

Roca's country opry flavored by old-style music

If you're looking for country music of days gone by, including the music of such greats as Hank Snow and Claude Aiken, Roca may be worth the short trip.

The Nebraska Country Opry, which began February 14, is the new home of the traditional country music. Owner Ralph Lewis began this endeavor because he said he "really likes country music," and felt there was nowhere for people to go who liked the "old-style country music."

"Especially for people in their 40s on up, they want older country music, not the new stuff on the radio. This is definitely not for country rock music," said Lewis.

Lewis remarked that they screen the bands fairly carefully. "We don't want any rock or Western rock. If people want to hear new country music, they can turn on the radio."

Lewis wants to promote strictly a family show. Each Saturday from 8-10:30 the show in the Morton Building (which seats 470), features a band that plays country, gospel, or bluegrass music.

"This is strictly a show. So there's no dancing and no alcohol," Lewis said. "We serve only candy bars, popcorn, pop and coffee. I have no intentions of starting up dancing, although there's been a request for this. The minute you start dancing you have liquor problems, and I want this to be a family-type place. We definitely

don't want a bar-type atmosphere."

Admission is \$3 and \$1.50 for children under 12. Bob Strayer is the master of ceremonies for all of the shows. So far such bands as "the Country Nights," "the Moonlighters," "Country Cross Section," and the "Country Caravans" have performed at the Opry show.

"It takes a while to build up an audience, so far we have about 150 to 200 people each weekend. It's mostly couples, but there are usually about 15 families each weekend. What we want to do is give people a taste of what country music used to be like, and I feel there's a real need for such a place as this, with this kind of atmosphere."

Musicians, singers to group talents

The UNL Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Singers will combine to present Edwin London's "Psalm of These Days V" at 8 p.m., Tuesday in Kimball Recital Hall.

The concert, which will include additional pieces performed by the Wind Ensemble, is free and open to the public.

Serving as guest conductor of "Psalm of These Days V" will be its nationally known composer Edwin London. Directors of the UNL Symphonic Wind Ensemble and University Singers are Jack Snider and G. Edward Bruner, respectively.

Beginning the Wind Ensemble's performance will

be the work "Roman Carnival Overture" by Hector Berlioz.

Rhoades Scholar Roger Mastalir will be featured as clarinet soloist during performance of the first movement of William Schmidt's "Concerto for Clarinet and Symphonic Winds."

The Wind Ensemble's three flute players, Michel Madej, Kathe Saathoff and Diane Penrock, will perform "Canticle for Three Solo Flutes" by Elliott Del Borgo.

The program will conclude with "Overture" and "Children's Dance" from the "Merry Mount Suite" by Howard Hansen.

World of Sports...

Continued from Page 8

Of course, *Wide World* has the right to parade athletes onto the screen to say a few words about the glories and virtues of *Wide World*, but the fact of the matter is that it doesn't need that kind of self-indulgence to get an audience, and cheapens itself when it does so.

Wide World, despite its little flaws, is a good show with a large audience; the number of *Wide World* imitations the other two major networks have tried over the years should be testimony enough to that fact.

But like so much television programming, *Wide World* couldn't resist the temptation to be its own hired shill. This was most obvious when Peggy Flemming and O.J. Simpson stood up to speak their minds about what ABC and *Wide World* have done for their respective sports. Flemming and Simpson have both served as ABC broadcast announcers in recent years, so it probably wasn't difficult for them to dream up kind things to say about ABC Sports.

ABC does deserve a pat on the back for *Wide World* as it was the first sports show of its kind to hit the market. But it shouldn't rely on itself to deliver it.

UNL to hold seminar

Nebraska teachers have an opportunity to apply for participation in one of the 1981 Taft Seminars for Teachers.

UNL has been selected as one of 24 colleges and universities in the United States to sponsor a Taft Seminar in 1981.

Thirty elementary and high school teachers, administrators and librarians, who have responsibility for treating government and politics in their classrooms will be nominated to spend the weeks of June 8 through 19 on the UNL campus with Democratic and Republican elected officials, political party leaders, and other political experts to explore operation of the two-party system and ways for individual citizens to carry out their political responsibility.

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