

Ensemble dances its way to regional gala

By Lauri Hopple

Once is not enough for the Nebraska Dance Ensemble. The group will dance tonight at UNL a second time this semester, performing pieces that won them a place in the gala concert of the Midwest Regional Festival of the American College Dance Festival Association.

Marianne Ariyanto, one of the ensemble's faculty advisers, said this is the third year judges have picked Nebraska's dances for the gala concert. This year the dances included "Even Sevens" and "Movaldi Vivaldi," choreographed by UNL senior Theresa Field.

"We're a real powerhouse now," Ariyanto said. Out of 23 schools attending the 1984 festival, she said, only two others have a record close to Nebraska's. The University of Iowa group has danced in the gala concert for four years, and the University of Illinois has for five.

Despite similar records, Ariyanto said, those schools differ from Nebraska. Both Iowa and Illinois have graduate dance programs, she said, with 50 to 70 dance majors.

UNL has no graduate dance program and has about 25 dance majors. Last year UNL graduated seven dancers.

The program's small size helps rather than hinders its dancers, Ariyanto said. Instead of learning from several teachers in large classes, UNL students get special time and attention that makes UNL's program unique, she said.

Larger dance programs usually keep classes for dance majors and non-dance majors separated. Not so at UNL. Classes here are open for anyone, as is the ensemble itself, Ariyanto said. However, she said, ensemble dancers must have high skill level and dedication. Auditions for the next ensemble will probably be in October, she said.

Although the ensemble earned a "great reputation" from its peers at the festival, Ariyanto said the program will not use that as a recruiting tool.



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Laser ballet at Mueller

The Ralph Mueller Planetarium in UNL's Morrill Hall will present Fresh Aire's "A Dream" by Mannheim Steamroller as its spring laser light concert.

"A Dream" is the musical interpretation of astronomer Johann Kepler's famous dream of a flight into space. In 1609, Kepler imagined an escape from earth's atmosphere and a flight to the moon.

Incorporated into the laser ballet will be other lighting and special effects which will serve to interpret the various aspects of the music.

Shows are today at 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m., Saturday at 1:30, 3:30, 7:30 and 9 p.m., and Sunday, at 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3 for adults \$1.50 for children 9 and under. Tickets will be on sale at Morrill Hall 30 minutes before the show.



Instrumental variety fuels Cars' success

By Randy Wymore

In my last review, I expressed a hope that with the coming of the new Cars album *Heartbeat City*, music would take an upswing in quality.

Well, thankfully it did. Thanks to producer Jeff "Mutt" Lange, the Boston band's new album has continued where *Shake It Up* left off. On *Heartbeat City*, the Cars show a wide range of versatility, going from the bouncy "You Might Think" to the morose "Why Can't I Have You."

The lyrical content is as left field as one might expect from this band, but not since their debut it has been as free-flowing and inviting. It's the same old boy meets girl, boy loses girl, boy gets girl again theme that has become such an American entertainment tradition, which flourishes so well on this album.

Front-man Ric Ocasek's low, almost monotonous vocals lend themselves well to both elements of the content — giving the songs another dimension in most cases. And when he's not at the mic, bassist Benjamin Orr fills in the fine form.

The instrumental tracks hold few surprises for Cars' fans. Elastic guitar tracks, solid bass lines, ever-present drums and an accent of keyboards to make the package complete — and more importantly, marketable — dominate this record.

Not on any Cars album has radio been such a key consideration. "You Might Think," "Hello Again," "Magic," and "Why Can't I Have You" are all radio fare and will continue to be into the summer and early fall. Considering just how good this album is, the amount of airplay is not going to leave you burnt on the Cars.

Two things to watch for concerning this group in the near future: They will become the new darlings of Music Television. Hopefully this will not curse the Cars like it has so many others. That shouldn't happen, given the Cars' track record they have always been able to retain just the right amount of originality.

Keep eyes and ears open for the confirmation of an Omaha appearance sometime between the end of May and the end of July. The Cars' U.S. tour promises to be the biggest of their career and the biggest show of the summer.

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