



Brian Shellito/Daily Nebraskan

Frontier women are the focus of UNL's 'Quilters' production

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song that it does not seem like a musical, certainly not in the classic Broadway or Hollywood tradition, but hardly a scene is without the music of the human voice. Each segment has its own song to evoke the mood of its memories, and the strains of old Christian hymns reappear throughout.

The opening night's performance was sometimes lacking in energy, a few lines were stepped on and perhaps a couple of scenes paused for a beat too long. There were also occasional problems with an actor being drowned out by background noises.

But the cast generally gave good performances, each one with at least one monologue in which to shine. Unfortunately, only Lucca-Thyberg's character was given a name, so

only her performance, which wonderfully bounced between Sarah's elderly present and spry memories, can be listed as a standout.

The other actresses are Katrina Eicher-Sherrill, Carolyn Slemph, Mary Ellen Park, Shaun RyLee Harner, Rebecca Miclette Loomis, and Christina E. Bost.

"Quilters" is a very recent play, originally developed at the Denver Center Theater Company. Totten did not know what year the play was written, but a traveling tour company presented it at Kimball Hall in 1985, which she said was probably close to its creation date.

The playbook was written by Molly Newman and Barbara Damashek, music and lyrics by Damashek. They are the expert quilters who created this excellent work on a piece of the human exper-

ience. The play is about women, but not just for them. Maybe the play is specifically about the frontier, but the author has a knowledge of the common experience of people wider than the whole of the west.

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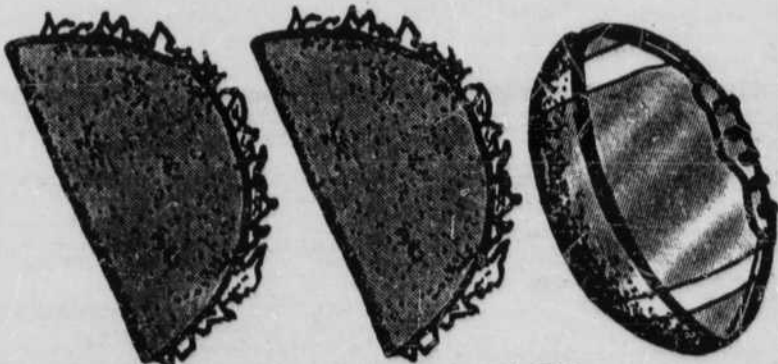
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