

Will-O-Way's got a winner in 'West Side Story'

Performances of the Will-O-Way Apprentice Theatre production of the musical "West Side Story" continue at 8:30 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays through Sept. 4 at Will-O-Way, 773 W. Long Lake Road, between Telegraph and Lahser in Bloomfield Township. Tickets are \$5. Senior citizens and children under 12 are admitted for \$2.50. For information and reservations call the box office at 644-4418.

By Margo Parker
special writer

Will-O-Way, Apprentice Theatre

review

takes the plunge with one of the toughest Broadway shows ever written and comes up with a winner in its current production of "West Side Story."

This saga of a modern Romeo and Juliet is energetic, thoroughly rehearsed and effectively staged. The voices of its young performers are

not always strong, they are tuneful and well mixed.

Most notable in this production of the Arthur Laurents/Leonard Bernstein/Stephen Sondheim musical is the chorus of Jets. Their dancing is polished and the voices are strong in the opening number and "Cool." Tony Giorgio as the outstanding number of the show: It's charmingly vulgar and full of energy.

Choreographer Bill Anagnos has borrowed liberally from the original dance design by Jerome Robbins, but that's

OK because it works. The stark, modern movement is consistent with the entire production.

HAL ADAMS and Linda Dierkes are a well-matched Tony and Maria. She's a sweet and shy ingenue who grows to womanhood over the course of the show. He's a dreamer who develops a strong sense of meaning and purpose.

Sal Giannola has just the right rough edge in his voice as Riff, Tony's best friend and his successor as leader of the Jets. Danielle Blanchard Guest is a true friend Anila. Choreographer Anagnos

is slick and sharp as Sharks leader Bernardo.

It is the ensemble performing in this "West Side Story" that ultimately makes it so successful. Director Colia Merrill Turner uses every corner of the set, artfully arranging as many as 40 actors onstage at the same time. The rumble between the Jets and Sharks is fast-paced and violent. "Somewhere" is fluid and graceful, featuring a fine ballet sequence by Tom Nance.

There's little room for criticism with this "West Side Story." Oh, a quibbler might point out that the blank white set is a bit unimaginative or that George

Martin as Detective Schrank slows the pace whenever he steps onstage. The women dancers aren't as strong as the men, a fact that's especially disappointing in the Puerto Rican girls' saucy "America."

But all that's nothing when compared to the marvelous vocal collage of the "Tonight" reprise, to Joel Cohen's amiable grin and gymnastic talent or to Will-O-Way's most effective lighting design of the season.

This "West Side Story" is a complete production — practiced and professional. It's worth seeing.

Fans love even the stagehand at Andy Williams show

By Judy Jablonski
special writer

When a stagehand is applauded for clearing the stage during intermission, it's a sure sign that a) the audience is in a great mood, b) the warm-act has served its purpose or c) the crowd is anticipating the appearance of the featured performer.

The answer was all of the above Friday night when Andy Williams and company gave an outstanding performance to a near sell-out crowd at Meadow Brook Music Festival on the Oak-

land University campus near Rochester.

Singer-comedian-impressionist Jimmy Carrey opened the show for Williams, in the Baldwin Pavilion. Though he's no threat to Rich Little, Carrey is a highly entertaining performer.

The energy Carrey put into his uncanny impressions of Elvis Presley, Sammy Davis, Jr., and Wayne Newton captivated the crowd. He had hundreds of women screaming as he did an exhausting Tom Jones impression, while his hilarious Richard Simmons take-off had the crowd roaring with laughter.

review

THE HIGHLIGHT of his act was a scene enacted from "On Golden Pond," in which he portrayed both the Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn parts. This young man's impression of the old couple was enchanting, amusing and incredible.

It is a rare occasion when an open-

ing act, let alone an unknown performer, receives the applause and reception that Carrey did. It is even a rare occasion when a stagehand clearing the set receives applause.

The stagehand seemed thrilled with the reception he received and played it to the hilt. He balanced a chair with one hand, then the other and then his big finale — he sat on the chair.

