

Play review: Ravenscroft opens with success

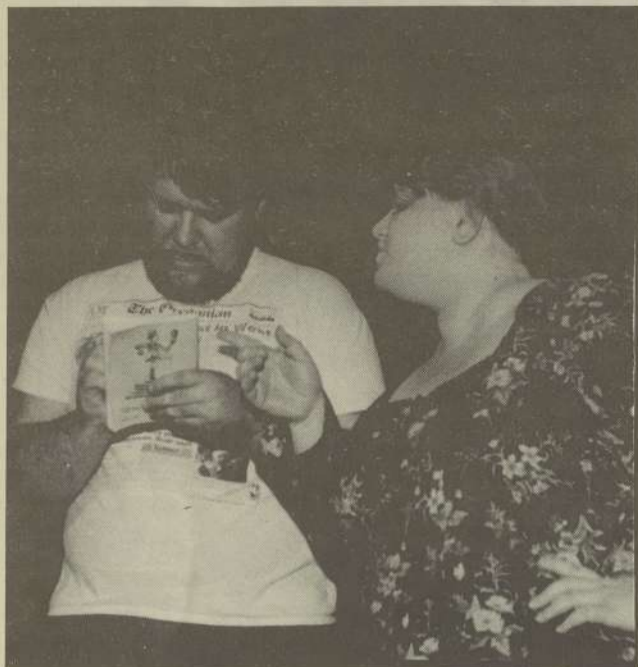


Photo by Chad Patteson

"Ravenscroft" will be performed for three more nights.

by Jocelyn Gauthier
Feature Editor

Mystery and a wicked sense of humor describe the feeling of "Ravenscroft," CCC's Fall Term production.

The play opened at 8 p.m., Dec. 1, with performances on Dec. 2 and 3. It will also be performed at 8 p.m., Dec. 9 and 10, and at 2:30 p.m., Dec. 11, in the McLoughlin Hall Theatre.

The play is set at dusk in December, 1905, in a manor house in the English countryside.

The story is about Inspector Ruffing, who is trying to figure out the how a man, Patrick, died in a remote house where five women live.

The women: the mistress of the house, her daughter, a governess, a maid and a housekeeper. Each tries to explain the reason for Patrick's death to the inspector, who refuses to believe any of them.

Don Nigro, playwright, said, "the sense of mystery is always

connected with the mystery of woman," and I'm sure Inspector Ruffing would agree. The play has the same sort of crazy feeling that "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" has.

According to the director, Merril Lynn Taylor, the "play is an amusing contemplation on survival in the age of the aspidistra...which was a very popular Victorian house plant because it could survive in the noxious atmosphere created by gas lighting in those homes.

"Every time, place... atmosphere... has its peculiarities, its little difficulties, but those of the Victorian women are certainly intriguing, perhaps because they exist just barely within the boundaries of our own frame of reference."

Since it is a mystery, I don't want to give anymore about it away. It's well worth seeing. Hurry though, you only have three chances left!

Refurbished teddy bears given to cheer Doernbecher children

by Tina Guinn
Editor-in-Chief

Amy Rosanbalm, Clackamas student, has invested much of her time in teddy bears. She doesn't collect them, she refurbishes them.

Rosanbalm is a volunteer in the Volunteer Program, which is coordinated through Associated Student Government. With the help of ASG Senator Mitch Christensen and Officer Guy Crooks, Rosanbalm is putting her teddy bears to good use.

"Finding homes for teddy bears" is the name of this term's volunteer project. The bears have been collected, Rosanbalm has refurbished them and they are being prepared for delivery to Doernbecher Children's Hospital Dec. 17.

The children's hospital was chosen to receive the teddy bears by "assessing the places where they would be the most needed and appreciated," Crooks said.

"We don't want to just hand them a teddy bear and say 'bye.' We want to spend some time with

these kids," Christensen said.

