The Little Theatre
ON THE SQUARE

Leonard A. Anderson
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M. Seth Reines
Artistic Director

Proudly Presents

Man of la Mancha

July 8 - July 19, 1998

Designated an Established Regional Arts Institution by the Illinois Arts Council

Member of the National Alliance For Musical Theatre

The Little Theatre On The Square, Inc.
Presents

Man of la Mancha

Written by
Dale Wasserman

Music by
Mitch Leigh

Lyrics by
Joe Darion

Original Production Staged by Albert Marre
Originally Produced by Albert W. Selden & Hal James

Scenic Design
Scott Cooper

Sound & Lighting Design
Matthew Gross

Costume Design
Gregory W. Slawko

Production Stage Manager
Michaella McCoy*

Choreographer
Jean Kerr

Fight Choreographer
Paul Dennhardt

Musical Direction & Orchestration
JR McAlexander

Directed by
M. Seth Reines*

All the characters in the play are imprisoned in a dungeon in Seville at the end of the sixteenth century. The entire action takes place there and in various other places in the imagination of Miguel de Cervantes. The characters' identities in the story he creates are as follows:

Don Quixote (Cervantes) . . . . . Michael Haws*
Sancho (The Manservant) . . . . . Michael T. Ancheta*
Captain of the Inquisition . . . . . Bj Hemann
Aldonza . . . . . Tari Fitch
The Innkeeper (The Governor) . . . . . Kenneth Paul
Dr. Carrasco (The Duke) . . . . . Jason Loete
Pedro, Head Muleteer . . . . . Curt Dale Clark*
Anselmo, A Muleteer . . . . . R. Scott Denny
Jose, A Muleteer . . . . . Shaun Nathan Baer
Juan, A Muleteer . . . . . Russell Gregory*
Paco, A Muleteer . . . . . Bj Hemann
The Padre . . . . . Gregory W. Slawko
Antonia . . . . . Jill Roberts*
The Housekeeper . . . . . Holly Stover*
The Barber . . . . . Russell Gregory*
Maria, The Innkeeper's Wife . . . . . Jillian Hemann
Fermina, A Servant Girl . . . . . Annie Wersching
The Guitarist . . . . . Christopher Alwes
The Horses . . . . . Curt Dale Clark*, Russell Gregory*
The Moors . . . . . Shaun Nathan Baer, R. Scott Denny, Russell Gregory*, Bj Hemann
Moorish Dancer . . . . . Shelley Ancheta
Prisoners of the Inquisition . . . . . Shelley Ancheta, Shaun Nathan Baer, Curt Dale Clark*, Kara Delay, R. Scott Denny Tari Fitch, Russell Gregory*, Bj Hemann, Jillian Hemann, Jason Loete, Kenneth Paul*, Libby Pitts, Jill Roberts*, Gregory W. Slawko, Holly Stover*, Annie Wersching

Understudy for Aldonza . . . . . Kara Delay

*Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

ssdc The Director is a member of the *Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc.*, an independent national labor union.

Man of La Mancha is presented by arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc., 560 Lexington Ave., New York, New York 10022.

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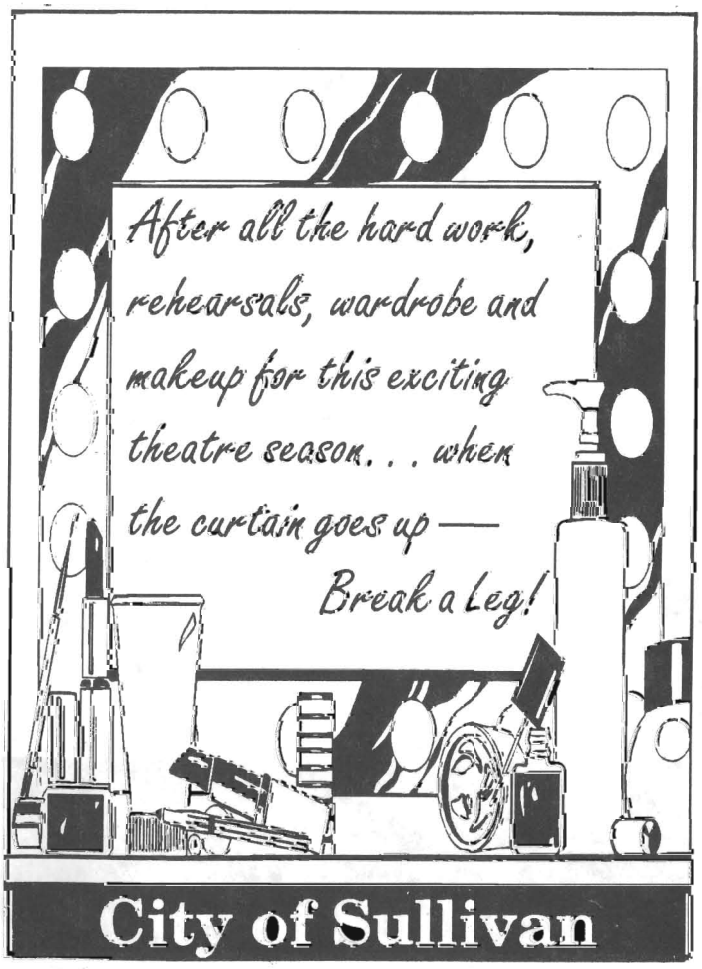
In memory of . . .

Senator Penny Severns was a true friend of The Little Theatre On The Square. Over the years, she was instrumental in securing significant funding from state agencies for the theatre and last year presented us with a Certificate of Recognition from the Illinois State Senate honoring our 40th Anniversary Season. In February of this year, Senator Severns lost a long battle with cancer. We mourn the loss of this warm, honest, caring person and, therefore do dedicate this, our 41st year of professional theatre, to the *consummate* professional…**Senator Penny Severns**.



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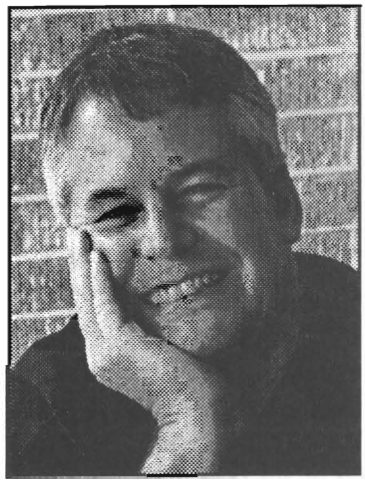

Comments From The Artistic Director

It doesn't happen very often...except maybe in a Mickey Rooney/Judy Garland musical...that a bunch of friends get together and "put on a show." But this is exactly what is happening this summer at The Little Theatre On The Square. A bunch of friends are getting together to put on a show...no, eight shows.

To us, the theatre is an extended family. We often joke that there are only a dozen people working in our business and we all know each other. And, in may ways, that's true. We do a show together...laugh, play and, sometimes, cry together...and when the show is over, we move on to the next show. But we all know, deep in our hearts, that we will meet again...picking up where we left off, reminiscing about the "good ole days" and sharing new ones.

If you tried to draw a chart showing how interconnected we are, it would look very much like **Charlotte's Web**. Some of us met as students, some of us did national tours together, some of us are brothers and sisters, some of us are married and share lives together, and many of us met for the first time at The Little Theatre On The Square. That's one thing we all do have in common. For a very meaningful period of our lives, however short, we have all made Sullivan our home.

So this year, we wish to say to our dear friends in the audience, "Sit back and watch as 60 old friends get together again to put on a show. "ENJOY THE MAGIC!"

M. Seth Reines
Artistic Director

M. Seth Reines - Artistic Director

Seth is delighted to return to The Little Theatre and his friends in Sullivan for his 11th season as Artistic Director. Seth has directed over 350 productions for stage and television, including national tours of **Sunday In The Park With George** and **South Pacific**, working with such luminaries as Angela Lansbury, Chita Rivera, Oprah, Leslie Uggams, Jerry Herman, Tom Wopat and Peter Allen. Seth staged the American revivals of **The Red Mill** and **Knickerbocker Holiday**, the Midwestern premiere of **Closer Than Ever**, working with authors Maltby and Shire, the outdoor premiere of **Phantom**, collaborating with composer Maury Yeston and the American premiere of **Anne Of Green Gables**. Seth is one of the creators of the original musical **Monky Business**, which has now played in over 75 cities around the world. He is excited to be directing **The Sound of Music, She Loves Me, Man of LaMancha** and **Nunsense** with his favorite musical director, JR McAlexander and this enormously talented company of old and new friends. Thank you all for 25 wonderful years in the theatre!

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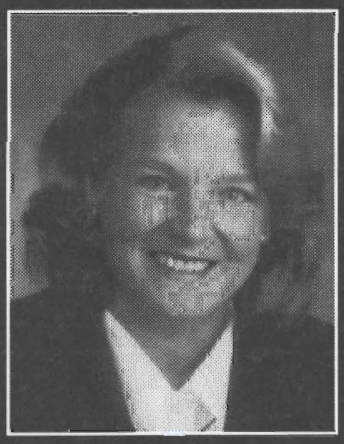

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The Little Theatre On The Square is governed by a not for profit corporation. The Board of Trustees of the corporation is made up of representatives from communities throughout the theatre's market area. Following is a list of the 1998 Board of Trustees.

