LOCAL THESPIAN DIRECTS AT ALMA MATER

While SVSC's 1983 homecoming activities are over, for the director of the fall theatre production, homecoming is just around the corner.

Jim Gaertner -- SVSC alumnus, Saginaw County Commissioner, and Pit and Balcony theatre president -- is returning to campus to direct "The Shadow Box" for the department of communication and theatre.

Performances of Michael Cristofer's 1977 Pulitzer prize-winning play are scheduled at 8:00 p.m. in the SVSC theatre on Friday, October 28 and Saturday, October 29 with a 2:00 p.m. benefit matinee set for Sunday, October 30th.

"Shadow Box" marks the first time Gaertner has been involved with an SVSC production since he graduated with a theatre degree in 1973. He was asked to direct while the college was in the midst of filling a vacancy in the department.

The Saginaw native first became involved with theatre 27 years ago at the age of 13 with Saginaw's Pit and Balcony theatre. Since then he's served as a technician, actor, director and is currently president.

"My brother got me involved. I was on my way to becoming a juvenile delinquent -- nothing serious, but I was just hanging around parks, pulling pranks, getting in fights. I was hyperactive and theatre gave me a channel," Gaertner explained.

Along with an interest in drama, Gaertner is involved with politics. A democrat, he's a second term county commissioner for district nine, and while at SVSC he was student body president for three years. He smiles when the comparison between theatre and politics is raised.

"We have an actor in the White House and though I don't agree with him, he's a skilled communicator. I look at my training as a plus. You can't be an effective doctor, lawyer, or politician without strong communication skills."

Gaertner chose "Shadow Box" after talking to college drama students. "They were looking for a play with some meat on it and not too off-the-wall," he laughed. "I picked 'Shadow Box' because it's a nice vehicle for actors and has a message we need to hear. It's drama, but has light moments and humor also."

The play centers on three terminally-ill people living out their lives in cottages on hospital grounds. Their passage through the five stages of terminal illness -- denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance -- are examined. "This drama tells us how to deal with death and dying people," Gaertner said. "We don't need to isolate them. The audience should be able to identify with this play. Everyone has had a family member or friend touched by cancer."

Gaertner is familiar with the storyline. He is a volunteer with the Hospice of Saginaw, a group that helps victims and families deal with terminal illness. Sunday's matinee performance will be a benefit for the organization.

The cast is a mix of community members and SVSC students. Playing the role of Joe, a terminal patient, is Sid Wilner of Saginaw. A recent arrival from Baltimore, where he participated in over 50 productions, Wilner recreates a role he's done before.
Playing Joe's wife Maggie is Sandy Rynaliski, an SVSC sophomore accounting major from Bay City. It is her first formal production.

Joe's son Steve is portrayed by Scot McKinnon, an SVSC junior from Bay City majoring in English.

In the role of the stricken patient Brian is Cliff McQueen of Saginaw. He appeared in last year's SVSC production of "Butterflies are Free."

Brian's ex-wife Beverly is played by Kay Lewis, a senior at Valley Lutheran High School in Saginaw Township. This is her first involvement with theatre outside of high school.

Scott Brown of Saginaw performs the part of Mark, Brian's friend. It is his first production with SVSC, but he has performed at Pit and Balcony, with the Bay City Players, the Boar's Head Theatre in Lansing and Spotlight Theatre in Grand Ledge.

The third terminal patient is Felicity, played by Audrey Lewis of Saginaw, who has been active in Pit and Balcony.

Shellie Anaman Gaertner of Saginaw portrays Agnes, Felicity's daughter. She is a junior majoring in communication and theatre at SVSC and married to director Gaertner's nephew.

Rounding out the cast is Mary Kaye Bluhm of Bay City. She doesn't appear on stage, but the SVSC senior majoring in theatre and art will serve as narrator.

Assisting Gaertner is Mina Foerster of Midland as technical director and Wayne Idecker of Saginaw as set designer. Foerster is part-time instructor at SVSC and has served as technical director for past college plays. Idecker is the scenic designer for Pit and Balcony.

All interested SVSC faculty and staff members may request two complimentary tickets for Friday or Saturday performances of "The Shadow Box." There will also be 70 tickets for the Sunday matinee available to SVSC faculty or staff at $3 for adults or $1 for senior citizens. General admission tickets for Friday and Saturday's performance are $3 for adults and $1 for students and senior citizens. Sunday tickets for the Hospice benefit are $5. For reservations and information call ext. 4110.

