Stouffville Players

Leading lady saves show

By Marilyn Lee

STOUFFVILLE - Take a kind-hearted grandmother who has just been paroled from prison after bombing a furriers in protest against the slaughter of wildlife; a long-suffering but silent husband, an idealistic young dilettante who prefers writing novels to the Sorbonne, and a naive little Greek teenager who can't speak a word of English and what do you have? An evening of uproarious comedy.

Under the direction of Frank Steele, the Stouffville Players deserve to be commended on their Saturday night performance of 'The Irregular Verb to Love'.

The play opens in the home of the Rankin family as the ineffectual Michael Vickers (Gord Ness) tries to convince the equally ineffectual Lucy Beckett (Colleen Withers) to accompany him to Spain.

But Lucy refuses, because she wants to be at home to greet her mother when she comes out of prison.

But the opening scenes drag, and the pace doesn't really pick up until the eccentric Hedda Rankin makes her entrance by falling over a cushion.

Unfortunately, Michael and Lucy are the least colorful characters in the play. And the fact that many of Lucy's lines in the first few scenes were spoken too quickly to be understood, tended to make the audience impatient.

Even the entrance of Andrew and Fedra and the following humorous pantomime provides only temporary diversion.

The entire play stands or falls on Hedda's performance. And a great deal of recognition for the success of the evening goes to Phyllis Barnes for her spirited performance.

With a less capable leading lady, Hedda's character could easily disintegrate into bombast. But Mrs. Barnes plays her to perfection. Hedda is both loveable yet exasperating, inconsiderate yet well intentioned, arrogant yet humble, a stock character yet sympathetically human.

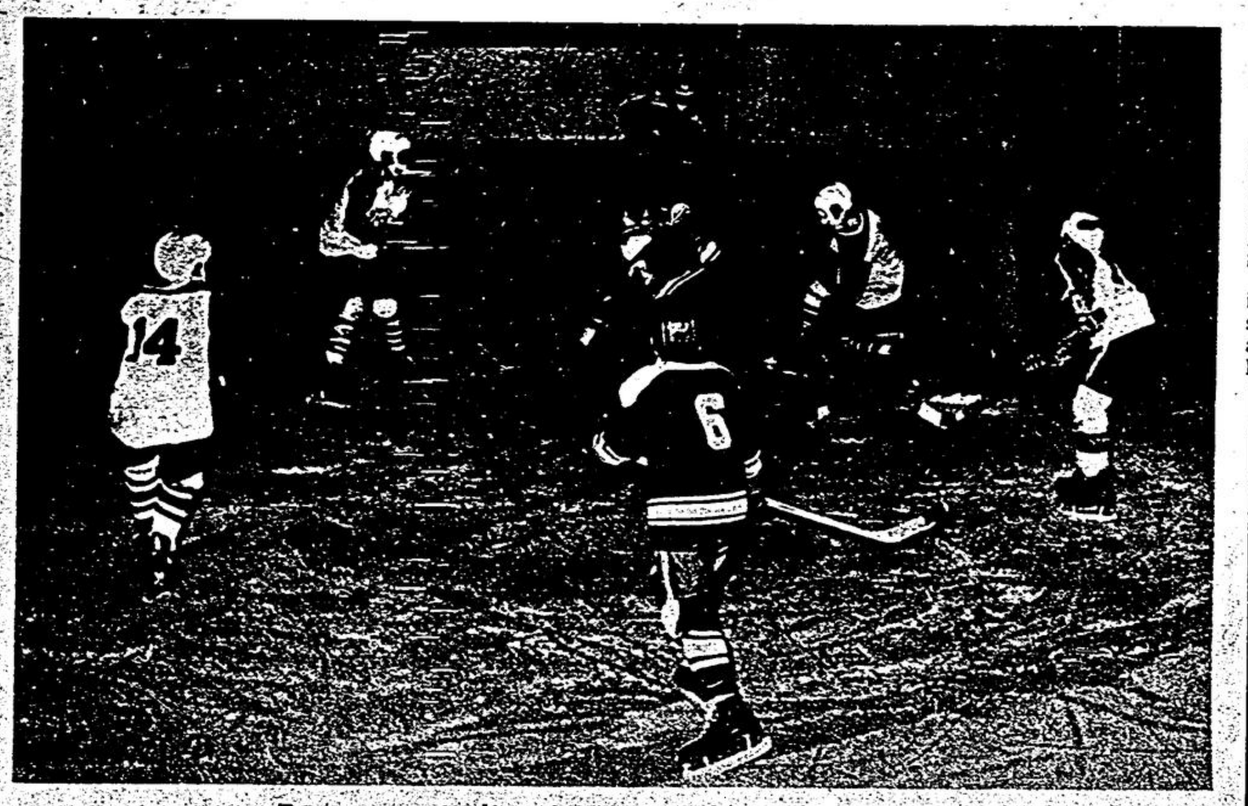
Hedda's foil, the unassuming, uncomplaining Felix Rankin is played by Bob Leach. Mr. Leach gives an excellent performance as the quiet, unobtrusive husband who constantly tries to straighten Hedda out as she blunders from one fiasco into another.

