

Avon Players superb in 'A Chorus Line'



SALLY DUBATS

Avon Players pools its finest talent for its most recent yield, "A Chorus Line," a concept musical conceived by Michael Bennett through tape-recorded conversations with dancers actual book by Kirkwood and Dante, music by Marvin Hamlisch, lyrics by Edward Kleban).

This show requires a variety of effective personalities to make it work, and the Avon Players' production pinpointed this necessary ingredient. Unlike many musicals, which depend heavily upon either the music, book or dance direc-

"A CHORUS LINE"
Theater: Avon Players, Tenk-mile east of Rochester Road, Rochester
Closes: Saturday, May 22
Discounts: Seniors and students, Thursday and Sunday performances
Curtain times: 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday.
Tickets: \$10, call 375-1390.

tors, "A Chorus Line" is truly a mix of the best of each directoral ability.

The efforts of Director Linda Shepherd and music/vocal director Les George are truly rewarding for audiences. Through their guidance, the funny and sad stories are told of gypsies — dancers

roaming from show to show hoping to be singled out for stardom, all the while trying to blend in with the chorus.

Dance directors Chuck Thompson and Kevin Edwards also offer their best, producing a polished and well-executed chorus in this ensemble production.

"A Chorus Line" is an audition for chorus members of a show about to be mounted on Broadway, and weaves song, dance, comedy and drama into a memorable event.

The Avon Players' production is no exception. Although the opening few moments are low-volume and tentative, the two-hour show glides by as though it were half an hour.

Dennis East portrays Zach, the director given the horrible task of eliminating a few hundred dancers into a chorus of just four "boys" and four "girls." East looks the part, and does wonderfully playing a frazzled director filled with indecision and compassion.

Jeanne De Long is superb as Sheila, the wise-cracking co-relief of the show who is about to turn 30 and is "real glad." De

Long's vocal talent combined with terrific comedic delivery create a strong character who is a joy to watch.

Jennifer Combs portrays Cassie. Almost a star, Cassie wants to return to the chorus, and is the past love-interest of the director casting the show. Combs' singing is strong, and a definite highlight of the show is her performance of "The Music and the Mirror."

Chuck Thompson (dance director) also fills the role of Paul, whose monologue expresses deep sorrow at his parents' inability to accept that he is gay. Thompson's delivery of the monologue is touching, but the technique of lowering his head to convey pain deprives the audience of full impact.

Kristen Ross as Kristine (with partner Steve Lucy as Al) reveals with admirable verve the timid Emory Rabbit of a dancer who can't sing.

Sally Dubats of Madison Heights is an actress, director and teacher, who teaches at community theaters in the metropolitan area. She is artistic director of West End Productions headquartered in Livonia.

Symphony presents Mother's Day concert

Guest conductor Valery Leonov and virtuoso violinist Reiko Watanabe will headline a special Mother's Day concert by the Southfield Symphony Orchestra at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 9, in the Southfield Civic Center Pavilion, 26000 Evergreen.

Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$6 for students and senior adults, and are available from the City of Southfield's Cultural Arts Division at the Mary Thompson Cultural Center, 25360 Evergreen Road just south of the Southfield Civic Center, or by calling 354-4717.

Leonov, currently chief conductor of the National Symphony Orchestra of Bystorussian Radio and Television, and the leading conductor of the Bystorussian Opera and Ballet Theatre, also is a professor of a special opera-symphony class at the Bystorussian National Conservatoire.

He has been the leading conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of the Ukraine Philharmonic Society and the chief conductor of Novosibirsk Opera and Ballet Theatre.

Watanabe, internationally acclaimed for her brilliant technique and expression, was the youngest grand prize winner in the history of the All-Japan Music Competition at the age of 14. Since then, she has earned top honors at the Paganini, G.B. Viotti and Joseph Gingold Competitions and twice won major concerto competitions at Juilliard.

She has performed with the Juilliard Orchestra at Avery Fisher Hall and debuted with the Philharmonia Orchestra in London under Neeme Jarvi. She also has performed with the Syracuse Symphony in New York, Japan's NHK Symphony and in recital in Italy and Austria.

On the Town
DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

BINGO DERBY BINGO
1279 UNIVERSITY AVE. W. WINDSOR, ONT., CANADA (519) 253-1475

\$2150 BOOK SESSIONS
MONDAY-THURSDAY
7:30 P.M., 9:15 P.M., and 10:45 P.M.

FRIDAY
6:00 P.M., 7:30 P.M., 9:15 P.M., 10:45 P.M., 12:15 A.M.

SATURDAY
1:30 P.M., 3:15 P.M., 6:00 P.M., 7:30 P.M., 9:15 P.M., 10:45 P.M., 12:15 A.M.

SUNDAY
2:00 P.M., 4:00 P.M., 6:00 P.M., 7:30 P.M., 9:00 P.M., 10:45 P.M.

PLAY US \$ WIN US \$
\$115000 JACKPOTS

Free Parking

WINDSOR STREET

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Marios
The finest in Northern Italian Cuisine

BALLROOM DANCING

Every Friday & Saturday Evening

4222 Second Avenue, Detroit
(313) 832-1616

Valet Parking - Banquet Facilities

DIETITIAN'S LEGENDARY STEAK HOUSE
REOPENING

CARL'S CHOP HOUSE
3020 GROSS RD. DETROIT 832-0700

Modern Italian Cuisine
A Historic Dining Room
We Satisfy Every Palate

NOV. 1992
NOMINATED
NATIONAL TOP 100
RESTAURANTS

Kyoto
JAPANESE STEAKHOUSE

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Open Early Mother's Day from 12 Noon-9 P.M.
For all those Special Mothers, we'll give you a carnation just for dining with us on your day!

