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Pete Roehrs/The Rocket

Dracula—Tonight and tomorrow at Miller 8 p.m.

Dracula credible

By DARIA WOODSIDE
Rocket Staff Writer

The Slippery Rock University Theater Department set the mood for Halloween with its opening of "Dracula," Wednesday, at Miller Auditorium. But don't expect white faces and pointed teeth. Loosely based on Bram Stoker's novel, the play portrays the vampire as an elegant, charming, and believable character.

The play opens in the home of Dr. Seward, whose daughter, Lucy, has taken ill. Seward has sent for his old friend, Dr. Van Helsing, in hopes of finding a cure for a strange anemia that is afflicting the girl, and has recently taken the life of her friend, Mina Seward, who runs an insane asylum, is also troubled by a particular patient, Renfield, who has a

peculiar habit of eating flies and spiders for "life." Lucy's fiance, Jonathan Harker, has also come from London because of his concern for the girl. It isn't long after Van Helsing's arrival that he realizes the problem, and before the Seward's concerned neighbor, Count Dracula, pays them a visit.

Dracula, who is being played by Donald Struck, is portrayed as an intelligent and sophisticated man. Struck's excellent development of the Count makes Dracula believable as the vampire who has lived 500 years and has developed super-human powers. His seduction of young Lucy gives him more credibility as a viable character.

Melissa McGowan, as Lucy, aptly shows the girl's conflict; when, after attempting to

seduce Harker with a vampire's kiss, she is confronted with a crucifix and then begs him to stay away.

Jim Manclark, as Jonathan Harker, is able to make the audience forget his youthful appearance and become aware only of the concerned and loving character he is portraying. The strong performance of Jeff Brown, as Dr. Seward, enables the audience to share the father's fears, doubts, and then trust of Van Helsing.

Michael Geibel, as Abraham Van Helsing, is particularly good. He is most exciting during the scene where Dracula attempts to overpower him.

Renfield, the asylum inmate who confirms Van Helsing's beliefs, is astutely done by Drew Williams.

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Discrimination at Grove City

Supreme Court decision challenged

(CPS)—Despite some negative input from the president of Grove City College last week, Congress seems ready to pass a law forcing most college programs to treat male and female students equally.

The bill, called the Civil Rights Restoration Act, would overrule a 1984 U.S. Supreme Court decision that excused many college departments from having to pledge not to

discriminate against women. But some administrators and apparently some students as well worry the measure would let the federal government "interfere" in campus programs.

"It sounds like a new fear to me," says congressional aide Kris McManiman. "We get students calling up from Baptist colleges asking if (they're) going to have to room with

a man."

"We want to protect our independence," Charles MacKenzie, president of Grove City College, told Congress in hearings last week. "The government at some point may want to impose its secular values on our campus."

The bill's sponsors say they only want to give college women a legal tool with which to challenge discrimination,

which a court—not the government—would then treat.

Last week's hearings only continued a debate that began when Congress approved Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX, of course, bars colleges that take federal money from discriminating on the basis of gender.

Many women's groups say Title IX provided the legal tool

to open admissions to certain degree programs to women, gain more resources for female students' scholarship programs, and even funnel money into women's sports teams and facilities.

Several schools—the University of Richmond in Virginia, Hillsdale College in Michigan and Grove City College among them—have gone to court to

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Special athletes compete

By KEVIN COLON
Rocket Staff Writer

Almost 200 "special" athletes from Western Pennsylvania participated in the largest Special Olympics Tournament in state history last Sunday at Slippery Rock University.

Whitney Bennett, director of the Special Olympics, said, "Everything went according to plan. It was a long but enjoyable day and we are already looking forward to next year."

High-fives, smiles and hugs, along with a few somersaults, brought the emotional level at all events skyhigh.

Bennett added that the help provided by almost 200 people

from the campus, including Theta Chi and the Slippery Rock Soccer team, helped the entire day.

Individual and developmental skills started off the program in the morning and team competition began later that afternoon, keeping the contestants busy at all times.

"We were worried that at times the athletes would have nothing to do, but everything turned out fine and they were busy all day," said students Barry Sunder and Bethany Doubleday, co-directors of sports.

Sunder added that the time schedule was a little off during

the morning events, but by afternoon everything was right on schedule.

The Special Olympics is an international program of sports training and athletic competition for all levels and ages. There are winners in all categories, but nobody leaves a loser. The development of healthier attitudes and better self-regard are just as important as the physical benefits such as better coordination, muscle tone, strength, and speed.

An awards ceremony was held after the events at Morrow Field House. The Sharpville (Continued on page 2)

Tuition unchanged

By DEBBIE SMITH
Rocket Staff Writer

"No tuition increase will occur for the spring semester," said Jeffrey Coyne, Commonwealth Association of Students Coordinator, "because the association of State College and University Facilities and the State System of Higher Education have reached a contract settlement."

The fall semester next year may present a problem, though, he said. "The minimum increase in tuition will be \$180."

"There is only one way to stop the increase and that is for

advocacy groups like CAS to fight it," said Coyne. "Without the students here, the faculty is usually for the tuition," said Coyne, "they won't do anything about stopping the increase."

This leaves CAS to represent the students and do their best to get a zero percent increase, said Coyne.

According to Coyne, CAS is a statewide advocacy organization for the 82,000 students at the 14 state-owned universities. Last spring, SGA voted not to recognize CAS as an organization at SRU because it was "not active."