

BROADWAY

'A Life' a familiar story remembered

By P.J. PLATZ
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
BROADWAY, N.Y. — Hugh Leonard's newest play, "A Life," is as comfortable and inviting as the print of Van Gogh's yellow chair which reposes in the background of the living room set.
It is comfortable, unassuming, and most of all familiar. It is the sort of play which may be best enjoyed from that chair, cup of tea and biscuit in hand.
Playing at the Morosco Theatre, "A Life" has fully followed in the footsteps of Leonard's Tony Award-winning "Daddy," which enjoyed a two-year run on Broadway and on tour. Like its predecessor, "A Life" is warm and witty in the best Irish sense, delving into a past life remembered through the diaphanous veil of time.
Yet somehow it strikes me as rather odd that its main character, Desmond Drumm, is not warm and witty. Indeed, he is more from the cold and callous school.
Drumm has just received the news that he has six months to live. But he is not bitter — at first. He plans to make amends with the enemies he has made along the path of his life, primarily with Mary, his adolescent semi-sweetheart.
And, in trying to come to grips with her and her husband, Drumm succeeds only in making enemies with himself for not pursuing the kind of life he desired.
Within Drumm's visit to Mary — the first in some 40 years — we see flashbacks of the courtship. Young Desi (Adam Redfield) is prim as any schoolmarm, humorous, staid, quiet, and "very much liked by fathers." Mary (Lauren Thompson) is a bright, vivacious and pretty lass who cares much more for kisses than Keats. It is a relationship that would never work, but 18-year-old Desi cannot — will not — see that.
Mary falls for Lar Kearns, raucously played by Davis Ferry,

a newsboy with the brains of a legume but a genuine earthy humor. And Dorothy — dizzy, but sincere — follows Desi like a puppy in her pure pink love for him, as portrayed by Dana Delany.
It is a very confusing, but terribly human situation. We understand.
But now Drumm is back to visit Mary, who has married Lar. Lar, winningly performed by Pat Hingle, is a large ruddy man with the voice as loud and mellifluous as an Irish drinking song. For all his sound smacks on the back, however, books are still not his forte. Neither are jobs: "That's the one disadvantage of unemployment," he muses, "no retirement."
Performances in "A Life" are as remarkable as the play. Roy Dotrice as Drumm plays the embittered man with wit as dry as a double martini. His quirks and smirks of wisdom, his taunt yet wry observations on life make him both endearing and dislikeable. A bitter sarcasm permeates his thoughts; long ago, he says, was "a time when young people wore shabby clothes from poverty, not affectation."
Mary is the lively red-haired beauty played by Aileen O'Keely about whom the majority of the play revolves. She is not easily flattered, does not regret her marriage to Lar. Mary is comfortable with her life, with an easy-going acceptance, an earnestness about the forces of fate.
"A Life" is not a comedy, although it has moments of uproarious hilarity. It is not a tragedy, although there is an inevitable death — Drumm's time is running out more quickly than he dare can accept.
But "A Life" is just that. A life. It explores, questions, discovers; it laughs and weeps, is angry and forgiving. It is a warmly satisfying production.

'Fifth' a tailor-made masterpiece

By JUSTIN CATANOSO
Daily Collegian Staff Writer
BROADWAY, N.Y. — Lanford Wilson would have made one fantastic tailor. But even though he has turned his skills to play writing, he has borrowed the traits of a tailor in designing a masterpiece entitled "The Fifth of July."
With an elegant old house set in the rural backdrop of Lebanon, Mo., Wilson sews a cast of eight fascinating and unique characters together with threads of wit, nostalgia, and heart-rendering emotion.
Christopher Reeve, who played Superman in the recent movie, is obviously determined to avoid any typecasting. As Kenneth Talley, Jr., he plays a Vietnam War veteran who has had both legs blown off in battle. He gets around feebly on fiberglass legs and crutches.
If that isn't enough to make people forget the tall buildings he once leapt in a single bound, Reeve is in love and living with a thoughtful, real-life level-headed realtor named... J. J. Jenkins, played by Jeff Daniels.
Yet this homosexual relationship, one of several devices Wilson uses with powerful subtlety, is not exploited or offensive. In fact, it's one the audience comes to quickly accept and admire for the strength and care that J. J. unquestioningly offers his crippled lover.
The play unfolds slowly with the deep interconnections between each character surfacing carefully through both hilarious and dramatic deliberation. The time is Independence Day, 1977, and a great deal is at stake as old friends and relatives gather at the Talley residence.
Ken has inherited the grand old house from his deceased uncle, Matt Friedman. Although he is offered a job at his old high school as an English teacher, he wants only to sell the place and escape Lebanon. He can't bear the thought of facing those

