“For lo, the winter is past...”
Our wildflowers—heralds of spring

By C. Anne Prescott
Staff Writer

For to the winter is past,
The rains are over and gone.
Flowers spring up over the earth,
The time for singing is at hand
And the voice of the turtle dove
Is heard over the land.
—The Book of Solomon—

Nowhere is the sight of wildflowers
dotting the landscape more appropriate
than in Southern Illinois, home of about
1,800 of all the plants in the state.
This 12-county, 4,355-square-mile region
explores more than 1,600 of the state's
2,200 species of vascular plants.

What makes the region unique, short of
its lion's share of wildflowers, is its
diversity of habitats, making the area a
virtual melting pot of plant species. Add
to this the number of state parks, nature
preserves and botanical areas, and you
have a treat worthy of both the trained
botanist and the interested amateur.

Six distinct habitats can be found in
Southern Illinois, ranging from moist
crudes to dry sandstone and limestone
bluffs. Such disparity accounts for the 20
to 25 degree variation in summer day-
time temperatures as a thermometer
moves from an exposed bluff top to
upland rocky woods, to hill prairies, to
moist ravines, to swamps and finally to
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The breeding ground for a third of the
state's wildflowers is Giant City State
Park, where more than 800 species of
vascular plants have been described in
approximately two square miles. LaRue
Pine Hills in Union County southeast of
Wolf Lake is another unique area, be-
cause more than 1,000 species of flower-
ing plants have been described in its
2,000 acres, a relatively small region.

The Luak Creek Canyon area in Pope
County holds the distinction of including
13 species of orchids, a rare flower in
Illinois, among its 800 wildflower spe-
cies.

The four affinities seen in the varia-
tions of flowers makes visiting these
areas a botanical delight. This area is
the home of plants whose heritage lies in
Northern Illinois, in the Gulf Coastal
plains, in the Appalachian mountains
and in the deserts of the Southwest.

Glacial activity millions ago
pushed plants endemic to the northern
areas downstream, and there they re-
mained on the Shawnee Ridge, which
runs across the southern half of the
state. Traditionally northern plants,
such as the partridge berry and bishop's
cap, can be viewed in cool, moist areas.

Gulf Coastal flora includes the bald
cypress, water-tupelo, spider lily,
swamp iris and oddities known as the
spoon plant and American featherfoil.
Rhododendron (or azalea), the tulip
tree and the silver bell tree, naturally
found in the southern Appalachians, can
be spotted in Southern Illinois. Prickly
pear cactus and American agave (aloe),
endemic to the Southwest, are found on
sandstone bluff tops.

Along with an abundance of wildflo-
ers, however, comes the need to pro-
tect both them and their habitat. The
habitat is "eroding away," according to
Jon Nickles, a graduate botany student
and research assistant in SIU's science
photography facility. River and stream
channelization projects, reservoir pro-
jects and general construction scar the
land and disrupt the habitat. "There's a
need to set aside certain areas for hope-
fully permanent protection," he said.

Some of the region's lands are already
protected. Nickles noted The Shawnee
National Forest, ranging across the
southern portion of the state from the
Ohio to the Mississippi rivers, has seven
Wishcat Bluff in near the County grass prairies could have been made state parks are Ferncliff in where they are protected. He said virtually all the tall grass prairies are wiped out. In the case of prairie grasses, he included Fern Rocks in Giant Alexander County and Beall Woods in Monroe County.

Although it’s a little early to take nature walks in these parks, a few hardy plants, such as jack in the-pulpits, make their appearance in April. This plant, also known as Indian turnip, takes its name from its erect stature. The pale green flower may be found in deep woods and slopes. The plant may be eaten but only if it is boiled; otherwise it is poisonous.

Other edible plants include cattails, whose stalk and root are tasty, though starchy. Wild raspberries, which will appear along railroad tracks in late July, and dandelions, whose greens can be fried into fritters. The pale, juicy stems and crinkled, tender leaves in Indian poke weed can be cooked like asparagus. But the shoots must be cut above the ground because the root is poisonous. Indian poke can be found in waste places and woods.

