

ALMANAC

July 18-25

Almanac listings are preceded by highlights selected by San Diego Union critics from the week's events. Highlights contain information, including dates and times, for performances of special interest or merit.

Drama

The Old Globe Theater will become a repertory company again this week with the opening of its fourth and fifth productions of the summer season, "The Importance of Being Earnest" and "The Taming of the Shrew."

"Shrew," directed by Joseph Hardy, will join "The Miser" in rotation on the Globe's outdoor Festival Stage after its opening Thursday at 8:30 p.m. while Tom Moore's production of "Earnest," beginning Saturday night at 8, will share the Old Globe itself with "The Tempest." "Shrew" also will be performed Saturday and next Sunday and "Earnest" also will be presented next Sunday.

Hardy, who also directed "The Miser," has Amanda McBroom and Tony Musante, both in their Globe debuts, as the contentious lovers of "Shrew" with Robert Strane, Deborah Fallender, Francisco Lagueruela and Larry Drake prominent in the supporting cast. Steven Rubin has done the decor, Kent Dorsey is the lighting designer and Conrad Susa composed the score.

For "Earnest," Tom Moore has Victor Garber and Harry Groener as the aristocratic young gentlemen, Barbara Dirickson and Sands Hall as the young ladies of their preference, Jonathan McMurtry as a formidable manservant, Ellis Rabb as the more formidable Lady Bracknell and Tom Lacy and Kate Wilkinson in the remaining roles.

Richard Seger is set designer, Robert Morgan has costumed the show and David F. Segal is the lighting designer.

One final show, "The Gin Game," will be added to the Globe's season next week.

The San Diego Repertory Theater's new entry this week will be Steve Tesich's contemporary farce, "Division Street," opening Thursday at 8 p.m. and continuing Tuesdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. through Aug. 22 in the Rep's headquarters at 1620 Sixth Ave.

Sam Woodhouse, co-artistic director of the Rep, is directing the play, which treats the 1980 reunion of several ex-radicals from the 1960s. Ron Ranson is the set designer, Willa Mann Day is doing the lights and costumes are by Sally Rosen Thomas.

In the cast are Ric Barr, C.J. Bharaka, Navarre T. Perry, E. Michael Kilpatrick III, Danielle Philippa-Harris, Biff Wiff, Donna Walker and Stephen Paleolo.

"Catch Me If You Can," the Jack Weinstock-Willie Gilbert mystery-comedy in which the hero is confronted by a stranger who says she is his wife, opens Friday at 8:15 p.m. as the next show at the Fiesta Dinner Theater in Spring Valley.

Harvey Gold, last seen at the Fiesta in "Play It Again, Sam," will be featured as the police inspector who must make sense of the situation, since murder is involved.

Rosina Widdowson-Reynolds and Franc Ross, fresh from the Gaslamp Quarter Theater's "Fallen Angels," will play the couple with Tavis Ross, Patrick J. Kearns, Peter A. King and Donna Tenney completing the cast.

Frank Wayne is the director, Robert Earl has designed the set and Phil Lindsey is the costume designer. Performances will continue, preceded two hours earlier by meals, at 8:15 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, 7:15 p.m. Sundays and 1:15 p.m. Wednesdays and Sundays until Aug. 22.

The fifth annual Padua Hills Playwright's Workshop, now under way near Claremont, will display its wares beginning Thursday with new plays by Murray Mednick, Martin Epstein, Leon Martell, John O'Keefe, Maria Irene Fornes, John Stepping, Susan LaTempa and Constance Monaghan.

The plays are grouped into two programs, each lasting from 6 to 11 p.m. with a dinner break. One group will be seen Thursday, Saturday, July 30 and Aug. 1 and the other will be performed Friday, next Sunday and July 29 and 31 in the Padua Hills Theater.

Information is available at 714-626-7530.

— Welton Jones

Heather Lee watches Bob Howard in the San Diego Civic Light Opera's "Paint Your Wagon" today and Thursday through next Sunday in the Starlight Opera, Balboa Park.



