'Stella' gets 'triple tissue rating' for the 90's remake

A Reel View

by

Roseann Wentworth

The character of Stella Dallas is nothing new to Hollywood or its long-time fans. Who could forget the story of the working class woman who married an upper-class executive to make her dream to become aristocratically cultured come true, only soon to realize that the marriage was a mistake. Stella then "sacrifices everything, including motherhood, so her daughter can live the good life."

In 1925, Belle Bennett played Stella in the first Tinsel Town adaptation of Olive H. Prouty's novel in which Douglas Fairbanks also starred. Then in 1937 Barbara Stanwyck made the character of Stella Dallas unforgettable which was produced by movie mogul Samuel Goldwyn, directed by King Vidor, and nominated for two Academy Awards.

Fifty-three years later, Hollywood has made an updated version of this classic three-Kleenex rated story simply called "Stella" produced by Samuel Goldwyn, Jr., directed by John Erman, and

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Midler.

The 1990 tale is basically the same with the few major exceptions: Steven Dallas, played by Stephen Collins, is a kidney doctor, not an executive; Stella and Steve do have an affair, but never get married; and Midler's Stella

to be refined into the blueblooded mold in which Dallas was born.

Even though Dallas

does offer to wed Stella, she boldly refuses his hand, including any kind of financial or moral sup-

Stella must swallow her pride many times throughout the film and allow Dr. Dallas into her life and home, a selfless sacrifice for her daughter, although it's embarrassing and at times even humiliating.

Trini Alvarado (Satisfaction) plays Jenny, Stella's and Dallas'

starring none other than Bette daughter. Alvarado finally gets her chance to play kind of two roles in one: a Bronx-type street-smart kid and a Manhattan upper-class debutante, both of which she is very convincing, and most important,

> The ever-popular John Goodman (Always, TV's Rose-

anne) plays Midler's best friend from her childhood and of the same mold, Ed Munn, who, when not supporting a bottle or at the dog track, is Stella's number one

male emotional supporter. Goodman, who is becoming famous for his supporting role performances, once again proves he is king with his work with Midler. Although most of the time he is semi-incoherent and needing proper hygienic attention, his love and admiration for Stella is ever

Midler gives the classic role the wit, energy, and believability demanded by audiences of the

1990s. She's not afraid to play Stella to the rock-bottom edge, and her emotional delivery between utter love and the deepest pain can't help but be moving. Midler's charismatic ways are also intrepidly apparent in Stella; even Midler's Mondo-Beyondo style is unmistakable in select scenes.

One of the most heartwrenching scenes is where Stella visits Dallas' new steady, Janice (Marsha Mason), at her posh office in Manhattan to discuss Jenny's future in Manhattan versus Boston, where Jenny and Stella have always lived. Although Mason's role doesn't have much plotstrength, she does portray it her best and becomes surprisingly likable.

Although nationally rated with the triple-tissue seal, Stella lets the audience peer into the life of a charismatic and brave woman in today's society going through one of the best classic story lines. In spite of mediocre directing, Midler and Alvarado give admirable performances.

Writers' Club members read in Metro area

by R. W. Jagodnik Jr. Staff Writer

'The CCC Writers' Club is a group of energetic Clackamas writers," says Me-Lissa Cartales, president of the CCC Writers' Club.

"Not many people here on campus have heard of us, since we haven't had very much visibility," Cartales commented.

Although the club was formed two years ago, the membership has remained low. During the Fall term, the regular attendance at the club's meeting gathered between four to six members.

"The membership is on the rise," Allen Widerburg, CCC Writers' Club's faculty advisor, said referring to the waning regular attendance. Since the beginning of Winter term, membership has increased by eight members.

Widerburg attends all scheduled CCC Writers' Club meetings and announces various writing contest possibilities so that members are informed of submission deadlines. Other regular happenings in the weekly meetings are readings by members of their work.

"It is fun to hear the variety of subject matter and writing styles that we hear in weekly meetings. Members seem to enjoy hearing each other's writing and enjoy having an opportunity to comment," Widerburg said.

"Last year the club held a successful writing contest and another one is planned this year," Widerburg mentioned about the upcoming writing contest which deadlines February 23. This is just one of the events taking place this year for the Writers' Club.

Last term the club sponsored an outing to the Blue Heron Cafe in Portland, where attending members read and listened to poetry from other writers in the Metro area. The club members also attended a reading of W. B. Yeats' poetry by Keith Scales, a Portland actor, at Powell's Books in Portland. Plans are being made to attend Delilah's Cafe's open microphone readings where, again, members will be able to read their work to a Metro audience.

The Writers' Club meeting are held every Tuesday at 12:30 to 1:30 in CC 116.

ELC hosts art show, auction



At the ELC nest boxes, animal sculptures, and photos are on display for the ELC art show through Feb. 17.

Photo by Lane Scheideman

From now until February 17 the John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center will be holding an art show in the Lakeside Hall on the ELC grounds.

The displayed art work includes nature photographs, animal sculptures and nest boxes.

"These are the most intricate bird houses you've ever seen," stated the Director of the ELC Jerry Herrmann.

The artists include Michael Wilhelm of Dynamic Light Photography Images of Oregon Wildlife, Dean Edwards Jr. of Woodnest boxes. The Haggart Astronomical

crafters Wildlife Sculptors, and

Richard Clark who created the

Observatory will also be open to the public for celestial viewing, weather permitting. Call the ELC for viewing times at extension 351. Herrmann is also expecting a

new eagle to arrive at the ELC to join the other birds of prey that are being taken care of by the

"Hopefully it will be here in a month," said Herrmann.

There are two requirements that must be taken care of before the eagle can be delivered.

First, a new facility must be constructed to house the eagle and then the Washington Park Zoo, where the eagle will be coming from, must have a new eagle to replace the one going to the ELC.

Coming up on Saturday, March 3 the ELC will be holding a benefit auction at the Milwaukie Elks Club



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