## THEATER

## 'Superstar' wins with Jumpstart

"Jesus Christ Superstar," 8 p.m.
Thursday-Saturday, July 27-29; 3
pm. Sunday, July 27-29; 3
pm. Sunday, July 27-20; 3
pm. Sunday, July 32-20; 20
Schmidt Auditorium, 20166 Michael Rod, Livonta. Trkets \$16, senior citizens and groups of 15 omers, \$1380. Call Tichet master (810) 645-6666 or (813) 425-5782. Tickets also available at the door.

Jumpatart The Arts, a program devoted to introducing high school students to the realm of professional the ster, pools Oakland and Waynes and Sallty young talent for 10 published and Waynes at the production of Justice 1 of 10 published and 1 published 1 published

Rice) at Clarenceville High School. In keeping with our American tradition, and the tradition of this particular musical, don't be surprised to find those offended by the show outside forming picket lines of protest.

"Superstar" is under the direction of Kent Dalian (who also portrayed Calsphias quite well). Regarding pace, variety in the show's tension, effective use of space, and details resulting in delicate manipulation of the audience, Dalian does a fine job with his first directorial effort. Musical director Handolph D. Blouse does a splendid job with the sole work in the show, but chorus work seems to lack tightness as far as enuncitation and clarity.

"Superstar" is based on the last

"Superstar" is based on the last seven days of Jesus' life. Kirk Mouser is prime force in this Jumpetart production) portrays Jesus' last seven days with a beautiful and enchanting voice. Mouser's interpretation of "Geth-semans" is outstanding.

Jesus' tension-causing counter-part, Judas, is powerfully played by Jumpsteric Daniel C. Cooney. The title song was performed with sutherity, but other moments in the production ("Judas' Desth" and "Blood Money") better show-cased Cooney's talent and range.



Following: Masses of followers in a scene from Jumpstart the Arts' production of "Jesus Christ Superstar."

## REVIEW

The youth of Oakland and Wayne counties are well-show-cased in "Superstar." Sometimes "nice" comes in the simplest forms, bringing with it unless and warm furnies and the comes of the "nicest," and one of the "nicest," and one of the "nicest," and one and the most popular, it is the condition of the property of this time as Mary Magdalene comforts Jesus. Law is a standout actress perfectly capable of leading the chorus in this landmark song. Law also shows tremendous stage presence with the ever-popular "I Don't Know How To Love Him."

As the days go by, Jesus is brought before Pilate, played by Dan Pinnerty (both of New York).

The scenes with Pilate are

Scan Jenness, and Herod, played by Dan Finnerty (both of New York).

The scenes with Pilate are somber or fever-pitched as Jenness takes masterful command of the stage with a stunning voice. "King Herod's Song" provides Webber's trademark unexpected conic relief as Finnerty two ateps with grand comedic style. Stephanie Myre of Farmington gives the audience a wonderful,

strong volce in "Pilate's Dream" which prophecies Pilate's dilem-

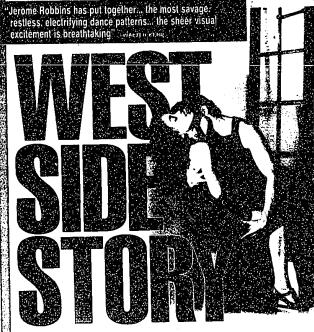
strong volce in "Pilate's Dream" which prophecies Pilate's dillemmant occume.

The show's major dilemma, however, was the unfortunate disadvantage of a truly atrocious sound system that the actors had to everome. Many of the show's subtleties and superb volces were lost; lyrics were alternately not heard or sound blasted the audience out of its seats.

Jumpatart The Arts brings to life the age-old wisdom; if you want to succeed or expand, surround yourself with those a step above your current surroundings.

Jumpatart The Arts does a fine job in doing just that. The ensemble work is terrific, the choreography (Susan Ancheta), especially for the Tormentors, is phenomenal. The movement for "The Temple" and "Superstar" are excellent exercises in concentration. Highlighted youths from our community performed extremely well. Too bad more leads couldn't be filled by the young adults. As this is Jumpatart's first production, perhaps more leads will be filled by young local actors next year.

Sally Dubats of Troy is an an actress, director and teacher, who teaches at community theaters in the metropolitan area.



**3 WEEKS ONLY** September 5 thru 24

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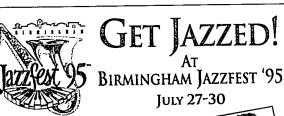
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Rick Margitza

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7:00 & 9:30pm Rayse Biggs & **Harvey Thompson** 

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