The root stock of wild ginger is used as a flavoring and “is said to be quite like the true ginger,” Nickles said. Mayapple (or mandrake); flourishing in moist woods, blooms in late April and early May. The mature fruit may be eaten raw or made into jelly but the zornes, whose stalk and root are tasty, though the shoots must be cut above the ground because the root is poisonous.

The bishop’s cap will bloom later in April. This plant is so named because its thin stem bears two leaves which almost meet about halfway up the stalk. It has quite a fragile flower which is patterned like a snowflake. The six-to-eight-inch plant thrives in narrow, cool ravines where the soil is rich with leaf mold. The partridge berry, another northern wildflower which grows in moist ravines, is famous for its brilliant red berries almost hidden among dark green foliage. Unlike its fellow bishop’s cap, however, the partridge berry blooms in winter.

Among the flora with Gulf Coastal affinities, the bald cypress is believed to be a survivor of plants that thrived in Southern Illinois millions ago. The trees grow large in the swamps of Alexander and Pulaski counties but are found less frequently in Jackson County. Another Gulf Coastal affinity, the American field pennycress grows in shallow water in Jackson, Union and Johnson counties.

Mid-May will find wild azaleas (Rhododendron) blooming in the acid soil of dry woods in Union County’s Pine Hills and near Little Grand Canyon in Jackson County. The tulip tree, a southern Appalachian affinity like Rhododendron, grows to a height of 100 feet and produces flowers during May. The silverbell tree, found along streams in woods in Massac County, also blooms in May.

American agave also: appearing on the sandstone bluffs of Shawneetown Ridge, begins to flower the last of June. Another Southwest affinity, the prickly pear cactus, takes on life a little earlier — near the beginning of June — and its silken yellow petals bloom through July. The fruits, which are the ripened receptacles of the flowers, turn dull red and are edible in late summer.

More Southern Illinois wildflowers in full color on pages 6 and 7 of this issue.
Classical scene–sonatas and subscriptions
By Dave Stearns
Staff Writer

Robert Merrill, Rise Stevens, Rudolph Serkin and the Robert Shaw Chorale. To mention a few.

The season has performed in Shyrock Auditorium—courtesy of the Southern Illinois Concerts, a group of local musicians and lovers striving to bring fine music to Carbondale.

Next season SIC will be a mature 40-year-old organization and will present Metropolitan Opera tenor Frank Tucker, chamber trio One Third Ninth and other concert yet to be announced.

The latter blank will be filled after the season subscription drives for its intake will determine which artist Sonoma Concerts can afford.

Our "organized audience plan" has worked beautifully in the past," SIC secretary Nancy Gillespie said. "We sell memberships and on the basis of money at hand we book the performers. But if we don't have much money we just have to look a poorer series.

The repertory plans individuals who do not purchase subscriptions in advance can get a chance too which assures that interested music lovers will make advance purchases and gives SIC an accurate idea on where to book a series.

The membership drive will be April 15 through 21, with headquarters at Philip's in Murdale Shopping Center. Prices are $12 per person, $6 per student and $30 per family. As a result the members will be invited to Frank Guarneria's April 21 concert in Shyrock Auditorium.

Guarneria has been a baritone with the Metropolitan Opera since age 21, when he was chosen by Maestro Arturo Toscanini to sing the role of "Nerone." Some of Guarneria's more notable roles are Scarpia, in Puccini's "Tosca," Marcello in Puccini's "La Boheme" and the title role in Verdi's "Simon Boccanegra." As his cetera activities Guarneria is one of the most sought after opera world saying. "His voice lent a pleasing lightness to what is largely a bass dominated score, while his unusually relaxed though convincing stage presence helped to overcome the indomitable characterization.

