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Theater arts gives 'touching romance' the right touch

By BONNIE LANGFORD
Staff Writer

When no one dies, flowers don't wilt and even a suicide victim can't succeed, something is amiss. Yes, death is on vacation. "Death Takes a Holiday" is a lighter look at an age-old

somber subject, but it's also a touching romance, and the theater arts program's production of it had just the right touch.

Even the set had the ingredients needed to set the romantic mood. The theater arts program did a beautiful job on the castle hall. It was complete with chandelier. The set and the costumes hint at romance through-

Economides had a shakey start with his character before the appearance of death, but managed to get into his role in the later scenes.

The actual first scene with death, played by Ashton Smith, was fantastic. It was as moving and as eerie as an appearance by death should be, complete with the play, but the real love story didn't actually appear until the final scene.

The play started at a slow pace; it was just another house party at the castle. But the castle's duke, played by Greg Economides, receives a more interesting visitor than usual — death.

Smith started his role well with an excellent speech to the duke; he really carried the part. The frightening, yet compelling something about death was apparent in Smith's acting.

Death decides to find out why men fear him, and so takes on the mortal likeness of a prince to join in on the fun weekend. Only the duke knows his true identity.

The female party guests are charmed by this interesting stranger; the men only dislike him. Death obtains a zest for life; he begins to understand why mortals fear him, and value life so.

One of death's quests, is to discover what love is. He tries with three women to find the answer.

With the first woman he finds no fire of love, with the second, Alda, he finds only lust. Anne Suite has done another fine job of acting in her role as Alda. She comes across as being the woman looking for the greatest thrill she can find, but when she discovers she is literally flirting with death, she backs down.

The third woman is Grazia. Melissa McDaniel plays the flighty young woman whom everyone loves. McDaniel handles well the young innocent girl with high ideals.

The play does have many light hearted moments. Death strongly resembles something from a Dracula movie; when he tells Grazia just to call him Boris, the point hits home.



A scene from 'Death Takes A Holiday' Photo by BILL HUGHES

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By SUZY FISK
Reporter

Professor George Kneller, from the University of California-Los Angeles, delivered a speech on the proper study of education in honor of the first of the Aikin-Sinnett Lecture Series, Thursday in Rudder Tower.

Kneller discussed what makes education an academic discipline by first defining discipline. Kneller said discipline is that of "intellectual enterprise and a domain of phenomenon with concepts, theories and a set of techniques for gaining, validating and applying knowledge."

Kneller then listed reasons why academic discipline should exist:

- To raise the standing of education in the academic world.
- To remind other disciplines of the educational importance of what they research and teach.
- To remind educationalists that their intellectual endeavor is as valuable as any other.
- To stress the importance of studying aspects of education that are not the central concern of other disciplines, aspects such as curriculum, instruction and control.
- To clarify the changes in meaning that occur when con-

cepts are imported into education from other disciplines, disciplines such as philosophy and sociology.

To counter or help to counter public disillusion with schools of education and teachers and administrators generally. Much of this disillusion is part of the general distrust of all public services and educational studies, Kneller said.

"All disciplines relevant to education are more alike than different and it is the likeness

that counts," Kneller said.

After the conclusion of Kneller's speech, Dr. John J. McDermott, a professor of philosophy and humanities at Texas A&M, critiqued Kneller's lecture. Kneller then was given a chance to refute.

Kneller currently is on the Board of Editors for the Encyclopedia Britannica and was educated at Clark University, the University of London, and Yale University. He holds honorary

doctorates from Sheffield University, Heidelberg University, the Institute of Political Sciences of Rome, and Clark University. He has been a public and private school teacher, written 60 articles and 10

McDermott is a consultant about twelve University and frequently evaluates American Council of Learned Societies, the Guggenheim Awards and the National Endowment for the Human

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Religious coalition proposes work projects to help valley

United Press International

WASHINGTON — Valley Interfaith, a Texas religious coalition, proposed Thursday that the federal government fund a New Deal-style public works project to put more than 18,000 people to work in the economically depressed Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Sister Ann Kilkelly, an organizer for the group which claims more than 100,000 members, most of them Roman Catholics, said three of its representatives sought release of \$66 million in discretionary funds available to the Departments of Defense, Agriculture, Commerce and Transportation.

Interfaith leaders said the funds could create 18,485 temporary jobs in the freeze-stricken area where more than 25,000 people, most of them impoverished Mexican-American farmworkers, lost their jobs because of a Christmas freeze that destroyed \$200 million in citrus and vegetables.

"These are going to be Works Project Administration-type jobs to do meaningful work, not long-term employment," said Ernie Cortes, leader of the delegation. Cortes, who met with Vice President George Bush three weeks ago to arrange a series of meetings, said the proposed

jobs would last from two to three months and could involve cleaning drainage streets and vacant lots and pairing street signs, fire hydrants and municipal buildings.

The border area is the home base for migrant workers in the nation and was suffering double-digit unemployment because of peso devaluations even before the devastating freeze. The delegation also called on the Environmental Protection Agency, Small Business Administration, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the White House Chief of Staff

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