

University players win awards

This year, the regional competition for the Sixteenth Annual American College Theatre Festival could have been called the University Theatre Festival.

"We took all of the acting awards," said Grant McKernie, director of the University Theatre. "Our students were determined to succeed. They did their best to get hired as professionals, and that's what happened."

Cynthia Blaise, a graduate student last seen as Dr. Van Helsing in the University Theatre's production of "Dracula," received the prestigious Irene Ryan award with a scene from "As You Like It" with her partner Kim Anderson and a monologue from "P.S. Your Cat Is Dead."

Blaise selected a monologue which was written for a man, paralleling her role in "Dracula."

"The judges told her how well she played the role as a woman, and she just smiled," McKernie said.

Blaise and Anderson will be flown to the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C., as regional contestants in

the ACTF National Finals on April 15.

Dennis Smith placed runner-up for the Irene Ryan Award, and Mikel MacDonald took the award for best partner.

"The judges thought the world of our work," McKernie said. "Our program works very hard to train students to be prepared to audition and to hustle when they have opportunities to meet directors."

However, individuals weren't the only stars. On the last night of the festival, the cast and crew of "The Last Dragon" belted out "the best performance they had ever given."

"The energy and enthusiasm overwhelmed the audience," McKernie said. "Several songs were interrupted with applause, and they received a rousing standing ovation at the end."

However, regardless of the outcome of festival, this wasn't the Dragon's last stand. Smith is re-writing the script, incorporating the judges' criticisms and compliments into the revision. And later this year, "Last Dragon" will be competing for the College Musical Theatre Award sponsored by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Lane County investigator takes aim at Sheriff's seat

Dave Salyers, special investigator for the Lane County District Attorney's Office, announced Friday that he will challenge Sheriff Dave Burks in the May primary election.

Frustration over Burks' law enforcement methods prompted Salyers to run, he said.

"Dave Burks has lost sight of the fact that to effectively run the office, he must be here," said Salyers, who worked in the county sheriff's division from 1963 to 1975.

"Too much time and money has been squandered on conventions and out-of-county conferences which take Dave Burks away from his day-to-day duties. I pledge to be a Lane County sheriff, not an absentee one," Salyers said.

He also alluded to recent budget conflicts between Burks and Lane County Commissioners, saying his job with the district attorney since 1978 has taught him the importance of inter-agency cooperation.

"It is possible to administer and lead an effective sheriff's department without resorting to divisiveness and bitterness. I

pledge to reestablish working relationships with the Lane County Commissioners and other key law enforcement agencies in the county," Salyers said.

He challenged what he called Burks' insistence to keep the jail fully staffed while leaving the county's roads unpatrolled.

"The primary responsibility of the sheriff is the protection and safety of the citizens through strong and effective patrol and detective divisions. I pledge to the citizens of Lane County to reestablish these necessary priorities when I am elected Lane County sheriff," he said.

Art museum has new shows

A variety of painting, prints and etching by artists Jon Jay Cruson and Vicki Scuri will be featured Feb. 19-March 25 in two separate shows at the University Museum of Art.

Eugene artist Cruson will display his landscape collection in the main floor gallery. Cruson is a former University art professor and received his master of fine arts degree from the University in 1976. His work has been shown throughout the United States and abroad.

Cruson, a painter and printmaker, specializes in redwood cases and wall screens that open to reveal landscapes done in layered oil and acrylic paints. His lithographic prints are drawn and etched in Bavarian limestone.

New techniques in mixed media will be the focus of watercolors exhibited by Scuri, a resident of Walla Walla, Wash. Although professionally trained in etching, Scuri's current work combines painting, drawing, stencils and collage with fragments of etching.

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PEACE CORPS

GROUP MEETING:

Mon., Feb. 13
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
E.M.U., Forum Room.
All students invited.

FILM SEMINAR:

Tues., Feb. 14
3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
E.M.U., Forum Room.
All students invited.

INFORMATION BOOTH:

Mon./Tues., Feb. 13-14
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
E.M.U.

INTERVIEWS:

Wed.-Thurs., Feb. 15-16, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Career Planning & Placement, 244 Hendricks Hall

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