

Reel and Script

By Ron Wayne
Entertainment Editor

Theatre in Erie has two offerings this month, *Godspell*, a joyous excellently staged rock musical, and *Mister Roberts*, a straight sentimental, yet humorous play that rates only averagely. *Godspell* is being presented by the Village Dinner Theatre, a consistent provider of top quality entertainment. The Village usually stages one play a month, but the response has been so great, that the musical has been continued into December. So, if you haven't seen it, treat yourself during break. Located on Peninsula Drive, the Village offers dinner and show for \$6.95.

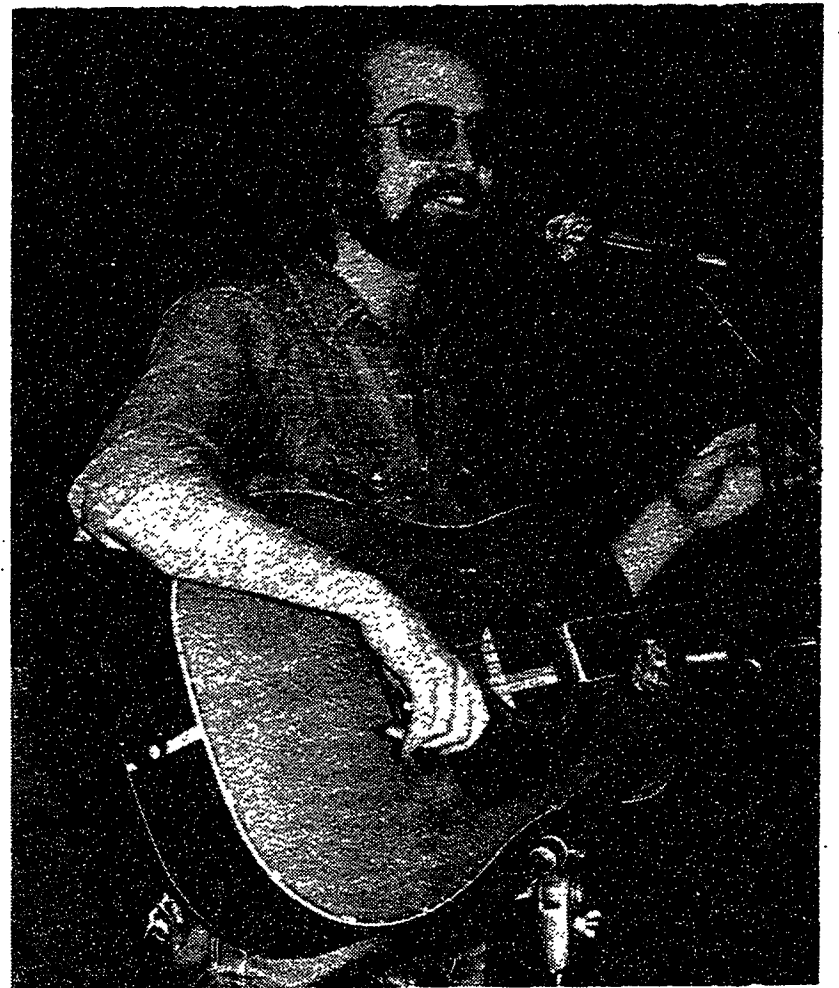
I attended the Erie Civic Theatre Association's premiere of *Mister Roberts* last Friday and was dismayed to find a poor production in light of the Playhouse's usual fare. The play itself lends difficulties to presenting it correctly. For example, although I found Phillip Louis Rodzen's set very good, what is required impairs the direction. In a few scenes, the characters are required to look out over the side of the ship, and since the side was placed at the back of the stage (the only possible area) many times the actors are speaking away from the audience, which doesn't help the acoustics, bad as they usually are in that auditorium. Also, the essential rhythm of any show did not seem to pick up until the latter part of the first act. Most blame

for the lack of excellence, however, would have to fall with several of the actors. Phillip Fatica, for one, was far from consistent in his portrayal of *Mister Roberts* and created a most unconvincing performance. One of the saving aspects of the show would be Charles Corritore, who was simply great as Ensign Pulver. Even though he sometimes appeared ready to break into a dance, Corritore was refreshingly original and carried the show whenever on stage. Two other good performances were given by local newscaster Frank Rizzone as Doc, and Henry Gayek as the Captain. *Mister Roberts* will be presented tonight through Sunday at 8:00 p.m. at Fairview High School with a 3:00 p.m. matinee on the 21st. Student tickets are \$1.75.

