## Troy Players do smashing job

By GAY ZIEGER

Cowboys, Indians and wild West

Cowboys, Indians and wild West shows are not indigenous to these parts, but they are as familiar as the back of the hand.

That is because Irving Berlin has given them eternity and widespread attention in his hit, "Annie Get Your Gun," which has been enchanting audiences for more than 30 years. So it was with the Troy Players' production which opened at Larson Middle School last weekend.

The title role was played lovingly and with defirness by Calty Courter.

last weekend.
The title role was played lovingly
and with definess by Cathy Courtney,
She was pure cute. A bit heistant at the
outset, she warmed up to the part and
soon cauded a kind of good feeling that
pervaded the audience.
From the moment she admonished
her brother with, "Watcha sniffin fer?

Dontcha got a sleeve?" it was clear that the evening was hers. Her voice was pleasant and generally forceful, conveying emotion winningly. She was tough when toughness was called for, but was "as soft and as pink as a nursery" when she realized that, indeed, she couldn't get her man with a gun.

THAT MAN WAS worth getting. Rick Sheemaker made him tall and grand looking. He strutted and swaggered and showed his stuff. It was almost easy to forgive him for wanting a purring mate who undoubtedly would make no greater demands on him than that he scratch her behind the ear on cocasion or make a gift of a ball of yarn for batting about. He was stereotypical male and played the part with ease. Shoemaker's

NORMAN COLBORNE, as Sitting Bull, was a natural. His timing, and es-

voice had an operatic quality reministent of Keel-MacRae-Raitt styles. He could be faulted only for seeming to war a hit, but this seemed true generally, as the first act had greater impact han the second.

In a supporting role, Bob Olesinsti.
In all, it was a grareful production, tilled with much merriment. Dave Hilled with much merriment. Dave Holled with much

## **Embraceable**

Diana Canova and Steve Landesberg, co-stars of "Hold Met" at the Birmingham Theatre, embrace and mean it. "We met on 'Hollywood Squares.' Isn't that Iudicrous?" she said. The loving couple offstage share both tender and tough moments onstage, heading a cast of five in Jules Petifer's comic sketches, vignettes and blackouts. "Hold Met." continues through Saturday.

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## Russia shown on film

"Russia," a country of provocative interest, will be the featured film at The Commonity House in Birmingham tomorrow and Saturday.

Curtain time is 8 p.m. both evenings for the in-depth film study, part of The Community House Travel Film Series. Photographer Dick Reddy, who is noted for unusual aspects in background research, will be on hand to narrate his film.

research, will be on hand to narrate his film.

Beginning with a brief history of the revolution and a visit to the Winter Palace, home of the Czars, Leningrad unfolds to show a cily of parks and lakes, museums converted from former cathedrale, children at Japa, and the great Castle of Peter the First, with 129 fountains and colorful gardens.

Various winter scenes depict the Russian version of Santa Claus and the Christmas tree during the holiday season. Viewers will see interesting scenes of outdoor camping, popular with the Russian people as well as with visitors from other countries. Photograher Reddy has spent six camping/filming expeditions in the Soviet Union.

ARMCHAIR TRANKIERS will will.

ARMCHAIR TRAVELERS will witness life in the countryside, which has changed little over the years. Scenes of women washing clothes in streams and lakes blend with ones of villagers planting and harvesting crops in the old

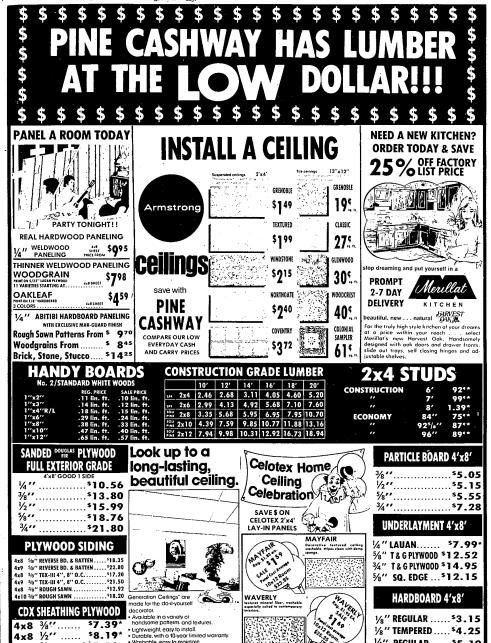
ment store for some comping.

St. Basil's Cathedral, saved from destruction by an architect's intervention, is a must for sightseeng as is a boat trip through Moscow.



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