

'Mobile Hymn' debuts; good despite rough edges

By JEFF GROVE
Assistant Arts Editor

Mobile Hymn, the current offering of the Playmakers Repertory Company, is a big event for UNC. Unlike most PRC productions, which are of plays considered to be "classics" of the theatre, this play is making its world premiere at the Paul Green Theatre on campus.

Review

The playwright, Robert Litz, has been in residence during rehearsals to make necessary changes in the script. Though there are still a few rough edges, the opening night performance indicated that *Mobile Hymn* will probably establish itself as an important new work.

The play chronicles the disintegration of an old-fashioned American family, but, surprisingly, the message of the play is one of hope rather than despair. Litz uses the break-up of the family to illustrate the problems each member faces later when he has no close family ties.

Central to the plot is a blue-collar family consisting of Marge, played by Carole Lockwood, her husband John, a role taken by Pirie MacDonald, and their children Moll and Julie, performed by Richard Pait and Tricia Strauss. There are twelve other roles, all played by the four principals. The double casting aids in creating a part of the symbolic message of the play.

There is only a thread of a plot to *Mobile Hymn*, but this is entirely acceptable in a play which focuses mainly on people and ideas. Moll, thrown out of the house because he does not want to abide by the same social code as his father, moves in with a woman twelve years his senior. Julie goes off to college. John and Marge sell their house, but a motor home and head West. But the parents are unable to contact Julie with the news because she has secretly left school. After these events transpire, Litz shows the family members individually trying to re-establish contact with each other.

The show takes a while to engage the viewer because the relationships between the many characters purposefully are blurred, but the second act compensates for any prior confusion. In fact, the play is, in part, about confusion—the confusion caused by a lack of communication. Litz includes an attempt, ultimately beaten to death, to convey this idea by having all the other characters act as telephone operators creating a barrier when Marge tries to call Julie at school. A more subtle, refined touch in this direction is a telephone pole in one corner of the set, a subliminal reminder of what is, or is not, going on.

Carole Lockwood is a superb comedienne in her small roles, effectively contrasting her reserved performance as Marge.

Pirie MacDonald also excels in his smaller roles, especially in a hilarious



Playmakers Repertory Company members in 'Mobile Hymn'

...the world-premier play portrays a family in turmoil

spoof of college professors presiding over huge lecture classes and in a touching appearance as a bum. But his portrayal of John is largely superficial, and he often seems to be yelling merely for the sake of yelling.

Richard Pait, an LDA candidate in the Department of Dramatic Art, gives a balanced performance of Moll, never letting him slip into stereotype. He creates a particularly charming moment where Moll is a small boy.

Tricia Strauss, a UNC senior, is impressive as both Julie and as a park ranger. Although *Mobile Hymn* marks her professional debut, she matches the other performers and, at times, surpasses them in quality.

Director David Rotenberg has temporarily altered the Paul Green Theatre

to present *Mobile Hymn* on an arena stage (the audience is seated on all four sides of the playing area), an effective move which enhances the intimacy of the performance. He has managed to visually assist the poetic qualities of Litz' script without being heavy-handed.

The stark white set, designed by Linwood Taylor, and the well-planned lighting, by Norman Coates, add tremendously to the play, especially in the moving final scene.

Mobile Hymn runs through Sunday at 8 p.m. There is also a 2 p.m. Sunday matinee. Admission is \$9 on Friday and Saturday and \$7 at all other times. UNC students with IDs may obtain a discount at the door. For information or reservations call the PRC box office at 962-1121.

Area drama groups get grants

Gov. Jim Hunt and Sara Hodgkins, secretary of the State Department of Cultural Resources, recently announced that three local performing groups have been awarded state theater arts grants.

Playmakers Repertory Company received \$12,000; the Carolina Regional Theatre was awarded \$10,000; and

Touch, a Carrboro-based mime group, was given \$5,000. The grants were recommended by N.C. Theatre Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources concerned with non-profit professional theater groups.

Hodgkins cited the innovative projects of the three groups as key factors in their selection.

Gallery exhibit features 'Yack' photos

By SHARON RAWLINGS
Special to the DTH

The *Yackety Yack* staff is showing a selection of black and white photographs this week in the Carolina Union gallery.

The exhibit features 20 photographs portraying people, landscapes and the changing seasons at UNC in an attempt to provide a varied insight into campus life.

Peter Krogh, a *Yack* photographer, said, "We're trying to show a picture of campus life as aesthetically pleasing."

The *Yack* staff reviewed several thousand photographs before making their selection. "These pictures are some of the

better photographs the staff has taken," Krogh said.

