



JEFF TAMBOR is surrounded by Barbara Meek, left; Jeanne Knowlton, right; and Melodie Goodman, seated, in this scene from the Wayne State University International Touring production of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." Miss Knowlton is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Knowlton of 19455 Angling Rd., Livonia. Another member of the cast is Robert Tennenhause, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Tennenhause of 17254 Dolores, Livonia.

'Funny Thing' at Bonstelle To Take USO Tour Soon

The musical comedy "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," which the Wayne State University Theatre will present to U.S. servicemen in the Orient this summer, will open at the Bonstelle Theatre for four performances Friday and Saturday, June 16-17 and 23-24, at 8:30 p.m. Money raised will go into scholarship grants for the 18 student actors who will be leaving on the nine-week tour July 7.

Based on the plays of Plautus, "Forum" is a hilarious farce of frustrated romance and mistaken identity. It features music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and dialogue by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart.

The WSU production will feature actors from both the Hilberry and Bonstelle Theatres.

Directing the musical comedy and scenic design will be Russell Smith, who directed the 1962 production of "Where's Charley?" which toured Germany and Italy for the armed forces.

The 1967 touring company will visit military installations in Japan, Okinawa, South Korea, Formosa and the Philippines in addition to spending two weeks in Tokyo to study the Japanese theatre. Sponsors of the tour are:

'Grand Prix' Is Vivid Venture

Squeeze yourself into a Ferrari racing car and zoom down the track at the world's fastest speed of 180 miles per hour. Brake the car, shift it every five seconds, turn and turn the wheel.

"Grand Prix" at the Summit Theatre puts you in the driver's seat all the way with a gusto, leaving you limp before intermission rolls around. You zip into the lobby for a pit stop. Refuel with orange drink or popcorn. You're ready for two more races and some high voltage romantic byplay.

Each race in "Grand Prix" is more spectacular than the one that precedes it. The camera work is superb. Director John Frankenheimer adroitly utilizes special effects from time to time to catch every vestige of visual beauty. The cinematic screen at the Summit enhances his provocative camera work.

"Grand Prix" has its share of gory crash scenes. You'd swear the actors had been actually mangled so realistic is the make-up man's work with pseudo-blood.

James Garner, Eva Marie Saint, Yves Montand and Brian Bedford do magnificent characterizations in the scenes of emotional melodrama that intertwine the rip-roaring racing sequences. Incidentally, these race track drivers are a virile group and love their women in the same devil-may-care fashion as they court death on the track.

For a three hour breathtaking visit to the world of racing, see "Grand Prix." You'll be swept up into the action and be ready to take the trip to the Indy 500 as a real fan before you know it.

—WALLY ROBERTS

Farmington Pops Concert Set June 8

Farmington's East Junior High combined band and choir will present a Pops Concert, Thursday, June 8, at 8 p.m. in the East Junior High gymnasium. Admission is free.

The band and choir will offer a variety of selections from popular and Broadway music. The East Junior High Stage Band will also perform several selections.

The program will include selections from "The Music Man" and the Fantasticks; the Beatles' "Michelle" and "Yesterday"; "Born Free"; "The Shadow of Your Smile"; and Richard Rodgers' "A Symphony Portrait for Concert Band."

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Wally Roberts UP' GOING CURTAIN

Northland Playhouse, after struggling valiantly for more than a decade, has finally given up the ghost. Summer Directors Ernest and Hirtz have already started their precise planning and during the fall and winter months are perilous enough, but the summer season is twice as delicate. The balance between profit and loss is tenuous.

The Barn Theatre near Battle Creek spent its first 10 years building an audience so that it could proudly announce in its 11th season they had "broken even." Now in its 14th season, the Barn Theatre is making a modest profit each year. "The Taste" is the opener. If you never made the trip out to Augusta, Mich., it is highly recommended.

