

Original Work

Midnight Schemes, Daylight Dreams

There's simply no telling
Who we will meet
As we make our way
Through daylight.

We just might see
The one we leave
When we close our eyes
At midnight.

What would we do
Of they ever knew
About these dreams
Of the heart?

Would they understand
Or would they demand
That someone else
Play the part?

Let no one find out
What scheming we do
To make these dreams
Seem right.

Meanwhile we have
What our hearts hunger for
When we turn out
The light.

Lisa Marie Noel

'Christmas Carol' begins run tonight

The UNL theatre arts department's presentation of Charles Dickens' classic, "A Christmas Carol," opens tonight in Howell Studio Theatre at 8 p.m. The production is always a highlight of the Christmas season on campus, and this year's staging is historic in a way.

"In the 82 years of theater at the University of Nebraska, this production will be the longest running show in our history during an academic year," said Rex McGraw, director of the play and chairman of the theatre department.

The run will consist of 21 performances. "A Christmas Carol" will be performed tonight through Saturday and Monday through Dec. 18 at 8 p.m. There will be 3 p.m. matinees Saturday, on Dec. 11, 12, 18 and 19. The Dec. 11 matinee will be interpreted for the hearing impaired.

McGraw said he hopes the extended run will alleviate the problem of selling out before opening night, which was the case last year.

Set in the homes of the familiar characters, UNL graduate R. Dale Wilson's adaptation of the Dickens novel emphasizes the early, what-might-have-been days when Ebenezer Scrooge was more interested in pleasing gentle Georgiana than in accumulating cold cash.

The production's scenic designer, Thomas C. Umfrid, said, "I have tried to conjure a visual spectacle that will appeal to both the eye and the heart of our audiences. During these bleak economic times, I feel a healthy dose of theater magic is in order."

'Original Score'...

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The format of future shows may be different, he said.

"We may change it. The format we used this time was doing a song and then doing the interview."

With the exception of the Suburbs, all of the artists featured on tomorrow's show are local products.

Movies Eyes previously performed under the name of The Boys. They are reportedly close to signing a contract with a major record label.

The Crap Detectors is a veteran Lincoln band with several records to its credit.

Pribyl said the show likely will be broadcast again later in the month.

People wanting to find out the schedule can write to him at 4230 S. 32nd St., in Lincoln.

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Dance group to perform

A special event will take place in Mabel Lee Hall tonight and Friday. Starting at 8 p.m., the Orchesis dance group will perform its winter dance concert.

The word "orchesis" comes from the Greek word *orchesthai*, meaning "to dance." It denotes movement of all sorts, of the hands, feet, eyes or entire body.

Orchesis is made up of UNL students who pursue dance either as a hobby or a possible career. Not all are dance majors. Two of the dancers are pre-pharmacy majors, while others are pursuing careers in political science, international affairs and interior design.

How does a dance organization attract such a diverse group of individuals? According to UNL junior Sammi Cummins, "A lot of people come to Orchesis to learn new techniques and the how-to's in choreographing. And it is the fun of being able to create and perform your own dance."

This is Cummins' third year with Orchesis. She now serves as the or-

ganization's acting president. Many of those involved see this year's concert as the best ever to be performed by Orchesis. Having an oversupply of talent is one probably reason, and good direction is another reason for the exceptional show.

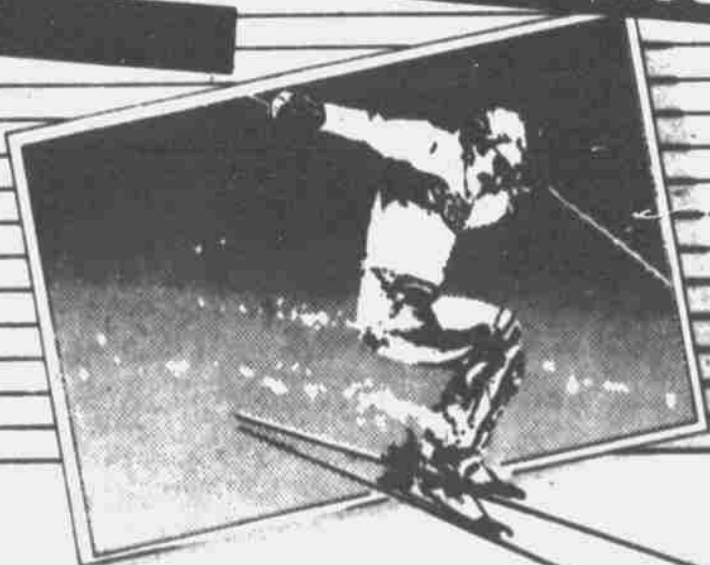
Graduate dance student Nancy Brestel is this year's Orchesis sponsor. Brestel is also the lighting designer and technical director for the group.

"All of the dances are screened before they are even considered part of the concert," she said. Also, members of the faculty critique the rehearsals. "This is to help improve a dance piece and hopefully elevate it to more professional standards," she said.

Compared to Orchesis performances in past concerts, this year's group is striving for a more professional show, she said. One should expect to see "a lot of jazz and a touch of modern," at the performances this week, Cummins said.

Tickets can be bought at the front door of Mabel Lee Hall each night.

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