

Soap star says her character 'asked for it'

By Brad Gifford
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Susan Piper soon will be killed, according to actress Carrie Nye, but it will be only a character assassination.

Nye, who plays the villainous Piper in the CBS soap opera "Guiding Light," said her character "asked for it."

"I've killed so many people, they've got to kill me," Nye said of the show's writers.

Or was that Piper talking? It must have been, because Nye never has murdered anyone. Sense the bond between the character and the actress. A part of Nye will die when Piper's time expires.

"I just love Susan, she's so bad," Nye said in her low, whispery voice.

Apart from that sentimentality, Nye has little sympathy for her character. If she thought the writers weren't going to kill Piper, Nye, who has been with the show since July, would pull the trigger herself.

"I don't think any actor or actress is good after six months on the same show," she said.

Nye speaks from experience. She has worked on stage, in

movies and on television, most recently as a guest star on "Hart to Hart." She received a Tony Award nomination for the play "Half a Six-Pence" and has done movies with Candice Bergen, Alan Alda, Meryl Streep and author Stephen King. Her next film, "The Doorman," will be released soon.

Nye has been traveling the country promoting the "Guiding Light" and was in Lincoln recently to tape commercials at KOLN-TV. When asked about the advertisements' content, her answer was an impromptu demonstration. She flicked her lighter, leaned forward and said, "The 'Guiding Light' ignites with love, passion and danger."

Even a spot as effective as that will not coax Nye into watching soaps.

"I never watch them," Nye said. "I can't imagine watching. I don't watch this one."

Nye is perplexed by the popularity of soaps. She said they are shallow compared to plays or movies, but said she doesn't mind the fakery.

"Things happen magically in soaps," she said. "We don't have to explain any of our actions. We just act."

Nye's actions have made her

work on the show almost solitary. Piper currently is on an island searching for a doll that holds a much sought after secret. Since she killed most of the people she was with, she now is accompanied only by an island native.

"It's pretty much on my own," she said. "I'm essentially with the ninja and the corpses."

She is accompanied in "real" life by talkshow host Dick Cavett, her husband of 20 years. Cavett, a Grand Island native and UNL graduate, and Nye have visited Nebraska together before.

"One time we took backroads all through the state, through the sandhills," Nye said. "You don't realize how beautiful it is until you get off the highways into the open spaces."

Nye said she likes to slow down her life after being in Hollywood for a long time — especially after her guest appearance on the Dick Cavett Show.

"I can usually hide behind my character when I'm on talkshows," she said. "But we know each other so well that it was tough for him to ask good questions and for me to give good answers. I was scared to death. I don't like that kind of pressure."



Nye

Photo courtesy of CBS

Shorts

Political columnist and television analyst Jeff Greenfield will provide "A National Media Perspective on the 1984 Elections," at 8 p.m. today in the Nebraska Union.

A contributing analyst for ABC News who appears regularly on "Nightline," Greenfield formerly was with CBS-TV, appearing on CBS "Morning," "Sunday Morning" and occasionally on "CBS Evening News." In 1980, he served as political commentator with Bill Moyers and James Kilpatrick on CBS' convention and election night coverage.

Admission for students is free, while non-students will be charged \$2.

The talk is being sponsored by University Program Council's Talks and Topics Committee.

The Women's Faculty Club will meet Wednesday at 1 p.m. at Regents Hall.

Alice Dittman, president of Cornhusker Bank, will speak on "Women Should Mind Their Own Business."

A workshop on procrastination will be given Wednesday and Monday at 1:30 p.m. and 9:30 a.m. respectively in the Selleck Quadrangle Multi Purpose Room.

Those wishing to attend should register at the Learning Center, Selleck 7005.

Fourteen graduate fellowships, valued at \$3,000 each, are awarded annually by the National Council of Alpha Lambda Delta. Any member of Alpha Lambda

Delta who has graduated or will graduate in the spring and who has at least a 3.75 cumulative GPA is eligible to apply.

Application forms are available in the Graduate College office, the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aids, or from Alpha Lambda Delta administration liaison Suzanne Brown, Teachers College 101.

The deadline for submission of applications is Thursday.

Ruth Witherspoon, assistant dean for the UNL College of Law, will discuss law school applications Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

The Camp Fire candy sale, which supports the local council's program, will continue through Nov. 25.

A table will be set up in Harper Food Service Wednesday from 4 to 6 p.m. to sell candy.

For more information call 483-7771.

Declining budgets, intergovernmental politics and resource al-

location will be the subjects of a three-day symposium beginning Wednesday at UNL.

The 9th annual Hendricks' Symposium will focus on state and local politics in a time of increasing deficits and declining social services. The conference is sponsored by the UNL political science department.

One of the world's leading experts on federalism will be the keynote speaker at the symposium. Daniel Elazar, director of the Center for the Study of Federalism at Temple University and the Institute of Local Government at Bar Ilan University in Israel, will deliver the address at 8 p.m. Wednesday in the Nebraska Union.

His speech will focus on: "Sub-national Politics: the Problems of Intergovernmental Relations in a Time of Scarcity."

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