

'Glass Menagerie' Opens Tonight at Center Stage Homecoming Plans Completed

Award Play Will Run 6 Weekends

Rotating Cast Featured By Players' Group

(See feature on Francine Toll, page 3)

Players' 1949-50 season will open tonight at 8 o'clock with Tennessee Williams' Critics' Circle award play, "Glass Menagerie." The play will run for six consecutive week-ends at Centre Stage, Hamilton and South Allen streets. Tickets are \$.90 for Friday nights and \$1.25 for Saturday nights (including refreshments).

Cast Will Rotate

The play is being directed by Prof. Kelly Yeaton who is letting the Players prove their versatility by using a rotating cast. This differs from a double cast in that six people, rather than eight, have been chosen for the four roles. The cast includes Diane Scuderi, Sonya Tilles, Francine Toll, Tim Hayes, Chuck Schulte, and Dan Wargo. Each of the women has studied both women's parts in the show; and, likewise, the three men can each play both men's roles.

Family Portrait

The story is a family portrait with the setting in an alley tenement. Classified as a memory play by critics, it is a study of hope and frustration as seen in the recollections of Tom, the ever dreaming son who is away at sea. Tom's mother, Amanda, is a faded old southern belle whose husband left her with two children early in life.

Title Derivation

His sister, Laura, is a poor, frightened, crippled young woman who confines herself to an imaginary world of glass figurines—thus the play's title, "Glass Menagerie."

The play is concerned with Tom's recollections of an evening when he, induced by his mother's constant nagging, brings home a "gentleman caller" for his sister.

Today . . .



The Nittany Lion Roars

FOR the record-breaking number of alumni returning to the campus this Homecoming Weekend.

The Penn State alumni group, which ranks among the top dozen in the nation in total paid-up memberships, has been instrumental in raising the College to the status it now holds as one of the leading educational institutions in the country.

Today's and tomorrow's turnout, largest in the history of "Dear Old State," proves once again their undying love for their alma mater.

The Mighty Nittany Lion growls his welcome to all returning "old grads," on this, the day set aside specially for them.

Cuties in 'Welcome Willy' Chorus Line



PORTRAYED in a Mack Sennet bathing scene at Atlantic City during the Gay Nineties are, left to right, Madeline Gardner, Nancy Altland, and "Mike" Claysmith appearing in the current Thespian show, "Welcome Willy," in Schwab Auditorium.

'Willy' Acclaimed Tuneful Laugh Hit

By BILL DETWEILER

There may be little rhyme or reason as to how the Thespians came to combine farmers, minstrels, and Calypso in one show, but the Schwab audience last night did not seem to mind as they witnessed the opening of "Welcome Willy," the Thespians' Alumni Weekend offering.

Under the direction of Ray Fortunato, the Thespians put on their show as if they had been practicing much more than three weeks.

The only connection this critic could find between the scenes was a most amusing one in the person of Dave Greenwald, as the Hitchhiker who dumbfoundedly and aimlessly wandered out of one scene and into another.

The chorus and gleesingers paid tribute to the Alumni in the first scene of Act 1 as two alums of '24 Nate Feinstien and Sam Saunders joked around until they found themselves without tickets to the big game.

From there the Thespians made a quick trip to a fish pond where Sid Manes, a convincing "dumb farmer," sang "Plenty of Fish in the Sea" with Eleanor Williamson.

The Artist Course, a take-off on the real thing, featured the Bellefonte "Blops" Orchestra with Merrill Sporkin going through silly motions as Dr. Hmmm Flashburn, the director. Perhaps with quite a few more new jokes the "Madcap Minstrel" scene would have moved a little faster, but as it was, it took Sid Manes and Harry Kondourajan plus the Harmonaires to pull it through. Manes and Kondourajan cleverly dead-panned their way through "Old Grey Bonnet" while the Harmonaires put quite a bit of life into "Coney Island Babe."

The Harmonaires, who, by the way, were Gene Myers, Bob Potter, Bill Elmore and Glenn Landis, made their appearance again in "Atlantic City—Circa 1893," pleasing the audience again—this time with "Down by the Seashore" which they did with the chorus. Also in the Atlantic City number was a clever routine in which the chorus delightfully cavorted and scampered about

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Activities, Displays Planned To Welcome Returning Grads

A full calendar of events, including fraternity displays in competition for the Alumni trophy, an Alumni luncheon honoring the 50th anniversary of the Blue Band, and a football game with Nebraska, will greet Alumni returning for the annual Homecoming Weekend beginning today.

The complete program for the weekend as arranged by

Ridge Riley and Ross Lehman, of the Alumni Association, is as follows:

Friday
12:00 Noon—Registration at Alumni headquarters in Recreation Hall.

Afternoon—Golf tournament for Alumni; Hort Show open to visitors.

7:30 p.m.—Pep rally in front of Old Main.

7:30 p.m.—Judging of fraternity displays.

