

Three New Plays to Hit Stage This Weekend

■ Lab! Theatre, Company Carolina and Pauper Players will present three different 20th century plays.

BY NICOLE QUENELLE
ASST. ARTS & DIVERSIONS EDITOR

Theater buffs will have no trouble finding outlets for their passion in the coming days as three campus theater groups compete for audiences this weekend.

To start things off, Company Carolina will present "Noises Off," directed by junior drama major Mike Oakley, through Monday. Credited with the spring's hit "Jesus Christ Superstar," Company Carolina takes a more comical turn with this British farce by Michael Frayn.

"It's a play within a play," Oakley said. "The characters in 'Noises Off' are putting on a play called 'Nothing On.'"

With the convenience of a two-story rotating set designed by producer Mike Pryal, the audience sees the play onstage and off.

"The first time the audience sees 'Nothing On,' it's in its final dress rehearsal," Oakley said. "By Act 2, everybody is so at each other's throats that the show is going on stage, but offstage there's chaos."

Oakley said that despite the difficulty of

the material, the cast had come a long way and had handled the play with great comic instinct.

"This is one of the toughest plays you can possibly tackle, and the fact that it's all been done by students is just amazing," he said. "Company Carolina is really as close to professional theater as a student group can get."

Producer Max Von Essen said that, in addition to the professionalism of the show, the audience also would appreciate the hilarity of the play. "It's hilarious; it's racy; it's fast; it's comical," he said. "It's non-stop amazement."

For musical fans, Pauper Players will deliver Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods" today through Saturday. 1994 UNC grad and 1992 "Little Shop of Horrors" director Bing Cox returns to Pauper Players' director's chair with this musical extravaganza about fairy tales for the young and old.

"This show is about fairy tales, but it has a 20th century Freudian take on it," Cox said.

The first act examines traditional fairy tales such as "Cinderella" and "Jack and the Beanstalk." "We meet all of the characters from these fairy tales, and they live happily ever after at the end of the first act," he said.

Act 2 takes a look at some weightier issues, Cox said. "In the second act, we see

what happens after 'happily ever after,'" he said. "It takes a lot of our assumptions about these fairy tales and adds a little twist to them."

Cox said that although the play looked at more complex issues in the second act, there was a dark humor surrounding the play that could be very funny. "It's a serious play with lots of comedic overtones," he said. "It entertains, but it is thought-provoking as well."

"Into the Woods" is a challenging piece and the talented cast has worked as a group to bring all of its elements together, Cox said.

"This is very much an ensemble piece, and the cast has done a very good job in dealing with the complexity of the issues," he said.

As the only musical of this weekend's campus plays, "Into the Woods" caters to a musically oriented, big-production audience. Cox said the audience would get its money's worth. "You've got music; you've got dancing; and you've got good acting," he said.

Finishing the triad of productions on a more serious note, the Lab! Theatre will present "Lovers" by Brian Friel Saturday through Tuesday. It's a play about, you guessed it, lovers. Junior drama and political science major Megan Martin makes her directorial debut with this two-act play that examines the dynamics of love and

how it can transcend time and generations.

"The play deals with two sets of lovers, a young couple and an older couple," Martin said. "The focus is on these characters and how they're dealing with their respective relationships and how much the relationship is a character itself."

In the first act, the audience is introduced to Maggie and Joe, two 17-year-olds who are having to get married because Maggie is pregnant.

"They have the problems of a married couple before they're even married," Martin said.

The second act examines the relationship of a middle-aged couple, Andy and Hanna, and how it is affected by Hanna's mother, a religious fanatic and invalid.

"It's interesting to see how the 40-year-olds deal with their relationship in an immature manner and how the 17-year-olds deal with it in a mature manner," Martin said. "It's very interesting that both acts don't turn out the way we might expect."

She said that although the play was written in 1967 its theme was timeless. "Love is such a basic emotion for us as human beings," Martin said. "No matter how advanced our technology becomes, no matter how much distance we put between people, they are still getting married, they are still fighting, they are still making up, and that is something that will never change."

Chapel Hill's Italian Inn Ranks Tops in Triangle

BY CHERYL CHIN
STAFF WRITER

One of Chapel Hill's finest hotels and restaurants, The Siena and Il Palio Ristorante, was recently named "Top Hotel/Restaurant in the Area" in the Spectator Magazine's Best of the Triangle issue. The restaurant is located at 1505 E. Franklin St.

