

# 'Barefoot in the Park' hits the stage



Brad Heinke/The Clackamas Print

Victor Velasco (Reed Morris, left) hurriedly whisks away Ethyl Banks (Jennifer Whitten), the less than sober mother of newlywed and apartment owner Corie Bratter (Kiah Hart) who looks on in bemusement. The play will run Thursdays through Saturdays until Nov. 18. Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors over the age of 62.

## Breanna Craine The Clackamas Print

The Clackamas Theatre Department is coming out with their first play of the year, and it is sure to make everyone laugh. "Barefoot in the Park" is not only Clackamas Community College's first play of the school year, but also the first play for the new theater director James Eikrem.

Eikrem came from Central Michigan University and decided

to move back to Oregon, where he's originally from. But why start with "Barefoot in the Park?"

"I decided to pick this play for many reasons, some being that it is a classic and will make everybody laugh," Eikrem said.

The set is designed and built by the Fundamentals of Tech Theater class taught by instructor Chris Whitten. It is a part of the class syllabus to help build the sets for the school plays.

"We started the scene fabrication process at the first of the term," said Whitten about the sets for "Barefoot in the Park."

The set was filled with a real fridge, wood stove and stairs that lead up to the top of the roof.

"We are trying to tell the same story, all at the same time," said Whitten.

The comedy "Barefoot in the Park" was written by Neil Simon and originally opened on Broadway in 1963. It was a huge success in the 60s and they also produced a movie version of the play.

"Barefoot in the Park" is about newlyweds Corie and Paul Bratter who live in a fifth floor walk-up apartment in New York City. Paul

is a young lawyer trying to do more than sharpen pencils, and Corie tries to impress her new husband of six days with their new apartment. But it's hard to do when nothing in the apartment works and they have some pretty crazy neighbors. They struggle trying to make their lives work together as newlyweds, but they have a lot of obstacles.

Actress Kiah Hart, who plays Corie Bratter, has been seen in many plays at CCC. She's been in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" as well as the "The Crucible." In "The Crucible" she played the

main character, Abigail.

Actor Sam Levi, who plays Paul Bratter, also has a history in plays at CCC. Additionally, he was a part of the Traveling Lantern Theatre Company and participated in their productions as well.

Clackamas' production of "Barefoot in the Park" runs through Nov. 18, Thursdays through Saturdays in the Osterman Theater in Niemeyer Center. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday performances start at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors over the age of 62.

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