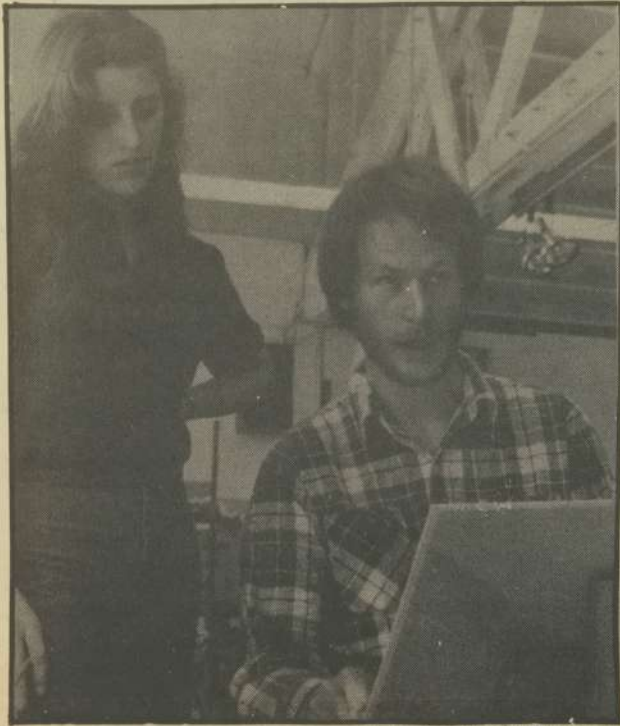


arts

Woodlands behold mural theme

A new look is in store for the small banquet room in the Community Center. A mural has been slated for the drab walls with a theme that almost all can identify with: the woods

industry. Painting and drawing instructor Erik Sandgren has been chosen to paint the mural, which will be divided into three sections, each depicting a different stage of the



Staff photo by Sue Hanneman

Instructor Erik Sandgren demonstrates drawing technique to student.

Class learns art of silent expression

A white face, a black leotard. The movement is so fluid, so controlled. It is illusion. It is mime. The great mime Marcel Marceau defined mime as, "The art of expressing feelings by attitudes and not a means of expressing words through gestures."

Through spring term's theater projects class, entitled "Mask, Make-up and Mime," theater enthusiasts are learning the techniques of this

mysterious art form. The class is taught in cooperation with Kermit Schafer and Joette Rose. Rose instructs the mime portion and Schafer teaches the arts of make-up and mask.

Following what is called the DeCroux method (after Etienne DeCroux, mime master mentor to Marcel Marceau), Rose presents the basic principles of mime. Students will perform individual or group mimes that



Preliminary sketches depict mural to be painted in small banquet room in Community Center.

harvest of timber.

Sandgren has already spent about 20 to 30 hours doing library research and plans to do more. It is important to Sandgren to capture the reality of the mills, terrain and logs as they appeared at the turn of the century. Preliminary sketches have already been approved in regard to content, but much revision is needed for the original sketches. Instead of using traditional canvas, Sandgren plans to use what is called

ed hardboard. Sandgren feels there are many advantages to using this sort of material. His primary reason is that it will keep the original character of the wall. After much research and revision, a small version of the mural will be done in color, then Sandgren will begin to prepare the panels. Each panel will be given a "Cradel" (this keeps the panel rigid and prevents warping).

Sandgren is very excited about the prospect of doing the

mural. He will receive a payment of approximately \$2,000 upon completion of the mural which is expected to be finished by the end of July. Sandgren

stressed that the monies for this project are not coming from the newly passed College levy, but from funds previously set aside

for the Art Department. Sandgren described the mural as, "A big return for a modest investment."

'Firestarter' merely good

By J. Dana Haynes
Of The Print

Any day now, Steven King's latest fiction work should be out in paperback. "Firestarter" is something of a disappointment, being not nearly up to par for King. It's only "very good" instead of "sensational."

King's earlier works include "Carrie," "Salem's Lot," "The Shining" and "The Stand," among others. Each of these

has been among the horror genre; it is his forte. And yet, King's plots stand well above the usual possessed child/knife-wielding masquerade/avant-to-suck-your-blud type spooky story. King's characters are three-dimensional, his story lines smooth and fast-paced, and his baddies scarier than most anything Hollywood has ever produced. Steven King, like comedian Bill Cosby, culls forth well-hidden memories and emotions, making the reader think, "Hey, I've done that before." Consequently, the audience is forced to care. That's the cornerstone of any successful novelist.

And yet, something is missing from "Firestarter." The story involves a middle-aged college professor, Andy McGee, who possesses a rudimentary psychic ability. "Psycho-hypnosis," according to King. The other main character is the professor's 7-year-old daughter, Charlie. Charlie is the Firestarter. When she's angry or confused, objects around her combust. It is this amazing ability that draws the attention of The Shop, a covert, and rather unfriendly, government agency. The Shop

wants Charlie, to test her and her pyrokenisis. Thus the gist of the story.

Andy McGee is too much like Johnny Smith in "The Dead Zone," King's penultimate novel. Both main characters are psychics, who can't afford to overuse their

respective powers for fear of massive headaches. Charlie McGee's character and ability are unique, but the premise of the child-with-strange-psychic-powers-as-main-character is reminiscent of "Carrie," King's first book.

The slightly tainted intelligence agency in "Firestarter" is too much like the slightly tainted military agency in "The Stand." The exciting burning-building scene in "The Shining" (a scene omitted from Stanley Kubrick's movie adaptation) is reenacted here.

There are other errors, too. On page one, paragraph one, the hero and his daughter are on the run. King hits the ground running, and keeps that pace throughout the first half of the book.

Also, the religious and epic overtones that made the two previous works, "The Stand" and "The Dead Zone," so exceptional are lacking. Charlie McGee has an unimaginable amount of power, apparently open-ended, and yet King only fleetingly delves into the "whys" and "wherefores" of such a cosmic force.

And yet, despite these flaws, "Firestarter" is exciting, flows well, and keeps the readers' interest. If anyone else in the field of scary stories had written "Firestarter," it would have been their magnum opus. But from King, we expect something more than merely "Very Good." We expect "Great."

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