

Brian Tyrrell wins second Humanities Association Exemplary Status award

Don't miss the *International Club's Cultural Cafe* at noon Thursday, Nov. 16, in the Atrium. Taste ethnic dishes and learn to say "I love you" in eight languages.

You are surely aware that next week is Thanksgiving *and* Harpo Marx' birthday. Your editor will be dining out; last Thanksgiving when trying to stuff the turkey he found it wasn't empty!



The Muse

"When I do good I feel good; when I do bad I feel bad, and that is my religion.

—Abraham Lincoln—

The Centralia College dramatic arts program is one of the most respected in the state's academic community; accolades come easy when describing the performances that are produced here. Each is professional in every regard, with well-prepared actors, imaginative sets, and masterful guidance from BRIAN TYRRELL, perhaps the premier dramatic arts director in the state.

Tyrrell's stature in the Washington performing arts community was further enhanced this fall when he won the WCTC Humanities Association "Exemplary Status" award. The award is considered a benchmark among the state's humanities professors, and Tyrrell was honored with this distinguished award for a second time—an indication of the respect and admiration he commands among his peers.

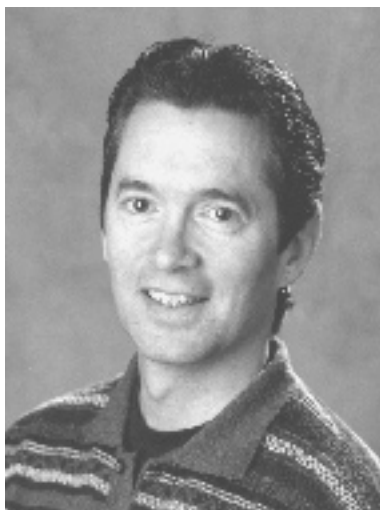
The "Exemplary Status" award means a great deal to Tyrrell. "It's so much more than a recognition of achievement," he explained. "It isn't a measure of competition, but in the world of collaboration that is drama and the stage, it says a lot about our ability to achieve good things by cooperation and contributions from everyone involved."

Tyrrell brings an ongoing passion for the stage to work every day, and his infectious enthusiasm translates into a unique learning experience for his students and unlimited enjoyment for his audiences. He is an actor's actor, playwright's director, and a performing art student's singular gift.

Tyrrell is president of the Northwest Playwrights Alliance, the new Associate Artistic

Director of the Tacoma Actors Guild, a member of Actors Equity, and his credits run from the Intiman Theatre in Seattle to the National Shakespeare Company in New York. Tyrrell was recipient of an "Outstanding Service to Students and Faculty" award from the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival. As you may imagine, accolades come easy when speaking of Brian Tyrrell, too!

The award, Tyrrell insists, came as a surprise—although one of which he was highly appreciative. "It's great to find yourself at the annual Humanities Association dinner in the company of some of the finest and brightest people anywhere," he recalled. "This year it was especially rewarding because I had my wife with me, and she's been a great encouragement from the beginning."



Tyrrell is known for the broad range of musicals, comedies, dramas, and modern theatre he chooses for his students. "It's fun to do the old chestnuts," he recently explained, "but it's also nice to watch a student take a challenging, unfamiliar role and bring it to life. That's part of what we do."

Characteristically, Tyrrell tends to downplay his own contribution to the recognition given by the Humanities Association. "I'm lucky because my area of the humanities is highly visible," he continued. "Maybe it's more visible than any other facet of the arts."

He insists that his recognition comes in large part from the fortunate collaborations he's enjoyed. "Much of the credit," he mused, "goes to some really fine cards I've been dealt along the way."

Birthday Party Dates



FIBBER MCGEE	11/16
BIG JAMES GARFIELD	11/19
LI'L DICKIE SMOTHERS	11/20
GREG GILBERTSON	11/21
HOAGY CARMICHAEL	11/22
HARPO	11/23
FRANKLIN PIERCE	11/23

Historically, most American families were far too busy during the week before Thanksgiving to have kids. Nowhere was that more true than among the ancestry of our faculty and staff. Oh, well, root beer and turkey a la King for everybody!

