

'Found a Peanut': revert back to childhood

by Lori Anna Dyer
Collegian Staff

Tomorrow night opens the new play presented by Matchbox Players, "Found a Peanut." The play was written by Donald Marguiles, and is being performed in the Behrend Studio Theater.

All of the action takes place in a make-shift playground area behind the back of an apartment complex in Brooklyn, New York in 1964.

The play is directed by Mr. Tony Elliot, who has returned to Behrend after a seven year absence.

"Peanut" stars George Calvin as Mike and Chris Ruch as Jeffery Smolowitz. Supporting cast members are Heather

Crisafulli, Sarah Rogers, Kanova Johnson, Robert Ludwig, Chris Arnt and Tracy Silvis.

The characters of the play are all children, ranging from age 5 to age 14.

The set for the play is made up of the back of an apartment building with a back porch, back door (complete with a broken window), a back storage area door and a fence. Props on the stage include crates and garbage cans.

The play is about two boys, Mike (Calvin) and Jeffery (Ruch), who don't get along in the beginning, but by the end of the play forge a friendship.

Mike's sister, Melody (Crisafulli) finds a small dead

bird. When Mike goes to find something to bury the bird in, he leaves Jeffery in charge of watching the animal.

Jeffery is alone on stage with the bird and starts to sing the song "Found a Peanut."

Mike returns with the tools to bury the bird, and while they are burying it, Mike and Jeffery find a bag full of money.

The local bullies Ernie (Arnt) and Shane (Silvis) start to hassle the boys about the money.

Now, in order to find out who gets the money and whether the "good guys" or the "bad guys" prevail, you'll have to go see the play for yourself! (We wouldn't want to give the plot

away--then you would have nothing to look forward to!)

I found the play very memory jolting. I can remember the bullies in my neighborhood terrorizing me and my friends while we played. This is definitely a flash from the past for me.

The story is about two young boys who learn that friendship is stronger and more important than material goods.

I felt that the children in the play learned to respect both the power of money and the power of fear. But most of all they learned to respect each other.

The acting in the play was outstanding. The actors portrayed their character

brilliantly. Crisafulli and Rogers are very believable as best friends. Arnt and Silvis could scare the audience into giving them their wallets and purses if they really wanted to.

The best character I felt was Johnson's five-year-old Becca. She brought back memories of me at that age constantly trying to play with my older sister and all her "cool" friends.

If you have time this weekend or next weekend, I highly recommend checking out "Found a Peanut."

There will be a special performance tonight at 8 p.m. for students here at Behrend.

Top Ten R&B Albums

1. Boyz II Men -- *II*
2. Anita Baker -- *Rhythm of Love*
3. The Notorious B.I.G. -- *Ready to Die*
4. Warren G. -- *Regulate...The G Funk Era*
5. Gerald Levert -- *Groove On*
6. All-4-One -- *All-4-One*
7. Changing Faces -- *Changing Faces*
8. Aaliyah -- *Age Ain't Nothing But a Number*
9. Beastie Boys -- *Ill Communication*
10. Toni Braxton -- *Toni Braxton*

- according to Dia Harris
Collegian Staff

Top Ten Rap Albums

1. The Notorious B.I.G. -- *Ready to Die*
2. Organized Konfusion -- *Stress: The Extinction Agenda*
3. MC Eiht Featuring CMW -- *We Come Strapped*
4. Big Mike -- *Somethin' Serious*
5. Artifacts -- *Between a Rock and a Hard Place*
6. Outkast -- *Southernplayalistic*
7. Ill Al Skcratch -- *Creep Wit' Me*
8. Gravediggaz -- *6 Feet Deep*
9. Bone Thugs-N-Harmony -- *Creepin on Ah Come up*
10. Boogie Monster -- *Riders of the Storm*

What's new on video? Check it out!

by Portia Kelly
Collegian Staff

If you can't afford to go to the movies, why not rent a video at your local video store? New releases come out every week.

Some are worth spending two to three dollars on, while others aren't worth the plastic they are cased in.

Three worthwhile new releases are "Black Beauty," "The Paper" and "The Inkwell," while "Brainscan" is more like brain damage.

"Black Beauty," starring Sean Bean, David Thewus and Andrew Knott, is based on the Anne Sewell story of the beautiful

stallion that fills the heart with joy and promise. It could be a little tiresome for the kids who are used to the Ninja Turtles and horror flicks, but it's a very moving story that tugs on the heart strings a great deal.

A real winner is "The Paper" with Michael Keaton and Marisa Tomei. It focuses on the hussle and bussle of a New York tabloid newspaper and the story they want so bad that it almost kills them. It's thrilling in a comic way. It is definitely comedy at its best.

Another must see is "The Inkwell," starring Joe Morton and Larenz Tate. This movie is about the times in which self-

examination was prominent in society. Morton and Tate are black activists who go on a visit to a relative's in a troublesome 1976. It can be a little confusing at times but the performance and theme of the story are supreme.

Another movie out is "Brainscan," starring Edward Furlong. This horror film is just another bogus attempt to scare the people's pants off. A teenager starts getting too involved in a virtual reality game and becomes entangled in a murder that's more real than virtual. Stay away from this one; it could do damage to your brain.

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