Credit for another fine performance goes to Dennis Empson as Andrew Rankin, the prodigal son.

Although Andrew is typical of the generation of pseudo 'angry young men' in perennial revolt against the 'bourgeois' 'conventional' values of his parents, he is saved from becoming a self-righteous caricature by the calibre of his wit.

His incisive and pithy comments on society and his humorous repartee with his parents help to keep up the fast moving pace of the performance.

Teresa Foulds as Rachel Stone the journalist; Molly Mumford as Mrs. Couter the housekeeper; Hart Haessler as Mr. Andrikos, the interpreter and last but not least Nazneen Sadiq as Fedra, the naive little Greek teenager, all deserve to be complimented.



Peewee goalie sensational in semi-finals

Stouffville's I.G.A. Peewee team has advanced to the Ontario finals, aided by excellent goaltending on the part of 12 year old Stephen Dowswell. Here, he makes a brilliant stop in the third period against Huntsville, Friday. Stouffville won the game 7-4 and swept the series 3-0.

Jas. Thomas.

Baby dies suddenly

By Ada Steckley

RINGWOOD - Sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Daly in the sudden passing of their baby girl.

Mrs. Jacob M. Grove is accompanying her sister, Mrs. Paisley and nephew, Bob Paisley and family to Baltimore to visit their aunt, Mrs. F. Scott.

The senior citizens enjoyed a pot-luck dinner, Thursday, at the home of Mrs. H. Hisey.

Mrs. Mary Stiver and family of Oshawa visited with her sister, Mrs. Stewart Vague and family, Sunday.

Birthday hosts

By Isobel Nigh

MELVILLE - The U.C.W. of Melville United Church will host the birthday program at Parkview Home in Stouffville in May. This was agreed at a meeting, March 16, at the home of Mrs. Murray Brown. Mrs. Harry Warriner was in charge of the program with the devotional taken by Mrs. Jack Warriner. Hostesses were Mrs. Don Ferguson and Mrs. Don Miller. The next meeting is planned at the home of Mrs. John Nigh.

Services will be held at the usual hour, Sunday, with choir practice, Thursday evening. There is a combined meeting of the session, trustees and anniversary committee, March 29.

Plan to attend the gathering in Locust Hill United Church, March 30. The program will outline activities at Camp Big Canoe.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Smith have returned from an enjoyable holiday in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hunt and family and Mrs. Len Brillinger are currently on vacation in the sunny South.

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Nigh enjoyed a visit, Sunday, from her brother.

Auxiliary meets

By Mrs. Jim Jones

GLEN MAJOR - The Ladies' Auxiliary of Glen Major church will meet March 25 (today) at the home of Mrs. Ralph Faulkner. The time is 2 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Faulkner spent last week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clare McGuckin, Stouffville.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jones visited Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Forsythe, Port Perry.

Mr. Edgar Fiss, Mrs. Charles Fiss and Miss Hazel Jones visited recently with Mrs. Arthur Peddie, Port Perry.

Dr. and Mrs. T. Statten spent a few days at Huntsville.

NOTICE

The Peach's Cemetery Board proposes to erect a tablet to honour those who served from that community during the wars 1914-1918 and 1939-1945.

The following are the names to be inscribed:

1914-1918: J. Earle Gowland, Reuben H. Meyer, Gordon G. Miller, F. Deloss Pipher, G. Aviner Thomson, Medford R. Thomson, Clarence C. Walker, Leslie H. Williamson —

1939-1945: Howard G. Banks, Douglas R. Cleverdon, Douglas R. Ferguson, S. George Sale, Clarence J. Wideman.

If anyone knows of any discrepancies in the above lists, please phone 294-2189 on or before April 3 as no further changes can be made after that date.

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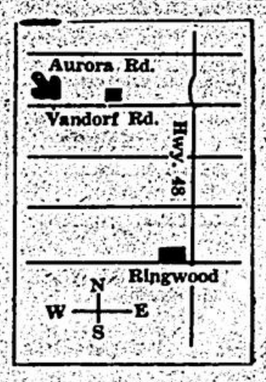

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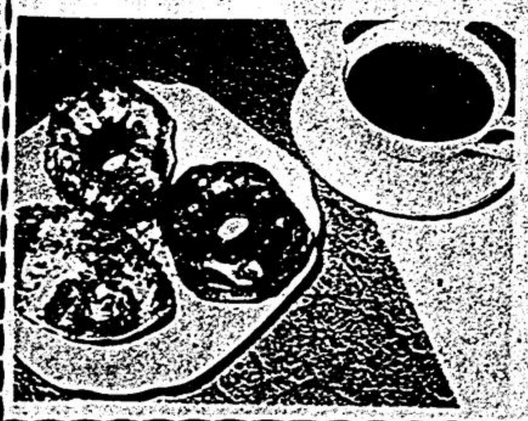

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