

Irkutsk love story inspires playwright

Jon Roberts
Feature Editor

Irkutsk playwright Nelly Mathanova is an accomplished theater director, whose newest play **From America With Love**, is based on the true story of an American-Siberian romance. Mathanova visited CCC recently to promote her newest play.

During the cold war, a man by the name of Silvio "Scotty" John Scolocchini, a retired World War II veteran, visited Moscow as a tourist. By luck he met Lydia "Lida" Maevskaya, an Irkutsk teacher and fell in love with her.

Scotty wanted to marry Lida but she would not move to America. In those days marriages between an American and a Soviet citizen were rare.

Scotty would not let anything stand in his way. If Lida would not move to America he would move to Russia to be with her. He sold his home in Philadelphia, and moved to Irkutsk to marry Lida, despite the objections of local bureaucrats. In Irkutsk, he made many friends and was given

support by the open-hearted Siberian people.

The married couple moved into a log cabin on the bank of the Angara-River in the best housing they could obtain at that time. This made Scotty unhappy; he dreamed of providing a proper home for Lida.

He set about the task of making their dream house. He worked long and hard for his dream. It took the nine remaining years of his life and he did not live to move into it. The house now stands as a monument to "the Irkutsk American" and his love story.

Scotty's story is memorialized in the play **From America With Love**. Playwright Nelly Mathanova changed the name Scotty to Mario and Lida to Katya.

The play **From America With Love** is produced by Irkutsk Drama Theater and will be performed in Portland from Oct. 26 through Oct. 28. It will be performed at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center on 5340 N. Interstate Avenue. Tickets cost \$15 for General Admission, and \$12



photo by Josh Kehler

Lydia "Lida" Maevskaya and Irkutsk playwright Nelly Mathanova visit CCC promoting their upcoming play.

Sorry Seymour

Amy K. Hanson
Managing Editor

The Spring production of "Little Shop of Horrors" has been cancelled due to lack of enthusiasm.

According to Barbara Bragg, secretary for Communications and Theatre Department, there was lots of interest. In fact, 24 auditions were scheduled for last week, six per hour, with an additional wait list. Only half of the scheduled auditions showed up to their assigned appointment, many without notice.

Bragg said that she was really surprised and that many people had scheduling conflicts, between work and the 3 to 6 p.m. rehearsal times.

The decision has not yet been made as to what the new play will be, but auditions will be Dec. 4.

Forensics off to strong start

Megan Friedow
Staff Writer

Clackamas Community College offers a forensics program for those students who have an interest or want to enhance their communication skills, while competing against two and four year schools.

The team has already made an impressive start as both senior and novice contestants used their unique talents. They place second overall out of 33 contending schools, CCC being one of the smaller, less well known colleges.

"The tournament went extremely well. It was a great learning experience for all the members," said Kelly Brennan, Director of Forensics. "Not many people have an understanding of forensics, or even that Clackamas has its own team."

The last competition, both the senior and novice contestants made a strong showing. Nate Smith led the team with his performance in the Parliamentary Debate and placed second out of 66 contending speakers. Liz

Kinnaman took fourth in the novice Dramatic Interpretation and fourth in the duo Interpretation competition with Brian Everest. Erika Gurley, Jennifer Paige, Jesse Gnehm, and Jared Thatcher all proved worthy of recognition as they placed as well.

Each of these students specializes in one or more of the following categories which range anywhere from Persuasive Speaking, Informative, Editorial Commentary to Theater, Impromptu, Poetry Interpretation and Debate. There are both individual and duo competitions. The background experience of these students ranges from zero to many years. The tournaments offer a variety of levels and divisions depending on the students experience, so one is only competing against those with similar experience.

"It was quite a change coming from high school, and then competing at the college level, so it was a great learning experience," said Erika Gurley, first year student.

"Forensics offers endless op-

portunities and the skills developed will not only improve speaking abilities, but assist in the introduction of colleagues and prove beneficial in many aspects," said Brennan. Not only will this improve one's personal performance, but will introduce scholarship possibilities as well.

Clackamas has had a reputation to be a strong competitor at these past collegiate competitions, and as Brennan states, "I only hope to encourage further involvement to those who have any interest in forensics because they would be an asset to our team." Anyone interested is welcome to call Kelly Brennan, or attend his class on Monday or Wednesday at 2-4pm in M202.

"When we are prepared, we will have the knowledge and the power that will give us the freedom to reach new heights. With this knowledge we shall not be bound to mediocrity," said Brennan.

Their next competition will be held Nov. 3 and 4 at Lower Columbia College in McMinnville.

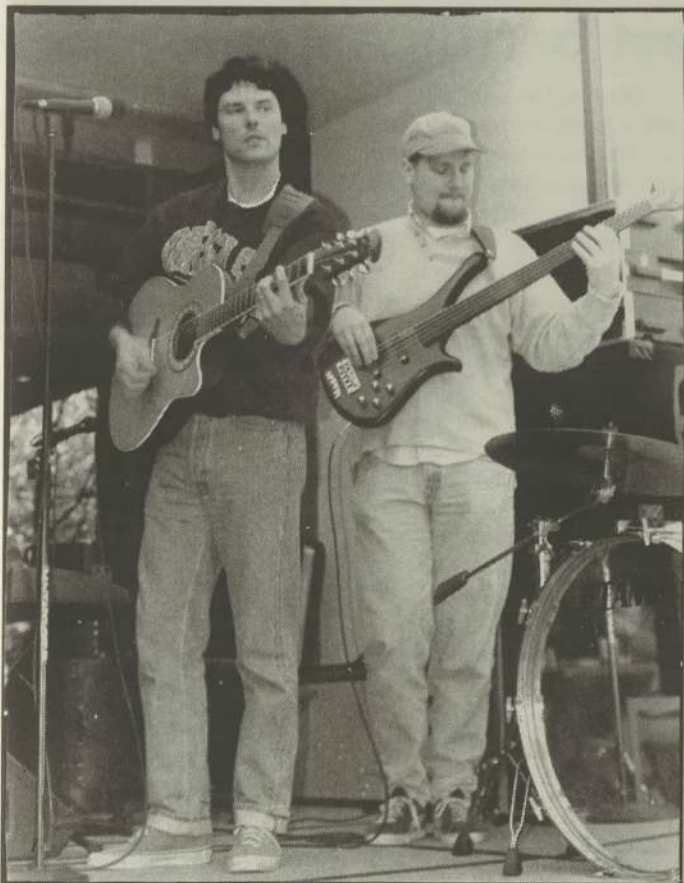
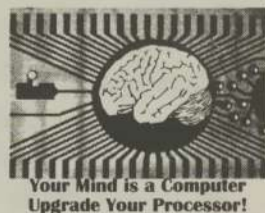


photo by Josh Kehler

Guitarists Josh Millman and Michael Page of the musical group 'The Mavens' rocked at CCC last Wednesday.



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