

# WPCQ-TV To Provide Live Coverage Of Observer Marathon

The Carolinas' premier running event, the Charlotte Observer Marathon, will be televised live again on Saturday, January 8, by WPCQ, Channel 36 in what station officials believe may be the largest live, locally produced television production in North and South Carolina.

"See How They Run '83" will go on the air at 9 a.m. race day morning, January 8, one hour prior to the start of the 26-mile, 375-yard sixth annual Observ-

## Oratorio

## Sings To

## Audition Singers

A pair of masterpieces written almost 200 years apart will be performed January 15 by The Oratorio Singers of Charlotte in the group's first 1983 concert.

The works are Mozart's "Requiem," first performed in 1793, and Leonard Bernstein's 1965 "Chichester Psalms." They will be sung by the 160-voice Oratorio Singers under the direction of Dr. Mary Nell Saunders, who also will conduct The Charlotte Symphony Orchestra in the performance at Charlotte's Owen's Auditorium.

Tickets are available for the January 15 performances and a May 7 concert featuring Metropolitan Opera bass Jerome Hines. Single performance tickets are 19, except for senior citizens and students, for whom the price is \$5. Tickets for both concerts are \$15 and \$9. They may be obtained at the Oratorio office in Spirit Square, 110 East 7th Street and at the Spirit Square Box Office.

The Mozart masterpiece will feature four soloists: soprano Carol Webber of Seattle, mezzo-soprano Alyce Rogers of Portland, Oregon, tenor William McDonald of New York City and baritone Wayne Lail of Durham.

Boy soprano David Daniels of Spartanburg will be the featured soloist in "Chichester Psalms." Miss Webber, Miss Rogers, McDonald and Lail also will have solo roles in the performance.

The "Requiem Mass in D Minor" is regarded as Mozart's best-known sacred work, and he is said to have told his wife that it was to be his own funeral mass. However, he died in December 1791 after completing only two movements and his widow turned to a Mozart pupil, Franz Süssmayr, to write the remaining sections.

er Marathon and continue broadcasting live until 1 p.m., says WPCQ-TV Creative Services Director Phil Arrington.

In addition, Channel 36 will produce an hour-long edited special to run 9-10 p.m. following the race and also will originate a half-hour show live at 7:30 p.m. from the pre-race Runners' Clinic Friday evening preceding the Marathon from the Civic Center.

"We feel the Observer Marathon is a major event in this city that deserves attention," said Arrington. "We have significantly increased our production effort for the 1983 race from our first experience in televising it live last year and believe it may well represent the largest local live production effort in the Carolinas."

"In fact," Arrington added, "as far as we can tell Charlotte may be one of only five or six cities nationally in which a local

marathon is televised live in its entirety. We contacted two national running magazines and they were only aware of similar productions in Boston, New York, Atlanta, San Francisco and Chicago, although no one seems to officially compile such information."

WPCQ's production facilities for "See How They Run '83" will include utilization of a 45-foot tractor-trailer rig equipped as a "self-contained mobile TV station" which will transmit directly from the up-town Charlotte finish location with powerline hook-up. Last year, the station relied upon microwave signals exclusively from up-town to its tower some 12 miles northeast.

More than 70 people will be involved in the production, utilizing 10 live cameras, some 9,500 feet of cable and multi-telephone hookups at three primary course locations in addition

to start-finish locations.

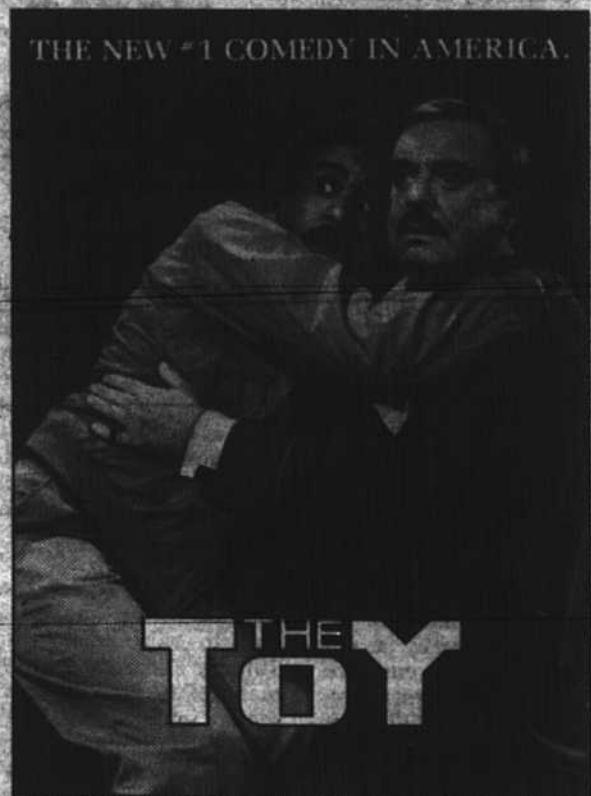
Co-Executive Producers of "See How They Run '83" will be WPCQ-TV Production Manager Bill Miller and News Director Natalea Brown. WPCQ-TV Producer John Alexander will serve as producer and direct the hour-long prime time wrap-up show race night.

Says Miller of the station's most prodigious production effort, "There is a definite sense of pride that comes from doing something like this. We all get fired up over it. The extensive preparation and the sense of accomplishment are surely as significant to us in covering the event as to the runner who take part in it."

WPCQ-TV is owned and operated by Group W (Westinghouse Broadcasting and Cable, Inc.) and is affiliated with the NBC Television Network.

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