The exhibit includes only one sports photograph, a portrait of basketball player James Worthy. Similarly, only one concert photograph is on display, a backstage photograph of 86-year-old Preservation Hall Jazz Band leader, Kid Thomas Valentine.

Most *Yack* photographers are represented in the exhibit including: Scott Sharpe, Kim Snooks, Joe Turner, Jim Burgin, Peter Krogh, Joe Morris, Sandy Steacy, Page Dula and Greg Dinkins.

All of the photographs on exhibit will be included in the 1982 *Yackety Yack* yearbook, which will be available next fall.

Campus Calendar

Public service announcements must be turned into the box outside DTH offices in the Carolina Union by noon if they are to run the next day. Each item will be run at least twice.

TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Dr. Jesse White, executive director of the Growth Policies Board, will present "Views on Planning" in the short-talk series sponsored by the Department of City and Regional Planning at 1 p.m. in 102 New East Building. Everyone is invited. The UNC Guitars Ensemble concert will be at 8:15 p.m. at the Horace Williams House. Seating is limited so please call 962-7818 for a reservation. The concert is free.

The Society of Jesus meeting planned for March 3 has been canceled.

Nancy Saleeby, M.S. Speech-Language Pathologist at NCMH will speak 12:30-1:45 p.m. in Room 83 of Wing D of the Medical School. Her topic will be "Practical Application: Central Auditory Processing Deficits." Coffee will be provided. Bring your own lunch.

The Fantasy and Science Fiction Club, Chalmers, will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the South Gallery meeting room in the Union. Everyone is invited.

AESEC will meet for completion of elections and general business at 5 p.m. in South Gallery Meeting Room. Only PAID members may vote. Proxy votes accepted in office, however.

Great Decisions '82 Panel and Discussion: "Protecting the World's Resources: Is Time Running Out?" with Robert Smythe, former staff member of President's Council on Environmental Quality; Martha Jenner, Executive Director of N.C. Academy of Science; and Frances Seymour, B.S. in Zoology from UNC, at 4 p.m. Thursday in Carolina Union Auditorium. Discussion booklets are available at International Center in the Carolina Union.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes will meet at 8:30 p.m. Thursday in the Carolina Union. Dr. Danny Loz will speak. Bring a friend and a smile.

The Greenville/Off Campus Chapter of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Chapel of the Cross for informal singing and sharing. All are welcome.

North Campus Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship will be having a chapter meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the basement of the University Methodist Church. Gail Merrick will be speaking on Matthew 5:17-48. Everyone is welcome.

A Prayer Breakfast will be held at 7 a.m. Friday at the Campus Christian Fellowship house. The house is located at 204 Glenburnie St. For information or a ride, call 942-8952.

COMING EVENTS

Campus Christian Fellowship will continue studying Romans at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Carolina Union. All are welcome. Check Union information desk for room number.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

Intramurals: Final meeting for IM softball team captain's at 7 p.m. in 109 Fetzer Gym and for officials from 5 to 6 p.m. in 304 Wollen Gym tonight. Captains must attend one of the two organizational meetings to receive entry forms... Officials clinics are mandatory.

The Carolina Disc Club and Slug's Restaurant present the Ultimate First Class Dinner for two. A raffle to benefit the Carolina Ultimate Frisbee Tournament will feature a candlelight dinner to be served by two personal formal waiters in front of South Building. Tickets are \$1 and on sale through Sunday.

Senior Class Committee will not meet Sunday or March 14. Next meeting will be at 7 p.m. March 16 in the Carolina Union. Make your last Spring Break one worth remembering.

Nominations forms for the Robert White Linker Award, given to a freshman or sophomore with the most outstanding contribution to residence life based on leadership criteria, are available at the RHA office, Union desk and Carr building. Deadline is March 5.

Applications for Senior Class marshals are now available at the Union Desk. All rising seniors are encouraged to apply. Deadline is Friday.

Nominations for Distinguished Teaching Awards are due at the end of this week. Ballots at the Carolina Union, libraries, Y court and around campus.

"The Rainbow in Black," is a photography competition for students co-sponsored by African/Afro-American studies and Black Int. Entry forms are available in 401 Alumni Building or call 966-5496 for details. Deadline for entries is March 19.

Student Health Service is offering a four-week "Holistic Weight Management Workshop" emphasizing positive lifestyle behaviors in a supportive group setting. Enrollment is limited to UNC students less than 25 pounds overweight. This group will meet four consecutive weeks beginning 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 16 in the Student Health Service. To register, call 966-2281, ext. 275, to arrange for a pre-screening interview (mandatory).

