briefly speaking

● COMBINED CONCERT

The winter concert of the 1986-87 season of the Dearborn Youth Symphony will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Edsel Ford High School auditorium, 20601 Rotunda Drive. Highlight of the concert will be the joint performance with the Windsor International Youth Symphony.

Tickets will be available at the door and are $3 for adults and $2 for students and senior citizens. For more information, call 943-2354 or 278-1390. **● LINCOLN TRIBUTE**

Dr. Weldon Petz of Lincoln Memorial University dispels myths and replaces them with facts when he leads a pilgrimage through the life of Abraham Lincoln in a one-time-only Cranbrook P.M. presentation at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 6, at 500 Lone Pine Road.

Tracing Lincoln's life from his background as a country boy in Kentucky up to his assassination in Ford's Theater, Petz will reveal the human side of the legend through little-known stories, music, slide illustrations and original materials never seen before.

Cost of the lecture is $10. For more information, call Cranbrook P.M. at 645-3635.

● DRAMA JUDGING

The Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College will host the Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association's State High School Finals from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20 and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 21. The contest is free and open to the public. For more information, call 471-7700.

● LIFE DRAWING COMPETITION

Life model Erma Starks will pose for a series of life-drawing classes offered by Norgrafic studios of Northwest Blueprint and Supply Co. Students/professionals who participate can then enter a competition sponsored by Norgraphic. Fee for each three-hour period is $5. Sessions will begin this month. For more information call Jeanne Poulet, 353-5525.

Starks, regarded by many as Detroit's famous life model, will be honored at a reception at Norgrafic's studios on Northwestern Highway 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26.

● BERLIN SYMPHONY

Guest conductor Elner Anderson, music director of the South Carolina Philharmonic, will join Goetz Bernau, concertmaster of the Berlin Symphony in a performance with the strings of the Ann Arbor Chamber Orchestra at 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14 in the Michigan Theater, Ann Arbor.

Tickets are $15, $10 and $6 and are available in advance and at the door. For more information, 998-0066 or 668-8397.

● CALL FOR DRAWINGS

Eastern Michigan University's Art department currently is accepting entries from Michigan artists for "Michigan Drawing '87," a competitive drawing contest and exhibit to be held in EMU's Ford Gallery March 30 through April 24.

Approximately $1,500 in cash and purchase awards will be given to winners of the competition which requires a $15 entry fee with the submission of up to three works in any drawing media.

Judging of the submissions will be by noted Michigan artist Larry Cressman. Deadline for entries is Feb. 21. For more information, call Jay Yager, professor in EMU's Art Department, at 487-0465.

● BLACK HISTORY

In recognition of Black History Month, Madonna College in Livonia will host a public exhibit of original artist's works, "African and Afro-American Art," through Feb. 28 in the college exhibit gallery. Featured artists will be John T. Scott and Frank Hayden. Displayed items will include mahogany and bronze sculpture, lithographs and more. The display will be open to the public, free of charge, and may be viewed on weekdays until 9 p.m. and weekends, 1-4 p.m.

● KARGUL CONCERT

Redford pianist Laura Kargul will be presented in concert at 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13, as part of the Music Guild Concert Series at Metropolitan United Methodist Church, Detroit.

Invited to the Tchaikovsky competition in Moscow, Kargul is recognized as a fine pianist. She began piano study at age 6 with Rebecca Froham of Detroit and made her solo debut with orchestra at 13. As a student of Leon Fleisher and Theodore Lettvin, she received her doctorate from the University of Michigan in 1985.

The church is at 8000 Woodward. There is lighted and supervised parking adjacent to the church. For more information, call 875-7407.

● MARTHA GRAHAM CONCERT

The University Musical Society of the University of Michigan will host Martha Graham and her Martha Graham Dance Company for performances on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 6-8, in the Power Center for the Performing Arts.

The great dance pioneer and innovative artist will accompany her dancers to Ann Arbor for three different programs. Tickets are $15-$18. For more information, call 764-2538.

● TANGLEWOOD AUDITIONS

Auditions will be held in Detroit for musicians interested in attending the Boston University School of Music or the 1987 summer season of the Boston University Tanglewood Institute 3-8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in the Detroit Community Music School, 200 E. Kirby, Detroit.

For an appointment, call 273-6716.

● FACULTY EXHIBITION

The Sarkis Galleries at the College of Art and Design, an affiliate of the Center for Creative Studies, will present the photography faculty exhibition through Saturday, Feb. 21, in the galleries at 2435 E. Kirby, in the University Cultural Center.

Participating artists will be Carlos Diaz and John Ganis, Doug Aikenhead, Connie Bruner, Fred Crudder, Hugh Grannum, Amy Kahn, Bill Rauhauser and Robert Vigiletti. There is no admission charge. For more information, call 872-3116.

