

## Stick your neck out; watch 'Dracula'

It's an old one-liner: "Dracula sucks."

Blood, that is.

Just in time for Halloween, the University Theatre's first show of the season, Deane's and Balderston's 1927 version of "Dracula" opens today in Robinson Theatre at 8 p.m.

In contrast with the old joke, director Grant McKernie is hoping for a smash. McKernie says he has no idea how the audience will react. "But it's kind of fun. I like that."

This interpretation of Bram Stoker's classic tale presents a sophisticated contrast between good and evil. Set in the late 19th century, it combines the three elements of horror, mystery and romance.

Dennis Smith, a University graduate student in playwriting, plays the infamous vampire, marking his first UT appearance. Smith has 11 years experience as a professional television and film actor, and performed at the Oregon Shakespearean Festival in Ashland.

An unusual feature of the production is the casting of a woman (Cynthia Blaise) in a role originally written for a man. Blaise plays Professor Van Helsing, who attempts to assist her friend Dr. Steward (Dennis Dolan) in finding a cure for the mysterious illness afflicting



his daughter, Lucy (Sally Goodwin).

In another casting surprise, Douglas Hout and Michael Callahan are dual-cast as the Byronesque madman, Renfield. They will perform on alternate nights. "The idea behind that was that they were both so capable," McKernie says.

Dracula runs tonight

through Saturday and Nov. 3-5. The audience is invited to come in costume to a special performance on Halloween evening, Oct. 31. All shows are at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for the general public, \$3.25 for University students, and \$4 for seniors and other students.

Photo by Dave Kao

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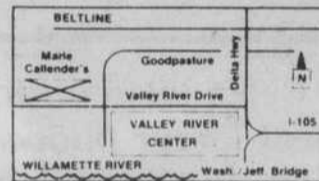
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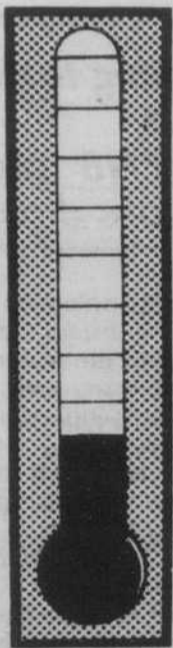


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100,000  
90,000  
80,000  
70,000  
60,000  
50,000  
40,000  
30,000  
20,000  
10,000

The most pledges for one night was achieved by ROTC with 371 pledges.

That brings the total for the telefund to \$ 21,326.

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