

One-Act Plays Reviewed

'Opportunist' Gets Writer's Plaudits

By BILL BAILEY
Thursday night, the Carolina Playmaker's held their 188th series, producing three student-written one-act plays.

Of the three plays, I believe Mary Frances Newton's play, "The Opportunist" was the best written. It had more continuity and was more complete in itself than any of the others.

Mr. Timothy Jones' play, "Time of Reckoning", was the only serious play on the bill, the other two being comedies. It may be added that Mr. Jones' play had great impact. Despite the good idea for a plot and the excellent beginning, the play fell apart as it proceeded to its conclusion.

I feel that Mr. Jones ran the Negro blood issue into the ground and the over-emphasized explanation concerning genetics would have been better received at a meeting of the American Medical Association than by the average

theatre-goer.

The crowning blow came at the end of the play. Julie's husband had left town accompanied by the Negro houseboy whose neck was being sought by an angry mob led by Julie's inheritance-cheated brother-in-law. Julie, then mustering up all the pride she had left, and marched off to meet the angry mob ending the play on a very melodramatic note.

Parker Hodges play, "Cold Hester", had as a plot the "beatnik" theme and his idea was a good one. The play was quite humorous but failed to jell properly at its conclusion. It seemed as if Mr. Hodges just started writing and when he decided he had written enough, brought the play to an end.

There was little continuity, although his idea could have made an excellent play.

Herb Drinnon's direction of "Cold Hester" was splendidly

done. His blocking ran smoother than in any of the other two plays. Mary Anna Blair Hahn's direction of "The Opportunist" was handled very well with only a few exceptions, and despite these Mrs. Hahn is to be highly commended.

Mr. Charles Nisbet's direction of "Time of Reckoning" was the most polished of the three plays. It was so polished in fact that the actors seemed like a group of marionettes badly in need of some oil for their joints.

It must be kept in mind that these productions were the first ventures of the playwrights and directors, and both are to be highly commended on their final products. Since the plays were the playwright's first endeavors, there were many irregularities in them. The actors and actresses are to be highly praised for it was their task to iron out these irregularities and make the evening run smoothly.

Top honors of the evening go to Sally Clark, a Junior Playmaker from Corpus Cristi, Texas. Miss Clark's interpretation of the daughter in "The Opportunist" was executed with precision and excellence.

Florence Ruff also shares top honors with Miss Clark for her representation of the D.A.R. regent turned "beatnik" in "Cold Hester". Miss Ruff's timing was superbly executed and her performance was very convincing. Bill File as David and Lore Schuller as Ruth caused "The Opportunist" to come to life and their performance added a great deal of sparkle to the play.

They were well supported by Mrs. Wade and Faye Pierce.

Lucy Ann Dunlap, as Julie, outstandingly carried "Time of Reckoning" from the moment she stepped on stage until her melodramatic exit. Her performance was expertly handled except for her stiff execution which was the fault of her director.

Miss Dunlap was adequately supported by Lewis Ennis as Dan and Ira Marks as the doctor.

Myra Lauterer as the "giddy" spinster turned "beatnik" gave a humorous and convincing performance in "Cold Hester".

Although given a very weak and poorly written part, Jack Jackson as the "beatnik" writer, Nehemiah, managed to bring life into the part and dominated the stage along with Virginia Humphries, who gave a very seductive performance as the blonde goddess of the "beatnik" sect.

Also to be mentioned for his

small role which was amusingly handled is Marty Brenneman from Portsmouth, Va., another Junior Playmaker.

Dan Linney and his crew did a fine job on lighting, and the sets of Tommy Rezzuto once again showed his genius as set designer.

Just Counting Bank's Money Isn't Enough

Bank employees need as great a skill in working with people as they do in handling money, Virginia bank executive Richard C. Buell told a conference group here Thursday.

Buell, vice president of the Bank of Virginia in Richmond, stressed bank-customer relations and said that skill in human relations is the most vital of all for bank personnel.

He formerly was personnel director for Wachovia Bank and Trust Co. in Winston-Salem.

"Never think that any individual depositor is not important," Buell said. "Multiply him by all the other bank customers, regardless of worth, who are also individuals."

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Sports Shorts

Mac Turlington, end on the 1958 Tar Heel football team, will help out with the coaching of the frosh this fall.

Turlington, who started on the 1957 Carolina team, is finishing up work on his degree. He is married and resides in Glen Lennox.

Wedding bells are calling Tommy Kearns down the aisle in September. Kearns, a standout eager on the National Championship team at Carolina in 1956-57, will be discharged from the Army later this month.

The 5-11 sparkplug finished here in 1958. He has been in the Army since last February.

Now that Jim Hickey has taken over head coaching duties at Carolina, the present staff is short one man.

Bud Carson, who tutored the frosh last year, was already scheduled to help coach the varsity backfield this year with Ed Kensler, a varsity line coach, taking over the freshmen.

Could be Kensler will remain with the varsity and a new frosh coach will be hired later... Just a guess though.

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TRADEWINDS

Med Prof New Dean

A former student of the School of Medicine has been named dean of one of the nation's largest schools of medicine.

Dr. William N. Hubbard, who attended the UNC School of Medicine in 1941-43, has accepted the deanship of the University of Michigan School of Medicine.

At the time Dr. Hubbard attended school here, UNC was a two-year medical school. It went

into a full four-year program in 1952.

Dr. Hubbard was a former resident of Asheville. He is 39 years old. He came to Michigan from the New York University of Medicine, where he was serving as associate dean.

President Harlan Hatcher of Michigan said of the new appointment. "The University of Michigan feels fortunate in being able to select Dr. Hubbard to assume the deanship at a time when the medical school is confronted with all of the new and trying problems facing medical education everywhere."

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