



Performing, on stage

'Rashomon' a tale of lust, death

"Rashomon" guarantees drama: lust, truth, death and the sword. But it delivers far more than a scintillating tale and spine-chilling on-stage combat. Playing this week at the Hult Center's Soreng Theatre Wednesday through Saturday, the local production is an unusual juxtaposition of Japanese poetry and swashbuckling theatrics.

The story of "Rashomon" is a deceptively simple tale of an incident that occurred during 12th-century feudal Japan. Only several facts are known: a Samurai warrior is dead, a sword run through his chest; a thief, Tajomaru, is taken by the face of the Samurai's beautiful wife when a breeze lifts her veil; and the wife is raped by Tajomaru.

What makes the story complex — and serves as the play's action — is each of the characters' separate and contradictory interpretations of the incident.

In designing this original production, director Allan Gross (who received his Masters in Theater Direction from the University) adapted elements from the 1927 Akutagawa story, Kurasawa's 1948 film, and the 1951 Broadway play written by Michael and Fay Kanin. Gross has come up with a production that is beautifully and precisely staged, acted and scored.

The play has been cast with talented members from the NewMime Circus and Oregon Actor's Theatre, and the acting is consistently good. Robert Webb delivers an especially notable performance as the animalistic Tajomaru, and Renee Margolin pulls off a complex role as the raped wife of the Samurai. She plays the beautiful Kinume from a fragile Japanese teacup to a satirical JAP (Jewish American Princess). James Aday, a NewMime veteran, is full of crazed energy as the Wigmaker who profits without shame from death and decay. Each of the characters is self-serving, and it is this flaw that attracts us in some way to each one's version of the truth.

Peter Nothnagle's score of haunting electronic music, coupled with radio producer M'Lou Zahner



Photo by Brian Erb

Renee Margolin pulls off the complex role as the raped wife of the Samurai.

Ollswang's soundtrack, provides an aural backdrop that propels the play into a realm of mystery and inconclusiveness.

The Japanese staging methods and Gross's use of Strasberg's Method acting techniques bring a hard-edged slice of formality to this technically challenging play. Such formalized "staginess" may, at first, alienate those of us more accustomed to the silver screen and its slice-of-life routines. But the play's nebulous chore — that of securing the truth — expressed so appropriately through the haiku-like beauty of the script, should be enough to lure your through the Gate of Rashomon.

By Angela Allen Morgan

the Factory 4740 Main in Springfield 747-7900

With this coupon

Spaghetti Dinner

\$1.00 off

- all speciality sauces included
- regular prices start at 3.32
- served with homemade soup or crisp green salad, fresh bread and ice cream.

coupon good through November 15, 83

Marie Callender's RESTAURANT

A Family-Style Restaurant
featuring seafood, steak, prime rib, fresh pasta, salad bar, soups, and sandwiches, daily lunch specials

A Bakery
with croissants, cornbread and 25 varieties of pies baked fresh daily, including seasonal fresh fruit pies — all available for take out

A Lounge
with full bar, a wine of the month, and buffet style hors d'oeuvres from 4-7 Monday thru Saturday

Student Discount

10% off total purchase

- with valid fee card
\$5.00 minimum purchase required
(Good anytime in Restaurant, Bakery and Lounge)

OPEN
11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.
11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Fri. & Sat.
1300 Valley River Drive
484-1711

ACLU says booze frisking violates sports fans' rights

By Doug Nash
Of the Emerald

A proposed rule that allows University employees to search fans at athletic contests is unconstitutional, the American Civil Liberties Union said at a public hearing Wednesday.

The rule, which went into effect on a temporary basis Aug. 15, expands on an existing rule that prohibits people from bringing glass containers, metal and plastic cans, and alcoholic beverages into University athletic facilities.

But Dave Fidanque, head of Eugene's local ACLU chapter, said allowing the University to inspect backpacks and bulky items for the prohibited items is in violation of federal and state law.

"In all of the cases in which the public body attempted to justify the search on the basis of patron consent, the courts held that such 'consent' was not voluntary when a refusal to allow the search would result in being refused admission to the event," Fidanque said.

"And, absent consent, there clearly is not enough of a record to support such an intrusive, warrantless procedure against thousands of individuals attending events at University athletic facilities," he continued.

Fidanque also pointed out that the rule was originally proposed in conjunction with a plan to begin selling beer and wine at Autzen Stadium during football games. That plan was halted by University Pres. Paul Olum, who said the decision had been made too hastily.

"In summarizing this record, one could easily conclude that the warrantless searches at athletic facilities only came about because of the liquor license request, but were left in place due to an oversight," Fidanque said.

But Barbara Stoeffler, a member of Lane County Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, said the rule is necessary to eliminate the use of alcohol at football games.

"I think if you're going to have a rule you need to enforce that rule," she said. "We have talked with the people in law enforcement at length. They have told us their largest problem time with drunk driving is right after the games."

Tom Birkland, campus ACLU director, said the rule is "unfairly" targeted at students. More searches occur at student seat entrances than at reserve seat entrances, he added.

"Students are searched more than are adults," he said.

Oregon Half-Quart Special



Rainier Twelvepack "Pounders" Now Reduced in Price

It's the right time of year for bargain hunting and introspection. So ponder our Pounder. We're now selling 192 ounces of Mountain Fresh Rainier — our half-quart twelvepack — for the price of 144 ounces of many other major brands. That's the equivalent of four extra 12-oz. bottles at no extra cost. Enjoy.

Rainier Brewing Company, Seattle, Washington

OAKWAY CINEMA
OAKWAY MALL — 342-5351

HELD OVER THRU TUESDAY!

7 p.m.
&
9:10 p.m.

THE PRODIGAL

A WORLD WIDE PICTURES RELEASE

They were a family torn apart by temptation...
kept apart by pride...
but brought together by a miracle!

PG