

'Family' pleasant start for Festival's season

By TOM MARCINKO
Collegian Staff Writer
"The Royal Family" opened the 20th year of Festival Theatre last night at the Pavilion. With a strong script and cast, it was a fine start.

The play by George S. Kaufman and Edna Ferber concerns the clashes of enormous egos among the Cavendishes, a family of actors to whom the theater is only slightly less important than breathing.

play review

The light comedy is distinguished by an almost breakneck pace, and at times resembles a three-ring circus. Director Richard Edelman must have had to double as a choreographer, especially for the amusingly chaotic opening scene.

Plots and subplots abound, but the major complication is underlined by the dilemma of Gwen Cavendish (Sheila Walsh). She has to decide whether to follow her mother and grandmother onto the stage, or to become, as she puts it, "a normal person."

This is sacrilege to mother Julie, played

with all due style and grace by Lydia Bruce, and Fanny (Kate Wilkinson), who is something of a grand old dame of the theater and is determined to stay on the road until she drops dead, just like her late husband.

Enter into Julie's life Gil Marshall (Gerald Richards), an old flame who couldn't care less about acting — unless it consists of getting on his knees and proposing five minutes after he gets in the door after a 20-year absence. She's tempted, not at all put off by his recent platinum discovery.

Jonathan Frid is a formidable scene-stealer as brother Tony, the wild man of the family who leaves a trail of broken hearts and faces wherever he goes. He just dropped in for the day, because by tomorrow he's got to be out of the country.

Leon Stevens is suitably pompous as Herbert Dean, a once-great actor — still a great actor, and don't forget it for a second — who can't seem to find the right parts these days. They're all written for younger men.

"The Royal Family" plays June 23-26 and 28, through July 3, 5-9. It's recommended as a diverting evening of light entertainment.

Ballyhooed 'Star Wars' invades State College

the daily Collegian arts

In Town
"Star Wars," George Lucas' hybrid of Flash Gordon and "2001," opens at the Garden today. Time Magazine and others have called it the year's best movie, and it's already the biggest hit film since "Jaws."

To be reviewed Monday, "A Bridge Too Far," a Huge World War II adventure, featuring, among others, Robert Redford, Sean Connery, Elliot Gould, Gene Hackman and Maximilian Schell. A film far too long. Cinema One

"The Deep" — Exciting thriller involving sea divers

and a stolen drug shipment. An interesting cast includes Robert Shaw, Nick Nolte, Jacqueline Bisset and Eli Wallach. State Theatre

"Exorcist II: The Heretic" — This sequel to "The Exorcist" is a turkey. Richard Burton, in one of his worst performances, does battle with demons, aided by

Regan (Linda Blair) and psychiatrist Louise Fletcher. Pretty poor. Cinema Two

"The Other Side of Midnight" — Long (165 min.) and sudsy drama about romance in Europe. Fans of soap operas or Harold Robbins novels may enjoy it. The Movies

"Rocky" — If you haven't

seen this Oscar-winning drama about an underdog Philadelphia boxer, get a move on. Sylvester Stallone stars. Screening Room

On Campus
"The Four Musketeers" — Sequel to "The Three Musketeers." The same fine cast returns from the first — Oliver Reed, Faye Dunaway,

Michael York, Charlton Heston, and others. Recommended. Findlay Rec Room (East Halls)

"Serpico" — Absorbing film about real-life New York City policeman Frank Serpico (Al Pacino, in a terrific portrayal). Sidney Lumet ("Network") directed. 121 Sparks

—Alan Kolpon

Daltrey disc tries to be tough, comes out tame

ONE OF THE BOYS by Roger Daltrey (MCA)
"I came from the streets and a street gang," Roger Daltrey is quoted as saying in an MCA press release. "Every argument was always solved with a punch-up. That was the rule I lived by."

Daltrey, taking a break from being the Who's vocalist, is trying to prove he's still working class. According to a recent interview in Rolling Stone, "One of the Boys" is supposed to be his way of showing that he's not the least bit worried about being upstaged by bands like Johnny Rotten and the Sex Pistols.

For an album that's supposed to show that Daltrey is still an angry young man, "One of the

Boys" is strangely subdued. The title cut is the hardest rock here, and it's distinctly non-Whoish rock. When I heard the title I hoped that Daltrey was covering Ian Hunter's composition of the same title, a better expression of the adolescent mentality that Daltrey's trying to hold onto.