The crowd loved this delightful, impromptu moment that probably wouldn't have happened 20 years ago when Andy Williams was attracting crowds dominated by screaming teenagers anxious to see and hear him.

But the times have changed. There were few teenagers in the crowd and Andy Williams has (gasp!) a head of white hair.

What hasn't changed is Williams' powerful voice, charisma and his repertoire of popular romantic tunes.

WILLIAMS OPENED his set with "Moon River," the beautiful Henry Mancini composition that scored as Williams' second-biggest hit.

He followed that trademark song with a dynamic rendition of "New York, New York," which led to a dis-

cussion about cities.

"I've been all over the world, and though I've only been here one afternoon, I can honestly say that my three favorite cities are Paris, Hong Kong and Rochester, Michigan," Williams told the audience.

"And if you believe that . . ."

It's not hard to believe that Williams has 17 gold albums to his credit, only one less than the Beatles. In addition, his television show and specials won him awards and fans as well.

He is best known to today's generation as the man who introduced the Osmonds to the world. Now those toothy tots are toting kids of their own, and their mentor Williams still continues to draw crowds all over the country.

While his Meadow Brook show consisted of many old favorites like his No. One hit "Love Story," "Speak Softly Love" and "Days of Wine and Roses," Williams did perform some new numbers.

HIS POWERFUL rendition of "Memory" from the London musical "Cats" was fabulous. Though there weren't any teenagers rushing the stage, Williams has not lost the charm

that makes for a dewy-eyed crowd when singing an emotional song.

Nor has he lost the ability to excite the female members of the audience when seeking a volunteer to sing a love song to.

He chose a woman seated in the front row who, after introducing herself as "Barbara," cooed to him, "Your eyes are so blue!" It was a humorous and tender moment as he crooned a Hawaiian love song to her.

Williams' gentle manner and powerful voice is an audience-pleasing combination, so it's no surprise that after a five-year absence he has returned to the recording studios to crank out some more romantic tunes.

He treated the crowd to two new beautiful songs, "Regrets" and "When You Fall in Love," then burst into a dynamic rendition of "MacArthur Park."

WILLIAMS CONCLUDED the show with "My Way," an appropriate number for a man whose successful songs and style continue to appeal to his fans.

Though he no longer makes the young girls cry, Andy Williams makes the whole crowd laugh, remember and have a great time.

table talk

BLOOMFIELD Charley's is doing a lively business since reopening last month after remodeling and expansion.

The family tavern at 5556 W. Maple, just west of Orchard Lake Road, in West Bloomfield, has added

a separate dining room by taking over part of the parking lot area. Informal dining is available in the tavern room or the spacious, new dining area.

General Manager Tony Agosta said that many customers think of

Bloomfield Charley's as not just a tavern but as a fine restaurant. He said some diners eat there five nights a week.

— Ethel Simmons

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ON THE TOWN

GENERAL CINEMA THEATRES
\$1.75 Every Evening until 6:00

SOMERSET INN
BURT & DOLLY
THE EROTIC ADVENTURES OF SNOW WHITE

DINER (M)
7:30-9:45
105-315-527

Grand Opening
NEW MANDARIN GARDEN
PEKING STYLE CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mandarin & Szechuen Cuisine

雅叙園

Family Style Dinners
Lunches
Business Lunches
Fast, courteous service
Carry Outs

CHINESE Noodle Show
7:30 p.m. Tues. Thurs. Fri. Sat.

Chef Hwang
35 years - Mandarin Style Cook
Award winner from Omaha Neb.

31539 W. 13 Mile Road at Orchard Lk. Rd. • Westbrooke Plaza
Open 7 Days Lunch Mon-Fri. 11:30-2:30, Sat. 12-2:30
Dinner Mon-Thurs. 5-9:30, Fri. & Sat. 5-11, Sun. 12-9
553-7609

EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

- No Cover Charge
- Dancing 8:30 p.m. - 2 a.m. to live bands
- Piano Bar
- Meet the most interesting people from all over the country
- The place to unwind in a romantic and intimate atmosphere.

