

Ankeny Community Theatre  
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# COUVLE

*A Comedy in three Acts by Neil Simon*

**October 11 & 12  
17, 18 & 19  
8:00 P.M.**

**Ankeny H.S. Auditorium**



## Ankeny Community Theatre

The **Ankeny Community Theatre** is a non-profit community organization dedicated to enhance the field of theatre arts and to bring live theatre to the Ankeny area. We welcome persons who desire to combine their talents of acting, directing, design, construction, and publicity to make our productions possible.

The first production of **A.C.T.** was "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU" in the fall of 1981. Since that time, **A.C.T.** has produced nine other shows including "THE FANTASTICKS," "HARVEY," "PLAZA SUITE," "GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE," "THE SOUND OF MUSIC," "OKLAHOMA!" "INHERIT THE WIND," "THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER" and "GUYS AND DOLLS." We are very thankful and appreciative of the community's support. We are especially grateful for those persons who have tried to attend each of our shows. It is with this base of support and loyalty that **A.C.T.** embarks on another season of shows.

The 1986-87 **A.C.T.** season opens in October with "THE ODD COUPLE," Neil Simon's comedy in three acts made famous as a production on Broadway, a movie, and a television series.

Ankeny's Lakeside Center will be the site of **A.C.T.**'s second production of the 86-87 season, a dinner theatre presentation of "LOVER'S LEAP" by Bill Daly. A hilarious adult comedy of romantic entanglements performed in three acts, "LOVER'S LEAP" is as sure to please the cerebral funny-bone as the fine dinner catered by Ankeny's Asa Hutton is to please the palate. "LOVER'S LEAP" will be presented the first two weekends in February.

"NEW CLOTHES FOR THE EMPRESS" by Eleanor Harder rounds out **A.C.T.**'s 1986-87 season. A play for children with music and song, "NEW CLOTHES FOR THE EMPRESS" is the feminine version of the well-known classical tale entitled "THE EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES." This show will be presented in the Ankeny High School Auditorium on two weekends in late March.

Watch the **ANKENY PRESS CITIZEN** and the **REGISTER'S DATEBOOK** and **NEIGHBORS** sections for announcements concerning next season's offerings and the audition/production dates for each. They come and be a part of the **Ankeny Community Theatre**

# “THE ODD COUPLE”

A Comedy in Three Acts  
by Neil Simon

## Cast

(In order of Appearance)

Speed.....	Dick Russell
Murray.....	Rex Ratzlaff
Roy.....	Dick Wilson
Vinne.....	Erik Erikson
Oscar Madison.....	Richard A. Yach
Felix Unger.....	Steve Stone
Gwendolyn Pigeon.....	Holly Godber
Cecily Pigeon.....	Lisa Ginder

## Act I

A hot summer night

## Act II

Scene 1: Two weeks later. About 11 P.M.

Scene 2: A few day's later. About 8 P.M.

## Act III

The next evening. About 7:30 P.M.

## Scenes

An apartment on Riverside Drive, New York City

## Production Staff

Director.....	J.R. Walker
Assistant Director.....	Dick Russell
Co-Producers.....	Andy Cummings Joyce Lundstrom
Rehearsal Assistant.....	Paula Thomson
Set Design/Construction.....	Bill Shay Frank Weibel
Lighting Design.....	John Cooking The Cast
Board Operators.....	Todd Ashby Mike Miller
Properties.....	Paula Thomson
Shift Crew.....	Dave Ashby Kirk Reeder
Stage Manager.....	Andy Cummings
Program.....	Kaylene Baker
Poster/Program Design.....	Eleanor Bauer
Publicity.....	Duane Anderson Bud Pratt
Tickets/Box Office.....	Randy Ratcliff

## CAST/CREW NOTES

J.R. WALKER (director) was seen on stage most recently as Matthew Harrison Brady in the A.C.T. production of "INHERIT THE WIND." He has also appeared locally as Big Daddy in "CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF" at the Des Moines Community Playhouse, Zorba (the Greek) in "ZORBA" at the Drama Workshop, and Bill Starbuck in "THE RAIN-MAKER" at the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre. J.R. has directed plays for numerous amateur theatre groups around the state of Iowa, including "SUMMER AND SMOKE" for the Drama Workshop and a touring production of "JOHN BROWN'S BODY" for the Iowa Arts Council. He performs occasionally in local films and television commercials, having worked with both Richard Yach (Oscar) and Dick Russell (Speed). J.R. probably began directing at an early age, using comic books as scripts and casting playmates as actors. He later graduated from U.N.I. with a degree in speech and theatre.

**ERIK ERIKSEN** (Vinnie) has appeared in all ten of A.C.T.'s productions: "YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU," "FANTASTICKS," "HARVEY," "PLAZA SUITE," "GEORGE WASHINGTON SLEPT HERE," "SOUND OF MUSIC," "OKLAHOMA!" " INHERIT THE WIND," " BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER," and "GUYS AND DOLLS." Erik also performed in Ankeny's Tradewinds Dinner Theater productions of "THE ODD COUPLE," and "COME BLOW YOUR HORN," and in Des Moines Community Playhouse's "SHENANDOAH." Erik is a curriculum consultant for the Iowa Department of Education. He is president of A.C.T. and also director of Chancel Choir at Ankeny's First United Methodist Church.

