Forgotten Film

STRANGE BREW

Two reporters banter about the films you may not remember or are trying to forget you ever saw

Starring: Rick Moranis and Dave Thomas

★★★☆☆

If MTV's Tom Green, the epitome of Canadian comedy, has taught America anything, it is that such comics have an uncanny knack for being really annoying. But if we have learned two things, it is that Canadians can be really funny in the process of annoying us.

So it is with the movie "Strange Brew." Starring Rick Moranis and Dave Thomas (not the Wendy's guy) as the McKenzie brothers, the movie follows the Canadian's adventures, which revolve around one simple pursuit: beer. Normally, you wouldn't think that this would constitute a 90 minute movie, but somehow those wacky Canadians manage to pull it off.

Mason: Beauty, eh?

Josh: Take off, you hoser.

The characters are spawned from Second City Television, the Canadian equivalent of Saturday Night Live. John Candy and Martin Short also got their start on the show.

COMMENTARY

Mason **West &** *Josh* **Ryneal**

In their movie debut, Bob and Doug McKenzie have lost their dad's beer money and take a trip to the brewery looking for a beer handout. As it would happen, ill things are afoot at Elsinore Brewery, where our heroes (kind of) obtain jobs. The owner has died, and his brother has married the owner's wife in a surprisingly short amount of time. The owner's daughter, Pam, finds out that her uncle was the one who killed her father. This information is revealed to her by a vision of her father in an arcade game.

Mason: It's like Hamlet — if he were a Canadian girl, eh.

Josh: I didn't care about the plot, but I did want to drink a lot of beer.

Mason: Beauty.

Plot be damned, this movie has some classic moments that you won't find anywhere else. Such as when Bob and Doug's lawyer (they were bound to get into trouble) instigates a full-scale martial arts beatdown on the members of the press.

Giovanni Salimena Emerald

Mason: I was shakin' in my boots, eh.

Josh: This movie also has the most spectacular car crash I've ever seen outside of "The Blues Brothers." I want to move to Canada immediately.

What this cinematic experience boils down to is not the plot, the acting or the special effects, all of which are pretty sub-par. It's about watching two bumbling idiots,

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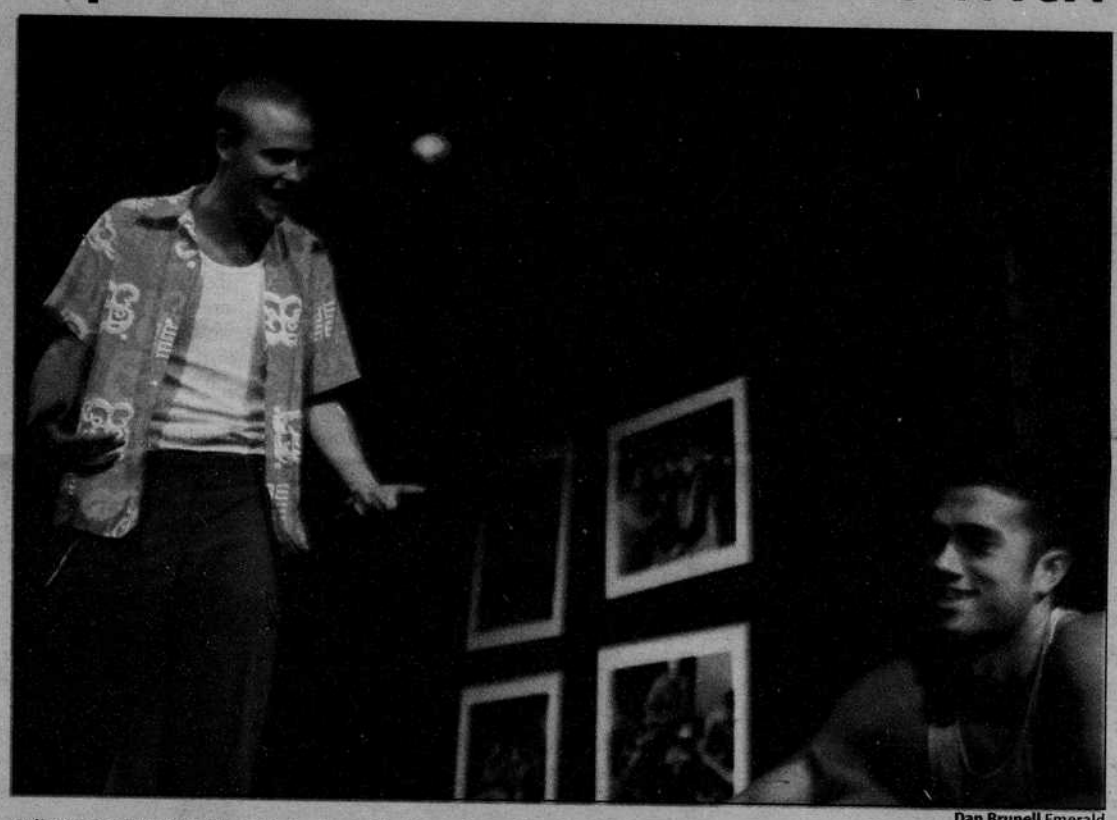
'Spin the Bottle' bubbles with multimedia images



