

# Otterbein will present Neil Simon's 'Biloxi Blues'



Otterbein Summer Theatre (OST) will present Neil Simon's "Biloxi Blues", June 28-July 2 and July 5-9, at the Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St.

Winner of the 1985 Tony Award for "Best Play," Simon's work is an "engrossing, deliciously rewarding

play that charms, amuses and even fascinates" according to a New York Post review.

The sensitive comedy peeks back into the life of Eugene Morris Jerome, Simon's semi-autobiographical character first introduced in "Brighton Beach Memoirs." It's now 1943 and Eugene is an army recruit at boot camp in Biloxi, Miss.

Still an aspiring writer, Jerome continues to scrawl his observations in a notebook, recording his daily struggle (and that of five other enlisted men) under a tough army drill sergeant.

The journal sparks curiosity among his cohorts, and when they decide to read it for themselves, Jerome is called to task for his

piercing assessments of their personalities.

But Jerome's aims at this point stretch beyond becoming a writer. His goals also include staying alive and losing his virginity. He is growing up, and his adventure is peppered with hilarious moments and a few painfully serious ones as well.

**THE ROLE OF** hard-nosed Sergeant Toomey will be played by Equity guest artist Michael Hart-

man, who made his Broadway debut in "Sherlock Holmes."

Hartman has been a favorite with OST audiences in past years, portraying such roles as Sir in "The Dresser" and Elwood P. Dowd in "Harvey." He currently is the TV and radio spokesperson for the Mr. Goodbar candy company.

"Biloxi.." will be directed by guest professional Dennis Romer who has ap-

peared on such TV shows as "Dynasty," "Hotel" and "All My Children." Last year Romer directed OST's production of "The Nerd" and starred as the Marquis in "Camille."

Tickets are available from the OST box office, 898-1109. Box office hours are 12:30-9 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The box office is open Sundays, 12:30-3 p.m.

Opening night performance will be at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. All other performances will begin at 8 p.m.

P.O.

6-22-89

# OST presents "Biloxi Blues" next month

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in Westerville. Winner of the 1985 Tony Award for "Best Play," Simon's work is an "engrossing, deliciously rewarding play that charms, amuses and even fascinates" according

to a New York Post review.

The sensitive comedy peeks back into the life of Eugene Morris Jerome, Simon's semi-autobiographical character first introduced in "Brighton Beach Memoirs." It's now 1943 and Eugene is an army recruit at boot camp in Biloxi, Miss. Still an aspiring writer, he continues to scrawl his observations

in a notebook, recording his daily struggle (and that of five other enlisted men) under a tough army drill sergeant. The journal sparks curiosity among his cohorts, and when they decide to read it for themselves, Eugene is called to task for his piercing assessments of their personalities.

But Eugene's aims at this point stretch beyond becoming a writer. His goals

also include staying alive and losing his virginity. Eugene is growing up, and his adventure is peppered with hilarious moments and few painfully serious ones as well.

The role of hardnosed Sgt. Toomey will be played by Equity guest artist Michael Hartman. Hartman, who made his Broadway debut in "Sherlock Holmes," has been a favorite with OST

audiences in past years, portraying such roles as Sir in "The Dresser" and Elwood P. Dowd in "Harvey." He currently is the TV and radio spokesperson for the Mr. Goodbar candy company.

