

# Drama department to present small-town love triangle

By BETH BUFFINGTON  
Staff Writer

A beautiful young girl, an attractive wild stranger and a respectable wealthy boy and the dilemma of their love triangle will captivate and entertain audiences in "Picnic," the first Department of Dramatic Art (DDA) undergraduate student production of the year.

Set in 1952, William Inge's "Picnic" is about the turmoil that an intriguing stranger brings to a small town in Kansas.

The stranger, Hal Carter, visits his college friend, Alan Seymour, a hometown boy. While visiting, Hal develops an attraction for Alan's girlfriend, Madge Ownes, and she for him. Everyone in the town thinks that Madge and Alan should marry, so this new attraction between Madge and Hal stirs up the community, especially since Hal comes from an unacceptable background and is down on his luck.

In the end, Madge must decide whether to stay in this small town with her family and Alan or break away and leave with her enticing new love.

"This play is a shift away from what the DDA has done in the past because it is first and foremost entertaining, and it is a love story," said director Dede Corvinus, DDA lecturer and

head of undergraduate studies. "But, if you want to dig deeper, there's a second meaning there, too."

"Basically, I want (the audience) to have a good time rather than to go home with a message," she added.

In the play, two couples represent two generations of characters, she said. While Madge and Hal represent the younger set, Rosemary Sydney, a spinster schoolteacher, and Howard Bevans, a respected businessman, are part of the older group.

"The younger generation is trying to decide who they really are," Corvinus said. "They see themselves as they've been seen by others. They've already been slotted. The older generation, on the other hand, is fighting to conform to values and to follow that rigid judgmental system they've established for themselves."

The idea behind the story is about the need for inner change, she added. "Both couples come together out of a need to change something about their lives. While Madge tends to break away from the system, Rosemary fights to change from within the system."

Melody Williamson, who plays Madge, said her character is not sure what's going to happen to her in the future. "Sometimes she wonders if she really exists," Williamson said. "Everyone thinks of her as 'the

beautiful girl,' and the one person that makes her feel real. Hal, has just left town."

Although Madge loves her family, she realizes that she loves Hal, and that she may lose him, Williamson added.

"The growth of the play — the revelation — is in her choice to leave town," Williamson said.

According to Walt Spangler, who plays Alan, everyone in the town expects Madge to go with Alan because he's rich and she could have a successful life with him, but with Hal she could break out of society's stereotype.

"By the end of the play, Alan doesn't know if he will break away from the mold," Spangler said. "He's stuck in the stereotype, and I think that Alan perhaps would break way if the play went on."

Madge and Hal's relationship is paralleled by Rosemary and Howard's relationship, according to Deb Teitelbaum, who plays Rosemary.

"There's a certain amount of age difference between the two," Teitelbaum said. "Madge hasn't become jaded yet, and she's still got her whole life ahead of her, while Rosemary is desperate and living on memories, dreams and illusions. Rosemary is a product of that whole environment and she sees this (marriage to How-

ard) as her last chance at making it."

Rosemary has some hard choices in front of her. "Howard is like the establishment, the white Anglo-Saxon Protestant, while Hal is the erratic kind of animal type in all of us," Teitelbaum added.

Williamson said that the setting and time period of the play date it somewhat, but the ideas are timeless. "It's very much a play of the '50s," she said. "But it shows (the audience) another time period and a whole new set of norms. It's a play about families, and you can always relate

that back to your own family," she added. "It's a check your brain in at the door and have fun type of play."

Other cast members are Amy Dawson, Lane Hoff, Amy Rosenberg, Allen Simpson, Kristine Watt, Deidra White and Michele White.

"I've been very happy with the cast," Corvinus said. "Most of them I've directed or had in class or both, so we started out already with a working vocabulary. It's been a wonderful experience for me. I've gotten a lot of help from the cast and the technical staff. It's very much an

ensemble play."

The set of "Picnic" was designed by Cynthia Stewart, the costumes were designed by Jeff Fender and lights were designed by Michael Roller.