FARMINGTON HILLS (Across from Novi Hilton) 348-7900

DEARBORN (At Fairlane Center) 593-3200
TROY (West Big Beaver Road) 649-6340

"MOM"

Call us, then call her for a great Mother's Day celebration!
Made for Mom Chef Specials. Open Noon - 9 p.m.
Reservations encouraged!

Ciao!

Our newest place for true Italian cuisine!

DENNISON'S
Seafood Tavern

FARMINGTON HILLS - at 12 Mile Rd. & Orchard Lake Rd. • 553-7000
LIVONIA • Laurel Park Place, 6 Mile Rd. & I-75 • 464-9030

ART ON THE AVENUE

DEARBORN, MICHIGAN ~ 1993

A JURIED FINE ARTS FAIR
Over 100 Artisans • Food and Entertainment
SATURDAY MAY 8 10 am to 6 pm
SUNDAY MAY 9 10 am to 5 pm

for more information call Dearborn Community Arts Council 945-3095

Military at Garrison West Dearborn

Give Mom the Very Best

Chef Kamel
Formerly of Opus One & The Rattlesnake Club
Invites you to sample his

Mother's Day Brunch Extravaganza

When: Sunday, May 9, 1993
Where: The Clarion Hotel & Executive Suites
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
RSVP: Reservations Required 553-0000 x430

ADULTS: \$16.95
SENIORS: \$14.95
CHILDREN 10 & UNDER: \$8.95
CHILDREN 3 & UNDER: Free

Clarion Hotel & Executive Suites
Farmington Hills
3145 W. Fairlane Blvd.

Gold Station: Beef and Egg Shrimp, Smoked Loaf, Assorted Cold Cuts, Dressed Eggs, Fresh Fruit, Assorted Breads, Assorted Relishes, Fresh Doritos

Hot Station: Bacon, Sausage, Eggs Benedict, Hash Browns, Au Gratin Potatoes, French Toast, Corned Beef Hash, Roasted Chicken, Grilled Cod, Grilled Turkey with stuffing, Beef Tenderloin, Raspberry Sauce, Grilled Asparagus, Fresh Fruit

Concord Mocha Top Round of Beef, Honey Glazed Ham

Omlette Station Sweet Table

Waterway Cruises, Inc.

Riverboat Cruises aboard The DETROITER

Docked at Stroh River Place

THE DETROITER CRUISE SCHEDULE
Available April thru October

MONDAY - THURSDAY
Lunch 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

FRIDAY - SATURDAY
Lunch 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Moonlight 11:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

SUNDAY
Brunch 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Early Dinner 3:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Come aboard and enjoy paddle-wheel riverboat cruising on the Detroit River.

Cruising daily for both individual and group dining, the Detroit offers a truly unique setting for enjoying Detroit and Windsor's Waterfront.

Mother's Day Cruises Available
FREE DOCKSIDE PARKING
FOR RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION CALL
(313) 567-1400

BLUE JAYS PACKAGE AVAILABLE

Family Bed & Breakfast Weekend

\$99 Canadian Funds

We know how to make families happy - with lots of fun at a remarkable value.

- Any Friday, Saturday or Sunday
- Luxurious accommodations for 2 adults, 2 kids
- Full breakfast • Free parking

Enjoy the use of our indoor pool, sauna and health club. Relax Mom and Dad, we have a kids' playroom, menus, special amenities, and in-room movies for "kids" of all ages. Parking is free, and we're only minutes from the airport.

Subject to change and availability.
Effective April 1, 1993 by calling, toll free
1-800-268-4927
Please book 48 hours in advance.
Taxes extra.

The Bristol Place Hotel
Adjacent with The Park Place Hotel

930 DIXON RD., TORONTO, CANADA (416) 675-9444 FAX (416) 675-4426

Mother's Day
B R U N C H

Spectacular Mother's Day Buffet
at the elegant Radisson Plaza, with long-stemmed roses for Mom and live music for your entertainment.

Menu

International Cheese Display, Fresh Fruits, Fresh Vegetable Crudites with Assorted Dips, Array of Salads with Dressings, Deli Meats, Pates and Terrines, Smoked Whitefish and Lox, Fresh Bagels and Cream Cheese, Chef Carved Rounds of Beef and Ham, Belgian Waffles and Gourmet Omlettes made to order, Fresh Pasta made to order, Scrambled Eggs Florentine, Bacon and Sausage, Cheese Blintzes with Berry Sauce, Saffron Rice, Carrots Vichy, Green Beans and Mushrooms, Baked Chicken with Champagne Tarragon Sauce, Lake Trout with Shrimp and Dill Sauce, Luscious Homemade Desserts, French Pastries and Breads.

Brunch Served 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. Reservations Suggested.
\$17.95 ADULTS \$7.95 CHILDREN 6-10
5 and under are FREE

Treat you and your MOM to a Weekend Getaway at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Town Center. Guest Room rates include breakfast for two at \$69 per night.

Call 1-800-333-3333 or 827-4000

Radisson Plaza Hotel
At Town Center
1500 Town Center • Southfield, Michigan 48075