

entertainment

Talley's Folly is a success

By JEFF IRWIN
Brunswickan Staff

The setting is an old boat house on the Talley place, a farm near Lebanon, Missouri in July of 1944. The Folley is the boathouse which was built by Sally's Uncle Whistler in 1897 and is quite dilapidated. The set design is actually very realistic and detailed, complete with antique auto tires as bumpers on the wharf or landing. The lighting provides adequate atmosphere assistance, and at one point does a very effective job of replicating moon light on the water. The sound effects were not as convincing.

Now on with the play. Our hero Matt Friedman, portrayed by Robert Haley, delivers a great soliloquy at the very beginning of this one act production. He describes in a rambling and humorous manner the time, the place, and the surrounding circumstances. Robert Hayley, familiar to some of us as Jim on King of Kensington, is a very good comedic as well as serious actor which is evident in the play. As Matt Friedman, a Jewish accountant from St. Louis, Haley maintains the slight accent and mannerisms which people associate with being an American Jew; the rhetorical questions and the gestures. He commands a good ability to immitate accents from the Hebrew to the Missouri twang and as well having a great measured

delivery which make possibly mediocre jokes hilarious.

Mr. Haley does a very good job in this production and merits this reviewer's praise.

Barbara Duncan, our heroine, Sally Talley works in a hospital as a nurse's aid and tends to the returning wounded soldiers in a town near her father's farm. She does a believable job of serious acting in this production. Her costume is of the period but her make-up and hair style could have been a little more complimentary. Miss Duncan portrays a 31 year old debutante from a fairly wealthy family who has never been married and has a secret bottled up inside which is very painfully extracted by Matt Friedman. He also harbours a secret life story which is very difficult for him to relate. Miss Talley carries her acting somewhat too far, and is slightly over-animated. Her's is a more serious character who is given to some comical remarks, but definitely takes a back seat to Matt.

The play itself is a love story that picks up a year after the characters met and Matt has marriage on his mind. But he runs into quite a few difficulties. Sally doesn't really know what she wants, but finally makes up her mind in a very tender, touching moment.

I would suggest that if you like comedy with a touch of romance, see this play as it is extremely well done.

Rating: 8



Robert Haley and Barbara Duncan star in TNB's Talley's Folly.

Israel

Small rock that nestles by the Sea,
A desert place - though beauty's there;
The Lord's hand touches every tree,
And o'er Israel flock does watch with care.

The ancient land of Biblical lore
Was caught up into history's stream,
And through the ages patiently bore
The suffering of a silent dream.

This is the Promised Land - bright Israel
That reflects God's plan in all she does.
Whose constant message the nation tells,
Of the mystery that always is and was.

And so, fair Israel, we watch your light
Your people's truth has come to stay.
You are man's special gift of sight
Into God's own eternal way.

- by Bruce Larad

Dedicated to the memory of Moshe Dayan,
one of Israel's greatest leaders, who died recently.

Maritime Country

And as time passes us by, the earth creates a camellion-like metamorphosis.
It taps the autumn air and creates color unique to here.
With a burst of energy, a once serene scene becomes brilliant.
Colors found only on a painter's palette dot the hillsides,
like an abstract.

The wind freezes it and holds it with the coolness
of a dead man's breath.

Relentlessly, the trees battle the wind to hold their colored cloaks.
Gradually, the driving force of the wind sucks out the vivid array of color.
Each and every tree turns into a bare and brittle skeleton,
Swaying in the wind,
While colorless leaves now dance in the once deadly wind
With more life than ever.

Slowly, they gather together, forming a thick blanket on the earth,
Storing the heat away for another season.
Finally, wrinkling and dying, they are absorbed back into the ground to become one.