

ARTS

Theatre Sports

Whatever comes to mind ...

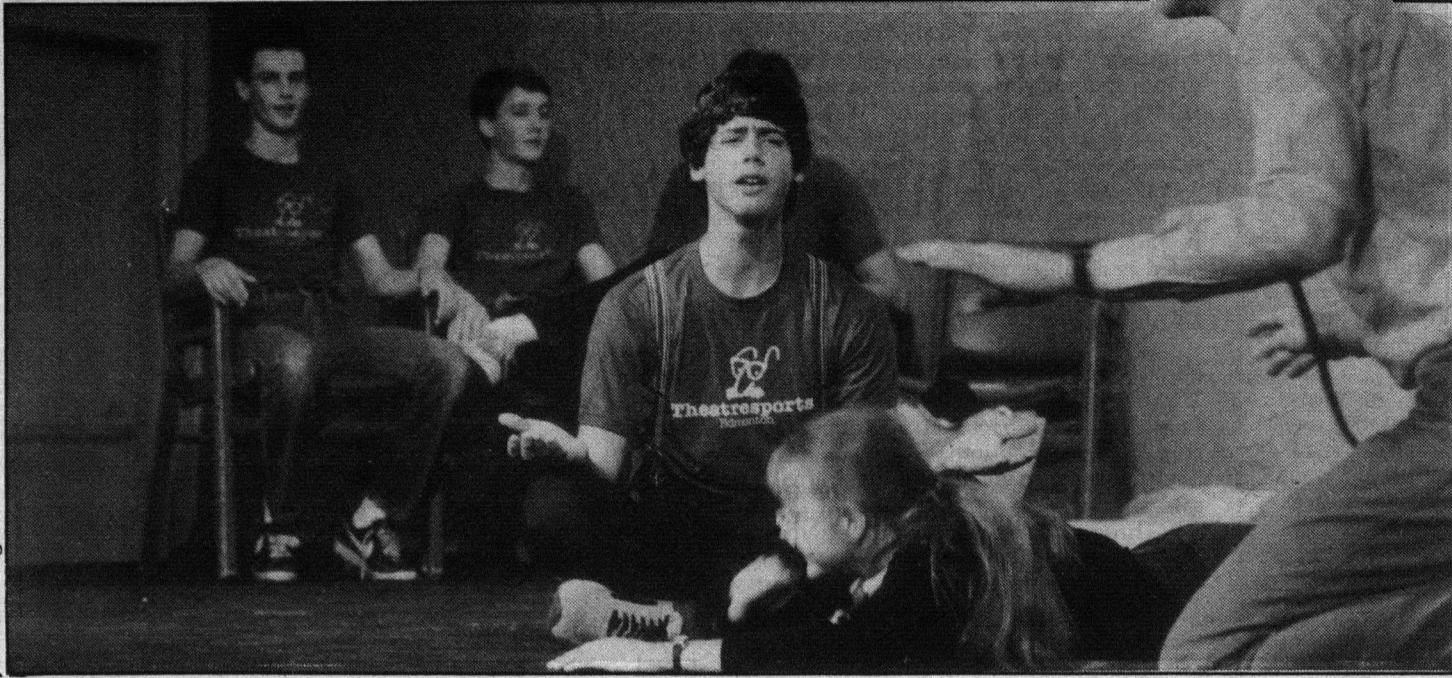


photo Bill Inglee

The Flying Others improvise while Men Without Brains look on.

Theatre Sports
Theatre Network

review by Gilbert Bouchard

I got lost. It's really embarrassing when you get lost on your way to a performance you're supposed to review; your credibility as a reporter drops a few notches, and there's nothing worse than waltzing in half-way through the first act.

But with Theatre Sports, a little extra confusion caused by a late entry really doesn't matter.

Theatre Sports involves two teams of three or four players who compete in bouts of spontaneous improvisation. They are awarded up to five points, from each of three judges during a twenty to forty minute match.

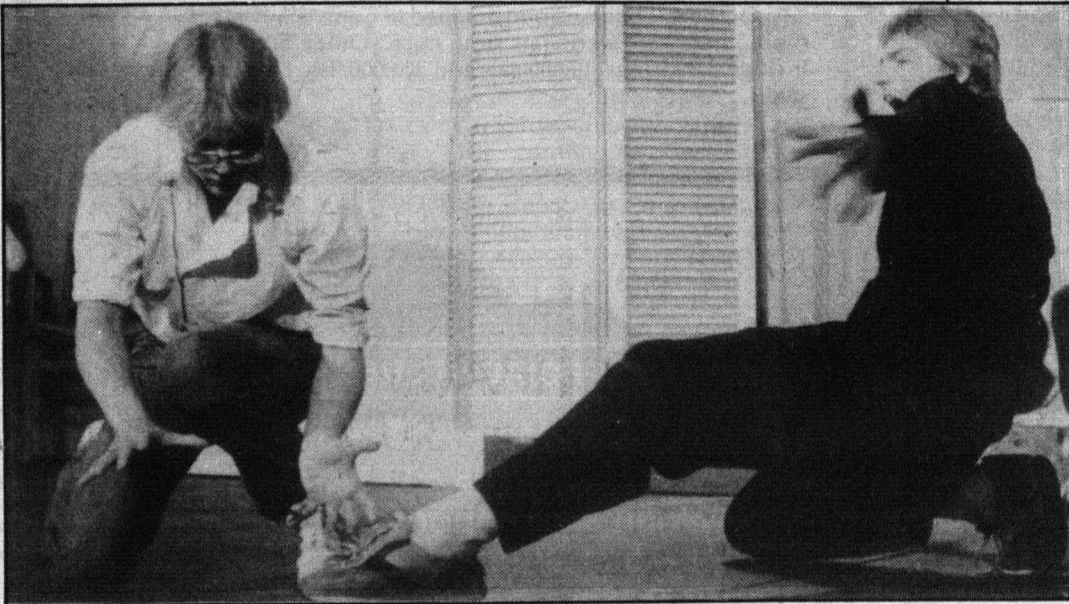
The teams (with names like Men Without Brains, and the Toil-etz) challenge each other to events such as "Death in a Minute" and "What if?" (With "what if", one of the team approaches the audience and requests that they complete the statement. Last night, one of the statements was "What if Elmer Fudd had a twin?" The team is then obliged to act out a scenario using that statement as a theme).

Theatre Sports originated in Calgary with Keith Johnstone and his students at the University of Calgary, and soon developed from student exercises to a lively and vibrant form of audience-participation theatre.

Don't go to Theatre Sports if you want deep, meaningful intellectual fodder, but if you do want to see a bunch of young energetic and even talented, at times, loonies try to entertain, while you the audience yell, scream, yell directions and generally enjoy yourself, go.

In the words of one of Theatre Sports performers, Audrey Webb of the Toil-etz, "Theatre Sports is not standard fare, it's a little bit different, and the sporting element provides something that everybody can relate to."

Theatre Sports runs every Sunday Night this winter at Theatre Network (11845-77 Street, it's hard to find, and parking can be tense if there's a hockey game, so get there early) at eight o'clock. Theatre Sports workshops are held every Sunday from two to five o'clock. Interested people can contact Theatre Network for further information and location of workshops.



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tues 27

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SUB Theatre is located on the 2nd floor of the Students' Union Building. For more information call 432-4764.