

FEATURES

Theatre UNCA presents Southern drama

Sarah-Vance Goodman
Features Reporter



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNCA DRAMA DEPARTMENT
Mary McAvoy, Angela Koon, and Lauren Spear share a tense moment in "Crimes of the Heart"

Theatre UNCA presented "Crimes of the Heart," a delightfully funny performance about the lives of three Southern sisters and how they became reunited in the midst of individual crises at their Hazelhurst, Mississippi homestead. Whether it was aging, love, infatuation, sickness, or murder, the issues facing the Magrath women were deeply true to life, yet performed lightheartedly to lessen the intensity. The girls were kept dwelling in a state of chaos, but all throughout the play they brought forth peals of laughter from the audience.

From the very first scene where Lenny, played by Mary McAvoy, was grieving over her 30th birthday, I was either laughing out loud or anticipating a punchline.

McAvoy portrayed the oldest of the Magrath sisters, who was throwing herself a party with one candle and a cookie. She embodied a self-conscious worrywart who cried on demand and spastically waved her hands while speaking. McAvoy did a stellar job eliciting my sympathy,

making sure she let the other characters know that she had taken on the burden of caring for her comatose grandfather.

She meticulously made sure that everything was in order, but let down her guard upon the arrival of her sisters.

Meg, performed by Angela Koon, was a supposedly well to do singer with a spunky Shania Twain twist.

High heels and all, Koon delivered a twangy country accent perfectly, so perfectly that I would have believed if she told me she was a caricature from Dollywood.

She had infatuation issues with her ex-lover and found herself on a moonlight rendezvous, getting drunk with a local named Doc, played by Jeremy Burgess. Koon embodied confidence, which al-

lowed her to skip away from the family situation, taking care of a dying grandpa. She made light of all of her problems, medicating them with alcohol and love.

Babe, the youngest and most hilarious of the trio entered the scene squealing with delight upon greeting Meg. Performed by Lauren Spear, the young gal wore an outstanding pink dress, probably styl-

ish for the 1974 setting. She evoked laughter as she walked a thin line between being an outlandish busybody and a timid introvert. With probing, however, any bit of juicy information could be pulled from her mouth.

Spear played dumb throughout the entire play, creating a hilariously ambivalent attitude about her grandfather's illness and her attempt to murder her husband. She laughed about the former and about the later she states, quite frankly that the reason she pulled the trigger on her husband was because she "didn't like his looks, I just didn't like his looks."

In a culmination of the frustration she was facing, Spear decided to end her life and ran up the pseudo-staircase at the back of the scene with a rope in her hand. Later, she returned in a frantic fit with the rope tied around her neck, dragging a light fixture behind her that she had pulled away from the ceiling in her futile attempt at suicide.

To make things even more outrageous, McAvoy and Koon both sat obliviously to Spear's predicament, obviously entangled in issues of their own.

The props and costumes used were simple. If it were done any other way, it could have possibly ruined the point.

The Blue Banner polls UNCA students

What do you do on the weekend?

"I pretty much lay around and be lazy. (I) rest because I have soccer, and don't get to rest that much."

Sarah Thorp,
Undeclared Freshman

"I play frisbee golf. I went to church. I went to Apollo Flame. I went to Applebees, and I went to Wal-Mart and to Campus Crusade. I went to Mellow Mushroom. I spent a lot of money."

Shane Ambro,
Sophomore History and Music Major

"On the weekends I hang out with my friends who live in Asheville because I've lived in Asheville for a lot of my life. So, I go over to their houses and eat food with them. I play the 'Harry Potter' card game, and I knit and watch videos. That is about it."

Monica Combs,
Undeclared Freshman

"On the weekends, I alternate. I go home to Raleigh one weekend to see my mom, my family, my boyfriend and my friends there. I usually just hang out with them and do regular stuff."

Then, on the other weekends, I go to my dad's (house) in Tennessee and hang out with him. I've stayed here a couple times mostly just to do school work and get stuff done. I don't really do anything fun."

Jennifer Ferrell,
Undeclared Freshman

"Basically, (I go to) house parties, hang out with friends. (I do) not (go) really any particular place, like a club or bar or anything."

Christy Acee,
Undeclared Sophomore

"I just like to relax with some friends whenever I get the chance."

Travis Meuten,
Sophomore Biology Major

"I like to work on the weekends, and also go to church on the weekends."

Shea Watson,
Alumni

"I watch movies in friend's rooms, and I work. I go to church on Sundays."

Kami Doty,
Senior Accounting Major

"I work on the weekends."

Shannon Brewer,
Junior
Mass Communication Major

You noticed...
Don't you think your customers will too?

Call 251-6591 for information about Spring 2002 advertising in The Blue Banner!

Tunatini's
161 Biltmore Ave.
285-9110

Sundays NFL Football Open@12:30 Appetizer Bar Begins at Kickoff Domestic Bottles \$1.50 Build Your Own Bloody Mary from Our New Bloody Mary Bar with All of the Fixins! 1PM-5PM	Mondays FREE APPETIZER BAR!!! Monday Night Football on Big Screen \$1.50 Domestic
Tuesdays 2'S Day-- 2 Domestic Bottles, 2 Well High Balls for the Price of 1 80's Music	Wednesdays \$1 Budweiser Bottles DISCO NIGHT
Thursdays \$2.50 Cosmo's and Kamikazee's Howlin' Howie	Fridays and Saturdays Live Entertainment starting at 9PM...

11/30 Caribbean Cowboys 

12/1 Chris Rhodes

GRAND OPENING ASHEVILLE NOW OPEN



SAVE up to 70% off Department Store prices!

Don't miss the Grand Opening of ASHEVILLE's new **Rugged Wearhouse**. All the most popular **BRAND-NAME** denim, casual apparel, shoes, and accessories for men, women, and kids.

It's all up to 70% off department store prices every day!

ASHEVILLE, NC
River Ridge Market Place
800 Fairview Road

Mon - Sat 9am - 10pm • Sun 10am - 7pm

RUGGED WEAR HOUSE
This House Rocks with Savings!

*70% savings as compared to original department store prices. Some quantities are limited. We reserve the right to limit quantities.