"In Strauss, "Die Fledermaus," Guarneria retained the Viennese style and used his big, impassioned tone rather dark voice to good effect."

Even more renowned is Richard Tucker, who went straight in the Metropolitan Opera for 25 years ago from his study in New York, where he still officiates during Jewish holidays.

During this years at the Met, Tucker has weathered temperament personal disputes and got an American and French voice, and the singular experience of watching one of his best friend's hemorrhage to death onstage.

The latter incident occurred in 1960—Leonard Warren's sudden cerebral hemorrhage while singing an aria in "La Sonnambula" and "Die Entstine" and died in Tucker's arms.

"Leand was only 48 and he literally killed himself to sustain the high quality of his singing," Tucker once said.

For time comparisons between Tucker and Caruso, the Saturday Evening Post said, "Tucker sings with a warm and mellow quality that is so attractive, that he does not abandon he pours into Verdi and Puccini's music and the careful technique of temper over emotivism."

Exclamants Rudolf Bing, former general manager of the Met, "Caruso's 'warmth' is incontestable. That's all you hear! I have an idea we're talking about different sounds altogether."

As the master himself had said, "He who truly understands my music must thereby go free of all the poetical misery which others carry about with them."

No tragedy or turbulence here, for despite his growing deaathness, the composer wrote, "My dear hearing is not so bad now, no more than I love the country as I do; for the woods and trees and rocks return the echo a man desires."

Beethoven's attitude was an about-face when he wrote the Sonata No. 3. "Let for once a pure day of joy be mine so long already is the resonance of true joy unknown to me. Oh, how harshly I was driven back by the doubly grievous experience of my bad hearing."

The key is C-Minor, a fateful one that found its way into the fiery Symphony No. 5, the "Pathetique" (pathetic) piano sonata and the Piano Concerto No. 3.

Confronted with the task of recreating the music of a forceful but extremely troubled and vulnerable man, Ms. Poulos said, "Some of Beethoven's, Brahms and Mozart's best output was in the chromatic idiom, but they aren't performed terribly often."

"Chamber music is abstract," Barkin added. "It demands careful and sensitive listening. It's a quiet intimate nature, and people who appreciate music usually get into chamber music last."

Besides having a great affection for the music, Barkin wanted to perform this series of recitals for other personal reasons. "You have to keep certain standards and learn new material to keep growing. Also it helps your teaching and sets an example for our students," he said.

"A live performance is an unusual pleasure for the listener as well as the performer." Ms. Poulos said.

"Unpredictable," Barkin added. "There's nothing about recording a that is perfect; makes no mistake and is the exact same thing every time you hear it," Ms. Poulos continued. "A live performance is always a different experience."

Perhaps there are still other rewards for people who play Beethoven's music, who take the sleeping pages of the "Spring" symphonies and F. Majer, are as his "Pastorale" Symphon and the Symphony No. 6, Barkin said.

The date of Tucker's Shyrock Auditorium concert will be announced later with the chamber music concert by One Third Ninth.

Founded four years ago in Alberta, Canada, One Third Ninth is composed of Israeli violinist Moshe Hammer, American cellist John Kada and Canadian New Zealand pianist Gloria Saarinen. Their plans for next season (besides their Carbondale dates, include 150 concerts in North America plans tours of New Zealand, Australia and Europe).

SIC. with its past roster of stars, keeps its eyes out for the sort of music the Celebrity Series does not bring. "We don't try to compete, we just try to fill in," Ms. Gillespie explained. "It's good shopping. Sometimes we catch outstand ing artists on their way up—they are still within our price range. We try to get chamber orchestras or European orchestras, many of which are state subsidized and don't charge the large price American orchestras do."

The subscription drive is a 1,200 subscriptions, which should allow SIC to continue its cultural tradition.

Richard Tucker

Daily Egyptian

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To: All personnel: Notice a change in the layout of the Daily Egyptian, effective October 15.

