

Actors, set, costumes make "Moon Over Buffalo" a success

CASSANDRA BRATTON

STAFF WRITER

Ken Ludwig's comedy, "Moon Over Buffalo," directed by Frank P. Trimble, was brilliantly performed last weekend in the Standing Room Only (SRO) theatre. The play is a compilation of comedic blunders, mistaken identities and one hilarious drunken stupor.

The fast-paced action was wonderfully executed by the talented cast. George Hay, played by sophomore Collin Beck, and Charlotte Hay, played by senior Erica Livingston, are a loving yet dysfunctional couple who eat, sleep and breathe the theater. They are the stars of a traveling family theater company.

Collin Beck portrays the aging actor George Hay excellently. The highlight of his performance came when he arrived late to a critical performance drunk and disoriented. The timing and execution of his lines was brilliantly delivered. Erica Livingston gave an exquisite performance in playing the aging prima donna of the low-budget stage company. Her passion and sincerity for the part radiantly shone through her convincing facial expressions and mannerisms.

Freshman Marissa Clapp, who plays Rosalind, has a promising stage career ahead of her. The disillusioned Rosalind returns to Buffalo to announce her engagement to the nerdy and awkward Howard, played by sophomore Jonathan Scholten. Scholten captures the essence of his character and does a wonderful job of playing an ungainly weatherman who is intimidated about entering a family full of actors.

Eibel, played by senior Michelle Navarro, is the stereotypical odd, dead grandmother. Her confusion due to her deafness is humorous and fits well with the play. Jason Smith plays the handsome Paul who was once in love with Rosalind. The two find it hard to conceal their passion, and their chemistry explodes on stage.

Eileen, played by sophomore Abby Wade, and Richard, played by junior Christopher Ryan, play minor yet vital roles in the

play. Wade is excellent in capturing the weedy and flighty Eileen. For most of the play she is on and off the stage in tears because she is having George Hay's love child. Richard is a straight-laced lawyer who is hopelessly in love with Charlotte Hay.

The set, the brainchild of Tom Macie, was wonderfully designed. The SRO theatre is extremely small, so a set designer has the troubling task of trying to create a workable set that is comfortable for the cast and crew. Macie created an authentic 1950's green room complete with small details such as

notes and memorabilia.

The stage also had to be transformed into a balcony in order for the characters to perform the play, "Private Lives." The balcony had to be constructed in such a way that it could easily be brought on and off the stage. Scott McElhenny and his crew did a wonderful job in building the set and bringing Macie's ideas to the stage.

The costumes were absolutely amazing. Alexandra Sargent, the costume designer, had the daunting task of making authentic costumes from the 1950s as well as costumes

that fit within the characters' plays, "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "Private Lives." Sargent and her crew's talent far exceeded expectations for the play.

The entire cast gave 100% of their performances. The comedic timing of each scene throughout the play is impeccable. "Moon Over Buffalo" will provide a fun evening full of laughs and excitement. Performances will begin again tonight and the final performance will be this Sunday at 2 p.m. Call the box office at 962-3500 to reserve your tickets.

Band Profile: The Five Nasties

KATIE TRAPP

STAFF WRITER

It is time for UNC Wilmington to meet The Five Nasties, a Chapel Hill-based band that plays edgy rock music.

Together since last November, the band consists of Joe "Tele" Telejan on vocals, Demir "Real Nasty" Erten on guitar and background vocals, Dean "Dino Nasty" Clason on bass and background vocals and Desmond "Mo Nasty" Mullen on drums and background vocals. Two of the band members are employees at UNC-Chapel Hill, another is a student there and the fourth works to promote the band. They plan to stick around for a while in hopes of making the band successful.

"We plan to continue to give or take

as long as the Rolling Stones did," Telejan said. According to Telejan, they describe their music as "grown up, punk, informed pop-guitar-rock with catchy melodies and hypnotic beats."

The Five Nasties have been playing gigs locally in the past months at locations throughout the triangle area. Most recently, they have played the Cat's Cradle and Local 506 in Chapel Hill, and The Berkeley Cafe in Raleigh.

They have several tour dates coming up in the next three weeks, including one in Wilmington at the Rusty Nail this Saturday. Following the show in Wilmington, they will be playing May 16 at The Cave in Chapel Hill, May 20 at King's in Raleigh and May 24 at Sky-light Exchange in Chapel Hill.

Telejan joked about Britney Spears being one of the band's musical influences, but said that the musicians who

have influenced them are mainly pop and punk experimenters from the late 70's to the early 80's.

"We love any band that plays passionately," Telejan said. "We really respect everyone who is in it for the art, not the money. That's what we're all about."

They hope to record an album in July, if funds allow them to do so. Anyone interested in learning more about the band can check out The Five Nasties' Web site, <http://www.unc.edu/~dkmullen>, to listen to the five MP3 files they have available to download. Two of these songs, "Straight to Mercury" and "Mess Verde," are studio cuts.

The Web site also provides live bootlegs of "Cinnamon" and "Four Minutes," which were recorded at the Cat's Cradle, and "Over in a Week," which was recorded at Local 506. All three songs were recorded last month, and the band hopes to record more songs at their performances this weekend.



Courtesy of The Five Nasties

The Five Nasties will play in Wilmington this Saturday.

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Dexter Freebush



Nationally acclaimed band Dexter Freebush will be performing in Wilmington at Marz next Tuesday. The band is known for their single, "Leaving Town," which won an award for Song of the Year in the John Lennon Songwriting Contest.