Anyone wishing to sponsor a bloodmobile next year should contact APO at 962-3996 or 962-1044. This is a good service project for fraternities, sororities and other campus groups. Pre-set Students: Summer 1982 N.C. Agriculture and

Technical University in Greensboro will offer the required animal science courses for admission to NCSU School of Veterinary Medicine June 7-July 16. NCSU in Raleigh will offer the required animal science courses July 6-Aug. 11. Come by Pre-Med/Pre-Dent Advising Office in 201-D Steele Building or 106 Nash Hall for additional information. Summer School is the best time to get these courses.

Anyone interested in International Affairs on the UNC campus? If so, please call Susan Ladd at 933-1736. Offering a Red Cross Water Safety Instruction Certification Course Tuesday and Thursday 8-11 p.m. from March 30 to April 29 to certify instructors to teach swimming. Participants must be at least 17 years old and hold a current Advanced Life Saving certification. Register now. Call YMCA 942-5156 for more information.

Applications now available at Union Desk for Transfer Area Coordinators, Freshman and Transfer Orientation Counselors and Pre-Orientation positions. Applications should be returned to 01 Steele Building by March 5.

MED and SAAP applications are due at the UNC School of Medicine and at the N.C. Health Manpower Development respectively on March 1. For information about these two summer session programs here at UNC for disadvantaged students come to Pre-Med/Pre-Dent Advising Office in 201-D or 106 Nash Hall.

The Carolina Union Human Relations Committee is in the process of selecting students, faculty and administrators to participate as observers in the Campus Y Discus Discussion Committee. Applications should be returned to 1-5 p.m. Wednesday in Great Hall Union. Applications must be returned by March 5.

Campus Y Big Badasses: remember ice skating from 10 a.m. until 12 noon at Daniel Boone Rink. Little Brothers are admitted free. Please show up. Also, applications for next year's co-chairs are available at the Y. Deadline is March 5.

Win a Honda Civic and help fight hemophilia. Raffle tickets only \$1 from Arnold Air Society, Air Force ROTC, 962-7587. John Kevin Bryant and Cadets in support of the Hemophilia Foundation.

Airborne Veterans please contact Bob Pace at 967-8492. Anyone interested in co-editing the Campus Y Discus Discussion Committee please stop by the Campus Y before spring break.

Ballots to nominate professors for Distinguished Teaching Awards are available through March 5 at the Union, libraries, Y-Court and around campus. Submit to 102 Steele Building by March 5.

Any UNC organizations or clubs interested in having a booth at a demonstration at the New Well Health Fair on April 6 and 7 please call 942-WELL between 3 and 7 p.m. through Thursday.

Pregnancy Support Services (PSS) exists as a non-profit, non-political organization concerned to offer women in crisis pregnancies positive alternatives to abortion. If you would like more information about our program or about how you can help out, we welcome your calls. Evening, 942-6168 or daytime at 929-3728.

DAT (Dental Admission Test) applications and "Update" hand-outs for those planning admission to dental schools for fall '83 are now available in 201-D Steele Building and 101 Nash Hall. Test is April 17; application deadline is March 22.

MCAT (Medical College Admission Test) applications and "Update" hand-outs for those planning admission to Medical Schools in fall '83 are now available in 201-D Steele Building and 101 Nash Hall. Test will be given April 24. L.D. pictures required with applications, due March 26.

Applications for places at the reception for Tom Wolfe after his Carolina Symposium appearance March 18 are available at the Union desk. Watch for coming symposium dates.

Nominations for the Roger A. Davis Award, presented to the student who has given outstanding service to the University, especially in residence life, are now being accepted. Nominations forms are available at the RHA office, suite B, Union, and are due March 31.

Vietnam veterans interested in joining a support group, call John Kin at 933-7057.

The Sherlock Holmes Society of Chapel Hill, the Genesis Mites, will hold its next meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the meeting room of the Chapel Hill Public Library.

Toronto Exchange and American Express will show the Academy Award winning film "The Deer Hunter" at 7 and 10:30 p.m. Thursday in 106 Carrol Hall. Admission is \$1.

Practice interview sessions with a counselor will be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday. Call or drop-in 211 Hanes Hall to make an appointment for a one-hour session, 962-6507. Sessions involve videotaping and critique of a practice interview.

Come to Kaffeeklatsch every Thursday 3-5 p.m. at the Newman Center. Practice speaking German with students, faculty and community members. There will be no Kaffeeklatsch Thursday.

Representatives from Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida will be on campus Thursday and Friday for information and interviews. On Thursday they will be in 207 Union 7-10 p.m. with a slide show and will do interviews. On Friday they will interview between 8 a.m. and 12 noon in 207 Union.

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