

Dinner with the

KILLER PLANT

by Ian Johnston

The plot for the Marquee Dinner Theatre's first stage production deals with a romantic triangle, but with a difference — a big, man-eating difference. For in this stage production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, not only does the girl and falls in love with the girl, he also meets a killer plant with a hunger for human blood and a great singing voice.

Little Shop of Horrors lends itself beautifully to the dinner theatre. It's flashy, the music is catchy, and it's a lot of fun, says the musical's director, Ron Wheatley.

Wheatley says the musical comedy, which kicks off the new Marquee Dinner Theatre's six-production season on September 25, is based on the Roger Corman cult classic film of the early 1960s.

This production takes its script and music from a recent off-Broadway stage version with music by Alan Menken. Although the stage play maintains the original Faustian plot, Wheatley says the music is 1960s girl-group style, with three "narrators" resembling the Supremes and a three-piece band.

The director says his production will maintain much of the B-movie tackiness that made the film and the off-Broadway production such a hit.

It's a hard play to direct. You've got to be campy. You've got to do schlock. But you also

have to keep the honesty."

He says although the play centres on a giant singing, man-eating plant, it is the human characters who give the play much of its appeal.

Wheatley said the characters of Seymour and his ditsy girlfriend Audrey seem ridiculous, but eventually win the audience over with their innocent charm.

"You care about them" he said.

The play's cast is headed by John Ramsbottom as Seymour, Sharron Timmins as Audrey, and Cliff LeJeune as the dentist. Wheatley said LeJeune is choreographer for the play and handles all the play's bit parts, "which is fun for the audience."

Probably the most versatile performer in the cast is Jamie Bradley, who provides the voice for the plant, which he also created. Wheatley says the plant, which has four different

stages of growth, eventually reaches a height of eight feet, requiring three people to operate it.

Although Wheatley has seen both the original *Shops* on film, and last year's big-budget musical remake, he says the films gave him few ideas for his production. Wheatley admitted to finding the original "rather boring", and feels the new version spent "too much time concentrating on the plant and not enough time on the people."

Little Shop of Horrors begins performances with a Friday night preview on September 25, and runs every night except Monday until November 8.

The new Marquee Dinner Theatre is located at 1646 Barrington Street.

For the best in grown-up Rascal fun . . .



- With
- The best pub food
 - Daily specials
 - Music
 - Dancing
 - Darts, pool & shuffleboard
 - Music trivia

VISIT

RASCALS BEVERAGE ROOM

1537 Barrington
next to Maritime Mall



The Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation attend our 1st annual Falafel and Movie Night featuring Joshua Then and Now followed by a discussion on: **Assimilation** Sept 19th, 8 p.m. Room 410/412, Dal SUB from

Schooner Books
5378 Inglis St. 423-8419
We Buy and Sell Books
Secondhand & Rare Books
for the Scholar, Collector
& Reader

DSU Monday Movie

HUMPHREY BOGART • INGRID BERGMAN
PAUL HENREID

"CASABLANCA"

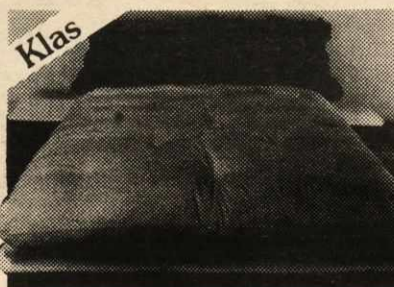
Rick's gambling casino explodes when an old love of his walks in bringing her husband, a French freedom fighter fleeing from the Nazis

TRAVEL TAKES YOU
CUTS TO THE STARS

Monday, September 21
8 p.m. Dal SUB

With Student I.D. \$2.50
With StudentSaver card \$2.00
Others \$3.50
Season Pass — 11 movies \$12.00

AFFORDABLE! FASHIONABLE! FUTONS!



25% off

Cloud 9 introduces futons at incredibly low prices! Now, all our styles and designs of futons are available at an incredible 25% off. **Don't miss it!**

The super Futon Sale at Cloud 9 Bedroom Stores.



Burnside Drive 468-2899 / 883 Sackville Dr. 865-5955 / 362 Main St. Kentville 678-6999