



John Stuart, who stars in *Jason*, gets a hug from former *Waltons* star Judy Norton, who was helping workshop the local play.

## Get in the (Drama) Zone

Local theatre lovers in for a week-long treat at the Playhouse

It's our turn, and what a year to have it happen. The Zone Drama Festival travels each year to the participating towns, and this year the rotation brought it back to the Prince George Playhouse. It also happens to be one of the most active years for plays in recent memory.

"We have six shows being adjudicated, and we have a high school showcase with some plays from the High School Drama Festival," says Andrea Mallett, chairperson of Festival 2000 and vice chair of the zone committee. "It's a big festival, which is exciting, particularly because last year was so little."

Only three plays entered last year, but this time there are plays coming in from Quesnel, Williams Lake, Kersley, and Prince George. Three of the scripts are original, and of course all the actors are local community players.

"The most (original scripts) we've ever had before is two in one festival, so we are very pleased with three this year. It's going to make things very interesting," Andrea says.

"We have one by Roy Teed from Kersley, and people love his plays. It's called *The Ghost Of Donegal Hetch*, *Whee Hee* which sounds exactly like something he'd write, doesn't it? Russ Frye has one, *My Grandmother's God*, and it just had a run at the Playhouse so if you missed it, this is your chance. Ian Kluge has one, but actually two plays, as well. *Jason* and *Medea* are actually two separate plays, but they are companion pieces and he is running them together for the festival."

The high number of original scripts was a motivating factor in having a specialist come to adjudicate.

Experienced dramatist Libby Mason, one of the

organizers of the Theatre B.C. New Play Competition, will come from Victoria to judge the event and offer feedback to the in-house playwrights.

The Zone Drama Festival runs April 4 to 8. Tickets are available at Studio 2880, Mosquito Books and the host PG Playhouse. A festival pass, good for all plays, is \$40 or \$8 for a single show. All plays start at 8 p.m. plus Saturday matinee at 12 noon.

• April 4 - *My Grandmother's God* by PG Theatre Workshop.

• April 5 - *Rashomon* (A Japanese Murder Mystery) by Second Hand Theatre Company from Quesnel.

• April 6 - *The Ghost of Donegal Hetch*, *Whee Hee* by Kersley Players Theatre Company.

• April 7 - *After Liverpool* and *An Evening of One Acts* (high school showcase).

• April 8 noon - *Medea & Jason* by Ursa Major Productions of PG.

ductions of PG.

• April 8 evening - *Daughters* by Williams Lake Studio Theatre.

Gates Open 7:00PM **Park** Show At 8:00PM  
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**WARNING:**  
 EXPECT AN EVENING OF FUN & LAUGHTER!

Tickets are \$25 each available at:  
 UNBC Bookstore, Mosquito Books at Parkwood Place,  
 or Books & Co. on Third Avenue

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Schedule is for Friday, March 31st - Thursday, April 6th  
**DAILY MATINEES UNTIL SCHOOL STRIKE IS OVER!**

	PG	1:30	4:30	7:05	9:30	Violence
1 Mission to Mars	PG	1:30	4:30	7:05	9:30	Violence
2 El Dorado	G	1:00	3:00	5:00		
2 Reindeer Games	18A			7:25	9:45	
3 El Dorado	G	1:00	3:00	5:00	7:00	9:10
4 Here on Earth	PG	1:25	4:10	7:10	9:25	
5 The Tigger Movie	G	2:00				
5 American Beauty	14A		4:05	7:20	9:50	
6 Romeo Must Die	14A	1:40	4:20	7:15	9:55	Frequent Violence, Coarse Lang.