"ANYTHING GOES" — The vintage Cole Porter musical comedy will continue at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and at 1:45 p.m. today, Tuesday, Thursday and next Sunday in the Lawrence Welk Village Theater in Lawrence Welk Village, north of Escondido.

"THE BELLE OF AMHERST" — Kathleen Ann Thompson will perform the one-woman portrayal of poet Emily Dickinson at 8 p.m. Friday in the Seneca Falls Gallery of the Center for Women's Studies and Services, 908 E St.

"BIG, BAD BURLESQUE" — The nostalgic musical revue will conclude following performances at 1:15 and 7:15 p.m. today, both preceded by two-hour meal service, in the Fiesta Dinner Theater, 9665 Campo Road, Spring Valley.

"BILLY BISHOP GOES TO WAR" — John Gray and Eric Peterson's musical revue about the World War I Canadian aviator who became one of the all-time leading aces will continue the Old Globe's Festival '82 at 8 p.m. Friday, rotating with "The Gin Game" until Aug. 28 and adding matinees on July 31, in the Old Globe Theater's Cessius Carter Center Stage in Balboa Park.

"BOOKER T. HIGH" — J.D. Moore's black drama about the love, hate, hope and despair in a black community will be presented by the Educational Cultural Complex (ECC) Theater Club at 8 p.m. today and Friday through next Sunday in the ECC Performing Arts Theater, 4343 Ocean View Blvd.

"BULLSHOT CRUMMOND" — The comedy detective farce written by Ron House, Diz White, Alan Sherman, John Neville-Andrews and Derek Cunningham will continue in rotation with "Deathtrap" at 8 p.m. today and July 30 and 31, with dates in August, in the Coronado Playhouse, 1775 Strand Way, Coronado.

"CAMELOT" — The Lerner and Loewe musical about King Arthur and his court will conclude a run by Theater East, a collaboration between ECPAC and the Grossmont Community College District, with performances at 2:30 and 8 p.m. today in the East County Performing Arts Center, 210 E. Main St., El Cajon.

"A CHORUS LINE" — The Broadway musical about dancers and singers trying for a position on a chorus line will be performed by a national company at 8 p.m. tomorrow through Saturday, 2 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday and at 3 p.m. today in the Fox Theater, 720 B St.

"DEATHTRAP" — Ira Levin's wickedly amusing thriller will open in repertory with "Bullshot Crummond" at 8 p.m. Friday with performances at 8 p.m. Saturday and next Sunday in the Coronado Playhouse, 1775 Strand Way, Coronado. Thomas J. McCorry has directed.

New This Week

"THE DRUNKARD" — The Victorian melodrama, presented by the North County Community Theater, will continue at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays until Sept. 5 in the theater in the Mesa Vista Shopping Center, 1350 E. Vista Way, Vista.

"FALLEN ANGELS" — Noel Coward's comedy of two fast friends awaiting reunion with the amorous Frenchman they have both loved will continue at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and at 3 p.m. Sundays until Aug. 7 in the Gaslamp Quarter Theater, 547 Fourth Ave.

"GAWUMPKIES" — Lawrence R. Roszkowski's new Polish-American comedy will conclude following a performance at 8 p.m. today in the Marquis Gallery Theater, 3717 India St.

"GEORGE M!" — The musical based on the life of George M. Cohan will continue at 8:15 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, 8:45 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 1:30 and 7:45 p.m. Sundays until Aug. 22 in Sebastian's West Dinner Playhouse, 140 Avenida Pico, San Clemente. Meal service begins two hours before each performance.

"GODSPELL" — The Broadway musical based on the gospel of St. Matthew, produced by the Lamb's Players Theater, will continue at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays until Aug. 28 and 2 p.m. July 31, Aug. 7 and 21 in the Lamb's Players Theater, 500 E. Plaza Blvd., National City.

"GOOD EVENING" — The Dudley Moore-Peter Cook musical revue, produced by the Progressive Stage Company, will continue at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays until Aug. 7 and at 2:30 p.m. Aug. 1 in the new theater at 715 Fourth Ave.



Gina Morgavo and David Jarboe are featured in the El Cajon Youth Summerstock Theater's production of "Pajama Game" tomorrow through Friday in Granite Hills High School.

