Concert from page E1

Detroit bluesman Robert Jones helps out with "Amazing Grace" "They're two of the finest musicians I know, It was like good friends getting together and making music." On the album, Watroba explains the background and the inspiration of the songs. Before going into "Miss the Mississippi,"

he explains it reminds him of his father and the late Gamble Rogers.
"My Sweet Wyoming Home," he jokes, reminds him of "the last-time Gary and Neil and I got together back when we used to ride the rode in the 1930s up in Wyoming."
He delves into his personal life by revealing that the Tom Pax-

ton song "Home to Me is Anywhere You Are" was sung at his
wodding to his high school
sweetheart Kim.

"It was a really cool night. I've
only been talking about doing it
for 15 years," he said about the
recording of "Live at The Ark."

Watroba explained that he is
knored that he's been able to
play The Ark since he was 15.

"In terms of folk music, it's the finest accustic music room in the country. I feel really fortunate that I've been able to play there. People all over the country are dying to play there."

Since that day in high school, Watroba hasn't strayed from his folk sensibilities.

folk sensibilities.

"What's kept me in folk music is it's shared music of our people.

The thing that makes folk music different (from other genres) is that it holds on to the tradition that brought it here. It doesn't seem to change like everything else."

else."

During his career, Watroba has shared the stage with Tuck and Patti, Don McLean, to whom Watroba's voice has been compared, and Donovan.

"He surprised me mainly because I didn't know what to expect. He told me stories for the whole hour and a half between shows."
Watroba has had a successful

career in teaching, radio and per-forming. But most importantly, he's opened for his hero, Paxton.

"That kind of stuff is just pre-

Big Band from page E1

Barnett's 'Skyliner.' We're trying to it out of the realm of songs you always hear from those bands," Kishuk said.

bands, Kishuk said.
Not every number will be played the way you might remember it, either, Kishuk said. The OU group will involve various ensemble, solo and vocal performances. He said some numbers, such as a rendition of Miller's 'In the Mood,' will follow

tradition while others will pur-

tradition while others will pursuo new arrangements.
The student ensemble players will include beginners as well as advanced performers who play around the metro area.
The alumni band will be inviting back several namo performers who studied at Oakland University. Holladay, who now lives in South Carolina, was director of OU's jazz studies program

from 1972 to 1988 and was a member of the Stan Kenton member of Orchestra.

Players coming back include Wait Szymanski on trumpet from New York; tenor saxophonist Scott Peterson from San Francisco; guitarist Steve Carryer, director of the jazz guitar program at Wayno State; tenor saxophonist Steve Wood; tuba player

Brad Felt; and percussionist Jerry LeDuff. Kischuk points to the big bunds of Toshiko Akiyoshi, Mel Lewis, Kenton and trombonist Dimitri Pagalidis as his favorites

Dimitri Pagaitats as me favorites.

The big band sound has had cycles of popularity since its heyday in the '30s and '40s. More recent bands led by Thad Jones and Mel Lowis, Akiyoshi and

that the Motown sound was not his only inspiration. Krieger's musical influences also included Etta James, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Dionne War-

Dreamy from page E1

McCoy Tyner have taken new approaches to jazz in a large ensemble setting, which Kischuk said is necessary to keep the music alive.

"In Detroit you have hig bands that can't get arrested and ... you have Top 40 bands that make \$5,000 a night. It's not so much economics as selling people that you can play other kinds of

music," Kischuk said. "Some peo-ple think, 'This is what a big band sounds like,' but bands can play other things. Certainly, that's what 'Thad Jones was try-ing to do with his big band."

On March 7, the vintage sounds of Glenn Miller and Duke Ellington and the newer sounds of Thad Jones will take center stage at Oakland University.

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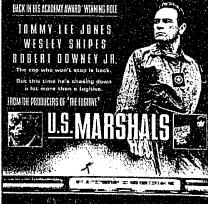
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"Show biz is just show biz, which is the ongoing theme of the show," said Goddard from his hotel room in Cleveland on his one day off. "Everything good and had that happens to the characters is just because it's show biz — a lesson that's proven in real life. In the end, it's just a business."

show bix - a lesson that's proven in real life. In the end, it's just a business."
Goddard, who now lives in New York when he's not on tour with a show, was cast in 'Dreamsirla' as The Dreams' Press Agent, Frank in May '97.
Rehearsals began in August, and the first stop was Providence, R.L. in September.

"Frank is a previdence, "Frank is a present side of the fight of the fight

him about it later. We were mercitess. We know he'd end upbeing an actor."
"None of my siblings went into acting. I was the baby of five, so I had to do something to get noticed," Goddard jokes.
At 8-foot-4, the tallest member in the show, the Greg Bradyclone has no problem getting noticed.
"I only like it when people tell me that I look like Greg Brady and they say he's cute — the younger Greg Brady, that is, before he lost his hair."

In fact, Goddard remembers the time that Barry Williams, who played Greg Brady on "The Brady Bunch," was performing in 'Promisos, Promises' at the Birmingham Theatre in 1988.
"Ever since Julie moved to Birmingham, I always wanted to Birmingham, I always wanted to berform in a show at the Birmingham Theatre," anys Goddard. Though that won't happen now that the Birmingham Theatre is a movie house, the play was the thing when Barry Williams was the thing when Barry Williams was in town. A tennis enthusiast, Williams had his stage manager arrange a tennis game at Franklin Racquet Club. Turns out Williams partner was Goddard's brother-in-law Brad Brettschneider. Williams won.
"You know, customer tennis," says Brad.
Unlike her father, Blair has opted to forgo sports and follow in the footstops of her Uncle Michael. Her most recent performance was with her sister, Lane, in the Birmingham First Theater Guild's production of "Hansel and Gretel."

"I told Lane to practice her

"I told Lane to practice her linea," advised Blair. "And if she misses one, or somebody skips her line, I told her that she shouldn't announce it out loud and nobody will know." Spoken like a true Dreamgirl.