



Photo by Arthur Shaftman

Jerry Rockwood portrays Edgar Allen Poe.

Walpurgisnacht offers something for everyone until morning hours

By Gail Smith

The second annual Winter Walpurgisnacht will offer something for everyone, says Suzanne Brown, assistant program director of the Nebraska Union.

The night of films and entertainment begins in the Union at 8 p.m. Jan. 30 and continues through the early morning until 4 a.m. Jan. 31.

According to old German legends, Brown said, Walpurgisnacht was the eve of May Day when witches gathered to celebrate their sabbath in the German Harz Mountains.

Brown said the Union Program Council (UPC), which sponsors and plans UNL's Walpurgisnacht, has specified four purposes for the event:

-To give the campus community a chance to become acquainted with the Union building and programs.

-To promote interest in Union programs and recruit students to serve on the UPC's 14 program committees.

-To offer students and faculty a showcase for their talent.

-To bring students, faculty, staff and alumni together.

National entertainers

Brown said voluntary student and faculty participation will be combined with national and regional entertainers to provide what she called a variety of activities.

Although Walpurgisnacht officially begins at 8 p.m., a dinner theatre is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the Harvest Room. Brown said the American Parade Cabaret (formerly the University Cabaret Theatre) will present music and comedy based on American heritage. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Union South Desk.

New York actor Jerry Rockwood will portray writer Edgar Allan Poe in *A Condition of Shadow*. The one-man show will be in the Ballroom at 9:30 p.m.

The comedy team of Joey Edmonds and Tom Curley will entertain in the Ballroom at 11:30 p.m. Brown said Edmonds and Curley have appeared on national television shows and at many colleges.

Music in the Centennial Room will include the Bluegrass Crusade at 8 p.m., folk duo John Walker and Pete Blakeslee at 11 p.m. and the Bohemian Stationary Marching Band (a polka band) at 12:30 a.m.

Basement discotheque

Brown said a new Walpurgisnacht feature will be a discotheque in the basement conference rooms from 10:30 p.m. until 2:30 a.m.

A variety of entertainers will perform in the South Crib between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. In the Main Lounge, the University Dance Ensemble will perform at 8 p.m. followed by the UNL folk dancers at 10:30.

Brown said two professional billiards players, Paul Gerni and Dallas West, will meet in a challenge match at

8 p.m. in the North Conference Room. Following the match, she said, they will demonstrate trick shots in the main billiards area.

That night in the recreation area, there will be a student-faculty bowling tournament at 9:30, an arm wrestling contest at 10:30, a foosball tournament at 11 and a pinball tournament at 1 a.m. From 8 to 10 p.m. in the Main Lounge, the UNL Table Tennis Club will offer demonstrations and play challengers.

Films offered

Walpurgisnacht offers four films in Union 202, beginning at 8 p.m. with *Reefer Madness*. A Mel Brooks film, *The Producers*, will be shown at 9:30 p.m., followed by *THX 1138*, a science fiction film, at 11:30 p.m. and *The Big Sleep*, starring Humphrey Bogart, at 1:30 a.m. Also, Fellini's movie *8 1/2* will be shown in the Small Auditorium at 8 p.m., 10:30 p.m. and 1 a.m.

Complete schedules of the 50 to 60 Walpurgisnacht programs, the "Walpurgisnews," are available in the Nebraska Reporter newspaper racks in campus buildings, Brown said.

She said most programs and performances are free, but about 15 events will charge an admission fee. Tickets will be sold for 25 cents each at booths in the north and south lobbies on the main floor, outside the Centennial Room and outside the Ballroom. For example, Brown said, the film *The Big Sleep* will cost two tickets (50 cents). She said no single event except the dinner theater will cost more than four tickets (\$1).

Union needs help for Friday night

The Union Program Council (UPC) still is seeking about 60 volunteers to help out at Winter Walpurgisnacht this Friday, according to Suzanne Brown, assistant program director for the Nebraska Union.

Each volunteer will have to attend a one-hour training session this week and work a two-hour shift during the event, she said.

Some volunteer jobs include ticket-taking, room set-up, bussing tables and cleaning up, she said. Two or three projectionists also are needed.

Interested students should sign up in Nebraska Union 115 no later than Thursday noon, Brown said. Sign-up sheets will indicate training session times.

arts & entertainment

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