

SECTION C

THE VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

INSIDE

ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, February 9, 1990 Austin American-Statesman

CLASSIFIED, C9

Night life

Night life is a guide to music this weekend in Austin.

Road dogs

After months of suffering from media attention as the next big thing, Poi Dog Pondering finally gets down to business, taking its music on the road to support its new album. But first, the eclectic unit will perform a farewell show for the home folks, with Shoulters and Ed Hall opening. At 9 tonight at Liberty Lunch. Admission is \$8.

A family affair

The Judds, the Kentucky-born mother-daughter team of country crossover queens, are back in town with more listener-friendly music. Hitmaker Ricky Van Shelton will open. At 8 tonight at the Erwin Center. Admission is \$18.50 and \$16.50.

Shew horn

Trumpeter Bobby Shew has blown his horn in front of the big bands of Woody Herman, Benny Goodman and Buddy Rich but now he's stepping out on his own, with the able assistance of the James Folk Quintet, reinforced with assist Tony Campise. At 9:30 tonight and Saturday at Top of the Marc. Admission is \$8.

Waltzing with Walt

Walter Hyatt, an Austin favorite since the days of Uncle Walt's Band will take a break from recording to perform with longtime associate Champ Hood and assorted guests. At 9:30 tonight and Saturday at the Lemar Waterloo Ice House location. Admission is \$8.

Aural alternatives

The Jesus and Mary Chain, led by the brothers Jim and William Reid, has established itself as one of the reigning alternative rock bands that almost makes depression appealing. Cleveland's Nine Inch Nails will open. At 9 p.m. Saturday at the Funnell Club. Admission is \$13.

Western wisdom

Being called "the Shakespeare of the West" earns a lot of responsibility, but Bobby Bridger is up to the challenge. He'll present a *Bullfight of the West* tribute to early American mountain men and the Lakota Indians in Austin for the first time in three years. At 7:30 tonight and Saturday at the Chicago House. Admission is \$7 (\$6 for senior citizens and children).

—Michael Point



Performers rehearse the first skit, Break Your Neck, for the benefit.

PLAIN 'N' FUN

By Pete Szilagyi
American-Statesman Staff

Betty Barrow, the co-director, promised that the same she had just witnessed would work almost flawlessly Saturday night when hundreds of people will be watching.

It was a recent weekday evening and 12 Austin businesswomen had just rehearsed a song in which they were to hold up placards with letters on them while Channel 24 anchorman Ron Oliviera sang and did an impersonation of Pat Sajak.

Oliviera hadn't shown up, many of the women were laughing too hard to hear Barrow's directions, and the cards were spelling out a combination of letters that wouldn't pass muster in a kindergarten penmanship class.

The routine is a sure laugh-getter. So, too, is the number that will have Austin City Council Members George Humphrey and Sally Shipman and Laguna Gloria Art Museum director Lawrence Miller singing *Let's Call the Whole Thing Off*. Or Frank Cookey, the low-key former mayor, playing a motorcycle cop who tickets public-relations man Lynn Segall.

They are among the cast of 240 Austinites who have spent two weeks rehearsing and cranking up their courage for Paramount's production of *A Slice of Texas Toast II: That's the Breaks*. The show is becoming an annual fund-raiser for the theater, with skits, songs and spoofs of current events by amateur entertainers who just might be somebody's neighbors.

Along with Oliviera, there will be a sprinkling of elected officials and professional entertainers from other media, including radio personality Bob Cole, former Detroit Lion Doug English and Key 103's Teddy Vannoy, who is polishing an impersonation of gubernatorial candidate Ann Richards.

The show, in its second year, is expected to raise about \$25,000 for the theater, which officials say is success-



Twelve Austin businesswomen practice their part in the benefit show for Paramount Theatre—holding up letters for a Pat Sajak impersonation.

fully recovering from reduced patronage during the economic slowdown, and a road show that drove up a six-figure deficit.

A Slice of Texas Toast II was written by Donna Trammell of Denton and the Paramount's general manager, Paul Beutel. It is presented by the Paramount Producers, a 225-member volunteer support group for the theater.

Like cast member Gerald Daugherty, many volunteers are motivated by a love for the theater. "The Paramount is a great old place—I'm a proponent of it," he said.

Not all the roles are voluntary.

If you go...

A Slice of Texas Toast II: That's the Breaks

When: 8 p.m. Saturday
Where: Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress Ave.
Admission: \$15 to \$100 per seat
Information: 472-5470

Daugherty, the owner of Pleasant Valley Sportplex, said he was told he would play Barbara Bush and sing "after four margaritas at Manna's." Daugherty said he was selected for the role because "I was one of the few

people last year who would get up and do a solo." He added that he forgot half the lyrics and "went into my best hum."