SPORTS SCHEDULE

It may sound incredible, but the Lady Blazer basketball preseason kicks off THIS Friday (11/17) with a game at Everett, followed by a Saturday game at Whatcom. On Thanksgiving weekend the women's team will participate in the holiday tournament at Reno.

Men's hoops start two weeks later with the annual weekender at College of the Redwoods on the weekend of Dec. 2-3.

We'll switch to our regular columnar game schedule after the Turkey Day weekend.

Tickets for tomorrow night's presentation of *Mere Mortals* are "Date Night" bargains at the Phillip Wickstrom Theatre. Tickets will be at a special two-for-the-price-of-one rate, so grab a friend (or talk one into buying a pair of tickets) and head for the 7 p.m. curtain on six of the funniest David Ives vignettes imaginable.

The Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. with a regular ticket price of \$10 general, \$8 student and senior.

This our last opportunity to see the wacky antics of a pair of mayflies or the macho maladies of three steelworkers high above the city. And don't miss an Edgar Degas wannabe on a New York sidewalk.

See you tomorrow at the Wickstrom.

His name is Silus

His name is Silus Chimukho, and he lives in the town of Lilongwe in the Republic of Malawi. He's been a student at the University of Livingstonia, where he learned that he had a special knack for things mechanical. He studied under Centralia College's Ken Rakoz while our diesel instructor was there, and Rakoz watched the young man go from painfully shy to having in inkling of his own worth—and even saw the seeds of hope sown. Rakoz was certain this student could carve a bright future out of the poverty of northern Malawi.

Then the money ran out.

The pair corresponded after Rakoz returned to the Centralia campus, and he soon realized that Silus would, in all likelihood, earn his place in an emerging African economy if he could get the final stages of training he just couldn't afford

in Malawi. Rakoz also realized that he had put a moral obligation on himself that wouldn't be satisfied until it was successfully completed.

"I made Silus a deal," Rakoz explained. "I told him if he could raise the airfare, I'd raise the money for a scholarship in our diesel program at Centralia College. It's a real challenge on both ends," Rakoz agreed, "but we're both determined to make it happen."

While the big fundraiser on this end is still many weeks away, Rakoz is recruiting donors, volunteers, and supporters for a wine-snack-auction in February that will be unique in some respects. "We're going to call it an "adventure" auction," Rakoz said. "Some of what is offered will be 'stuff,' he continued, "but a lot of

items will be really incredible intangibles. Instead of putting up a charcoal barbecue for bids, he further explained, "we hope to convince a local cooking expert to give the winning bidder a special meal and a chance to learn the tailgate secrets of a pro."

Rakoz is looking at items like a guided trip into the St. Helens blast zone with a volcanologist or geologist, a beach walk with a marine biologist, or perhaps a shift in a patrol car with a traffic cop. One of the items already on the auction block is an adventure, no matter how you look at it—it's a \$5,000 orthodontist schedule with follow-ups and everything.

Rakoz has secured a Westport fishing trip on a private vessel, a night at a B&B at Cathlamet on the Columbia, (the adventure part is up to you!) as well as a truckload of rocks and three ice-cream cakes. Other donors

are thinking of what things they can do to make the evening a great success.

Rakoz hopes you and I will think about it, too.

The wine-and-cheese auction comes in mid-February at the gym, and Rakoz hopes that the next few weeks will inspire people to think of novel and exciting auction items, volunteer to lend their expertise to a day or an afternoon of enjoyment for a winning bidder, or even help put the evening on. The end result, after all, is an adventure of its own. When Silus Chimukho completes the program at Centralia College and returns to help rebuild his nation, all of us can be a part of that wonderful experience. Got an idea, a suggestion, or a donation of your own time and effort? Call Ken Rakoz at ext. 316.