"THE LION IN WINTER" — James Goldman's historical comedy about King Henry II, produced by the Scripps Ranch Community Theater, will continue at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays until July 31 on the green at Scripps Ranch Swim and Racquet Club, 9875 Aviary Drive, Scripps Ranch.

"LOOT" — Joe Orton's satire about English culture, produced by the North Coast Repertory Theater, will continue at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 7 p.m. Sundays until Aug. 1 in the theater in the Plaza of the Four Flags, Lomas Santa Fe Drive off Interstate 5, Solana Beach.

"THE MISER" — Moliere's farce of romantic confusion and vengeful plotting will continue the Old Globe's Festival '82 in rotation with "The Taming of the Shrew" at 8:30 p.m. Friday, with performances until Aug. 28, on the Old Globe Theater Festival Stage in Balboa Park.

"THE MOST HAPPY FELLA" — Frank Loesser's musical of romantic deception will be presented by the San Diego State University Summer Showcase Theater at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday and July 27 to 31 and Aug. 5 to 7 and at 2 p.m. next Sunday in the Main Stage Theater of the Dramatic Arts Building, SDSU. Gordon Howard directs and performs in the show, with musical direction by Terry O'Donnell and choreography by Kathleen Thompson.

New This Week

"THE ODYSSEY" — Michael Addison and Sandy Edelman's irreverent adaptation of Homer's story, using masks, puppets and a musical score by Peter Ward, will be presented at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the UCSD Theater. Addison has directed the production which will participate in the Dubrovnik Theater Festival in Yugoslavia Aug. 1 to 8.

New This Week

"OKLAHOMA!" — Rodgers and Hammerstein's cowboy musical will be presented by the Pine Hills Players at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Pine Hills Lodge, 2960 La Posada Way, Julian. Meal service is one hour before each performance.

"OKLAHOMA!" — The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical also will be performed as part of the Vista Summer Theater Festival at 8:30 p.m. today in the Brengle Terrace Amphitheater, 1200 Vale Terrace, Vista.

"OLIVER!" — Lionel Bart's musical based on Charles Dickens' tale of a young orphan, "Oliver Twist," will be presented by the Christian Community Theater at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and July 30 and 31 and Aug. 6 and 7 in the outdoor amphitheater on top of Mt. Helix in La Mesa. (Bring a seat cushion). Paul Russell has directed.

New This Week

"PAJAMA GAME" — The play of romantic confusion, crooked bookkeeping and local union fighting, set in a Midwest pajama factory, will be presented by the El Cajon Youth Summerstock Theater at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow through Friday in Granite Hills High School, 1719 East Madison, El Cajon.

"PAINT YOUR WAGON" — The musical collaboration of Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe about love-starved miners in the California gold rush will continue at 8:30 p.m. today and Thursday through next Sunday in the Starlight Bowl, Balboa Park, produced by the San Diego Civic Light Opera.

"SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION" — The improvisational comedy group, featuring Ric Barr, Dista Puente, Spike Sorrentino and Biff Wiff, will perform at 12:15 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays until July 30 in the San Diego Mercantile Building, 818 Fifth Ave., in the Gaslamp District.

"SUMMER SURPRISE MUSICAL REVUE" — International musical numbers, dances and sketches will be presented "cabaret style" by Club Vanguard at 8 p.m. Fridays through Sundays until Aug. 1 in the Westminster Cabaret Theater, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3598 Talbot St., Point Loma.

"THE TEMPEST" — Shakespeare's metaphysical fantasy-romance will continue the Old Globe's Festival '82 in rotation with "The Importance of Being Earnest" at 8 p.m. Friday, with performances until Aug. 28 and adding matinees on July 31, in the Old Globe Theater, Balboa Park.

"THE UNSEEN HAND" — Sam Shepard's early fantasy about 19th century American gunslingsers will continue at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays until Aug. 8 in the Marquis Public Theater, 3717 India St. Bill Dunnam will perform Shepard's monologue, "The Killer's Head," as a companion piece.