Page 4, Daily Egyptian, April 8, 1974

Steven Barkin and Helenous Paulson, School of Music faculty, prepare for their series of Beethoven sonatas recitals. (Staff photo by Richard N. Levine)
Vidal shatters American myths in "Burr"

By Kathleen Flesher

Burr by Gore Vidal


This book has ranked as "Number One" on the Best Seller List for weeks. Ask any average American, "Who was Burr?" and he will answer, "That's the man who fought a duel with Alexander Hamilton--or is it?" After reading this long, repetitive, and often dull book, one is more about Aaron Burr (maybe more than anything--he was dull). The average American is right--Burr did fight a duel with Alexander Hamilton and he did plot against Thomas Jefferson to establish an empire in the western territories.

Burr was accused of plotting to establish an empire in the western territories. But more important, Leggett is most interested in a rumour that Martin Van Buren was the illegitimate son of Burr. As such, he uses Schuyler to listen to Burr's last talk, read his memoirs—and write it all down!

The tale opens July 1833 as the aged and sickly Burr lived in his New York law office. He had been not only one of the founders of the United States but also one of its most controversial founders on a first-name basis, and that he is still brilliant, still scheming—why marry Madame Julie, if not for possession of her vast wealth? He sells her stock, collects the cash, sews it into his jacket lining and proceeds to lose it all on a crazy western scheme. As young Charles studies the journals and listens to conversations the reader soon learns that Burr knew everybody and was also "crafty enough to know everything."

George Washington emerges as a shrewd politician, but a poor soldier who conducted the war of the Revolution "in a most mysterious way." Despite Wash-ington's incompetence, the author shows that Burr days supported him in the end. He was always short of money, "but managed to keep his head alive. George Washington also was a good ac-tor--'he stood before the public expecting to be painted," and his true genius lay in his ability "to look the part he was called upon to play."

Lafayette dances across the pages with his "young enthusiasm and charm and silliness." He was good looking except for his unusual head which came "to a point at the top like a pineapple." Here is also Van Steuben, the "brave general" in the American's great military, which was matched only by his great ability as a liar. Hamilton was a "small ginger terrier," a most attractive person with red-gold hair and bright if "somewhat watery blue eyes."

Burr was a man of courage—at least when "there was an audience." This was "spontaneous as his brilliance."

Thomas Jefferson is the villain! So much so that the New York Times announced Burr's part in Jefferson's "dangerous" Jefferson (according to the book) was a vain, cranky, cruel, and a professional mover.

Burr was a "small ginger terrier," a most attractive person with red-gold hair and bright if "somewhat watery blue eyes." He was "brilliant and bright-eyed" and lashed red hair at his face, bright hazel eyes, delicate thin lips and the "shiniest gaze of any man. He was known to mistreat animals and to like women who were suggestive, shy and rather stupid. He could be a most charming man and at the same time a most deceitful one. He had an opinion on everything and was driven to express it. His freckles on his hands were played up by his large ring. He was a ruthless man, a hypocrist, interested in power and so he kept it. He was a most successful-empire-builder of our country."

This reviewer is an ardent admirer of Thomas Jefferson. In my fourth grade history textbook, I never read these things about Thomas Jefferson. I believed what my textbook said. I still believe what my textbook taught me. (I always thought my birthday was very special as it was Jefferson's also.)

The story converts the duel with Charles, the law clerk, and his life as he works as a lawyer and hereditary pleasure at a "house" on 41 Thomas Street. The Madame who rules the place works of philosophy, collections of sermons and sometimes the Bible. The highlight of his life comes when Van Burens is elected President and he is at the guest. He is looking for a most surprising ending involving Charles and Burr.

Gore Vidal is a most sophisticated urban author. He was raised in Washington, his father served in Roosevelt's sub-cabinet and his grandfather was a son-in-law to Roosevelt. His mother later married into the prestigious Auchincloss family. His life reveals that Senatorial sailors crossed the Atlantic Ocean as early as 1833 as a result of a book written by a farmer in Minnesota embedded in the root of a tree, chronicled an expedition of 1832 from Vindaloo.

