Theater Review

"Candida" depicts romantic struggles in turn-of-the-century England

By Steve Budd
Let's Go Editor

"Candida," a play by G. Bernard Shaw, is the first production of the year by from the Department of Fine and Performing Arts. The department's production of "Candida" distinguishes itself with fine performances all around.

Set in turn-of-the-century England, the play is centered around Candida, played by Sonia Keffer, her preacher-husband James Morell (Terry L. Doughman), and the situations which develop when a young poet falls in love with Candida.

The poet, Eugene Marchbanks (Douglas Hayko), offers a compelling challenge to the previously stable relationship between husband and wife, especially in the way the formerly unchallenged ideas of the husband are called into question.

Candida herself is presented with the challenge of having to choose between the safety and comfort offered by her husband, and the spirit and passion offered by the much younger poet.

The performances of the main characters are very good, especially that of Douglas Hayko. He gives a strong, convincing portrayal of the emotional poet desperately in love with Candida.

Eugene Marchbanks (Douglas Hayko) and Candida Burgess Morell (Sonia K share an emotional scene in "Candida."

Photo by Stephan

In supporting roles are Amy Harmon, David Dufek, and English professor Thomas Kuhlman. Each give very credible performances and are quite effective at bringing some humor into the otherwise somber play.

The set deserves mention, since it was of outstanding quality. The l sitting room in Victorian England authentically presented.

Furthermore, the characters' c tumes are without any perceptibl as well as the hairstyles and make

Overall, "Candida" is marked solid performances and an authen