

It's easy to guess what happens next



Kathy Hicks scrubs Philomena Somers' back in a scene from "The Women," which the Troy Players will present at 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, June 7-8 and 14-15, at the Troy Community Center. The all-women cast will feature 22 women playing 44 roles. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and students. For more information call 878-1285.

upcoming things to do

MEADOW BROOK

Donna McKetchie, a Royal Oak native, who was in the original Broadway cast of "A Chorus Line," will star in the musical when the national touring company gives eight performances this summer at the Meadow Brook Music Festival on the Oakland University campus near Rochester. Performances will be at 8 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday, Aug. 20-25, with matinees at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 21, and Saturday, Aug. 24.

Meadow Brook also has announced that Jack Jones will headline the concert at which Phyllis Diller will be special guest, Friday, June 28, and that the Ormond Brothers will be the second attraction for the Andy Williams concert Friday, Aug. 9. For more information call the box office at 377-2010.

COCKTAIL CONCERTS

"Summer Nights" outdoor cocktail concerts will launch a four season Friday, June 7, at the Troy Hilton Inn, with the oboe soloist of Hugh Hodge's Trinidad Trippoli Steel Band. The 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. poolside concerts in the courtyard continue each Friday and some Saturdays and Sundays through Sept. 20.

On opening night, radio station WCLB will pick up the cover charge and buy the first drink for everyone from 5 to 7 p.m. Other concert nights admission is free until 7:30 p.m. when a \$5 cover charge goes into effect. For further information call 883-9000.

SUNDAY SOUNDS

Free concerts continue during June from 2-4 p.m. Sundays in the Center Court at Somerset Mall in Troy. The Jack Brokensta Quartet plays June 9, Orthelia Barnes sings with Jimmy Dowell at the piano, June 16; the Buddy Budson Trio with Ursula Walker performs June 23, and Phil Marcus Esner and Barbara Brodus is the attraction June 30.

SCOTT FREE

Folk duo Scott Free will appear in concert at 8 p.m. Friday, June 7, at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, 8000 Woodward, Detroit. Both members of the group sing tenor and play guitar and banjo. They are W. Scott Wilkinson, who was educated in the Birmingham public schools, and is now a senior medical student at Wayne State University in Detroit, and Scott T. Wilkinson, Metropolitan's minister to youth and young adults since 1981, who is also a composer and actor. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for college, \$2 for youth 12-17, and \$1 for children.

FALL SCHEDULE

Seven plays, including dramas, musicals, mysteries and comedies,

will be on the 1985-86 schedule for the Actors Alliance Theatre Company of Southfield.

Artistic Director Jeffrey M. Nahan announced the following shows: the Michigan premiere of "Going to See the Elephant," Sept. 6 through Oct. 12; "The Subject Was Roses," Oct. 18 through Nov. 23; "Miracle Street," Nov. 29 through Jan. 4; "Celebration," Jan. 17 through Feb. 23; "Ghosts," March 7 through April 13; Michigan premiere of "End of the World," April 25 through May 25, and "Fiddler on the Roof," on dates to be announced for June and July. For ticket information call the box office at 642-1326.

JAZZ FESTIVAL

Cranbrook's Horizons-Upward Bound will celebrate the end of its 20th year with a Jazz Festival from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, June 16, at the Cranbrook complex in Bloomfield Hills. Music will be provided by vocalist Ursula Walker and vibraphone player Jack Brokensta, and Midnight Sky, an avant-garde jazz group of seven musicians. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$3 for students. For more information call 644-0985.

SMITH BROS.

Souvenir plays from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. through Saturday, June 22, at Smith Bros. & Co. in Troy.

JAZZ ALFRESCO

Local jazz artists are performing in a free Jazz Alfresco series from noon to 1:30 p.m. each Friday through July 26 in the outdoor Great Lakes Court at Norland Center in Southfield. The schedule continues with the Katalenic Kwek Band, June 7; Orthelia Barnes, June 14; Larry Nozoro Quartet, June 21; Katalenic Kwek Band, June 28; Mike Kneale Quartet, July 5; Larry Nozoro Quartet, July 12; Ursula Walker, July 19, and Mike Kneale Quartet, July 26.

SUMMER FESTIVAL

Master mime Marcel Marceau, screen actor Burt Lancaster, the Canadian Brass and contralto Maureen Forrester are among more than three dozen international stars who will appear at the second annual Ann Arbor Summer Festival to be held Saturday, June 29, through Tuesday, July 23, at the University of Michigan.

Some 45 events and more than 150 hours of entertainment are planned for the festival, which is a salute to the visual and performing arts. Festival events will take place at six locations on the U-M campus. Tickets are available from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily at the Power Center on campus; phone order may be charged by calling 763-0950.