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Scenic Painter.....Andy Bergholtz
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Sound Board Operator.....Mary Reed
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Heather Starr
Costume Shop Foreman.....Keith Shaw
Stitchers.....Emilie Wood
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Wardrobe Mistress.....Caren Evers

M. Seth Reines
Artistic Director

Artistic Staff
Guest Director.....Ken Leigh Rogers
Musical Directors.....Paul Hamilton, JR McAlexander
Choreographers....Russell Gregory, Ken Leigh Rogers
Fight Choreographer.....Paul Dennhardt
Theatre For Young Audience Directors..Michael Haws
Jason Loete, Marie Jagger-Taylor
Scenic Designer.....Scott Cooper
Lighting/Sound Designer.....Matthew Gross
Costume Designers.....Keith Shaw
Greg Slawko, Emilie Wood
Production Stage Manager.....Michaella McCoy

Performance Company
Equity Actors: Michael T. Ancheta, Curt Dale Clark, Cory Goodrich, Russell Gregory, Michael Haws, Marie Jagger-Taylor, Kenneth Paul, Libby Pitts, Jill Roberts, Holly Stover

Non-Equity Professional Actors: Shelley Ancheta, Shaun Nathan Baer, Tari Fitch, Kara Delay, Scott Denny, Kara Downs, Gus Gordon, Bj Hemann, Jillian Hemann, Therese Kincade, Ken Kordick, Jason Loete, Ann Morrow, Libby Pitts, John Pruitt, Sharon Slaughter, Annie Wersching

Children: Channing Himes, Samantha Pitard, Sarah Pitard, Elizabeth Pugh, Kory Stuemke

Musicians: Chris Alwes, Kevin Cranston, Tim Hays, Dave Huber, Jeff Magby, Casey Matthews

Actors' Equity Association

Actors' Equity Association was founded in 1913 to protect Actors from the severe mistreatment that permeated the industry at that time. Since its inception, Equity has had only eleven Presidents. Its current President is Ron Silver. The 39,000 member Association consists of distinguished stars and other professional Actors and Stage Managers who work nationwide, from New York's Broadway to Los Angeles, from Minneapolis to Miami Beach in regional, stock and dinner theatre, and in theatres for young audiences which build the audiences of tomorrow. These Actors and Stage Managers are committed to working in the theatre as a profession, not an avocation, and bring to you the finest professional training and experience. By presenting Equity productions, this theatre offers to you, our audience, the best entertainment present by the finest quality Actors and Stage Managers that your admission dollar can buy.

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THE ARTISTIC STAFF

The quality of our shows depends on the vision set forth by the directors, choreographers and designers working with the show's script and music. We feel we have some of the brightest and most creative young artists guiding us. They are, in alphabetical order:

Scott Cooper - Scenic Designer
Scott is happy to return to The Little Theatre where he has been the Resident Set Designer for the past two seasons. A Chicago native, he has designed for the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists, Goodman, Steppenwolf, Drury Lane Evergreen Park, Northlight, Pheasant Run, Pegasus and Next Theatres in Chicago. Scott has also designed for the Milwaukee Repertory, Next Act Theatre (Milwaukee), Circa '21 (Rock Island) and the Cumberland County Playhouse (Tennessee). He has designed the world premieres of over ten new plays and musicals. His work has also been seen on the WGN special A *Stage of Our Own*. He received his MFA in Scenic Design from The Theatre School at DePaul University. Thanks to my "theatre family" here in Sullivan for keeping me sane and making me better.

Paul Dennhardt - Fight Master
Paul, MFA, is a professional Director and Fight Director, as well as a certified teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors. His credits include directing the world premiere of **Zorro!** at the Birmingham Children's Theatre, where he also directed the fights for **Young King Arthur** and **Romeo and Juliet.** Paul arranged fights for Volpone at The Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, DC, and has worked for the past six seasons at The Legend of Daniel Boone in Harodsburg, KY, both as Director and Fight Director. His New York credits include Assistant Fight Director at The Public Theatre (**Henry IV** parts 1 and 2 and **The Swan**), Theatre For A New Audience (**Romeo and Juliet**), and The Working Theatre (**Let Me Live**). He has also written five plays for young audiences, each of which deals with contemporary issues that challenge today's children.

Russell Gregory - Actor/Choreographer
Please see Mr. Gregory's biography on page 13.

Matthew Gross - Lighting/Sound Designer
Matthew is returning for his third triumphant season at The Little Theatre. When he's not spending his summers on the sunny shores of Lake Shelbyville, Matthew relaxes next to the crystal clear waters of the Missouri River in Kansas City. There he is falling into eternal debt while working on his masters degree at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. His favorite activity is filling in for Angelo as a rake balancer. He would like to remind everyone that the world is full of friends just waiting to be met. He hopes everyone enjoys the season and in the words of a great man: "Y'all come back now, ya' hear!"

Paul Hamilton - Musical Director
Paul is a native of Savannah, GA. He has completed a BM and a MM in Piano Performance at Shorter College with post graduate study at The Conservatory of Music in St. Petersburg, Russia. He has received awards in performance as well as composition. His new age CD "Beneath The Archives" has aired internationally. Presently his adaptation of "Ugly Duckling" is being featured at this summer's Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC. A recent transplant to Chicago, Paul has composed, music directed and coached in the Chicago area. Theatre's include: Baliwick Repertory, Prologue Theatre and The Fireside Dinner Theatre in Ft. Atkinson, WI. Paul is happy to be working for the first time at The Little Theatre On The Square. And thanks to Marie/Maria!

Artistic Staff Continued from page 10

Jason Loete - Director/Actor

Please see Mr. Loete's biography on page 19.

JR McAlexander - Musical Director

JR is delighted to return to Sullivan for his fifth season as The Little Theatre's Resident Musical Director. JR has musical directed/conducted the stars of such Broadway hits as **Les Miserables**, **Phantom** and **Grease** in over 100 productions nationwide, including the 10th Anniversary Tour of **Sunday In The Park With George** and the World Premiere of **Monky Business** at Galveston's Grand Opera House. JR makes his winter home in Ft. Myers, FL, where he serves as the Resident Musical Director of the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre and the Unitarian Universalist Church. Winner of the coveted Herald Award for his musical direction of The Little Theatre's **Babes In Arms**, JR has performed with such other prestigious regional theatres as the Guthrie, Cumberland County Playhouse and Galveston Island Outdoor Musicals. A native Iowan, JR studied Piano Performance/Vocal Education at the University of Iowa, toured nationally with the Iowa Old Gold Singers, and served as principal accompanist for the Young Presbyterian Singers' 1983 European Tour. JR is thrilled to be working with this talented company of dear old friends.

Michaella McCoy - Production Stage Manager

Miki is thrilled to be in Sullivan this summer for her fourth season with The Little Theatre. She returns to her "home-away from home" having completed her second year at Studio Arena Theatre in Buffalo, New York. In her travels, she has served in the capacities of everything from Wardrobe Intern to Assistant Technical Director/Purchasing Agent but is anxious to return to Stage Management. A native of Cozad, Nebraska, Miki holds a Bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Stage Management. Hobbies include avoiding the blue screen of death on her computer, epoxy putty sculpture and building the ashnishnue (bun of knowledge) with her hair.

Ken Leigh Rogers - Director/Choreographer

Ken Leigh has directed and choreographed at numerous acclaimed regional theatres around the country which include Houston's Theatre Under The Stars, Kansas Starlight Theatre, Music Theatre of Wichita and Santa Barbara Civic Light Opera to name a few. For the 1997 Tony Awards, he served as Associate Choreographer and very recently was Choreographic Associate for Tommy Tune's Easter Parade Broadway workshop. In recent years, he was Assistant Choreographer for the Broadway production of **Oh, Kay!** and Resident Choreographer for London's production of **Grand Hotel** under the direction of Mr. Tune. This winter he taught within the Musical Theatre program at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor serving as Adjunct Professor. Having made many attempts over the last few years, Ken is very excited to finally be making his directing debut at The Little Theatre.

Keith Shaw - Costume Designer/Costume Shop Foreman

Keith is very happy to be back in Sullivan for his fourth season. Originally from Centralia, IL, he has worked in Florida, Pennsylvania and now calls New York his home. Since last summer, Keith has worked at Madison Square Garden, on Broadway with **Side Show** and off-Broadway with the revue, **Secrets Every Smart Traveller Should Know**. Recently, he costumed two shows for Theatre America, a new off-Broadway company. On the performing end, he did an Equity staged reading of a new musical version of **A Connecticut Yankee**.

Greg Slawko - Actor/Costume Designer

Please see Mr. Slawko's biography on page 21.

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THE ACTING COMPANY

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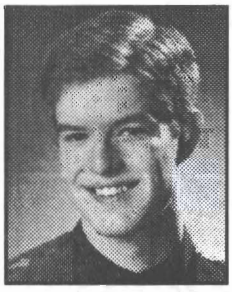
Michael T. Ancheta

Michael is happy to be returning to The Little Theatre stage with his wife, Shelley. Together they performed in Florida at the Broadway Palm in **Gypsy** and in **Some Like It Hot** where he played Spats Palazzo. Prior to Florida, Michael appeared at Drury Lane Oakbrook in Chicago as Henri in **South Pacific** and was part of the ensemble in **George M.**. Favorite roles include Man #1 in Apple Tree's production of **The World Goes Round** in Chicago for which he received an After Dark Award for Outstanding Performance, Motel in **Fiddler On The Roof**, at which time he got engaged to his beautiful wife, Bob Cratchit in the Nebraska Theatre Caravan Tour of **A Christmas Carol**, and Paul in **A Chorus Line**. Michael would like to thank Seth for giving him the opportunity to return to Sullivan. He dedicates his performances to his parents, Dr. Valentino S. and Mary Anne Ancheta. Wish you were here.

