

'Good Evening' planned for 'Lunch 'n' Theater'

For the first time in Troy, a specialty store will present theater. Saks Fifth Avenue in Somerset Mall, Alfred's Restaurant and Jimmy Launce Productions will produce shopping, lunch, fashion and theater in one package.

Beginning Wednesday, and every Wednesday thereafter, "Lunch 'n' Theater" will be offered at Somerset Mall, with reservations through Saks. Valet parking, coat checkroom facilities, a buffet, fashion show and a show beginning at noon and letting out before 3 p.m. are included.

The menu features spinach salad, fresh vegetable medley, quiche lorraine, crepe a la reine, chateausse, tea and or coffee.

The fashions are from Saks, and the show is "Good Evening," a revue of off-the-wall British humor written by Peter Cook and Dudley Moore. John Powers and Fred Buchhalter will co-star in "Good Evening."

Tim Tobin, spokesman for Saks, said, "We're pleased to present such an interesting, entertaining, concept to Troy. We feel it is in keeping with our interest in the area's cultural growth and our dedication to our Troy Somerset customers."

Reservations are being taken through Saks at 643-9000, ext. 274. Ticket price includes tax and gratuities.

Actor finds life easier on stage than on the road

(Continued from Page 1D)

In "St. Mark's Gospel," but he was clearly delighted.

"It's a great honor. I was the first person in the performing arts to be booked for the odd show (not on a season's schedule) for the School of Performing Arts," he said.

Tolayo was chosen from among 200 actors who auditioned in New York for the one-man show, "St. Mark's Gospel," conceived by Alex McCowen in London.

Speaking of his theatrical future, Tolayo said, "You can't get much better than what I have now, a one-man show. I don't think I'll ever top it."

In "St. Mark's Gospel," he works on a stage with only a table and three chairs for props. These props become "a thousand things" during the evening.

The story is St. Mark's Gospel, the King James version. In the show, he tells about the last three years of Jesus' life. As the storyteller talks, the characters become vivid.

"WE ALL KNOW the characters very well, or in our imagination. We relate to it," Tolayo said. He strives "not to color or editorialize. If you recognize it, it would not be a theater piece. It would be a Billy Graham lecture."

Among the shows Tolayo appeared in during his stint from 1970-71 at Meadow Brook were "The Rainmaker," in which he played Jimmy Curry,

the son ("I'm in the lobby," he said, referring to one of the blow-ups of the actor's face), "The Andersonville Trial," "The Crucible," "Pygmalion" and "Skin of Our Teeth."

To him, a role is important for what he can learn from it.

"Being a star is meaningless," he said. "If it happened, you take advantage of it."

"Stardom is power, necessary to do what you want with your integrity."

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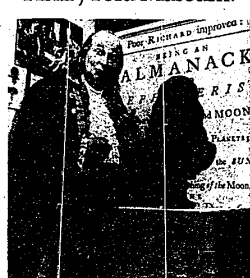
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