

# Charlottetowne Players To Present Original Opera

Charlottetowne Players are undertaking the most ambitious production of their six-year history on December 3 and 5 when the group presents "Good Tidings from the Holy Beast," an original opera by Charlotte native Don Locklair.

A cast of 64, including a 13-piece orchestral ensemble from the Charlotte Symphony, is being drawn from throughout Charlotte's artistic community to produce the work. In addition to a 20-voice choir from Charlottetowne Players, artistic director

Frances Shafter has drawn 15 members from the Oratorio Singers Chamber Choir, six vocal soloists, pianist Drina Keen, organist Walter H. Ball, and eight members of the Charlotte Youth Ballet.

Dr. Mary Nell Saunders will conduct, and Gay Porter is stage director and choreographer. Performances will be 8:15 p.m. each evening at Myers park Baptist Church.

The 50-minute opera features the Christmas story told through contemporary music in a Medieval set-

ting. According to its composer, whose music was first performed in Charlotte by the Charlotte Symphony last season, "Good Tidings" tries to blend the flavor of early music with contemporary sounds. By being performed in a church sanctuary, the opera resembles the Miracle Plays which served as its inspiration.

Another dimension of the production will be period costumes in the style of Middle Ages provided by the local Society for Creative Anachronism. St. Pa-

trick's Catholic Church is also providing robes for the chorus.

"This is truly a community event," said Mrs. Shafter. "We're drawing on some of the most gifted musicians in town to make this production the highlight of the Christmas season." Indeed, the opera marks the first time these music organizations have performed together.

As a prelude to the opera, the Queens College Choir will perform Ralph Vaughn-Williams' "Magnificat."

nine years at Hartwick College near Binghamton.

Tickets to the concert, priced at \$5.50 and \$8.50, will be on sale through the Spirit Square box office.

Charlottetowne Players, a regional opera and musical theatre company, showcase local talent, emphasizing chamber opera. American music and works rarely performed in this area. It was formed to give an outlet to students and performers of serious music.

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## Elegant Wedding Set For Television

One of the most elegant weddings in daytime television will soon take place on the ABC Television Network's popular serial, "One Life to Live," and famous Metropolitan Opera star Roberta Peters will be there to sing. Miss Peters, who has performed in all the world's great opera houses, will come to Llanview, the fictional setting for the program, and sing the Back-Bounod "Ave Maria." The date is Friday, November 12 at 2 p.m. on WSOC-TV, Channel 9.

She will be guest soloist at the wedding of lovely Victoria Lord Riley, the "Dallas"

young newspaper publisher played by Erika Slezak, to dynamic editor Clint Buchanan of the oil-rich Buchanans, portrayed by Clint Ritchie. The ceremony will take place in the flower-filled library of Vicki's family mansion, Llanfair.

Miss Peters is taking time to appear at the wedding from a busy schedule that includes performances this season in Verdi's "The Masked Ball" at the Metropolitan Opera in New York where she made her debut at the remarkably young age of 19. She became famous overnight when she was hurriedly

called upon to replace an ailing soprano in Mozart's "Don Giovanni." Miss Petters has gone on to sing an astounding 37 starring roles on the stage of the Met alone. She has appeared in such world famous stages as London's Covent Garden, the Vienna State Opera and the Bolshoi in Moscow.

The wedding, which will be attended by all the important people in Llanview, will air over a two-day period - Friday, November 12 and Monday, November 15 at 2 p.m.

"One Life to Live" airs weekdays at 2 p.m. on WSOC-TV, Channel 9.

J.R. and Bobby take different routes in their efforts to outdo each other for Ewing Oil, on "Dallas," Friday, November 12 at 9 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.



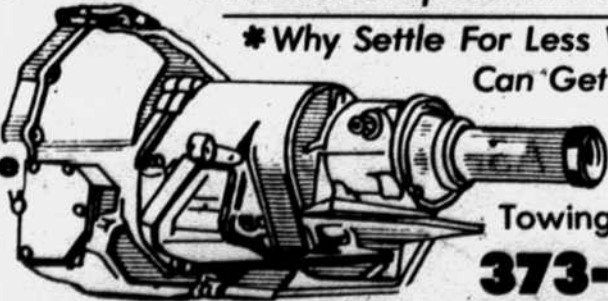
J.R. again is up to his old tricks to gain the advantage over his brother in their rivalry. Bobby gambles on a risky business proposition. Rebecca makes Cliff president of Barnes-Wentworth Oil and Pam pleads with her mother to call off her vendetta against J.R. which has all of the Ewing women worried. Lucy tries to work while solving her personal problems. Dave Culver talks Donna into attending a political meeting.

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The Charlotte performances will mark only the third time "Good Tidings from the Holy Beast" has been presented. The work premiered in Lincoln, Nebraska, in December 1978, and was performed again in Binghamton, N.Y., last Christmas. Dr. Locklair, 33, now a music professor at Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, will be on hand on both evenings here. He joined that faculty this fall after teaching for

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