Meadow Brook stages stimulating drama

Performances of the Meadow Brook Theatre production of The Magnificent Yankee by Emmet Lavery continue through Nov. 70 on the Oakland University campus near-Raghester. Fpr. Licket informa-tion call 377-3300.

review

The Magnificent Yankee' is far from great theater, but it offers an ingulting evening's entertainment full of lively repartee, engaging characters and historical anecduses.

We Americans are insatiably curious about the private lives of the great and near great. This 1945 withtage biographics about the private lives of the great and near great. This 1945 withtage biographics and closes in 1933 when FDR pays an inauguration-day visit to the venerable destricted and patriotic homes.

PETER BRANDON does a creditable job as Holmes, the erect Bostonian whose view of the law as a living thing the parts on the High Court. The play presents at the domestic date of Holmes life during the years he sat on the Supreme Court, years framed by

the presidencies of the willful Roosevelts. The Magnificent Yankee opens when Holmes is appointed to the court in 1902 during Teddy's years in office and closes in 1933 when FDR pays and closes in 1933 when FDR pays and closes in 1933 when FDR pays an inauguration-day visit to the venerable. PETER BRANDON does a creditable job as Holmes, the errect Bostonian whose view of the law as a lively 61 years old when the shore view of the law as a living thing has shaped American jurisprudence and the playment of the law as a living thing has shaped American jurisprudence with the playment of the law as the property of the server ocally produced albums don't bring fame, fortune



Shella Landis of Rochester has produced and released her fourth album, "Singer/Songwriter."

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"If a big record store chain in Minneapolis wants a thousand of your records, and you're crazy enough to send those thousand records, you don't know If you'll ever see any of your money."

Jack Brokensha, the vitisk who was once a member of the internitionally known and off-recorded Australian Jazz Quintet in the 1950s, knows the pifalls of the record business as well as anyone.

His last self-produced album was "Nice & Easy" on his own MSI label. Investing in an album for him silke advertising for a major brand company.

"It's part of the general business side of the music business," Brokensha sald. "If you work clubs a lot, the first thing a club owner wants to know is if you have a record. It's just good public relations.

BROKENSHA, a West Bloomfield resident, has also helped some local musicians produe their albums. However, his wife Shirley, whom Brokensha refers to as the 'practical' non in their family, said it's painful for her to watch young musicians spending large amounts of money in pursuit of what may only be a fantasy.

"Musicians have the Hlusion of selling 30,000-40,000 albums," she said, "when they are lucky to

sell three or four hundred.

"Recording an album is a very expensive proposition, and in the old days the record companies used to pay for them. Of course, you still paid for it, but not up-front like today."

As she finds with her husband's records, Shirley Brokensha said that distribution is the one problem local musicians cannot easily overcome. "Many local musicians can get a few of their albums in the record stores but the stores don't say, "Bring me a hundred records and I'll put them up on the wall along with a big poster."

"They don't want to hear about that. They want a rock record or something in the Top 40."

Nevertheless, musicians continue to record albums and many still have the big dream of getting a national hit, national distribution and a recording contract with a major record company.

Most are not, publicly at least, that naive. "We're not out looking to make a big name for ourselves and lots of money." Katlenies sald. "We're just looking for something to keep us going as a band. A record is a finished product that tells people everywhere we've arrived"







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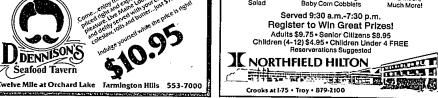
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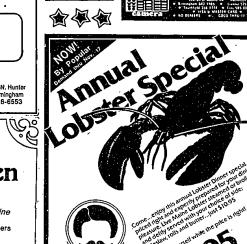




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