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce President Joel Harpers said the award showcased the high standards Chapel Hill businesses tried to maintain. "It confirms what we already know about the high quality in Chapel Hill," Harpers said. "The award shows that we're maintaining that quality."

The process by which The Siena was chosen involved direct input from members of the community. The Spectator included nomination forms in several issues of its magazine, and residents were given the chance to fill them out and mail them in. The hotel received the award after the magazine staff tallied the nominations submitted by residents.

Brecke Kelley, director of sales and marketing for The Siena, said the award was a reflection of the hotel's commitment to satisfying customers. "It's nice to be

recognized," Kelley said. "The award means that we have not only met the expectations of our customers but we've exceeded them," she said. Kelley said the hotel also received the award three years ago.

The restaurant, Il Palio Ristorante, is the only four diamond Italian restaurant in the state and is located inside the hotel. The hand-picked Italian furniture and art shipped from Europe in the restaurant and hotel add to its award-winning elegance, Kelley said.

Kelley said the hotel, as a business, was also a concerned member of the community. "We do like to get active in the community as well," she said. The hotel recently participated in RSVVP, Restaurants Sharing Five (V) + Five (V) Percent, in which restaurants donated 10 percent of their receipts for a day to help fight hunger.

Much of the hotel's community involvement focuses on events at UNC, Kelley said. "We do a lot of things with the University culturally," she said. "We do have a great partnership with the cultural department."

Special events coming up at the hotel include a Toys for Tots drive, a reading of Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" by Ken Strong and a murder-mystery dinner.

Wake Forest Students Get Laptops, Problems

■ WFU's decision to make freshman buy laptops caused system breakdowns.

BY AMY COOK
STAFF WRITER

Next year, some Wake Forest University freshmen will be required to buy a ticket to ride the information superhighway. Could UNC students be next in line?

The question has arisen because of the success of a pilot program at Wake Forest in which some first-year students were required to buy laptop computers. Next year, Wake Forest officials plan to implement a campus wide requirement that all first-year students purchase computers.

Wayne Silver, chairman of the WFU faculty commission on information technology, says that the program has been really successful. Due to the success this past year, officials at the university as well as students are looking forward to next year's campus wide requirement.

"It has the potential to be very, very exciting. This is changing the way students are learning. It seems only fitting that the program will start with the class of 2000. Computers are carrying us into the next century," Silver said.

The 100 freshmen who volunteered to be in the pilot program were housed in the same dorm. They were each issued an IBM Thinkpad Notebook computer as a result of a \$3,000 tuition increase.

The computers gave students the ability to communicate through e-mail with fellow students, professors, friends and family.

Students can also use these computers in classes, for doing research, writing papers and checking their homework assignments.

Despite all these advantages, the program does have some problems which Wake Forest officials hope to iron out before next year, said Silver.

"There have been some computer

"There have been some computer crashes due to e-mail overload with the pilot program. These are only small problems."

WAYNE SILVER
Information Technology Chairman

crashes due to e-mail overload with the pilot program. These are only small problems. They are not problems that we cannot control or change," Silver said.

Because of WFU's success with their pilot program, some schools are looking into implementing similar programs.

Currently, UNC has no plans to require students to purchase computers.

According to Linwood Putrelle, director of user services at OIT, "Wake Forest is a small, private school."

The tuition rate for students raised \$3,000 to pay for these computers.

If admission required students to get computers, they could incorporate it into their financial aid, but as of this time, there are no plans to require students to buy computers."

Eleanor Morris, director of scholarship and student aid at UNC, said that federal law states that you cannot use financial aid to support the purchase of a computer unless all students are required to have them.

"A student cannot go to financial aid and say they need \$3,000 to buy a computer. The only way financial aid could help pay for computers is if every student were required to have them, and at Carolina, there is no requirement," Morris said.

The professional schools can use student aid to purchase computers.

Morris said, "In the MBA programs, we can add the cost of a computer to the student's budget. We can help them as a legitimate cost of their educational development."

cial."

The forum is designed not so much as an outlet to speak against the rush letter as a facilitator intended to change misogynist behavior on campus and in society.