COMPLIMENTARY FIRST DRINK FOR ALL LADIES FRI. & SAT. EVENINGS

Holiday Inn
26555 Telegraph Road
Southfield, Michigan 48034
Phone: (313) 353-7700

Q: What comes in lots of flavors? (CLUE: IT'S NOT ONLY OUR ICE CREAM)

A: Lunch!

BREAK LUNCHTIME BOREDOM AT SWENSEN'S. Our menu is full of old-fashioned lunch delights that are a break from the usual.

SWENSEN'S
ICE CREAM & RESTAURANT

FARM HILLS 27841 Orchard Lk. (at 12 Mile) 553-3505

TROY opening Aug 24th
334 John R (Oakland Plaza)

Daily from 11am, Sun. from noon
carry out available

SHOWCASE CINEMAS

STERLING HTS. 3500 VAN DYKE RD. STERLING HTS. 9700 VAN DYKE RD. MONDAY MATINEE 2:00-4:00 PM \$2.00

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN
ET
3D

FRIDAY 15th 3D
Garp
Annie

PONTIAC 1-2-3-4-5 2405 SO. TELEGRAPH RD. PONTIAC 332-0241

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN
ET
3D

FRIDAY 15th 3D
Garp
Annie

PONTIAC 6-7-8-9-10 2405 SO. TELEGRAPH RD. PONTIAC 334-0241

CHIEF AND CHONG
ET
3D

FRIDAY 15th 3D
Garp
Annie

Kingsley Inn Hotel
To Be Certain.

A thoughtful way to welcome visitors or clients is a reservation at the Kingsley Inn Hotel.

We are near all business, sports and educational centers in the tri-county area.

Woodward and Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills
644-1400

WE MAKE TENNIS PLAYERS!!

Keith Cullen's Junior Tennis Academy

- Air Conditioned Facilities
- Outstanding Teaching Staff
- Low Student-Instructor ratio
- Ages 3 to 18 yrs.
- Classes for Beginners through Tournament Players
- Two Week Sessions - Day or Evenings
- 24 Hours of On Court Instruction
- FREE Walk-On Practice Time
- Enrollment subject to approval of Keith A. Cullen U.S.P.T.A.

WE MAKE IT HAPPEN!

SIGN OF THE BEECARVER

SUMMER SAVINGS SPECIAL
SAVE 15%

On Baked Fish, Sea Food, Chowder, Shrimp Cocktail, Chicken or Roast Beef, etc. Present this coupon to our cashier. Complete meal about \$3.95.

- Allen Park
- Bloomfield/Pontiac
- Dearborn
- Eastland Shop, Ctr.
- St. Clements
- Oakland Mall
- Royal Oak
- Westland, W. & 8 Mile
- Southland Shop, Ctr.
- Warren
- West Bloomfield
- Westland Shop, Ctr.

11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. (1 Guest Check Please)
Coupon Good
Now Thru Aug. 22, 1982
Not Accepted After This Date
08-8/12

SIGN OF THE BEECARVER

SUMMER SAVINGS SPECIAL
SAVE 15%

On Baked Fish, Sea Food, Chowder, Shrimp Cocktail, Chicken or Roast Beef, etc. Present this coupon to our cashier. Complete meal about \$3.95.

- Allen Park
- Bloomfield/Pontiac
- Dearborn
- Eastland Shop, Ctr.
- St. Clements
- Oakland Mall
- Royal Oak
- Westland, W. & 8 Mile
- Southland Shop, Ctr.
- Warren
- West Bloomfield
- Westland Shop, Ctr.

11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. (1 Guest Check Please)
Coupon Good
Aug. 23-Sept. 1, 1982
Not Accepted After This Date
08-8/12

Pearl's Garden

Serving the finest in Chinese & American Cuisine

Lunches • Dinners • Carry Out Orders
Chinatown Style Welcomed
Open 7 days a week

Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Sat. 12-11 p.m.; Sun. 12-10 p.m.

469 S. Woodward, Birmingham
644-2913

LAST CLASS: AUGUST 16th
COST \$600 per week

Beverly Hills Racquet Club
31555 Southfield Road / 642-8500
Birmingham, Mich. 48009