

A fall rerun . . .

Successful play repeats



The perplexing situation of being both an enemy soldier held hostage and a friend on his captors puzzles Dennis Calandra in the University Summer Repertory repeat of Brendan Behan's Musical "The Hostage".

The stage at Howell Theatre won't have a chance to gather cobwebs this fall because a summer production is being held hostage there.

"The Hostage," still warm from a run during this summer's University of Nebraska repertory season, will be presented Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

The entire cast, with one exception, will appear, but not without some "jet-setting" on the part of some.

Susan Nohr, who plays Meg Dillon in the play, teaches high school drama in Hempstead, N.Y. She flew back to Lincoln in order to repeat her role during the regular school session.

The play's director, Mrs. Nancy Cole, has just arrived this week from Ithaca, N.Y., to direct the play. Her husband is Steven Cole, former NU drama professor who accepted a position at Cornell University last summer.

There has been only one change in the cast. The part of a Polish sailor, played by Clint Jakeman this summer, has been given to Rick Shrimp. Jakeman left for New York last week and could not return.

But the play itself — a bawdy, musical-comedy — will not be changed.

"Every song, every situation which delighted our audiences this summer, will be intact," Dr. Dallas Williams, director of the repertory company, said. "The play was by far the most popular of the season, and we are most happy to bring it to the regular campus community."

"The Hostage" is considered to be theater for its own sake: a circus of flamboyant colors and style. It is a blend of music, dance, theater of reality and theater of the absurd, according to Mrs. Cole.

It concerns an English army private, played by Dennis Calandra, who is taken hostage by an Irish terrorist

group. Brendan Behan, the author, was a member of that group and sought to dramatize the after effects of the Irish Revolution on its people.

"The play is written in light-hearted Irish humor," Mrs. Cole said, "but the emotions of the play and its characters go much deeper than the surface laughter. Actually, Behan is ribbing everyone."

Built within the framework of the University production is a slideshow, designed by NU art student Claud Bery. Nearly 200 slides are projected onto two screens on stage which underscore musical numbers and dialogue.

The overall effect has been termed "collage in the theater" by members of the drama department.

"The Hostage" was one of three plays produced this summer in what was termed a "Repertory Theater of Protest."

The protest label brought some criticism from members of the University community and had some effect on the size of audiences during the summer, according to Dr. Williams.

"We feel that many people misinterpreted the word 'protest,'" he said. "Any play is a protest or it wouldn't have been written. But what 'The Hostage' embodies is good family entertainment, a real experience in fun."

Tickets are on sale at the Howell Theater box office.

Yearbooks ready

Editors of the 1969 CORNHUSKER yearbook announced Tuesday that there are still 1968 copies available. Students who have not received their books from last year may obtain them at the Cornhusker office.

Career Scholars are named

Fifty University students have been named Nebraska Career Scholars this fall.

Dr. Benjamin McCasland, assistant dean of the Graduate College and coordinator of the program, said this brings to 449 the number of students who have participated in this program since it began in 1963 under a grant from the Ford Foundation.

Students are identified for participation in the program on the basis of superior scholarship and an interest in a career in college teaching. They follow a course of study which may lead to the bachelor's and master's degrees at the end of the fifth year of university work, Dr. McCasland said.

New participants include: Boyd B. Bacon; Dennis L. Beckmann; Bruce Blanchard; Joyce J. Boesiger; Amy S. Bouska; Ann Brayton; David Brinkman; Wayne Brinkmen; Mary Bristol; Dwane H. Campbell.

Donald L. Cordes; Jean L. Eberly; Shelley E. Fry; Roger D. Fuchs; Owen C. Gaden; Michael R. Gendler; Karen Gounaud; Irene Gross; John D. Hanson; Richard L. Helms; Susan Henderson; David Holcomb; Linda Keck; Mary Ann Kiellan; Cynthia M. Kuppig; Jane Lind; Monte Lunc; Anne McGough; John Mahaffy; Janice May; Lucinda Meyer; Nancy Jo Miller; Karen Myers; Mary Nelson; Bruce Raymer; Randy Reeves; Elaine Rogge; Robert Schmucker; Susan C. Schulz; Opal Sieg.

Diane L. Smith; Christopher Sorenson; Evelyn Steiner; Marilyn Thackray; Marcian Tronron; James Traut; Alana Turner; Roslyn Wages; Sharon Wentzel; Linda Zech.

English courses undergo change

The fundamental revision in the freshman English curriculum is a change from a predominantly linguistics course to a literature course, according to Kenneth Pellow, co-author of the new curriculum.

In recent years the freshman English program has been a linguistics and language history study for the first semester and an employment of language for the second semester, Pellow said.

"Freshman English will now be exclusively literary in context with composition and language employment incidental to subject material," Pellow added.

Pellow further explained that the course will take a professional view of literature from the standpoint of those who make it their life's work in addition to trying to make literature more profitable and enjoyable for the student.

The new curriculum follows two patterns. It takes literary traditions and traces them through history in literary works.

The second pattern works with themes outside of literature and relates them to literature. Pellow cited linguistics in poetry and rhetoric in literature as examples.

The course consists of eight units, four per semester. Freshmen students can still take the combined course, all eight units, in one semester as in previous years.

THE REASON FOR THE CHANGE, according to Pellow, is that most freshmen will have already dealt with the material formerly offered in freshmen English in high school curriculums.

Pellow added, that in the future, continued use of a linguistics-language history course would be redundant.

According to Pellow, another reason for the change is the difficulty English instructors have encountered teaching a linguistics course when their interest is literature.

The new curriculum gives the instructor more freedom to conduct the course while simultaneously giving the course a clearer direction, Pellow said.

"Because there is more material in the curriculum than can be used, the instructor can be selective in determining what will be taught in his class," Pellow said.

He added, that the same patterns will be followed regardless of the difference in literature. "In this manner, the course will be more tightly knit even though there is great variance in the literature used," Pellow said.

As a result of the curriculum change, Pellow feels that in future years 100 and 200 course level instructors will be able to take more liberties and make more assumptions concerning the background of their students.

Even so, the new freshman English program is an experiment. There is no permanent text. Instead, the material is printed on sheet paper and bound together.

Chances are very high that there will be some change in the next few years, Pellow said. The English department wants to find out from the instructors which parts of the curriculum succeed and which fail, Pellow added.

Debate meeting open to anyone

The first meeting of the intercollegiate debate squad will be held on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

No previous experience in high school or college is required to participate; this activity is open to any University student.

Our Debaters attend about 20 tournaments a year. One of the highlights of this year's program is the National Tournament of Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha to be held in Lincoln during the Easter holidays.

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