

'Les Miz' visits Portland

Jon Roberts
Feature Editor

Portland's Broadway Theater Season put on *Les Miserables* for the last two weeks, at the Civic Auditorium. *Les Miserables* is one of the most well known plays in modern theater. Tickets for *Les Miz* have been sold out for the last three months.

Les Miz is the story of a man named Jean Valjean, a man who is convicted of the crime of stealing and is sent to jail. He stole a loaf of bread to feed his sister's daughter.

Jean Valjean is released on parole after 19 years on the chain gang. He finds that life outside jail is hard, he is an outcast and can't get a job or a place to stay because of his criminal record. The only person who will give Valjean a place to stay is the Bishop of Digne. Valjean repays the bishop's kindness by stealing some silver. Valjean is caught by the police and is brought before the Bishop. The Bishop lies for Valjean and says the silver was a gift and also gives Valjean two

precious candlesticks. Valjean decides to change his life, and jumps parole and creates a new life for himself.

Eight years later Valjean has changed his name to Monsieur Madeleine and has become both a factory foreman and a mayor of

The play is visually awesome. It has great sets throughout the play. The play makes use of a rotating stage which allows the play to change sets without bringing the curtain down. This allows for the play to move along fast.

The play starred William Solo as Valjean, Ron Baker as

Javert, Susie McMonagle as Fantine and Gina Feliccia as Cosette. The play was written by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schonberg. The play is based on the novel by Victor Hugo. The music is by Claude-Michel Schonberg and the

lyrics are by Herbert Kretzmer.

The impressive orchestral score was by John Cameron.

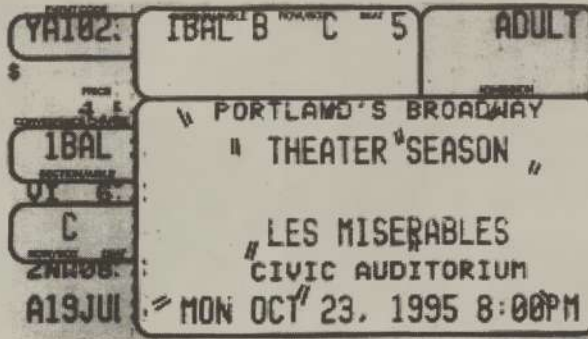
This play, in my opinion, is one of the best modern plays, almost as good as the *Phantom of the Opera*.

I have not seen many plays, I have seen the *Phantom*, *South Pacific*, and high school plays.

Les Miserables is on the top of all these plays except the *Phantom of the Opera*, but it's a close second.

the town Montreuil-Sur-Mer. He is a changed man, and he does his best to make himself a respectable man.

He is still a wanted man and is being pursued by the local constable Javert. Throughout the play, the action follows Valjean through his life. He takes into his household a young girl named Cosette, who was the daughter of a worker named Fantine. He took Cosette in because he felt responsible for Fantine's death.



'Nine Inch Nails' and David Bowie rock the Rose Garden

Amy K. Hanson
Managing Editor

Young and old came together last Wednesday night to see *David Bowie* and *Nine Inch Nails* in the first indoor concert in the new Rose Garden Arena.

Thousands of people lined up outside the arena in the rain awaiting entrance to the concert. At the door each person was searched for safety purposes. One person said, "Is it a body cavity search?"

The arena has five levels, so people were wandering to find their correct entrances. My husband and I had general admission tickets, so we were on the floor.

It was interesting to see the variety of people attending the

concert. Some were dressed up in suit jackets, some in fishnets and black garb and many in street clothes and NIN t-shirts.

The concert began a little after 7:30 p.m. with the four-man band *Prick*. As soon as they started playing the crowd surfing began. Having never heard *Prick* before and anticipating the *Nine Inch Nails* segment of the concert, I wasn't too impressed.

Nine Inch Nails on the other hand put on a spectacular performance. The majority of songs played were off of "The Downward Spiral," including "March of the Pigs," "Closer," "The Becoming" and "Eraser." The backdrop was nothing extraordinary, just lots of smoke and

lights. In one song they used short bursts of bright light, reminiscent of an electrocution, to emphasize the lyrics.

After the *Nine Inch Nails* set, there was an instrumental interlude with a projection of swarming bees, a heap of crawling worms and flying geese.

Nine Inch Nails returned to the stage with *David Bowie* clad in light colored '80s garb. His guitarist was dressed in leopard print, holding a fuschia guitar.

Bowie performed *Nine Inch Nails*' "Hurt" and "Reptile" with Trent Reznor. This segment of the concert was pretty good, considering what was to come.

When *Nine Inch Nails* left, Bowie took control of the stage.

New videos coming to stores in November

Amy K. Hanson
Managing Editor

NEW TO VIDEO

Batman Forever -PG-13- Val Kilmer replaces Michael Keaton as Bruce Wayne and Batman in this long-awaited sequel. Jim Carrey stars as the Riddler, Tommy Lee Jones as Two-Face and Chris O'Donnell as Robin. This film is a massive array of sights and sounds.