Shelley Ancheta

Shelley is delighted to be performing once again on The Little Theatre stage. Sullivan audiences may remember her from such roles as Tzeitel in **Fiddler On The Roof**, Maria in **Lend Me A Tenor** or Terry in **Babes In Arms**. Shortly after she last appeared at The Little Theatre as Vibrata in **A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum**, she began performing in her favorite role of all, being wife to Michael. Soon after the wedding, they played opposite each other as Mr. and Mrs. Cratchit on the Nebraska Theatre Caravan's Midwest tour of **A Christmas Carol**. Shelley just completed a wonderful four month run with Michael at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Ft. Myers, Florida. During which time, she played Electra in **Gypsy** and Olga in **Some Like It Hot**. She thanks Seth once again for the great opportunity!



Shaun Nathan Baer

Shaun cannot begin to explain how excited he is to be making his professional debut with The Little Theatre On The Square. He will return to Illinois Wesleyan University this fall as a music theatre major. During his time there, he has performed in **Falsettoland** as Jason, **WASP** as the son and **The Root of Chaos** as Skeeter. He has also directed **Sparks In The Park** and will be seen there this October in the ensemble of **Candide**. Shaun was born and raised in Oak Park, IL. He would like to thank his parents, Mickey and Susan and Peter for their love and support. Shaun would like to dedicate this season of performances to the memory of his grandfather, Herbert M. Baer.

Curt Dale Clark

A native of Pecatonica, IL, Curt now resides in Berwyn, IL. He graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Theatres Curt has had the privilege to work for include Drury Lane Theatre Evergreen Park and Oakbrook, Marriott's Lincolnshire Candlelight, Madison Rep, New American, Eastlight, Tennessee Rep, Station, Door County's Peninsula Players, Theatre At The Center, Phoenix Theatre in Arizona and Beef & Boards Theatre. This Christmas, Curt will perform as Tony in **West Side Story** at Evergreen Park and immediately following **Grease** here in Sullivan, he will go to Beef & Boards to portray Sky Masterson in **Guys & Dolls**. Go White Sox, Bulls & Illini!!!

Kara Delay

Kara is a recent graduate of Roosevelt University. Favorite roles include Dr. Charlotte in **Falsettoland**, the title role in **Mrs. Coney** (performed at the Kennedy Center) and Marta in **Company**. Kara would like to thank Mom and Dad, Seth and her roommates for their love and support.

Scott Denny

Scott is thrilled to finally work here and to be so close to home for the summer. He is from Terre Haute, IN and is a graduate of Western Kentucky University. Now residing in New York, he has performed in several regional and dinner theatres (in Houston, Wichita, South Florida, as well as touring across the country). Recent credits include Herbie in **Gypsy**, Peter/Mr. Martini in **Wonderful Life! The Musical** (directed by Mr. Reines), the midwest premiere of **Paper Moon** and the first full staging of the new musical **Silver Dollar**. He has worked with several of The Little Theatre's company at the Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre in Ft. Myers and is pleased to be sharing the stage with all of them. Other favorite shows include **Evita, Me & My Girl, The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas** and **42nd Street**. Scott sends love to his family, special thanks to JR and Seth for this opportunity and dedicates his performance to his wonderful new friend, David Fritz in Ft. Myers.

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Acting Company Continued from page 12

Continued on page 19.

Kara Downs

Kara comes to Sullivan from across the lake in nearby Shelbyville. She will graduate from Western Illinois University next year with a BS in Biology. Kara is thrilled to be making her debut at The Little Theatre this summer. Her resume is short but sweet with her favorite role being Adelaide in **Guys & Dolls**. Kara is "Hopelessly Devoted" to all of her family and friends for their support and encouragement.

Tari Fitch

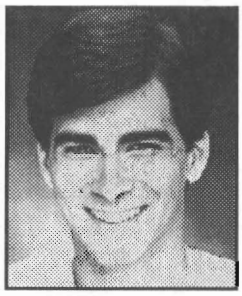
Tari is thrilled to be making her return to the stage with her friends here in Sullivan. Audiences may remember her as Mae West in **Ziegfeld: A Night At The Follies**, Bunny in **Babes In Arms** and Sister Hubert in **Nunsense II**. Some of Tari's other favorite roles include Carlotta in Phantom, Baker's Wife in **Into The Woods**, the Narrator in **Joseph...Dreamcoat** and Nurse/Mrs./Harriett in the National Tour of **Sunday In The Park With George**. Most recently, Tari has played the title role in the show Mom, starring her three year old son, Benjamin. On most nights, he can be found cheering his mom on from the audience. Tari sends love and thanks to her wonderful husband Jim for all his support.

Cory Goodrich

Cory comes to The Little Theatre On The Square directly from Marriott's Lincolnshire Theatre where she played the green haired witch in **Rapunzel**. Prior to that, she was seen in the Apple Tree Theatre's premiere of **After The Fair** as the incorrigible (and illiterate) Anna, regionally as Maria in **The Sound of Music**, Laurey in **Oklahoma!**, Sarah in **Dreams of Defiance**, Philia in **A Funny Thing Happened...** and received a Joseph Jefferson Award nomination for her portrayal of Meg in Brigadoon. She is also proud to include almost every fairy tale heroine on her resume. Cory has also written two children's musicals and looks forward to singing on ice skates later this summer in **The Little Mermaid on Ice.**

Gus Gordon

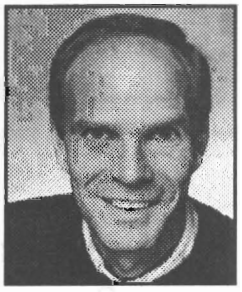
Gus last appeared at The Little Theatre in **Sugar**, the musical version of **Some Like It Hot**. He is best known across central Illinois as the Chief Meteorologist at News Channel 20 in Springfield and as the commercial spokesman for Stahl's Furniture. Recent credits include Bobby Child in **Crazy For You**, Stine in City of Angels, Thurston in Greater Tuna, the Dentist in Little Shop Of Horrors, Miles Gloriosus in Forum and Buddy Plummer in Follies in Concert. Gus has twice been named Best Actor by both The State Journal-Register and The Illinois Times. Earlier in his career, Gus performed at Kings Island Amusement Park and appeared on the ABC soap *Ryan's Hope*. His favorite role? Husband to Claire and father to Amy!



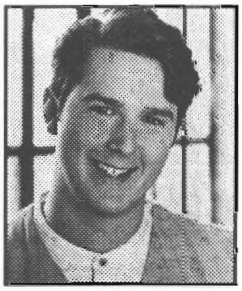
Russell Gregory

Russell is on his third season here at The Little Theatre and couldn't be more excited about this summer. You may remember him on stage last season as the Juvenile in **Sugar Babies**, Harry Beaton in **Brigadoon** and Frankie in **Forever Plaid**. Russell also choreographed last year's smash hit **Crazy For You**. Once the summer season was over, he headed to New York City with Keith Shaw, Doug Kampsen and Margaret. While in New York, Russell has taken classes, auditioned, worked with a temp agency, sold **Lion King** shirts for Disney, done extra work on a movie (not a big one, don't get excited), choreographed a production of **Monky Business** in Rochester, NY and gone to Ft. Myers to choreograph **Some Like It Hot**. Needless to say, he has kept himself busy. Russell would like to thank Seth, his mentor, JR and Lenny for bringing together a company of new and old friends. One of the many wonderful things about this company is the family that has formed around it, and we hope that you enjoy this summer's "on-stage" family-reunited.

Michael Haws



After giving The Little Theatre audiences a summer's break from him, Michael is back and glad of it. Two years ago, on this stage, Michael was fortunate to perform Will in **The Will Rogers Follies**, Charlie in **The Foreigner**, and Hysterium in **A Funny Thing Happened...Forum**. This spring, he performed in a new production of **Elmer Gantry** at Marriott's Lincolnshire Theatre in Chicago. Thanks for supporting the arts and The Little Theatre On the Square. "Hold fast to that which is good."



Bj Hemann

Bj is thrilled to be spending his first summer in Sullivan. He is currently pursuing a BFA in Musical Theatre at Webster University's Conservatory of Theatre Arts in St. Louis, MO where he recently portrayed the character Nanki-Poo in **The Mikado**. Other regional credits include Zorro in **Zorro's Back In Town**, Reuben in **Joseph...Dreamcoat** and Inspector Hound in **The Real**

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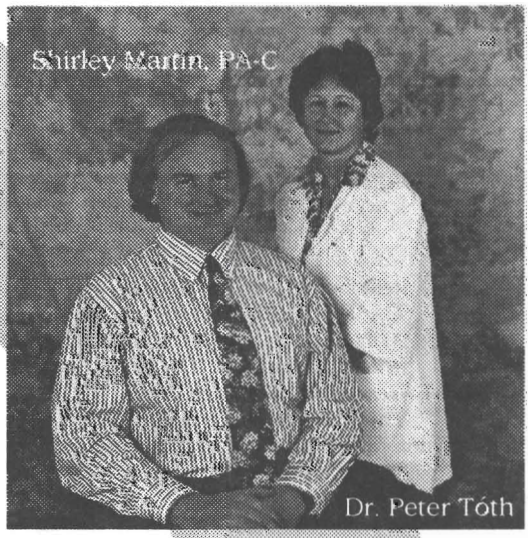

