Don't miss Snap Shots, Neglect Guare

Snap Shots: by Ralph Fredericks; starring Donna Lee Franklin, Laurie Zallen, Linda Denne, Kathryn Kirkwood, Jean Comstock, and Irene Devlin; directed by Christopher Povich, now at the Boston Arts Group Main Stage.

Six women spend their working lives processing other peoples' frozen moments of happiness. We focus on their Christmas party in the lounge of the Ashworth Pharmacies Photo Developing Lab and view an exploration of their psyches in the hands of playwright Ralph Fredericks. In this snapshot of their lives, the truths they fear to reveal are developed and mounted for all to view in a witty and touching style.

Toni (Donna Lee Franklin) is a pre-programmed "convenience-packaged" nothing. Taking for granted her subjugated position relative to her husband, she can hardly be expected to listen to the feminist proclamations of Bea (Laurie Zallen) — it is not her role to think. Ms. Franklin is excellent at creating the timber of of this character: a slightly pretentious posture and a plastic smile that says nothing but ex- coves the brain from producing anything further.

Vicki (Linda Denne) is a serious lesbian, but for the twins of Kathryn Kirkwood's Madeline, who drinks, bitches, and deludes herself in an expert performance. Ms. Kirkwood creates a mock-superior air, exuding victim condensation, but the un- folding drama unmasks her. In a drunken, frenzied state she reveals the photos of the thirty men who have "fucked" her, curtained as "only proof that someone wants to lie with me."

Jean Comstock brings out the hypocrisies of Dot, a middle aged prude. With fruity voice she projects a moralising character: a slightly pretentious posture, a plastic smile that says nothing but ex-

The star of the evening is without doubt Irene Devlin at Carol. Touching and true, she portrays the only member of the sextet who understands most. Mistreated by. she has been, she is rated low by all, yet it is she who understands most. Mistreated by all, her presence is vital to adjusting the faces of the others. A fey one of them, she is the only one to give a Christmas present with her heart, yet she is rejected, the noise of the others' ignorance overpowering the signal of her genuine gesture.

John Guare's Bosoms and Neglect is about relationships - primarily that between a mother, Henry (Lenka Peterson), and her son Scooper (Richard Kaynarugh). Henry has had cancer for two years when Scooper discovers it - she did not have the trust to confide in him during the period her breast (or "bosoms", as she prefers to call it) was being eaten away. She enters a hospital, Scooper has a hysterical (as in wild) scene with Dierdre (April Shawhan). Having vented his fury by ripping up her beloved collection of bound books and being stabbed by her in return, guess what? He finds himself in a hospital pith his mother, whom he now tries to induce to suicide. The explanation of this mess finally arrives at the close of the play. By this time, however, it is too late, for without the explanation, despite the competent performances of the cast, all seems stupid and incomprehensible, and with it, the whole is unbelievable. There are many cheap laughs which will be enjoyed by all those with an I.Q. of less than 20, a few instants of sharp and meaningful wit, and a great deal of tedium.

- Jonathan Richmond

on the town

Movies

Chinatown, the Midnite Movie, Sat., Dec. 1, second floor of the Student Center. Thgis weekend SJC screening.

Lord of the Rings, Fri., 7 & 10, and Sat., 2pm, 26-100.

Captain Blood (Classic), Sat., 7:30, 10-250.

Forbidden Planet, Sat., 7 & 9:30, 26-100.

What Do You Say to a Naked Lady?, Sun., 6:30 & 9, 26-100.