students in his condition.
Two of Ken's college buddies from his radical days at Berkeley are anxious to buy the house and turn it into a recording studio. John Landis (Jonathan Hogan) has hopes of turning his outrageous wife and copper heiress Gwen (Swoosie Kurtz) into a famous singer.
Jed and Ken's sister June Talley (Joyce Reechling), who is reformed, but unforgetting radical, want to keep Ken selling the house. Meanwhile, Aunt Sally Friedman (Mary Carver), a woman in her 60s, carries around a candy box containing her husband's ashes, as Ken's 13-year-old daughter Shirley (Amy Wright) insists she'll someday become the greatest artist Missouri has ever known.
Wilson's ability to fully develop eight characters and exhibit the aspirations and anxieties of three different generations is masterful. Amidst the nagging memories of the Vietnam War and shattered ideals of the '60s, we watch Ken, June, John and Gwen come painfully to grips with the uncomfortable realities of their present lives.
Yet this development is sandwiched between the harried ambitions of the little girl/woman Shirley, who doesn't understand the Vietnam era and Aunt Sally — wanting only to scotch the ashes of her husband — who could care less.
Reeve's jump from film to stage is accomplished with convincing results. He plays Ken with a stilted reserve appropriate of the character. Kurtz's stage presence as Gwen is undeniably hilarious and adorable. Though not by accident, her wily exuberant performance often makes her the center of attention.
As a play, "The Fifth of July" succeeds on many levels. But it's the personal thoughts, memories and motivations that Wilson inspires in the individual viewer that makes his work truly successful.

Across

1 Billing rooms
2 Decorator
3 Australian area
10 Gas — EPA numbers
11 Ramon Yulon men
12 Popo: actor
20 Sun
21 Western Indian
22 Consumer
23 Achse
24 Equip
27 Allen or Martin
28 End for Japan or Vietnam
29 Decimated
32 Swallows
38 Hawaii, for one

37 Hair-gel, half man
38 Edison hold thousands
41 Spout of paint
42 Night before
43 "Cassandre" elictor
44 Chané
45 Arrest: French
53 Treaty city
54 End for some sciences
55 Occupation
56 Unusual
57 Bob Keeshan role
62 Daring
63 Baseball sport
64 Observings
65 Lauree

Down

1 Own
2 Plastic stuff
3 Gave a new grade
4 Jet — bill
5 Narrow inlet
6 Beach grass
8 Blotch: British
9 Pains for the departed
10 Margerites
11 Logic meter
12 Dispositions
13 Registering one
14 Plays the wrong card
15 Undis: Spanish
23 Dodge
24 Treat a hide again
30 Inner: prelex
31 — Plains

32 Suppositions
33 Sista
34 Liberty archeology
35 Methuselah's famer
36 Louisiana mascot
39 Pear-shaped fruit
40 Spurbuck
42 Old astronomical device
43 Penit
44 Balkan east
45 Once more
46 Registering
47 Some circuses have three
51 North American marital
52 Strip
58 Numerical prefix
59 Palindromic name
60 "Shoo"
61 Address MacDraw

Answers in tomorrow's Collegian classifieds

pennstate ice hockey

The ice is back!

J.V. and Intramural Sign-up Meeting
Mon. Dec. 15 7:30 pm 75 Willard
Programs start Jan. 5

INFO? Call Chris 865-0988
or sign up at John's Derailleurs, 480 E. College Ave.

Back the Icers!