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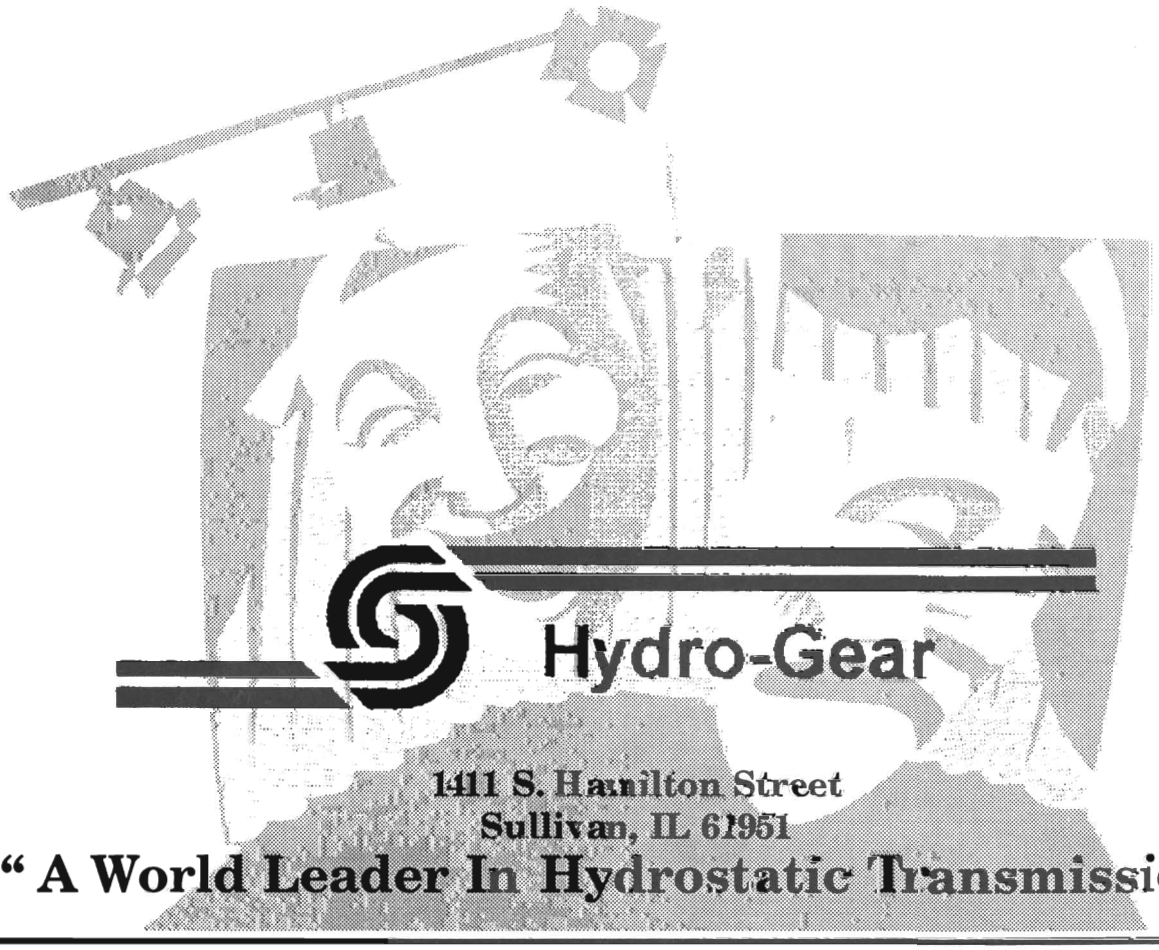

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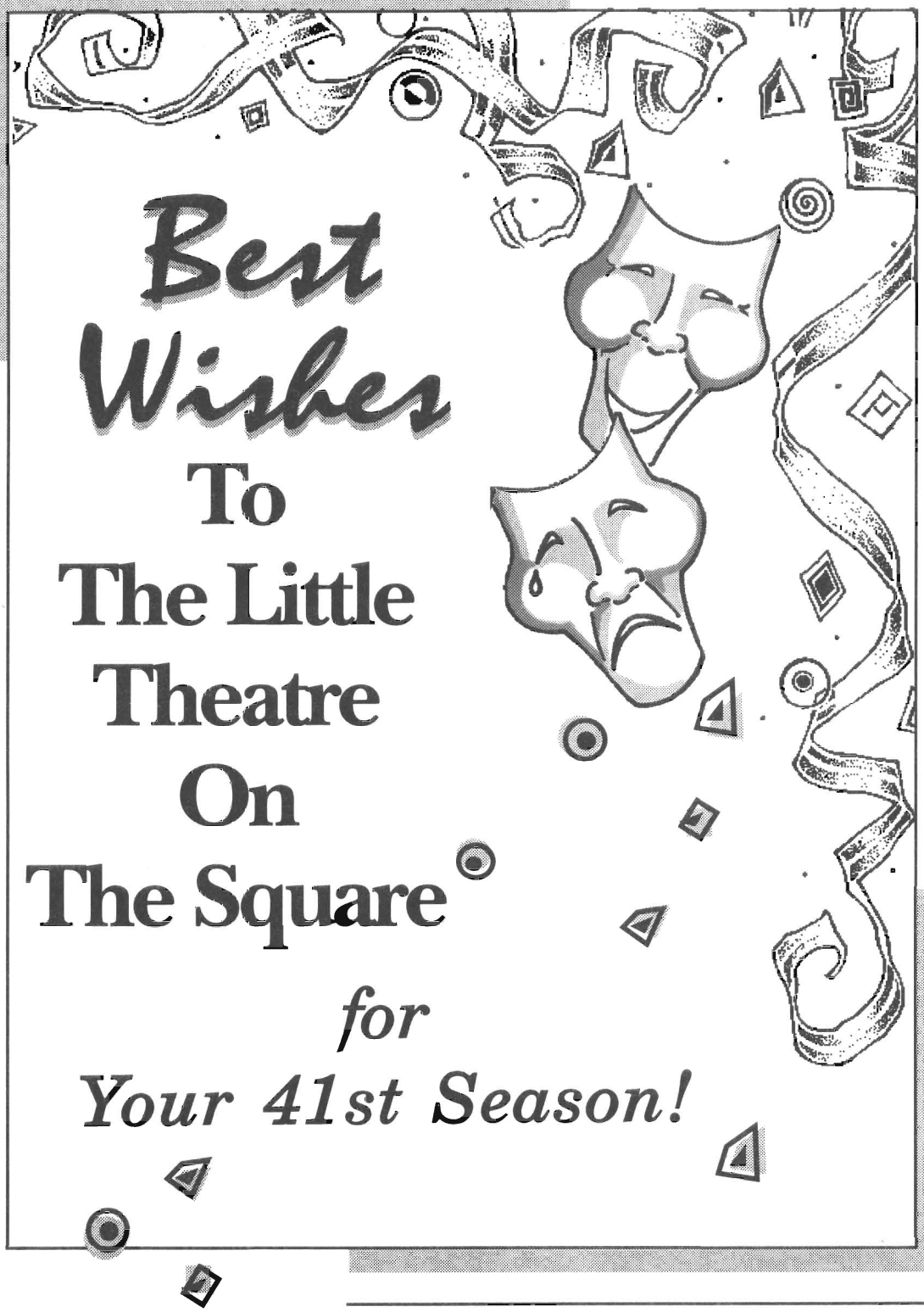

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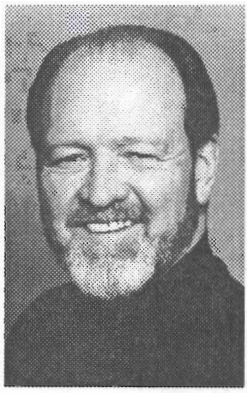
Comments from the Executive Director

This year marks the beginning of the second decade that I have had the honor of being the Executive Director of The Little Theatre On The Square. I want to give special recognition to my "partner in crime", Artistic Director Seth Reines, who joined me in 1988 and has been here every year to guide the artistic elements of this enterprise. He is a most talented, energetic and enthusiastic person and I am grateful for all that he does to keep our quality of productions high and to make this a fun place to work. Seth and I are proud of the accomplishments we have made during our tenure, some of which are:



Leonard A. Anderson
Executive Director

- we have doubled the number of season subscriptions (this year we set a new record...2,165 as of this writing);
- last fiscal year we set a new record for total attendance (over 40,000);
- the non-profit theatre corporation has purchased the theatre building and the building that houses our ticket office and administrative offices and made significant capital improvements to both (new lighting system, new heat and air conditioning system and interior re-decoration of theatre, new restrooms and offices and computerization of ticket office, new heating and air conditioning and remodeling of dressing rooms);
- we have increased programming to include an annual Christmas show and spring and fall productions;
- in 1997, in conjunction with the Sullivan Civic Center, we began offering dance classes during the school year (we had over 100 people paticipating in 10 different classes each week and a recital in May);
- we have received nearly $350,000 in government grants and over $400,000 in donations from individuals, corporations and foundations;
- in 1996 the Illinois Arts Council designated The Little Theatre On The Square as one of 44 Established Regional Arts Institutions (one of only 6 producing theatres) in the state;
- this year the theatre was accepted as a member of the prestigious National Alliance For Musical Theatre.

Needless to say, many, many people have contributed to the success of the theatre. The talented actors and actresses, directors, musical directors, choreographers, musicians, designers and technicians are the ones that deserve the real credit for what you see on our stage. And the administrative personnel (Business Manager Lori Best, Marketing Director Brenda Abbott and Ticket Office Managers Arlene Leszczewicz and Becky Zimmerman are the ones that keep the business of the theatre on track.)

And of course, you, our loyal patrons, are why we do it. And we could not do it without you! Thank you for being our friends and allowing us to be part of your community. We pledge to continue to try our very best to honor your commitment to us by providing you with the highest quality theatre productions possible.