While You Were Sleeping -PG- 103 minutes- After Lucy (Sandra Bullock) rescues her dream date Peter (Peter Gallagher) from being hit by a train, she is mistaken at the hospital as Peter's fiancée. While Peter is in a coma, Lucy meets and falls in love with Peter's brother, Jack (Bill Pullman).

Panther -R- 123 minutes- Directed by Mario Van Peebles, this movie is a "docu-drama" about the rise and fall of the Black Panther Party in the 1960s.

The Perez Family -R- 135 minutes - Marisa Tomei (Only You) is Dottie Perez, a Cuban immigrant who, along with Juan Raul Perez (Alfred Molina), pre-

tends to be part of a large family to enter America.

Casper -PG- 98 minutes- Based on the comic, Casper the Friendly Ghost comes to life, trying hard to be a friend to Kat (Cathy Moriarty) and her father (Bill Pullman), ghost doctor.

Tommy Boy -PG-13- 98 minutes- Saturday Night Live's Chris Farley stars as a dim-witted college grad, reminiscent of Billy Madison, whose mission is to save his dad's company.

Tales From the Hood -R- 98 minutes- Three teen-age gangsters are told frightening tales by a sinister mortician.

NEXT WEEK

November 7- *Mad Love*- A tale of adventure, romance and the reality of life starring Drew Barrymore and Chris O'Donnell.

Bad Boys- Comedic Miami detectives, Martin Lawrence and Will Smith, try to solve a series of murders.

My Family- Esai Morales, Jimmy Smits and Edward James Olmos star in the story following three generations of a Latin family.

Hawaiian authors speak at CCC

Dan Anderson
Staff Writer

Two esteemed authors of Hawaiian descent, Kathleen Tyau and Graham "Sandy" Salisbury, spoke and read from their writings Wednesday night in the Gregory Forum.

Tyau's first novel, *A Little Too Much is Enough*, is a detailed first-story account of a Chinese-Hawaiian family's experience; the fictional family mirrors Tyau's own family in many ways. "There are voices speaking out all at once," Tyau explained.

"I wanted to write a book that seemed real, about the island experience," Tyau stated. "It's a rather untraditional novel, and not even a traditional collection of stories. It's held together by a theme, and orchestrated so that all the scenes are

related."

Tyau moved from Hawaii to Oregon to attend Louis and Clark College in Portland and decided to stay here. "I felt like a fish out of water on the mainland," Tyau said, "and did for years. Writing this book helped me feel as though I belong, wherever I go."

Much of the book revolves around food. "Food turned into a vehicle for getting to the real story," Tyau explained. "Hawaiians love to eat."

Sandy Salisbury grew up in Hawaii, a descendant of European missionaries who landed in the island in the 1820's. He moved to Vermont to attend college, and settled in Oregon because he "loves the scenery and the people" and because if he were in Hawaii, he "would be a bum, doing nothing but surfing and having fun."

"I write for adolescents,

mostly from a father-son relationship, and relationships among friends," Salisbury said. "My heart has always been with young people who seem neglected, or lost."

His first novel, *Blue Skin of the Sea*, is a novel for adolescents about Hawaii. His latest work, *Under the Blood-Red Sun*, has been nominated for the Oregon Institute of Literary Arts awards this November.

He believes that good fiction should be "a kind of mirror, a place to stop, to look at ourselves." He hopes his stories provide a positive experience for youths. "A good experience lived vicariously is better than no good experience lived at all."

The Friends of the Library collected donations at the door. Proceeds will benefit media services.



His set was a big let down, after *Nine Inch Nails* wound the audience up with strong rhythm and lyrics. Trent Reznor sang with a clear voice, full of force.

Bowie on the other hand sounded washed up and many people abruptly began to leave.

As for the matchup of this

concert, Bowie would have been better off with a more mellow band to back him, as would *Nine Inch Nails* have been better with another. Bowie needs to go back to the '80s and "Dancing in the Streets" with Mick Jagger. Over all, *Nine Inch Nails* gets four stars Bowie gets one.

'Now and Then' a big waste of time

Josh Kehler
Photography Editor

When I first heard this movie, "Now and Then," described as "Stand By Me" for girls, I thought it would be fun to see. But it wasn't what it was cracked up to be. The movie takes place in some little hick town in the Bible belt of America. The 90 minute movie can be summarized into one sentence. But because I want to express my mind I'm going to waste my time and yours.

Four pre-pubescent girls running around on their stupid bell-dingin', basket-carryin', banana-seated bikes. This is definitely a "chick flick" to the bone. All you liberal feminists will love this movie if you liked *Thelma and Louise*. The movie dealt with some good topics, but it didn't

make up for the lack of acting experience. Demi Moore was exceptional as always. Rita Wilson on the other hand was less than decent. Melanie Griffith's voice was annoying, and I can't stand watching her walk with her overly surgically augmented breasts.

There were cool cameos by other famous people, but they don't matter or alter the movie enough for me to waste my time typing. If you're a middle-aged woman and you've seen "Bridges of Madison County" 90 million times and are getting bored with it, I recommend you see "Now and Then." If you're a guy, don't see it. There's not enough fast cars, big guns and beautiful women in this movie to hold the attention of a member of the National Grass Growers Association.