

Theater

Misalliance By George Bernard Shaw The Oregon Repertory Theatre

The Oregon Repertory Theatre tries to overcome George Bernard Shaw's weak and wandering dialogue in its performance of his 1910 comedy *Misalliance*, but the few entertaining moments aren't enough to make the production a success.

It would have taken outstanding performances by more than just Brian Swingle to rescue the performance from the clutches of Shaw's bland script.

Misalliance is a love and sex farce played on the unlikely mishaps between the members of a bourgeois and aristocratic family.

The action begins as Johnny Tarleton, son of a millionaire underwear tycoon, attempts to thrash the living daylights out of his sister Hypatia's

fiance, Bentley Summerhays, who has driven him into rage.

Mrs. Tarleton arrives with her daughter Hypatia in time to rescue Bentley, smother him with attention, and further enrage Johnny.

The first bright moment is short-lived, when Bentley's father, Lord Summerhays (Kenneth Payne), surprises Johnny as he is about to smash a plate in frustration. He condones this, and then reveals the frustration he feels concerning his son's behavior.

Lord Summerhays, who proposed to Hypatia himself, sympathizes with Johnny's interests.

And then the energetic Brian Swingle as John Tarleton picks up the fragments and grabs the audience's attention for good. Tarleton, who is frustrated with his own son's lack of business sense, doesn't find much of a choice left for his daughter in Bentley.

The action takes an unpredicted but

appreciated turn to a plane crash in the Tarleton vineyard. The play's female savior is Lina Szczepanowska (Priscilla Lauris), a Polish daredevil who becomes the target of every man's affections on the stage.

The plane's pilot, Joseph Perceval (Barry Pitzer) is the handsome and arrogant aviator who becomes the next catch for the daring Hypatia.

And yet another bright moment surfaces as the would-be avenger Julius Baker (William Reid) emerges to make John Tarleton make amends for his mother's misfortune. Baker hides in Tarleton's latest prize, a turkish bath, and listens to Hypatia lure the pilot into the meadow for a game of catch-me-if-you-can.

In the mean time, John Tarleton returns from meditating on his destiny in the garden to be confronted by the hapless Gunner. The Polish beauty arrives just in time to foil his attempt,

and the accountant's clerk becomes desperate because he has not only been defeated again, but beaten by a woman.

Hypatia and Perceval must answer for their behavior because the frustrated Gunner has revealed their secret. After Perceval makes a macho attempt to coerce Baker into signing a statement denying his accusations, Mother Tarleton discovers the pictures of Baker's mother, whom she was very fond of.

To top off the farce, Szczepanowska reveals that all the men — except the pilot had by Hypatia — have propositioned her.

Misalliance will be performed at 8 p.m., this Wednesday through Sunday, and Jan. 28- Feb. 1, and 2 p.m. Sunday and Feb. 1. Tickets are \$4, \$5 and \$6 at the ORT box office. Call for reservations at 485-1946.

By Gabriel Boehmer

Staying home, going North — Music, theater, dance

Things to do in the coming weeks — both locally and one hundred and nine miles (or so)



Jane Van Boskirk

up I-5. If you're staying in the Eugene area, there are a variety of events you might find intriguing.

- The Very Little Theatre opens its third production of the 1980-81 season tonight with *The Drunkard*, an old-fashioned temperance melodrama by William Smith. The play goes on stage Thursday through Saturday, and Jan. 29 through 31, Feb. 5 through 7. Tickets are \$4 each, all reserved. Call 344-7751 for more information.

- *Dance '81* comes to the Robinson Theatre on campus Friday. The concert is co-produced by the Department of Dance and the University Theatre. Tickets are \$4.50 for the general public, \$2.75 for university students and senior citizens and \$3.50 for other students. Tickets may be reserved by calling the box office at 686-4191 from noon to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. *Dance '81* continues Saturday and Jan. 28 through 31.

- At the Community Center for the Performing Arts Claudia Schmidt performs with Just

Friends at 8 p.m., Friday. Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 the day of the show, and may be purchased at the House of Records, EMU Main Desk and the Center. For further information call 687-2746.

- Friday at midnight the Oregon Repertory Theatre presents Woody Allen's play *God*. Performances run Friday and Saturday and Jan. 30 through 31, and Feb. 6 and 7, with special 9 p.m. shows on Feb 4 through 7. Tickets for all shows are \$2.50. Call the ORT box office at 485-1946 for reservations.

- Utah Phillips comes to the Gerlinger Alumni Lounge on campus Saturday night with Priscilla Herdman. Showtime is 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3.75 for the general public, \$3.50 for university students and will be sold at the door only. Sponsored by the EMU Cultural Forum, call 686-4373 for further information.

- *The Northwest Woman*, a Eugene-based touring production that dramatizes the history of early Oregon, will be pre-



U. Utah Phillips

sented Sunday at 8 p.m. at the Central Presbyterian Church (1475 Ferry Street). Complimentary tickets are available from the campus housing

department in the Walton Complex. Jane Van Boskirk and Edwin Bingham make up the cast.

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JOB HUNTING

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HOLIDAY INN
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Registration 30 minutes prior to workshop. For reservations or information, call

345-9068

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