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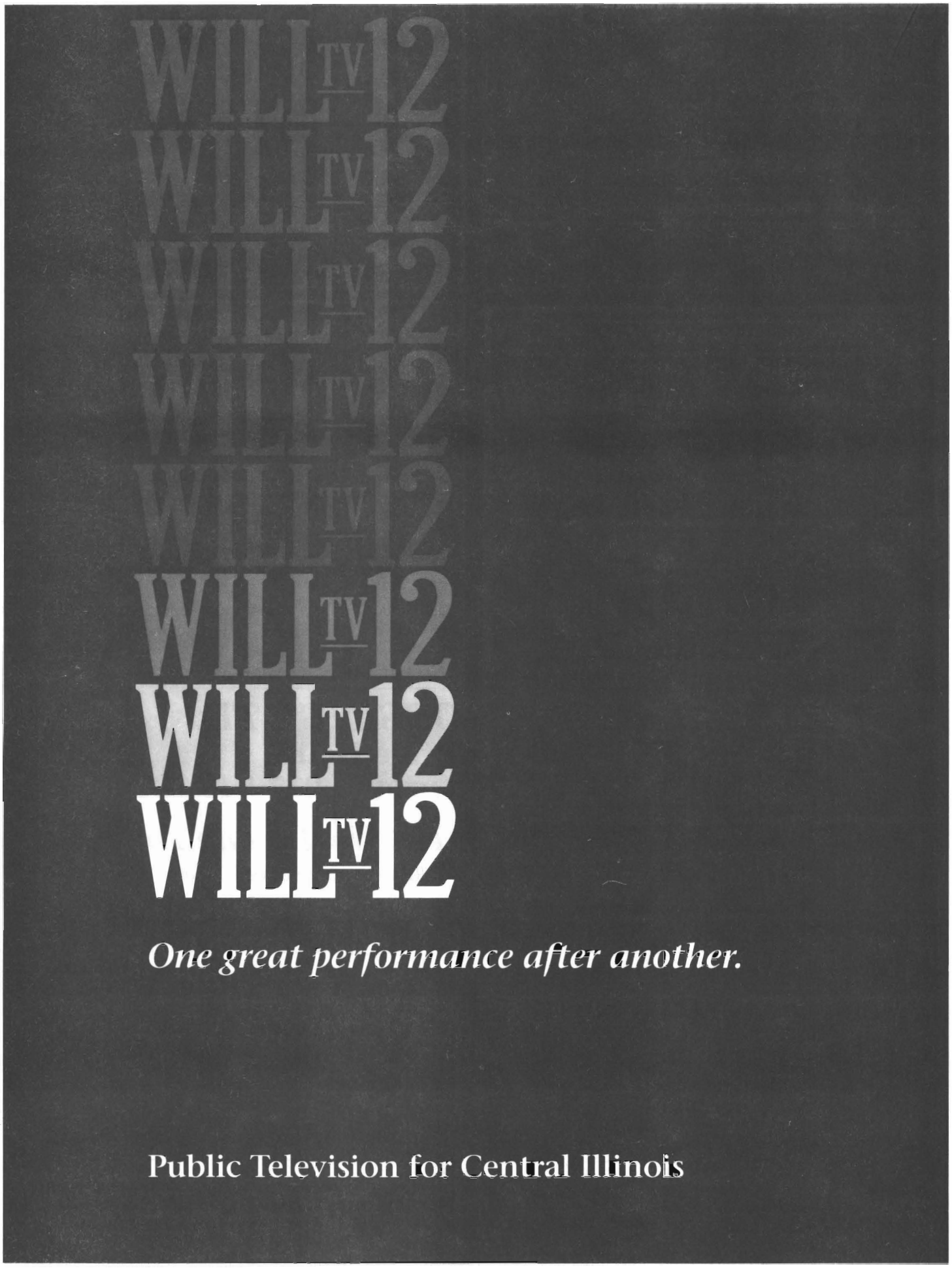
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Acting Company Continued from page 13

Continued on page 20

Inspector Hound at The Post Playhouse in Fort Robinson, Nebraska. Bj is proud to be working side by side with his sister, Jillian, and would like to thank the rest of his family for all the support and love in every decision no matter how crazy it is.

Jillian Hemann

Jillian is happy to be returning to us from Webster University in St. Louis, MO where she has just completed her Masters degree in Vocal Performance. In 1996, she received her B.A. in Theatre and Music Education. Originally from Michigan, Miss Hemann was a member of the Michigan Opera Theatre from 1995-96 performing in Puccini's **La Boheme**. You may recognize her as the Genie from last year's production of **Aladdin** or as Lottie Childs in **Crazy For You**. Other performance credits include Ruth in **The Pirates of Penzance** and Sister Mary Amnesia in **Nunsense**. Jillian thanks Seth and Lenny for giving her the opportunity to return to Sullivan. She is thrilled to be working with her brother, Bj, and also thanks the rest of her family for their continued love and support.

Marie Jagger-Taylor

Caleb and Emma and Jody, too, singing and dancing, performing for you, teaching dance and eating ice cream; these are a few of Marie's favorite things! After a busy year of teaching dance at Millikin University, performing with Julie McClarey and Family and performing in the Christmas show, **Home For The Holidays** here at The Little Theatre On The Square, Marie is most excited about the successful opening of Sullivan's own Dance Studio. It is co-sponsored by The Little Theatre On The Square and the Sullivan Civic Center. Marie thanks Cindy Halpin, Sue Weaver, Leonard Anderson, Seth Reines, Angelo and the City of Sullivan for bringing this opportunity to the children and teens of Sullivan and the surrounding areas. Enjoy the summer season.!

Therese Supple Kincade

This is Ms. Kincade's first appearance with The Little Theatre On The Square. She last appeared at Eastern Illinois University's Summerfest as the Reverend Mother in **Nunsense**. Her other favorite roles include Margo Channing in **Applause** and Meg in **Crimes Of The Heart**. She has directed a number of shows in Charleston and Chicago. She currently teaches acting workshops to children, including her own daughters, Annie, 13 and Laura, 10. In her spare time (?), she and her husband, Bob, own and operate What's Cookin' Restaurant in Charleston. She would like to thank all the nuns she has known for their inspiration and her family and friends for their love and support.

Ken Kordick

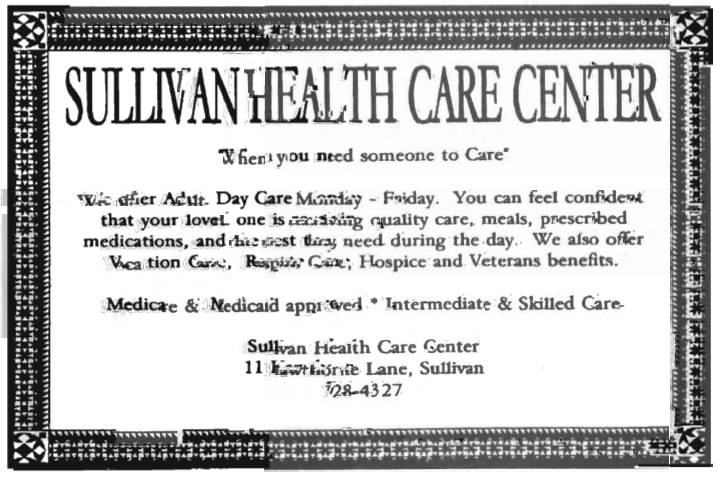
Ken joins us directly from Rock Island where he just completed his third run as Jinx in **Forever Plaid**. Other recent roles include Joseph in **Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** at the Fireside Dinner Theatre in Wisconsin, Don Lockwood in **Singin' In The Rain** and a previous performance as Georg in **She Loves Me**. Faithful Little Theatre patrons might remember Ken from the 1990 summer season when he played Billy in **Anything Goes** and Freddy in **My Fair Lady**. He has also performed as singer/dancer/trumpet player in the entertainment mecca of Branson, MO (Shoji Tabuchi, Mel Tillis, the Jerry Lewis Telethon). Ken hopes he can help you "fall in love" with **She Loves Me**... as he has.

Jason Loete

Jason knew Sullivan was the best home away from home when a woman approached him last summer and said "My husband and I loved you as the trolley driver in **Meet Me In St. Louis**". Others may remember him as the idiotic Lank in last summer's **Crazy For You** or as the even more pathetic Owen in **The Foreigner**. Jason just completed a nine month tour with the Nebraska Theatre Caravan playing Thomas Jefferson in 1776 and Jacob Marley in **A Christmas Carol**. "Thank you Seth, Lenny and Sullivan for introducing me to great people and letting me share another summer with them."

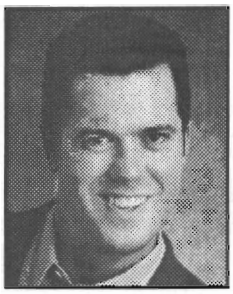
Ann Morrow

Ann grew up in Springfield, IL. She was active in the Springfield Muni Opera before she went off to Millikin University for a Musical Theatre degree and then to the University of Illinois for a Masters in Voice. After a few years in New York, Ann decided she wasn't very good at being poor, so she came back to Decatur. These days daughter Lauren occupies center stage of a busy life with husband, David, but it's fun to be back on stage. Ann was Guenevere in Theatre 7's recent **Camelot**. Ann's been in the habit



Acting Company Continued from page 19

before as Sister Mary Ignatius (explaining it all) and as Suor Angelica in Puccini's opera.



