

Troupe portrays black experience

You thought "matriculation" was an unhealthy habit.

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Owner - Breaking Company, Olympia Washington \*OLY\*\*

By Susie Reitz

From the first strains of "Lift Every Voice and Sing" to the finale, "Reach Out and Touch Somebody's Hand," the Blacks of African Descent (BAD) performance Monday night in the Nebraska Union told of black American experiences.

The 35 members of the troupe are UNL students. The group began three years ago with 11 members, said BAD President Al

Stansbury.

The students organize at the beginning of the school year and prepare a program to present throughout the year, he said. The first performance this year was a Christmas program at the Men's Reformatory Unit of the Nebraska Penal and Correctional

"We hope to take the program to the Lincoln Public Schools this year," Stansbury said. The group presented programs in some Lincoln and Omaha schools last year.

"Blacks of African Descent want to spread a message. We have dancing, gospel music, readings, and other presentations. Our message is that blacks have made significant contributions to this culture and we are showing part of them," Stansbury said.

"Members make their own costumes and work up their own presentations," troupe member Delores Matthews said. "I joined last year because I wanted to get into something like this with a message," she added.

Members created their own modern African-style dance routines

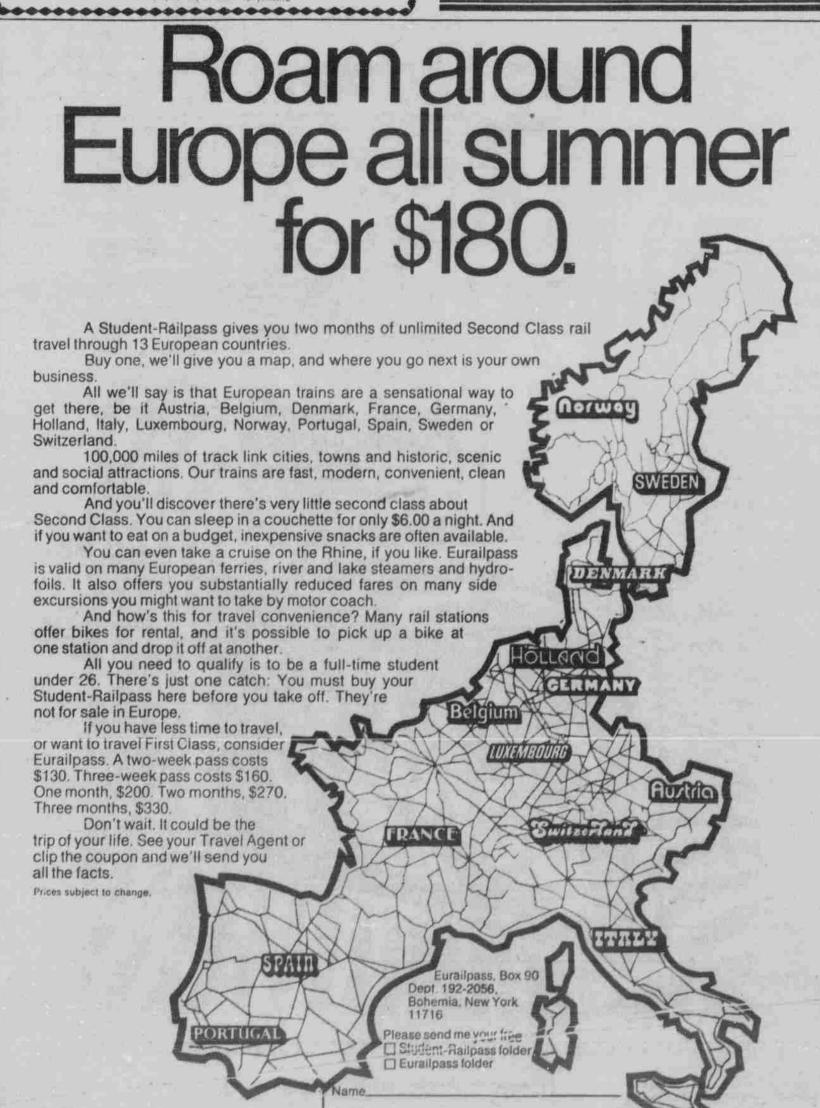
and made all their costumes, Matthews said.

During the program Monday night members sang several soul songs, such as "I Can See Clearly Now," and presented skits. There also were dramatic readings relating to the black experience and a Joyletta Woodruff's reading of "Pardon Us America," a commentary on Watergate.

The conclusion was a slide, music, and dramatic reading presentation of Martin Luther King's "I've Got A Dream" speech. However, the performers said they were disturbed that only about 35 people attended.

"If we could get more people here the message would be effective," Stansbury said.

The program will be presented in residence halls throughout Black Heritage Month, Stansbury said.



Street

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## Concert to feature 'tricky' sonata

Elliot Carter's "Sonata for Violoncello and Piano" will be performed for the first time in Nebraska, Thursday.

The piece will be performed by cellist Priscilla Parson and pianist Thomas Fritz in an 8 p.m. recital at Kimball Recital

The tricky rhythms of the work, which was composed in 1948, have scared off many potential performers, Parson

said. Carter, who received a Pulitzer Prize in 1960, uses rhythms and rhythmic continuities, sometimes called "metric modulation."

Parson, who is working on her Doctor of Musical Arts performing degree from Wisconsin University, said she is trying to work especially on

contemporary and old music. The Carter Sonata, she said, is difficult but enjoyable.

Parson and Fritz also will perform Igor Stravinsky's "Suite Italienne," arrangement from the ballet "Pulcinella", and Brahms's "Sonata in E Minor, Op. 38, for Violoncello and Piano."



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