

### When it rains. it pours

Flooding on the USC campus caused a new pond to appear in front of the library.

# **Outdoor drama**

Theater company to perform Shakespeare's 'Merry Wives of Windsor' in Sidney Park

#### From Staff Reports

The Columbia Shakespeare in the Parks theater company opens its second season with a production of the farcical "Merry Wives of Windsor" in Sidney Park today through Saturday.

Admission is free for all performances, which begin at 7:30 p.m.

The first offering of this company was "Love Out of Joint," a selection of scenes from Shakespeare's plays. The company, founded by USC graduates, performed these scendes in September 1990 at the Riverfront Park.

While providing trained theater professionals with the opportunity to develop their craft, the city's Shakespeare company also sets the stage for Columbians to enjoy themselves in the city's parks.

This production of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" will be the first full-length play presented in Columbia's parks. Linda Khoury is producing director of the project, co-founder of the company and principal performer in "The Merry Wives.

"It's a totally different, wonderful, experience to see live theater outside," Khoury said. "And the beauty of Shakespeare's works is that they reach everyone, from all walks of life."

As most of the action in the play takes place out of doors, it is wellsuited for performance in Sidney.

An emerging, professional, nonprofit organization, Columbia Shakespeare in the Parks is being fostered by the Columbia Action Council. Currently in rehearsal, their second season show includes a cast of 24 and a technical crew of 15.

Working with a finite budget, this new company depends on volunteerism and community involvement. The stage crew for the "Merry Wives" consists mainly of Air National Guardsmen from McEntire Air Force Base. They've said this is an opportunity for them to do something for the city, in return for all the support shown them and their families while they were deployed for Desert Storm.

While the action of the play revolves around adult issues of money, marriage and morality, it's an evening of entertainment that will appeal to he whole family and all ages.

Explained Hunter Boyle, cofounder and the male lead, "It's a very lively physical comedy, something is happening all the time. The kids will be able to appreciate the games adults in the cast play on one another."

Columbia Shakespeare in the Parks was conceived to enhance the city culturally by utilizing its parks while emphasizing a classical repertory. Two shows are planned annually. "Much Ado About Nothing" will be produced in the fall.

The company's long-range goals include educational classes and workshops in schools throughout the state.

## **Rhythm Alive!**

Come and dance to the beat of West African drumming! Wednesday, April 22 at 8:00 pm In the Russell House Ballroom

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For more information call 777-7130, or stop by Russell House Rm 209. Paid for, in part, by student activity fees. This program is sponsored by: CCL CFA AAAS Campus Rape Awareness BGLA SETA SPSC OCSP Baha'i Faith Student Government/USC Recycling Habitat for Humanity Amnesty USC SAGE PALM

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Room 303	631-D	Place: University Bookstore
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