Before Pentimento discoveries discovered in Maine reveal that the Norsemen attempted to establish permanent Christian colonies in the new world in the twelfth century. The novel, Vanished, published, at Yale University, is attributed to the first recorded bishop in America. His name is Erke Gisapentos, also known as Bishop Henrichs. Dr. Gordon explains that one of the challenges for the historical detective is separating the authentic material from the fake. His opening chapter is devoted to this phase of his work. He also presents a series of photo prints and numerous illustrations in color. Dr. Gordon's book, Before Columbus, attracted wide interest. It is safe to predict his new contribution will prove equally successful.

Charles Clayton is a professor emeritus of Journalism.

By Charles Clayton

Riddles in History

By Cyrus H. Gordon


Some of the most fascinating mysteries stories are factual. By the same token, some of the best detectives are scholars rather than sleuths. Outstanding in this field is Cyrus H. Gordon, who holds the Gottesman Professorship at New York University. In World War II, his linguistic talent was used by the U.S. Army Signal Corps to break enemy communications. This book is the sixteenth of his studies to solve the riddles of ancient Egypt.

For scholars and historians the book's significance is that the author, Gordon presents to the trenchant, translation, crossings from Europe and Africa to the Western Hemisphere. For Biblical scholars, his findings corroborate the historical accuracy of events, in the Old Testament. For the lay reader, it is a collection of intriguing mysteries.

It is now well-established that men were crossing the Atlantic Ocean since the early Bronze Age, nearly 2000 years before Columbus. The Parakea Stone, discovered in Brazil in 1872, for example, reveals that Substance sailors crossed the Atlantic Ocean as early as 1833 as a result of a book written by a farmer in Minnesota embedded in the root of a tree, chronicled an expedition of 1832 from Vindaloo.

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Blood Dues: the death of the New Left and why

By John Hiland

Student Writer

Blood Dues by Dotsen Rader

Alfred A. Knopf, 211 pp., $6.95.

"I don't mean simply personal failure. I mean that somehow, in the failure of ideas and imputation and collective action, the failure of a movement," said Dotsen Rader in the preface to his latest book, The Movement.

The New Left. This is an obituary for it, written by one who was part of it.

This book is a morose. The New Left is not the only body in it. Rader has his dead friends here, too. He moves from one to another, performing an autopsy and discovering the cause of each, often untimely, death.

He wonders why he is not among the dead and why he is not even close to it. His nose begins bleeding and he is unable to do much of anything. When he does, he is not his usual self. If he just lets it bleed, he decides to get help. He goes on living. His friends and associates are all one to Rader. He is as obsessed by them as he is haunted by fear and a sense of failure.

Here is the soul of a leader of the New Left, its inner self and its outer face, its intensity, its hyper nature, its excessive, intense, he tells how the Movement died and why.

It makes good reading and really isn't depressing—unless you're a radical.
Color Reproduction Credits

Photography-
Jon Nickles, graduate student, botany

Color Separations and Presswork-
Steve Robinson and Wayne Patrick
American water lotus (Nelumbo lutea)
Illumination Blossoms  

Trained in both Oriental and Western art traditions at New Asia College, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Ms. Yu received her bachelor's degree in art and her master's degree in art education. She is currently a doctoral student in secondary education with a specialization in art instruction and curriculum development.

Ms. Yu's one-woman exhibit of Chinese painting and calligraphy will open with a reception from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. April 15 in Allyn Gallery. The exhibition will be sponsored by the School of Art and the Art Students' League and will run through April 24.

Included in the exhibition will be some twenty Chinese paintings and calligraphy, including landscape, figures, flowers and birds as well as non-representational themes.