Performances of "A Gentleman and a Scoundrel," comedy by Jack Sharkey, presented by Jimmy Launce Productions, continue Friday-Saturdays through Aug. 24 at Somerset Dinner Theatre at Somerset Mall in Troy. For reservations call 649-1359.

By Barbara Michaels
special writer

In "A Gentleman and a Scoundrel," clothes not only make the man, they nearly prove his undoing. Current offering by Jimmy Launce Productions at the Somerset Dinner Theatre, this comedy of double identity is amusing but very predictable.

Mild-mannered, bespectacled and

conservatively dressed Fred Dickson (Todd Hissong) is a small cog in a corporate wheel, struggling to exist on his meager salary. His attractive boss Jenny Corelli (Mary Whiting) admits he's a nice guy but finds him a romantic bore.

One day Dickson playfully dons a stylish wig, snappy sports jacket and cowboy boots with six-inch lifts and transforms himself into Rick Laredo, a Texas hunk. When Corelli falls for Laredo and offers him a high-paying job as Dickson's assistant, Dickson finds he must keep his Texas alter ego alive.

Act 1 is pedestrian, but the laughs pick up considerably in the next two acts, especially when a misplaced fake mustache shows up in all the wrong places.

HISSONG, WHO appears regularly

table talk

Celebrity chefs

Area celebrity chefs will demonstrate basic and gourmet cooking on an outdoor grill from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at English Garden's nursery and garden center's West Bloomfield store at 6370 Orchard Lake Road at

Maple Road. Everything from ribs to swordfish will be charcoal-grilled by Chef Grey Goodman of 220 Merrill from 10:30 a.m. to noon; Chef Bill Borkov of Bloomfield Charley's from 12:30-2 p.m. and Chef Steve Romanik of Romanik's from 2:30-4 p.m. Food samples will be provided at the free program.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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review

on television's P.M. Magazine, has good comic timing and a pleasant low-key charm. He's especially ingratiating when he directly addresses various members of the audience. Hissong deftly switches from Dickson's high-pitched voice and meek demeanor to Laredo's drawl and winsome grin, and he gets maximum laughs from the ill-fitting cowboy boots that leave him hobbling and wobbling across the stage.

Whiting is very likable as Jenny, a no-nonsense Ms. one minute and a flirtatious Miss the next.

In a supporting role, Jim Hughes is perfect as corporate snoop Basil Pronker, an almost-Dickensian villain.

Director Hamid Dana and his cast cannot be faulted, but they are working with weak material.

Following the curtain call, the lights blink playfully to let the performers change before they come out to greet patrons at their tables. Why not let the

cast come directly from the stage and skip the light show?

Operating under a new format, Somerset Dinner Theatre now features a sit-down dinner catered by Cafe Jardin. The first course is a delicious salad of pasta and spring vegetables in a well-seasoned vinaigrette. The rest of the meal is undisturbed.

THE ENTREE of boneless breast of chicken in cheddar cheese sauce is a modest portion served over rice and accompanied by broccoli. Rolls, served warm, are none too fresh when they cool. Dessert is a gingerbread square with lemon sauce.

Though the waiters were constantly on the move on a recent Saturday night, there were lengthy delays between courses, with the entree arriving lukewarm. While the restaurant awaits its liquor license, the kitchen needs to work out some kinks.

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NEW CENTER SWINGS
in June

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Hotel St. Regis 873-3000	Normandie on the Park 871-5523	

Don't miss this great musical line-up in the New Center Park
(Second Avenue & West Grand Blvd.)

Wednesdays
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
June 12 Trinidad Trippoli Steel Band
June 19 Orthelia Barnes & the Brass Band
June 26 Alexander Zorjic

Thursdays
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
June 6 Trinidad Trippoli Steel Band
June 13 Norma Jean Bell
June 20 Ursula Walker & the Buddy Budson Trio
June 27 Oldies with the Laredos

Free parking for wedding concerts behind the Normandie Building.

Winning smile

Birmingham-based Broadway producer Ivan Bloch is a happy man about his show, "Joe Egg" winning a Tony Award at ceremonies Sunday night at New York's Shubert Theatre. "Joe Egg" was honored as Best Revival, and actress Stockard Channing, who stars in the production, was named Best Actress in a Play. Judith Ivey, appearing in another of Bloch's productions, "Hurlyburly," was chosen as Best Supporting Actress in a Play. In a recent interview with the Observer & Eccentric, Bloch said he especially hoped "Joe Egg" would take a Tony. "Hurlyburly" and "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," also a Bloch production, were both nominated for Best Play, but the



winner — which Bloch correctly predicted — was playwright Neil Simon's "Blind Date."