

# 'Camino' not memorable theater

Review by Dennis Ellermeier

Thirty seven UNL actors, under the direction of David Bell, have taken on the ambitious task of producing Tennessee Williams' "Camino Real." While the production is well paced, uses understanding actors and generally meets the demands of the script, it somehow does not quite meet the criteria of a truly memorable theater.

The complex drama centers around the caging of such great Romantic characters as Lord Byron, Don Quixote and Casanova within a walled desert community from which escape comes in two remote possibilities: traversing a vast desert or flying out on an unscheduled flight of the "fugitivo."

## Great Romantics

Here these great Romantics are sandwiched between two groups of people: the forces of the unseen Generalissimo, including his henchman Gutamn and the street cleaners; and a host of undesirables—prostitutes, pawn brokers, gypsies and the like.

Within this scene of total desperation we experience the struggle of the All-American Kilroy and the faint glimmer of an abstract hope begins to swell until the play is overwhelmed by it in the end.

## Commendable acting jobs

The UNL production enjoys several commendable acting jobs. Among them were the performances by Doug Bris-

sey, George Hansen, Glenn Cox, Roger Johnson, Gerry Schaffert, Jim Sudik, Gary Heider, Missy Critchfield and Judy Zimmerman. But by far the most enjoyable performance of the evening was by Jan Sheldrick as Marguerite.

While several of the roles were given powerful lines and characters, Sheldrick seemed to have taken the most convincing grip on Williams' meaning. Her portrayal in the tenth block was one of the stronger in the entire production.

Technically, the show was marked by solid—but short of outstanding—set, lighting and costumes. The sound, designed by Tom Folsom, was particularly well executed.

## Exciting devices

The play used several exciting theatrical devices and there were exceptional performances in several places. But with weaknesses in performance by the large cast bridging these better moments, the production was not as tight as it might have been. While the demands of the script were met with competence, the extra element of individual insight was too sparingly afforded. In general, "Camino Real" is an interesting production but does not have the finesse that Lincoln audiences have come to expect from the Howell stage and director David Bell.

"Camino Real" will play through Saturday.

# Winter Term

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# Nutcracker Ballet to be performed today

One of the most popular and well known musical ballets, Peter Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Ballet, will be performed twice today by the Omaha Ballet Company at Pershing Auditorium.

Featured will be guest director Mireille Briane of New York, and guest dancers, Oleg Briansky, Hilda Maria Reverte, and Miquel Camponaria.

The ballet was the last of Tchaikovsky's three ballets and was written and first performed in 1892.

There will be two shows, 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$1 for students at the matinee performance and \$2 for the evening performance. Tickets for adults at both performances will be \$1. All tickets are available through the Lincoln Public Schools.

# JET Frontier!



The Wasatch Mountains, paragons of natural majesty, stand as if a barricade to Salt Lake City's eastern door. It is on this rugged chain of Rocky Mountains that winter clouds drop flakes of famous Utah snow. It is within these mountains that you will find America's most diverse ski resorts. We'd like to invite you to one of them. Park City, Utah.

An average of six feet of snow lays on the ground about our mountain village from November until April.

To take you to it, we have western America's longest four-passenger gondola, seven double chairs and one triple. Our lift lines are so short you'll have scarcely enough time to catch your breath.

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Beginners and intermediates have an entire mountain all to themselves. We call it The Three Kings and serve it with two high capacity double chairs.

The United States Ski Team's National Training Center and official training areas are here.

Here's your chance... The UNL SKI CLUB still has a few spaces open on this fantastic trip! It includes not only the Air Fare but 5 full days of skiing with lift tickets, and 5 nights lodging at the luxurious Park City Resort Condominiums. Departure time is Saturday Jan. 4th. We'll return Thursday January 9th.

**TOTAL COST TO CLUB MEMBERS IS ONLY \$195.00**

Plan to attend our next party at Chateau LaFleur Clubhouse—Tuesday, Dec. 10th at 8 p.m. A mandatory meeting for all those going on the Park City or Summit trip over Christmas Break.

Final Payments will be accepted along with the registration of new members and those interested in the Park City Trip.

The Clubhouse is located one block south of 63rd and Cotner. SEE-YA-THERE.

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