

arts

Jane Rickenbaugh

'Dancing is a wonderful, physical high'

By Kristi Blackman
Of The Print

To go anywhere in dancing, you have to be talented, and College dance instructor Jane Rickenbaugh qualifies for the above. "Taking classes is a great workout and training, you have to be disciplined. It's a performance art. You have that in your mind constantly when you train," she said.

Rickenbaugh uses the techniques of ballet and applies them to modern dance. "Modern is my idiom, because modern is more adaptive to setting. I've always been intrigued by the journey from chaos to form," Rickenbaugh said.

Her teaching methods

begin with dancing in bare feet, using the natural body contractions, imagery and ideas as motives behind movement. "I did a presentation for the opening of the Linus Pauling Sciences Center, 'Visualization of Science,' and it was an extensive venture. I spent nine months in preparation for the presentation," she said.

Recently, Rickenbaugh finished a stage and operetta using kindergarten children in the production. "Watching the children communicate with the audience was wonderfully satisfying. They were little hams! When it's a live performance, it's always unpredictable," Rickenbaugh said.

Rickenbaugh has also

choreographed a Liturgic dance using movements to all the parts of the mass. It was first performed in a Catholic church and it was well received, but when Rickenbaugh took it to a Lutheran service, she was banned. Rickenbaugh said, "There are different views on movements of dance. Some people do not support them, and some do support them. Of course I'm one who does."

Working with many different outside groups keeps Rickenbaugh very busy with outside projects, and she is presently waiting to see what is going to come next. "It's satisfying and rewarding and the pay is low," Rickenbaugh said.

Dancing itself takes greater concentration on body alignment, and "the correct alignment of the spine. How you move is very important. This is why we use the ballet bar to constantly lift the body to bring it up. It's a natural part of ballet technique," she explained.

"I prefer to do a lot of stretching in modern dance and in dance it's a lyrical feeling," Rickenbaugh said.

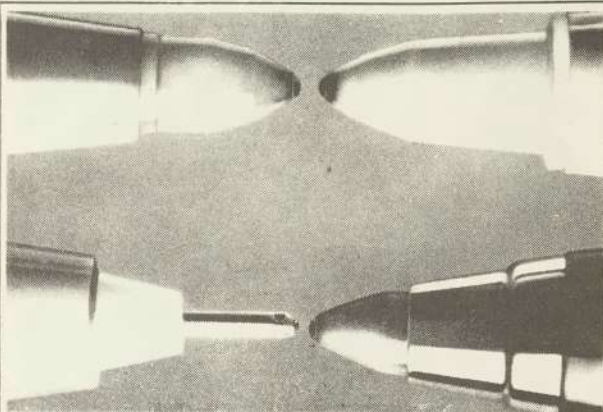
When asked why there has been a lack of performances at the College Ricken-

baugh said, it was due to a limitation of space. "Dance is limited. The practice floor is excellent but the space restricts dancing. Dance is a part of the three performing art forms," Rickenbaugh said, referring also to theater and music. She added that dance is related to both concepts, and all three tie in together.

Rickenbaugh concluded, "Dancing is a part of who I am. I need production and performance. I love to start out and have nothing, and then create, dancing is a wonderful physical high, a great outlet."

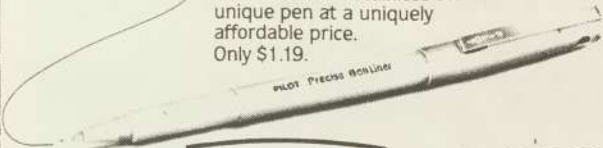


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Staff photos by Joel Miller

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Tickets are now available to Clackamas Community College's Theater Department's Winter term production, "Androcles and the Lion."

The show will play March 3, 4, 5, 8, 11, 12 at 8 p.m. and Sunday March 13 at a special

2:30 p.m. matinee in the McLoughlin Theater.

The production will also travel to the Coaster Theater in Cannon Beach, Oregon for three shows March 24, 25 and 26.

For ticket information or reservations call the College at 657-8400, ext. 356 or 283. For Coaster Theater reservations call 436-1242.

Tickets are .50 cents for College students with ASG cards and Gold Card holders are free. General admission is \$3.00 and students are \$2.00.

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