Kenneth Paul

Kenneth returns to his theatrical home away from home. A two-time Herald Award recipient, audiences will remember Ken as Jud in **Oklahoma!**, the **Phantom**, Tommy in **Brigadoon**, Smudge in **Forever Plaid**, Bela Zangler in **Crazy For You**, Judas in **Godspell** and as Buffalo Bill in **Annie Get Your Gun**. Ken has been seen in Chicago in **Romance! Romance!** (Illinois Theatre Center), **Music Man, Pinocchio** (Marriott Lincolnshire), **Peter Pan, Aladdin** (Drury Lane Evergreen Park) and in **Run for Your Wife** (Drury Lane Oakbrook). Chicago opera houses have featured Ken in **Desert Song, Madame Butterfly, Lady in the Dark, Gianni Schicchi** and **Marriage of Figaro.** This past Christmas season Ken shed the worldly burden of his hair to play Daddy Warbucks in **Annie Warbucks** (Wagon Wheel Theatre). Ken's message to the audience is simple, "Thanks for letting me perform for you".

Libby Pitts

Libby is thrilled to be returning to her favorite "theatre on the square" after completing a successful production of **Some Like It Hot** in hot and humid Ft. Myers, FL. This is Libby's fifth time on The Little Theatre's stage and audiences may remember her swinging on a trapeze in last season's **Godspell**, as Irene Roth in **Crazy For You** or spreading Christmas cheer in the theatre's 1996 and 1997 Christmas productions. Libby would like to thank her family and friends for the undying support, inspiration and excitement they bring to her life and special thanks to Seth and JR for being so gosh darn wonderful!!!!

John Pruitt

John is happy to be working his second season at The Little Theatre On The Square. He was part of the technical staff last summer as a followspot operator. He will be entering his sophomore year at Sullivan High School in the fall. John has been active in the show choir department since seventh grade. He has just finished up work on the high school musical, **Damn Yankees**, which was the first full-length musical he has ever done. He participated in Millikin University's **An Evening Of The One Acts**. John welcomes you to The Little Theatre On The Square and hopes you enjoy the show!

Jill Roberts

Jill is happy to be back on The Square. You might remember her on our Little Theatre stage as Sally Bowles in **Cabaret** or Poppy in **Noises Off**. Jill recently performed in the new a cappella musical **4 AM Boogie Blues** at the National Alliance For Musical Theatre's Festival of New Musicals in New York City. Other credits include **Celeste II** and George's wife in The First National Tour of **Sunday In The Park With George**, Betty Blake in **The Will Rogers Follies**, Helena in **A Midsummer Night's Dream** and The Baker's Wife in **Into The Woods**.

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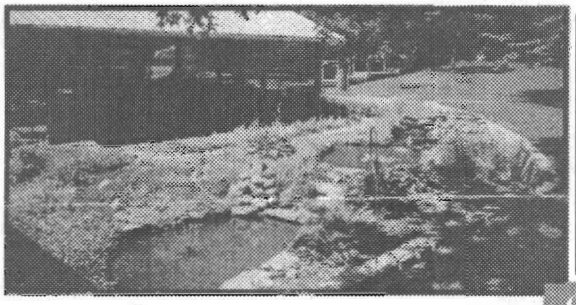

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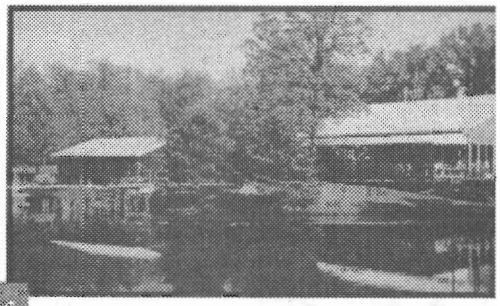

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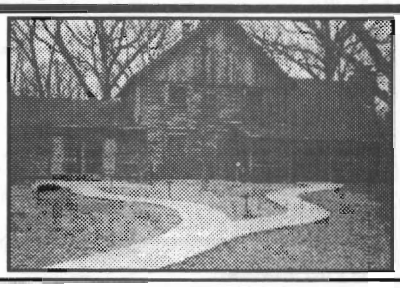

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Acting Company Continued from page 20

God bless to her family and dear friends that provide Jill with oodles of love, unconditional understanding and a general sanity in her life.

Sharon Slaughter

Sharon is delighted to be a part of the wonder and excitement of live theatre and is thrilled to be performing once again on The Little Theatre stage. She has had many wonderful experiences here and has learned much from the talented people who have been a part of this theatre. Over the years, she has been fortunate to perform in several mainstage and children's theatre productions. Some of her favorites have included **Music Man** (Pick-A-Little Lady), **Big River** (Huck's Aunt and the Old Lady on the River), **Sleeping Beauty** (Queen Eleanor), **Oklahoma!**, **Carousel**, **Me and My Girl**, and **Brigadoon**. Sharon graciously thanks her husband, family and friends for their continued encouragement and support.

Greg Slawko

Mr. Slawko returns to The Little Theatre directly from the Joffrey Ballet, where he just created the costumes for **Affection**, a premiere piece choreographed by Randy Duncan. Although he's been absent for eight years, you may recall his designs for **The King and I** and **Baby** in 1989 and **Hello, Dolly!** for which he received a Herald Award. He was also responsible for the costumes for **The Music Man** starring Bill Hayes in '90. During his absence, Greg's been busy completing his Master of Fine Arts degree from Northwestern University and designing in and around the Chicago area. He has designed extensively at the Drury Lane Oak Brook Terrace Theatre and also at the Drury Lane Evergreen Park. He's been involved with wardrobe and costume construction for many motion pictures including: **A League of Their Own**, with Geena Davis and Madonna; **The Babe**, starring John Goodman; Hero, starring Dustin Hoffman; and Oliver Stone's **Natural Born Killers** to name a few. This the first time Little Theatre audiences will see him ON STAGE!

Holly Stover

Holly is happy to be joining her friends this summer. Originally from Kentucky, she has spent most of the year in sunny Florida playing Sweet Sue in **Some Like It Hot** and Mazeppa in **Gypsy**. Some of Holly's other favorite roles are Dolly in **Hello, Dolly!**, Mrs. Pierce in **My Fair Lady** and Mrs. Claus in Beef and Boards' **Christmas Spectacular**. She was also seen here at The Little Theatre in **Some Enchanted Evening** in 1997. Holly has a special place in her heart for **The Sound of Music** having played the role of Maria a few years back. She is excited to be on the "other side" for this production. Holly would like to say "thanks" to her favorite artistic staff, Seth, JR and Russell for everything and dedicates her performance this summer as always to her dear friend NOMI.

Annie Wersching

Annie comes to The Little Theatre On The Square after completing her third year at Millikin University as a Musical Theatre major and Dance minor. She has been seen there as Maggot in **Slaughter City**, Rosalind in **As You Like It**, Hedy LaRue in **How To Succeed....** and Cherie in **Bus Stop**. Professionally, Annie has worked at The Utah Shakespearean Festival. She has also been Irish dancing with the St. Louis Celtic Stepdancers since she was six years old.

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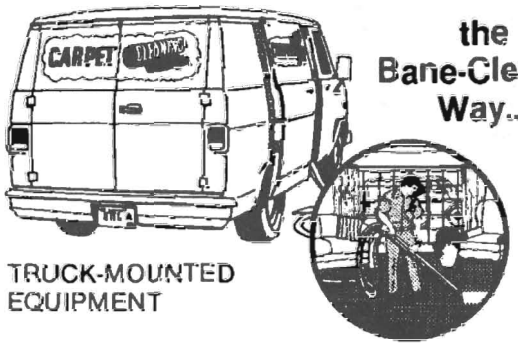

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Chris Benefiel - Carpenter

Chris has just finished his freshman year of college at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and is excited to be returning to Sullivan for his second year. Chris has forayed into some minor lighting design at school and looks forward to this fall when he will be designing his first full lighting design. He worked as the Master Electrician on **The Shadow Box** and **A Doll's House** last semester at SIUE. A scenic designer at heart, Chris' favorite designs include **Fiddler On The Roof**, **Gifts** and **The Will Rogers Follies**. He thanks his parents and family for their love and support. Thanks: Lenny, Scott, Jenny, Jamie, Loren, Tracy and Drama Mama. And Katie....Thank you, you define friendship!

Andy Bergholtz - Scenic Painter

Andy, 19, comes to The Little Theatre On The Square having just completed his first year of college at the Kansas City Art Institute. He has previous art experience working as a caricature artist for two summers at Six Flags Over Mid America, attending workshops at KCAI and Southwest Missouri State University and designing logos and backdrops for school organizations. Andy is on his way to becoming a special effects artist and has already worked on such films as **Freeway** and **Carnosaur 3**, as well as the television series **Tarzan, The Epic Adventures** at Magical Media Industries in Los Angeles, California. When he is not too busy with school, Andy also like to do freelance artwork.

Lisa Bossch - Carpenter

Lisa is from St. Louis, MO and is a theatre major at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa. She has worked for three years in the University's Scenic Studio as a carpenter. Lisa's stage management work includes **You Can't Take It With You** at Allaert Theatre and **The Car** at The Galvin Studio Theatre. Lisa has also worked on costumes for **A View From The Bridge** at Allaert Theatre and at The St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre for the production of **Tell Me Something Good**. Her latest involvement with theatre was directing the one act play **The Dying Gaol**. She is looking forward to directing **Burn This** in September at St. Ambrose University.

