

PIPER'S
FLORAL

1424 South St. 475-3031

9 Great Valentine Specials
from
\$15 to \$75

Bring in this ad for 10% OFF

Festival composed of six student plays

FESTIVAL from page 7

Ludwig's hilarious farce "Lend Me a Tenor."

On Thursday, Scott Raymond's "Standby" will be the featured reading. Raymond based the play off his friends, and one actor even plays Raymond.

Saturday's readings feature "Some Little Talk A While" by Lisa Verigin, and "Pieces of Time" by Joseph McClanahan.

"Some Little Talk A While" tells the story of a woman who becomes obsessed with characters in history.

"Pieces of Time" is a monologue of a man turning 30 who is moving from his house. As he packs up, the man reflects on his life and his relationships.

The festival organizers chose to have staged readings of the plays because of time constraints.

The readings enable playwrights to get their work in front of an audience with minimal work. Technical elements are kept to a minimum, and rehearsal time is shorter because the actors need not memorize their lines.

Since staged readings usually feature an excerpt of the work, it is not necessary to have a play ready for a full production. Many of this festival's plays are works in progress.

While preparing for this festival, the six playwrights have kept a hands-off approach. The playwrights have limited their involvement in the rehearsals to watching a few read-

throughs and having brief discussions with the directors.

Verigin said she wanted to see how the play evolved without her input.

"When you're writing something, you get very caught up. You lose perspective," Verigin said.

Playwrights also will gain experience through audience feedback. Following each staged reading, the cast, director and playwright will lead a short response session.

If the festival succeeds, it may become a staple of the Theatrix season. Key said audiences who took a chance on the festival would be surprised.

"There's some really good stuff going on behind closed doors," she said.

Actor's work tackles controversial diversity issues

RAZ from page 7

"Once trust is built, you can say anything," Raz said.

The stream of controversial topics continued in 1998. Raz worked with an architecture class on a free-speech project that was a reaction to former English Assistant Professor David Hibler's allegedly racist comments in

an e-mail.

Heavy topics are exactly what actors need to confront, he said. It is their job to "speak the truth about things that are hard to speak the truth about," he said.

It is something he is committed to, even when he is not working specifically on diversity training at UNL.

Though Raz, a playwright, actor

and circus performer, is often commissioned to write plays, he finds time to explore his roots, and his life in works such as 1990's "Father-Land" and "Birth Mark," his latest endeavor.

Both explore issues of Jewish heritage and the theme of identity, which appear in several of his works.

Raz also strives to act in projects that are meaningful, and when he finds them, his commitment to them is strong. The allure of commercial work won't keep him from what really matters to him.

"For a lot of actors, television shows or movies trump other things," he said. "To me, money isn't everything."

The proof lies in the dedication Raz has shown to projects in the past. In one case, he was working on a play that lasted three months when he got an offer to do an eight-day television part.

Despite the variance in time commitments, the two paid the same amount: \$800. But since Raz already had signed on to the play, he said there was no way he was going to take the television show.

The casting director didn't understand, he said. She had never heard of anything like that before.

Decisions like that aren't common in showbiz, and they cause another problem to arise, Raz said.

"It really pisses your agent off."

By placing commitments over profit, Raz has impressed plenty of people in the performance community. Ron Bowlin, the director of the Artist Diversity Program, is one of those people. Bowlin has commented on Raz's dedication to fostering a cross-cultural understanding.

"I think Jeff enjoys variety," Bowlin said. "I think the opportunity that we offer him here to do this kind of work is something that he values."

The program's main focus is to promote a greater appreciation for diversity by bringing in people from a variety of cultural backgrounds to UNL for periods of one to five weeks.

In his current two-week visit, Raz will not be taking on a large project such as the plays he put together in '96 and '97.

Instead, he is visiting separate classes and doing in-class explorations of how stereotypes form.

Also, the Artist Diversity Project has extended to high schools, and Raz is dividing his time between visiting them and UNL classes.

Next week his new play, "Birth Mark," which grew out of the adoption of his son, opens at the Lincoln Community Playhouse.

