

Ballet pros share skills

For aspiring dancers, even the thrill of being in the spotlight can barely match the excitement of working with the pros.

That's how it was when several dozen area ballet dancers gathered at Birney Junior High School in Southfield for a workshop with three dancers from the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. And work is the key word in such an event.

early afternoon, dancers strained both minds and muscles to absorb what the pros offered. Coupled with the perspiration was a tremendous sense of awe.

Hilary Cartwright, company teacher for the Canadian group, led the workshop. Not only did she demonstrate the exercises and steps with seemingly endless vitality and skill, she explained the reason-

ing behind some of the moves, the kinds of subtle shading and the means of gathering power for lifts and jumps.

"Although strength is usually associated with men (dancers) girls have to have it too," she told the dancers.

ALONG WITH Ms. Cartwright, Royal Winnipeg stars Eric Horenstein and Evelyn Hart joined in the workshop. Both in plain

black leotards were hardly distinguishable from the master class students, until the movements began.

It was then the total control, perfection of line and vast physical resources shown outright.

Even in relatively basic movements and combinations, Ms. Hart's arch of the leg was like the branch of a willow tree, bending to the most aesthetically perfect position.

Horenstein's jumps and kicks were higher and easier looking than anyone had a right to anticipate. The local dancers

watched, stretched, copied and learned some of the secrets which separate fine amateurs from the great dancers.

The workshop, presented by the Metropolitan Ballet of Michigan, was co-sponsored by Southfield Parks and Recreation, the Southfield Board of Education, Southfield Arts Council and Michigan Council for the Arts.

THE METROPOLITAN BALLET was founded in 1974 by Delores Allison as a non-profit organization. Ms. Allison, who was very much in evidence at the workshop, set out to develop new ballets and generally stimulate the performing arts through her company.

Since its founding with 20 dancers, the company has performed throughout the metropolitan area.

Auditions are on a state-wide basis. The same five groups are cooperating to sponsor master classes, a lecture demonstration and a reception with members of the Joffrey Ballet Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Birney Junior High.

That day, there will be three master classes for varying levels of dancers beginning at 10 a.m. Tickets for the classes are \$5, \$10 for the lecture demonstration and \$2 for the reception at the Presidential Center with Joffrey himself as reception guest. For ticket information, call 354-9603.

Deremo honored

Carl Deremo, a Farmington Hills realtor, was installed as a director of the National Association of Realtors during the association's annual mid-winter meetings.

Deremo, a partner in Real Estate One, 29630 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield, will assist in formulating association policy and determining the thrust of realtor programs. He will serve a two-year term as director. He is a governor for the Realtors National Marketing Institute, one of the nine affiliates of the national association. He served as president of the Western Wayne-Oakland County Board of Realtors in 1961.

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Woodwind quintet surmounts obstacles

By GRETCHEN McHUGH

February is woodwind quintet month in Oakland County. The last of a clump of woodwind quintet concerts in the area will be given by the Detroit Woodwind Quintet Sunday, Feb. 19, in the Bloomfield Township Library at 3 p.m.

Billed as a "family concert," it will last an hour, be suitable for children and include works by Haydn, Bach, Hindemith and Milhaud. A talk with oboist Sylvia Starkman, founder of the group, revealed not only that this is the oldest continually existing woodwind quintet in the area (10 years), but also that the group's make-up is good news to busy professionals who wish they had time for music.

Of this group of five, two are medical doctors—Flutist Kathleen Chase is doing a residency in anesthesiology, and bassoonist Ira Leventer is a practicing pediatrician.

Both Mrs. Starkman and clarinetist Lauran Mitchell teach woodwinds, and both hold graduate and undergraduate music degrees from the University of Michigan. Ms. Mitchell is a music editor and indexer for "Music Index" in Detroit.

Carl Karoub, the group's French horn player, is director of the International Youth Symphony in Windsor as well as band director in the Allen Park school system.

ALL FIVE PLAYERS are or have been professional musicians. They have performed with the Detroit Symphony, the Detroit Concert Band, Center

Symphony, Oakway Symphony and orchestras in Dallas, New Orleans and Toledo. The group is in residence at the Detroit Community Music School.

"Our rehearsals and performance schedules revolve primarily around the doctors' schedules," said Mrs. Starkman. "Between sick babies and brain surgery, our rehearsals are subject to change without notice."

The Detroit Woodwind Quintet plays mostly "in libraries, museums and for Detroit Chamber Music Workshops," she said. "We don't play for private occasions, such as weddings or parties—without exception."

WHEN KATHLEEN CHASE, who not only started studying medicine since the group's inception, decided to get married, the group's gift to her was one from the heart. They played her wedding music, and she walked down the aisle to Bach chorales played on oboe, bassoon, clarinet and horn.

The perseverance and enthusiasm of such a group could be incentive to anyone with an instrument packed up in a case in the attic.

Go upstairs, dust it off, grab the telephone, and consider playing a little chamber music to chase the winter doldrums. The Detroit Woodwind Quintet will show you how it's done Sunday.

The program will include Haydn's Divertimento No. 1 in B flat; Milhaud's La Cheminée du Roi Rene, Bach's Chorale Prelude, S. 659, and Hindemith's Kleine Kammermusik."



Members of the Detroit Woodwind Quintet are (from left) Kathleen Chase, Sylvia Starkman, Carl Karoub, Ira Leventer and Lauran Mitchell.

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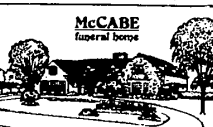
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