

arts

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Friday, April 13, 1984

Ice Rhythms '84:

Sports spectacular glides along to variety of styles with award-winning talent

By DEBBIE GOLINI
Collegian Staff Writer

A hush falls over the crowd as the familiar bars of the National Anthem are sung by Jennifer Lynn Eshelman, Miss Pennsylvania, 1983. No, this is not the beginning of a sporting event but of a sporting spectacular. From Broadway to "Beat it," young and old alike will captivate you with their style, grace and showmanship as "Ice Rhythms '84" glides before your eyes. "Ice Rhythms" will be presented tonight and tomorrow at the University Ice Pavilion. Showtime is at 7:30 both evenings and at 1 Saturday afternoon.

The program is as diverse as the skaters who will perform in it. "The theme is broad; basically what we want to do is represent a variety as far as music and a variety as far as skating is concerned," said Dena Yeagley, director for the production. Variety is definitely the key factor in the show. Not only do the skaters range in age from four to 60, but their skating experience varies from basic instruction to National Competitions. Of the show's 22 acts, seven will highlight the talents of the University Figure Skating Club, which is a member of the Philadelphia Skating Club and the Humane Society. She is a competitor in Senior Ladies Easters and a silver medalist in Easters. Skating Club of New Jersey are Suzanne Murphy and Andrew Niebler, competitors in the Junior Ice Dance National Competition and silver medalists in Easters.

The show's acts are distinctive in both their costumes and their choices of music. One number, "Raindrops," will be performed by four- to eight-year-olds sporting rain slick-

It's rewarding to watch the skaters develop through the rehearsals. They seem to really enjoy skating and were a pleasure to work with.

—Kim Mangold, skating choreographer

guest skaters who will be featured in the show. David Jamison, a senior Men's National Competitor and South Atlantic Champion, will represent the Wissahickon Skating Club. Susan Jorgensen and Robert Yokabaskas, who will perform to the music of "Dreamgirls," are Senior Ice Dance National Competitors and Eastern silver medalists, from the Wilmington Skating Club. Skating to "On Golden Pond" will be Holly Archinal, a representative from the Philadelphia Skating Club and the Humane Society. She is a competitor in Senior Ladies Easters and a silver medalist in Easters. Skating Club of New Jersey are Suzanne Murphy and Andrew Niebler, competitors in the Junior Ice Dance National Competition and silver medalists in Easters.

The show's acts are distinctive in both their costumes and their choices of music. One number, "Raindrops," will be performed by four- to eight-year-olds sporting rain slick-

ers and umbrellas while "sculling" to the tune of "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head." The adults, decked out in tuxes and tails, will take the audience down to Broadway in their number, "Broadway Review," where they'll dance to the hit music of "Dreamgirls." Two popular crazes, Michael Jackson and the movie "Flashdance," will also be highlighted in the program. "Beat it," performed by members of the ISIA Group Lesson Program and the University Figure Skating Club (wearing appropriate gang attire), will have the skaters "spinning on the ice like Michael Jackson does in the video," Kim Mangold, a choreographer for the show, said. Gabrielle Passauer, a member of the ISIA Group Lesson Program and the University Figure Skating Club, will skate to the song "He's a Dream" from the movie "Flashdance."

A lot of hard work and dedication went into putting together such a project. "Most of the the group numbers and soloists practiced, on the



Many of America's top skating stars will be on hand at the University Ice Pavilion to treat young and old to a dazzling performance in "Ice Rhythms '84" tonight, tomorrow and Sunday. The variety of numbers includes performances to "Beat It" and "Broadway Review."

fortunate that I can do it in my job." Lynn Baskin, who will perform a solo number and a pairs routine with Michele Padybag, summed up his feelings on the show by saying, "If we work real hard and if we do real well on the ice, that's the most important thing."

Australian theater sponsors new play 'The Removalists'

By HEIDI BEELER
Collegian Staff Writer

For those of you who had a good time at the Australian Theater Festival II's production of "The Removalists," the Australian studies program is coming out with another of David Williams' plays — "The Perfectionist." This production will run at 8 tonight, tomorrow and Sunday in the Keller Conference Center Theater, next to the Nittany Lion Inn on Park Ave.

The play is about Stuart and Barbara Gunn, a young couple that must adjust their relationship to a changing society. Both Stuart and Barbara are working on their doctorates, and as an intellectual and a young minded pair, they decide to go the modern route and keep their marriage "open." Enter Erik, a young Dane who comes to the Gunns' household as a babysitter and ends up as Barbara's lover.

