

Students Take To The Stage In Workshops Across County

BY SUSAN USHER

"Hello, out there."
"I'm kind of lonely."
"No fooling. Are you?"
"I'm about as lonesome as a coyote."

An interpretation of the same four lines by Kelley Stanaland and Jeffery White drew a different reaction from Mary Ruth and from her audience of careful listeners, a kind of "Ah-h."

"This is an excellent example of interpretation," she said, comparing it to the scenes before. "Didn't you get the idea they were more than friends?"

There were as many ways to say the four lines as there were pairs of students rehearsing them.

Learning to develop their own interpretation of these simple lines wasn't all the group of selected sixth, seventh and eighth-graders learned last Wednesday at Shallotte Middle School.

Before pairing off—usually boy-girl, boy-girl—to deliver the lines, they listened eagerly last Wednesday morning as workshop instructor Mary Ruth advised, "A big part of learning about theater is learning to be a good audience."

"Listen carefully and try to come up with some 'informed criticism' to give later."

The students—and others like them across the county—got a taste of the theater from both sides of the stage last week during a three-day residency by Transactors. The touring theater group from the Carrboro Art School presented performances of a play, "The Sisters McIntosh," at schools and library branches, then met with students in drama workshops.

While the Transactors themselves cleared the stage and packed away the wares of their trade, Mary Ruth, general director of the arts center/school, put students through their paces in the Shallotte Middle School multipurpose room, helping them learn to cope with everything from on-stage giggles to getting upstaged.

The idea of the combined performances and workshops was to stimulate more student interest and involvement in drama, said Brunswick County Community Schools Program Coordinator Linden Mathews-Boone. This has been a top priority for the school arts program for the past several years, she said.

The Transactors appeared under the auspices of the "Arts on the Move" program new to the public schools this year. Their appearance was co-sponsored by the community schools program, the Brunswick County Public Library and the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, which provided \$1,000 in funding.

Some of the students in Wednesday's workshop had never been on stage while a few had had prior experience in school productions, indicated Wallace Dunn, one of the faculty members whose students participated. He and the other teachers watched closely, looking for talent to tap for the school's spring production of "Snow White."

Efforts were concentrated in four basic areas: voice, breathing, tempo and characterization.

She stressed the importance of good physical conditioning, breathing exercises and learning to project one's voice to an audience.

To one soft-spoken performer she suggested "cheating" a little to improve projection, turning the body—and therefore the voice—outward toward the audience while speaking to someone on the stage. She suggested they practice speaking loud, that to project his voice an actor must sound to himself as though he's shouting: "It seems very unnatural, but you get used to it."

And she helped Eric Hill prevent getting upstaged a second time by his partner, DeeDee Gause, who stole the scene and left Eric basically unnoticed.

"When you have a bombshell like that on stage," Ruth told him, "you have to fight back. You were being upstaged."



KELLY STANALAND and partner Jeffery White offered a more subtle interpretation of the lines. Their past experience in school plays was helpful.



ERIC HILL gets tip from workshop leader Mary Ruth on how to keep DeeDee Gause (forefront) from upstaging him.

PAP SMEAR CLINIC

Dr. Nora Hsu, Gynecologist

EVERY WEDNESDAY — \$35

- Complete physical exam
- Gynecological check-up
- Blood and urine test
- Pap smear by specialist

Call 754-8113 for appointment.

COKE, DIET COKE OR TAB 6 PACK 1/2 LITER NON-RETURNABLE BOTTLES

213

MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL STORES

ROBITUSSIN DM COUGH CONTROL 4 OZ. BOTTLE

199

POLIDENT DENTURE CLEANSER

PKG. OF 40 TABLETS

149

SUAVE SHAMPOO OR CONDITIONER YOUR CHOICE

16 OZ. BOTTLE

119

EXCEDRIN EXTRA-STRENGTH TABLETS BOTTLE OF 100

369

TUMS ANTACID TABLETS ASSORTED FLAVORS PKG. OF 3 ROLLS

79c

MINK DIFFERENCE HAIR SPRAY

AEROSOL — EXTRA HOLD OR REG. OR NON-AEROSOL — EXTRA HOLD OR UNSCENTED

7 OZ. SIZE

199

RITE AID VITAMIN C TABLETS 500 MG. EACH BOTTLE OF 100

169

RITE AID TAMPONS REG. OR SUPER PKG. OF 30

199

RITE AID TWIN II CARTRIDGES PKG. OF 9

179

RITE AID INSOLES MEN'S OR WOMEN'S ASSORTED SIZES

59c

SCOPE MOUTHWASH & GARGLE

24 OZ. BOTTLE

239

BARBASOL SHAVE CREAM REG., MENTHOL, LIME OR CONDITIONING & LANOLIN

11 OZ. CAN

79c

BAUSCH & LOMB SALINE SOLUTION REG. OR FOR SENSITIVE EYES

12 OZ. BOTTLE

249

SCRIPTO ELECTRA LIGHTER

79c

OLD SPICE STICK DEODORANT MUSK, REG. OR FRESH

2.5 OZ. SIZE

149

SCOTT BABY FRESH WIPES

PKG. OF 40

129

SAVINGS EVERYDAY IN EVERY AISLE AT RITE AID

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES. PRICES EFFECTIVE JAN. 21 THRU 27, 1985. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS.

MILLER BEER

6 PACK 12 OZ. NON-RETURNABLE BOTTLES

251

MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL STORES

RITE AID DISCOUNT PHARMACY HILLS SHOP. CTR. HWY. 17 & NC HWY. 179, SHALLOTTE, NC PHARMACY PHONE: 754-9106



LOSE WEIGHT WITHOUT LOSING YOUR MIND... UP TO TEN POUNDS IN JUST TWO WEEKS!



The Weight-Loss Professionals

WILMINGTON 762-8516
SOUTHPORT 457-4777