

"The Producers" (1967), 1 Fri-day night on Ch. 50. Originally 88 minutes. TV time slot: 106 min-

day night on Ch. 50. Originally 188 minutes. TV time slot: 108 minutes. Mel Brooks hit his stride with this daffy comedy about two men who try to produce a Broadway flop as a scam and end up with hit. Zero Mostel and a giddy, young Gene Wilder make a great comedy team and Diek Shawn is a hoot singling "Springtime for Hitler and Germany." Partiatis, verbal games and a sense of the absurd are all her wildout the free for all style the string of the Rating: \$3.

"Harvey" (1951), 9 p.m. Satur-day on Ch. 50. Originally 104 minutes. TV time slot: 120 min-

es. As a movie "Harvey" is a filmed As a movie "Harvey" is a filmed play, but its wistful, gentle humor is in good hands with James Stewart giving, a knock-out performance as Elwood P. Dowd, a sometimes drinker who sees a pooka in the shape of a rabbit. A fine supporting cast of comic veterans make this worth seeing, Stewart has since revived the play a couple of times to rousing success.

Rating: \$3. WHAT'S IT WORTH? ratings guide to the movies

Excellent. . . . \$4

"Breaking Away" (1979), 1 p.m Sunday on Ch. 50. Originally 100 minutes, TV time slot: 120 min-

minutes. TV time slot: 120 minutes.

A surprise hit that offers an original perspective on growing up. The "cutters," working-class kids in Bloomington, Ind. are in competition with the prepple students at the state university. Writer Steve Tesich turned his own experiences into a film that offers insight into class differences, reaching adulthood and the pangs of first love. An annual bleycle race gives the film a visually stunning elimar. Excellent performances throughout, including Denais Christopher as a bi-cycle fanatic, Dennis Quald as a jock whose days on the field are over, Daniel Stern as a young man who never pleases his father and Barbara Barrie and Paul Dooley as Christopher's understanding parents.

Rating: \$3.50.

### Working on miniatures

A miniature version of Birming-ham's historic Hunter House will be the focus of one of the summer mini-ature craft classes, workshops, semi-nars and clinics offered through Aug. 6 at Miniature Makers' Workshop, 1725 W. 14 Mile, Royal Oak. The ongoing courses include in-struction in constructing, furnishing and decorating dollhouses and room settings as well as making miniature

During a two-day workshop led by Pat Bauder and Frank Moroz, stu-dents will construct a one-half-inch replica of the Hunter House. Built in 1822 and restored in the 1840s, the small Greek Revival landmark is in Birmingham's Historic Park.

dolls, collectibles and decorations. For information on dates, fees and registration, call 549-0633.

## Use chemicals sparingly

special writer

The more signs I see of nature expressing lisel in a positive way in my garden, the more I believe in the value of respecting the integrity of the earth and treating it gently. The discovery of two of the highly regarded morel mushrooms right in my astilble bed was the highlight of spring for me. I haven't disturbed the strange-looking visitors and hopefully they will like it well enough to remain, so that next year there will be more morels. I don't know how the mushrooms got there but perhaps the years of mulching with ground oak leaves has resulted in just the proper conditions their growth. It also believe that their growth. It also believe that their growth, I also believe that the growth is the proper conditions and brehelides may have contributed to a favorable environment for them.

Maintaining a clean and a healthy

and herbicides may have contributed to a favorable environment for them. Maintaining a clean and a healthy garden with the minimal use of powerful chemical toxins requires a conscious awareness of the effect of our actions upon our environment. In an effort to achieve the perfect weedfree and insect-free garden, it is too easy to reach for the chemicals.

THE CONSEQUENCES of that de-THE CONSEQUENCES of that de-cision are devastating. Chemicals are polluting and destroying our pre-cious water supply. An international conference on water pollution, re-cently held on Mackinae Island, de-livered a frightening message on the levered a frightening message on the levered a frightening message on the levered as the property of the Great Lakes and throughout the worlds water supply as well. Five hundred people from 40 na-tions gathered to warn us and urge themi-cals and to clean up our rivers and lakes.

have a compared to the large and large a

but if the water supply is a nome well, the homeowner should be concerned over the chemicals applied to the grass or garden that seep directly into the well and then are pumped back into the kitchen faucet.