Northland Playhouse's absence will be filled in two ways by the extension of "The Odd Couple" run at the Fisher Theatre during the next six weeks. . . . and the introduction of six productions at the air-conditioned Detroit Art Institute Auditorium. The six shows—mostly musicals—will begin their season on the fourth of July.

"West Side Story" opens July 4 and will play through Sunday, July 9. Producer Bob Adams has indicated his musical comedy productions will be staffed with professionals. Adams operated the Detroit Musical Theatre shows back a decade or so in the Detroit area.

Old Wally's recollection of these Detroit Inn musicals is quite favorable. Why the Detroit Area never really quitted the summer musical comedy idea is a mystery. Maybe the time wasn't right and now in 1967 it is.

Season tickets for the Detroit Summer Theatre at the Art Institute are on sale at Hudsons and the Institute. Call 832-2730 if you are interested in seeing any or all of the following productions: "West Side Story" (July 4-9); "Funny Girl" (July 11-16); "Mary, Mary" with Julia Meade (July 18-23); "Calamity Jane" (July 25-30); "Sweet Charity" (Aug. 1-6); and "Kiss Me Kate" (Aug. 8-13).

The Detroit area summer theater picture still will be bright when we look at the total number of attractions available. Farmington among the coming attractions is the third annual Livonia Summer Musical Theatre production, "My Fair Lady."

Starting in 1967 with "The Music Man," the Livonia Summer Musical Theatre at the Franklin High School has proven to an ever-widening audience that musical comedy in July is fun time.

"South Pacific," the 1966 production, played to six capacity audiences.

"My Fair Lady," the long-run seven years on Broadway prize-winning musical, is the 1967 selection. The opening date is July 26 in the air-conditioned Franklin High auditorium. Tickets to the general public go on sale

July 5 at the Franklin High Box Office from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Melodrama Next For Parkway Junior Players

Time will reverse when the Parkway Junior Players present "Beware Little Nell," On Beaver, June 8 and 9 at 7:30 p.m. and June 10 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Nankin Elementary School.

The musical melodrama written, produced and directed by George Yuhus and Peg Knowles, has a cast of 20 teenagers and 26 pre-teens who portray speaking, choral and dance numbers.

Included in the teen cast are Pat Knowles and Bob Matarazzo as Mr. and Mrs. Loveloy; Ann Varley, Nell Loveloy; Bob Collier, Bert Brumley; Dave Winkler, Jonathan; Missy Walsh, Gertrude Gotsback; Craig Weener, Rev. McBein; Sherry Brumley, Mrs. Pennyworth.

Terry Charlesworth, Claudette; Lynn Rockelman, Mrs. Butsum; Janice Lauder milk; Mrs. Hearl; Joan Rockelman, Mrs. Meek; Jeff Riepelle, Mr. Meek; Linda Wirtz, Miss Wirtz; Nina Truchan; Dora Webster; Chris March; Lettie; Skip

Maier; Grocery Petty; Rick Mullin, Telegram boy; Jim Riley, Sheriff.

Back stage are teen members: Randy Walsh, stage manager; Denise Herron, Jr., director; Pam Yuhus, choreographer; Cindy Blaine, makeup; Marge Peters, hair; Jim Yuhus, stage decoration and L. Varley 425-0788, Mrs. Carthy and Ray Adams.

The flower show will be judged by accredited judges of the Michigan Federation of Garden Clubs and ribbons will be awarded to the winners. There will be no admission charge for the show. The hours are 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Flowers will be judged Saturday.

Members of the Garden City Garden Club and the Garden City PTA Council are working together to present an art and flower show.

The show's theme is "The Garden City Theater of Arts" and will be held on Saturday and Sunday at Cambridge Junior High School. The show will feature over 100 pieces of art from the Garden City Theater of Arts.

Now A Hostess Sharon Liess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O.J. Liess, 22808 Manning, Farmington, recently completed training as a hostess for Braniff International Airlines and has been assigned to the airline's flight crew base at Dallas.

Flower, Art Show Coming This Weekend

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