

NETV presents play based on correspondence

The legendary 40-year correspondence between playwright George Bernard Shaw and British actress Mrs. Patrick Campbell is brought to television in a two-act dramatic play, *Dear Liar*, airing on "Hall of Fame," Wednesday at 7 p.m. on the Nebraska Educational Television Network.

Based on the duo's correspondence, the adaptation by Jerome Kilty deals with Nobel Laureate, playwright and critic Shaw's infatuation for Campbell, the leading lady of the London stage.

A powerful actress, Campbell possessed wit and a biting tongue that matched Shaw's. She was fascinated by the brilliant dramatists and set out to captivate him. As a theater critic, as well as a playwright, Shaw showered the actress with praise, poetry and pedantry, but their romance never went further than correspondence.

"Later, in the evening, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* could be performed outdoors," she said. "The characters of the famous Charles Schultz cartoon will come alive in sketches and songs. The play is entertainment for the whole family."

One performance of each of the three plays plus a workshop will cost a community \$1,200, Pearson said. Two plays and a workshop cost \$700. One performance of one play will run \$500, with a workshop being added for an extra \$25.

This year the beginning of the Jewish Passover celebration occurs on the same day as the Christian Easter. The Nebraska Educational Network will broadcast three special programs in honor of these religious holidays.

A 30-minute documentary film on the Jewish holiday, Passover, will air Friday, at 11 a.m., repeating Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

Hosted by actor Edward Asner, "Passover" details the history, practice and significance of the holiday celebrated each spring by Jews in remembrance of the Exodus led by Moses from Egypt into Israel more than 3,000 years ago.

The beginning of Passover is observed at the Seder, a home service centered on a special meal. The program's focal point is an American Seder, although Seder's practiced by several rare, historical Haggadahs (Passover prayer books); an Israeli dance troupe; and several geographical locations that pertain to the Passover story.

On Friday, at 3 p.m., biophysicist John DeSalvo discusses the history and scientific research surrounding the famous Shroud of Turin, an ancient strip of linen 3 1/2 feet by 14 feet long which bears the faint imprint of a human being, on "A Conversation with John DeSalvo."

Reputed to be Christ's shroud, it was ancient when first documented in 1353 and has been stored at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Turin, Italy.

The shroud acts, in a matter as yet unexplained, as a negative plate, so that photographs taken of it are positives. An 1898 photograph first indicated a faint image of a face; subsequent color photography in 1979 indicated a well-defined portrait of a man with long hair, forked beard, and bruises on the face. The head images, back-to-back on the center of the shroud, show wounds

from objects like thorns, and wounds along the length of the shroud suggest that the man was crucified.

In celebration of Christianity's Easter holiday, a three-hour live presentation of Handel's *Messiah* will be performed from Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kan., airing Easter Sunday, at 3 p.m.

This Centennial year performance will include guest soloists: William Metcalf, baritone, from the New York City Opera Company; Daniel Nelson, tenor, from the Chicago Symphony; Doralene Davis, soprano, who has performed with the Philadelphia Orchestra and at Kennedy Center; and Victoria Grof, mezzo-soprano, from the New York City Opera Company.

entertainment notes

Shaw wrote the part of Eliza in *Pygmalion* specifically for Campbell and the production was a triumph for them both.

Edward Herrmann who appeared earlier this month in the Nebraska ETV Network and The Great Amwell Company co-production of Mark Twain's "The Private History of a Campaign That Failed" and Jeanne Alexander star in the two-character performance.

Members of the UNL Opera Theater will present two one-act operas at 3:30 p.m. today and again at 8 p.m. Tuesday, in the Recital Hall of Westbrook Music Building, 11th and R Streets.

The two programs are free and open to the public, according to Gregg Tallman, UNL's Opera Theater Department director.

The first one-act opera to be presented is Ralph Vaughan William's *Rulers to the Sea*, a tragedy based on J.M. Synge's one-act play of the same name.

"The story involves the Irish fisherfolk of the Aran Islands and their constant battle against the sea," Tallman said.

Cast members include UNL Professor of Voice Donna Harler and students Judy Donaghy, Dawn Buller, Tim Vanderheiden, Lynda Madej, Patti Eldred, Linda Preiss, Karen Kendle, Greta Bredemeier, Sue Peck, Kara Ogden, Alan Moravec, Dan Bolin, Steve Andrew and Jim Nichols, who also is stage manager.

Graduate student Joe Manley serves as stage director for the opera.

A comedy of unrequited love, Gian Carlo Menotti's *The Old Man and the Thief*, will be the second opera presented by the group, said Tollman, who is responsible for the musical direction of the two operas.

Cast members include Sandra Strohm, Kathy Sherlock, Anne Roberts and Alan Moravec. Lois Vaccariello, a graduate student in the opera department, is the opera's director.

Poet-teacher John Twobirds Arbuckle joins First Poetry Quartet members for a presentation of Native American poetry from many different tribes in "American Indian Poetry" on "Anyone for Tennyson?," airing today at 7 p.m. over NETV stations.

The program was filmed on location in the sacred Indian tribal territory of the Black Hills of South Dakota and at the picturesque pueblo in Taos, N.M.

Poet Arbuckle, whose heritage comes from the Plains Indians of the Choctaw and Ojibwa tribes, discusses the importance of poetry as a form of story-telling handed down by the elders. The poems express the love of their forefathers for nature and their affinity for all living creatures.

Arbuckle and First Poetry Quartet members George Backman, Cynthia Herman and Victor Bevine share poetic selections from the N. Perce, Paiute, Navajo, Zuni and Taos Pueblo tribes. Also included is the Sioux "Black Elk's Prayer," translated by John C. Neihardt and several poems by modern Native American poets Simon Ortiz, Alonzo Lopez and Raymond Carden, as well as one of Arbuckle's own works.

Nebraska communities interested in spicing up their summer cultural calendar can again turn to the UNL Nebraska Repertory Theater, which will take three shows on the road from June 25 through August 15.

Communities can contract with the group to have performed any or all of the plays, titled, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *The World of Carl Sandberg*, and *The Knowin' Tree*.

According to Julie Pearson, the coordinator of the Nebraska Repertory Touring Company, the Repertory's group of actors, technicians, stage managers and scene designers also will be available to conduct workshops.

Communities may have one, two or all three of the plays performed during a day, she said.

"A possible schedule could be a performance of the children's play *The Knowin' Tree*, which can be performed outdoors in the late morning or early afternoon, followed by *The World of Carl Sandberg* at any location in the late afternoon," Pearson said.

"The Carl Sandberg play, which will be performed by faculty members of UNL's Department of Theater Arts, is especially suitable for clubs and churches," she continued. "The script utilizes his magnificent poetry along with folksongs from his songbooks."

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