And he'll return next year, ready to inform and explore difficult topics.

The quality of UNL's program, unparalleled by any university he has come into contact with, will keep him coming back, he said, even if it means missing out on larger financial opportunities.

One of the reasons behind its quality, he said, reaches back to that feeling of trust that the Midwest fosters, and that the program has mastered.

"When you trust artists, you get people willing to fly long distances, willing enough to make this work," Raz said.

And Raz said he will live up to that trust.

Even if it upsets his agent.

Valentine's Day

It's right around the corner, and we've got the gifts that could save your life!

Shopping.com
Your source for Back to School Everything!

MAXIMIZER

Shopping.com

Randy Peters
9876 5432 1098 7654
Exp. 01/10/00

Sign up for a Maximizer Account Today!

- Earn Bonus Dollars
- Free Email
- Free E-Shopper
- Personalized Shopping List
- Build your own Website at Shopping.com!

Visit our new **JEWELRY** Department for Great Affordable Gifts!

500 Minute Pre-Paid Phone Cards
Call your Mother, she misses you.
\$59.99

• Also Available in 100 & 200 Minutes
• No strings attached
• No connection charge
• No monthly billing

119¢

All Bestsellers 50% Off List Price... EVERY DAY!

101 Nights

Surreal

\$14.97!

1001 Nights

Romantic

\$7.77!

Scholarships

GRANTS & PRIZES

\$17.51!

2 REAL LSATS

EXPLAINED

\$22.71!

We also carry **TEXTBOOKS** at **Incredibly Low Prices!**

Over 250,000 CD Titles!
All Billboard Top 40 CDs only \$8.97 each... EVERY DAY!

AC/DC

CELL-TECH

LYNEX

Sports Nutrition

<p>Muscle Tech Cell-Tech Grape 600g</p> <p>4.3 Oz \$39.99 List Price \$39.99 You Save \$28.00!</p> <p>Cell-Tech Nutrition Mega Fat Burners 600g</p> <p>4.3 Oz \$9.99 List Price \$19.99 You Save \$7.00!</p> <p>Power Bar Athletic Power Bar 600g</p> <p>Box of 24 \$23.99 List Price \$42.00 You Save \$18.01!</p> <p>Cell-Tech Nutrition 100% Whey Protein 600g</p> <p>4.3 Oz \$19.99 List Price \$39.99 You Save \$28.00!</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Shopping.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Final Word in Low Prices... PERIOD.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Check us out on the Internet at www.shopping.com, or call us at 1-888-LOVE-2-SHOP. Prices effective through February 21, 1999. *California residents excluded.</p>
--	---

True love never dies.

It lives on through time. On the tips of tongues, notes and the rhythm of our hearts. "Romantic Rhapsody" is a unique Valentine's Day event combining the immortal tale of Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet" with the dramatic melodies of Tchaikovsky, Bernstein, Prokofiev and Rota. An unprecedented multimedia collaboration of the Lied Center, Lincoln Symphony, Lincoln Community Playhouse and the Lincoln Community Foundation. For tickets, call the Lied Center box office:

402.472.4747
800.432.3031

Sunday: February 14 @ 2pm & 7pm
Box Office Hours @ 11am - 5:30pm
Monday - Friday

VALENTINE'S DAY @ 1999

LIED CENTER

DANCE

HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) VACCINE CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY

- HEALTHY, UNMARRIED FEMALES AGES 16-23 YEARS ARE NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE IN A STUDY TESTING AN INVESTIGATIONAL VACCINE AGAINST HUMAN PAPILOMA VIRUS.
- YOUNG WOMEN LESS THAN 19 YEARS OF AGE WILL NEED PARENTAL CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY.

- 8 TO 9 VISITS IN 2 1/2 TO 3 YEARS
- STIPENED PAID -- \$75 PER STUDY VISIT

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CALL US AT

(402)280-4448

OR E-MAIL: NOWATZKE@CREIGHTON.EDU

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY INFECTIOUS DISEASES
ASK FOR ONE ON THE STUDY NURSES