Professional Omaha Ballet Company most respected troup in the Midwest

Professional ballet is no more than a leap away from Lincoln.

"Outside of Chicago and Minneapolis, it (the Omaha Ballet Company) is probably the most respected company in the midwest," said Mary Smith, manager of the Omaha Ballet Company.

The company began as a "germ of an idea" in 1962, and it began to blossom when new directors were hired in 1975, she said.

"Dance is much more visible than it used to be," Smith said of the company's recent growth. "Currently there's a big push in dance and there's also an emphasis outside of New York City."

Smith said the Omaha Ballet soloists currently are paid per performance but a special five-year expansion plan will start in 1978. At that time, the company will hire two full-time dancers per year until the company has ten professionals, she said.

This will improve the company because the dancers

C,S,N to perform

Crosby, Stills and Nash, considered a legendary act whether they perform as a group or as solos, will perform in the UNL Sports Complex Oct. 28.

The band plans to give a two-and-a-half to three hour concert without an opening act. Reserve tickets at \$8, \$9, \$10 will be sold Saturday at the Sports Complex and Brandeis, and on Monday at the Nebraska Union and Brandeis.

The CSN concert is sponsored by the Union Program Council, KLMS and Cowtown productions.

deserve more reward for the 20-hour per week minimum spent in rehearsal and training, she said.

Smith said the company now has 31 dancers with students receiving full scholarships for school and some apprentice dancers who could be hired for full-time work

In addition to producing the yearly series of dance recitals, Smith said the company does a number of workshops and demonstrations. The company also is preparing to tape two television shows in November for state distribution on the Nebraska Educational Television Network and for national telecast on the "Anyone for Tennyson" poetry series.

The 1977-78 season will open Oct. 29 and 30 with a full-length production of the romantic ballet, Giselle, The Nutcracker will be the second production scheduled Dec. 2 and 4.

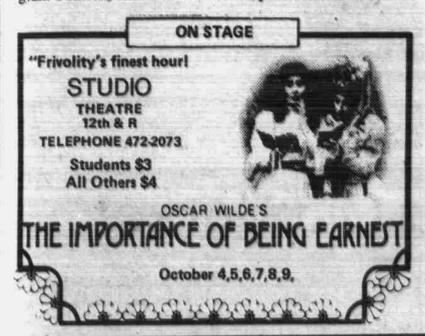
A special lecture-demonstration is scheduled for Feb. 5 when Doris Hering, a national dance authority, will give a workshop lecture on how ballets are made and produced. Hering, current Executive Director of the National Association for Regional Ballet and critic for Dance Magazine, will review the creative processes in shaping a ballet with "illustrations" by Omaha Ballet dancers Thomas Enckell and Katharyn Horne.

The two remaining recitals will be world premiere ballets, one choreographed by James Clouser for performance on March 4 and 5; the other by Thomas Enckell set for May 5-7.

Smith said the selections resulted in a "pretty varied season" that combines both contemporary and period ballets.

Season tickets are available by contacting the Omaha Ballet Center, 5915 Maple St., Omaha, 68104

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31 Asian desert

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- 16 Mother of Apollo
- Valueless
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crossword puzzle

17

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