



TAP RAP

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www.thealdershotplayers.com

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This Issue's Words of Wisdom:

"It isn't pollution that's harming the environment. It's the impurities in our air and water that are doing it."

- Al Gore

He Loves Me...

It's the classic love story.

A successful writer has lost his ability to write. He needs something to spark his creative genius again. Into his life walks his most ardent fan, a young woman, eager to meet her idol.

Completing the love triangle is the writer's soon to be wife. Throw in an ex-showgirl agent, a down-on-his-luck reporter and a sexy upcoming actress, and things get really interesting. How will it end? You'll

have to find out for yourself!

TAP is pleased to present their fall production *Romantic Comedy* by

new and familiar faces to the TAP stage.

Romantic Comedy will be performed on October 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, and November 1 as dinner and show. Tickets are \$35/person. There is a show only performance on October 23 for \$18/person.

Call the TAP-line at (905) 381-1441 to reserve your seats.

Why not see it with someone you love? By the end

of the show, they'll be loving you right back!



"OK ok, so I'm holding on to my script. But I tell you, I know my lines!" Lisa Cybaniak and Peter Gruner rehearse a scene from *Romantic Comedy*.

Bernard Slade. Director Judi Skinner has put together a stellar cast of

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She's Hiding Something...



Sure she's smiling on the outside but Bev Mattson has a secret. What isn't she telling us? Can you figure it out?? Well the TAP RAP knows the answer. Do you want to know? Turn to page two to find out.

That's Life...in the Theatre!

As you all know, I am a "theatre buff"; if there is a community theatre of any sort I will find it. I have taken my husband on so many "look for a theatre" adventures you would not believe. (Just ask him) We were going away for the Easter weekend to Rochester, New York. On previous trips we had found The Staircase Cabaret theatre in Rochester and have been there twice. I wanted to see if there were any other theatres in the area so I searched the Rochester web site and found the Geva Theatre. I looked over what was playing and booked tickets to *Bad Dates*.

We arrived at the theatre (lovely venue with a great café) and ordered a light meal and a pre-show drink. I was sitting, sipping my wine, looking around and reading all the posters. The poster for *Bad Dates* just happened to be just across from us, and as I was looking at it, I noticed that the director's name was Mark Cuddy. I thought to myself, "that is funny, I knew a Mark Cuddy as a young girl". We were actually in an accident together, but, that is another story. I kept thinking that it can't be him, but, you never know. How ironic it would be if it was him and we were both, by a twist of fate, in the theatre and meant to run into each other again. I excused myself to go to the foyer, thinking there might be a picture of the cast and crew and then maybe I would know. There were pictures but it did not look like him (of course, the last picture I had was 1963, go figure). So, I thought again, it can't be.

And now The Accident Story (part one)....

It was the summer of 1963. Four kids, including Mark Cuddy and a young Beverly, were at a lake in the suburb of Boston. Bev and Mark were walking back to meet the others and had decided to walk on the trolley car tracks. Suddenly, they noticed a train quickly approaching on the same track as them! What should they do??...

I said nothing to my husband at that point, thinking it was just a coincidence and we proceeded to our seats. I read the program which included a short bio for Mark Cuddy. It mentioned his age and that he was from Boston. I thought that was strange; I was from Boston and the age would match. I mentioned this to my husband and he said, well it could be. I went out to the usher (lovely lady) and asked if Mr. Cuddy was in the theatre. She told me that he did not always come to his



to Mr. Cuddy and he said he would oblige.

The Accident Story (part two)....

The two young kids were frozen in fear as the train came barreling towards them. "Jump!" came the cry and they leapt to the adjoining train track as the train whizzed by, its horn blaring. Slowly, they turned only to come face to face with another train and nowhere to turn. BAM! Mark was thrown into a nearby fence and Bev was launched 100 feet from the track, landing in the brush, knocked out cold.....

When I returned to my seat, I stopped to speak with the lovely lady that was

ushering to let her know I had taken her advice and spoke with someone downstairs. I was really excited that it might be him after all these years that I then told her my story about Mark Cuddy and our misfortune so many years ago.

The Accident Story (final chapter)....

The hospital lights were cold and harsh, the pale green colour on the walls even harsher. Bev opened her eyes, her head pounding. The prognosis? A concussion and lot's of cuts and bruises. Mark was the proud owner of a few broken ribs. But they were both alive.

I decided to come home and put down on paper that experience for our theatre's newsletter as a little human interest story, along with the information about the Geva Theatre. My husband and I highly recommend it. www.gevatheatre.org Box office: 585-232-4382

Epilogue...

Now, of course you are probably all wondering "is it the Mark Cuddy from the accident or someone else with the same name also from Boston and also the same age?" Well, to complete this story I had to find out, so, I called the Geva Theatre because Mr. Cuddy was not only the director for the show we saw, but, also the artistic director for the Geva Theatre. I still had the program, so I took a chance and called the business office to see if I could speak with him. Well, after a few failed attempts, I received a call back from Mr. Cuddy. Sad to say he is not that Mark.

So now you know the rest of the story.

Bev Mattson

(Editor's note: Bev broke her foot in August on a theatre outing with her husband. Another story Bev??)

And Now A Word From Our President...

"Smoooooth"

Well it's that time of the year again. Time to start up another TAP season. And we've got a good one for you this year! It's our "Season of **Love**".

Yes that's right...**Love**. And when you read the word **Love**, I want you to read like Barry White might read it, you know, with that low, husky voice, that makes all the ladies go crazy, and all the guys wish they could talk like Barry White.

