

Rhythm *Reviews*

January 6, 1994

Oregon Daily Emerald



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Maire (Melody
A. Bates),
Lieutenant
Yolland
(Anthony
Campanella)
and Owen
(Colin Patric
Meloy) take
the stage in
Translations.

The University Theatre will kick off the new year with a production of *Translations*, a love story that centers on Irish history and politics.

Translations is set in Baile Beag, County Donegal, Ireland. It takes place in the year 1833, when the British army deploys soldiers to Ireland. The soldiers are sent to make an accurate map of the island. In the process, though, they "standardize" the Gaelic place names of towns, roads, rivers and hills to English.

Along with this, the British government begins to establish a National School system for Ireland. Its motto for the school is, "Everything will be taught through English, and English is the only language you'll ever hear."

These events almost totally eradicate the Irish-Gaelic culture, beginning with the language and including the literature and an entire way of life.

Translations is a love story, though. It takes place amidst this time of change in a historic era of Ireland.

Owen, played by Colin Patric Meloy, returns to his home with his British friend, Lieutenant Yolland, who is performed by Anthony Campanella. Yolland is an outsider, but he falls in love with Maire. Maire is a strong Irish woman played by Melody A. Bates. There are com-

Play *on* Words

Love and language at center
of Irish theatrical performance

Translations

Playing at University Theatre
Jan. 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 27, 28

plications to their relationship as a result of the political turmoil surrounding their lives.

Other characters in *Translations* include Owen's brother, Manus, played by Terry Gildea; Owen's father, Hugh, played by Gene Stillman; and the commander of British troops, Capt. Lancey, played by Kevin Bradshaw.

The rest of the cast includes Sydney Folts, David Stuart Bull, Harold B. Baker and Maiké K. Jacobi.

Translations was written by Brian Friel. Friel is considered a "poet of the theatre" who creates images in pictures and language that can describe the "terrible beauty" that is Ireland.

Translations opens Jan. 13 and will run for three weeks, including Jan. 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 27 and 28. Curtain time for the shows is 8 p.m. Ticket prices are \$8 for the general public; \$6 for seniors, University faculty and staff, or non-University students; and \$4.50 for University students.

There will also be a matinee benefit performance on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 2 p.m. for St. Vincent DePaul Housing Programs. Tickets for the benefit performance are \$10. For information and to order tickets for the benefit, contact the St. Vincent DePaul Housing office at 687-5820.

Car theft didn't steal the fun of an NBA game

Sports is not my department. Entertainment is. But something not mentioned too often in the sports section is the entertainment value of sports. Not that it needs to be mentioned; why else would sports be so popular if they weren't so entertaining?

I spent most of my winter break in Chicago. While I was there, I went to the new United Center to see the Chicago Bulls play the L.A. Clippers. It was there that I realized first-hand just how entertaining sports can be.

I had never been to an NBA game before, but I had watched a fair amount of basketball on TV. It's not the same. There is a vitality that is absent on the TV screen. The players seem like real people, not icons. And being surrounded by so many yelling fans only accentuates the aspect of being surrounded by vitality.

On top of that, there is so much more to look at in a stadium compared to what the limited number of



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kiddie basketball tosses. The Bull mascot even put on its roller skates and goofed around on the court. We even saw Scottie Pippen get ejected.

I had fun at that game. But the aftermath was anything but fun.

United Center is located in a bad part of Chicago. My sister, brother, boyfriend and I had received explicit instructions to park in a certain lot. And we were to ask for an "easy out." We talked to an attendant who offered us an "easy out" right on the

camera angles display on the TV.

There were the Luvabulls (the dancers/cheerleaders), the Bulls mascot and even a remote-control Bull blimp that zoomed around the stadium. During time-outs, there were M&M races and

street for \$10. As I walked into the stadium I can remember thinking, "How can they charge you to park on the street?" But I decided, hey, this is Chicago, a city I don't understand; and I left it at that.

Needless to say, after the game, our car had been stolen. Gone. Parentless and full of naivete, we talked to the police and finally called our parents, went to the station to fill out a report, and took a taxi back home.

The car was found the next day. It was damaged but not totalled, which was what I expected. And we were all ok, which everyone said was the most important thing.

I expected the car theft to mar my memory of that NBA game. But it hasn't. I remember it vividly. And I remember it happily. The game entertained me, and that is what I will remember.

Trista Noel is the entertainment editor of the Emerald.



FOSTER



Nell is a drama starring Jodie Foster, Liam Neeson and Natasha Richardson.

Nell (Jodie Foster) is woman who was raised in a remote cabin

in the woods and speaks a strange language. She turns out to be a source of wisdom and inspiration to the doctor (Liam Neeson) and psychologist (Natasha Richardson) who care for her. All three of their lives are transformed as Nell is introduced to contemporary society.