

'Nutcracker' Will Be New Test

By TIM RICHARD

So far, Plymouth High School's new auditorium has shown itself to be acoustically marvelous, at least for the Plymouth Symphony's first two concerts.

The auditorium will get a new test Saturday at 8 p.m., before a full house, when the symphony accompanies the Severo Ballet Company in Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker." No more tickets are available.

This time, the orchestra will be in the pit. The questions are how well the audience will hear it and how well the young dancers will be able to follow it.

The odds are in favor of an excellent performance.

LAST TIME Sandra Severo's pupils brought "The Nutcracker" to Observers, they danced to recorded music that had to be loud so that the dancers could hear it. The

effect was a high decibel level for the audience, though the overall effect was still delightful.

This time there will be live music. A good performance should be even better since Conductor Wayne Dunlap has demonstrated he can pace the music to the dancers.

Seeing Miss Severo's pupils will be a delight. While no one will proclaim it the Ballet Russe, the fact is that she teaches showmanship. Even

the viewer who doesn't know a pirouette from a kick in the teeth can enjoy the Severo Company.

One tip: You can't see the front of the stage from the front-center of the balcony. Sit higher up.

ONE NICE thing about the Plymouth auditorium is that you can select an instrument you want to hear, concentrate on it, and hear it stand out. In the last concert, for

example, this listener concentrated on the flute section in Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring," then shifted to some of the piano intricacies in Rachmaninoff's "Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini." It's a rewarding experience, especially when the flutist is Nelson Haverstein and the pianist Richard Syracuse.

Of course, you can let it all blend together, too, if you wish.

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