

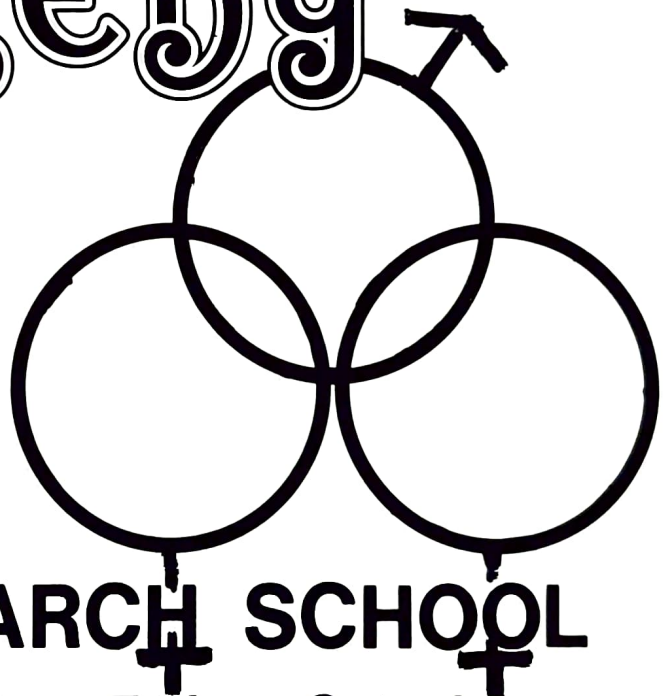


kanata theatre

Presents

Bernard Slade's

ROMANTIC COMEDY



EARL OF MARCH SCHOOL

**Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday,
May 11th - 14th, 1983 at 8pm sharp**

All seats reserved \$4.00, \$3.00

Weds. Thurs. only students seniors \$2.00

for all tickets, call box office 592-1715



kanata theatre

presents

ROMANTIC COMEDY

by BERNARD SLADE

A fine and entrancing play of couples and romance, of love and infatuation, and of the durability of romantic love.




MAY 11 - 14, 1983
8 p.m.
EARL OF MARCH SCHOOL

ALL SEATS RESERVED — \$4.00, \$3.00
 Wednesday and Thursday only —
 Students and Seniors — \$2.00

INFORMATION and RESERVATIONS 592-1715

May 12, 1983-THE KANATA STANDARD-page 43

Final play's coming soon

Kanata Theatre's final major production of the season will be performed May 11-14 at the Earl of March high school.

It's *Romantic Comedy*, by Bernard Slade... an entrancing play of couples, love, infatuation and the durability of romantic love.

And, Kanata Theatre promises to make it a romantic evening for you. (At least, we'll set the mood and you can take it from there!) Before the play begins, there will be some romantic music in the foyer... and if you feel like dancing during the intermissions, be our guest.

The music will be provided by Todd Knill, Debi Hafer and Bert Paquin.

Directed by Rosemarie Keneford, the cast of *Romantic Comedy* includes Annmarie Coppie, Bob Lackey, Brooke Keneford, Dorothy Beak, Rosemarie Lawless and Jenny Haynes.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. For tickets, call 592-1715.



Rosemarie Lawless and Brooke Keneford in rehearsal for *Romantic Comedy*, Kanata Theatre's final production of the season to be performed May 11-14 at the Earl of March High School. Curtain time is 8 p.m. photo Steve Sweet

Kanata Theatre guarantees solid mix of entertainment

Kanata Theatre is pleased to announce its 1983-84 season — one that's not only exciting and challenging for its members but also a season that's guaranteed to provide a good, solid mix of entertaining theatre for all tastes.

Harvey, by Noel Coward, directed by Laurence Thornton; William Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*, directed by Jim Holmes; *Dangerous Corner* by J.B. Priestly, directed by Ron Mas-

lin; *The White Lies and Black Comedy*, by Peter Shaffer, directed by Liane Freedman and Brooke Keneford.

Now is the time to renew your season's tickets or order your first subscription. You'll find ticket prices are very reasonable and the theatre is right here in your own city.

For tickets or information, call the Kanata Theatre box office at 592-1715.



Bob Lackey, Jenny Haynes and Brooke Keneford (l to r) rehearse for Kanata Theatre's final production of the season, *Romantic Comedy*, to be performed May 11-14 at the Earl of March High School. photo Steve Sweet

Kanata Theatre Tragedy for Mayfair

Kanata Theatre has a unique presentation for this year's Mayfair. It's called *The Tragedy of King Gobo*, written by 16-year old Andrew Williams and will be performed by a strolling band of players.

The strolling players will be dressed in medieval costume with appropriate props and if the weather co-operates, you can catch the tragic story on a grassy spot near the Earl of March.

The creation of King Gobo's family and the doom that befalls him is for children of all age groups and members of the audience will quickly find themselves involved in the production.

There will be at least two performances on Saturday, May 28 and it's free.

Kanata Theatre's clown face painting team will also be in action and make-up for the parade will be on the house.

Kanata Theatre changes their election process

At Kanata Theatre's general meeting May 1 a constitutional amendment was passed to change the election process. Nominations now have to be in 72 hours prior to the annual general meeting and no nominations can be accepted from the floor.

