



# the Wager

Suggested for mature audiences

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists' Play Service, Inc.

Tickets...\$4

Dates...August 23, 24, and 25

Curtain...8pm

Place...Old Fred's Building



**"SCT"** Starkville Community Theatre • Boardtown Players

**The Playwright:** Mark Medoff, born 1940 in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, is the son of a physician (father) and a psychologist (mother). He grew up in Florida and did his undergraduate work at the University of Miami, and received his M.A. in English at Stanford, California. Medoff's first play, "The Kramer," was produced in 1973 under an Office for Advanced Drama Research grant at American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. The New Theater for Now series at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles subsequently produced the play. His third play, "When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?" was named Best Play of its season in 1973 after an off-Broadway run of 302 performances. Medoff was received numerous distinguished awards for play-writing, including his second play, "The Wager".

**The Play:** "The Wager" was first presented at the Eastside Playhouse, in New York City, on October 21, 1974 for a run of 104 performances. Under the direction of Anthony Perkins it was the only off-Broadway play to be selected as a Best Play of the 1974 season.

**The Director:** John E. Wells was born in Starkville May 4, 1947 and is presently employed as an Information Technician with the Cooperative Extension Service at MSU. John received his B.S. degree in speech education from Mississippi State, and served four years in the U.S. Navy. Last year, John was guest director for the MSU production, "Where Has Tommy Flowers Gone?"



## THE WAGER

Written by Mark Medoff

Directed by John E. Wells

### CAST

(in order of appearance)

LEEDS .....	Ramond Burgin
WARD .....	Rod Wenzel
HONOR .....	Peggy Brown-Myers
RON .....	Mark Hickson

A university in northern California, the apartment of two graduate students.

The present.

### Act I

Scene 1: Thursday evening

Scene 2: Seventeen minutes later.

### Act II

Late Friday afternoon

### Act III

Scene 1: Seconds later

Scene 2: Saturday morning.

There will be a 15 minute intermission  
between Acts I and II.

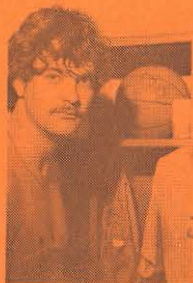


## On Stage Tonight



RAMOND BURGIN (LEEDS) was born and raised in Starkville and has spent nineteen years in professional theatre as an actor, director, and stage manager. Ramond has directed over 50 productions and acted in several hundred. He returned to Starkville last summer, and plans to attend graduate school in theatre this fall.

ROD WENZEL (WARD) came to Starkville from Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He has performed in three productions - "Move Over Mrs. Marcum", "The Gallery" and "Black Comedy" - while with theatre groups in Panama City, Florida and Gulf Shores, Alabama. Rod is Feature Editor for the Division of University Relations at Mississippi State.



PEGGY BROWN-MYERS (HONOR) works in the director's office at the MSU library. SCT audiences will remember Peggy as MARGO in "Dial M for Murder" this past year. Peggy served as assistant director for "To Kill a Mockingbird" in her home state of Oklahoma.

MARK HICKSON (RON) is an Associate Professor with the MSU Department of Communication. He played FLEET FOOT in SCT's last production, "Little Mary Sunshine". Mark hails from Metropolitan Fort Valley, Georgia.



## TECHNICAL CREW

Assistant Director/Stage Manager ..... Dixie Camp

Technical Director ..... Rick Abruzzese

### Set Construction:

Rick Abruzzese, Glenn Vanderbeek, Lisa Vance, Lisa Brooks, Doty Blount, Donna Burch, Peggy Brown-Myers, Larry Myers, Sara Martin, Tom Gunn, Frank Rullan, Shannon Vance, Vonda Tedford, Jan Zeppelin, Julie Gassoway and Margaret Thompson

Props: Lisa Vance, Donna Burch, Frances Watkins,  
Mimi Carter

Lights: Edwin Ellis

Program & Poster Design: Ruth Britt

Publicity & Programs: Margaret E. Anderson

Photography: Dixie Camp

Art Display: Starving Artists Co-op, Brian Hutton, Coordinator (324-0489)

House Manager: Carla Weaver

Box Office: Larry Jones

Tickets: Jan Zeppelin

Hospitality: Frances Heller



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We thank the following persons and businesses for their continued support:

**Baskin-Robbins**

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Special thanks to Richard W. Wise for use of the building this season.



### **“The theatre!**

For the actors that is quite a different, a really significant word.

The theatre is one large family where you live together in closest harmony or where you engage in moral quarrels.

The theatre is a beloved woman, sometimes capricious, ill tempered, ugly and selfish; sometimes facinating, tender, generous and beautiful.

The theatre is an adored child, unconsciously cruel and artlessly charming. His whims demand everything and you cannot refuse him everything.

The theatre is a second home. It nourishes you and it drains all your forces.

The theatre is a source of heartaches and of immeasurable joys.

The theatre is air and wine, which we must breathe in frequently and be intoxicated by.

Anyone who experiences this deep and rapturous emotion will not escape the theatre, as anyone who is indifferent to it had better avoid this beautiful and cruel art.”

STANISLAVSKI