So for the rest of this article, I'm going to talk like Barry White...

Ladies, how are you doing tonight? You're looking so fine, lounging in that easy chair, soaking up all the happenings at The Aldershot Play-ahs. Yeah that's right, I said "Play-ahs" because when you come out and see one of TAP's plays this year, you'll be leaning back at the end of it all

and letting out a big "ahhhh, that play was right on."

And fellahs, don't think I haven't forgotten about you. Just think about your fine lady and how content she'll be after a two hours of laughter. And who doesn't want to make their lady content, am I right?

So let me tell you about these plays. We start off in October with *Romantic Comedy* by Bernard Slade and you know a brother named Bernard just has to know something about romance. It's about a man who realizes what love is all about and the foxy woman who teaches him. It's directed by Judi Skinner, who's a pretty hot mama herself.

We follow that up with *Key for Two* by John Chapman and Dave Freeman, a sexy bedroom romp about two ladies, two men and a lot of mistaken identities. You'll

have to wait until the spring for that but I promise, the wait will be worth it. Our director for that show is Byron McKim, a cat who has been nominated for two Gemini awards. Ohhh yeah!

But hey, don't take Barry's word for it. Check out TAP's website, www.thealdershotplayers.com. I give it the official Barry White "touch" of approval.

I hope I'll be seeing you at the theatre. I've saved you a seat right next to mine!

Scott "Barry" Broe



Auditions, Auditions, Auditions!!!

Hey, who here wants to have fun? I mean do you REALLY want to have some fun?

TAP is holding auditions for our spring show, *Key for Two*. Gemini nominated director Byron McKim is looking for the following characters:

Gordon: 40 - 50 ~ Athletic, clean shaven, business man

Harriet: 35 - 45 ~ Looks good in a sexy night gown!

Alex: 45 - 55 ~ Heavy set, loud, woodsy

Anne: 30 - 40 ~ Energetic & fashion conscious

Richard: 35 - 45 ~ Common man, dishevelled

Magda: 40 - 50 ~ Strong woman, loyal, determined

Mildred: 40 - 50 ~ Well taken care of with an attitude

Auditions will take place on November 16 & 17th from 7:00 to 9:00pm at West Plains United Church 549 Plains Rd. W., Burlington. For info, call 905-381-1441 or check out our website www.thealdershotplayers.com.

(...And on October 22nd, keep your fingers crossed for Byron as he goes after two Geminis for "Best Direction in a Performing Arts Program" for his broadcast series *Dancing With Spirit*.)

TRISTANI ON THE TOWN

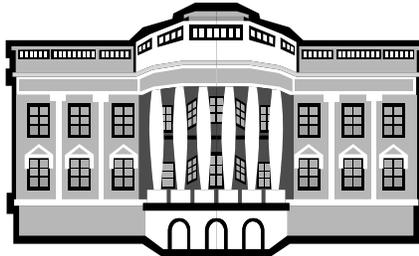
Our intrepid theatre reviewer, Susanne Tristani, faced with the immense dilemma of shopping in New York with her daughter or taking in a Broadway production in New York with her daughter, realized that there was only one solution that would keep all those involved happy. She did them both! Here is her story.....

November Starring Nathan Lane, Dylan Baker, and Laurie Metcalf

Who didn't love *The Producers* with Nathan Lane? The guy cracks me up! So when I saw that there was a play on Broadway starring the voice of Timon the Meerkat when I was going to be there shopping with the daughter who hadn't gone yet, I was thrilled and snapped up some tickets. Well, it did not disappoint. Lane is on stage for the entire show, and he is just SO GOOD. He didn't stumble once, his delivery is hysterical and his timing bang on.

The story is about lame duck President of the United States Charles H.P. Smith, who is finishing his first term and is so unpopular that his party is trying to dump him without allowing him to run for a second. He needs to raise money to support his bid to remain the presidential candidate in the upcoming election, and the plot revolves around a number of harebrained schemes that Smith devises to raise that cash. How low will he go? The gutter would need to be excavated to answer that question!

The entire play is set in the Oval Office, which looked very official and "presidential" in the Ethel



Barrymore Theatre. Most of the snappy dialogue takes place between Lane and Dylan Baker, playing his lawyer, the only person who tries to bring President Smith back to earth after he floats with his pie in the sky fundraising ideas. Baker is the consummate character actor - you've all seen him before (he's been in the films *Thirteen Days*, *Spiderman 2* and *3*, and *Across The Universe*, among many others) and he is the straight man to Lane's hijinks. Laurie Metcalf (Roseanne's sister from the TV show) was also outstanding as the President's speechwriter who has contracted bird flu in China and is refusing to write an important speech unless the President will marry her to her same-sex partner on live television. She is very professional in manner, but oddly dressed making a stark contrast to the tailored suits worn by Lane and Baker.

The "F" bomb was dropped early and frequently thereafter in this play written by David Mamet, and while it bothered me for a minute because I was there with my daughter (who is 19, so it's not like she hasn't heard it before!), it certainly was not gratuitous. You could see how this man would talk this way through his frustration. I laughed the entire time and the play flew by. Unfortunately, this production closed in July, so I can't urge all of you to go see it. You missed a doozy!

TAP's "Motorcycle Mamas"



During the summer, Roz and Ralph Woodcock made their yearly journey out to the east coast to visit Margaret and Hugh Watson. This year, the east coast air had a dramatic effect on the women. Roz and Margaret were transformed into "Racing Roz" and "Metal Machine Maggie". And we've



got the exclusive pictures to prove it! Looking good, ladies!