And to make matters more tense, Stuart's overbearing parents come to visit. This play focuses on all the problems of a relationship trying to endure changing times and values: Should a woman's career or family come first? What kind of commitment do spouses have to each other? And how much of the old values are relevant in today's society? Playwright David Williamson is one of Australia's most successful dramatists. His first play, "The Removalists" won him a handful of awards, including the Australian Writers Guild's Awgie Award for best stage play in 1971 and 1972. "The Perfectionist" is Williamson's newest creation, having just premiered in Sydney, Australia in 1982. Already it is considered an Australian classic. Tickets will be sold at the door. Admission price is \$2 for students and \$3 for patrons.

Internationale Dancers ready to perform an array of ethnic pieces

By RICHETTE ROBILLARD
Collegian Staff Writer

Idzalece (pronounced IS-DAY-LET-CHAE), an old Slavic word meaning "from afar," titles the Internationale Dancers' sixth annual spring concert to be held in Schwab Auditorium Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

dance preview

This year's performance will feature foot stompin' Appalachian Mountain clogging, a German suite to celebrate the 300th anniversary of German immigration to America, a group of delicate Israeli dances and an electrifying Serbo-Bulgarian finale.

members and a performance by the Rustic Quality String Band. Sponsored by the College of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, the group was founded in 1978 and has been under the direction of Elizabeth A. Hanley, an assistant professor of physical education.

The dancers in the group are University students from a variety of ethnic backgrounds and fields of study. Membership is determined by a physical education.

The company gets ideas for new dances by attending various folk dance workshops and bringing in guest choreographers. They build around the basic steps of the dances to add a new dimension to them.

During the past year, the troupe performed for the Longwood Gardens Chrysanthemum Festival, the Baltimore Ethnic Heritage Festival, the University gymnastics meet against Japan, and most recently, the University Slavic Folk Festival as featured performers.

The program is choreographed by Carol Worona, and assistant director Scott Wise. Deb Augustine is director.

Tickets for the concert are \$2.50 for students, children under 12 and senior citizens and \$3.50 for adults and are available in advance in 105 White Building or at the door. The audience is invited to a reception at The Wesley Foundation following the performance. For more information contact Deborah Augustine at 866-7591.

Jazz greats come to campus

By JEFF BLISS
Collegian Staff Writer



Slam Stewart

The "joie de groove" sound of the Newport Jazz Festival comes to Eisenhower Auditorium tonight at 8 with the "Newport Jazz Festival All-Stars" ensemble.

Known as the premiere showcase for that music genre, the Newport Jazz Festival features the best virtuosos of the past as well as giants of the future. Temporarily moved to New York City in 1972, the show was brought back within the auspices of historic Fort Adams in Rhode Island for 1981's festival. Amid the sights of yachts and Newport mansions, jazz has been played that some critics consider to be the apex of the art form.

concert preview

The Newport All-Stars perhaps can best be described as a synopsis of the whole festival, featuring performers who are considered to be the best in their respective instruments. In the past, such premiere performers as Joe Venuti, Pee Wee Russell and Ruby Braff have toured from Rome to Tokyo with the group. This year's lineup mixes the old masters with the new. Slam Stewart, formally of the jazz act "Slim and Slam," whose hits included such ditties as "Flatfoot Floogie," will be backing the group on bass on which he popularized improvisations with the bow. Having taught seminars at Yale as well as

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Another veteran of jazz tours is pianist George Wein, who has actively coordinated such musical extravaganzas as the Rock Jazz Festivals, the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Fair and "La Grande Parade du Jazz."

Playing alongside such senior statesmen of jazz will be relative newcomers Warren Vache and Scott Hamilton. Vache, a trumpet player who has won a fair amount of critical acclaim, has performed in the Broadway show "Dr. Jazz" and has also toured with jazz patriarch Goodman. Voted International Jazz Musician of the Year in 1978, Hamilton will be playing a tenor sax that has invited comparisons to such jazz royalty as Ben Webster and Lester Young. Complementing Hamilton's tenor sax work will be Norris Turney, a saxophonist who made his reputation in Duke Ellington's orchestra and recently performed in the orchestra for the Broadway production of "Raisin."

Tickets will be sold at the door for \$7, \$8 and \$4 for students and \$9, \$8 and \$6 for non-students.

Robin Williams gives great portrayal of Russian defector in the film 'Moscow on the Hudson'



Robin Williams is a Russian circus musician who is captivated by the American way of life in "Moscow on the Hudson."