The purpose of the project is to "give back to the community, to bridge the gap between the community because this is a community college and the community gives us our funding," Crooks said.

Rosanbalm came forward as a volunteer to donate her teddy bears and the time she was willing to put into them. She buys used teddy bears that look like they can be refurbished.

Rosanbalm hand-washes the bears, makes new clothes for them and patches them up.

"She brought the idea up to us and we thought it was a great one," Christensen said.

"We think it will be really successful because it comes from the students," Crooks said.

ASG puts together projects like this one based on ideas brought to them through the Volunteer Program. People bring in applications and ideas they would be interested in volunteering for, and ASG tries to coordinate a project that will accommodate the

volunteer's ideas, as well as others who would like to help.

Rather than individual projects, ASG is trying to rework the Volunteer Program to make group trips so more people will be able to be involved.

"When it comes from the students, they are more willing to respond and help out," Christensen said.

"We're benefitting because the school is benefitting. We are showing we are actively involved. By showing we are interested and involved, it improves the reputation of our school and it strengthens our relationship with the community," Crooks said.

"There is self-gratification in knowing that you're giving something, rather than just taking," Christensen added.

If you have any teddy bears you want to donate, bring them to the Student Activities office. They may not be used for this first group trip. However, they may be used for another trip which may be planned again.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Without carrying this discussion much further and entering into a cyclone effect of letters, I would like to comment briefly on Dan Sauder's letter of November twenty-third. Mr. Sauder makes a clear, and I suppose rather accurate, literal reading of The Bible. In doing so, however, he fails to realize that the narrow scope of literal reading prohibits us from feeling the compassion and humility because we don't confront the complexity of human experience. It also disturbs me that Mr. Sauder condemns Leigh Martin without knowing the true goodness a person like Martin might have. But this is another issue.

The most frightening thing to me about Dan Sauder's letter was his statement that opposition to homosexuality is not hateful but simply following God's word. We must be careful, all of us, to not blur the lines between what hate is and justifying the actions of following One's word. Throughout the world, many people have

committed heinous acts, yet state they followed someone's word. Take for instance Bosnian soldiers, children in Somalia, Tutsi and Hutu children, Manson followers, and, of course the all too often used, Nazi followers. These people at one time or another have blamed their blind rage and hate on the word of their Great One. Hating in the name, and for the love, of God seems a backward way of achieving grace in God's gaze.

And, moreover, we must not hold ego and ethnocentric views and remember that people around the globe perceive the world in drastically different manners. This does not make anyone wrong, just plain different. Ask ourselves for a moment, "worldwide, how many cultures have missionaries ravaged?" It is the tolerance and humility of accepting differences that leads to a world of understanding, of wisdom, of richness in the human spirit.

Jeff Knorr
English Instructor

Writer's contest set

Cash awards will be made to the top winners in the annual writing contest sponsored by CCC's Writers' Club.

Diane Averill, English instructor at the college, said there will be three categories -- fiction, poetry and essay -- in the contest.

First place in each category will win \$50, followed by \$30 for second place and \$20 for third place, she said.

Manuscripts must be turned in by Jan. 20 to Averill, whose office is S125. There is no limit on the length of the works to be submitted. For more information, call Averill at ext. 2370.

Corrections

Doris O'Hara is a Clackamas High School teacher. An article in the Nov. 23 issue of *The Clackamas Print* gave an incorrect job title.

Gwynne Warner, a CCC student, has acted in 60 different productions. An article in the Nov. 23 issue of *The Clackamas Print* said she had acted in 60 separate performances.

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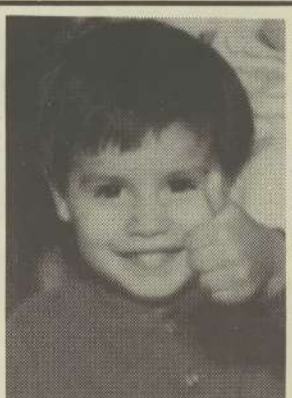
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