The Student Union Board is sponsoring some very good films this term, some included as part of the Alfred Hitchcock and Jerry Lewis film series. Tonight at 7:30 p.m., in the Reed Lecture Hall, *Cinderella* will be shown. It is, of course, the fairy tale adapted to suit the broad talents of Jerry Lewis. Although not an especially good film, it will appeal to the hard-core Lewis fan. After break, one of Hitchcock's finest films, *Psycho*, will be shown (on January 8th). The movie remains one of the most talked about for

many years, including the infamous shower scene. It is one of his most expertly done films and boasts a group of talented actors such as Tony Perkins, Janet Leigh, and Martin Balsam. On January 11th, there will be a change to the light-hearted with Mel Brooks' *The Producers*. Conceived, written, and directed by this wildly funny man, it is an outrageous tale about a Broadway producer who stages a ghastly play in the hopes of making a fortune. This zany farce has many moments of brilliance, some due to the superb performances by Zero Mostel and Gene Wilder.

Mr. Arno Selco will be sponsoring another afternoon of theatre on February 1st of next year. The Buffalo Studio Arena Theatre will be presenting Peter Shaffer's *Equus*, a multi-layered mystery that won a Tony Award in 1974 for Best Play. It is currently in its second season as "the most powerful and successful drama" on Broadway. It is an excellent chance to see really good theatre with professional actors. Limited spaces are available and Mr. Selco will accept money for tickets and transportation till January 15. Chartered buses will leave the RUB parking lot at 11:30 a.m. and return at 9:00 p.m. Tickets and transportation are \$8.50 per person and faculty, staff, students and guests are welcome.



Coffeehouse returnee

Mr. John Imms provided another successful coffeehouse as he brought musical enjoyment to all those who attended to hear his original blend of musical types.

Imms gives another great performance

By Mary Jo Santilli
Collegian Staff Writer

John Imms, the performer at last week's Coffee House, put on quite a show. A native of Erie, Imms has been singing for thirteen years, and remarkably, he has only played guitar for five. He is a part of the national Coffee House circuit, in which he tours all over the country. Also he plays bars and clubs around Erie. He prefers college audiences though, because he feels they are "into what he's into."

His performance was an experience. It touched your emotions. At times, he made you feel so sad and lonely you wanted to cry and at other instances, you wanted to laugh hysterically. All emotions and feelings were represented in Imms' unique style of country, folk and blues.

His guitar was an important part of the music. It was strong and powerful, not just simply background music. He accompanied himself on all his songs except for one that he performed 'a cappella'.

His stage manner was easy and

relaxed. He talked and cracked jokes with the audience between numbers. During his performances though, he totally involved himself with the music. He bounced and stomped, he played his guitar with so much passion, you could feel it as well as hear it. His enthusiasm spread to everyone in the audience and the response to it was overwhelming.

The music itself, the lyrics, are pure poetry. His songs paint pictures of every shade of human emotion. Loneliness is a recurring theme, his voice seems to ache with pain and emptiness as he spins his tales of people who are alone, who have lost their lovers or as in "Woman in Waiting," a song about the wife of a man who gambles, the anticipation a wife feels waiting for her husband to come home, wondering if he blew away his paycheck again.

Humor is also a basic element of his music. "Door No. 3" was a humorous satire on Monty Hall and "Let's Make A Deal" and in a "Nice Way to Say No" you almost hurt yourself laughing as Imms shows the audience various ways of saying no with a smile.

His music is thought provoking, philosophical, humorous, sad, haunting, and joyous. All of these elements mixed together make up Imms' unique music.

John Imms is a versatile, sensitive performer, but most of all, he's real. No pretensions here, his songs are personal glimpses into life that he share with his audience. Hopefully, John Imms will be back soon to perform again at Behrend, and I urge everyone to experience this extraordinary talent.



The Soul Of

By Pamela Gilmore
Collegian Staff Writer

The institution of slavery was not entirely based on a legal relationship: moral aspects were indicative as well. Slavery implied an ethical bias based on a system of human values. One thing one can be sure of, is that in the study of slavery, the definition of man as a moral being proved to be the most important influence both in the treatment of slaves and in the final abolition of the system itself. Once, it was believed, that all men were free and equal in the eyes of God, then, the very nature of slavery came to reflect the accepted doctrine. And it was the moral value of the

individual which eventually became the chief source of slavery's demise.

In the history of slavery, there is an interestingly important contribution to the theory of social change. The law tended to accept the doctrine of the moral personality of the slave and made possible the gradual achievement of freedom implicit in such a doctrine, which eventually led to the abolition of slavery. When the slave was repeatedly denied recognition as a moral person and was therefore considered incapable of freedom, the abolition of slavery was systematically accomplished by force, by revolution. The acceptance

however of the spiritual equality of all men made for a friendly milieu within which social change could occur in peace. And in those instances where the slave was denied a moral status, the laws and the mores hardened and became somewhat stratified. And the historical outcome therefore proved to be precipitated by violence and revolution.

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