"WEST SIDE STORY" — The Leonard Bernstein-Stephen Sondheim-Arthur Laurents-Jerome Robbins musical version of "Romeo and Juliet" will continue at 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and at 2 p.m. Sundays until Sept. 5, preceded 90 minutes by meal service, in the Lyric Dinner Theater, 7578 El Cajon Blvd., La Mesa.

Music

MARQUIS THEATER SUMMER CONCERTS — The summer chamber music concert series will continue with Peregrin, featuring flutist Karl Canfield and guitarist Joseph Hoy, playing works by Handel, Heine and Faure, at 11 a.m. today, and the San Diego Chamber Brass Players, featuring Dave Greeno and Keith Galusso

on trumpets, hornist Rex Gallatin, tubist Lorin Getline and bass trombonist Jim Prindle, will perform at 11 a.m. next Sunday in the Marquis Public Theater, 3717 India St.

NOVELLUS QUINTET — The ensemble will present a concert at 2 p.m. today in the San Diego Art Institute, 1449 El Prado, Balboa Park.

OPERA — GRAND AND LIGHT — Soprano Carolee Thornburgh, alto Nancy Jones, tenor Daniel Leal and baritone Thomas Simmons, accompanied by pianist Janie Prim, will present a program of light opera selections, including works from "Carmen," "Porgy and Bess" and "The Sound of Music," at 8 p.m. next Sunday in the First United Methodist Church, 2111 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, as part of the Music Series 1982.

SAN DIEGO NAVY BAND — The band, directed by David Johnson, will present a program of military, Broadway and Dixieland music at 2:30 p.m. next Sunday in the House of Pacific Relations, Balboa Park.

SAN DIEGO POPS ORCHESTRA — The orchestra, conducted by Matthew Garbutt, will present a concert with singer Patti Page performing popular and country and western songs at 8 p.m. Saturday "On the Green" at Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo, as part of the Symphony on the Green Summer Concert Series. Early picnickers are welcome. Any sort of chair or folding chair is prohibited.

SAN DIEGO YOUTH SYMPHONY — The symphony, led by Louis J. Campiglia, will present a concert, followed by fireworks, at 7 p.m. today "on the green" at Fairbanks Ranch, San Diegoito Road, Rancho Santa Fe, sponsored by the San Diego Unit of Children's Auxiliary as a benefit to the Children's Hospital and Health Center. Actor David Ogden Stiers will conduct Beethoven's "Overture to King Stephen" and will narrate "Peter and the Wolf" by Prokofiev.

SIBLING SINGERS — The vocal ensemble, dressed in period costume, will present a concert of Gregorian chants and Elizabethan and Victorian ballads and spirituals at 3:30 p.m. next Sunday in the Villa Montezuma, the Jesse Shepard House, 1925 K St., sponsored by the San Diego Historical Society.

STRING ENSEMBLE OF THE MEXICAN NATIONAL CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC — The ensemble will perform works by Vivaldi, Mozart, Borodin and Ferdinand Sor at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow in the auditorium of the Chula Vista Public Library, 365 F St., Chula Vista.

STU'S CREW DIXIELAND BAND — The band will perform Dixieland music from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Berry St. Park in Lemon Grove, presented by the Lemon Grove Recreation Department. A Penny Faire will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday in the park.

JEFFREY WATKINS — The tenor will perform with organist and choirmaster Roger Gregory, violinists Randy Brinton and Joanna White, violist Karen Long, cellist Mary Lindholm and oboist Ronald Fox at 4:30 p.m. Saturday in St. David's Episcopal Church, 5050 Milton St. Works by Handel, Bach and Bux will be performed.

Pop

An adventurous group called Asleep At The Wheel has built a loyal following over the past decade with a sound easily enough called "country swing," but far less easily described. Basically, the band blends the familiar strains of country-and-western music with the jazzy innovation of "western swing," a form pioneered in the 1930s by Bob Wills and his Texas Playboys.