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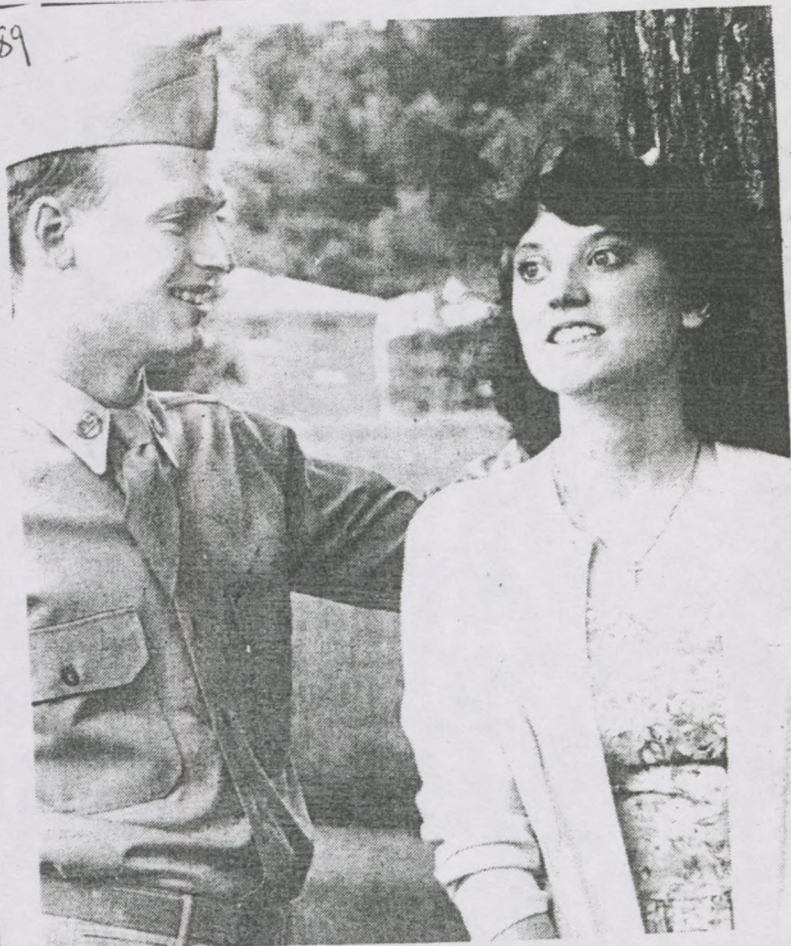
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JUN-28-83



**YOUNG LOVE** will be played out by the members of the Otterbein Summer Theatre (OST) when the troupe presents Neil Simon's "Biloxi Blues" today (June 28) through July 2 and July 5-9 at the Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home in Westerville. Mt. Gilead's Matt Bartholomew, shown here, plays the lead character of Eugene Morris Jerome in the production opposite his love interest Daisy played by Cheryl Gaysunas of Columbus. Tickets are available at the OST box office, (614) 898-1109. Office hours are 12:20-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 12:30-3 p.m. Sundays. Tonight's opening performance begins at 7:30 p.m., and all remaining evening performances start at 8 p.m. Matinee presentations begin at 2 p.m.



**GETS RECRUITS IN LINE** — Actors Equity guest artist Michael Hartman will star as Sgt. Toomey in the Otterbein Summer Theatre production's presentation of Neil Simon's Tony Award winning play, "Biloxi Blues". Hartman gets his message as a drill instructor here to recruit Arnold Epstein, played by Tim Deak at U.S. Army boot camp at Biloxi, Miss. The show will run June 28 - July 2 and July 5 - 9 at the Otterbein Campus Center Theatre.





Dispatch photo by Harry E. Walker

## Not at their ease

From left, Matt Bartholomew, Michael Hartman and Tim Deak are featured in the Otterbein Summer Theatre production of

*Biloxi Blues*, which opens tonight. See theater listings on Page 14 for times and ticket information.



Sgt. Toomey get his recruits in line -- Equity guest artist Michael Hartman will star in Otterbein summer Theatre (OST) June 28-July 2 and July 5-9 production of "Biloxi Blues." Neil Simon's Tony Award winning play, will be presented at the Campus Center Theatre, 100 W. Home St., Westerville. Hartman (Sgt. Toomey), who made his Broadway debut in "Sherlock Holmes," and is currently the TV and radio spokesperson for the Mr. Goodbar candy company, interacts with Tim Deak of Brunswick, Ohio who plays the role of Arnold Epstein. This sensitive comedy deals with the life of Eugene Morris Jerome, Simon's semi-autobiographical character, an army recruit at boot camp in Biloxi, Miss., whose goals includes becoming a writer, staying alive and finding romance. Tickets are available from the OST box office, 898-1109. Box office hours are from 12:30-9 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The box office is open on Sundays from 12:30-3 p.m. Opening night is at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. All other performances will begin at 8 p.m.



Final Weekend! • The 1985 Tony Award Winning "Best Play"

# Biloxi Blues

BY NEIL SIMON

RECOMMENDED FOR MATURE AUDIENCES

July 5, 6, 7, 8 8:00 p.m., July 9 2:00 p.m. • Tickets \$7.75-\$9.75

*Call 898-1109 today to make your reservation.*



Featuring Equity Guest Artist  
**Michael Hartman**

*Opening Next Week...*  
**I'm Not Rappaport**  
by Herb Gardner  
Sponsored by Bank One, Columbus, NA

Featuring Professional Guest Artists  
**David Downing, Ed Vaughan**

Directed by Professional Guest Artist  
**Clinton Turner Davis**



Directed by Professional Guest Artist  
**Dennis Romer**

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