The annual general meeting will be held on Sunday, June 5 at 8 p.m. in the Beaverbrook Community Centre. The present list of nominations for Kanata Theatre's 1983-84 executive is as follows: President Brooke Keneford, Vice-President Ron Maslin, Secretary Joan McLaughlin, Treasurer Laurence Thornton, Student Member-Al-Large Greg Ramsey, Play Reading Dorothy Beak and Bob Horsey, Publicity Marg Allen and Carol Allard, Training Annmarie Coppie and Betty Francis, Children's Plays Jenny Haynes.

The Past President will be Jim Holmes and Chris Robinson will once again be looking after the

Box Office. Additional nominations from members of Kanata Theatre are not only possible—but encouraged—right up to the deadline at 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 2, for further nominations, call Barrie Kirk at 592-3454, Rosemarie Lawless at 592-1361 or Chris Robinson at 592-2597.

Entertainment

Comedy loses punch in timing

By Betty Greening
Ottawa and writer

Anything is better than the last time we saw Jason, one of the characters in *Romantic Comedy*, a Kanata Theatre Group production of the season.

And for the most part, Wednesday's highly-sprung performance of *Romantic Comedy*, a Kanata Theatre Group production of the season, was better.

It helped that director Kenneth Keneford had a good cast to work with, an attractive set designed by Bill Williams, although a sticky floor did cause a few problems, and some tight dialogue to keep the audience amused.

But what didn't work was the timing. Keneford let the action move too slowly, lines weren't crisp and too many of them lost their punch.

Pacing is of the utmost importance in *Romantic Comedy*, the eight-act play, which stretches over 14 years, depends on immaculate timing to help give the play substance.

Jason Carmichael, a successful New York playwright, needs a new writing partner and, on the day he is to marry Alison, finds

Theatre review

Romantic Comedy
Kanata Theatre
East of Market High School
May 11-14, 8 p.m.

one when an eccentric Vermont school teacher, Phoebe Craddock, turns up at his door.

Phoebe has had a crush on Carmichael since she was a school girl and can't believe her good luck in being asked to help him write a new play.

After a poor start, they become a successful writing team with Phoebe harboring her secret love for Jason, being a good friend to Alison, and later marrying a journalist named Leo.

Keneford's casting was excellent. Dorothy Beak was marvellous as the tough-minded agent Blanche.

There was just the right sense of hardness behind her words, just the right hint of softness towards the awkward Phoebe and the right suggestion of an old-time showgirl in her mannerisms.

And Brooke Keneford as Jason had a good grasp of the man's characteristics — his glibness, his arrogance, his inability

to become emotionally involved with people, his need to have the right line for every occasion.

When Jason was having a heart attack and Phoebe offered him brandy, he was not above asking, "What year is it?"

Keneford played the role to the hilt.

And Annemarie Coppie played Phoebe beautifully. She moved with Phoebe's awkwardness, her mannerisms underlined Phoebe's lack of confidence, her soft side glances gave away her secret love for Jason, and after the metamorphosis, she gave Phoebe a sophisticated air worthy of a woman who had lived in Paris and lived well.

And she showed in other roles of Phoebe's character in a spunky knock-down drag-out fight with Jason. It was one of the best scenes in the play.

But Coppie had one fault. She wasn't always audible. When her back was to the audience it was almost impossible to hear her lines, and since they were often important ones, it was irritating to miss them.

his glibness, his arrogance, his inability to become emotionally involved with people, his need to have the right line for every occasion.

Leo's lines. Bob Lackey played the role with gusto, like another boy in a subplot.

His fan came on stage like gang busters and his timing was great.

Some of his best moments, though, came while he sat quietly watching as his wife and Jason discussed their lives together. Lackey was eloquent in his silence.

And Leo and Jason were amusing in their wrapping — like small boys in a subplot. *Romantic Comedy* is light, bright and entertaining — when the pace is right.

And if Rosemary Keneford tightens the timing, she'll have a production to be proud of and Kanata Theatre will be ending its season on a very bright note.

Actors take time to get going

by Wendy Doyle

The Kanata Theatre Group wound up its year with another successful production, this time it was *Romantic Comedy*.

Act one of the opening night performance seemed to suffer from a problem of timing. The actors and actresses appeared nervous and a bit uncomfortable in their roles. In particular, Annemarie Coppie overdid her part as the naive and unprejudiced Phoebe Craddock. The characterization was a little forced and struck one as unnatural.

Fortunately, things picked up for Annemarie in the last two acts. She was much more convincing as Phoebe, the successful writing partner, who nevertheless retained her small town ideas. By the third act she had totally reformed herself. The now sophisticated Phoebe went through her grace with ease and a professional air.

Brooke Keneford did an excellent job with his role as the

playwright Jason Carmichael. However, his nerves surfaced in some hesitancy over a few lines in Act One. He and Miss Coppie both got their bearings about the same time.

In their final scene together the timing was perfect and natural and the audience of about 200 proved they had been swept along with the electricity between the two characters by enthusiastic clapping.

Bob Lackey did a good job with his part of Phoebe's energetic journalist husband and Rose-

marie Lawless seemed comfortable with her role as Jason's wife Alison.

Kanata Theatre once again lived up to their reputation for intricate and appropriate sets. The entire play took place in the study of Jason's New York townhouse and set designer Bill Williams showed a talent for creating mood right down to the live goldfish.

Romantic Comedy was a fitting end to another season of excellent entertainment by the Kanata Theatre Group.