The result is a freewheeling, far-reaching American sound that may be experienced on Wednesday, when Asleep At The Wheel performs in the Bacchanal, 8022 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., at 8 and 11 p.m. The following night (Thursday) finds Brazilian jazz saxophonist Gato Barbieri — best known for his landmark fire-and-ice score to the film "Last Tango in Paris" — in the Bacchanal, also at 8 and 11 p.m. — Matt Damsker

TAMI BARDIN — The singer will perform folk, blues and topical music with the folk duo of Peggy Watson and Lou Ann Gurney at 8 and 10 p.m. Saturday in the Wing Cafe, 2753 B St., Golden Hill.

JENNIFER BATTEN — The jazz guitarist will perform during the Sunday Brunch from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. next Sunday in the Wing Cafe, 2753 B St., Golden Hill.

LORI BELL — The jazz flutist will present a concert with pianist Dave Mackay at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the San Diego City College Theater, 1313 12th Ave., to continue the KSDS-FM Jazz Live Series.

BELLY UP — Jerry Roney and the Shames will play rock at 9 p.m. today through Tuesday; Tall Cotton will play country honky-tonk at 5 and 8:30 p.m. Wednesday; the Busboys and the Black Slacks Band will play rock 'n' roll at 9 p.m. Thursday; Bratz will play rock 'n' roll at 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday; and the Big Big Band and Jitter Bug Contest will be held at 8 p.m. next Sunday in the tavern at 143 S. Cedros Ave., Solana Beach.

BLUE PARROT CLUB — Bill Kyle, Sherry Meyers and Bob Gordon will play jazz today and next Sunday; Barry Joyce and the New Tuxedo Jazz Band will perform tomorrow; the Peter Sprague Trio will play jazz Tuesday; the Bob Holtz Trio will play Wednesday; on Thursday, the Ron Satterfield Quartet will perform; and the Shelly Manne Trio with Mike Wofford will perform jazz Friday and Saturday in the club at 1298 Prospect St., La Jolla. All sessions begin at 9 p.m.

BLUEGRASS HIGHLIGHTS — The Hardtimes Bluegrass Band will perform at 8 p.m. Thursdays through July in Tuba Man's Grand Slam, 2551 University Ave.

CAMEO — The jazz trio, featuring pianist and vocalist Jeannie Cheatham and trombonist Jimmy Cheatham, will perform from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays indefinitely in the Sheraton Harbor Island Hotel, 1380 Harbor Island Drive.

CONCERTS ON THE LAWN AND ALL THAT JAZZ — A jazz concert, featuring Shelly Manne, Mike Wofford and Tom Azarellio; Peter Sprague and the Dance of the Universe Orchestra with vocalist Kevin Lettau, and Jay Berman and the Gramercy Six, will be held starting at 4 p.m. next Sunday "On the Lawn" in front of the Sio Medical Library, Gilman and Oslar drives, UCSD, sponsored by the North City Jewish Community Center. Picnickers are welcome.

IRA COBB DIXIELAND JAZZBO BAND — The Dixieland jazz band will perform at 8:30 p.m. Saturday in Tuba Man's Grand Slam, 2551 University Ave.

ELVIS COSTELLO — The new-wave rock 'n' roller will appear in concert with the Pimpsuits at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Open Air Theater, San Diego State University.

DROWSY MAGGIE'S — ISIS, featuring harpist Melissa Morgan and flutist Diane Clarke, will perform today; the folk music club invites all to its Old Time Foot Nite with Lou and Virginia Curless tomorrow; the Siamas Gael Ceilidh Band will perform traditional Irish music Tuesday with Richard Freeman performing first; Nickleodeon will play vintage and contemporary classics at 8 p.m. Wednesday with Les Tray Sheikis, John Tuohy and Jay Waelder, performing at 8 p.m.; a Talent Showcase will feature local artists Thursday; Tom and Judy Carlstrom will play folk songs and fiddle tunes on the hammered dulcimer and guitar on Friday; Backstreets will perform on Saturday; and Robert Wade and Gary Lehman will play folk and bluegrass next Sunday in the club at 31st Street and University Avenue. All shows start around 7:30 p.m.

THE FABULOUS SPUD BROTHERS — Jerome Elia and Michael Stone will present an evening of comedy and musical hits from the 1940s, '50s and '60s from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays until Aug. 29 in the Boathouse, 2040 Harbor Island Drive.

