

arts & entertainment



Jo Hill Photo by Kevin Higley

Howell opens Bicentennial tribute

The UNL Theater Arts Dept. launches its "All American Season" Friday with the opening of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*.

Professor William Morgan, play director, calls it "the best play of one of America's greatest and most unique playwrights."

"Written in the realistic style of Ibsen and Chekhov, it is also one of the most interesting and frankly autobiographical plays to date," he said.

All plays in this year's season at Howell Theatre are by Americans, which Morgan says is a tribute to the Bicentennial. Other 1975-76 season productions include Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*, Tennessee Williams's *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *You Can't Take It With You* by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman.

O'Neill wrote *Long Day's Journey Into Night* to come to peace in his own mind with his family, Morgan said. Characters portrayed are his father, an actor; brother Jamie, a drunkard and delirious; his mother, a morphine addict, and Edmund (O'Neill as a young man).

The characters are portrayed realistically yet sympathetically, so that from their viewpoint each of them seems reasonable. The mother, for instance, became addicted to

morphine after a long and painful childbirth, and each year tries to break herself of the addiction.

She always returns to the drug, however, in an attempt to remove herself from the pain of personal relationships with other characters.

Kathleen, the maid, represents the outside world. She tries to understand the delicately balanced relationships between family members, but can't comprehend their problems.

All action in this tightly-knit play takes place between morning and midnight of one day, and deals with the reunion of the major characters as they move into their summer cottage in Connecticut.

Long Day's Journey Into Night will feature Randall Parker as the father, Jo Hill as the mother, Mitch Tebo as Edmund, Jerry Homan as Jamie and Andrea Visuthipal as Kathleen.

The UNL production is entered in the American College Theatre Festival. Regional judges will view it here, and it may be selected for presentation at the February regional competition in Emporia, Kansas.

Each of the 13 regions will then select one or two plays to represent their region for presentation in Washington, D.C., during the National Festival in April.

Networks' bumper crop also contains five duds

The crop of new television shows has matured it seems, because networks have begun their harvest.

They are garnering bumper profits from CBS's "Phyllis," ABC's "Starsky and Hutch" and NBC's "Joe Forrester." But, faster than you can say Diazinon, five new programs have been rooted out.

Falling to the chaff side of the rating reapings are: CBS's "Kate McShane," NBC's "Fay," "The Montefuscos," "Family Holvak" and "The Invisible Man."

It's fine to weed out the bad shows. Let's just hope they are not replaced by worse. For the coming week, Aunt Hannah recommends:

Paradise Restored (Thursday, Ch. 12, 8 p.m.) A play about poet John Milton, set about 1665. The blind old Puritan, embittered by the restoration of the English monarchy, retreats to the countryside and writes a 10,565-line ditty about Adam and Eve.

Spirits of the Dead (Friday, Ch. 6, 10:30 p.m.) Three horror stories by Edgar Allen Poe, directed and acted by celebrated talents. Roger Vadim, Louis Malle and Federico Fellini each direct a tale. Acting are Jane and Peter Fonda, Terence Stamp and Brigitte Bardot.

They Shoot Horses, Don't They? (Sunday, Ch. 7, 8 p.m.) A dandy movie from 1969, with Jane Fonda dancing and dreaming during the Depression.

The Producers (Sunday, Ch. 6, 10:30 p.m.) Hilarious Mel Brooks movie starring Zero Mostel and Gene Wilder. Trying to bilk their investors, two Broadway producers write a play in the worst possible taste.

The UFO Incident (Monday, Ch. 3, 8 p.m.) A TV-movie based on a real-life episode. Barney and Betty Hill board a spaceship and are given a physical aliens. James Earl Jones plays Barney. How real can life get?

The Longest Day (Cable TV Ch. 9; Sunday, 7 p.m.; Monday, 7 p.m.; Tuesday, 2 p.m.; Wednesday, 1 a.m., 11 p.m.) The Allies invade Europe in 1944 and little is left out of this exhaustive retelling. John Wayne, Henry Fonda, Richard Burton, Rod Steiger, Peter Lawford and many more star.



David Syrotiak, director of the National Marionette Theatre (NMT), said he hopes puppetry will be seen as more "kid stuff" after the NMT production "Art of the Puppeteer" in the Nebraska Union Ballroom at noon on Oct. 17.

Syrotiak, a professional puppeteer for 22 years, said that his marionettes are tools of self-expression.

"The figures have life because my own feelings are transmitted down the strings," he said.

The award winning production "Art of the Puppeteer", produced and designed by Syrotiak, was intended to bring puppetry back to an adult entertainment level, he said.

The program, sponsored by the Union Contemporary Arts Committee, is free and open to the public.

J. Geils Band, Frampton featured in concert tonight

The internationally known rhythm and blues group, the J. Geils Band, will perform in a Filmore concert tonight at 8 in Pershing Auditorium. Special guest star with the group will be the former member of Humble Pie, Peter Frampton.

The J. Geils Band's recent album *Hot*

...ne has been steadily climbing the Billboard record charts since its release in August.

Tickets for the concert are \$6.50 and are available at the Nebraska Union South Desk and Pershing Auditorium Box Office.




Ted Nugent and the Amboy Dukes

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A Bamboo Production