

Film scores, lasers a treat

By Robin Gaines
Special writer

You didn't have to be a symphony buff to appreciate the entertainment spectacular performed Friday night at Meadow Brook Music Festival's Baldwin Pavilion.

The Detroit Symphony Pops, with Kenneth Jean conducting, provided the sounds of "Music from the Great Motion Pictures," while on a screen, at the rear of the stage, a laser show provided visuals to coincide with the music. The concert, which was repeated Saturday, was a sellout.

Opening the two-hour, 15-minute performance with the music of Erich Wolfgang Korngold, the Detroit Symphony Pops performed Korngold's classic scores to "The Sea Hawk," "The Adventures of Robin Hood," and "Captain Blood."

During "Captain Blood," full-color, laser-animat-ed images of a globe, waves, a sword, the British flag, and crossbones were depicted on the screen.

The epic romanticism of Max Steiner's movie scores, "Gone With The Wind" and "Casablanca," were exquisitely performed and, as far as music alone was concerned, the highlight of the evening.

While dry ice vapors hissed through the piano solo in "Casablanca," the brilliance of green laser beams melded with the dry ice smoke and cove-

review

loped the orchestra with an ethereal curtain. The effect was hypnotizing.

ON THE SCREEN, a laser replicas of Tara (Scarlett O'Hara's home) seguing into a United States map — with the south arrowed from the rest of the map and interspersed with a Confederate flag and flames — was a stunning visual that enhanced the already strong musical performance of "Gone With The Wind."

The haunting music of "Obsession" and "North by Northwest," both scores written by Bernard Herrmann, and Miklos Rozsa's "The Last Embrace," were dull in delivery and sparse on visuals.

Another Rozsa arrangement, "See Him," was lavish in its orchestration, with the Detroit Symphony Pops performing the prelude, overture, and "Parade of the Chariots."

With quick-cutting visuals or chariot wheels, running horses and helmets projected on screen, the brass and percussion sections of the orchestra, during "Parade of the Chariots," played with such a frenzy that one could envision Charlton Heston rac-

ing with a vengeance around the coliseum track.

THE ORCHESTRA devoted the second half of the concert to sci-fi music composer John Williams.

Leading off the Williams arrangements was the score to "Superman." With a bird, a plane and the Superman insignia interspersed on the screen with the legendary city of Metropolis, the Detroit Symphony Pops declared the breezy song with a cool, serene detachment.

The highlight of the laser show was during the orchestra's performance of Williams' scores to "E.T.," "Star Wars," "The Empire Strikes Back" and "Return of the Jedi."

With the lasers choreographed by computer to coincide with the music's soft pitches, as well as its crescendos, the laser beams bounced off strategic mirrors located in the pavilion to create effects on the surrounding lawns. The strikes, pots and ahs emitted from the audience were numerous.

Much credit should be given to Image Engineering of Somerville, Mass., for the magnificent show they staged with high-tech lasers.

Not to let the capacity crowd leave disappointed (although it had seemed possible), Meadow Brook closed the evenings festivity with a fireworks display that was by far one of the best of this year's season.

outdoor concerts

MEADOW BROOK MUSIC FESTIVAL
At Baldwin Pavilion, Oakland University campus near Rochester. Free parking. Ticket information at 377-2010.

Tony Bennett and the Count Basie Orchestra
8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17
Pavilion #17, lawn #11

Pat Boone with special surprise guest
8 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18
Pavilion #17, lawn #11

Conway Twitty with special guest Reba McEntire
8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19
Pavilion #14.50, lawn #12

Thompson Twins with special guest Berlin
8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20
Pavilion #13.50, lawn #12.50

Shera Easton
8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 21
Pavilion #14.50, lawn #12

SUMMER NIGHTS
At Outdoor Courtyard, Troy Hilton, Troy. Cover charge \$5 per person.

Coconut Grove
8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 17

PINE KNOB MUSIC THEATRE
At Pine Knob in Clarkston. Season ends late September. Tickets at all Ticket World outlets. Pine Knob Hotline 647-7790.

Paul Simon
8 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16
Pavilion #16.50, lawn #10

Neil Diamond
8 p.m. Friday-Tuesday, Aug. 17-21
Pavilion #21 (sold out), lawn #16

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PJAZZ
At Pool Terrace, Hotel Pontchartrain, Detroit. Ticket information at 965-0200, Ext. 3068, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Tito Puente All-Stars
6:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 20
Reserved \$9.75, general admission \$8.50

Sun Messengers
6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22
Reserved \$7, general admission \$6

NEW CENTER SWINGS
Free concerts in New Center Park at Second Avenue and W. Grand Boulevard in Detroit. Free parking. In case of rain call 872-0188 for concert location.

Wayne State University Jazz Lab Band
5 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18

DETROIT CONCERT BAND SUMMER FESTIVAL SERIES
Free concerts Thursdays evenings through Aug. 16.

7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16
Sousa Memorial Band Shell, Michigan State Fairgrounds, Woodward Avenue at Eight Mile Road, Detroit

IN THE PARK
Free concert series Thursday nights through Sept. 6 in Shain Park, Maple near Woodward in downtown Birmingham. Sponsored by the City of Birmingham. For more information, call 644-1007 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

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CLOAK & DAGGER
PURPLE RAIN
GHOST BUSTERS
KARATE KID

THURSDAY
8:00 PM
THE REVENGE OF THE NERDS
THE WOMAN IN RED
DREAM SCAPE
CLOAK & DAGGER
PURPLE RAIN
GHOST BUSTERS
KARATE KID

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8:00 PM
THE REVENGE OF THE NERDS
THE WOMAN IN RED
DREAM SCAPE
CLOAK & DAGGER
PURPLE RAIN
GHOST BUSTERS
KARATE KID

SUNDAY
8:00 PM
THE REVENGE OF THE NERDS
THE WOMAN IN RED
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CLOAK & DAGGER
PURPLE RAIN
GHOST BUSTERS
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J.C. Heard Orchestra
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 18

SUN BOWL
At Sun Bowl at Prudential Town Center, Southfield. Free Sunday night concerts sponsored by Southfield Cultural Arts Division and Michigan Federation of Musicians' Trust Fund. For more information, call 354-4717.

Dick Morrow
7 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 19

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS
Free Thursday night concerts at various locations, sponsored by Livonia Arts Commission. For more information, call Livonia Arts Hotline at 425-2327.

Talgate Ramblers
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 16
At Wilson Barn, Middlebelt and W. Chicago roads

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PURPLE RAIN [R] **GHOST BUSTERS** [R] **KARATE KID** [R]

PONTIAC 1-2-3-4-5 [R] **RED DAWN** [R] **DREAM SCAPE** [PG-13]

KARATE KID [R] **CLOAK & DAGGER** [R] **PURPLE RAIN** [R]

PONTIAC 6-7-8-9-10 [R] **SHEENA** [R] **REVENGE OF THE NERDS** [R] **THE WOMAN IN RED** [PG-13]

SHEENA [R] **REVENGE OF THE NERDS** [R] **THE WOMAN IN RED** [PG-13]

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