



'Kind Lady' a fabulously sinister story

By Thad Kreisher

Entertainment Editor

Every so often, you see a performance so fantastic that it makes you want to skip the preliminaries and just say "Damn that was fabulous!"

Thurs., Mar. 6, the College's drama department debuted their production of "Kind Lady," and it was fabulous.

The play, set in London during the 1930's, is about an elderly well-to-do lady who is pushed into taking two unfortunate individuals into her home. The two unfortunate individuals, a man and his "ailing wife," repay her kindness by taking over her household and holding her captive.

"Kind Lady" is utterly dark and sinister, a classic story of the triumph of evil over good. The strength of the cast was amazing. The characters are so real and natural that one almost forgets that there is a stage separating the actors and audience.

Robert Ems' performance as the scheming Henry Abbott

is fabulous. He plays the part of the evil genius to perfection. He assumes a calm, cool manner throughout the play as his plans take shape. Ems' portrayal adds a new dimension to the evil genius character.

Returning to the College's stage again this term, Neil Hass shows his versatility as an actor with his portrayal of the wicked Mr. Edwards. Some may remember Hass' part in last term's "Increased Difficulty of concentration." His role as the conniving butler, Mr. Edwards, is a radical change which Neil Hass ascends to perfectly, British accent and all.

Veteran actor Joshua "Sparky" Collins was cuttingly sinister as "The Doctor," friend of Henry Abbott. Collins, currently a student at the College, has recently been accepted at second year level to California Institute of Arts. His part, although small, was the cutting edge that gave "Kind Lady" such a dark mood. In the final scene, as he subtly lets Mary Herries know

that she is doomed he exudes evil.

The entire cast did more than an admirable job, and their performance.

Afterwards, the opening night party commenced. Held at Leong's restaurant (formerly Sophia Maria Brown's), the party went off without a hitch. Everyone had a good time, and people actually danced. This is something that has not happened at a Clackamas dance with a live band for some time. Music was provided by "Rival" who belted out some hard driving dancable rock.

As Josh Collins put it, "The play went off so well because we have people like Barbara Bragg and Jack Shields who care." Certainly, Jack Shields and Barbara Bragg's efforts have paid off with "Kind Lady."

The production will play at the Coaster Theater, Cannon Beach for three performances Mar. 27, 28 and 29. For more information contact Barbara Bragg at ext. 56.



Double one-acts; Cast is 'real cool'

By Erik Conrad

Staff Writer

Admission will be free to the public for two plays being performed on Wednesday and Friday of this week. Both "The Potboiler" and "Next Contestant" are one-act plays that have been produced entirely by students.

Although "The Potboiler" was written by Alice Gerstenberg in 1916, the production is being set in the late 60's era. The play's producer, Jon Ares, says about the play, "Basically, it's about an inept playwright with an inept script and an inept cast," but that "the play itself does have a lot of meaning to it."

"The Potboiler" was performed last Sunday at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center on North Interstate Avenue, getting a good reception. Cast member Linda Kuntz comments about the play, saying, "It's definitely a different play, but it's funny and worthwhile to see."

The cast of "The Potboiler" consists of Barbara Bragg playing Mrs. Pencil, Linda Kuntz as Miss Ivory, Eric Tyler as Mr. Inkwell,

David Gloden as Mr. Ivory, Paul Torgersen as Mr. Ruler, J.R. Collins as Mr. Sud and Jon Ares portraying Mr. Wouldby. An interesting fact is that Barbara Bragg is playing the same part she played 34 years ago.

Accompanying "The Potboiler" is "Next Contestant," a short one-act play produced by Eric Tyler. "It's a game show--'The Big Challenge,'" he says. "The challenge for Walter Cartwright is to call an ex-girlfriend that knows he's engaged and make a date with her. It's just kind of silly."

The cast of "Next Contestant" consists of Jon Ares playing the announcer, Paul Torgersen as the contestant and Linda Kuntz as the girl. "The cast is real cool," Tyler says.

"I really think it is imperative that the students have the responsibility of their own production," says drama instructor Jack Shields. Both one-act plays come out of a drama class which performs the plays they produce. They will be performed on March 12 at 12 noon, and on March 13 at noon and 7:30 p.m.

Top notch writing makes 'Who'

By Dave Holmes

Editor-In-Chief

Science fiction is supposed to present the reader or viewer with something out of the ordinary. And while many of today's science fiction shows seem mundane, one show stands out above the rest: "Dr. Who."

The program, a British Broadcasting Corporation production, airs Saturday evenings at 6:30 p.m. on KOAP-TV channel 10. Unlike many of its American cousins, "Dr. Who" has very little in the way of hi-tech special effects to attract and hold viewers attention.

Rather, the program relies on top-notch writing and acting to keep its audience in front of the screen. Included in the writing staff is Douglas Adams, creator of *The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy*.

In a typical 90 minute

adventure, the Doctor, the main character, will be thrown into some sort of harrowing situation by his often malfunctioning time machine/space craft the Tardis.

While saving the universe from an evil race of robots, or helping out space colonists is high on the Doctor's list of priorities, it's nice to know that he has the time to save the Earth every now and again.

In the 22 year run "Dr. Who" has enjoyed, five actors have played the title role. But perhaps the most recognized is Tom Baker.

With a large mass of curly hair and a 20 foot long multi-colored scarf as trademarks, Baker is almost impossible to miss. His portrayal of the Doctor as a slightly scatterbrained genius is done to near perfection and literally cancels out some of the flat acting by a lot of the supporting cast.

The scripting for the show

usually lends itself to a very dry, British sort of humor. Sight gags and one-liners are almost non-existent in "Dr. Who", whereas clever plays-on-words accent almost every scene. It's very refreshing to see truly humorous material in any program on any channel these days.

While some of the situations the Doctor gets himself into are corny, the ability of the main characters to display very convincing seriousness and concern about their strait pulls the viewer into the scene with those characters.

The duel between Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader in *The Empire Strikes Back* did that. When the Doctor battles his arch enemy the Master, the struggle between good and evil gets no less tense.

Strong acting, backed up by solid writing in albeit corny situations, makes "Dr. Who" a success over and over again.