THE MAMAS AND THE PAPAS — The folk group will appear in concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday through next Sunday and at 3:30 p.m. Saturday and next Sunday in the Mahala Amphitheater of the San Diego Wild Animal Park, San Pasqual Valley.

TED NUGENT — The hard rock performer will present a concert at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Sports Arena.

OLD TIME CAFE — The Tony Rice Unit will play progressive acoustic jazz at 7 and 9 p.m. today. The cafe invites musicians and songwriters to an open hootenanny Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. The New Deal Stringband will play jug band music at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday.

The Two Magicians will play the Irish harp, guitar and penny whistle at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. Scottish fiddler and singer-songwriter Dougie Maclean, formerly of Sully Wizard, will perform at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Friday. Texas singer-songwriter Townes Van Zandt will perform at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Saturday. Peter Sprague and the Band of the Street Urchins will play ethnic jazz at 7 and 9 p.m. next Sunday. The cafe is at 1464 N. Highway 101 in Leucadia.



Asleep At The Wheel performs "western swing" music Wednesday in the Bacchanal.

PATRIOT GAME — Claddagh will perform Irish music from 8 p.m. to midnight today. Donnybrook Fair will play Irish music from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and from 8 p.m. to midnight Sundays until Aug. 15, starting Wednesday, in the Patriot Game, 5353 Mission Center Road. Jim and Theresa Hinton will play from 8 p.m. to midnight on Tuesdays. A One-Year Anniversary Celebration will take place Friday through next Sunday.

A ROCK & ROLL REVIVAL — The event will feature the updated versions of such oldie acts as Gary Lewis and the Playboys, Marvin and Johnny, the Coasters, the Drifters, the Platters — with special guest, the ageless Bo Diddley, at 7:30 p.m. today in the Civic Theater.

JIMMY SMITH AND PHIL UPCHURCH — The Jimmy Smith Quartet, with jazz organist Jimmy Smith, will perform jazz and blues music with Phil Upchurch at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Wednesday in Humphrey's at the Half Moon Inn, 2303 Shelter Island Drive.

SPIRIT CLUB — The Jones Band and guests will perform today. The Ravers, Average Citizen and Phun will open the week with an evening of rock 'n' roll Tuesday. Detente, the Fabulous Forks and the Spurs will perform rock 'n' roll Wednesday. On Thursday, Joe "City" and the Nightcrawlers, from Los Angeles, the Heard and guests will play. Tom Verlaine, from Los Angeles' Television Band, Dream Syndicate and Vertabrats will play Friday. On Saturday, the Chains and guests will be featured. Enuf, Clear Spot and the Crawdaduos will perform next Sunday. All shows start at 9 p.m., 1130 Buenos St.

CURT STAN BAND — The band, directed by Curt Stan, will perform swing and Latin sounds from 4 to 8 p.m. today, and a polka band will perform from 4 to 8 p.m. next Sunday in the New Bavaria, Carmel Valley Road, Del Mar.

B.J. THOMAS — The pop singer will appear in concert at 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. today in the Mahala Amphitheater, San Diego Wild Animal Park, San Pasqual Valley.

Also

BALBOA PARK PUPPET SHOWS — The Family Tree will present "The Emperor's New Clothes" at 1, 2 and 3 p.m. today; and the McIntire Puppets will perform "Cinderella" at 1 and 2 p.m. Wednesday through next Sunday, at 10:30 a.m. Friday and at 3 p.m. next Sunday in the Balboa Park Puppet Theater, Balboa Park.

COMIC RELIEF — Gary Muledeer, Mitchell Walters and Alan Stephan will play for laughs at 9 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday and at 8 and 10:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and aspiring comedians get five minutes to try their skill during "Potluck Night," starting at 8:30 p.m. Sundays and Mondays in the Comedy Store, 916 Pearl St., La Jolla.

DANCE JAM: AN ALTERNATIVE DANCE ACTIVITY — The weekly event, set to ancient, contemporary and futuristic music, will start at 8 p.m. Fridays indefinitely at Interval Foundation, 860 Third Ave.