Dan Brunell Emerald

Colin Cavasher (left) and Ben Hubert practice for their production of 'Spin the Bottle' on Sunday night. The play, which debuts tonight in the Pocket Playhouse, examines the relationships people make, using the party game as a continuous theme.

By Mason West
Oregon Daily Emerald

The student-operated Pocket Playhouse begins its season tonight with the play "Spin the Bottle." Written and directed by senior video production major Ben Martin, the play deals with the connections between people — how they are made and broken, what sustains them and why we need them.

The theme of a spinning bottle perfectly reflects the unpredictable way the characters in the play develop and interact. The script and acting are so well done that at times, it seems you aren't watching a play; you could just be watching some people talking at a party. This realism was achieved by Martin's unusual way of developing his production.

"I had a rough sketch of what I wanted to do, then I cast the show," he said. "Then I had improv sessions with the cast set at a party where they came in character."

These parties were videotaped, as well as other parties not involving cast members. After observing the tapes and how people interacted, Martin wrote the script.

"The ideas I played with and where they went depended on what the actors did," he said.

The show was cast in May, and the entire summer was spent on the production. In addition to the acted portion of the play, there are video segments that help give insight to characters and events.

The beginning of the play shows an edited portion of the film "Koyaanisqatsi" by director Godfrey Reggio. The portion of the film shown to the audience was intended by the original director to reveal his disapproval of what our society has become. Martin uses a less dramatic adaptation of this message throughout his play.

Another blend of multimedia in the presentation is provided by new University professor Camille Dussinger. Martin came into contact with Dussinger less than two weeks ago by pure coincidence. Dussinger has been working on a continuing series of photographs for the last seven years dealing with the connections between people. Her device for doing this visually is posing people in situations and somehow connecting them physically with a piece of red

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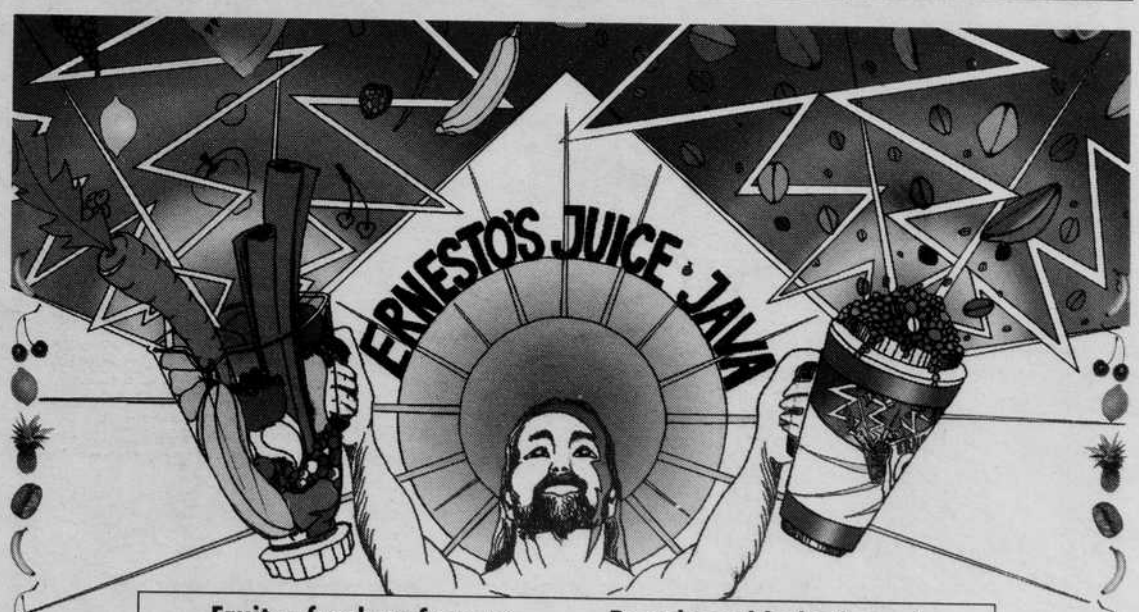

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