Daltrey's third solo album is mostly ballads, most of them pretty good. His voice works on laid-back numbers as well as it does with Pete Townshend's hard rock. Daltrey has improved greatly since the Who first recorded "Tommy," executing full-bodied and sometimes lilting vocals with a growling edge and undertones of honest angst in the more indignant cuts.

Like the other Who solo albums, this is Daltrey's chance to be heard without the almost overbearing influence of Townshend.

What "One of the Boys" does well is to show, by the absence of the rest of the Who, just what he contributes to that band. His voice is one of the best in rock, and the open exuberance of his personality acts to balance Townshend's cerebral cynicism or Keith Moon's lunacy.

"One of the Boys" confirms Daltrey's importance to rock by the fact that he sings for the Who. He's really one of those boys.

—Tom Marcinko



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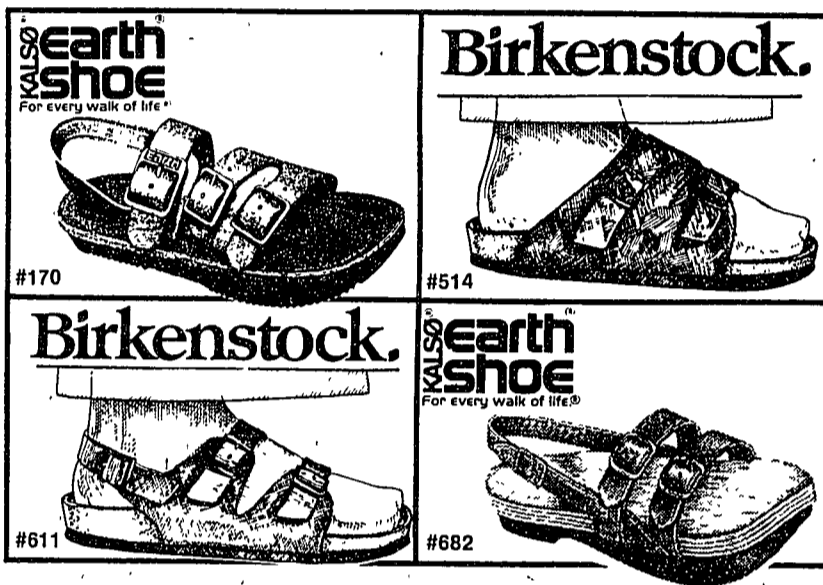
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UNIVERSITY SCHEDULE Friday-Sunday, June 24-26 SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, June 24
Pass-fail deadline (10 week summer term).
College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation fly fishing workshop, all day. For information or registration, telephone 865-3443.
Food Science-Dairy and Animal Science Seminar. Matti Kreula, University of Helsinki, on "Aspects of the Metabolism of 14C-labelled Compounds by Cows on a Protein-free Feed with Urea and Ammonium Salts as the Sole Source of Nitrogen," 11 a.m., Room 111 Animal Industries Bldg.
Behind the Scenes with The Royal Family, 3 p.m., Pavilion Theatre. Free admission. Festival Theatre, Kaufman and Ferber, The Royal Family, 8 p.m., Pavilion Theatre.
G.S.A. Coffeehouse, 8 p.m., Room 102 Kern.
Shaver's Creek Nature Center, "ghouls and beasts and things that go bump in the night," 8:30 p.m., Stone Valley

Saturday, June 25
Terrace Room closed.
Lion's Den, open 7 a.m.-1 p.m., limited menu.
College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation fly fishing workshop, all day.
For information or registration, telephone 865-3443.
Penn State Wargaming Club meeting, 9 a.m., Room 101 EE East.
Festival Theatre, The Royal Family, 8 p.m., Pavilion Theatre.
Shaver's Creek Nature Center, nature movies, 9 p.m., Stone Valley.

Sunday, June 26
Penn State Wargaming Club meeting, 9 a.m., Room 101 EE East.
P.S.O.C. Hiking Division, Build bridge on Mid State Trail with picnic supper, 9 a.m., HUB parking lot.
Opening reception for M.F.A. exhibit by Stephanie Knopp and Tom Lane, 3 p.m., Zoller Gallery.
Shaver's Creek Nature Center, wildflower discovery walk, 3 p.m., Stone Valley.
Festival Theatre, The Royal Family, 7:30 p.m., Pavilion Theatre.

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