

'Any Wednesday'

'Pleasant comedy' set as final VLT show

By CHRIS HOUGLUM
Of the Emerald

Eugene's Very Little Theatre (VLT) has come up with another success for its final production of the season—not an unqualified success, troubled as it is with some minor casting problems and uneven pacing—but a production which promises a pleasant evening of comedy for those not looking for any big surprises.

The play in question is Muriel Resnick's "Any Wednesday," an essentially lightweight piece which attempts to make infidelity appear funny. Doesn't sound like much at first, admittedly, but it's considerably more successful than most attempts of this nature.

And VLT has dressed up the play considerably with a fine set and a cast of four who manage to invest the vehicle with all possible comic appeal.

The play's plot, which improves upon the pallid premise, runs like this: wealthy businessman John Cleves, is allowing his young mistress, Ellen Gordon, to occupy an apartment which serves as a tax-deductible executive suite while they carry on the affair. The incompetence of Cleves' secretary, however, results in the arrival of small-businessman Cass Henderson, who comes to the suite in hopes of asking the absent Cleves about a business matter.

The young man's presence provokes a quarrel with Ellen, at which time Mrs. Cleves, also searching for her husband and also misdirected, arrives to intercede in what she believes to be a misunderstanding between newlyweds. She invites the young couple out on the town with her hubby and the result, of course, is pandemonium.

Playwright Resnick supplements these complex situations

with many clever lines, but they often come in staccato bursts, leaving intervals where humor is low-key, if not absent. Consequently, the play has its lively spots, and nearly as many periods in which the case is allowed to languish about on the stage. The comic strength of the characterizations is something which can be relied on in some such circumstances, but at times the production is a bit wearing.

Jean Tollenaar appears most comfortable of the quartet in her role as the gracious, tolerant Mrs. Cleves. This is the most low-key, down-to-earth characterization of the production, and Mrs. Tollenaar capitalizes on its relative strength.

Mary Ann Wish, as Ellen, is handicapped by only one factor—she is a mild knockout. It becomes relatively difficult at times to associate such an Amazon with the flighty ingenue of Resnick's creation. This aside, Mrs. Wish handles her lines with all the flair which would contribute to an ideal performance by someone a little less attractive.

Bill Jones and Wayne Wagner, both making their first VLT appearances, fare generally well as Henderson and Cleves, respectively. Wagner is less physically imposing than might be desired, but he displays all of the expected craftiness in both business and romantic affairs. Jones is effective in conveying the corn-belt simplicity of Henderson, but his characterization is a bit mannered, and could use a bit more force.

"Any Wednesday" continues through Saturday at VLT, with curtain time set for 8:15 p.m. on all performance dates. Tickets are available at the VLT box office, 2350 Hilyard, 344-7751, and cost \$1.50 for adults, \$1.25 for students. All seats are reserved.

Campus happenings

Today

WALT CROWLEY, managing editor of Seattle's Underground newspaper Helix, will speak at 7:30 tonight in 215 Allen. The talk is sponsored by Sigma Delta Chi and is open to the public.

"BERNADA ALBA" will be discussed at 4 p.m. today in the Honor's College. Speakers will include Robert Ziller, Perry Powers and Mark Malinauskas, who is directing the production of "Bernada Alba" on campus.

"POPULATION, Resources and the American Economy" will be examined in a public symposium at 8 tonight in 123 Sci.

Panelists will be Barry Siegel, professor of economics; Sen. Ed Fadeley, Peter Frank, professor of biology, and Theodore Anderson, professor of sociology.

THE UNIVERSITY Symphonic Band, which is considered one of the better collegiate bands in the country, will present its spring concert free of charge at 8 tonight in the School of Music Recital Hall.

The program will include a balanced presentation of 18th and 19th century music and contemporary works.

THE CONCLUDING spring term Browsing Room lecture will be on "The Geographies of Shakespeare's 'Tempest.'"

Lecturer for the program tonight at 7:30 will be Thelma Greenfield, associate professor of English at the University.