Grant Courtney - Assistant Stage Manager

Grant comes to us from Beatrice, NE. He is currently a Senior at Hastings College in Hastings, NE majoring in Theatre Arts and Music. While at Hastings College, Grant has been active on-stage and behind the scenes in the Theatre Department. He has stage managed and done crew work for several productions and played numerous roles ranging from Marko in **Stalag 17** to Sidney Bruhl in **Deathtrap**. Grant recently sang the role of Aeneas in a concert version of **Dido and Aeneas**. He is also an active member of the Hastings College Music Theatre Ensemble and Concert Choir and an avid accompanist and solo pianist. Grant is excited to hold his first job in professional theatre here at The Little Theatre On The Square.

Abby Drew - Stitcher

Ms. Drew comes to The Little Theatre On The Square from the Hastings College Theatre. This past year she has been on the costume crew of **Deathtrap**, **The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe**, **The Robber**

Technical Support Continued to page 24

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Bridegroom and **Dickens Twist**. She was costume crew head for the Capstone Productions. She has worked house crew for **The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe** and the Capstone Productions. She worked box office for **The Robber Bridegroom** and was public relations crew head for **Dickens Twist**. She has played second violin in both The Powder River Symphony and The Hastings Symphony Orchestra. She also played second violin in the Wyoming Ambassadors of Music and second fiddle in **The Robber Bridegroom**.

Caren Evers - Wardrobe Mistress

Caren is thrilled to make her debut at The Little Theatre On The Square. She has just finished performing the children's show **Hansel and Gretel** at Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, where she is a junior theatre major. She has also appeared as Jean McLaren in **Brigadoon** and as Belle in **A Christmas Carol**. Caren has been in several children's shows, such as **Wiley and The Hairy Man** and **Sinbad: The Kabuki Sailor**. Last summer, she appeared in **The Complete Works Of William Shakespeare: Abridged** at EIU Summerfest. She is a recipient of the Excellence in Fine Arts Award from EIU and plans to graduate in 2000.

Jenee' Garretson - Props Master

Jenee returns to Sullivan for her second season with The Little Theatre On The Square as Props Artisan. Having just graduated from Hastings College (Hastings, NE) with degrees in Theatre as well as Studio Art, she is ready for the summer and the new season at The Little Theatre. Some of the productions she worked on this year were **Deathtrap** (props), **Dickens Twist** (stage manager) and **The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe** (costume design and makeup).

Jennifer Gray - Assistant Stage Manager

Jennifer is returning to The Little Theatre following the National Tour of **Having Our Say** as Properties Mistress and Truck Driver. She was last seen in Sullivan in 1996 as a mid-summer season pinch hitter. This fall she will be the Nebraska Theatre Caravan's core company Assistant Technical Director. This season Jennifer can be found reading the Nebraska CDL handbook and attempting to grow basil.

Keith Shaw - Costume Shop Foreman/Costume Designer

Please see Mr. Shaw's biography on page 11.

Angelo Torre - Technical Director

Angelo is bursting with joy at the thought of yet another summer at The Little Theatre. He's back for his third full season after a seven month National Tour of **How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying**. He'd like to thank Leonard and Seth for everything they've done to help keep him employed for the last five years or so. When he isn't employed, Angelo spends his time breeding and training fighting cocks in Harlingen, Texas and balancing rakes on his nose for Hank's Big Top Amateur Circus of Muncie, Indiana.

Emilie Wood - Stitcher/Costume Designer

Emilie is spending her second consecutive summer in Sullivan as a stitcher for The Little Theatre. She recently graduated with honors from Eastern Illinois University with a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Arts. While at EIU, Emilie was the recipient of a Talented Student Award in the costume shop. She also served as costume designer for the student directed one act, **FUN** in the fall and assistant costume designer for **Madame Tinubu** in the Spring semesters of 1997-98. She is a member of Alpha Psi Omega honorary dramatic fraternity. Emilie will be designing the costumes for the Theatre For Young Audiences production of **The Jungle Book.** She would like to take this opportunity to thank her friends, teachers, and especially her family for their continuing support and confidence in her pursuit of a degree and career in theatre.

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Brenda Abbott - Marketing Director

This summer season marks the beginning of Brenda's third year with The Little Theatre. As the saying goes "time sure flies when you're having fun"! She is a graduate of Western Illinois University where she earned her B.A. (too many years ago to mention). Since last season, Brenda has been busy trying to keep up with the schedules of two very active teenage sons and playing assistant to her husband on all of the projects in their new home. She would like to take this opportunity to thank her three "guys", husband, Bryan, and sons, Dustan and Brandan, for their love and support. She also wants to say "welcome aboard" to Brandan who can be found this summer behind the spotlight. Enjoy the season!

Lori Best - Business Manager

Lori is flabbergasted that it is her sixteenth season at The Little Theatre On The Square. She is a life-long resident of Sullivan and is very proud to be working with such a wonderful group of people. In her spare time, she may be found working as a volunteer for such worthwhile causes as Habitat for Humanity, Festival of Stars, Community Education Council, or her favorite pastime, singing with the outstanding vocal group "The Prairie Winds", who travel each week to entertain at area retirement and nursing homes.

Laura Elder - Ticket Office Assistant

Laura is venturing out of the fourth grade classroom in Sullivan where she has taught for over twenty years and into the ticket office world at The Little Theatre this summer. She is most proud of her sons, David and Derek. In her spare time, Laura enjoys walking, reading and antiquing.

Arlene Leszczewicz - Ticket Office Manager

Arlene has been with The Little Theatre On The Square for ten years. She has filled numerous positions throughout the years, remaining in the box office for the last six. Arlene was thrilled to be hired as a Kindergarten teacher in Lovington this past year. She is looking forward to returning there in the fall and continuing to work at the Sullivan Preschool as well.

Jennifer Turner - Marketing Intern

Jennifer is excited to be joining The Little Theatre this summer as a marketing intern. She is currently a Senior at Illinois State University preparing to graduate next May with a double major in International Business and Marketing. She was named one of this years' Who's Who of Colleges and Universities. Jennifer has returned home this summer to continue her educational learning at one of the first places she experienced live theatre. She hopes that you will thoroughly enjoy the shows presented this summer at The Little Theatre.

Becky Zimmerman - Ticket Office Manager

Becky is pleased to be starting her second year in The Little Theatre On The Square ticket office. She is happiest though in her role as "Mom" and very proud of her three great daughters, Melonie, Ruth and Claire.

Claire Zimmerman - Ticket Office Assistant

Claire is eager to return to The Little Theatre for her 4th summer season. A resident of Sullivan, she will finally be a senior at Sullivan High School this fall. She participates in track and cross country, so you may see her running around town this summer.

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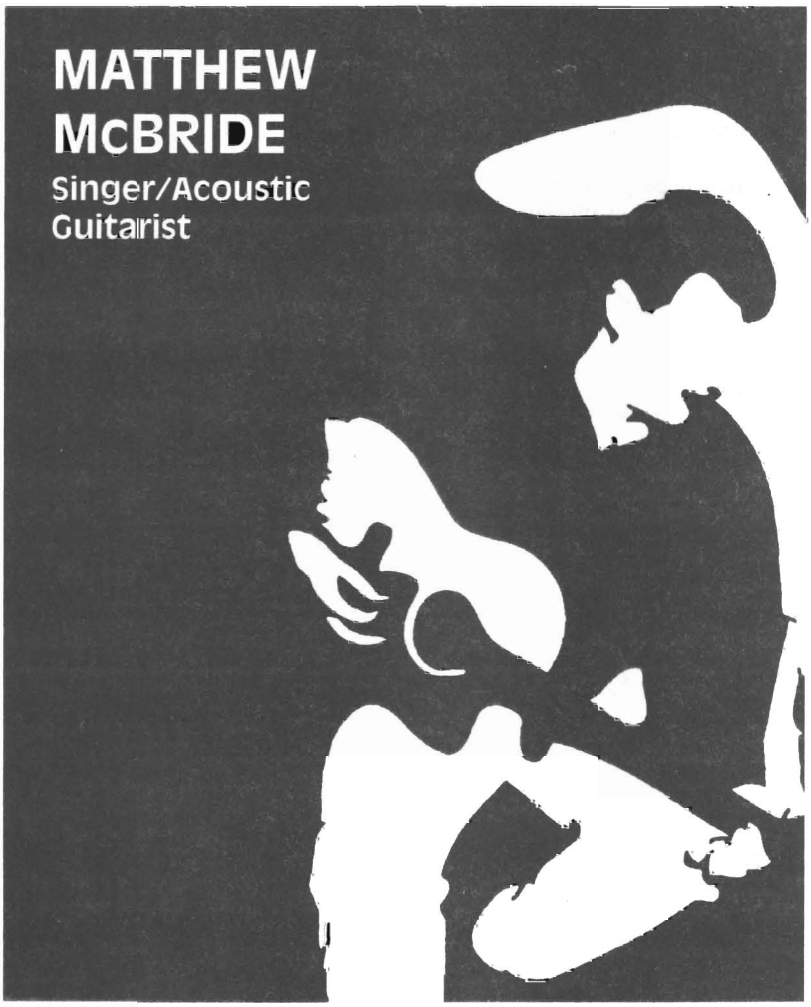

