## 'Cherry Orchard' is delightful

By Joan Schnyder Advertising Manager

"The Cherry Orchard" is a wonderful credit to Theatre UNCA. All of the elements of the play combine to create a splendid exhibition. The combination of fine direction, creative and heartfelt acting, appropriate set and brilliant costuming form a collaborative work of art.

The key word in describing the play is energy. The cast has a bubbling sense of action that rubs off on the audience. This energy carries the cast through difficult scenes. The energy also moves the play so that it is difficult to think of a point where the performance dragged.



This contagious energy flows from all of the cast members, particularly the character Madame Ranevskaya. Ann Ducati is radiant in her role. Her character is very likeable from the moment she captures the stage with her first entrance. As the play progresses Ducati continues to draw affection and compassion from her audience.

A very special element of the play are the well acted character roles. Elaine Meyers, as always, gives charm and light to the play with her carefully acted and polished performance. Dom Kramers also colors the play nicely with his character, Semyon.

Not so attractive to the play is Rob Young's performance of Yasha. Young overacts to the point of distraction. Though the role is to be pompous and arrogant his facial distortions

and constant movement draw the eye away from the main action in a very disturbing way.

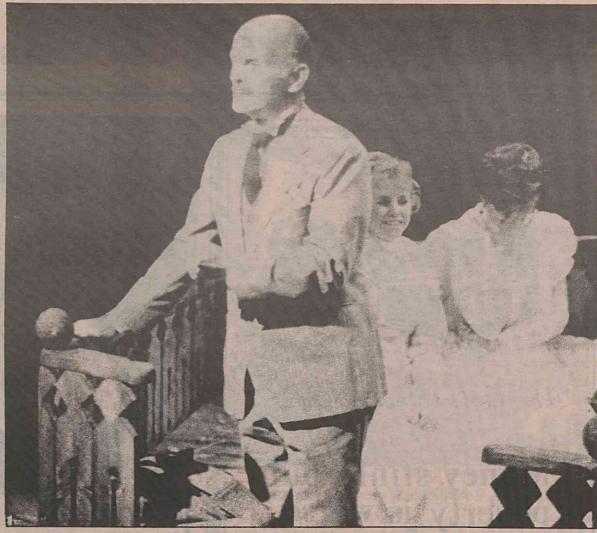
For the most part however the casting is excellent, and all characters portry their roles well.

Sara Stewart is to be commended on her fine costuming choices. They add dimension and life to the play.

The play itself for the most part is handled very well. The action flows nicely, and the combination of good acting and effective interpretation by the director create a nice show.

However the ending did not equal the quality of the rest of the play. Perhaps the problem was a technical one. Sound effects play a major role in the final scene, and from where I was sitting they were undiscernible.

"The Cherry Orchard" is a great way to spend a couple of hours this weekend. I would certainly recommend it to everyone.



Staff Photo--Michele Samuel

Kermit Brown plays Leonid Andreyevich Gaev in this comic play by Anton Chekhov.



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