

"Overtures"

Liza Holtmeier



Theater, dance auditions set for new shows of this season

For those who have dreamed of seeing their names in lights, the next two weeks may provide the opportunity.

Various theater and dance auditions are being held for upcoming performances and productions both on campus and off.

The dance department will hold auditions today at 2:30 p.m. in Room 304 of Mabel Lee Hall. These auditions are for the annual Spring Concert to be held in March as well as the annual "Last Chance to Dance" performance to be held during Dead Week. Those interested should contact Charlotte Adams, director of the dance department, at 472-1713.

The theater department will be auditioning people for their second stage Theatrical. Shows on this semester's Theatrical schedule include "Minor Demons," by Bruce Graham; "Sylvia," by A.R. Gurney; and "The Wool Gatherer," by William Mastrosimone.

People interested in auditioning should sign up in the commons of the Temple Building for an audition time for either today or Thursday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. They should come prepared to perform a monologue no more than three minutes in length. Call backs for these shows will be Friday and Saturday.

The Lincoln Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St., will host auditions for the musical, "The Secret Garden," Sept. 9 and 10. LCP needs men and women between the ages of 18 and 70 to fill 13 ensemble chorus and six main roles. Auditions are by appointment from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Those auditioning should bring a non-returnable photo, be prepared to sing a song from a musical and wear comfortable clothing for the movement audition. Call backs are scheduled for Sept. 11.

For those more comfortable on the audience's side of the footlights, various University Nebraska-Lincoln dancers will be performing with the Omaha Modern Dance Collective in "Nebraska Dancing."

This concert will be on Sept. 12 and 13 at 8 p.m. at the Lied Education Center for the Arts at 24th and Cass streets on the Creighton University campus. The evening consists of 11 pieces and features choreography by UNL faculty members Charlotte Adams and Lisa Mercer.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission, \$8 for students and \$6 for OMDC members. Contact OMDC for reservations at (402) 551-7473.

Schedule of Upcoming Auditions

Department of Theatre Arts and Dance
Sept. 3: Dance department, Spring Concert and "Last Chance to Dance," 2:30 p.m., Mabel Lee Hall 304.

Sept. 3, 4: Theater department, "Sylvia," Temple Building commons area, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Temple Building commons area.

Lincoln Community Playhouse
Sept. 9-10: "The Secret Garden," 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m., 2500 S. 56th St.

Life From the Plains

Photos reveal family in rural setting through faces

By SEAN MCCARTHY
Staff Reporter

Stretched, cloud-covered horizons, bleak accounts of depopulation and intimate shots of families highlight Peter Miller's photography exhibit, "People of the Great Plains," now on display at the Great Plains Art Collection, 215 Love Library.

For the collection of 66 black-and-white photographs, Miller traveled to 10 states, exposed 400 rolls of film and sorted through 400 pages of notes to compile his book of the same name. The photographs are part of a traveling exhibit that originated at the Museum of the Great Plains in Lawton, Okla. The Lincoln exhibit, sponsored by Friends of the Center for Great Plains Studies, opened Monday.

Martha Kennedy, curator of the Great Plains Art Collection, said she was introduced to Miller's work by Christine Lesiak, who produced the documentary, "Fate of the Plain." Lesiak met Miller while making the documentary for Nebraska Educational Television and



PHOTO COURTESY OF PETER MILLER
THIS UNTITLED PORTRAIT of Arthur rancher Margaret Hawkins is one of 66 photographs by Peter Miller now on display at the Great Plains Art Collection, Love Library 215.

through her special features people, who appeared in Miller's photos for "People of the Great Plains." Lesiak's documentary ran last November on NETV.

While some of the exhibition's photos are skyline panoramas, most feature people from diverse backgrounds. A family on an organic farm, buffalo soldiers, a wide-eyed Texan from Cadillac Ranch and cowboys are a few of the people featured. Fred DuBray, a member of the Cheyenne River Reservation, also is featured

in "People of the Great Plains." DuBray received an award from Newsweek magazine for his work in restoring bison to tribal lands.

Kennedy said this exhibit put more focus on individuals of the Plains than previous exhibits.

The exhibit stretched the capacity of the center, Kennedy said. After looking over the photos, she opted for a straightforward state-

Please see PLAINS on 16

Eric Johnson emulates rock with soul at Ranch Bowl

By GLENN NORTON AND MARYANN MUGGY
Music Critics

Concert Review

Who is Eric Johnson and why should you care?

If you were to ask people on the street that question, they would probably give you a blank stare. However, if you were to ask a guitar player that question, there would be a much different reply.

A young man waiting outside the gates of the Ranch Bowl on Saturday night gave such a reply. He was upset that he could not attend the concert because he did not meet the age requirement. When questioned why he wanted in, he simply replied that it was the most important concert of his life, and he was desperate to get in.

Relatively unknown in the mainstream, Austin, Texas-native Eric Johnson is truly a guitar player's guitar player. He has been called the Great Emulator because he can cover all the bases, from rock to jazz to country, often better than musicians in those fields.

Johnson was in Omaha touring for his third and latest release, "Venus Isle." We were very fortunate to be able to attend a very magical evening.

The evening started with an Omaha's National B. This three-member band played a strong 45-minute set of good

rock and soul. A great effort, this is a band to look out for in the future.

Johnson took the stage about 10 p.m. after fine-tuning his equipment for about five minutes. He opened the set with "Righteous," a song from his second release, "Ah Via Musicom." He went on to play strong blues renditions of Howlin' Wolf's "Sitting on Top of the World" and B.B. King's "Rock Me Baby."

Midway through his two-hour set, Johnson played "S.R.V.," his song written in dedication to the late Stevie Ray Vaughn. He also played beautiful renditions of "Venus Intro" and "When the Sun Meets the Sky," both from the "Venus Isle" release.

Toward the end of the set, Johnson convinced guitar players in the audience - including Glenn - why he was on stage and why we were in the seats with a beautiful 10-minute solo, which led into his signature song, the Grammy-winning "Cliffs of Dover."

After the first set, he was called back for two encores, both to standing ovations. For the second one, he played a touching rendition of Jimi Hendrix's "The Wind Cries Mary." While Johnson left the stage for the last time in the

evening, we noticed that through a rocking, two-hour set, the Great Emulator had not even broken a sweat.

We met him after the show and asked him if he would give any advice to young and unknown players. He said young players should concentrate on rhythm, not so much on leads. Glenn has not played a lead since.

Johnson will tour Japan from Sept. 5 to Sept. 11 and will return home for a short, but much needed rest. Keyboardist Steve Barber said the band would go back into the studio after the break. He anticipates a new album by the end of the year.

This should excite fans who had to wait six years between "Ah Via Musicom" and the newest release, "Venus Isle." However, after the exquisite show on Saturday night, we are sure fans will be willing to wait patiently for another six years to hear the music of the great Eric Johnson.

MARYANN MUGGY/DN
GUITAR GREAT ERIC JOHNSON dazzled the audience at the Ranch Bowl on Saturday night. The Grammy-winning Johnson played two encores and received two standing ovations.

