

Daily Nebraskan WEEKEND PREVIEW

For the weekend
of Sept. 16 - 18

Give it a shot

> **HuskerVision celebration** — Tonight's gala will combine a pep rally with an official introduction to Memorial Stadium's new giant-sized instant replay screens to Husker Fans. Also featured will be a performance by the Cornhusker Marching Band.

> **The Millions** — Lincoln's favorite hometown band makes an appearance at The Hurricane, 1118 O St., with The Tom Ficke Group. Tickets are five dollars plus a can of food.



The Secret Garden

Childhood fantasy comes alive

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

Within the tales of classic childhood fantasy lies the key to unlocking the progression of death, birth and regrowth in "The Secret Garden."

The popular children's novel by Francis Hodgson Burnett will come to life when a national touring company brings the Broadway musical adaptation to the Lied Center for Performing Arts main stage this weekend.

"The Secret Garden" tells the tale of Mary Lennox, a young orphan girl who is sent to live with her widowed uncle in the English moors in 1906.

The young girl discovers an enclosed, locked garden overrun with vegetation; and the mystery begins. Mary befriends the maid's younger brother, Dickon, and the two set out to investigate the estate.

They stumble upon Mary's sickly cousin, Colin, lying in his bedroom. The three set off on a mission to bring life and love to each other, and to unlock the mystery of the secret garden.

Alee Ralph, the touring company's production manager, said "The Secret Garden" remained a timeless classic because of its childhood idealism.

"It is the story of death, birth and regrowth, which is sort of a child's fantasy," he said.

A world void of parents and authorities is every child's dream, Ralph said.

"If you really place yourself in the position of Mary and see things from a child's point of view," Ralph said. "A child's reality is very different."

He said "The Secret Garden" was universally appealing.

"I just saw it this weekend, and the adults were crying as much as the kids were," he said. "It's just a classic everyone sort of knows."

Ralph said touring with a cast of children was very different.

A trained, adult professional can accept a role and translate it into a performance, he said. A child wants to know why, when and how a character acts.

"Adults are working from life experiences they've accumulated," he said. "Children don't have these experiences to draw from."

This doesn't mean children are any less professional, Ralph said. He said some of the children in the cast had more experience than some of the adults — and it showed.

"The Secret Garden" opened on Broadway in 1991 and captured three Tony Awards. Since then, the show has been touring across the nation under the direction of Victoria Bussert.

"The Secret Garden" will open at the Lied Center at 8 p.m. tonight. Additional performances will be Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$28, \$24 and \$20. Student tickets are half-price.



Photos courtesy of Big League Theatricals

Above: The cast of the Big League Theatricals touring company of "The Secret Garden," which will stop at the Lied Center for Performing Arts this weekend. Top: Rebecca Stevens is Mary Lennox, an orphan, in "The Secret Garden."

Quik Facts

Show: "The Secret Garden"

At: Lied Center for Performing Arts

Times: 8 p.m. today and Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday

Tickets: \$28, \$24, and \$20, available at box office; student tickets are half-price

Cornhusker band prepares for first performance

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

"Ten hut! Ten hut!"

When Erin Beave hears this command Saturday, he'll be at attention on the field of Memorial Stadium. But Beave isn't a football player. He's a trumpet player.

Beave, a senior music major, and the other 284 members of the Cornhusker Marching Band, will start preparing at 9 a.m. Saturday for their first home game performance.

The band starts the day with a rehearsal that runs until 10:45 a.m. From then until 12:30 p.m., they are allowed to eat, prepare their equipment and get into their uniforms.

They meet in the band room at Westbrook Music Building and run through the halftime show.

Then the show begins. They line up and march down to Memorial Stadium.

Saturday's game will be Beave's 28th home-game performance.

"I wasn't really nervous until I got into the tunnel and realized 76,000 people would see every move I made," Beave said.

"I wouldn't exactly call Saturday morning relaxed," he said, "but it's not a high pressure situation."

Becky McGuire, a senior music education major, knows the meaning of pressure. She's the head drum major and is responsible for calling out the commands and getting ev-

eryone in line.

"It's a lot of excitement," she said. "For people who haven't marched before, it's quite an experience to see all those people in red and white cheering and screaming."

McGuire said much of the morning was spent polishing music and running over commands.

"My main job is being on the ladder and conducting, which is a lot of keeping time and giving dynamics and being a reference point for what's coming up," she said.

There are combinations of verbal and whistle commands McGuire and the other drum majors use.

"Ten hut! Ten hut!" calls the band to attention. "Mark, time, hut!" prepares the band to "forward

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BECKY MCGUIRE

Cornhusker Marching Band head drum major

march." "Parade rest" instructs the band members to stand at rest.

McGuire said the specific movements depended on the individual and his or her instrument. The musicians' spots are marked on drill

charts diagramming the program, which the band runs back and forth until the members learn their charted positions.

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