Even though all this is common knowledge, the quantity of herbicides, pesticides and chemical fertilizers continues to grow. Huge and profitable industries, including grass-praying companies and the manufacturers of these products continued to the continue to grow experience the miracle of the living soil should be even more aware and concerned than most about what is happening in our environment. I suggest we resist buying these toxins and suppress our psychological desire for the perfect weed-free garden and insect-free canvironment.

It makes no sense for us to criticize industry or government for this

It makes no sense for us to criti-cize industry or government for this dangerous situation if we, individual-ly, continue to contribute to the problem.

dangerous situation it we, inovivusally, continue to contribute to the problem.

Fortunately, many companies are answering the demand for new formulas of safe, effective pesticides. In fact, soap has been called the pesticides of the future. Scientists have produced sopas that are extremely toxic to harmful insects but have no effect on beneficial ones, such as bees or lady bugs. They also are harmless to people, pets, birds, wild-life and plants. In addition, they biodegrade very rapidly.

Safer's Agro-Chem Insecticidal Soap destroys spider mites, aphids, whitefiles, mealy bugs and soft scale. I can attest to that as I have been using it very effectively in the greenhouse since last September.

This new product must be applied more frequently and regularly than the high-powered Malathon. But I am impressed with its overall performance and the frequent spraying doesn't concern me since it is totally harmless to me.

The label warras against its use on jades, palms and euphorblas, such as the Crown of Thorn. This product is also safe to use on vegetables, which is even more significant.

MANY GARDENERS are experi-

menting with the use of washing soaps and detergents, but if you should decide to try these home remedies, be aware that they often contain ingredients that may be harmful to various plants.

For several years, tent or web the several years at the beginning of May, I started watching for the first sign of the newly hatched caterpillars as they began chewing on the leaves I immediately sprayed thoroughly with another new product called "Attack," produced by Reuter Co.

This is a safe, effective biological insecticide. The active ingredient is Bacillus thurgiensis, a natural product. Apparently the worms feed on the treated foliage, quickly become sick, stop feeding and die.

Apparently the worms feed on the treated foliage, quickly become sick, stop feeding and die.

Several to the several products on the market for the control of inch worms, bag worm, cabbage worms and gypsy moths.

To make the whole process of spraying much easier, a device developed by Miracle-Gro. Fertillizer Co. is excellent. Just as the advertisement claims, this sprayer docen't clog up. Even though you are advised not to use the sprayer for products other than Miracle-Gro, it seems to work equally difficultied to pour differctive then pesticides. At least pesticides aren't intended or poured directly into the soil. But what does one do when a large section of the wood yaren of one's property is overrun with a menace like False Solomon Seal? It's tough. There are many products that would totally eliminate it, I'm sure, but I'm looking for other ways that are safe and healther.

ONE SOLUTION, seemingly effectively is to encourage more vigorous growth of the areas covered by desirable ground cover, such as myrthe or pachysandra. As these

dandellons.

The use of metal strips, inserted about four to six inches into the soil, does a good job of keeping the

runner roots of the weed out of the area that I'm trying to keep weed free. The barrier also serves to confine the highly invasive weed and maybe if I give it a space of its own, it will be satisfied to remain within

It will be satisfied to remain within those boundaries.

I also pinch off the flower heads before the seeds form and drop to the ground. False Solomon Seal, in addition to having large under-ground spreading root systems, comes up singly as annuals from seeds.

comes up singly as annuals from seeds.

Of course, pulling up weeds by the root, especially when the ground is wet, is a good old-fushioned way of eradication. There are many power full herbiclies that would no doubt wipe out this pest, but I've decided to continue to battle it without speh drastic measures.

MULCHING IS the natural way of maintaining the health of the soil. Decaying leaves go back into the earth and all the nutrients are there earth and all the nutrients are there to promote new growth in the garden. Most gardeners know about the miracles of mulching, the very few weeds, constant soil temperature, moisture retention and more vigorous plants.

All this is true and the process is

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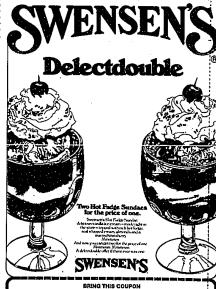
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