

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-983-2108

THURSDAY, JULY 27, 1995 • PAGE 1 SECTION B

FRIDAY



Village Players present "Dancing at Lughnasa."

SATURDAY



The David Sanborn Group performs at Meadow Brook Music Festival.

SUNDAY



Phillip Burgess, Beverly Buchanan present concert of carillon duets at Christ Church Cranbrook.



Hot 113: Summer Music Games July 28-29 in Ypsilanti features North America's top 20 drum and bugle corps.

MORE INSIDE

STREET SCENE: Boris Youth wins over Letapezoza fans.

THEATER: Sally Duback reviews Jumpyart's Arts production of 'Jesus Christ Superstar.'

REVIEWS: 'Clemenza in 'Love and Heaven Remains' can't overcome pretension.

'STAR WRECK' boldly goes for laughs



PHOTO BY BILL HANCOCK

Performances of "Star Wreck" are 8 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday (\$18.50), 7:30 and 11 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Aug. 12, at the Gem Theatre. The early show is \$21.50, the late show \$10.75. Call (313) 963-9800, or any Ticketmaster outlet.

By RALPH ECHELDAY STAFF WRITER

A cast of area actors have set phasers on fun for the world premier of "Star Wreck: The Ghan Saga" now running through Aug. 12 at the Gem Theatre in Detroit.

Based on the Star Trek episode "Space Seed" and subsequent movie "Star Trek: The Wrath of Kahn," the play features characters such as Captain Jerk, Mister Schlock, Ensign Jerkov, chief engineer Spocky.

Also on stage are area actors Kirk Hanley of Farmington as Doctor Decco and Lake Orion resident Julie Van Dusen as McOivers/Saavik.

As Decco, a.k.a. Leonard McCoy, Hanley, can be depended on to deliver familiar lines like "He's dead, Jim" and "I'm a doctor, not a thespian" with all the gusto of their original utterer, Dr. Forest Kelley.

in "What I Did Last Summer." Hanley, 32, didn't begin acting until he attended General Motors Institute in Flint and discovered the engineering school's small theater group, where "there wasn't a lot of competition."

Since college, as a Ford engineer and later a self-employed utility bill auditor, the 1981 Troy-Athens graduate has continued acting. He is also part of the comedy group "Totally Unrehearsed Theater" appearing Tuesdays at the Comedy Castle.

Although never anywhere near being a hard-core Star Trek fan, Hanley has been a regular viewer of the original series, Star Trek: The Next Generation, Star Trek: Deep Space 9, Star Trek: Voyager and the seven extant Star Trek movies.

"Everybody in the cast is a fan of the show," Hanley said. Hence, the play "Star Wreck" is not an insult to the Star Trek universe, but rather a compliment. "We would never put down the show," Hanley said. "I don't think we're laughing at it. I think we're laughing with it."

Van Dusen, 22, plays two characters in "Star Wreck," McOivers, the Enterprise crewmember who falls in love with Ghan, and Saavik, a half Vulcan, half Romulan woman who was portrayed by Kirsty Alley and Robin Curtis in the movies.

Van Dusen said the pointed ears she sports as Saavik are typical of the props used in this parody. "I hope I can get them to stick right," she said.

"Some of the props are just ridiculous, and they're meant to be. I use a hair dryer for a phaser in the first act. Maybe I can style their hair to death."

Unlike Hanley, Van Dusen has wanted to be an actor since she was knee high to a short pup. "Ever since I can remember this is what I wanted to do," she said. "I used to pretend I was Lawrence Welk and put on shows for my grandma."

The Gaylor native now lives in Lake Orion and has 29 credits to go on a performing arts degree at Oakland University. The 1991 Interlochen Arts Academy graduate was named "featured role runner up" by the Detroit News for her performance as Chicklet in "Psycho Beach Party" at Pontiac's Strand Theatre last year.

Leading up to her "Star Wreck" role, Van Dusen has performed this year in "A Bright Room Called Day" (Loft) and "The Fantasticks" (Greenfield Village Theatre).

Other cast members include Danny Jacobs of Warren as Captain Jerk, Dan Glomski of Detroit as Mister Schlock, Daniel Jaroslaw of Sterling Heights as Ghan, Joseph Conat of Ypsilanti as Jerkov and Spocky and Francho Joy of Inkster as Lt. Howarey.



"Wrecked:" Farmington Hills resident Kirk Hanley and Lake Orion resident Julie Van Dusen appear in a Star Trek parody at the Gem Theatre.

SPECIAL EVENT

Jazzfest '95 features best of local vocals

The Birmingham Jazzfest will draw the best musicians from throughout the area for the weekend event. Included in the roster of talent promised are four well-known jazz vocalists. Concerts will be performed in Rhain Park and at the Community House, as well as local restaurants.

Thursday, July 27 to Saturday, July 29. Livorno's Heidi Hopler lends her classically trained voice to an eclectic mix of jazz and Latin-inflected music. Not only does she offer thoughtful readings of many great standard tunes, and spirited interpretations of energetic, Latin-American tunes, but also with her incredible range she offers wordless vocals that approach the ethereal in their haunting beauty.

BIRMINGHAM JAZZFEST. When: July 27-29. Where: Throughout downtown Birmingham including The Community House, 360 South Dimes Street and Rhain Park. Sponsors: (310) 433-FEST. Call Ticketmaster: (810) 643-0836 or The Community House, (810) 944-5832 for July 28 & 29, concert tickets.