'Loose Ends' explores '60s lifestyles

By Caroline Leong

The Interim Performing Arts Center opens its first fall theatrical production this weekend with "Loose Ends" by screenwriter and playwright Michael Weller.

The play opened Thursday with performances today, Saturday and Oct. 11-13. All performances are at 8 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center at 30th and Burt streets.

"Loose Ends" deals with relationships and the struggles of idealism and realism faced by men and women in the '60s.

Because the play involves relationships, director Suzanne Dieckman said she chose her cast by the "look, sound and chemistry," of their characters.

Arts senior Frank Kosmicki and Arts sophomore Jayne Vonahme will play the leading couple as Paul and Susan, respectively.

After four weeks of rehearsals and preparations, Dieckman said she's satisfied with her 11-member cast.

Not only are they "hard working and flexible in taking suggestions and trying new things, they show realism and depth within their characters," she said.

To help build their characters, Dieckman said she uses improvisation with the actors. This allows them to "discover new dimensions of relationships between their characters and what happens on stage," she said.

Discovering one's character is a process of growth and development, she said. But their characters have been strengthened and conveyed as real because of their hard work and openness to suggestions.

The actors have been critiqued by Dieckman and Weller, who attended their Sept. 13 rehearsal.

Although their "talent, willingness to explore and enthusiasm" help to develop their characters, Dieckman said that their growth and discovery will continue during the performances, too.

Panel discussions after today's play and the Oct. 11 and 13 performances will be held in the Performing Arts Center for interested audience members.

Tickets are $3 for Creighton students and $5 for others. Groups with 10 or more can purchase tickets at $2.50 each. For more information, call 280-2636.