THE GRADUATE History Coven film festival will present "The Flower Thief," a comedy by the late underground director Ron Rice, and some original student films at 7 and 9 tonight in 150 Sci. Admission is 50 cents.

BAHA'I OPEN discussion will feature Unyime Nseyo and Kim Kimmerling speaking on "The Meaning of Spiritual Education in the New World Order" at 8 tonight in the EMU.

A RECEPTION for eight candidates for their Master of Fine Arts degree will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. today in the Museum of Art. The candidates who are showing works beginning today through June 1 in the Museum of art include: Forrest German, V. J. Hagenbuckle, Robert Henry, Lawrence Freeman, Pei-In Hoy, Jan Shield, Patricia Ware and Hugh Webb.

Future

THE MCKENZIE Flycasters, a group interested in promoting fly-fishing as a sport, will be offering free flycasting clinics at 6:15 p.m. Thursday in the Millrace. Poles and tackle will be furnished.

CSPA STUDENT Action Council will hold elections of officers at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Hendricks Hall Lounge. Persons who are CSPA majors or pre-majors who will be here in the summer or fall, are encouraged to run for office. No experience is necessary.

FRANCOIS TRUFFAUT'S "Jules and Jim" will be presented by the French Club at 7 and 9 p.m. Thursday in the EMU Ballroom. The French film stars Jeanne Moreau and Oskar Werner.

Mostly general

SUMMER JOBS in forestry are available for male students qualified for federal programs for the disadvantaged.

There are 15 job openings available on a first come basis. Pay is \$2.02 to \$2.21 per hour plus room. For further information call ext. 1825.

APPLICATIONS are being processed now for student-run cooperative housing for fall term 1969. Interested students should contact Ellen Mickel, Ext. 2282.

A SPECIAL STUDY institute on "Recreation's Role in the Rehabilitation of the Retarded" will be held by the University today through Wednesday at the Country Squire.

Featured speakers will include Mrs. Morris Pomeroy of Hillsboro, Calif., founder of the Hillsboro Recreation Center for the Handicapped; and George Wyse, director of the King County Park and Recreation Department (Seattle).

Administrators and supervisors of recreational programs and park departments in the

Northwest will be participating in the three-day institute.

THE RENTAL SALES Gallery of the University Museum of Art will be selecting new work this week. Interested artists are invited to submit their works to be judged. A similar invitation is extended for the third week in November, according to Mrs. Thomas Sims, Gallery chairman.

All submitted works must be taken to the museum office between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. through Friday.

Further information may be obtained by calling the museum office, Ext. 1101, or Mrs. Sims, at 688-5157.

Petitions

SOPHOMORES may obtain petitions for next year's Junior Class Council in 301 EMU.

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Seven sororities get provisional recognition

The SAB voted Tuesday to grant provisional recognition to seven sororities until the first board meeting after the sororities' national conventions. The new deadline for sororities to meet SAB recognition requirements is September for Pi Beta Phi and fall of 1970 for the others.

Recognition for Lambda Chi Alpha was tabled until next week because no member was present to answer the board's questions.

The meeting's discussion centered on the SAB requirement that all University recognized organizations submit a statement of membership requirements, sign a non-discrimination pledge, and certify that non-

University persons hold no offices and cast no votes.

This last clause prevented some fraternities and sororities from complying since their national constitutions provide for an alumni voice in selection of members.

The discussion centered around Alpha Phi because the sorority was the first to be considered. Others with a similar problem were: Delta Delta Delta, Delta Zeta, Kappa Alpha Theta, Pi Beta Phi, Pi Kappa Alpha and Sigma Kappa. Lambda Chi Alpha was the only fraternity not complying.

Rex Armstrong, chairman of the SAB, explained that a provisional recognition would have no effect on a house's present campus standing. But, he added, if the national organization does not comply with the board's requirement, the house could assume recognition was withdrawn and that they could not pledge new members during regular rush.

The board will meet next Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. to conclude the Greek statements and consider continued recognition of the Black Student Union.

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