

# OBSERVER

## AMUSEMENTS

### Redford Gal Cast In Opera

Linda Oakley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Oakley of 16147 Norborne, Redford Township, has been cast in the role of "Susanna" in the upcoming University of Michigan production of "Marriage of Figaro."

The U. of M. Music School production opens in the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater in Ann Arbor Aug. 1. An additional performance is scheduled for Aug. 3.

A 1968 graduate of the University of Michigan, Linda, 21, graduated from Redford Union High School in 1964. She is currently a voice major in the Graduate School of Music of U. of M.

The role she will appear in is that of "Susanna" the bride of Figaro. The comic opera is one of the best known operas by Mozart.

Curtain time for the performances is 8 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased from the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater on July 29 after 12:30 p.m. They are priced at \$3 per person.



LINDA OAKLEY

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### Mom Wins Again

CHATTANOOGA -- A Signal Mountain man who claimed his mother-in-law had made his life "one of misery" filed a chancery court suit seeking to oust her from his home.

He charged that his mother-in-law had interfered with the "rearing and discipline" of his 8-year-old son ever since she had come to live with the family.

His wife had the last word. She filed for divorce two days later.

Michigan's income is approximately two-thirds that of the entire continent of Africa, about one-half that of all South America.

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"THIEVES' CARNIVAL" CHARACTERS -- University of Detroit Summer Repertory Theater Festival will present this French farce at 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday (July 25, 27 and 28) in the air-conditioned Ford Theater of the Life Sciences Building. Charles Noel (upper left) is the chief thief; Frances Muss is Lady Hurt, and Peter Kempel (upper right) is Lord Edgar. Neil Thackaberry (lower left) is an apprentice thief. Tickets at \$2.50 and \$2 are available at the U-D box office.

### Former Livonian Co-Authors Play

To former Livonian Doloras Walker, her real-life story of a small town girl becoming a big city success is hackneyed.

Now a New York theater-writer, Miss Walker deals only in revolutionary plots. At least that is the term used to describe the new mo-

vie, "Recess," which the ex-small town girl co-authored with former Allen Parker Andrew Plotrowski.

IN "RECESS," the talented two have constructed a show with neither plot nor set. First produced off-Broadway last March, the film traces in a series of small vignettes a group of children becoming adults.

Because the film is youth-oriented, it will first be seen at American and European film festivals, followed in early October with openings on five major college campuses before its premiere in New York.

Directed by Rule Johnson, the cast of nine newcomers includes Heather McRae, daughter of Gordon and Sheila McRae.

MISS WALKER left Livonia two years ago and spent the ensuing time as an actress in Maryland and Pennsylvania. She studied directing with Nikos Psacharopoulos at New York's famed "Circle in the Square" and co-authored "Recess" while associated with "Cafe La Mama," New York, training ground for many current theatrical persons.

MISS WALKER met Plotrowski when both were students at Wayne State University. The Livonia author holds a master's degree in English from WSU and worked briefly at Detroit's Vanguard Theater. Plotrowski is a former copywriter for the Detroit-based Campbell Ewald Advertising agency.

Despite its new format, Miss Walker describes her new

movie as "very disciplined, very controlled, ensemble theater."

ALTHOUGH her talents bend toward visual theater, the author has some reservations about writing for television. She has worked in theater since she was 13, but the transference to writing instead of acting plays was "very gradual," she says.

She says that she and her confederate "are still developing style."

The Michigan pair feels their works are more adapted to the off-Broadway theater and are currently polishing their latest script, "Ox-Road" for off-Broadway production. This will be followed by "Muleshoe," a study of burial culture in the early 1940's and described by Miss Walker to be as fully startling as "Recess."

### Ballet Continues This Week

The Meadow Brook Festival continues in its week of American Ballet Theatre appearances in Oakland University's Baldwin Pavilion with performances Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8:00 p.m. and next Sunday, Aug. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

The music is provided by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra playing from the Pavilion pit. The company, cast in Meadow Brook from New York after a successful three-week dance festival with ballets newly mounted for that occasion.

All major stars of the company will be on hand for the Festival performances including Lupe Serrano, Carla Fracci, Erik Bruhn, Toni Lander, Royce Fernandez, and Bruce Marks. Jaime Leon will conduct five of the performances with Andrew Apostole directing the Detroit Symphony for the final ballet Sun, Aug. 4.

Ballets to be presented are "Les Syphides," the "Flower Festival," "Pas de Deux," "Billy the Kid," and "Theme and Variations." Thurs, Aug. 1; "Dances Concertantes," "Fancy Free," and "Etudes" Fri., Sat., Aug. 2-3; "Concerto" and a new two-act "Giselle" Sun, Aug. 4.

Tickets are available at the Festival box office on the grounds, at Hudson's and Grinnell's. Festival grounds open two hours before performances for picnics and buffet service.

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