8:00 p.m.—Thespians present "Welcome Willy."

Saturday

Morning — registration of Alumni continues; second session of Alumni golf tournament; Hort Show open all day to visitors.

9:30-11:30 a. m. — Home Economics Alumni coffee hour in Home Economics Building.

11:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m.—Alumni luncheon honoring founders of the Bugle Corps, Cadet Band, and Blue Band.

2:00 p. m. — Football game with Nebraska.

2:15 p. m. — Cross-Country meet with New York University.

8:00 p. m.—All-Alumni showing of "Welcome Willy."

8:00 p.m.—Cider party at Recreation Hall for Alumni.

9:00 p. m. — Alumni Dance, with Gene Magill's orchestra.

One of the first sights to greet the returning Alumni will be the lawn displays at all fraternities. They will compete for the Alumni trophy, now held by Alpha Tau Omega. Themes of the displays are to be "Welcome Alumni" or "Beat Nebraska."

Judging of the lawn displays will take place tonight at 7:30 p.m. to take advantage of the lighting effect instead of on Saturday morning as originally announced. Displays will be judged on the merit of originality, appropriateness to theme, and general attention-getting appeal.

Display Judges Named

Prof. Cuthbert F. Salmon, of the architecture department, Prof. John Y. Roy, of the art department, and Ross Lehman, of the Alumni Association, will serve as judges. Winners may be announced at the football game.

At half time during the football game the Blue Band will provide further entertainment along this line by presenting a "parody performance" (Continued on page eight)

Parade, Rally To Highlight Homecoming

Blue Band, Hank Glass Featured on Program

Many extravaganzas will spark Alumni Weekend on campus, but an outstanding feature will be a gigantic pep rally scheduled to take place at 7:30 tonight on the steps of Old Main.

The rally will end in time to allow those who wish to attend the attractions offered by Players and Thespians to do so.

Head Nittany cheerleader Dick Clair divulged little information, but promised that the rally will be something "out of the ordinary" if everything takes place as planned.

Rain today will force postponement of the event, since Rec Hall, usual scene of pre-game rallies, is being used for alumni activities all weekend.

Parade Starts Activities

A parade headed by the famous Penn State Blue Band will commence activities for the evening. Starting at Locust Lane and Fairmount Avenue, between the Beta Sigma Rho and Delta Sigma Phi fraternity houses, the marchers will parade down Locust Lane to Beaver Avenue, turn onto Beaver to Allen Street, continue down Allen, and go straight up the Mall to the steps of Old Main.

There, the band and miscellaneous marchers it has picked up along the route will be met by Hank Glass, a '49 Penn State graduate who will be master of ceremonies at the rally.

Glass, a veteran actor and campus comedian, was MC at the All-College talent show for three years running—1947, '48 and '49. In his sojourn at State, Glass and two co-authors, Tom Lyon and Francis X. Fatsie, took first prize of \$100 for writing the best script in the Thespian scenario contest last year.

To complement Glass on the program, attempts are being made to have alumni speakers, especially those active in football circles, attend the rally as guest speakers. Coach Joseph Bedenk and the football team will not be present at the rally. Following its usual custom for Alumni Weekend, the team will leave town immediately after practice today.

Undergraduate Spirit

A large number of sophs and frosh are expected to turn out for tonight's rally, and the two classes should play a big part in the cheering and flash-card exhibitions at tomorrow's game with Nebraska, Clair indicated.



Glass

Jobs Scarce, But Uncle Sam Has Openings

See editorial page 2
Students scheduled for graduation in February or June will find it harder to get jobs than any class since pre-war days, predicts George N. P. Leetch, director of the College Placement Service.

But, he points out, there is a great opportunity right now for prospective 1950 graduates to find jobs with the U. S. Civil Service if they act before Nov. 8.

Uncle Sam Needs Men

At the present time Uncle Sam is looking for potential 1950 graduates from almost every curriculum to fill jobs as Junior Professional Assistants, Junior Management Assistants and Junior Agricultural Assistants.

Each year the U. S. Civil Service Commission holds an examination for college seniors and recent graduates to fill the above-mentioned positions. This year, Nov. 8 has been set as the deadline for seniors to submit applications for this examination.

Application forms and information concerning this examination and the jobs to be filled through it are available at the College Placement Service in 204 Old Main and at the U. S. Post Office. This will be the only opportunity for the present senior class to qualify for appointments to these classifications, Leetch stressed.

Date To Be Announced
The actual examination will be held here in State College at a (Continued on page eight)

Book Refunds Available at BX

The 270 students who have not picked up their book refunds at the BX must do so before 12 p.m. tomorrow. Refunds may be picked up today from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

If refunds are not picked up, the books will be sold to a Pittsburgh agency. Book receipts must be presented for refunds.

The Pittsburgh agent will be in the BX from Tuesday morning until Wednesday afternoon. Students desiring to do so may deal directly with the agent.