

'Butler' opens Friday at Repertory Theatre

Members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Repertory Theatre company will present their second production of the summer season, "What The Butler Saw," at 8 p.m. July 6 in Howell Memorial Theatre.

The play was written by Joe Orton, a popular contemporary English writer who was sick and tired of the usual British drawing-room comedies and decided to write a farce-comedy which would incorporate a "dig" at every modern morality issue and tradition.

Orton's play takes place in an exclusive psychiatric clinic where the main psychiatrist, played by Dana Mills of Hay Springs, is pining for his secretary who has quit. He soon forgets about his secretary when he interviews a young girl, played by Connie McCord, Gretna, for a nursing position.

Not well

However, all is not well when his wife, played by Cindy Wallis, Evansville, Ind., visits the clinic. Things become even more complicated when a blackmailing bellhop, played by Randy Oglesby, Charlottesville, Va.; an ambitious clinic inspector, played by Donovan Diez,

Lincoln; and a policeman from Scotland Yard, played by Carl Beck, Oklahoma City, Okla.; also pay a visit.

What results is a comedy with everyone disguised as everyone else and many uncomfortable and embarrassing moments for the cast, according to William R. Morgan, a professor in the speech and dramatic art department and director of the play.

Adult audiences

Morgan said the humor of the play will probably be most appealing to an adult audience.

"What The Butler Saw" will alternate in performance with two other plays, "Company" and "The Taming of the Shrew," throughout the summer. The dates for "What The Butler Saw" are July 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 24, 25, 27, 29, August 5, 11, 17, 22, 28 and 30.

Season membership tickets are on sale for \$6 which entitle the buyer to see all three plays this summer. All general admission tickets are \$2.50. Group rates are available for groups of 20 or more.

Box office hours are 1 to 9 p.m. every day through September 1. The box office telephone number is 472-2073.

New York's Christ stars in Godspell

Review by Larry Kubert

Godspell is one of the bounciest, joyfully exuberant musicals to hit the silver screen in some time. Originating as an experimental theater project, Godspell moved to off-Broadway and finally to success on Broadway. Godspell is the story of Christ according to St. Matthew.

A modern-day John the Baptist, later to be transformed into Judas Iscariot, (David Haskell) prances into New York over the Brooklyn Bridge pulling a brightly painted cart and calling all those who can hear by blowing on a ram's horn.

Out of the millions, eight young people hear the call, desert the confines of modern society and rush for their baptism in Central Park's Bethesda Fountain.

Superman sweatshirt

Dressed in a Superman sweatshirt, red and gold striped jeans with his face painted like a clown, Jesus (Victor Garber) appears and becomes the group's leader and teacher.

Operating out of a deserted junkyard, Christ proceeds to teach his disciples by use of simple parables and stories. The backdrop of his teachings is New York as Christ and his followers move from one location and lesson to another.

Director David Greene has used song, dance and mime to tell the story and stunning location photography to highlight it. Christ and company dance on the roofs of the Pan-Am and World Trade Center buildings, perform parables at Lincoln Center and the Cherry Lane Theater (the original off-Broadway home for Godspell) and do a soft-shoe routine in front of the Accutron sign high above Times Square.

But the true success of

Godspell rides on the dazzling shoulders of Garber, Haskell and their followers.

The show includes the hit "Day by Day" sung beautifully by Lamont, but Haskell's "Prepare Ye (The Way of the Lord)", Jonas' "Turn Back, O Man", Garber and Haskell's soft-shoe on "All For the Best" and Hanley's stirring "By My Side" are unexpected pleasures.

Judas finally betrays Christ amid flashing red police lights and he is crucified on the junkyard's wire fence.

Godspell is anti-dehumanization and pro-fellowship. It frowns upon involved technology and grins at the simple things such as freedom and goodwill. It looks child-like at the hypocrisies of today's society and says "no, you're wrong".

Godspell delivers a refreshing indescribably joy of life to those who have seen it.

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"HALLELUJAH! THERE IS GOOD NEWS TONIGHT BECAUSE THERE IS A GOOD MOVIE, A MOVIE FILLED WITH WHAT IT TAKES. A MOVIE THAT WILL MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD ALL OVER WHEN IT'S ALL OVER." —Gene Shalit, NBC-TV

"'PAPER MOON' MARKS PETER BOGDANOVICH AS THE MOST INTERESTING YOUNG AMERICAN DIRECTOR! TATUM O'NEAL WILL BE THE YOUNGEST ACTRESS IN HISTORY TO WIN AN ACADEMY AWARD!" —Jon London, Rolling Stone

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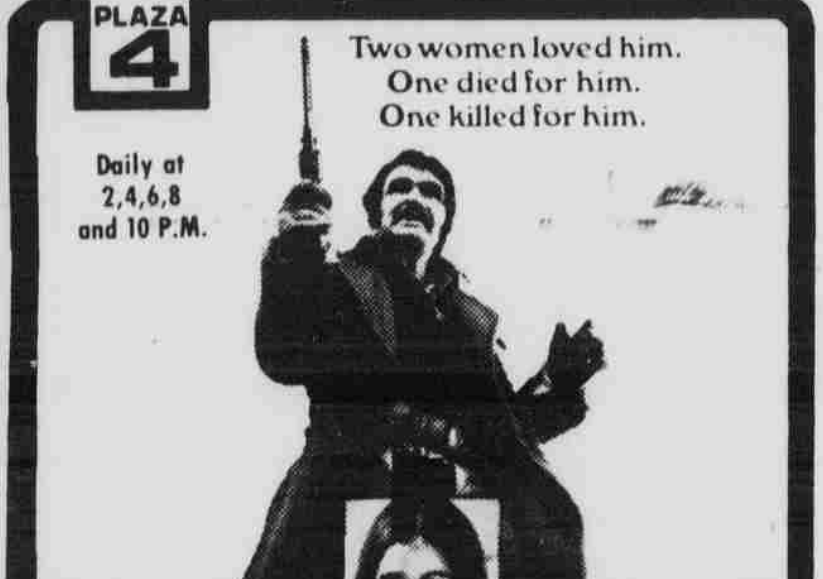
—VINCENT CANBY
The New York Times

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PLAZA 4

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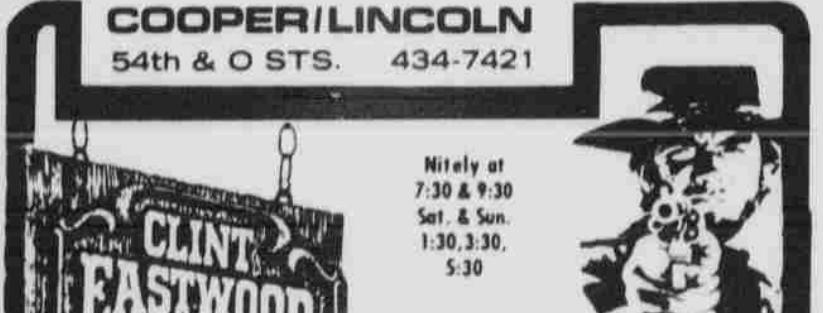
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A UNIVERSAL/MARLBORO PRODUCTION
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NEBRASKA REPERTORY THEATRE ★ 73

Opens: **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW**

Friday, July 6 & Saturday, July 7

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