

'Terms Defined'

'Darn Cat' Darned To Teething Type

By STEVE DIMEO
Entertainment Editor

Having been soundly berated for my excessive indulgence in polysyllabicesquipedalianism (definition or translation, depending upon nationality: use of big words), I herewith resolve to use the most vivid and readable language possible in this review—a language that everyone will understand.

To maintain a certain air of coherency in this review for those who thrive on such a sense of false security, I will divide the critical essay into three sections in which I will discuss:

- (1) Why "That Darn Cat" at the McDonald stinks (note the vivid, one-syllable verb).
- (2) What the pussy-padded plot is (forgive the plosive explosion) and
- (3) How the acting complements the film's lack of quality.

COMEDY DISNIFIED

First, "That Darn Cat" is an unsophisticated and therefore quite Disnified comedy (to pacify whom it may concern, pun unintended). It's not hard to tell that it's another Walt Disney because of the (note the simple but effective adjectives) baby wails from the audience.

It includes some sloppy slapstick (sorry about the sibilance) and has a script that might possibly challenge a two-year old if he's late in learning how to speak.

Second, Hayley Mills plays the Dondi-meddling young sister of Dorothy Provine who notices a watch around Darn Cat's neck put there by the kidnapped lady bank teller being held by the bank robber Neville Brand and his Cagney-cocky sidekick. Naturally she knows that the watch was put there by the kidnapped teller because she's read the naive script ahead. So she rats (note that verb's vivid local color) to FBI agent Dean Jones who is allergic to cats.

FUZZ TAIL TAIL

Jones then makes it a chase movie in which the FBI fuzz tails the fuzzy tail of that (this IS a Disney movie, you know) Siamese. In the end the tailed cat tells the tale of bungling bad guys captured and boys by girls gotten—even D.C., (short for Darn Cat; isn't that cute?) who we find has been working at it all along.

Third, the characters and their portrayals make you understand why a baby might wail.

Hayley Mills does a convincing job of showing that she's not really pretty. She has a part, of course, that makes it seem as if she were the product of an immaculate conception.

Dean Jones executes a silly grin that'd tear up a bulldog.

Dorothy Provine never lets us forget that she has a shrill voice and learned how to act in the "Roaring '20's."

And Roddy McDowall is surprisingly miserable in the part of the maternally-mastered male (again?!) who tries to court dear Dorothy and is accountably counted out (pun—for some—unintended again) after Jones shows. The mother's boy bit does get a bit tiring after a while, doesn't it? (That's English for "n'est-ce pas.")

LANCASTER CASTED BLANDLY

There's also Elsa Lancaster as the neighboring nose—a character we've seen dozens of times before, too, when it was funny.

The cat, however, does a fair job of acting, considering it's dumb and is trained to lick effectively when it looks at food off camera.

To conclude (readers rejoice), "That Darn Cat" is one of a bore that's a waste of time for anybody who has finished teething. It's another one of Walt Disney's . . .

(rest of sentence incoherently censored to save writer and reader alike embarrassment though it would truly be quite readable to all)

The only thing this has to offer is a cute Sherman and Sherman ("Chim Chim Cheree") title song ruined by Bobby Darin which should make it eligible for gold in one form or another.

That's all, folks—that is, I now terminate the carping cant of my captious descendant.

Frosh Present Annual Snoball

The annual Frosh Snoball will be held from 9 to 12 p.m. Saturday in the Student Union Ballroom. The theme of this year's semi-formal dance is Silver Skates.

The Johnny Reitz band from Salem, who played at last year's Snoball, will again provide the music. Guest entertainment will be a singing performance by Sue Pack, Miss Oregon.

Queen candidates are Kathy Kramer, Jill Hosier, Laurie Nielson, Carol Hill, and Sandy Tyrholm. Freshman will vote for their favorite candidate as they go in the door.

Roger Gould, acting president of the freshman class, is the general chairman of the dance. He is assisted by Judy Rohrbough and Leslie Cooper, decorations; Penny Carpenter, programs and invitations; Dianne Semingson, publicity; and Stan Wolf, refreshments and cleanup.

The deans of all the schools and their wives and University President Arthur S. Flemming and his wife are invited. Faculty members will chaperone.

All freshmen and their dates are invited to attend. There is no admission charge. Pictures will be taken at the dance.

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Play to Thaw Campus Chill

By STEVE DIMEO
Entertainment Editor

Winter term's freeze of dramatic campus activities will try to thaw this weekend with the University theatre's "world premiere" presentation of "One World at a time" at 8 p.m. today, Saturday and Sunday.

The play—a humorous drama of the life and career of the 19th century agnostic, Robert Ingersoll—was written by 33-year-old Richard F. Stockton. It is speculated that Stockton's script may be put into action off Broadway in New York this May, but plans are still vague.

Faber De Chaine directs the

play. Donald Farley, a Ph.D. candidate in English while teaching composition and literature at the University, will play the lead.

Reserved seats are \$1.50. The play will also be performed on the evenings of Feb. 3, 4, and 5.

"Pepe" Preferred

The world of Catinflas will be explored in "Pepe," this week's SU movie playing at 2:30 and 8:30 p.m. Sunday in the SU Ballroom. The Mexican cinema hero Catinflas plays a simple-hearted ranch-hand who goes to Hollywood and associates with producer Dan Dailey.

The color film features Shirley Jones and 35 guest stars including Maurice Chevalier, Bobby Darin, Jimmy Durante, Bing Crosby and Edward G. Robinson.

The McDonald is the only theatre presenting anything really new this weekend and, from today's review, it's not hard to tell that that's a bad boast.

The Eugene Drive-In has disintegrated "The Nanny" and made Bette Davis compete with the gory horror in the other black-and-white co-feature "The Horror of Party Beach."

Friday Feature Times

EUGENE DRIVE-IN: The Nanny —7:15, 10:45; The Horror of Party Beach—9:15.
FOX: Sound of Music—8:30.
HEILIG: The Loved One—1:30, 5:30, 9:30; The Secret of My Success—3:30, 7:30.
MAYFLOWER: My Fair Lady—8:00.
McDONALD: That Darn Cat —1:30, 3:50, 6:55, 8:55.

Saturday Feature Times

EUGENE DRIVE-IN: The Nanny —7:15, 10:45; The Horror of Party Beach—9:15.
FOX: Sound of Music—2, 8.
HEILIG: The Loved One—1:30, 5:30, 9:30; The Secret of My Success—3:30, 7:30.
MAYFLOWER: My Fair Lady—8:00.
McDONALD: That Darn Cat —11 a.m., 1:05, 3:50, 6:55, 8:55.

A Chi O Elects

Alpha Chi Omega sorority has elected officers for the 1966-67 year. They include:

Donna Scovil, president; Jan Erceg, first vice-president; Judy Hylton, second vice-president; Connie Dickman, rush chairman; Terry Tweed, treasurer; Ellie Mitchell, social chairman; and Jackie Crofoot, house manager.

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