WEEK'S FARE

TODAY

Chilly Scenes of Winter will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union

Empire of Passion will be shown at 7 and 9 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket Savages will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Bryan

Center film theater at Duke University. Admission charged. Roseland will be shown at 9:30 p.m. in the

Bryan Center film theater at Duke University. Admission charged Three Guys Naked From the Waist Down will

be performed under the sponsorship of the PlayMakers Repertory Company at 8 p.m. through Saturday and at 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday in the Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-8755 for ticket information.

Oh Rats! will be performed by students at Chapel Hill High School at 8 p.m. through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday. Call 967-6657 for ticket information.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat will be performed by the Raleigh Little Theatre at 8 p.m. through Saturday, at 3 p.m. Sunday and at 8 p.m. Wednesday. Call 821-3111 for ticket information.

The N.C. Symphony will perform with violin soloist Elmar Oliveira at 8 p.m. in Raleigh's Memorial Auditorium. Call 733-2750 for ticket

A Midsummer Night's Dream will be performed by the N.C. Dance Theatre at 8:15 p.m. through Friday in Page Auditorium at Duke University. Call 684-4059 for ticket information. Prints from The Print Shop in University Mall will be displayed in the Union upstairs gallery

through Oct. 10. Opening New Worlds, a look at the colonization of Roanoke Island and the astronomy of the times, will be offered by the Morehead Planetarium weekdays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 11 a.m., 1, 3 and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2, 3 and 8 p.m. through Nov. 19. Call 962-1236 for more information.

Faster, Faster will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information. Norman Blake and the Rising Fawn String Ensemble will perform with Barney Pilgrim and Don Mertz at 8 and 10 p.m. at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for ticket information.

FRIDAY

Educating Rita will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union auditorium. Admission charged.

Carmen will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Bryan Center film theater at Duke University. Admission charged. Soylent Green will be shown at midnight in

the Bryan Center film theater at Duke University. Admission charged. Odetta will perform at 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Call 962-1449 for ticket information.

Sky Rambles, a narrated tour of the current night sky, is offered by the Morehead Planetarium at 7 p.m., prior to the regular show. Separate admission charged for each show. Call 962-1236 for ticket information.

Gumbo Ya Ya will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information. Suzy Saxon and the Anglos will perform at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for more

SATURDAY

Vernon, Florida will be shown at 7 and 22 Vernon, Florida will be shown at / 9:30 p.m. in the Union auditorium. Never Cry Wolf will be shown at 7 amd 9 p.m. through Sunday in Page Auditorium at Duke University. Admission charged.

Robert Blocker will give a piano recital at 8:15 p.m. in the Ernest W. Nelson music room at Duke University. Rolly Gray and Sunfire will perform at Cat's

Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information. Emily Remler and Martin Taylor will perform with Ed Paolantonio at 9 and 10:30 p.m. at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for ticket information.

The Tannahill Weavers will perform at 8 and 10 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket

SUNDAY

Rashomon will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union auditorium. The Duke University Wind Symphony will perform at 3:30 p.m. in the Sarah P. Duke Gardens. In case of rain, the concert will be given in Baldwin Auditorium at Duke. The Facts will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call

967-9053 for more information. The Gregg Gelb Sextet will give a concert in memory of John Coltrane as part of the Sunday Jazz Series at the ArtSchool at 7 p.m. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

MONDAY

The N.C. Symphony will perform with violin soloist Elmar Oliveira at 8:15 p.m. in Page Auditorium at Duke University. Call 684-4059 for ticket information.

The Robert Cray Band will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

TUESDAY

Fires on the Plain will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Bryan Center film theater at Duke University. Admission charged. UNC music department faculty members will perform classic chamber music at 8 p.m. in Hill Hall Auditorium.

The Nightporters will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information. R.E.M. will perform at 8 p.m. through Wednesday in Page Auditorium at Duke University. Call 684-4059 for ticket information.

WEDNESDAY

NRBQ will perform at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for ticket information.

Claudia Schmidt will perform at 8:30 p.m. at Rhythm Alley. Call 929-8172 for ticket information.

MOVIES

Plaza I-Bolero at 3, 5:05, 7:10 and 9:20 ends today. Until September starts Friday at 3:15, 5:15, 7:15 and 9:20.

Plaza II-Breakin' at 3:15, 5:15, 7:15 and 9:15 ends today. The Evil That Men Do starts Friday at 3:10, 5:10, 7:10 and 9:10. Plaza III-Purple Rain at 3, 5:10, 7:20 and

Varsity I-The Man Who Knew Too Much at 2:15, 4:30, 7 and 9:30.

Varsity II-Repo Man at 3, 5, 7:30 and 9:45. Varsity Lateshows-Liquid Sky and This is Spinal Tap at 11:45 Friday and Saturday. Carolina Blue-Gremlins at 7:15 and 9:30 ends today. Footloose starts Friday at 7:15 and 9:30.

Carolina White-Ghostbusters at 2:30, 4:45, Carolina Classic-Rosemary's Baby at 2:45 and 5 ends today. Stalag 17 starts Friday at 2:45

Carolina Lateshows-MoA SoH at 11:30 and Trading Places at 11:45 Friday and Saturday. Ram I-Tightrope at 7:05 and 9:15 ends today. All of Me starts Friday at 7:05 and 9:15; weekend matinees at 2:05 and 4:15.

