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Collaborators Collaborating

Drawing upon many established hit songs and comedy ditties, the Village Players of Birmingham are readying "Musical Memories", a two-act play, arranged and directed by longtime musical collaborators William E. Kegel and Ward C. Tollzien.

The show goes on at the Playhouse, 1752 Chestnut, at 9 p.m., Jan. 29 and 30, and at 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 31.

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Homework, Housework; They Do Both—Well

Two area mothers have managed the daily trip between the kitchen and the lecture hall so well that they have been classed as "gold star mothers" at Michigan State university, Oakland.

Both in their late thirties, the co-eds have made honor roll grades as freshmen.

A third, a widow from Royal Oak, has a son who will soon be ready for college.

The proud youngsters do more bragging than parents would. Two of them attend the same school and argue that "my mother's smarter'n your mother."

THE TWO MOTHERS are Mrs. Vera Ashare, 2121 Chalgrove, Birmingham, and her friend and neighbor, Mrs. Mary B. Schultz, 6074 Livernois, Troy.

They embarked on the college adventure last September with some trepidation. Nearly 20 years out of high school, they were starting a tough new kind of college with a class of 18-year-olds.

EVEN THE faculty of brilliant young Ph.D.'s, was junior to them by an average of five years. In fact, there is a campus gag that the instructors are collaborating on a book entitled, "I Was a Teen-Age Faculty Member for MSUO" (average age is 33).

The students not only have accepted them as friends, but seek their advice on affairs of the heart or help in making dates. And the faculty seems older now. Vera Ashare says, "because they're giving us things we don't know, and their scholarship and their great interest make the experience so exciting."

Nevertheless, they find it is no picnic to keep house and keep up in a college whose goal is to produce critical thinkers and whose program is as rigorous as any in the country. Both bring their husbands to college dances but have to confine other extra-curricular activities to housework, with which husbands and children help. Mrs. Schultz has the aid of her mother, but both do their own cooking.

MRS. ASHARE admits that one evening an unventilated stuffed eggplant blew up in the oven while she was immersed in a western civilization assignment. But Charles Ashare, 11, probably expressed a unanimous sentiment when his teacher asked the class whether mothers should go to college. Charles testified proudly that "she still cooks and cleans as well as she used to."

They do most of their studying after the children have gone to bed. And like teen-agers, whose habits of concentration they are re-acquiring, they may even stay up all night preparing for an exam.

Mrs. Schultz, whose husband is a design engineer in Temprite products, Birmingham, has three boys: John, 11, Steven, 9, and David 7.

ALL SWELLED with pride when she brought home two A's and two B's for her first quarter's work, for they had approved her college-going in the first place. She had felt it would be better than an insurance policy to get a degree so she could teach first grade, which she hopes to do.

Mrs. Ashare, whose husband, Sam, is in partnership with her father in Arturo's restaurant in Detroit, doesn't know what she wants to do; she's fulfilling a long-held wish to go to college. It was Mary Schultz' decision to go that gave her the courage to face the teen-agers.

Her only son, Charles, is in John Schultz' class in the Johnson Niles elementary school in Troy, and every academic triumph or reversal that either mother experiences immediately becomes the common knowledge of the sixth grade, as well as the stuff of argument for a continuing debate on the relative maternal smartness. Charles is doing pretty well. His mother also got two A's and one B, but a C-plus in English. But he excuses that because she was penalized for handing in theme late.

Troy's two successful homemaker-co-eds stand in surroundings that have become as familiar as their kitchens. Mrs. Vera Asher, 2121 Chalgrove (left) and Mrs. Mary B. Schultz, 6074 Livernois have both made the honor roll for their first term at MSUO, Rochester. Neither has missed a step in performing their domestic duties, both families report.

NEED SOMETHING FOR YOUR HOUSE? Then locate it by reading or using the Classified Ads in The Eccentric each week.

'Y' Class Still Has Room in the Water

There is room for five more men and women in the Y.M.C.A., sponsored adult swim class which meets Monday evenings at Barnum pool, from 8 to 9 p.m.

Swimming instruction is open for members 18 years and older. The cost for eight weeks beginning Jan. 25 is $8 per person. Bill Pratt is in charge of the class. He is assisted by Bill Phillips, senior at Seaholm high school. The class is primarily for beginners and intermediate swimmers.

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3- THERE'S GOOD ICE FISHING ALMOST EVERYWHERE YOU GO IN MICHIGAN. HOW MANY LAKES CAN YOU CHOOSE FROM IN THE WATER WONDERLAND?

4- HOW DO YOU GET YOUR FREE COPY OF THIS SPECIAL MICHIGAN SKI MAP THAT LISTS AND DESCRIBES ALL OF MICHIGAN'S WINTER SPORT CENTERS?

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QUIZDOWN ANSWERS
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4- MAP: Ski MAP, Michigan Tourist Council, Mason Building, Lansing 26, Michigan

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$125,000 Proposal For DPW Unit On Troy Ballot

TROY—Troy voters will get a chance to sound views on the administration's proposed $125,000 DPW building and site, commissioners decided Monday night.

They agreed by a 5-2 vote, to place the issue on the April ballot. The issue was defeated last April by 1,390 to 1,286.

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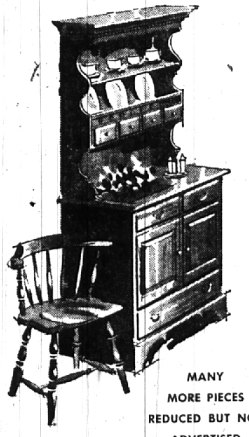

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