

THEATER NOTES

Obituary Best For 'Goldfarb'

(Bishop Kearney, in a comment on the "Goldfarb" movie, said Catholics will have no question as to the attitude they should have about it when they realize that the film so shamelessly smears a well-respected American university dedicated in honor of our Lady — Notre Dame.)

New York—(RNS)—If he reads the reviews, John Goldfarb may never come home.

The "controversial" movie—"John Goldfarb, Please Come Home"—made its long delayed debut in New York following extended litigation pressed by the University of Notre Dame.

Because the "satire" featured a football contest between an Arabian oil king's eleven and Notre Dame—won by the Arabs when belly-dancers, an "orgy," and other high-living were used to cripple the Fighting Irish—Notre Dame had sought to bar release of the film.

At the request of Father Theodore Hesburgh, Notre Dame's president, a court granted a temporary injunction, one that was later vacated by the New York Court of Appeals. The lower court may have been overruled legally but it wrote a better review of "Goldfarb," according to New York's critics.

Bosley Crowther, New York Times Critic, described the lower court judge as a "critic of conspicuous intelligence and taste when he acknowledged the contention of the plaintiff that the film did Notre Dame 'irreparable harm.'"

"Release of the film," Mr. Crowther added, "may have been a triumph for 20th Century-Fox, its distributor, and for the cause of free speech and the right to travesty. But the public ends up with a goose-egg, laid by a turkey."

The Times' critic said that the film "not only makes Notre Dame look foolish in a familiar low-comedy way but it also demeans the prestige of movie humor, and, indeed, of the human race."

Rose Pelwick, New York Journal-American reviewer, noted that "Goldfarb" ads indicated not a scene had been cut. Then she wrote a column implying she would have deleted about 1 hour and 35 minutes out of the 1 hour and 36 minute epic. She also found it "witless and tasteless."

"Mark it off as a hapless, aimless collection of crude jokes, straying into silliness in its eagerness to create laughter," wrote Alton Cook of the New York World-Telegram. "The silly spirit dominates so strongly, no one could think any ill of Notre Dame because of anything his picture shows."

The New York Daily News gave it a 2-Star rating, an assessment usually given to such sagas as "Dracula Meets the Sex Kittens in Outer Space." The film, at best, was "fitfully amusing," according to the review.

According to Archer Winsten of The New York Post, the script doesn't "seem to have enough stamina to go the feature length route."

Mr. Winsten also wrote: "Jackie Coogan as Father Ryan (fictional chancellor of N.D.) is a casting stroke of cinematic historical significance." (Mr. Coogan's current contribution to U.S. drama is the role of "Uncle Fester" in "The Adams Family.")

Robert Salmaggi of the New York Herald Tribune said that "Goldfarb" is "a kind of picture that probably looked good on paper—but on celluloid, for a whole lot, citing such things as 'corny sight gag,' 'barbaric gag lines' and 'trite situations.'"

The film was originally scheduled to appear as a "Christmas" performance for the Children's Summer Theatre group, an evening

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- In music, high
- Moss domesticated
- Pigeon
- Man's nickname
- Incline
- Edible seed
- Ceremonious
- National song
- Organ of hearing
- Tally
- Wild geese
- Food for portrait
- Princess
- Leaf
- Period of time
- Sound-red
- Spanish article
- Succor
- Possessive pronoun
- Babylonian deity
- Passageway
- State (abbr.)
- Label
- Latin
- Seminar
- Diminish
- Having branches
- Part of man
- Visigoth king
- Procession
- Drink slowly
- Hindu guitar
- Base
- Footballer
- Look fixedly
- Before

DOWN

- Man's nickname
- Game at cards
- Group dish
- Former Russian ruler
- Everyone
- Stilet
- Excess of
- Solar over lunar year
- City in Nevada
- Globe
- Golf mound
- Sweet potato
- Man's name
- Musical
- Decade
- Perfect
- Volcanic
- Mourful
- Mix
- Laugh
- Pinform
- Expire
- Musical
- Written
- Place for worship
- Sick
- Steadfast
- Leather
- Ill
- Mexican dish
- Implied
- Historic
- Unmarried girl
- Rabbit
- Snake
- Paishool
- Equality
- Circle
- Comedienne
- Symbol for tantalum



Ready for Catholic Theatre Day

AQUINAS ST. GENESIUS CLUB members prepare display for National Catholic Theatre Conference "Theatre Day" at Cardinal Mooney High School. From left are Joe Marcello of Aquinas, Diane DeCarolis of St. Agnes and Bonnie Fanale of Nazareth Academy.



SISTER CLAUDIA and Sister Cyril look over the stage at St. Agnes High School as they start plans for the production of "Tom Sawyer" to be performed this July by the Children's Summer Theatre, auditioning April 8, 10.

Plan Children's Theatre

A new theatrical company will come into being in Rochester within the next few days—The Children's Summer Theatre, sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester.

Sister Claudia, chairman of the Rochester Unit of the National Catholic Theatre Conference is well-known throughout the Diocese for the musicals she has produced at Blessed Sacrament School for many years. She will have charge of this project, assisted by Sister Cyril, Secretary of the area NCTC, Sister Kieran, and Sister Carmelita.

For their first summer's production, the Children's Theatre will present "Tom Sawyer," a musical comedy which broke attendance records in its professional performances throughout the country. Life Magazine gave a three-page spread to its premiere in 1959, praising both its catchy tunes and the warm, human story.

Three performances are planned for the Children's Summer Theatre group, an evening

Party To Aid Mission Priest

"Bounty for Brazil," a fund raising dinner party to be held at The Party House on Beehan Rd. Sunday, April 25 at 6:30 p.m. will have as speaker, Father John Drexel, O.M.I.

Father Drexel has just returned to Rochester from Brazil after spending 2 1/2 years in the Mission of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate to which he will return shortly.

Anyone interested may obtain tickets by calling either Frank Bland DU 14019 or Don Bardell HO 7-4787. Donation is \$15.00 a couple.

Choephoree At Nazareth This Weekend

The curtain goes up this weekend on the Nazareth-St. John Fisher Drama Guild production of "Choephoree"—the Libation Bearers. Performances are scheduled for this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 2, 3, and 4 at 8 p.m. in the Nazareth College Auditorium.

The play, under the direction of Joseph Baranowski, is a Greek tragedy written by Aeschylus, and involves a speaking cast of 19. Individual roles are played by Robert Shea as Orestes, Kathleen Myers as Clytemnestra, Sue Pellicano as Elektra, Greg Conchelos as Aegisthus, John Grastorf as Pylades, Camille Vistocco as a nurse, and Karl Dash as a slave.

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