SVSC TO HOST THEATRE DAY

Drama and speech students from throughout the tri-counties will visit the SVSC campus for High School Communication and Theatre Day Thursday, October 27. SVSC's department of communication and theatre will host the program, designed to help students polish their stage crafts. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. with a special presentation of "The Shadow Box," SVSC's fall production. After the performance, students will be able to choose from a number of workshops on theatre skills. Combat techniques in theatre, audition techniques, mime, oral interpretation, and voice and diction skills are among the sessions students and instructors can attend.

CLASS NOTEBOOK

SVSC faculty who want to develop skills for working with microcomputers can participate in a new class scheduled to begin next month. "Introduction to Microcomputers for Faculty" will meet in the Wickes Hall microcomputer lab (room 312) from 9:30 a.m. through 12:30 p.m. on four Saturdays, November 5 and 19, and December 3 and 10.

In announcing the class, Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert S. P. Yien said the microcomputer course was initiated in response to increasing demand for computer skills. There is no registration fee, but enrollment is limited to 15 full-time faculty members on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested faculty should call Dr. Yien's office at ext. 4296 by October 28 to register or obtain more information.

Drs. John Mooningham, Alex Ross, and Norm Sterchele will serve as faculty computer resource advisors during fall semester. Persons with questions can call them for assistance. Mooningham's ext. is 4341; Ross, 4149; and Sterchele, 4371.

UNITED WAY PLEDGES DUE NEXT WEEK

SVSC United Way coordinator Norma Gase reminds the campus community that pledge cards should be submitted by Monday, October 24. There is a $9,000 campaign goal for the college this year, and an anonymous donor has offered prizes for a drawing open to those who contribute. Top award will be $40, with a $20 second prize. Each SVSC contributor will have one ticket in the drawing for his or her first $20 gift, with another ticket for each additional $10 donation.
--- A presentation by Bentley Bridgewater on the British Museum will be held today in the Wickes Hall faculty lounge at 4:00 p.m. Bridgewater is former curator of the London Museum.

--- SVSC Foundation has relocated some of its offices in Wickes Annex. Effective Wednesday, October 12, Dr. A. Jefferson Sharp moved from room 39 to room 53 in the annex (formerly occupied by Dr. Emerson D. Gilbert). Norma Gase's new office location is room 55, and Jo Stanley has moved to room 54. Robin Eaton, Sue Browning, and Pamela Binder will remain in their present office locations until renovation of Robert Hanes' offices is completed. It is anticipated the switch of offices between Hanes, director of engineering services, and the remaining Foundation staff will occur near the end of the month. All phone extensions remain the same.

--- A concert and open house today will mark the remodeling of the Doan Center Mall. Singer/songwriter Helen Hudson will perform from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. She has appeared on national television, at night clubs and colleges across the country and with such performers as B. J. Thomas, Jim Stafford and Tom T. Hall. Hudson uses only her own material and has recorded an album and several singles. Cake and refreshments will be served during the open house. Visitors are invited to bring a lunch to the concert or purchase one at the snack bar.

--- "The Bishop and the Bomb" will feature Saginaw Bishop Kenneth Untener discussing issues related to nuclear war and morality. The presentation, set for noon on Thursday, October 20, will be held in Doan Center. Untener will discuss many points in the bishop's pastoral letter on "The Challenge of Peace: God's Promise and Our Response." Admission is free, and guests are invited to bring a lunch or purchase one in the snack bar. For more information call campus ministry at ext. 4423.

--- The Valley Film Society will present the French feature, "Bed and Board," on Friday, October 21 at 7:45 p.m. in Wickes lecture theatre. Admission is by full, trial or student membership, available at the door. For more information, please call Dr. David Barker at ext. 4303.

--- The Saginaw Valley Woodwind Quintet will perform its first concert of the year on Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m. in Wickes lecture theatre. The program will feature classical works plus a selection of chamber pieces. For more information, call Dr. Drew Hinderer at ext. 4497.

--- "Shadow Box" will be presented by the SVSC theatre department Friday through Sunday, October 28 to 30, in the SVSC theatre. The curtain goes up on Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m., followed by a Sunday matinee at 2:00 p.m. For ticket information, call ext. 4110.

--- Dr. Ricardo Pastor, chairman of the international studies committee, is again looking for families to host international students during Thanksgiving. "We would like to insure that every international student can spend Thanksgiving in an American home," he said. Persons interested in assisting with this project are asked to contact Pastor at ext. 4486 to indicate the number of students they would accommodate. Host families may specify the area of the world of interest to them.

