

'Mackinac!' Set For Friday Premiere



FLO KASTON plays the snowshoe lady in the Farmington Musicales' presentation of the original musical "Mackinac!" next weekend. Helping her get her footgear on (or off) are

Joyce Bigelow (center) and Verna Roberts. They play Portia and Cordelia Pickeringe, daughters of a settler.



THE MEMBERS OF the chorus for "Mackinac!" include (front row) Marlowe Belanger, who plays an Indian lady, and Faye Williams.

Back row (from left) are Inge Schaefer, Karen Kelly, Helen Cornell and Justine Noetzel.

Musical Debuts April 13

"Little Man With Star," a musical based on such items of spring as Easter, renewal, happiness and a warm breeze, swings into the Liberal Arts Theater at Schoolcraft College, 18600 Haggerty, Livonia, for the evenings of April 13-16.

Performances are scheduled for 8 every evening except Sunday, April 16, when the show will begin at 7 p.m.

Tickets are available at the campus book store and at the door. Reservations may be made by calling Dr. Lawrence Rudich at the college Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. or Tuesday and Thursday between 1 and 4 p.m.

An original rock drama by Ralph Kelly, Schoolcraft drama instructor, it boasts one of the largest casts ever in a play at the college.

"Little Man," the hero, will be played by John List, a student from Livonia. His girl friend, Jill, is Charlotte LeBlanc, also of Livonia.

Robert, a young man



APPEARING IN the original musical being staged at Schoolcraft College April 13-16 are Charlotte LeBlanc (left) and John List.

returning from the Vietnam war, is Lyn Wajda of Livonia. The role of Mary Mag, a convert of Little Man is played by Sharon Milligan of Plymouth. Robert's suburban parents are portrayed by Jeanette Senkowski and John Torsen.

KEN KLEIN is taking the role of Bill, a street preacher, and Judy Udey of Northville plays the role of another en-

thusiastic preacher who delivers an interesting and breath-taking sermon. James Watt of Livonia plays the young man who is murdered, but won't stay dead.

Twenty other students complete the cast. Musical accompaniment will be provided by Dennis Cop, Robert DiLaura and Martha Kuykendall.

'The Duplex' Opens April 14 At Bonstelle

DETROIT Ed Bullins' play, "The Duplex," billed as "a black love fable in four movements," opens in the Bonstelle Theater Friday, April 14.

The Bonstelle performance schedule is April 14-15, 21-22 and 28-29, at 8:30 p.m., with a closing matinee April 30 at 2:30.

Tickets are on sale at the Wayne State University Theater box office, Cass and Hancock, or at Hudson's. Door sale at the Bonstelle begins one hour before curtain.

"The Duplex" is one of a cycle of some 20 plays Bullins is writing about black life in the U.S. It is about a Negro girl, Velma Best, and her search for love.

Dance Theater

DETROIT The Netherlands Dance Theater, a troupe of 40 young dancers, will come to the Masonic Auditorium at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 12. Tickets are available at the box office and at Hudson's.

Some 32 members of the Farmington Musicales may have given up Easter vacations to appear on stage, but it looks as if the results will be worth the sacrifice.

The 32 are cast members of the original musical "Mackinac!" which receives its premiere performances at 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, April 14 and 15, in Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile, Farmington. It will also be performed June 25 in the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

"Mackinac!" may be performed in Plymouth too. The musicale has been invited to stage the show there by the Plymouth Fine Arts Council, but arrangements for this are incomplete at the moment.

Tickets are going rapidly at \$2 for adults and \$1.25 for students. They are available from cast members and from Mrs. Jack Monahan, 32456 Bonnet Hill, Mrs. Roger Belanger, 22823 Quail Hollow, or Mrs. George Krauss, 24196 Twin Valley Court.

"MACKINAC!" is the result of eight months of research and work by June Rado of Farmington and Charlene W. Slabey of Northville. Mrs. Rado is the script-writer and lyricist, and Mrs. Slabey is the composer. They were asked to write an original musical by the musicale, which is a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Set in the 1820s, it tells of efforts to make a winter on Mackinac Island less boring. Settlers' and soldiers' wives, Indians and few other assorted characters get together to plan some sort of a celebration. Home-made wine and patriotism play an important part in the planning.

