

JAN 25 2007

'Sweet Trials' Drama Returns To UD-Mercy Stage

The University of Detroit Mercy (UDM) Theatre Company production of "Malice Aforethought: The Sweet Trials," will be presented February 2-18 at the Marygrove College Theatre in Detroit, 8425 W. McNichols at Wyoming.

Written by Arthur Beer and

3 produced and directed by David
5 Regal, the play is based on the
7 1925-26 trials of Dr. Ossian Sweet
and his brother who were charged
with murder after shots were fired
into a crowd menacing the home
of Dr. Sweet. One man was killed
and another injured. The Sweets

were the first black family to
move into a previously all-white
neighborhood.

Famed attorney Clarence Darrow
defended the Sweets thanks to funds
raised by the NAACP and other
civil rights organizations. Frank
Murphy, who a decade later became
Michigan's governor, was the trial
judge. The case remains a landmark
in the civil rights movement.

The 20th anniversary production
is the centerpiece in a series of
events happening at and around
The University of Detroit Mercy
celebrating Black History Month.
Several panel discussions and
lectures about civil rights and
the effect of the Sweet Trials are
scheduled. For information, visit
sweettrials.udmercy.edu.

Marygrove College alumni and
friends can attend a special dinner-
theatre presentation on Saturday,
February 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the
Madame Cadillac Building. A special
feature will be a presentation by
former Macomb County Prosecutor
Carl Marlinga on civil rights and
the courts. The show will begin at 8
p.m. Dinner theater tickets are \$25,
available by calling Diane Puhl at
(313) 927-1443.

"Malice Aforethought: The Sweet
Trials" runs Friday and Saturday at 8
p.m.; Sunday at 2 p.m. Regular tickets
are \$20, senior citizens \$16, UDM or
Marygrove students \$5; and all other
students \$9.

The box office is located in
Reno Hall on the UDM campus, W.
McNichols at Livernois. For tickets,
call (313) 993-3270.