"The speakout is a way to come out of Rape Awareness Week looking toward what we can do to change violent and sexist attitudes and behavior," Hultquist said. "We've been wanting to have a dialogue about sexism for a long time. The letter only makes it more relevant."

Both Student Body President Calvin Cunningham and Vice President Amy Swan said they would speak at the forum, but they said they had not yet determined what they would say.



Steven Liu, a sophomore from Texas, pauses to observe the art of June Merlino in the Carolina Union Gallery on Wednesday. According to the text accompanying her exhibit, Merlino's photographic expression embodies psychological and feminine themes.

Portrait Honors Pioneering Leader of Public Health School

■ A weekly colloquium discussed women who led the charge for equal rights.

BY SHARIF DURHAMS
STAFF WRITER

Female pioneers were the focus of Wednesday's weekly women's studies colloquium.

The group unveiled the portrait of one of the first tenured female professors at UNC and discussed the work of another woman in advancing women's rights.

Members of the Curriculum of Public

Health Nursing displayed a portrait of Ruth Warwick Hay, who was hired as director of the School of Public Health, then known as the School of Public Nursing, in 1941. Hay was instrumental in establishing the school at the University.

Rachel Stevens, chairwoman of the Curriculum of Public Health Nursing, said Hay was pivotal in helping to educate women about modern medical practices.

"Nurses always played a vital role in public health but always had been excluded from public health schools," she said.

Hay served at UNC for 21 years and helped establish the first nursing program of its kind in the nation.

UNC still has the only accredited pro-

gram in public health nursing, Stevens said.

Also as part of Wednesday's colloquium, Sylvia Hoffer, a professor of history and women's studies, discussed another pioneer in fighting for women's rights, Jane Grey Swisshelm.

Hoffer's work on women and changing gender roles led her to research the 19th century women's rights activist.

Hoffer, who joined the UNC faculty this fall, discussed Swisshelm and how she challenged men in the fields of journalism and activism.

"It's a tale of a true woman's search for her public self," Hoffer said.

Swisshelm wrote for and published several antislavery and women's rights papers

during the antebellum period. She also was the first woman to work in the reporter's gallery of the U.S. Senate.

After she divorced her husband, she looked to politics to find her role in society, Hoffer said.

"She experienced the world of men and found herself a place in it," Hoffer said.

Although Swisshelm was a strong woman, she was constantly concerned with the way the public viewed her. As an example, Hoffer said Swisshelm was angered when her boss would hire women only because workers were needed, not because of a woman's merit.

"She always wanted public confirmation of what she was doing."

Campus Calendar

THURSDAY

2:15 p.m. HAVERIM-CAROLINA Students for Israel will meet at the Union Desk to write letters to Congress for voting to move the U.S. Embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.

3:30 p.m. PARTICLE AND FIELD THEORY SEMINAR David Morrison of the math department of Duke presents Mirror Symmetry in Superstring Theory in 258 Phillips Hall.

3:45 p.m. TUNL SEMINAR Frank Avignone III of the University of South Carolina searches for cold dark matter in his presentation of Southern Argentina Via Diurnal Modulation in Room 05 of the Physics Building at Duke. Tea and cookies will be served beforehand.

UNIVERSITY CAREER SERVICES FORUMS: 3:30 p.m. INTRODUCTION TO INTERNSHIPS Learn how UCS resources can assist you in planning your career and finding the best internship

for you in 306 Hanes Hall.

INTERNATIONAL OPTIONS Explore internships, volunteer opportunities and short-term (3-6 month) work abroad options.

Session will be held in 210 Hanes Hall. 4:00 p.m. Job Hunt 101 is an orientation workshop on how to use UCS in 209 Hanes Hall for seniors and graduate students.

Mandatory for seniors participating in on-campus recruiting.

5:00 p.m. Job Hunt 102 will provide the basics for constructing a professional resume for seniors and graduate students in 209 Hanes Hall.

5:15 p.m. MENASHA CORPORATION will hold a presentation in 210 Hanes Hall. Students on the interview schedule are encouraged to attend. Open to all interested students.

5:30 p.m. FLAPJACK ATTACK sponsored by the sisters of Delta Zeta Sorority will be held at their chapter house at 420 Hillsborough St. until 7:30 p.m.

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