, 29588 Fall River; Paula Tanenhaus, 27726 Aberdeen.

County offers fun on wheels

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission is offering the City of Farmington and other communities in the area free use of a mobile, recreational program.

According to Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman, the county parks and recreation commission intends to buy a swim-mobile, a skate-mobile, a puppet-mobile, a show-mobile and portable restrooms.

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Rochester Hills Plaza-1378 WALTON BLVD. Next to Chatham-Rochester-Package LIQUOR Dealer
Orchard-14 Center-30830 ORCHARD LAKE RD. Next to Great Scott-Farmington-Package LIQUOR Dealer
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