



ENTERTAINMENT

A quick cure for the blues

By Jim Maya

Miracle Miles Correspondent

In search of good news...I was going to write about the "dramatic" stock market, but I'm not going to inflict anymore pain. But then again, why not. The market is a comedy, tragedy, adventure and horror story all rolled into one celluloid package.

I don't think you want to hear anymore about the Giants, either. And since we are back to the regular 49er's, they will probably start losing again.

Is anyone besides me interested in the fact that Indiana is on top of the Big Ten in football? I thought so! How about the Persian Gulf? Noooo!

Well, I have two ways for you to forget the "front page blues." The first way is to get yourself on down to the Gilroy High School Theatre tonight or Saturday night to see the South Valley Civic Theatre children's production of "Aladdin McFaddin."

It is a delightful show, and just not for the kids. The evening is filled with adult-like gags, like when the Genie of the Lamp is asked if he knows black magic. He says he does and starts singing, "That old Black Magic has me in its spell!"

Then there is his mom calling Aladdin, "Aladdin-Bob." The genie, by the way, is not a he, but rather the adorable she Kelly Glenn.

As my regulars readers know, I won't give children's productions one of my nasty, hard-boiled sort of regular reviews for obvious reasons...Like parents never forget when you criticize their children

and get mad when you don't compliment them...Talk about a rock and a hard place...Also, I live in Gilroy, and people know where I live.

I can, however, recommend the show without a hitch of reservation. The reservations? OK. Some of the characters are very hard to understand and hear. It always drives me — and I imagine a good part of the audience — crazy. Especially when the annunciation goes for kids of this age.

It is hard at their ages, mouths filled with braces, to get all the words out, I know. But kids, when the director tells you that you can't be understood, trust her. (Her is director Carol Harris, who has done her usual professional job on this production.)

The rest of the cast does a great job, too. They are cute, cute, cute! In between the applause and laughter, there will be a lot of "ooooooooing and ahhhhing"

Technically, "Mcfaddin" is also a winner. The sets and costumes are super...On the subject of winners, it should be noted that the South Valley Civic Theatre production was seen on Tuesday and Wednesday by well over 1200 elementary and high school students...Kudos to SVCT for providing that opportunity for those children to see live theatre.

Curtain time is 7 p.m....For more information call 842-SHOW.

The other cure I have for those front page blues is going to see "Surrender." The new film stars Michael Caine and Sally Fields, and is an evening well spent, especially if you like to laugh without

thinking too much.

The plot involves a writer, Caine, who seems to get taken by the women who enter his life; like wives, live-in lovers and assorted other "ladies."

Then there is the eternally cute Fields who plays an artist in a starving-artists "genuine" oil painting factory. She also is letting a wealthy lover take care of her. Throughout the clever script, which was filled with some wonderful sight gags as well as some creative dialogue, there is enough tension to keep one's attention.

Fields and Caine meet, fall in love, and produce a bundle of belly laughs for the audience.

The film is R rated, but not terribly defensive.

So if the mean old world has got you down, Bunky, get off the old duff, get away from the darn tube, put your on your glad rags and high-heeled sneakers, grab your "hon" and turn to the theatre.

This movie will give a few moments of escape, a chuckle, a good cry and perhaps some good news.

Jim Maya teaches theatre arts at Gilroy High School. He is on the board of directors for the South Valley Civic Theatre, and enjoys being a buff on local theatre.

Anyone having theatre suggestions or simply wanting to communicate with Maya should address all correspondence to Miracle Miles, attn: Jim Maya, P.O. Box 1530, Gilroy, CA 95020.