

## "Mary Sunshine" opening Friday

A satire on the traditional sentimental musical, "Little Mary Sunshine" opens this Friday at Howell Theater. This play features the typical hero, heroine, villain, and plot, only in this play one is meant to laugh at the idiocy of the old plots.

This play is also a satire on the typical depiction of the white forest ranger or soldier as being strong, brave and intelligent, while depicting the Indian as stupid or savage.

In this play the hero, Captain "Big Jim" Warrington, is played by Dave Landis. Jean Thomsen plays Little Mary. The supporting role of Billy Jester is played by Jim Sudik, and Cindy Wallis is cast as Nancy Twinkle. George Hansen plays Chief Brown Bear.

In this play, "Big Jim", a captain of the forest rangers, is on a mission to capture Yellow Feather, the villain in the play.

Yellow Feather is the son of Chief Brown Bear, who has adopted Little Mary, and who later adopts Billy Jester, a member in the rangers. Chief Brown Bear and Yellow Feather are two of the only three members of the Kadota Indian tribe surviving.

Little Mary has persuaded the Kadotas to fight in the courts over the land of Colorado, rather than fighting the government in battle. Meanwhile, the government has threatened to throw Little Mary off her land.

The play naturally ends with the Kadotas winning the lawsuit, giving Little Mary her land, and with a marriage for almost everyone in the cast.

This production, directed by David Bell, is the first of four dramas to be presented by the Nebraska Repertory Theatre this summer. Performances begin at 8:00 p.m. at Howell Theater.



Hamming it up for "Little Mary Sunshine" are Dave Landis and Jean Thomsen.

## Mellerdrammer offers fun eve

Opinion by Lucy Lien

The villain is a Lincoln society lady. The heroine a former lady of wealth. The hero, a former rich man from Beaver Crossing.

"Mama's Baby Boy" is the mellerdrammer currently playing at the Gas Light Theatre, 322 S. 9th Street.

The plot of this drammer involves Mrs. McLean, the heroine, and Luther Long, the hero. Mrs. McLean is played by Becky Brite, and Luther Long is played by Dick Heakin. Both have lost their money through Watergate Plumbing stock they held shares in, and both try to regain their wealth by marrying each other. Each believes the other to be wealthy, and each also believes the other to be young.

Consequently, the plot involves their efforts to appear rich and young to the other, and they even go so far as to dress up their teenage children as toddlers.

The plot is crazy, but in a mellerdrammer, that's the point, everyone is supposed to let loose. In this production,

however, the cast has to work on this point. Although the cast of "Baby Boy" is good, they should relax more, and should ham it up. The point of a mellerdrammer is to exaggerate the emotional scenes, but except for Lee Schoonover, the cast doesn't perform melodramatically enough. More interchange with the audience should be carried on as well.

However, all in all, the mellerdrammer is well done, and well worth seeing. The only other criticism is minor. During one of the intermissions, when the crowd is having a sing-along, the woman leading the songs sings too high for the audience to follow. Lee Schoonover leading the songs is much more in tune with the audience.

The play is fun, and the lines are clever. It is well worth going to for a few hours of entertainment.

This production will run until July 10th, when the next show, "They Went Thataway", begins.

So go buy a bag of popcorn, sit down with a beer, and enjoy the mellerdrammer. It's a good diversion from studying.



Photo by Bill Ganzel

The Bluegrass Crusade performed for All-Staters June 16.

## Engineering society chooses NU dean

Dr. George P. Hanna, Jr., dean of the University of Nebraska College of Engineering and Technology, has been elected North Central Region vice chairman of the Professional Engineers in Education practice division of the 68,000-member National Society of Professional Engineers.

Active in educational and environmental committees of the Professional Engineers of Nebraska, Hanna holds a Ph.D. degree from the University of Cincinnati, a masters in civil engineering from New York University and a bachelors in civil engineering from Illinois Institute of Technology.

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