

# entertainment

## Mermaid Theatre to appear at UNB

MERMAID THEATRE's rollicking new comedy with music will be presented at U.N.B.'s d'Avray Hall on Wednesday, September 21 at 12:00 noon under the sponsorship of the d'Avray Hall Noontime Series.

'Sam Slick, the Clockmaker' will visit Fredericton as part of a three-month tour encompassing eight-five communities. Based on the writings of the witty Nova Scotian satirist, Thomas Haliburton, Mermaid's production provides a fresh look at a popular folk hero. Sam Slick, the wily Yankee trader who poked fun at Nova Scotians, first made his appearance in a serialized newspaper story in 1836. His creator, who was born in Windsor, N.S. in 1876, was the first Canadian author to gain international recognition, and his stories about the sharp-tongued clockmaker appear in more than fifty editions. Countless Slick witticisms found their way into the language of rural folk on both sides of the border, with such sayings as 'barking up the wrong tree', 'quick as a wink', and 'raining cats and dogs' becoming part of everyday conversation.

Script and lyrics for 'Sam Slick, the Clockmaker' are the work of Halifax playwright Paul Ledoux, while the lively musical arrangements highlighting Slick's raucous adventures have been composed by Al MacDonald. Graham Whitehead, Mermaid's Artistic Director, will direct the show, with J.P. Camus designing the imaginative set and Francina Cunnington-Morgan creating the costumes. Cast includes Marshall Button, Bill MacRae, Jo-Anne Rolls and Gary Vermeir, with Marcelle Gibson serving as stage manager.

The Wolfville-based Mermaid theatre was founded in 1982 and has become Atlantic Canada's best-known theatre for family audiences. The company has



crossed Canada three times, playing in all ten provinces as well as in England, in Wales and in the United States. Mermaid regularly visits schools and universities, in addition to major theatres throughout the country. Mermaid Theatre's Summer and Fall tours of 'Sam Slick, the Clockmaker' have been made possible with assistance from the

Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness, and The Canada Council.

Tickets for the Fredericton appearance of Mermaid Theatre are priced at \$5 and are available at the d'Avray Auditorium door to the performance. Showtime is 12:00 noon, September 21. Admission is FREE to all U.N.B. and S.T.U. students.

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## REEL REVIEWS

Hey!

Good day, eh?

Welcome to UNB all you frosh and welcome back to all you upperclassmen (and upperclasswomen. I ain't no chauvinist, eh?).

There's this neat moving starring the all-Canadian sucks, the McKenzie Brothers. Sometimes they're really funny, but other times it's kind of embarrassing that they're on of our most important exports to the United States.

They're stupid and moronic and the wear toques and parkas and Greb Kodiaks indoors and outdoors all year round.

Doug McKenzie (Dave Thomas) is the genius. He's so smart he can teach his brother (Rick Moranis; he's the cute one.) how to drink beer underwater.

Anyhow, these two simple siblings, offspring of Canadian hosers, put a mouse in a beer bottle and try to trade it for free beers.

But the store manager knows putting a mouse in a beer bottle isn't in the Criminal Code like the brothers say, eh? So they try to con a case of cool stuff from the brewery.

Strange Brew (that's the name of the movie, eh?) has some funny sight gags and typical McKenzie Brothers TV humor, mostly scatological (look that up in your Larousse, hoser!) and toilet-related.

Mostly, the brothers' involvement in the Elsinore Brewery murder is dominated by laid back ignorance, as Strange Brew relies on beer, belching and buffoonery to see the boys through to the final credits.

Max von Sydow, the famous Scandinavian actor (He must be famous, eh? He once played Christ.), is the satanic and sinister villain out to rule the world. And to make him look even meaner, they always have his from below. (That means he looks like someone's holding a flashlight under his chin, hoser.)

The story makes no sense at all, but, as the boys say in their own review of Strange Brew: 'Beauty, eh?...There are some minor flaws in the plot.'

The best acting is by some guy named Angus MacInnes who does a great French-Canadian accent as Jean LaRose, a former hockey player. This poor hoser had a nervous breakdown and wound up in the asylum. But he still gives great elbow.

Lynn Griffin (of 'Maggie and Pierre' of off-Broadway fame) looks cute as the heiress of the brewery millions. Unfortunately, look cute is all she does.

Paul Dooley, as her step-father, is monotonous to the point of boredom. (Take off, eh, I said, when he kept showing up on the screen.)

Strange Brew's writers don't like lawyers, eh? And one of the best scenes shows how Bob and Doug's lawyers harries the press (Brunswickan staffers, beware!).

Anyhow, if you want to see a film shot in hoserama, complete with a drunk lion and grown-up brothers who still behave like ten-year olds, take a tip from brother Bob's intro: 'This movie is 3-B: three beers and it looks good.'

Forewarned is forearmed, eh?