

'Kind Lady,' an admirable study in terror



Photo by Dan Wheeler

David Gloden and Patricia Lawrence in "sinister" production, 'Kind Lady.'

By Erik Conrad
Staff Writer

An "admirable study in terror," director Jack Shields says, "The show looks swell!"

"Kind Lady" is a play of mystery and suspense. It follows the events in the life of Mary Herries, a maidenly London art collector, which leads up to her imprisonment in her own home when she takes in a supposedly poor man and his wife.

"The cast is very strong," says Shields, "There's lots of humor and a good deal of sinister energy flying around on stage; the sets and costumes have captured an opulent tone and place to our classic thriller."

The play will be performed on March 6-8 and 13-15 at 8 p.m., and March 16 at 2:30 p.m. in the McLoughlin Theater. It will also be presented in Cannon Beach at the Coaster Theater on March 27-29.

This is the fourteenth year Clackamas has had a production at the Coaster Theater during Spring Vacation, and Shields says that the College has "quite a following" of people who watch the productions by Clackamas. He concluded, "I think the College can be proud that this production is representing us...for our fund raising dinner theater and also the Coaster Theater performance at Cannon Beach."

Flicks Terror on the road in 'Hitcher'

By Thad Kreisher
Entertainment Editor

In this world of blood and innards horror films, where shocking is the word, one important thing seems to be overlooked more often than not. This something, as you probably know, is entertainment.

Taking into account the almost total lack of quality in the horror industry, it is a very pleasant surprise to see a horror show that is not only frightening, but entertaining as well.

Director Robert Harmon, utilizes an almost perfect mixture of shock and suspense. This, combined with the strong acting support of the cast, creates a winning film.

Rutger Hauer, (Blade Runner), does a fantastic job portraying the hitch-hiking psychopath. The man has a knack for playing depraved individuals. He schemes with irrational genius. His silent, too calm manner creates an atmosphere of total insanity.

Jennifer Jason Leigh's performance is definitely a step up from her role as the bubble-headed blonde bimbo in "Mischief." Her southern accent is a little corny, but she manages to do well despite it.

The movie's only flaws come from the plot itself.

C. Thomas Howell plays a young man driving a "drive-away car" from Chicago to its owner on the California coast. Along the way he picks up a hitch-hiker (Rutger Hauer) in a downpour. The hitch-hiker then proceeds to frame Howell for a series of bizarre murders. Howell falls in with a young truck stop waitress, (Jennifer Jason Leigh), who is the only one who knows that he's innocent.

Together they try to get from the middle of nowhere to a police station so Howell can turn himself in. Unfortunately, many of the murder victims are police officers. As a result, the small town police that the two encounter are less than sympathetic to their situation.

As previously stated, the only flaws come from the plot itself. A few of the events construed by Hauer, such as shooting a helicopter from the sky while he pilots his truck through the desert along side the highway, are somewhat hard to believe. Then there is the motive. Just why is Rutger Hauer trying to frame this young lad? However, why not? The man is an insane psychopathic killer. He can do anything that he wants. I mean, they don't call them psychopaths for nothing, right?

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