CONSIDER JOINING A GROUP

THE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

217 RITENOUR HEALTH CENTER

The professional staff of the Mental Health Center will be offering the following groups this Winter. For more information and assistance in deciding about participating, contact us by calling 863-0395 on stopping at 217 Ritenour Health Center, Monday through Friday, 8:00-12:00, 1:00-5:00. Most groups will begin the 3rd week, starting Monday, December 15th.

- Graduate Student Group — resolving issues related to work and interpersonal relationships of graduate life. Mondays, 8:30-10:00 A.M.
- Motivation Group — for working on clarifying your intentions and directing your resources toward attainment of goals. Wednesdays, 3:30-5:00 P.M.
- Growth Group for Women — for women interested in exploring themselves, their beliefs, feelings, relationships. Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 P.M.
- Personal Growth Group — for students interested in exploring themselves, their beliefs, feelings, relationships. Thursdays, 11:00 A.M.-12:30. Another time to be announced.
- Male-Female Relationships — focusing on beginning relationships with the opposite sex. Tuesdays, 8:30-10:00 A.M.
- Stress Reduction — learning to relax and to deal more effectively with a variety of stressful situations. Tuesdays, 10:00-11:00 A.M., Tuesdays, 1:00-2:15 P.M., Tuesdays, 2:20-3:45 P.M.
- Managing Depression and Similar "Low-Feeling" States — will focus on strategies for reducing depressive states, increasing pleasurable stimulation, and the improvement of mood states. Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 P.M.
- Controlling Substance Use and Abuse — will focus on reducing dependencies on various drug substances, working towards moderate usage or abstinence, and learning alternative sources of gratification. Fridays, 2:00-4:00 P.M.
- TEST ANXIETY — four sessions of structured experiences for reducing anxiety, increasing confidence and relaxation for EXAM PREPARATION and TAKING. Monday 10:45-12:00 NOON. ANOTHER TIME TO BE SET.
- Weight Control — 2 TERM GROUP. First term, Reduction Readiness — will work on PATTERNS that prohibit successful reduction (e.g. motivational problems, emotional eating). Second term, Weight Loss and Maintenance — will teach a variety of strategies for effective weight loss and maintenance. TIME TO BE ARRANGED.
- Growing Up with an Alcoholic — for students who have or are having to cope with parents on other significant person who is an alcoholic. For support, information about understanding and coping with an abuser and exploring personal impact of being involved with an alcoholic. TIME TO BE ARRANGED.
- Advanced Stress Reduction — further work with relaxation training for those with experience. Will include use of imagination and examination of attitudes. TIME TO BE ARRANGED.
- Assertiveness Training — will provide an opportunity for men and women to learn the skills involved in assertive behavior. Thursdays, 3:45-5:00 P.M.
- Binge Eating and Purging — will focus on problem eating PATTERNS and the personal/emotional concerns that accompany such problem behavior. TIME TO BE ARRANGED.

If you are interested in a group and the set times do not fit your schedule, or if you wish to talk about other services, please contact us to make an appointment.

Do You Have All the Answers???

If so, you can be a winner in
the **Collegian** Crossword Puzzle Contest

Every weekday this winter, you can win a FREE 20 word classified ad.

All you have to do is be the first one to bring the correct answers to that day's puzzle into *The Collegian* in 126 Carnegie Building (between Willard and Sparks) and you can place a free 20 word classified ad. Use that ad to send a personal message to someone unsuspecting, find a roommate or get a ride home for the weekend. It works! So sharpen those pencils and start solving!
(Contest begins Thursday, December 4)
Collegian Office opens at 8:00 a.m. 865-2531

The Brothers of ΔΤΔ would like to welcome to the Brotherhood. . .

Christopher Eagan
Robert Stammler
Guy Shirey

Craig Sturza
George Skawski
Dr. Arthur Goldschmidt Jr.

Congratulate our new pledges

Joseph L. Sullivan
David R. Freudenrich
Anthony D. Sacksteder
Richard A. Roberts
David E. Powell
Michael La Salvia
Dana Garcia

Bryan K. Hovey
Richard P. Schlap
Salvatore Frenda
Rodger J. Peeler
Vance E. Keemege
Mark F. Boytim
John Boron

and welcome our new little sisters

Barbara McNamara
Karen O'Rourke

Jody Glenn
Donna Volland

THINK

Matches don't start forest fires. People do.

