

ARTS DATEBOOK



Otterbein College launches its summer theater program Tuesday with *Crimes of the Heart*. See theater listings.

Pulitzer-winning play opens Otterbein's summer season

A Southern Gothic tale of sisters, family skeletons, and secret passions will open the Otterbein Summer Theatre 1984 season.

The critically-acclaimed "Crimes of the Heart" is set for June 19-23 at 8:30 p.m. in the air-conditioned Campus Center Arena Theatre on the Otterbein campus.

The play by Beth Henley centers on the reunion of three Mississippi sisters brought together by a family crisis.

Babe, the youngest sister, has just shot her obnoxious politician husband in the stomach because she didn't like his looks. She looks forward to jail so she can play her saxophone in peace.

Lenny, the gentle oldest sister, turns 30 and simultaneously gets the news that her beloved pet horse has been killed by lightning. Meg, the wilful middle sister, has failed in her attempt to launch a Hollywood singing career.

As the three gather in the kitchen of the old family home, their talk is punctuated by the occasional threatening phone call from the recovering politician.

Conversation ranges from love affairs to sibling rivalries to difficult relatives. And it eventually veers to the subject of the girls' mother whose suicide, after hanging her pet cat, brought the family brief national notoriety.

Winner of the 1981 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and the New York Drama Critics Circle Award, "Crimes of the Heart" was originally produced at the Louisville Actors Theater. It was co-winner of the 1979 Great American Play Contest.

The play was subsequently seen in regional theaters in Los Gatos, Calif.; St. Louis, Mo.; Baltimore, Md.; and New York City before opening on Broadway in 1981.

Playwright Henley was

born in Jackson, Mi., and studied drama at Southern Methodist University. A former actress, she is also the author of "Am I Blue?," "The Miss Firecracker Contest,"

and "The Wake of Jamey Foster."

Tickets are available at the Campus Center box office from 12:30 to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

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DUNLAP MID-SIZE



'Crimes of the Heart'

The members of Otterbein College's Summer Theatre Company strike a playful pose between rehearsals for this season's five plays. The season will open at 8:30 p.m. June 19-23 with the production of "Crimes of the Heart." Tickets for all performances are available at the Campus Center Box Office or by calling 890-3028.



'Crimes of the Heart'

Otterbein Summer Theatre Company members prepare for a season of five plays beginning with the June 19-23 production of *Crimes of the Heart*, a comedy by Beth Henley. Company actors include Susan Diol, Brent Erdy, Giovanni Moscardino, Laura Stitt, Steve Salyer, Jodi Silk, Jeff Kin, Liana Peters and Tim Gregory. Acting apprentices are Linda Cole, Nancy Fox and John Fisher. Technical staff members are Mike Blankenship, David Caldwell, Karne Frye and Dia Huekler. Diane Idapence will manage the box office. Tickets to the Otterbein Summer Theatre productions at 8:30 p.m. in the air-conditioned Campus Center Arena Theatre on the Otterbein campus, are available at the Campus Center box office, 890-3028, 12:30-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.



Reverence for comedy

Liana Peters as Babe McGrathe and Brent Erdy as Barnette Lloyd, her attorney, review her zany case in a scene from *Crimes of the Heart*, the current Otterbein College Summer Theatre production. The play runs through Saturday at the Campus Center Arena Theatre on the campus. Performances are at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the Campus Center box office, 890-3028, 12:30-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday.



Make a wish

The three McGrath sisters—from the left: Liana Peters as Babe, Susan Diol as Lenny, and Jodi Silk as Meg—celebrate Lenny's 30th birthday in this scene from "Crimes of the Heart," the current Otterbein College Summer Theatre production. The play runs through Saturday in the air-conditioned Campus Center Arena Theatre on the Otterbein campus in Westerville. Tickets are available at the Campus Center box office from 12:30 to 9 p.m., Monday through Saturday.