By SHAWN ISRAEL
Collegian Staff Writer

Any offense Robin Williams has committed thus far as an actor with his hyperactive wit and self-parodying grimaces just might be redeemed by his terrific portrayal of a Russian defector in "Moscow on the Hudson." As for the film, it's an occasionally aggressive but mostly charming celebration of one man's discovery of America as the land of diversity.

In "Moscow," Williams plays lifelong Moscow citizen Vladimir Ivanoff, a saxophone player who lives in a one-room apartment with his mother, father, younger sister and grandfather, who was a onetime popular comic. Vladimir takes much of his life in stride and manages to find a bright side to almost any situation, from standing in line for any size shoes available to eating another breakfast with his paranoid father and senile grandfather.

When the circus prepares to take a whirlwind tour of New York City, Vladimir's friend Anatoly the clown (Elya Baskin) speaks fervently of defecting to the United States, much to Vladimir's annoyance. When the troupe goes on a 30-minute shopping spree in Bloomingdale's, however, it is Vladimir who defects and not Anatoly.

Mazursky, who directed and cowrote "Moscow" with Leon Capetanos, is to be credited for his fine sense of atmosphere. His recreation of a Russian winter ("The Moscow segments were shot in Bavaria") and his fascination with the attractive "unknown" of American life.

The supporting players are okay, but they don't really have a lot of screen exposure. Faring best is Alexander Beniaminov as Vladimir's grandfather, whose creeping senility can not subdue his reckless gifts of sarcasm and bad timing. Beniaminov gives a pleasantly cagey performance.

As a movie, Mazursky's vision asks the viewer to swallow more than the usual amount of hokum with the "Gosh, isn't America wonderful?" angle. But, as in his best films ("Harry and Tonto," "Next Stop, Greenwich Village"), a vivid character is offered as consolation for whatever directorial shortcomings.

diversity of New York are letter-perfect in terms of visual and emotional climate. As in his other films, Mazursky again shows a real love for landscapes and relating them to the human psyche. It's also to Mazursky's credit that the scenes set in Moscow are performed almost entirely in the Russian language.

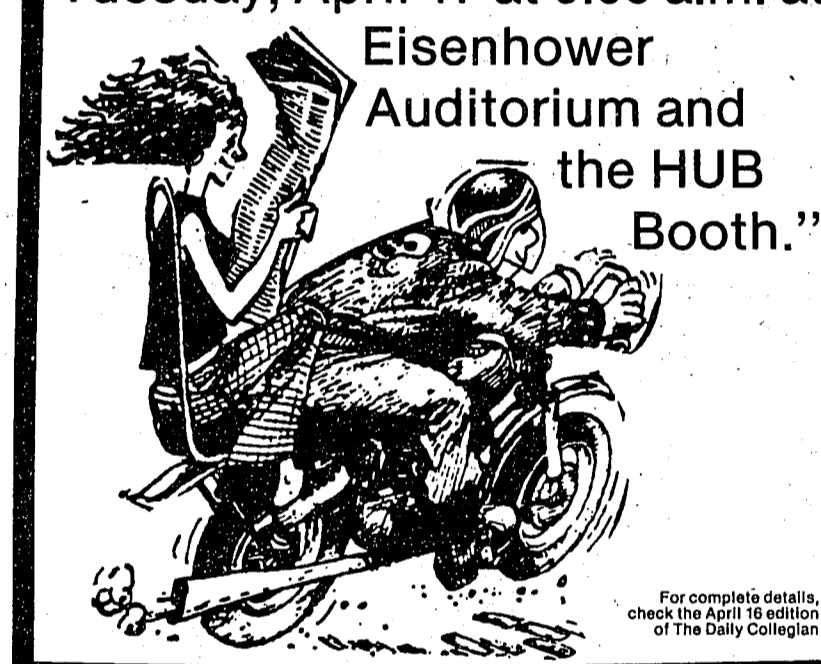
What is so gratifying about "Moscow," however, is the persistent harping on the point that America is a land bursting with opportunity, and subsequently, ethnic diversity. Everyone in Mazursky's New York seems to come from somewhere other than New York, and the novelty becomes damned annoying in its frequency halfway through the film.

Uncommonly good, however, is Williams, who gives a vivid portrayal of Vladimir, especially in conveying his longing for the old world and his fascination with the attractive "unknown" of American life.

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"Hurry Henry ... they say here that the Artists Series Subscription Sale begins Tuesday, April 17 at 9:00 a.m. at Eisenhower Auditorium and the HUB Booth."



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