P. S. and U Orientation 1981

Applications for AREA and OFF-CAMPUS CHAIRMEN are now available in 135 Boucke and area coordinators' offices.

Application deadline: January 14

The Pennsylvania State University University Park Airport FAA APPROVED Flight & Ground School

- Introductory Flying Course
- Private, Commercial/Instrument, Flight Instructor Courses
- Complex Airplane Training 355-5511
- Flight Simulator Instruction

Ground School Begins
Private Pilot - Tues. 12/9
Comm./Instrument - Wed. 12/10

These people got their jobs through Operation Native Talent. You can, too.

Paul Young is a Senior Credit Analyst at The Provident National Bank

Suzanne Risch is a Technical Sales Representative (Trainee) Industrial Sales Marketing Department at Rohm and Haas

Operation Native Talent. Be There.

City Line Holiday Inn
City Line Avenue at Monument Road, Philadelphia, PA 19131
December 29th and 30th, 9 AM to 4:30 PM

BUS INFORMATION: From center city, take the 44 bus on Market Street directly to City Line Holiday Inn.

KWANZA! KWANZA! KWANZA! KWANZA!

THE BLACK CAUCUS PRESENTS ITS ANNUAL KWANZA FESTIVITIES

Friday & Saturday — Dec. 12 (7 p.m. - 10 p.m.), Dec. 13 (3 p.m. - 7 p.m.); gift making workshops, candlelighting ceremonies, a play and dance.
Sunday, Dec. 14, 1980 (2 p.m. - 5 p.m.) a guest speaker, Kwanza Feast (dinner), a fashion show.

***** ALL ARE INVITED AT NO COST! *****
The price for a dinner is \$2.00 - at the door \$2.50
Children under 12 \$1.00

Place: The Paul Robeson Cultural Center/Walnut Bldg. n-047

College of Business Administration Core Advising Program

ATTENTION: Freshmen and Sophomores

Spring Pre-Registration
Do you have questions about courses, majors, career resources?

Come to Rooms:

101 Chambers	Tues., Dec. 9	8:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m.
362 Willard	Wed., Dec. 10	2:20 p.m. - 3:35 p.m.
101 Chambers	Thurs., Dec. 11	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Memories to Keep Memories to Share

for developing those Great Events, give an

ASA PHOTO

gift certificate minimum \$5.00

As soon as possible super color prints

357 Calder Way
State College
Pennsylvania
16801
814/234-2670

Use Kodak paper... for a good look.

PSOC SKI DIVISION

1st WINTER MEETING
Wed., Dec. 10, 7:30 p.m.
119 Osmond Lab

Sugarbush & Utah trip info., OREGON HILL, DENTON HILL & BLUE KNOB

Package deal info & 1st sign-ups. ALSO! K2reps will be there!

Soup Sandwich Brew

only 1.95

A quick, delicious, and affordable lunch which gets you in and out in 15 minutes.

opened from 11:30-2 p.m.
210 West College

MORALE

There will be a sign-up and meeting for all those interested in being on the morale committee for the 1981 I.F.C. Dance Marathon on Thursday, December 11th, 7:00 p.m. at 102 Forum

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING AT STONE SOUP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Stone Soup Regular Noon-time Schedule with ENTERTAINMENT starts December 4th 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Tuesdays & Thursdays (until Dec. 18 - takes a break & then resumes Jan. 6)

NEW THIS WINTER TERM starting Mon., Dec. 8
BAGELS, HOT COFFEE, DONUTS, & MORE — 8:30 am - Monday through Friday
DROP IN, STUDY, RELAX OR HAVE A GOOD CONVERSATION

AND — Christmas music & readings at Stone Soup Dec. 9 & 11 at noon time
SPECIAL ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE, Wed. Eve. 7 pm

At Wesley Foundation Student Center
256 E. College

sponsored by United Ministry at Penn State

USG DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD WINTER TERM.

FOR INFORMATION AND APPLICATIONS STOP BY 213 HUB.

APPLICATIONS DUE DEC. 16

A Meeting will be held for all applicants 7 p.m. Dec. 16 213 HUB.