"The biggest thing we have to deal with is people saying they can't dance, they can't sing, it's way out of their comfort zone," said Camille Abbott, the show's coordinator. They learn that they can perform and come back for more, she said. The show's cast doubled in size this year, and volunteer performers were turned away.

Paramount officials expect *A Slice of Texas Toast II* to raise about \$25,000 for the once debt-burdened theater.

See Volunteer, C5

'Enemies' is friend to screen

By Patrick Taggart
American-Statesman Staff

Enemies, A Love Story arrives today with a dazzling pedigree and prospects for Academy Award nominations—the kind of things studios usually have to spend gobs of money for.

History has taught us that such films don't always promise a fine viewing experience, but they do raise expectations. The coupling of a story by Nobel Prize-winning novelist Isaac Bashevis Singer and socially sensitive director Paul Mazursky would seem a match made in Oscar heaven. There is a few charms (if comparatively unknown) actors such as Ron Silver and Lena Olin and you have the makings of a sleeper hit.

Nobody expects such movies to do Top Gun-style business, but they usually bring respectable grosses and prestige to the studio.

Not unexpectedly, *Enemies, A Love Story*, has received a string of rapturous reviews. It's easy to see why. Mazursky's film is one strange little critic, a romantic comedy-drama that



Ron Silver encounters his first wife, played by Anjelica Huston, who had been presumed dead after being shot by Nazis and thrown in a river.

Movie review

Enemies, A Love Story

Stars: Ron Silver, Anjelica Huston, Lena Olin
Rating: R, nudity
Theater: Highest 10
Critic's rating: ★★

darts back and forth between farce and profound tragedy in milliseconds.

In broad outline, it's a kind of nostalgic sex farce, with the protagonist alternating his loyalties among three women. The twist is that they are all survivors of Hitler's Holocaust in one way or another, and this event has not only marked their past but will, with its resounding psychological reverberations,

determine much of their future. Silver, a wealthy underdog veteran of the New York stage, plays Herman Broder, a Polish-born Jew who married the woman who saved him from the Nazis and lives in New York's lower east side. Yedwiga (Margaret Sophie Stein), the woman who saved him, is his second wife, his first wife was led to a riverbank by Nazis, shot twice and thrown into the river, where, it was presumed, she died.

She didn't, but her sudden reappearance in New York one day is the least of Herman's problems. (The first wife, Te-mara, played by Anjelica Huston, can hardly blame her husband for something she did.)

See 'Enemies,' C5

Bolstering the 'Texas Connection'

State's musicians back in focus on new KLRU concert series

By Diane Holloway
American-Statesman Staff

Tickets to Austin City Limits have long been one of the most coveted treasures in town. Soon there will be a new reason to line up for seats inside KLRU-TV's studio.

Texas music in general and Austin music in particular will be showcased on *The Texas Connection*, a new half-hour concert series from KLRU that premieres on The Nashville Network next month.

Tickets will be available the week of Feb. 19, for the first taping that week.

The same crew that gave us Austin City Limits for the past 15 years on PBS is getting up for the new show's debut date of Saturday, March 31 at 9:30 p.m. (Austin Cable/Video Channel 35). Bill Arlos, general manager of KLRU is executive producer and Terry Lickona is producer.

Tapings will begin Feb. 21 at KLRU Studio 6-A in the University of Texas Communications building at 20th and Guadalupe streets and continue every Wednesday night until mid-May.

First up will be Billy Joe Shaver, Robert Earl Keen Jr., and two other acts that have not been signed yet. The next taping, Feb. 28, will feature Asleep at the Wheel, Townes Van Zandt and two other unnamed acts. The first broadcast of *The Texas Connection* will be an entire half-hour



Robert Earl Keen Jr. will perform during the first taping for *The Texas Connection* at the KLRU studio.

whole idea is to showcase new Texas talent... Austin City Limits is more eclectic and features more nationally known talent from outside Texas.

"This will be strictly Texas artists, some of them traditional country swing and some more contemporary country rock and blues. We'll be eclectic enough to have Ro-Tel & the Hot Tomatoes."

There's no small degree of irony in the fact that more Austin music will be presented in a half-hour on The Nashville Network than an hour of Austin City Limits. Twenty-six episodes of *The Texas Connection* have been ordered. The production will be housed in the same studio as Austin City Limits, which finished taping last month.

"We're really excited about it," Lickona said. "We have a totally new set that'll give the show a completely different look."

Between 200 and 300 tickets will be distributed from the front lobby of KLRU on a first-come, first-served basis the Monday or Tuesday before each Wednesday taping. An announcement will be made on a yet-to-be-determined radio station the day tickets are available.

"It's a very short notice," Lickona said. "People will just have to keep their ears pricked or call the hotline number here."

"The hotline number has not been booked up yet, but next week people can call 471-4812 for more information."

Austin artist heads to Atlanta in search of community support, C4