In-Schools Opera

Features Moore

By Jacquie Levister Post Staff Writer

The Charlotte Opera Asso-ciation presents "Opera-In-The-Schools" for a sixth sea-

The offering this year is a 50 minute rendition of Seymour Barb's delightful children's "Little Red Riding Hood."

The performance features three singers, an accompanist and technical director. Jane Griffin portrays Little Red Riding Hood, Joyce Moody as Mother-Grandmother and "the seeming favorite of the show," according to Paula Almond of the Opera Association, "is the wolf," characterized by Thomas Moore.

Moore, a voice graduate from the Manhatten School of Music who attended Johnson C. Smith University, also portrays the woodsman in the production.

Performances of Little Red Riding Hood are designed to involve students from kinder-garten to sixth grade in an opera experience that is both educational and fun. Letters sent to the Association reflect the total enjoyment children, lucky enough to have seen the performance, experience.

From the opening act, where a reluctant acote, Thomas Moore, is pushed on stage and begins explaining his fears of acting while transforming himself into the wolf, the children become totally involved.

"The enthusiasm from the first act carries through the



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entire production," stated Ms. Almond who added "near the end when a bad, bad wolf's weakness is discovered (his mother taught him he should only eat people and the mention of sweets give him an acute stomach ache) the children give directions and try to assist by crying help for the actors."

This wonderfully unfolding play is a beautiful introduction to the world of opera. "Little Red Riding Hood" is an opera and not a musical play that is thoroughly delighting the children," volunteered Ms. Al-mond. "With one-half the season's performances complet-ed the cast has performed before 10,750 children.

Performances have been given at 10 Charlotte-Mecklenburg public schools. Charlotte Country Day School, 10 Gaston County Schools, 6 Statesville schools and will begin on January 17 in Kings





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THIS YEAR-



ZOEL HARGRAVE

As a post script to an earlier Post article about popular Zoel Hargrave, we thought we'd let you know what he's been up to lately. Among other things, he's been active with the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Pan-Hellenic Council, church, helping his grandchildren with their homework, going to dances, and right now he's busy getting ready to attend the Omega Conclave in New Orleans December 26-30. In addition to that, he successfully renewed his auto driver's license last week. But the best news of all is that he went back to the hospital in Florida recently and received a clean bill of health! Thought you'd be as happy as we are.

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