"Picnic will be presented at 8 p.m. Nov. 10-13 and 2 p.m. Nov. 13 in the old Playmaker's Theatre. Tickets are \$7 and are available at Paul Green Theatre box office. One hour before the show, tickets can be purchased at Playmakers Theatre. For more information, call 962-1121.

## 'House with a heart' comforts families of hospitalized kids

By ELLEN THORNTON  
Staff Writer

Twelve-year-old Annie was greeted with hugs, smiles and sighs of relief when she returned to the Ronald McDonald House.

Doctors at the hospital had told Annie the good news; she could go home. For six weeks, Annie (not her real name) and her family had been staying at the house on Old Mason Farm Road waiting to see if she would survive an inoperable brain tumor.

Scenes such as this are common at the "house with a heart." The Ronald McDonald house provides temporary lodging and a support network for families with children undergoing treatment at North Carolina Memorial Hospital. Children being treated on an outpatient basis also stay at the house.

After a tense day at the hospital with their children, guests can come to the house to relax, chat and eat. Warm blue and peach colors, inviting couches, airy rooms and a fireplace make it easy to relax in the house. Beautiful quilts on the walls and huge stuffed animals in every corner help cheer up guests.

"These people have been through a lot," said Jennifer Donner, assistant manager of the house. "The house enables them to better help their children and keep the family together."

Families who are able pay \$8 per night to stay in the house. Guests receive private rooms and the use of common areas, including a TV room with games and a VCR, a generously stocked playroom for kids, a library, a living room, a kitchen and a dining area. Guests are expected to provide their own meals, but the kitchen does stock pastries and coffee all day, as well as basics like bread and milk.

"The house makes such a big difference," Donner said. "It's important that the guests have something to be a part of, something to do to keep their minds off their problems."

Donner said one of the main benefits of the house was that siblings of the sick children can come and stay with their parents.

"Before the Ronald McDonald House, I didn't have anywhere to stay," one guest said. "I used to spend the nights in a chair at the hospital."

Another guest said the Ronald McDonald House has been a great help. "If you have to stay away from home, you can't ask for anything better," she said. "If I had to sit in a motel room, I would lose my mind."

One of the outpatient children, a 16-year-old girl, said her favorite thing about staying at the house was watching the college guys play golf. The back window of the house has a

view of Finley Golf Course.

Many of the guests said the friendships they had made at the house helped them through their difficult times. Guests often ride to the hospital together and meet back at the house for dinner. Some watch TV together and talk over coffee in the kitchen.

"We all do things to help each other," one guest said. "It would be terrible to be by yourself at a time like this."

Because the \$8 charge is not enough to cover operating costs, the Ronald McDonald House depends largely on the Chapel Hill community. The manager and assistant manager are the only paid positions; the rest are strictly volunteer.

The University community has been very helpful in the first few months of the Ronald McDonald House, Donner said. Alpha Delta Pi sorority is involved with the house, bringing baked goods for the guests each week and treats for special occasions like Halloween. Donner said she had been working with the Panhellenic Council to involve more sororities and fraternities.

All contributions are welcome and needed, Donner said. Students can bring baked goods to the house, help with fund-raisers, or volunteer time to work at the house. If you would like to help, call the house at 966-6752.

## Viruses, bacteria and worms infecting computer networks

By ANDREW THOMPSON  
Science Writer

A "computer infection" that closed down 6,000 computers of a nationwide network last week also attempted to break into UNC computers.

Computer infections are similar to biological infections. However, instead of being caused by organisms, computer infections are caused by programs. Produced by "hackers," or computing experts, these programs can seriously disrupt the normal operation of other programs and computers.

There are three main types of overlapping infections: viruses (the term often used for all three), bacteria and worms.

A virus enters into the host program. When the host program is run the virus program is also activated, causing some specific function, such as the erasure of data files. Another characteristic of a virus is that it will replicate itself in the host computers and then spread to other computers.

A computer bacterium does not carry out a specific function. Instead, this program replicates so often that it clogs the processing power of the host system.

A worm is a program which strikes a computer network, a system of linked computers. There is only one worm per computer and the damage is caused as it tunnels through the memory. A worm can only be transmitted via the network.