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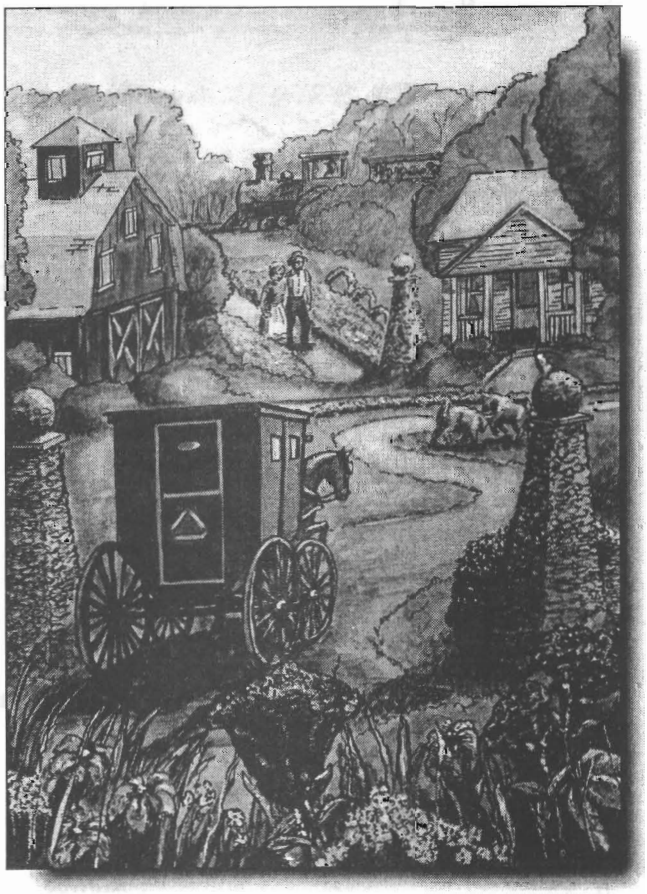

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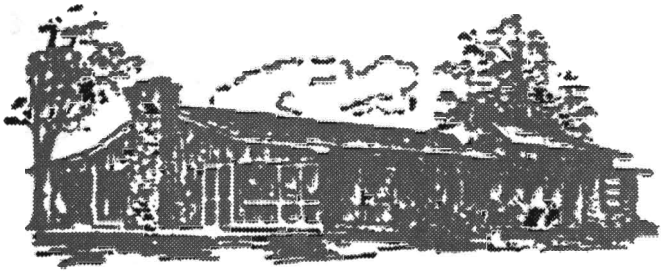

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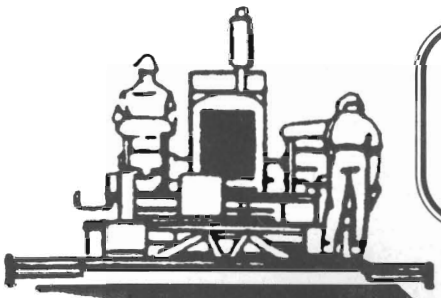

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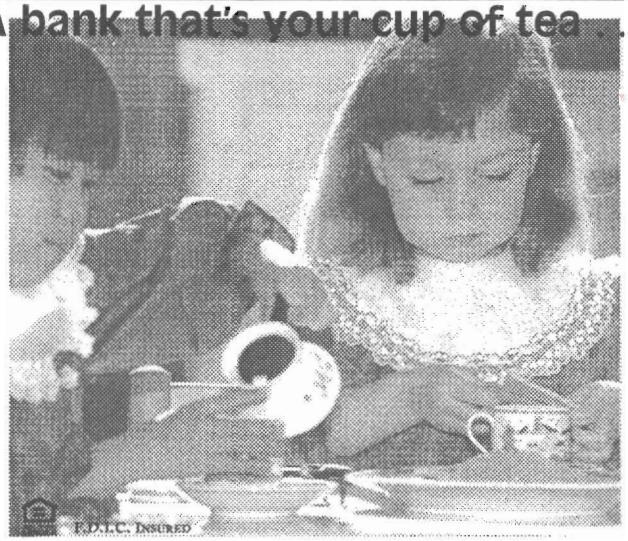

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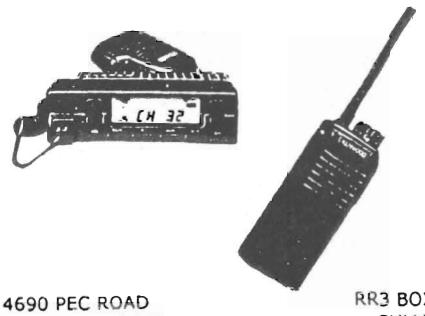

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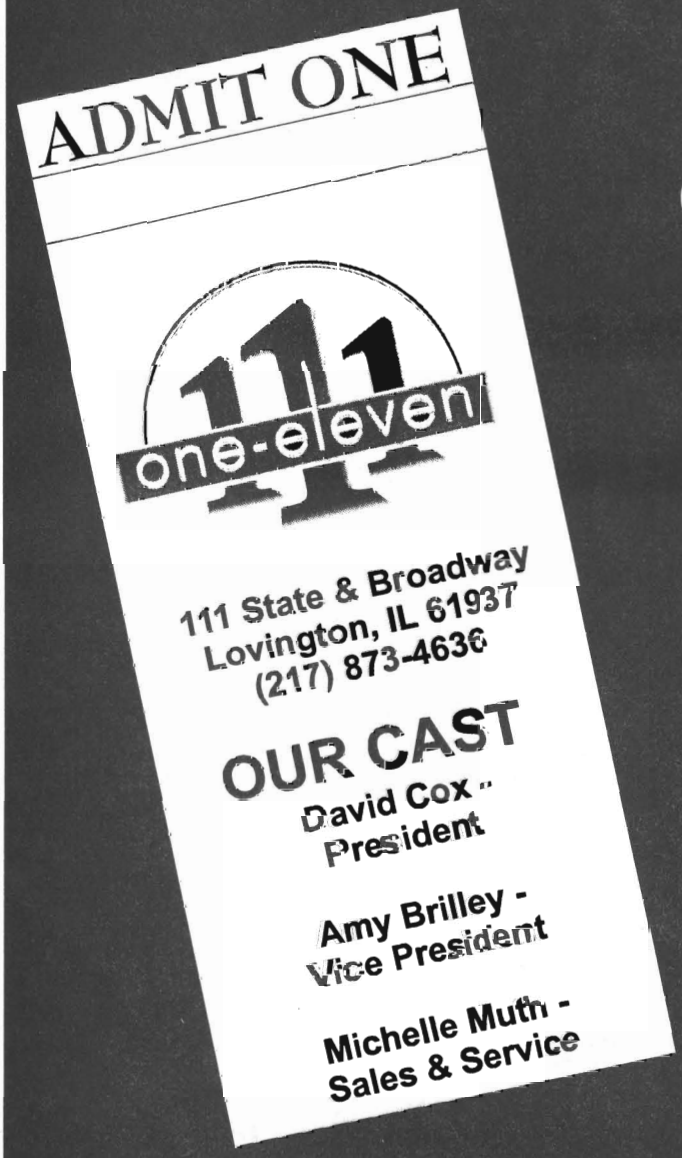

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Dulcinea . . . . . Don Quixote and Muleteers
I'm Only Thinking of Him . . . . . The Padre, Antonia, Housekeeper; later Dr. Carrasco
I Really Like Him . . . . . Sancho
What Does He Want of Me? . . . . . Aldonza
Little Bird, Little Bird . . . . . Anselmo and Muleteers
Barber's Song . . . . . The Barber
Golden Helmet of Mambrino . . . . . Don Quixote, Sancho, Barber and Company
To Each His Dulcinea . . . . . The Padre
The Quest (The Impossible Dream) . . . . . Don Quixote
The Combat . . . . . Don Quixote, Aldonza, Sancho and Muleteers
The Dubbing . . . . . Innkeeper, Aldonza and Sancho
The Abduction . . . . . Aldonza and Muleteers
Moorish Dance . . . . . Ensemble
Aldonza . . . . . Aldonza
The Knight of the Mirrors . . . . . Don Quixote, The Knight and His Attendants
A Little Gossip . . . . . Sancho
Dulcinea (Reprise) . . . . . Aldonza
Man of La Mancha (Reprise) . . . . . Don Quixote, Aldonza and Sancho
The Psalm . . . . . The Padre
The Quest (Reprise) . . . . . The Company

Orchestra

Keyboards/Conductor . . . . . JR McAlexander
Trumpet . . . . . Casey Matthews
Trombone . . . . . Kevin Cranston
Woodwinds . . . . . Tim Hays
Percussion . . . . . Jeff Magby
Guitar . . . . . Christopher Alwes

Production Staff

Technical Director . . . . . Angelo Torre
Carpenter . . . . . Lisa Bossch
Scenic Painter . . . . . Scott Cooper
Assistant Stage Managers . . . . . Grant Courtney & Jennifer Gray
Stitchers . . . . . Emilie Wood & Abby Drew
Assistant Technical Director . . . . Tyler Alberts
Fight Captain . . . . . Jason Loete
Props Mistress . . . . . Jenee´ Garretson
Sound Board Operator . . . . . Mary Reed
Wardrobe Mistress . . . . . Caren Evers

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Jeff Bruckerhoff of Roosevelt University and Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse.

A Note on Miguel de Cervantes

Like his contemporary, William Shakespeare, Miguel de Cervantes y Saavedra lived a life only sparsely documented, many years of which are veiled in shadow. These things are known: he was born in 1547 to a proud but impoverished family; he was a soldier, suffered serious wounds, was taken captive and spent five years as a slave in Africa. Above all, he loved the theatre; in twenty years he wrote some forty plays, none of which were successful. In 1597, he was excommunicated for "offences against His Majesty's Most Catholic Church," narrowly escaping more drastic punishment. He served at least three terms in prison on various charges. Aging, infirm, an utter failure, he undertook the writing of *Don Quixote* to make money. His novel, published in 1605, insured his immortality as author of the world's greatest novel. Broken in body, if not in spirit, he died in 1616, within ten days of the death of Shakespeare. His burial place is unknown.

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