**RICHARD A. YACH** (Oscar Madison) is a newcomer to A.C.T., but is familiar with Ankeny and with amateur theater. A former Ankeny resident, some of his favorite past roles have been as Oscar in Tradewinds Dinner Theater production of "THE ODD COUPLE," Jeff Douglas in "BRIGADOON" at Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Chief Bromden in "CUCKOO'S NEST" and the good doctor in "THE GOOD DOCTOR" at the Drama Workshop. During a stint as board member and treasurer of the Drama Workshop, he was able to stage two of his original one-act plays, "BRAVE NEW WORLD 2080" and "ONE WAY." In addition to teaching Economics and Management part-time at Simpson College, Richard produces and writes marketing and training videos and is president of Freedom Forum Productions, an educational video production company.

**DICK RUSSELL** (Speed) directed A.C.T.'s production of "INHERIT THE WIND" and has appeared at the Des Moines Community Playhouse, the Drama Workshop, and the Ingersoll Dinner Theatre in many productions. Dick is an insurance broker whose major interests are theater and sports.

**REX RATZLAFF** (Murray) has appeared in/worked on A.C.T. productions of "INHERIT THE WIND" and "THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER." Before those he was on stage in "THE DILIGENT DAUGHTERS." Rex is an environmental director at the Convalescent Home for Children and enjoys time spent with his children, playing his banjo, and wood burning.

**DICK WILSON** (Foy) portrayed Mr. Meeker in "INHERIT THE WIND" and was also in A.C.T. productions of "OKLAHOMA!" and "GUYS AND DOLLS." Dick is a home improvement contractor who enjoys singing, golf, and woodworking.

**STEVE STONE** (Felix Unger) has appeared for A.C.T. in "GUYS AND DOLLS" as Big Jule, "INHERIT THE WIND" as the mayor, and "HARVEY" as Dr. Samuelson. He has also appeared in numerous lead and supporting roles at the Des Moines Community Playhouse. In playing Felix, Steve is resurrecting the role he played in the Tradewinds Dinner Theater production of "The Odd Couple."

**HOLLY GODBER** (Gwendolyn Pigeon) and her husband Jeff moved from Rapid City to Ankeny in 1985. She is a graduate of Dakota Wesleyan University with a degree in nursing and works at the V.A. Medical Center. Holly went to high school in Anchorage, Alaska, where she appeared in "BRIGADOON," "THE MUSIC MAN," and "CAROUSEL." Holly played Sarah in A.C.T.'s "GUYS AND DOLLS" last year. While living in South Dakota, Holly appeared as an entertainer for the Miss South Dakota Pageant for three years. Special activities include chasing her toddler, Jacob, downhill and water skiing, pottery and craft work.

**LISA GINDER** (Cecily Pigeon) is performing in her second role on the A.C.T. stage. She originally appeared as Adelaide in "GUYS AND DOLLS." Lisa graduated with a double-letter in music from Indianola High School and studied Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota. Lisa plays several instruments, including piano, viola, guitar, and continues to study voice with Carol Stuart-Iverson. Other recent stage performances include "AMAH! AND THE NIGHT VISITORS," in which she performed the role of Amahl at Ankeny Christian Church. Lisa presently lives in Des Moines and is a medical secretary at Mercy Hospital.

**ANDY CUMMINGS** (Co-Producer/Stage Manager) has been in "INHERIT THE WIND," had speaking and assistant stage manager roles in "THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER," and "GUYS AND DOLLS," and is co-producing for the first time for "THE ODD COUPLE." Andy is a truck driver and disc jockey who enjoys racing and building 1/4-scale sprint cars and watching full-size sprint car races.

**JOYCE LUNDSTROM** (Assistant Producer) has been involved in A.C.T. productions of "SOUND OF MUSIC," "OKLAHOMA!" "INHERIT THE WIND," and "GUYS AND DOLLS." Joyce is a secretary with eight children, 11 grandchildren, and two dogs. She enjoys music, singing, sewing, and theater.

**PAULA THOMSON** (Assistant Director) has performed in Iowa and several other states (Georgia, New York, Minnesota, Wisconsin, California) as a pantomime clown, Petunia, and was cast in productions of "MIKADO," "SOUND OF MUSIC," "PRIVATE LIVES," and "RIP VAN WINKLE" in the Cedar Rapids Community Theatre. She enjoys downhill skiing, playing piano, Sierra Club activities, and clowning around.

**JOHN COCKING** (Lighting Designer) has appeared onstage in A.C.T. productions of "OKLAHOMA!" and "GUYS AND DOLLS." He is Ankeny High School's drama director and will direct the Drama Department's upcoming productions of "DON'T DRINK THE WATER" and "PIPPIN."

**TODD ASHBY** (Board Director) has run lights for several A.C.T. productions. He is a senior at Ankeny High School and has worked backstage crews for high school productions of "UP THE DOWN STAIRCASE" and "REHEARSAL FOR MURDER."

**MIKE MILLER** (Board Operator) is an A.C.T. Board member. He is an Ankeny High School senior and has appeared onstage in high school Drama Department productions of "HEAVEN CAN WAIT," "UP THE DOWN STAIRCASE," and "REHEARSAL FOR MURDER."

**DAVE ASHBY** (Shift Crew) helped build sets for A.C.T.'s "OKLAHOMA!" and appeared in "GUYS AND DOLLS" and helped backstage.

**KIRK REEDER** (Shift Crew) was involved in Fort Madison theater before moving to Ankeny. Past productions there include "FIORELLLO," "LILL ABNER," and "BYE BYE BIRDIE." He also worked on and appeared in last year's "GUYS AND DOLLS."