

# Rosencrantz and Guildenstern "dead but funny"

By Aaron Black

I recently had the pleasure of seeing our Theatre Society in action, when it put on *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, March 14 thru 17.

An extremely well-written and funny play, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* is about two unimportant and interchangeable characters in Willy Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, who are about to take the crazed Hamlet from Denmark to his death in England.

Along the way, we have the chance to observe many humorous situations and some fine acting.

On the Friday night I saw the play, strong performances were given by Jamie Brehaut as Guildenstern, or Rosencrantz; Nancy McLure as Rosencrantz, or Guildenstern, and Mike Stratton as The Player.

The Tragedians, as played by Bob Stanley, Bill Harwood, and David Wheeler, were also extremely funny, if not cute.

Unfortunately, the intensity of the humour and the humorous situations took away from the seriousness of the play. The serious actors,

Kevin MacLeod as Hamlet, Mary Rossiter as Ophelia, Nils Connor as Claudius, and Sharon Leighton as Gertrude did the best they could with

the material.

Fortunately, a good play, written by Tom Stoppard, good direction by David Moses, and good sets contri-

buted to making the evening most enjoyable.

All must be congratulated for their effort and ability.



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