Viruses and bacteria are mainly spread by masquerading as a beneficial program. These infected programs can be in the form of a borrowed disk, such as a bootleg version of Microsoft Word, or taken from a computer network "bulletin

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board," where programs are shared.

This type of infected program is known as a "Trojan Horse." Paul Jones, a systems programmer at UNC Academic Computing Services, considered this an appropriate term because "it looks like a gift of the gods for free, and then when you take it in, it burns your city to the ground."

Another means of transmission is when an infection is directly introduced into a network. Robert Morris infected the vast UNIX computer system with a worm in this way. The UNIX system included defense, academic and commercial computers.

The damage that an infection can do to a program or computer network is largely dependent on the original intentions of the hacker who designs the infection.

Last fall, a virus designed to eradicate all the files it had infected on a particular date was discovered at Hebrew University. The date was a Palestinian anniversary.

In contrast, Morris' worm was designed to be benign. However, a programming error meant that the worm spread much more quickly than planned and slowed down many of the UNIX computers.

"Interestingly enough, most of the people who want to hack aren't evil geniuses, but are mischievous geniuses, less like Satan and more like Loki (an impish Norse god)," Jones said.

Whatever the motives of the hackers, an arms race has developed between them and the experts who are trying to protect the computer

systems.

Because the UNIX section of the UNC computer science department is a primary node in the system, it was a ripe target for Morris' worm. Fortunately, safety precautions had been taken.

"It was UNC's good hygiene standards which stopped the worm from getting in," according to Joe Hewitt, a communications researcher in the department.

At other universities the worm entered the system through a feature of the mail system, ironically named "debug." The UNC computers had this feature switched off so the worm could not enter. Even so, as an added precaution at UNC a program which destroyed the worm program was run on all the UNIX computers.

Hewitt emphasized that academic systems were generally more susceptible to infections than sensitive defense systems. Security costs a lot of money, and it is inconvenient for students trying to gain access to the academic networks to deal with complicated security systems.

However, students can protect their own programs and data from infection by ensuring that their programs are not bootlegged and by being careful about swapping disks with others.

The more important defense systems have the added advantage that many of the programs are developed solely for defense purposes. The programs are very specific in their function. Both these factors make it difficult for infections to reach sensitive programs, and Hewitt concluded that a computer infiltration of defense systems is very unlikely.

## Program combines trade and travel

By CRAIG ALLEN  
Staff Writer

A little-known opportunity for traveling abroad exists in the Student Union. The UNC chapter of AISEC, a French acronym for International Association of Students in Economics and Commerce, is a 10-year-old exchange program at the University.

AISEC's international organization, founded in 1948, is a student-run, non-profit, non-political organization with representatives in 67 countries around the world.

The UNC chapter is small but group members said they planned to change that with a membership drive in January. "We're gaining a lot of recognition just recently," said chapter president Leigh Cameron, a

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junior public policy/communications major from Winston-Salem.

AISEC is a reciprocal exchange program — a student from UNC has a traineeship to work abroad while a foreign student has one to work in the United States at an area business. By convincing these area businesses to participate in the program, group members also have the chance to polish their selling skills. Students from Japan, Poland and Austria are now in Chapel Hill working with the UNC program.

Cameron said she had become much more aware of current situations around the world through her

involvement with AISEC. "It has made me a lot more confident, a much better speaker, and I've gained a lot of friends," she said.

AISEC holds regular meetings and conferences, discussing subjects such as marketing, public relations and time management. During fall break, the UNC chapter hosted the southern regional conference, featuring speakers including Kristen Paulson, assistant deputy secretary of the U.S. Department of Commerce, and Tom Brown, president of the Triangle Chapter of the World Trade Association.

To check out the opportunities AISEC has to offer, go by the Union office 215-G. The UNC chapter meets at 5 p.m. every Wednesday.

By RANDY BASINGER  
Staff Writer

Martha Nell Hardy, a graduate of the University of North Carolina and a professor of speech communications at UNC, has taken a semester leave to refresh her spirits as a professional actress.