--- The Polish Lecture Series kicks off Wednesday, October 19, with a presentation by Dr. Andrew Ehrenkraut of the University of Michigan. He will discuss "Sobieski's Heroic Rescue of Vienna" at a meeting set for 7:00 p.m. in the Wickes faculty lounge.

--- Directors of Volunteers in Agencies (DOVIA) will present Marlen Wilson, internationally known expert in the field of volunteer work, on Tuesday, November 1 at Valley Plaza in Midland. Ms. Wilson will be discussing the challenges confronting organizations which depend on volunteer to meet their needs. The conference is open to all volunteers and managers of volunteers. Interested persons should call 893-6060 or 631-7660 or 755-2822 today to register.

--- Dr. Wayne Dyer, one of the most widely-read authors in the field of self-development, will speak on Tuesday, November 1 at 4:00 p.m. in the Bay City Consistory Cathedral. He will discuss "How to Be a No-Limit Person". The presentation is sponsored by SVSC Children's Center and the Bay City YWCA. Tickets are $10, and can be reserved by calling ext. 4294.
ACROSS CAMPUS

--Drs. Jean E. Brown, Susie B. Emond, Bernyce S. Smith, and Elaine C. Stephens from the School of Education presented papers at the Fifth Great Lakes Reading Conference in Springfield, Illinois. Emond and Stephens described their research on "Former Secondary Teachers in the Elementary School". Brown and Smith discussed "Alternatives to Readability Formulas."

--Dr. Susie Emond, associate professor of education, is currently serving as president-elect of the Saginaw Area Reading Council. Anyone interested in 1983/84 program offerings is invited to contact her at ext. 4331.

--Drs. Brown and Emond presented findings from their research on English/Language arts instruction at the Michigan Council of Teachers of English conference October 14.

HIGH FIVE

The SVSC football team won its fourth straight game by turning back Northwood Institute 34-31 Saturday. The 11th-ranked Cardinals got a record-breaking performance from quarterback Rusty Mandle who completed 27 of 43 passes for 356 yards and two touchdowns. SVSC (5-1) also racked up 30 first downs and piled up 557 yards in total offense to reclaim the Axe Bowl Trophy from the 20th-ranked Northmen. The Cardinals are alone in first place in the GLIAC with a 3-0 mark while four teams are tied for second with one loss.

For his efforts, Mandle was named GLIAC and NAIA District 23 "Offensive Player of the Week." The senior has now won the district award three straight weeks and four times in six games, while taking the conference honor for the third time.

Chalk up another GLIAC cross country title for Coach Doug Hansen and his Cardinals, who won their seventh consecutive crown at Oakland University Saturday. Senior Ed LaBair, who left SVSC on crutches Friday, defended his individual championship by edging teammate Mark Moleski at the finish line. The Cards took seven of the top 12 places. The top 15 finishers earn All-GLIAC honors. Seniors Mike Lasley and Chuck Balderstone finished sixth and seventh respectively, followed by junior Jon Biek (9th), freshman Tom Bishop (11th), and sophomore Neal Rogers (12th). Bishop was the top freshman finisher in the meet.

Lady Cardinal tennis team this season clinched a tie for first place in the GLIAC regular season race by not doing a thing. Hillsdale helped out the Cards by beating Ferris Saturday to force a three-way tie for first. SVSC will try to earn the title outright at the GLIAC tournament which begins Thursday at Houghton. Ferris handed SVSC a 6-3 non-league defeat Wednesday to drop the Cards to 6-2 on the year. Sixth singles player Laura Hackman remains the only unbeaten Cardinal with a 9-0 mark, while teammate Cathy Midcalf had her nine-game win string snapped.

Lady Cardinal volleyball squad upended Lansing Community College and Kalamazoo Valley in single game matches in a round-robin tournament at Schoolcraft Community College Saturday. SVSC (3-10) finished 2-3 in the tourney.

PERSONNEL

HEAD RESIDENT, RESIDENTIAL LIFE - Full-time, permanent (replacement). Available November 1. Live-in position, $9,000 plus room and board. All internal applications must be received by the personnel office no later than Wednesday, October 19.

SENIOR SECRETARY, INFORMATION SERVICES - Full-time, permanent (replacement, half-time to full-time). Level 4, $4.75/hour.


SVSC EVENTWATCH

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See monthly calendar or call information Services for times and details.