



Photo by Sam Baer
 "God's Favorite," a Clackamas County Repertory Theatre production which will be presented again this weekend in McLoughlin Theatre.

Fox, right, and Susan McCarty prepare to burglar while Jim Davis takes a call from the burglar's wife. The trio are cast members of

In review

Deity's best shot

By Shawn Parkhurst
 Of The Print

David, played by Rich Kittleson.

In many praiseworthy acting performances -- be they in any form of drama -- the actor is not to be recognized to the same degree (of course not in the same manner) as the role he is performing.

This can be considered true of any rendition of a refined piece of work. "God's Favorite," a play written by Neil Simon presently being produced by the Clackamas County Repertory Theatre, is no exception.

"God's Favorite" is the story of the testing of a man in pseudo-Faustian style by a God described by one of his many messengers as "one who wears a business suit and occasionally mingles with his numerous employees in the hallway at work."

Joseph Benjamin (Ken Fox), a wealthy New York cardboard box manufacturer, is named the recipient of the injurious title -- God's Favorite. He is, in effect, the Rhesus monkey being experimented on in a bet between Lucifer, who is described as an urbane, playboy with a taste for pink suits, and the business-like God.

Benjamin is subjected to financial ruin, painful disease, and other calamities by his trusting Lord in order to probe his indestructible faith.

He passes his test, much to the dismay of Sidney Lipton (John Benneth), the messenger who wears a large yellow "G" on his shirt.

The test is called finished as the play concludes in open-ended fashion -- the result of Sidney returning to pester Joseph's formerly cynical son,

Ken Fox, as the elder Benjamin, gives a rather choppy performance -- one that is abundant in energy but lacking in constant direction. But, this being a typical Neil Simon comedy, his shortcomings are rendered insignificant by the hilarity provoked by the writing.

Susan McCarty and Marcia Dier, who play Benjamin's daughter and wife respectively, are carried by Simon also -- they seem to have trouble finding their characters' traits, but the wit is effective even in this contest.

Rich Kittleson has his character under relative control; the bite of David's sarcastic remarks are felt very personally.

Jim Davis (Ben Benjamin) also renders his character's actions relative to the general action of the play; he interprets Simon instead of relying on him.

The star of the show is John Benneth who, as Sidney Lipton, the envoy with the soggy Hush Puppies, provokes laughs generally associated with exuberant Woody Allen episodes. His physical appearance, along with the objects, such as his God-shirt, that comprise his character, brings to mind the recollection of strange, faceless characters that are nevertheless funny and important. One could say realistically that Benneth, along with the play's author, carries the production.

Sidney Lipton is a character that you won't want to miss -- because of his creator and his equally important re-creator.

College employees spend off-hours exploring contemporary rock music

Starnes
 Print
 time rock and roll is very philosophy behind said Craig Haskell, the versatile contemporary group.

He is a very accomplished drummer and can keep the tempo of the group uniform," Haskell said.

The remaining member of the group is Russ Weinman the lead guitarist. "Russ is the best guitarist I've played with," Haskell said.

Haskell began playing the guitar when he was in grade school. "My family is musically inclined."

I never really took the guitar very seriously then because I was too young to know what I was doing. I've now been playing the bass semi-professionally for five years. Rick has taught me what I know in terms of chords and chord construction," Haskell said.

During Silverfall's one-year lifespan, they have accumulated \$10 to 12 thousand worth of musical equipment and lighting. They hired a booking agent two months ago who promptly got them a fixture at Salishan Lodge in Gleneden Beach.

"We were accepted very well there. They made us feel at home," Haskell said.

Presently, Silverfall has a permanent booking at Bogart's Tavern at 14th and N.E. Flanders. Plans in the near future include recording various compositions of Rick's at Bakerloo Recording Studio in Portland, Haskell said.

"Music is a relaxing thing. It's a time to let your personal troubles go," Haskell said.

Silverfall will be playing next at Bogart's April 7 and 8 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cost will be \$1 at the door.



Craig Haskell
 ...music is a part of his life.

well, along with Rick Farner, full-time college maintenance and groundsman respectively, both members of the Silverfall. "The group began a year ago," Haskell

now, Silverfall is composed of five instrumentalists, said. "Rick (Fargher) is the writer; it's his greatest contribution to the group. He has about 10 songs he has composed of which demonstrate professional quality," he

of leadership, Haskell said. Kevin "Captain Slide" manages the band audience

quire's the show. His playing projects the image of the band to the audience to have fun. McGuire is our man in that he plays an assortment of musical instruments such as the harp, saxophone, rhythm instruments and Haskell said.

ure has about 16 to 18 musical experience and originally from Delaware.

the bottom to our group, member, is Ron Hargadine, Bill Hargadine, College director of community service. Ron keeps us all together.

Community College

GLADSTONE

**CARD ROOM
 SNACKS AND POOL**

420 Portland Ave., Gladstone
 656-9143

AP MICROWAVE OVEN SERVICE

We work on all make of warrenty like ...

**LINTON SHARP
 AMANA SANYO
 "Reasonable Rates"**

655-7880 212 MOLALLA AVE.
 OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045

Painting media workshop set

Oil, watercolor and acrylics are a few types of painting media to be taught at the College from April 10 through 14, 6:30 to 10 p.m. daily.

The class, sponsored by the Portland Fine Arts Guild and the Division of Community Development of University of Washington, is for intermediate and advanced students only.

Del Gish, member of the American Watercolor Society and winner of numerous awards in the Puget Sound area, will teach the class.

Class size is limited to 27

**THE HEN HOUSE
 BEAUTY SHOP**

485 PORTLAND AVENUE
 GLADSTONE, OREGON
 97027 655-9277

DICKEN'S

Restaurant and Pub

of Oak Grove

Disco Nightly Every Wednesday
 Pat Patee Oldies but Goodies

653-1889 16900 S.E. McLoughlin Blvd. 654-8471