Allyn Gallery is open weekdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free.
In Ms. Herman's film you will see a moving, honest explanation of her feelings toward fascism and her sympathy for children of camps. The 15,000 children who passed through Terezin were, from the first, condemned to an early death. They knew fear but managed to live with great dignity at least. They were well represented by Ms. Herman's opening footage of a fleeting butterfly. The film is a compilation from many sources. One source was a collection of photographs taken by Ms. Herman during a return visit to Czechoslovakia, her homeland before moving to the States five years ago.

Another source was a collection of children's drawings found at Terezin after World War II and assembled at the Jewish State Museum in Prague. These were later made into the book published by McGraw-Hill, which inspired this film.

Don't take Ms. Herman's approach to this gruesome subject casually. There is a deep meaning to her methods.

The mood of the film emerges from the contrast between the wings little butterfly and the stark black and white photos of Hitler and his men.

Jewish music also helps establish the mood of the historical sense and helps to emphasize Ms. Herman's statement that children are the strength of the future. A knowledge of the Hebrew language is not important to the understanding of the film because the mood is created by the feeling put into the songs by Ms. Shapiro.

A suggestion, though, might be to listen to and try to understand Deen's song "Rymes and Reasons," before and after seeing the film, to help give greater meaning to what Ms. Herman is trying to say. Denver says, "It is here we must begin to seek the wisdom of the children, they are a promise of the future and a blessing for today."

The inner strength of the children is prevalent in their work and Ms. Herman does an excellent job of capturing this strength.

The film will be shown at 7 and 9 April 4th in Baldwin A of the Student Center. Admission is free.
Director to unite talent in St. John's Passion'

By Dave Stetina
Daily Egyptian Staff Writer

Choral director Robert W. Kingsbury is preparing for a passion
Johann Sebastian Bach's "St.
John Passion" specifically.

In performing this epic work, Kingsbury not only will utilize the
University Choir and members of the
University Orchestra, but also students and faculty scholars from the
School of Music. They will all come together Monday at
The St. Francis Xavier Church, 303 S. Poultney St.

Bach's passions depicted the
story of Christ by utilizing such 17th
century madrigal forms as
polyphonic chorals, recitative and
solos.

Dramatic action is advanced by
various roles and, in this perfor-
mand, Alex Montgomery will
sing the part of Jesus, Mike Jones
will be John, Paul Hardy will be
sung by Larry Richardson and
Burt Kagell will sing the evangelist.

Other featured musicians in-
cluding soprano Marian Marvin,
cellist James Stroud, organist Ted
Stewart and Shades George Hussey

composed some years before
the better known St. Matthew
Passion, the St. John Passion is

moral and spiritually charged
expressing disillusionment
to the Mormon state

"I can you imagine my surprise
the day I realized that I was
one of these queers that other people
whispered about? Who could I go to?
Not a soul would not react with
horror. So I became a master at
lying," Bateman said.

Inevitably, he left the seminary.
And his final severance from the
Mormon Church came in March
1953, when he sent a six page letter
to the Mormon state president
requesting communication and
expressing disillusionment with the
church's refusal to confront
homosexuality.

"I promise me that I cannot
dwell in the kingdoms with
the saints. Thank you, and I
believe in those people who hated
me all my life here on this earth."

Page 10, Daily Egyptian, April 6, 1974

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Controversial gay playwright once served as Mormon elder

By Dave Stetina
Daily Egyptian Staff Writer

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Homosexual playwright Lane Bateman has refused to grant any more inter-
views about his national award-

"Lying in State," a gay oriented play, "Lying in State," which returns to SIU this week. Material for this article, including the

materialization of Bateman, was
taken from the Jan. 30, 1974, issue of
"The Advocate," national homophile newspaper."

Carbondale Christians may be surprised to learn that Lane
Bateman, the unpretentious homosexual author of "Lying in
State," was once a Mormon teacher-
deacon-preacher.

