Pomona, George foil villain

By CLINT GOODSON
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Peanut shells and flying popcorn bags provided dramatic unity for the Jones-Baker melodrama, "The Perils of Pamona," performed last weekend in the Jones Commons.

This show, according to its build-up, "caused strong men to weep and gentle women to faint by the dozens."

Nevertheless, the only person who failed to enjoy the humor of the super-situation was Grafton Grindstone, the rogue who ultimately lost his scalp.

Spontaniety Reflected

Maybe it is because the actors involved did not take the play at all seriously that the production was such a success.

The spontaneity of the cast was reflected in enthusiastic audience participation.

"The Perils of Pamona," like any melodrama worth its salt, had innumerable angles that, at long last, converged and cleared themselves up in practically no time. The conflict centers around the sensuous (but, of course, virtuous) half-breed Indian "maid," Pamona.

Find Happiness
She and Southern gentleman George Peyton are in love, but, alas, it seems their union will never be—but wait, maybe... and sure enough, after ridding themselves of the conniving villain, they find eternal happiness.

Jackie McCauley, as Pamona, and Chuck Marstrand, as the lecherous, treacherous Crafton, turned in especially spirited performances. Bob LaChance, as gentleman George, and Kenneth Anthony, as family retainer Salem Scudder, also distinguished (?) themselves.

Angelical Ghosts

One of the more memorable of the many surprising entrances of the performance was that of the angelic ghost of Little Paul, who stood about six-two. Tom Davis positively twittered onto the stage, playing the role of comforter to Pamona to its melodramatic hilt.

The production was more than just fun, though—so says the program; it treated a burning question of the age: Are Indians American Citizens? The metaphysics of the show were at least as impressive as the histrionics.

Rocky McAshan led the audience in song between acts to add a final homey touch. Director Tom Davis and all of his actors deserve credit for their hang-loose and thoroughly enjoyable rendition of a soul-stimulating melodrama.