

Oregon Repertory Theatre returns to spotlight

By Cathlin Brewer
Of the Emerald

The curtain is rising once again for The Oregon Repertory Theatre, which closed last October due to financial difficulties. The ORT returns to the stage today with "Picnic," at the Soreng Theatre in the Hult Center for the Performing Arts.

The show, along with three others to be presented this season, culminates 12 months of reorganization and planning, and ORT officials are hoping their efforts will bring the theatrical group back into the spotlight.

ORT originally began as the Eugene Theatre Company 10 years ago, with the intention of bringing professional theater to Eugene.

Under the watchful eye of producing director David Lunney, ORT expanded to include Mainstage Productions, Theatre-on-the-Mall, Midnight Mafia, Playwright's Studio and Children's Theatre.

But last October the company's growth was halted when poor management and lack of board participation led to a \$110,000 deficit. These factors forced ORT to suspend production.

Administrative assistant Rosemary Zahler summarized ORT's activities since then. "Because the theater suspended artistic production a year ago, the energy has been focused on reorganizing and restructuring ORT."

"Concurrently, careful attention has been given to the preparations for the move into the Soreng Theater at the Hult Center," she says.

Under the direction of a new managing director, Steven Caffery, a clear financial plan was developed. The deficit has been reduced to \$76,500, and board and staff responsibilities have been restructured to improve communication.

Future ORT productions include Charles Dickens' traditional "A Christmas Carol," which will show in December. A third play — still unchosen — will be performed in March, and finally, the ever popular "On Golden Pond," will be staged in May.

"Picnic" is a well-written, very American play that will strike a responsive chord in everybody," Lunney says. "It's real juicy — about men and women and all that stuff."

In their first appearances with ORT, University junior Kimberly Anderson portrays Madge, and Portlander Jack Ryan

is cast in the role of Hal Carter.

University theater professor Jerry Williams designed the set for "Picnic," as well as the sets for "A Christmas Carol" and "On Golden Pond."

"We're dedicated to promoting, developing and enhancing cultural life and entertainment opportunities of the community," says David Lunney, ORT's artistic director. "ORT is fast becoming an integral part of the arts experience in Eugene."

"The Hult Center is in itself a standard of quality set by the community which built it," Caffery says. "ORT must meet that standard with a level of excellence expected of a professional theater company performing there."

Tickets for "Picnic," which runs through Nov. 6 and "A Christmas Carol," (Dec. 15-24), are on sale for \$6.50, \$8.50, \$10.50 and \$12.50 at the Hult Center Box Office.

When shows don't sell out, ORT offers special half-price "student tickets," which are available at the box office one hour before each show. Students can purchase two tickets with one ID card. Performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

et al.

MEETINGS

MORTAR BOARD meets today at 5:30 p.m. in Room 214 Allen. All members please attend and remember to bring \$8 for the alumni dinner.

HAWAII CLUB meeting tonight at 7 p.m. in Room 112 EMU. All upcoming events will be discussed.

EUGENE DIRECT ACTION, a local group advocating non-violence, invites all interested people to an orientation meeting tonight at 7:30 p.m. at 388 W. 10th Ave. Learn more about nuclear issues and how local citizens can work together to stop the many threats to our earth. For more information, call 484-1476.

THE SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS will meet tonight at 7 p.m. in the Allen Hall Reading Room. Topics to be discussed include Press Law Day, potlucks and petitions.

LECTURES

"LOVING RELATIONSHIPS: NURTURING EACH OTHER," a presentation by Etta Martin and Perry Roth, will be held on today from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Room 141 Straub Hall. Food and drink will be provided.

INTERESTED IN INTERNATIONAL STUDIES? A workshop dealing with career and academic options in

the International Studies field will be held today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 164 Oregon Hall.

A BIOLOGY SEMINAR on "Competition, Predation, and the Formation of Animal Communities" will be presented by Dr. William E. Bradshaw of the University biology department today at 3:30 p.m. in Room 123 Science I.

PACIFIC UNIVERSITY will have a representative on campus Monday, Oct. 31. A presentation on Pacific's optometry program is scheduled from 9 to 10 a.m., followed by a session on their physical therapy and occupational therapy programs from 10 to 11 a.m. Both presentations will be held in Room 101 EMU.

THE UNITED NATIONS is holding a banquet in Portland on Friday, Oct. 28, in honor of its 38th anniversary. Ambassador Charles M. Lichenstein, United States Department Delegate to the United Nations, will be the principal speaker. The banquet will start at 7 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 1119 Southwest Park Avenue.

INTERVIEWS

THE UNIVERSITY HISTORY DEPARTMENT is seeking an Assistant Professor to teach one course in Western Civilization in the Honors College during winter term.

Ph.D. and university level teaching experience in Western Civilization required. Send curriculum vitae including names and addresses of referees to Head, Department of History, 175 PLC, Eugene, Oregon 97403 no later than Nov. 1.

LIBERAL ARTS UNDERGRADUATES: Internship openings at a travel agency, real estate agency and an advertising agency. Gain valuable work — related experience. Sign up Tuesday, Nov. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 246 Susan Campbell Hall. Pick up an application when you sign up and bring it completed to your interview. Limited to five interviews per opening. Interviews will begin Nov. 8.

ATTENTION SOPHOMORES and juniors in Accounting: The Internal Revenue Service is seeking applicants for cooperative education interns. Pick up job description in Room 246 Susan Campbell Hall.

MISCELLANEOUS

ATTENTION SOPHOMORES: The deadline for Truman Scholarships (up to \$5,000 per year) has been extended until Monday, Oct. 31, at 5 p.m. Please submit a brief 150 word essay on a major policy issue and one transcript to the International Studies Office, Room 837 PLC. For

more information, see the International Studies Board (opposite Room 837) or call 686-5050 or 686-4867.

"FOR PLAY," an improvisational comedy group, will be performing at Shell's (next to Kinko's) on Friday, Oct. 28, at 10:00.

BIBLE STUDY will be held today at 12:30 p.m. at the Wesley Center, 1236 Kincaid St. Sponsored by the United Methodist Campus Ministry.

ISRAELI FOLK DANCING tonight in Room 242 Gerlinger. Teaching for all levels from 7 to 8 p.m., and dancing and requests until 9:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome; no experience necessary. For more information, call 686-4366 or 344-3591.

CHILD CARE, INC., a private non-profit daycare center, is sponsoring a free workshop dealing with Dreiker's child-rearing techniques and developmental aspects of young children tonight from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at 169 Washington St. For more information, call Jodi at 344-1165.

PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PEER ADVISING is available weekdays in Room 164 Oregon Hall. Students interested in a career in one of the health services should drop by to discuss academic scheduling, important testing dates, and career alternatives.

BLOOM COUNTY



by Berke Breathed



Oliver



by John Gorman

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