The move took her to Marietta, Ga., and earned her high marks for her performance in Lee Blessing's "Independence" at Theater in the Square.

Hardy has had a long career in the theater of the Southeast. She founded the Carolina Regional Theatre (now the North Carolina Theatre in Raleigh), in which she served as executive director for six years and executive-artistic director for three.

Hardy starred in her one-person show "Tamsen Donner" that toured for two years and was featured by public television in the Southeast. She also performed in North Carolina's famed outdoor drama, "Unto These Hills," for 20 years.

Adding to that list is her portrayal of Evelyn in "Independence."

Michael Horne, the play's director and one of Hardy's former students, asked her to perform in the play. Horne graduated from UNC with a journalism degree and now serves as the producing artistic director and co-founder of the Theatre in the Square.

Evelyn is a mentally ill mother who tries to hold her daughters close to her and keep her family together while the daughters struggle to escape

and gain their independence. "The audience reaction has been striking," Hardy said. "People in Atlanta are able to relate to the characters; they become real to the audience."

Hardy's performance has been well received by the critics of Atlanta. "Ms. Hardy is excellent as she walks a fine line in eliciting both sympathy and anger from the audience in her portrayal," Rebecca Rakoczy of The Atlanta Daily News said.

"Ms. Hardy as Evelyn handles her character's incongruities with great skill," Steve Murry of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution said.

Hardy plans to return to Chapel Hill in January and begin teaching speech classes once again.

## Campus Calendar

The DTH Campus Calendar is a daily listing of University-related activities sponsored by academic departments, student services and student organizations officially recognized by the Division of Student Affairs. To appear in Campus Calendar, announcements must be submitted on the Campus Calendar form by NOON one business day before the announcement is to run. Saturday and Sunday events are printed in Friday's calendar and must be submitted on the Wednesday before the announcement is to run. Forms and a drop box are located outside the DTH office, 104 Union. Items of interest lists ongoing events from the same campus organizations and follows the same deadline schedule as Campus Calendar. Please use the same form.

### Thursday

- 4 p.m. **Math Club** will meet in 385 Phillips. Professor Sheldon Neuhouse will discuss chaos, fractal objects, of non-linear dynamics.
- 5 p.m. **Campus Y Publicity Committee** will

meet in the Resource Center.

**Association of International Students** will meet in 208-209 Union. Discussion will be of Zimbabwe. Everyone is welcome.

7 p.m.

**Black Professional Health Society** will have a general body meeting in the Black Cultural Center. A Nash Hall representative will speak on stress management.

**Campus Crusade for Christ** will have Thursday Night Live. Everyone is welcome. **UNC Outing Club** will meet in the Union.

7:30 p.m.

**The Equestrian Club** will meet in 208 Union. Those competing at Southern Sem must attend.

**Carolina Comic Book Club** will meet in the Union. Robotech II will be shown; all comic book fans are welcome.

**Muslim Students' Association** will meet in 111 Murphey. Brother Bilal Hamidullah will lecture on "From Black Muslim to Muslim."

9 p.m.

**Union Cabaret** will present Nikki Meets the Hibochiwi, with Natalie Farr, performing acoustic rock and covers. Free. **Senior Week** will go tri-level tonight with specials at Bub O'Malley's, Ballyhoo's and Trolls.

11 p.m.

**WXYC FM 89.3** will play the new album from Los Lobos, "La Pistola y El Corazon," in its entirety with no

interruptions.

### Items of Interest

**Union Human Relations Committee** is sponsoring an "Abortion Forum: Defining Your Views" on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 5 p.m. in 212 Union. The program includes a presentation from panelists focusing on the legal, religious, medical and personal aspects of the topic.

**All'Arte** will sponsor an open exhibition of the work of Will Rand, David Sollow and Kelly Cross in the Campus Y lounge. Deadline for art, poetry, prose, photography, etc. for the next publishing and exhibition is Nov. 11. Admissions accepted in the Campus Y.

**Graduate and Professional Student Federation** has information on obtaining in-state tuition status on the bulletin board outside Suite D, Union.



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