Ram II-Revenge of the Nerds at 7 and 9:10; weekend matinees at 2 and 4:10. Ram III-The Woman in Red at 7 and 9;

weekend matinees 2 and 4. Ram/WCHL Lateshows-Never Say Never Again and The Big Chill at 11:30 Friday and Carolina (Durham)-Sugar Cane Alley at 7

and 9; weekend matinees at 5. Carolina (Durham) Matinee-The Bandwagon at 3 ends Friday. Top Hat starts Saturday at 3. Carolina (Durham) Lateshow-The American Friend at 11:30 Friday and Saturday.

Compiled by Jeff Grove, arts editor.

Premiere 'Oh Rats!' draws comedy out of tragic past

By FRANK BRUNI

There is, philosophers and poets say, a fine line between any two extremes. tragedy and comedy not excepted. But a musical farce focusing on London in 1665-66, the years during which the bubonic plague and the Great Fire of London devastated the English population? Isn't that taking things too far?

Perhaps. But not in the eyes of Mark Nielsen, whose original musical, Oh Rats!, will be presented by the Chapel Hill High School this weekend.

"Any play is nothing more than finding a situation that has tension in it and going from there," said Nielsen, the 32-year-old CHHS cultural arts director who wrote the book, music and lyrics for the world-premiere play.

The comic-tragic tension of Oh Rats!, Nielsen said, derives from the juxtaposition of a main plot depicting the bungled, overlapping attempts of Londoners to escape the quarantined city with a subplot portraying the spiritual degeneration of a woman who turns to prostitution as a means of survival.

Although Nielsen spoke with firm conviction about the play in a recent interview, he remembered well the first time he was introduced to the play and the incredulity with which he greeted the concept of a comedy set against disease and destruction.

"Oh Rats!," Nielsen explained, "was originally adapted from a play by Philip Persinger." Persinger and Nielsen were enrolled together in a playwrighting program at UNC in 1975. "When he first told me about the play, I thought, 'this guy's on drugs,' "Nielsen said. "But

Campus Calendar

it turned out to be the funniest play I'd ever read."

Nielsen saw musical possibilities in the story and assumed the task of transforming the play. For the past nine years, he has worked sporadically on it. The problems encountered by a 1980 incarnation of the musical - "It was too long and overly complicated," Nielsen recalled — didn't dissuade him. Nielsen committed himself to improving the script and then last year "scheduled the production for the fall so that I would finish it. It was an intense

For Nielsen and for the CHHS theatre department, Oh Rats/ is a special and atypical experience. Nielsen said the cast of 11 principals and a chorus of 15 was both unusual for a CHHS musical and "very workable," and he has hired professionals to fill in for the school's orchestra. "It's just piano and percussion, with some synthesizer," said Nielsen. "We wanted to stick to something that we knew would work."

"But the most impressive thing about the production," Nielsen said, "is the effects we are using to recreate the Great Fire, which occurs at the end of the play." The question, of course, is how this event fits in with what Nielsen promised is "an upbeat ending."

The answer awaits those who venture over to the high school and back three centuries in time this weekend.

Oh Rats! will be performed at 8 p.m. today through Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Performing Arts Center at Chapel Hill High School. Call 967-6657 for ticket information.

8:30 p.m. Senior Class Gift Committee

meeting in 220 Union.

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The Carolina Student Fund/DTH Cam-

pus Calandar will appear daily. Announcements to be run in the expanded version on Mondays and Thursdays must be placed in the box outside the Carolina Student Fund office on the third floor of South Building by 3 p.m. Friday and 3 p.m. Wednesday, respectively. The deadlines for the limited editions will be noon one day before the announcement is to run. Only announcements from University recognized and campus organizations will

Thursday

Minority Career Fair, open to all students, until 5 p.m. in 12:30 p.m. Weight Management Group Session on the 2nd Floor of

Undergraduate Geography Association meeting to plan year's activities in 308 Saunders. 3:30 p.m. Undergraduate Business Symposium mandatory meeting for Executive Hosts in 106 Carroll. Womens' Studies lecture: "Women and the 1984 Elec-

tion," by Professor Francis Fox Piven of City College of NY in Gerrard Hall Undergraduate History Association organizational meeting.

All students welcome in 159 Orientation meeting of the Carolina Grateful Dead Society in 218 Union. Call 942-DEAD. UNC Parachute Club meeting in the Union.

large group meeting in the 7:30 p.m. STAND, Students Taking Action for Nuclear Disarmament in the Y Lounge.

Campus Crusade for Christ

Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting with guest speaker Track Coach West in 208-9

Friday

9:30 a.m. Careers in Business Fair until 3 p.m. in Carmichael Careers in Commercial Banking Careers in Operations/Production in 206 Union. 1:30 p.m. Undergraduate Art Association

meeting in new brick courtyard next to Upper Deck. Careers in Sales/Marketing in 205 Union.

Careers in Corporate Finance in 206 Union. Y-Outreach membership meeting in Union 218. 6:15 p.m. Campus Christian Fellowship

in "Sundae on Friday," in 204 Glenburnie St. Call 942-8952. Chapel Hill Community

Saturday

8:30 a.m. Dental Careers Conference until 4 p.m. Fee of \$6 includes lunch. Call Priscella Allen for

reservations, 966-5116. 9:30 a.m. Anglican Student Fellowship Saturday morning breakfast. Seminar: "ECKANKAR. Ancient Science of Soul Travel," in Union 224.

Sunday

11 a.m. Campus Christian Fellowship Worship Service in the Union.

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Sun. 9 am-9 pm



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