When work was begun on the project last fall, the cast members were told that they would have to be around for Easter vacation rehearsals, and they have been rehearsing every day this past week in the school. Before that rehearsals were held, over the last two months, in members' homes. An ability to sew has also been useful. Most cast members made their own authentic-looking costumes. A

Photos By Fran Evert

notable exception is the four Indian outfits, which were made by Bea Scaglione.

THE LEAD ROLE, that of Bessie Pickeringe, a settler's wife whose husband has been missing for several years, is played and sung by Mary Dulmage. Verna Roberts and Joyce Bigelow play her two daughters, Cordelia and Portia.

Margaret Savelly plays Bessie's bad-tempered sister-in-law, Hetty Pickeringe.

Marilyn Truitt plays the Indian matron, Woman Who Breaks Bottles, or "Bottle" for short, and Betty Love is the "grand dame," wife of the garrison captain.

Other cast members are Mary Sue Ewing, Paul Ewing, Astra Kalnins, Flo Kasten, Karen Kelly, Justine Noetzel and George Riekey.

The Farmington Musicales Chorus is composed of Mary Behnan, Marlowe Belanger, Sharon Cardecia, Delores Ciesla, Helen Cornell, Carolyn Dinser, Patricia Hamlin, Alice Kosinski, Kathy Krauss, Zelma Lloyd, Sue McCallum, Jean Nankervis, Janet Piluecke, Shirley Portman, Sylvia Rozin, Inge Schaefer, Shirley Stevens, Lois Swanson and Faye Williams.

THE DRAMA director is Rita Sprenger, formerly a director for the Northville Players Guild.

Marie Walck is general music director, with Beverly Noletine, Shirley Strey and Mrs. Slabey as accompanists. Members of the student hand staff at Harrison will provide orchestral accompaniment. Prudence Tomchak is production manager, with Barbara Kubitskey as stage manager.



HETTY PICKERIDGE, the old-maid sister-in-law in "Mackinac!" is afraid of only one thing—Indians. She looks for a hiding place every time she sees one, and Woman Who Breaks Bottles ("Bottle" for short) looks particularly formidable. Marilyn Truitt plays Bottle and Margaret Savelly is Hetty.



ASTRA KALNINS (left) of the Farmington Musicales plays the fiery little Frenchwoman, Mme. Petite. She and Bessie Pickeringe, the settler's wife, played by Mary Dulmage, seem to be having some disagreements about how to liven up the winters on Mackinac Island.

amusements

At WMU

KALAMAZOO Michael Robinson and Jeffrey Osterhage of Farmington are appearing in the Mart Crowley drama, "The Boys in the Band," being presented this weekend at Western Michigan University's Shaw Theater.



EMILY MUTTER AUSTIN will be featured with the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra at 4 p.m., Sunday, April 16.

She is the first to be so honored in this entire area.

Her performances of recent chamber music have also earned her an invitation to perform in Europe. Last year she was voted Michigan's string teacher of the year by the American String Teacher's Association.

Mrs. Austin began her violin study at the age of four with her father. She has studied with teachers at the University of Michigan music school and in Chicago and New York.

She is a member of the faculty of Wayne State University.

3 Groups Show Films

The film series "Civilisation" by Lord Kenneth Clark is now being shown cooperatively by Oakland Community College's Theater Department, John Wesley College and University Hills Church.

The films are shown each



DICK BENSEK

For a delicious, basic pot roast recipe try the following: Lightly brown 2 3/4 C. chopped onions in 1/4 cup oil over high heat in a Dutch oven; next, add a 4 pound chuck roast and brown evenly on all sides. To the meat add the following seasonings: 1 crumbled bay leaf, 1 tsp. salt, 2 tbsp. grated orange peel (fresh is best), 1/4 tsp. allspice and a dash of pepper. For liquid, put in one can of undiluted, condensed consommé. Tightly cover and simmer over low heat for about 3 1/2 hours or fork tender. To pair with biscuit dumplings, add 1 1/2 cups water to meat and bring to boil. When water is heating, combine in a bowl the following: 2 cups biscuit mix and 2/3 cup milk. When mixed, drop by tablespoonsful around the meat and cook over low heat for ten minutes uncovered - cook ten minutes longer with cover on. Serve immediately with the pan juices as gravy.

Delicious meals are always served at DANISH INN, 32305 Grand River Ave., 476-5320. We have a 33¢ entree menu and our lunch menu features three special daily. Decorated cakes for Birthdays and Anniversaries are part of our service.

HELPFUL HINT: Cranberry-orange relish and an assortment of pickles make a flavorful accompaniment for the above dinner.