

'The Sandwalk' to be presented as this year's H.O. Burdick Memorial Program

3/22/04

The Sandwalk, an award-winning play, will be offered instead of the traditional lecture for this year's H.O. Burdick Memorial Program, sponsored by the Division of Biology at Alfred University. It is scheduled for 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 6, in Holmes Auditorium, Harder Hall, on the Alfred University campus. Presented by the Guild Players Touring Company of Bennington, VT, The Sandwalk is about the controversy that raged between Charles Darwin and his creationist wife, Emma, over the publication of Darwin's book *Origin of the Species*. The play, which won the Vermont State Playwright's Award, was written by actor/director David Paul Simon, who co-stars with his wife Judith Ewing in the production. The annual H.O. Burdick Memorial Program, which usually features a noted speaker in the fields of biology or medicine, is named in honor of a former biology professor and researcher who taught at Alfred University for a number of years. His daughter, Carol Burdick, assistant professor of English emeritus, will introduce the production of *The Sandwalk* with a colorful story about family life in the 1930s when her father taught evolution at Salem College in West Virginia.