

# arts & entertainment

## TV spots fill education gap — By TV Aunt Hannah

Christmas vacation poses a problem for many UNL students.

"The semester is almost over," these students can be heard wailing, "and yet our thirst for knowledge is unquenched! Tell us what to do."

They have nothing to fear with Aunt Hannah so near. A host of informative programs will air during Christmas break to fill almost anyone's educational gap.

On Dec. 22, Betty Furness hosts an NBC documentary on the \$25 billion-a-year charity business.

"From head to toe," said Eliot Frankel, the show's producer, "every major organ of the body has a charity." Aunt Hannah will tune in midway.

On Jan. 5, NBC is devoting three hours of prime time to *Foreign Policy: 1976*. Among others, President Ford will be interviewed.

Also on Jan. 5, ABC will present a two-hour preview of the Winter and Summer Olympics. They will examine top contenders and preparations for both the Innsbruck and (cross your fingers) Montreal events.

It hardly seems necessary to mention, but the UNL football team meets Arizona State University in the Fiesta Bowl, Dec. 26, on CBS.

For this week, Aunt Hannah recommends:

**Rona Barrett (Thursday, Ch. 6 and 10, 2 p.m.)** The beloved gossip columnist interviews James Caan, Michael Caine, Elliott Gould and Burt Reynolds on work, life, love and sex. Come on, admit it—this sounds great.

**Inside Daisy Clover (Thursday, Ch. 6, 10:30 p.m.)** A 1966 success-story movie about a teen-age tomboy who rises to film stardom in the 1930s. Starring Natalie Wood, Robert Redford, Ruth Gordon and Roddy McDowall.

**How the Grinch Stole Christmas (Friday, Ch. 6 and 10, 7 p.m.)** Dr. Seuss's animated tale of a villain who plots against the holiday in Whoville. Narrated in verse by the late Boris Karloff.

**The Rivalry (Friday, Ch. 3, 7:30 p.m.)** The Lincoln-Douglas debates of 1858 are recreated by actors Arthur Hill, as the Republican lawyer from the backwoods, and Charles Durning, as the incumbent Illinois senator who eventually won the election. The issues are slavery versus states' rights in this Hallmark Hall of Fame production.

**The Tiger Makes Out (Friday, Ch. 1, 11 p.m.)** A mailman decides he has had enough of his mediocre life, turns tiger and kidnaps a middle-class housewife. Eli Wallach and Anne Jackson star in Murray Schisgal's adaptation of his own play.

**Bright Eyes (Saturday, Ch. 3, 2:30 p.m.)** Strictly for laughs. Shirley Temple in her big 1934 hit, the very one in which she sings "The Good Ship Lollipop." She's an orphan who adores a daredevil pilot.

**Oklahoma Crude (Saturday, Ch. 3, 8 p.m.)** George C. Scott plays a drifter who helps out oil well operator Faye Dunaway when the big-time oil companies start playing rough. This rugged 1973 saga of the Southwest was directed by Stanley Kramer.

**Monty Python's Flying Circus (Saturday, Ch. 12, 9:30 p.m.)** A giant hedgehog threatens London and 30 gas-company inspectors oversee the installation of a stove.

**Monster Zero (Saturday, Ch. 3, 10:40 p.m.)** The title character does battle with Godzilla and Rodan in outer space, wins, enslaves them and threatens to take over earth with their help. Really.

**This Britain: Heritage of the Sea (Sunday, Ch. 12, 2:30 p.m.)** A National Geographic documentary on the daily lives and historical traditions of fishermen in the Outer Hebrides, bargemen on the Thames and a horse soldier of the Household Cavalry Regiment. Richard Basehart narrates.

**Bob Hope's Christmas Party (Sunday, Ch. 3, 7 p.m.)** Redd Foxx, Angie Dickinson and Donny and Marie Osmond join the venerable comedian in songs and skits. Bob helps Angie with a *Police Woman* script, and Red tries to tell clean jokes.

**In Performance At Wolf Trap (Monday, Ch. 12, 7 p.m.)** The National Symphony Orchestra, and the University of Maryland Chorus, conducted by Julius Rudel, perform Verdi's *Requiem Mass*. Soloists for this work of many moods are mezzo-soprano Gwendolyn Killebrew, soprano Rachel Mathes, tenor Ermano Mauro and bass Samuel Ramey.

**The Merchant of Venice (Monday, Ch. 12, 8:30 p.m.)** Maggie Smith portrays Portia, Frank Finlay Shylock in this filmed play. She saves the love-struck Antonio from paying a pound of flesh, sets Shylock straight on the subject of usury.

**The Blue Knight (Wednesday, Ch. 6 and 10, 9 p.m.)** George Kennedy plays policeman Bumper Morgan in this new series based on Joseph Wambaugh's novel.



Photo courtesy Harvard University News Service

Randall Thompson makes his Nebraska debut this week at the First Plymouth Congregational Church, 20th and D streets.

## Noted composer makes Nebraska debut Friday

Randall Thompson, one of America's foremost composers, will make his Nebraska debut this weekend when he conducts two performances of his own work *The Nativity According to Saint Luke*, at First Plymouth Congregational Church, 20th and D streets.

Thompson, past professor at Harvard University, lives in Cambridge, Mass., and at 76 is still composing and traveling as extensively as he did during his 17 years of teaching.

*The Nativity* was composed and first performed in 1961 to celebrate the bicentennial of the dedication of historic Christ Church in Cambridge. David McCord writ-

ing in the Harvard Bulletin called the first performance "...moving and magnificent beyond the praise of layman or critic. One may safely prophesy its brilliant future as a flawless blend of choral music and religious experience."

The production at First Plymouth will include a chorus of 60 voices, 12 soloists, the Nebraska Chamber Orchestra, a handbell choir, an organist and a children's choir. Soloists will be Dale Ganz, Charles Vail, Jeanie Dietrich, Don Yanik, Shiela Stutzman, Chip Smith and Lynn Moorser.

Director for the 8 p.m. production Friday and Saturday is Roger Stephens, set designed is Don Yanik.



Bob Hope's Christmas Party will be shown Sunday at 7 p.m. on Channel 3.

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