● CONTEMPORARY FOLK ART

"The Ties That Bind: Folk Art in Contemporary American Culture" is the title of the exhibition of work by 32 folk artists from throughout the country that will be on view at the Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum until Sunday, Feb. 22.

A mix of more than 50 sculptures, paintings and mixed media are featured.

Museum hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Guided tours are available by advance notice. For tour information, call 645-3323.

● WATERCOLOR EXHIBITION

Fifty-two professional watercolorists are represented in the prestigious Annual Michigan Water Color Society exhibition now taking place at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook, Birmingham.

The exhibition is free to the public. Gallery hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

● BASKETRY SEMINAR

Char TerBeest will conduct a workshop on willow basketry Saturday-Sunday, March 7-8, at Tint and Splint Basketry, 30100 Ford in Sheridan Square. TerBeest is author of Wisconsin Willow-Adventures of a Basketmaker. A basketmaker for 10 years, she exhibits nationally in numerous shows, fairs, galleries and exhibitions. Her work has been pictured in such national publications as Better Homes and Gardens, Country Home and Fiberarts.

For more information on enrolling, call 522-7760.

● ESCHER PRINTS

"Life and Artwork of M.C. Escher" including materials from personal friends of the famous printmaker will be on display in the University of Michigan-Dearborn library through Monday, Feb. 23. An opening lecture by UM-D art lecturer Electra Stamelos is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30.

From stem to stern, Pinafore is smooth ride

By Mary Jane Doerr
special writer

review

by George Bloomfield.

THE H.M.S. Pinafore was launched 109 years ago in London and this Gilbert and Sullivan romp has been sailing full-steam ahead ever since.

It is no wonder when such lyric tenors as David Troiano take the part of the ignobly-born Rafe (the English pronouncing for Ralph) Rackstraw, the smartest lad in all of the English fleet. Troiano did that last weekend at the Marquis Theater in Northville in the newest production and latest offering of the Michigan Lyric Opera that continues this weekend.

Troiano's voice is beautiful and his acting gave enough sense to the nonsense to make his part affectionate and enough intelligence to the satire to make him believable.

In short, Troiano's voice is worth the entire ticket alone, just to hear him sing "The Nightingale," "A Maiden Fair to See" and "Farewell, My Own."

THAT IS NOT say he is the only shining star to grace Ron Diehl's black and white shipshape sets on the Northville stage. He is not.

Jane Schoonmaker Rodgers, recently heard as a finalist in the Metropolitan Opera auditions here in Detroit, was Josephine. In full command of her top notes, her voice fairly sailed over the live orchestra and chorus under capable Douglas Morrison's direction.

Rogers' "Sorry Her Lot" certainly made hope more alive than dead as her acting as her acting strengthened throughout the afternoon. When she brings her middle voice to the quality of the top, she will be singing more opera.

H.M.S. Pinafore was the first great success of the English team in 1878 combining literary and musical satire. In the story, Josephine is the daughter of the well-bred Captain Corcoran (Stephen Sell) and is being sought by the ruler of the Queen's Navy, Sir Joseph Porter, portrayed here in properly detestable fashion

SELL PROVIDED AN amiable leader of this motley group of sailors and sang with a voice that excelled when he was in his range. As the story unfolds, it is learned that Little Buttercup has switched Ralph and the captain as babies, leaving each to live in the other's station in life.

Jennifer Hilbish, as Little Buttercup, was not so round and rosy and was too pretty to be old enough to have nursed the captain and Ralph as babies.

Nevertheless, Hilbish brought some credibility to the part with an acting style that left unmistable hints of the plot's coming events. Her mezzo-voice was clear and powerful.

As boatswain, University of the Michigan student Eric Gibson captured the very essence of the musical. Pronouncedly expressive, he enlivened an otherwise mundane men's *chorus, especially with his patriotic* version of "He Is an Englishman."

Mark Byars was equally effective as the voice of doom — Dick Deadeye. Dorothy Duensing took the role of Counsin Hebe and made it into a bright spot of humor among a chorus that was only adequate when all the leads were on stage.

Joyce Uzelac's stage direction offered humor and movement while being true to the traditions of the operetta. Dolly Scheibelhut's costumes were brilliant.

Gilbert's wit has lost its satirical sting over the years and his phrases have been in use so long we have forgotten from whence they came. Sir Arthur Sullivan's music, however, has never lost its charm — especially when there is talent like David Troiano at the helm.

The show continues this weekend at the Marquis. For more information, call 349-8110.

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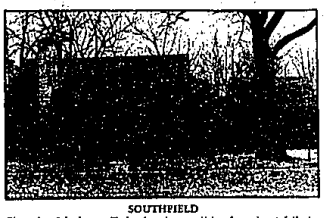

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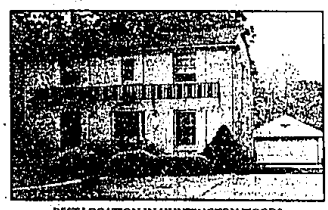

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