And, yes, a fine teacher.
At Brigham Young University.
It was a fine teacher. I was a
respected and loved member of
my class. But I was a liar—every day
of my life," said Bateman, who has
one of the most sought-after souls in
Carbondale since his recent bouts on
the Daily Egyptian editorial page
with Christians who condemn
homosexuality.

New 22-year-old graduate
student at SIU, Bateman's gay-
oriented play, "Lying in State." was
chosen as one of the best nine
productions entered in the
American College Theater Festival. The play
re-opens at SIU Friday and
Saturday so the company may
prepare for its presentation in
Washington later.

Bateman looks back at his
seminary days as a time of con-
fusion, because he felt none of
the expected heterosexual urges and
not really knowing what to make of it.
"Can you imagine my surprise
one day when I realized that I was
one of those queers that other people
whispered about? Who could I go to?"
Not a soul would not react with
horror. So I became a master at
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Page 10, Daily Egyptian, April 6, 1974

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World's shortest CPA aptitude test

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He might also be called upon to weigh the relative merits of social programs in terms of available resources, helping to shape an urban renewal program.

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You can also learn about the work of a CPA in a booklet we’ll be glad to send you. For a copy, write: Career Opportunities — ISCPA, One IBM Plaza, Chicago, Illinois 60611.
Night’s dancing, declaiming back.

... a cae.

Doii’ll... 12, Doi ll’... will the American... his New Shakespeare company onema. D show, entitled for m Dream.

New Shakespeare company will Shakespeare write this spring. This the San Francisco New

Convo series of plays varied spring line-up

SIU Convocations Series for the 1974 spring quarter will provide free and enjoyable entertainment for all ages.

The opening of the Spring series will feature a return visit by The New Shakespeare Company, sponsored by the Student Government Activities Council (SGAC). Convo-goers from last year will remember their delightful performance of "A Midsummer Night’s Dream." This year they will bring Shakespeare’s love story to life in Old Main Hall.

If their outdoor performance of "A Midsummer Night’s Dream" is anything to go on, this will be the event of the year! If you have never seen Shakespeare before, this is the perfect time to experience the Bard.

Shakespeare Company takes the statement literally, for they can perform anywhere—preferably outside.

At 5 p.m. Friday, their stage will be the steps of Shryock Auditorium and their audience will sit on the Old Main Mall.

If their outdoor performance of "A Midsummer Night’s Dream" is anything to go on, this will be the event of the year! If you have never seen Shakespeare before, this is the perfect time to experience the Bard.

"Without a doubt, the company is the finest traveling troupe performing in a long time. Their Shakespeare is simple, elegant, and Geschke at the sight of Keystone-like Kops. The version of As You Like It is a marvelous adaptation. With a young and highly talented cast of amiable people and a brilliantly timed direction, As You Like It is a rich humor and a warm affection. It was impossible to sit there and not laugh."

"As You Like It" is the fine-filmed tale of the daughter of a Duke who is forced to disguise herself as a boy when her father is exiled.

Mark Twain lives again in the form of John Chappell. His brilliant monoman show, entitled "Mark Twain On State," will highlight the 8 p.m. April 29 Convocations in Shryock Auditorium.

At 8 p.m. May 3, Sweet Mama Shake-Up, a trio playing rock ballads and acoustic blues, will be in concert at Shryock Auditorium.

Check Mangione, composer and musician, will be featured on the electric piano and flugelhorn with his own group for the May 14 Convocations. Performing contemporary jazz, the quartet’s concert will begin at 8 in the SIU Arena.

On May 17, Dungfeller Theatre, an alternative theatre group, will present "Tom Swift and His..." a light-hearted satire about the American obsession with technology.

In closing the quarter’s programs, Convocations will sponsor the first day of the U.S. Gymnastic Federation Elite National Championships for Women. The meets will be held at 1 and 7 on May 28 in the SIU Arena.

For further information and schedule cards for the 1974 Spring Convocations Series are available at the Office of Special Meetings and Speakers, Shryock Auditorium.