

## Upstage kids' theatre performing 'Oliver!'

From staff reports

Columbia's only children's community theater is offering a family holiday treat in the form of a musical based on the Charles Dickens novel, *Oliver Twist*.

*Oliver!* will be presented by Upstage Children's Theatre, beginning Friday. The production will have 8 p.m. showings Friday through Sunday and again Dec. 1-4 at Keenan Theatre on Pinebelt Road, just off Two Notch Road.

Bette Herring directs the cast of 50 children through the streets of London to the familiar tunes of "Consider Yourself," "Oom Pah Pah," "As Long As He Needs Me" and "Where Is Love."

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for ages 12 and younger and senior citizens. Group rates for 25 or more are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children and senior citizens.

Upstage will also present, as an extra holiday goody, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* as a 3 p.m. matinee Nov. 26-27 and Dec. 3-4 at

### Preview



Keenan Theatre. Tickets for this show are \$5 and \$4.

For ticket reservations and additional information, call 252-9845.

No free lunch

## Class runs campus restaurant

By CRAIG PADDOCK  
University Relations

Clam chowder, salad, boneless barbecued chicken breasts, corn on the cob, fresh broccoli and apple pie a la mode. Ed Coon and Sandra Strick eat lunches like this five days a week — and they still complain.

To be fair, complaining — or, rather, critiquing — is their job. The well-fed duo are professors in the hotel, restaurant and tourism administration department of the College of Applied Professional Sciences.

The restaurant they're critiquing is actually Restaurant Food Production Management, a class where students plan the menus, order the food, cook the meals, wait on tables and clean the dishes.

The class emphasizes managing a restaurant, and students must have completed three courses in accounting and several management courses before enrolling. Most students in the department will choose a career in restaurant management when they graduate. They handle the culinary chores, said Coon, because a good supervisor understands the job of each employee.

Housed on the first floor of Capstone residence hall, the restaurant is open to the public each weekday. That gives the five sections of the class one shot a week at preparing a meal.

These are not soup and salad lunches. "They're too easy," said Coon. "Each meal must have at least three courses."

But flexibility is allowed to let students reflect their own style.

A football player who was taking the class prepared the favorite dishes of his coaches, featuring cordon bleu, Gamecock head coach Joe Morrison's choice.

Another student honored her mother by fixing a meal of her mom's best recipes.

Specialties from all over the world have been served in the 14 years that the class has been operating. Entrees have included German sauerbraten, Italian linguine, Polish roast pork, Middle Eastern lamb meat loaf, Japanese chicken teriyaki, Mexican chimichangas and Yankee pot roast.

And there are desserts. Galato boureko, frozen tortoni cake, chocolate mousse, caramel custard, apple crumble, rum cake and vanilla and chocolate parfait are just a few examples.

Fixing a meal might seem like an easy way to pull up a sagging grade average, but this class is by no means a free lunch. Students must show up by 10 a.m. and rarely leave before 3 p.m.

Nate Anderson, a senior from Myrtle Beach, said it's one of the most stressful classes he has



Karen Postweiler and Dawn Williamson prepare a meal in the USC restaurant that is run as a class project. Both are seniors in hotel, restaurant and tourism administration.

taken. "If you screw up, you know it," he said. "But you learn a lot."

Strick and Coon sit at the first table, eyeing each waiter and noticing any snag that comes up. They can detect — and take away points for — problems that would never bother the typical restaurant-goer.

"My wife hates to eat out with me," Coon

said. "No matter where we go, I always find something wrong with the restaurant."

Coon says his students are conscientious. "I'd take them anywhere," he said. "It's more than just a test. It's a matter of pride in what they're doing."

Reservations are requested and can be made by calling 777-6665.



JULIE BOUCHILLON/The Gamecock

### Great balls of . . .

Flaming furry animal found on field. Two Phi Kappa Psi fraternity members were observed dousing the beast with lighter fluid before the incident.

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