FESTIVAL OF THE BELLS — The two-day festival will conclude today with Irish and Spanish dancers, doggers, mariachis, barber-shop quartets, the Old Mission Choir, PD-5, "Take-One," clown, guitarists, folk and games and will run from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcalá, 10318 San Diego Mission Road. The Blessing of the Animals will be held at 3 p.m. today.

FREE FORM DELIGHT — Movement improvisation set to a variety of music will be held from 8 to 11 p.m. on the first, third and fifth Saturdays of each month in Peninsula Dance Arts, 2195 Chatsworth, Ocean Beach.

HOT FLASHES — The four-woman comedy team, featuring Maureen Gaffney, Sheri Glaser, Maggie Gillette and Robyn Samuels, will perform improvisation at 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. next Sunday in the Gaslamp Quarter Theater, 547 Fourth Ave.

HOUSE OF COLUMBIA — The house will celebrate Colombia's independence from Spain in 1815 with a program featuring the North County Ballet from Oceanside, directed by Mary Herms, harpist Carlos Muirales and other events at 2:30 p.m. today in the House of Pacific Relations, Balboa Park.

ROBERT IRWIN — The contemporary artist will present a lecture, "Untitled," in conjunction with his "Untitled" aluminum disc in the Carolyn and Jack Farris Collection currently on exhibit, at 8 p.m. Thursday in the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, 700 Prospect St., La Jolla.

POETRY READINGS — Arts activist and feminist Joyce Nower will read selected poems from her works at 2 p.m. today in the Villa Montezuma, the Jesse Shepard House, 1925 K St., presented by the San Diego Historical Society. Eye Prayers, a collective of San Diego poets, will celebrate the recent publication with a reading and a reception at 8 p.m. Friday in the Cygnus Gallery, 656 Ninth Ave.

RADIO FREE SIDNEY — The improvisational comedy group will perform with folk singer David Brian at 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday indefinitely in Sidney's Coffee House, 3753 India St.

RINGLING BROS. AND BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS — The circus will feature daredevil Elvin Bale, tiger trainer Charly Baumann, the King Charles Trotter, the Flying Caeceres and Flying Vazquez, elephants, clowns, Mitsu the world's smallest man, and many other attractions and will be held at 1:30 and 5:30 p.m. today and 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. tomorrow in the Sports Arena.

LIPZZAN STALLIONS — The Lipzzan Stallions will present an equestrian show of acrobatic skills and beauty at 2:30 and 6:30 p.m. today in Golden Hall of the Community Concourse.

SAN DIEGO RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL — The renaissance festival will feature classical musicians, jugglers, storytellers, minstrels, Shakespearean-style actors, dancers, artists, craft exhibitions, hunting skills, martial arts, games, foods, costume contests, a Maypole procession and much more and will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily Friday through Aug. 1 in the Organ Pavilion of Balboa Park, sponsored by the San Diego Junior Theater.

THE STUDIO: HOW, WHEN AND WHERE? — Artists Martha Chrsman, Robert Baumann, Zella Dickinson, Lois Stecker and Kathi McCord will discuss art studios at 8 p.m. Friday in the San Diego Art Institute, 1449 El Prado, Balboa Park.

TRAVEL FILMS — "Marc Chagall," "Search for Paradise" and "Gauguin in Tahiti" will be screened at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Chula Vista Public Library, 365 F St., Chula Vista, to continue the On the Road travel program. Great Britain Armchair Travel Films will be screened at 2 p.m. next Sunday in the Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado.

DON VICTOR — The comedian, along with Fool Moon Theater, will present bizarre comedy and previews from "Gadzooks" and "Fool Moon Radio" at 8:30 p.m. today in Interval Foundation, 860 Third Ave., and at 8:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday in the Grass Roots Cultural Center, 1947 30th St.

WOMEN'S OPEN SHOWCASE — All women are invited to perform comedy, improvisation, poetry, mime, dance, music and skits from 8 p.m. until midnight on Fridays in the Wing Cafe, 2753 B St., Golden Hill.

— Production by Leslie E. O'Neal